

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 20, 1920

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A GREAT FORWARD STEP.

The city council in committee did a good day's work yesterday when it practically decided to proceed with the development of the great recreation field at the entrance to Rockwood Park. The plan as proposed is to issue bonds providing for the complete development of the area, and to get at least a portion of it in condition for use before the end of next summer. It was suggested, and doubtless the suggestion will be acted on, that an expert in laying out recreation fields be consulted, so that the whole plan may be clear from the beginning and the work proceed continuously and in conformity with such a plan as will make the area when completed a harmonious whole, of the greatest possible service to the youth of the city for all athletic and play purposes.

The citizens will very heartily endorse whatever capital expenditure is needed to make and equip this great playground. Once done, it will not have to be done again. Future generations will be benefited by having what the present generation has sorely lacked—a real playground for young and old. The council, in deciding, to provide now for the whole work will get better results, and obviate the necessity for annual appeals for a little more development. With a comprehensive plan at the outset there need be no unnecessary delay.

No citizen will rejoice more than the work is to proceed than Mr. Joseph Allison, whose gift of the land to the Horticultural Association for recreation purposes made it possible. A quarter of a century has passed since Mr. Allison, moved by a desire to benefit the children of the city, made the land available. The community has not been in any haste to supplement his generosity, and no further time should be lost. The development of neighborhood playgrounds will still go on. Each section of the city needs a place where its boys and girls may play baseball and other games, and train themselves for athletic competitions. The Rockwood ground will serve this purpose to some extent also, but it will do more than that. It will give the young men and women a field for athletics; it will be a place for school, college, city and province meets, and for the final training of our young men before they go abroad to uphold the honor of St. John.

The city council has given the forward movement a great impetus. It has encouraged the citizens to hold their heads a bit higher and resolve that in other important matters this shall be a notable year for St. John. Very soon it will not be necessary for any citizen to hang his head when asked by a visitor what the city has in the line of clean and healthy sport. The forward step in this direction will encourage renewed effort in others.

THE INFLUENZA.

The influenza has come again to America as well as to a portion of Europe. More than two thousand cases are said to have been reported in Chicago in forty-eight hours. A despatch of yesterday's date says: "Since 9 o'clock this morning 500 cases were reported to the board of health, with ten deaths, and new pneumonia cases number one hundred, with sixteen deaths." The death rate is said to be small in comparison with last year's record, but the epidemic has only begun. Yesterday's cables told of terrible ravages by influenza in Poland. It is quite possible that the disease will spread from Chicago or show itself in other parts of the United States and in Canada. Dr. Hastings of Toronto repeats his advice of last year to all who may feel as if they were contracting influenza: "Don't attempt to fight the disease with drugs or otherwise, but at the first symptoms take a hot bath, laxatives and go to bed." This is excellent advice for those who can afford to take it, and indeed it would pay those who think they cannot afford it, if they are really attacked by the disease; for they would suffer less loss in the end, and perhaps save their lives. There is no cause for alarm, since the epidemic may not become widespread; but there is always reason at this season for keeping one's bodily health up to as high a standard as possible.

BISHOP BARRY.

Members of the Roman Catholic faith throughout the province, but especially those of the northern counties, will mourn the death and rever the memory of Bishop Barry of Chatham. Born in a then remote section of Gloucester county, he rose to be the bishop of the diocese in which the home of his childhood is located. The church in his native county owed much to his zeal and ability before he was raised to the episcopate. He lived to a ripe old age. Ordained to the priesthood in the year before confederation he lived to see the Dominion of Canada become a great commonwealth and his native province pass through many political and social changes. Through it all he was the zealous student, priest and bishop, leaving at the end of a busy life the record of a faithful and a fruitful service.

THE PAPER CONTROVERSY.

The Montreal Herald counters very neatly on the Montreal Gazette in the paper controversy. The Gazette said:—"If the government will put an end to the paper controller and all his works, the difficulty will quickly be overcome. When they cease to be paid, the newspapers will stand upon their feet, and no longer will there be talk of shortage of newspaper, or suspension of publication."

To this the Herald replies:—"It is rather a striking commentary on the Gazette's reference to 'paid' newspapers that it is itself the most paid newspaper in the Dominion of Canada. This paper is fed to it by the Dominion Government in the form of contracts for printing. We find from a reference to the Auditor General's report that during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1919, the Montreal Gazette drew from the public treasury in hard cash the following sums:—

Militia Department	\$77,548
Trade and Commerce	12,948
Legislation	8,335
Immigration	2,706
Agriculture	1,619
Naval Service Department	175
Interior Department	190
Or a total of	\$108,514

Meanwhile Winnipeg newspapers cannot publish because they have no paper due to the fact that the paper mills which should supply them seek to gain enormous profits by shipping the paper out of the country.

"Children are dying like flies," is the word that comes from Austria, where the shortage of food and fuel has become so great as to reduce the population for the most part to utter misery. Before order can be restored the people must be fed and clothed, and put in a condition to increase production on their own account. It is a very dreadful situation, and the Allies could cope with it much more successfully if the United States would cease playing party politics and do its part in the regeneration of Central Europe.

An Ottawa despatch says a large immigration is looked for this year, both from the United States and Europe. Immigrants for Canada should be carefully selected. Farmers coming into the west from the States will be heartily welcomed. They will help to increase production, and they bring wealth into the country.

Sir George Foster sees no good result to be achieved by damning the government. If he means that the government should damn itself his point may be well taken, and the Montreal Gazette appears to think the government has been doing it with neatness and dispatch.

Even if the Standard should succeed in making it clear that the farmers have no sympathy with Liberal principles nobody anticipates that it will by any act of magic translate them into the topsy party. The farmers certainly would not stand for that.

With more than eight hundred students joining classes the vocational training movement in St. John has more than justified itself. The immediate need of a director to ensure the best possible results is obvious.

Mr. James E. Bryant will be missed greatly in Fairville and the Parish of Lancashire, which he served well in the municipal council for some years, and in whose service as a citizen he made a worthy record.

Proportional representation was tried in the Irish local elections and the London newspapers say it has vindicated itself. It has secured some representation for minorities that otherwise would not have gained a voice in the councils.

There is ice in the harbors of Portland and New York. The sympathies of Canada's winter port are extended to these less fortunate places where rail and water meet.

LIPTON ON "DRY" AMERICA.

London, Eng., Jan. 20—"They have got a good stock of whisky in 'dry' America," said Sir Thomas Lipton, on his return from the United States. "You can always see the whisky bottles in the hotels. Of course everywhere you go you are told that it is against the regulations, but you generally manage to get what you want. If you want a policeman, he tells you it can't be done, but he whispers something that puts you on the right road. The hotel porter says it can't be got, but he gets it, and even the taxi driver, after declaring that it is impossible, will always drive a passenger to a place where it can be obtained."

WOMAN CIGAR SMOKER.

Paris, Jan. 20—Should a woman smoke a cigar in a public restaurant? This was the question with which the manager of one of the best known Paris hotels was suddenly confronted. After luncheon a lady drew from her vanity bag a beautiful platinum cigarette case, and extracting from it a choice Havana, asked the waiter to bring her some coffee. She then sat back in her chair to enjoy the effect of the smoke, but the manager decided to see nothing and found urgent business awaited him elsewhere.



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WINTER WINDS.

The winter, slow dragging, is spoiling our lives; the wild winds are nagging like Billingsgate wives; all day they are ranting, they give us a pain; all night they are chanting a dippy refrain. The wild winds are colder than wild winds should be, and keener and colder than bergs in the sea; they come and deliver a smart and a sting, and sufferers shiver and clamor for spring. And spring will be slipping along pretty soon, and spring is a pippin, with roses of June. And how we will love her, the garlanded spring, when mockingbirds hover around us and sing! If winter were banished, to come back no more, we'd find, when it vanished, that spring is a bore. We wouldn't be grateful for breezes of May, if winter, the hateful, were out of the way. The long night is chilly, and plattered with snow; the mercury's silly, its fourteen below; and there we're in training the spring to enjoy; so cut out complaining, and cheer up, my boy.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Dominion Happenings of Other Days

HINDERED BY THE GODS.

When Jacques Cartier arrived at what is now Quebec in 1535 he was determined to ascend the St. Lawrence. The great Indian chief Donnacona was opposed to the project, and endeavored in every way possible to prevent the trip. One morning as the intrepid Frenchman lay with his little ships off Quebec, he beheld three Indian devils coming down the river in a canoe. They were dressed in black and white dog skins, with faces as black as ink and with horns as long as their arms fastened to their heads. Thus arrayed they drifted towards the explorers while the principal fiend, with eyes staring into the future, seemed intent upon reading the coming events. With a loud shriek they paddled to the shore, where Donnacona met them and took the Indians into the woods. In a little time great wallings were heard from the scene of the Indian encounter—a squall place of bark wigwams. Then two Indian lads came to Cartier and, picturing great terror and amazement, declared that the trio had been from the Indian god Goudougouy that if the French attempted to ascend the river they would all be destroyed by fire, ice, lightning and the Indians. The Frenchman told the braves that their god was a fool, and that no one could touch those who were in the power of Christ; then he prepared to start on his voyage, much to the amazement of the warriors. The Indians claimed to be greatly assured by what the Frenchman had told them of the powers of his God, and aided in the preparations for the trip. But the truth is that they thought it would be the end of the world if the French brought the strange ships and people from the other side of the ocean. He reached Montreal in safety, and got his boatmen from the Indians to the place.

LIGHTER VEIN.

"Is this son you speak of adolescent?" "Mercy, no, ma'am. He's just a little queer in his head."—Baltimore American.

A comedian was sitting in his dressing room when a servant entered and said: "If you please, sir, there's a man at the front door, and he wants to know if you could give him a pass for his wife and six children to the performance, as he's out of work."

"Who is the man?" "He must be a madman," exclaimed the comedian. "Has he got his faculties about him?"

"I—I think so, sir," stammered the maid. "He's got something tied up in a red handkerchief."

Bridegroom (expectantly):—"Now, my dear father-in-law, I wish to say just a few words to my bride."

Father-in-law (slapping him on the back):—"Debits, my boy? Why, I'll warrant my debts exceed yours three to one."

"I can remember most every word of your speech," said the admiring friend. "I was afraid something like that might happen," replied Senator Sargent. "It is the most undecidable I have people quoting you unexpectedly. I tried to make that speech sufficiently long and uninteresting to prevent any of them from remembering any part of it."

Washington Star.

A MIX-UP OVER MARRIAGE AND WILL

Judgment in Matter of Estate of Port Arthur Man, Valued at \$300,000.

Toronto, Jan. 20—Under a judgment given by Mr. Justice Logie yesterday there will be an unusual state of affairs when the will of the late D. P. Burk of Port Arthur is presented for probate. The application will be made by Mrs. Evangeline Medora Anderson and by Mrs. A. I. Burk. The latter is Mr. Burk's widow, from whom he thought he had been separated by a divorce obtained in the United States. The former is the lady with whom he went through a form of marriage when he thought the divorce effective.

If the second form of marriage had been valid the will would have been invalid, as it was made before the ceremony. Mrs. Anderson would have thereby lost the legacy of half the estate, which is valued at \$300,000. But it is held that Mrs. A. I. Burk is the widow, and therefore the will is valid.

BRITISH HAVE

A STIFF FIGHT; 385 CASUALTIES

In Engagement with Mahauds in India Eight British Officers Among Killed.

London, Jan. 20—News reached London yesterday of a heavy engagement last week on the northwestern frontier of India in which the British suffered severely.

The engagement was fought by the Derajat column which, while advancing north of Apnai Dargah and engaged in fighting at close quarters, the British suffered 385 casualties, including eight British officers killed and twelve wounded or missing, while a large number of Indian officers were killed or wounded. The Mahauds lost 130 killed and more than 200 wounded.

RECOVERY IS REMARKABLE

American Writer Describes Wonderful Effort of Belgians in Reconstruction.

New York, Jan. 20—The remarkable resumption of Belgium's coal mining, the complete re-organization of her transportation system, the determined progress of her recovery of her steel industry, the reconstruction of the great port of Antwerp, the recovery of \$500,000,000 worth of machinery stolen by Germany, the firm and orderly adjustment of her labor problems, the repopulating of her textile mills, and her re-entry into world affairs as one of the great trading nations—these are some of the bolder outlines in a sketch of new Belgium, entitled "Belgium's Recovery," just written by D. L. Blount, an American who recently directed the central information office of the Belgian ministry of economic affairs.

This booklet, issued in connection with the placing of a \$25,000,000 loan in this country by the Belgian government, tells the story of the recovery of Belgium after the war of 1918.

SOLDIER OF 52ND IN ONTARIO IS KILLED IN WOODS

Kenora, Ont., Jan. 20—Ernest Butt, aged twenty-three, was accidentally killed on Saturday while out shooting with his brother and another young man. He had been out for the shotgun on a toboggan and when lifting it off the trigger caught on something. He was a returned soldier of the 52nd Battalion.

COSTS HIM LIBERTY FOR THREE MONTHS

Port Arthur, Ont., Jan. 20—Ray Clarke was sentenced to three months in jail for giving false information to the police causing Provincial Inspector Simons to make a forty-five mile trip in search of a body which Clarke told him was lying near a lumber camp. It developed that Clarke told the story to "get even" with the boss who discharged him. On the trip Inspector Simons froze his face and one foot.

MAY ARGUE WITH UMPES.

Chicago, Jan. 17—Baseball players in the American Association will be permitted to argue in a "gentlemanly" manner with umpires next season, when they believe close decisions have been given against them, but the use of profanity will be stamped out by the club owners decided at their adjourned meeting today.

President Hickey said the players would be let off with warnings at their first offense, but if they persisted in using objectionable language in protesting to umpires drastic action in the form of heavy fines would be taken.

"We have decided all 'rough' work and profane talk must be stopped," he said.

NOT SO MUCH OF FICTION AS THOUGHT

Toronto, Jan. 20—George H. Locke, chief librarian of Toronto, says in his annual report of the libraries of this city that the old idea that public libraries circulate fiction chiefly has been dispelled. Out of 1,269,180 books taken from Toronto libraries in the last year, only 605,986 were fiction.

HAMILTON MEN ARE BUYING MUCH LIQUOR.

Hamilton, Ont., Jan. 20—Orders for liquor to the amount of \$25,000 or \$30,000 a month are being sent out of this city, according to Inspector Sturdee. He says that workmen are among those ordering liquor, and that the merchants say that this is injurious to their trade.

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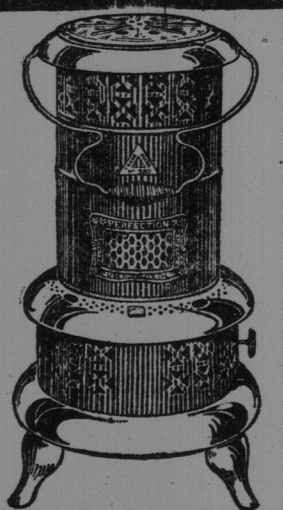
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DEFINE POWERS OF COMMERCE BOARD

Supreme Court of Canada Asked to Make Ruling—Provinces May Take Hand.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Quebec, Jan. 20—It was learned here last night from the attorney general's department that the federal board of commerce has addressed a series of questions to the supreme court of Canada, regarding its powers concerning which it apparently entertains certain doubts.

These doubts hinge mainly upon two points. The first is the validity of the organization of such courts belongs to the several provinces, while the appointment of judges belongs to the federal government. The second point concerns the fixing of prices, since prices are part of a contract and contracts are part of the civil law.

The board points out that it has already rendered decisions under the act by which it was created, and will continue to do so, but in view of the importance of the issue involved, it desires to have its legal position clearly defined before proceeding further.

All persons affected by the decisions so far rendered by the board have been invited to appear at the hearing and the attorney general of the several provinces have also received copies of the board's submission with invitations to intervene if they so desire.

The hearing will probably take place in Ottawa in February. It is not possible that the Quebec attorney-general will intervene.

STRIKING BITS ON LABOR PARTY IN MOTHERLAND

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

London, Jan. 19—Several interesting contributions to the question of the Labor party's present fitness for parliamentary government have been forthcoming during the week end.

J. H. Thomas, leader of the railwaymen, speaking amid considerable interruption at the Labor party board, said a strike would have been disastrous to the railwaymen and ruinous to the country. He also emphasized the importance of observing agreements, remarking that they could not demand a higher standard of honor from employers than from the men.

Phillip Snowden told a Glasgow audience that the main weakness of the Labor party was in adopting Soviet methods in selecting parliamentary candidates. Purely industrial matters, he said, made up only one part of the general work of parliament, and if the impression which had got abroad that a seat in parliament was the crowning glory of a successful trades union leader was going to continue then the Labor party was doomed.

Winston Churchill, in a long article in a Sunday paper, asks if the Labor party

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is to be fed by flattery alone. While permitting themselves the freest indulgence in personal abuse, why should measures for the effective countering of the Labor party's unwarrantable pretensions, be spoken of as if they implied hostility to the wage-earning interests? "Those who believe in the British empire's enduring greatness," says Churchill in conclusion, "must save British labor from the falacious, pernicious and blighting dogmas which the Labor party in their shallow assurance seek to thrust on us all."

KILL WOLF IN JERSEY.

Belvidere, N. J., Jan. 20—Burlington county, with a black bear running wild in its cranberry bogs, has nothing on Warren county in the line of big game thrills, since farmers in the vicinity of Montana have heard a pack of wolves howling about their forests at night, and Martin Cole of New Village actually killed one of the beasts on Scott's Mountain. It has been twenty years since a gray wolf was killed in Warren county.

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