

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 21, 1912.

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GENERAL BOOTH

A monarch died yesterday, who had ruled in the hearts of men. A soldier, also, he had fought the good fight. Throughout the world today it is acknowledged that the world is poorer for the passing of General William Booth.

Most of us who have come to middle life can remember when we regarded the Salvation Army as a joke, or as a noisily irrelevant organization which ought to be suppressed. That Army today, in its world wide ramifications, is a great and recognized agency for human welfare. It was not revolutionary. It only reached a certain element in each community. It did not remove poverty or solve the problems of the poor, or drive vice out of the cities. No movement has ever done that. But the Salvation Army changed entirely the whole current of countless lives, and set in motion a current of beneficent influence which has thrilled countless hearts with a new hope and purpose. The success of the Army was due to the personality and the marvellous organizing power of Gen. Booth. He combined the benevolent purposes of a savior of men with the iron will of an autocrat, and his word became law to his people. Beneath a certain austerity of demeanor there lay a heart that felt keenly and always the sufferings of the poor. Here are his own words:—

"When but a mere child the degradation and helpless misery of the poor stockings of my native town, wandering gait and hunger-stricken through the streets, drawing out their melancholy ditties, crowding the union or telling like galleys slaves on relief works for a bare subsistence, kindled in my heart yearnings to help the poor, which have continued to this day, and which have had a powerful influence on my whole life. At last I may be going to see my longings to help the workless realize. I think I am."

Many volumes would be required to write the story of all that Gen. Booth has done in his splendid efforts to advance the social welfare of the poor. His courage was equal to the most severe test. Nothing daunted him or swayed him from his purpose. And always, after he had begun his great work of organization, there was at his command an ever growing army of able and enthusiastic persons whose faith in their general was unbounded. To them he stood out among other men as a saintly figure, the prophet of a happier time for burdened human souls. The Montreal Witness says of him:—

"General Booth has often been likened to an ancient Hebrew prophet. The likeness is no fanciful one, whether in personal appearance or in character. There is the Hebrew cast of features, the features of the prophet-statement, the 'practical mystic.' There is the same absolute and personal trust in a living, imminent God, the same faith which can remove mountains, the same intensity, the same assured vision of a good time coming, the same vivid hatred of sin and the same deep human love for the sinner. On quality which the spirit races sometimes seem to lack, the General possessed, and still possesses, in full measure. This is a deep, healthy humor. He had a hearty laugh in him which, as Carlyle would have said:—

Few men of this or any time have looked deeper into the great social problems, the solution of which is so slow and painful and full of bitter disappointment. He toiled incessantly and found therein his greatest happiness. A great soul, he long since earned his place among the truly great leaders in the realm of religion and morals, and in the task of ameliorating the condition of the poor and wretched ones of earth. He will always stand out as one of the striking figures of the age in which he lived, and as an inspiration to those who seek as he did the good of their fellowmen. The particular movement which he began has probably reached its zenith, for there have been great changes in the social order in the last quarter of a century, and new influences have come into prominence, while the withdrawal of his personality cannot but weaken the counsels of the Salvation Army; but so long as there are poverty and misery in the world the name of Gen. Booth will be honored, and his memory cherished in the hearts of the people.

THE TROUBLE IN CHINA

There has been trouble between Yuan Shi Kai, president of China, and Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who was the first provisional president. A friend of the latter has been assassinated, and he seeks satisfaction. Fear is expressed that Dr. Sun will also fall a victim of the assassin. An Associated Press dispatch says:—

"Before he left for Peking to demand an accounting from President Yuan Shi Kai for the shooting of his friend, General Cheng Tien Chu, and other republican army officers, Dr. Sun Yat Sen left orders at Shanghai for an immediate mobilization of the military forces in southern China to be used against the president if his explanations should prove unsatisfactory. Sun's agents are rushing this week in their leader's absence and in the side of a week, slowly as things generally move in China, indications are that 200,000 or 300,000 revolutionary veterans will be under arms and ready for any duty Sun may demand. The best informed Chinese at Shanghai, according to a New York dispatch, say there is no doubt of an early clash between the northern forces, under President Yuan, and the southern, under Dr. Sun. Rich Chinese from up country are again rushing into foreign Shanghai.

with all their portable possessions for safety. The foreign consuls are on the alert to call in their nationals from up-country at the first news of fighting. Considerable anti-foreign feeling exists. Dr. Sun's plan is to demand President Yuan's impeachment by the Advisory Council, a body without an exact duplicate in any other country, which is made up almost wholly of anti-Yuan men and will undoubtedly do as Sun directs unless Yuan kills or imprisons them. There are grave fears there for their safety and also for that of Sun, whose friends say he was wrong to risk his life in Peking, among the President's supporters."

The last few days of sunny weather must have been of enormous benefit to the farmers of this province.

The army of Japan is to be increased by three divisions, at a cost of \$13,000,000. Thus the preparations for peace go merrily on.

Two umpires were injured in a ball game at Pittsburgh yesterday. The remarkable feature of this incident is that the crowd had nothing to do with it.

By various little acts of kindly consideration not down on the programme, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught revealed qualities of heart which endear him to the citizens of St. John.

Immigrants continue to pour into Canada at a remarkable rate. Of more than 175,000 arrivals in three months 40 per cent were from Britain and 31 per cent from the United States. The 29 per cent from continental Europe present one of the problems of which the Canadian people must take note.

Mr. Norton Griffiths, M. P., recalls the fact that three years ago he urged the importance of giving the overseas states some voice in imperial affairs. Mr. Norton Griffiths must be dreaming. Nobody ever thought of such a thing till Mr. Borden went to London. Mr. Borden is the savior of the Empire, H. Bourassa assistant.

If a sanatorium is to be erected on the site chosen on the Strait Shore, it is time consideration was given the provision of water and sewerage. Sewerage should be provided in any case, as a means of preventing cases of typhoid fever in houses in the neighborhood. The summer and autumn should not be allowed to pass without progress in this matter. The case is as urgent as it was when members of the municipal council pleaded for prompt action.

Frederickton Mail:—"The country roads were never in a worse condition for traffic at this season of the year than they are at the present time. The highway act passed by the present local government is a dead failure. It increased the taxation, but the money extorted from the hard working farmers of the country finds its way into the pockets of an army of officials, and the highways of the country are shamefully neglected."

Five men visited the Centennial supervised playground during the closing exercises yesterday afternoon. They were not there by accident, nor were they attracted in passing by the sounds from the playground. They went there deliberately and utterly reckless of criticism. There was not a duke or duchess in sight, only some hundreds of boys and girls who would appreciate recognition, and whose character as citizens of Canada is being formed. A considerable number of ladies were present, and therefore the young people were not wholly without an audience as they presented their interesting programme.

Of the insurance act in England the Toronto World says:—"The National Insurance Act has now been in operation for over six weeks and appears to have created none of the difficulties anticipated by the opposition. Although intricate in structure, much of the detail required to work out the scheme of the measure does not in the least concern the actual contributors. In the vast majority of cases employees and employers willingly co-operated in giving the act a good start and were no doubt agreeably disappointed to find that what had to be done on their part was a very easy and simple matter. Mr. Lloyd-George has expressed his entire satisfaction at the general response made by the beneficiaries and their employers and a brief experience of the advantages it furnishes will suffice to make its place on the statute book secure. Once that is made manifest not only will friction subside but a truer appreciation will result of the boon conferred by the Liberal party and government."

COUNTED THE FALLS.

It is of Professor Chrystal, of Edinburgh University, that Mr. Barrie tells the story that one day while he was working at a black-board with his back to his mathematical class, a student at the end of the bench tried, to relieve the monotony of the proceedings, dropped a marble, which toppled downward toward the professor. At every step it took there was a smothered exclamation, but the marble did not turn his head. When the marble reached the floor he said, still with his back to the class:—"Will the student at the end of the bench, who dropped that marble, stand up?" He had counted the falls of the marble from step to step!

UNSEEN YET KNOWN

I cannot see Thee
Yet I know, when trusting I have cried to Thee,
That Thou from Thy great throne above
Hast answered me.

I cannot see Thee,
Yet I know, when hands I've clung to
Slipped from my grasp into mourning,
That in their place I've felt a touch that held.

I cannot see Thee,
Yet I know, when sin would keep me
From Thy face,
I shall resist to blood through power from Thee
And saving grace.

—Lucy L. H. Soule.

LIGHTER VEIN

Cholly—"May I have the next waltz?"
Widow—"Yes, but dance slowly, as I only recently have gone into mourning."

Witherby—"You keep a joint banking account with your wife, don't you?"
Plutty—"Yes."

"How does it work?"
"It's usually out of joint."

Tummy, when told he was growing fast, answered, "Yes, too fast; I think they water me too much. Why, I have to take a bath every morning!"

Freshman—"Who is the small-st man mentioned in history?"
Sophomore—"I give it up."
Freshman—"Why the Roman soldier who slept on his watch."

Jack—"Percy, if a man were to sit on your hat, what would you do?"
Fred—"I should kill him a confounded idiot."

Jack—"Then don't sit on it any longer, dear fellow!"

"Before I propose, Miss Plainer, I must know if you have anything in the bank?"
"Yes, Mr. Hunter. I have a sweetheart there; he's the manager. We are to be married next month."

Mr. Binks, looking up from his paper: "Here's a firm advertising all sorts of patent medicines at half price."
Mrs. Binks—"Just our luck! There isn't anything the matter with any of us!"

A boy reading the verse, "And those who live in cottages are happier than those who sit on thrones," started the class by reading that:—"And those who live in cottages are happier than those who sit on thrones."

Liz (giving him a hint):—"Why don't you get married, Benno, an' 'ave a little 'ome of yer own?"
Benno—"Benney, I got the toothache, I got a boil on my neck, yer must think I'm a glutton for trouble!"

Peckem—"So you want to marry my daughter, do you?"
Young—"Yes, sir."

Peckem—"Hem! Are you aware that she strongly resembles her mother?"
Young—"Sir?"

Peckem—"Then take her, young man, and—er—be as happy as you can."

EASILY REMEDIED
They were on their honeymoon, and were spending it amidst the mountains of Switzerland. Nearly every day they attempted to climb to a fresh height.

Flashed with triumph and with excessive heat, parched, and scant of breath, they had at last gained the summit of a lofty peak. Then they paused.

"There!" exclaimed the wife, when she had finished panting. "We have tramped all this distance to admire this beautiful view, and we've forgotten the glasses!"
"Never mind, darling," replied the husband taking a small flask out of his pocket. "There no one about. We can drink just as well out of the bottle!"

DIFFERENT
The bridegroom of the year went to his office one day grinning all over his face. All morning long he hummed and whistled till his patients asked him what he had.

"My wife told me this morning that I am a model husband," he answered, proudly. "I don't call that much of a compliment."

"If you are proud, He did, and this is what he read:—"Model—a small pattern; a miniature of something on a larger scale."

THE COST OF LIVING
The cost of living is awful.

There is no doubt of that; Your wife pays sixty dollars For a simple little hat.

And lobster costs a dollar. If you order them broiled live, And if champagne goes with them, That brings the check to five.

And autos are expensive, Apart from gasoline; There are so many things That go with the machine. You think, perhaps, to own one Is cheaper than to live.

If you are prodigal, And you go five dollars Each time you bust a tire.

It's no use saving money, For you are sure to lose. Why, now it costs a nickel Each time you shine your shoes! The cost of living is awful, If you are prodigal, But there's one way to beat it: Be economical—Somerville Journal.

LONG TIME GONE

Crusty Patron—By George! But I'm glad to see you back! Was the strike settled?

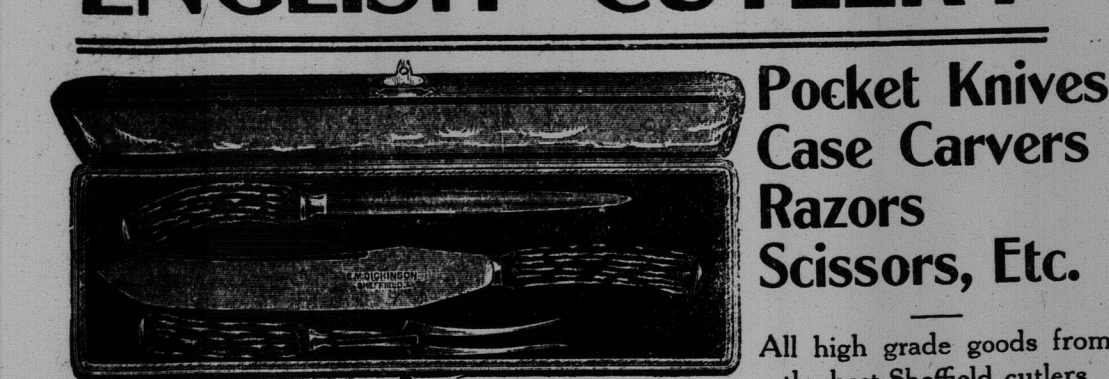
Waiter—What strike, sir?

Crusty Patron—Oh, come now! Where were you since you took my order?

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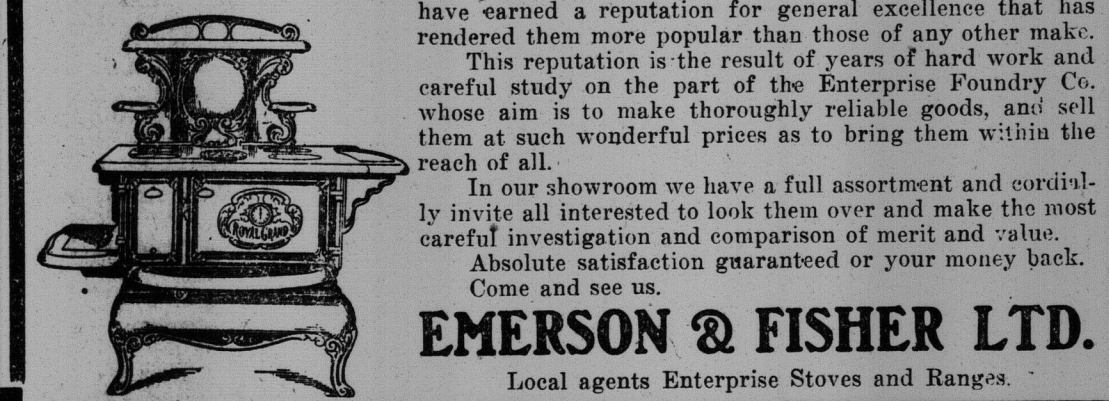


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CENTENNIAL PLAYGROUNDS ARE CLOSED

Entertaining Programme is Enjoyed—Report of the Supervisor, Miss Janet Maxwell

A large crowd attended the closing exercises in connection with Centennial playgrounds yesterday afternoon and those present greatly enjoyed the fine programme, which showed to full advantage the application of the children and the patient training by their charges.

Three hundred visitors, many of them parents of the little ones, were delighted with the praiseworthy conduct and talent of the 400 children who took part in the closing exercises. The singing of the girls was a revelation to those who were fortunate enough to attend and each number was heartily applauded, especially by the boys, who seemed to take great pride in the successful efforts of the girls.

The music to music by twenty girls consisted of many difficult formations and it was carried out in pleasing and faultless style. The last number was a flag drill, after which the gathering sang the national anthem.

Between the numbers addresses were given by His Worship Mayor Frank D. Bridges, Commissioner Agar and Miss Mabel Peters. Mrs. Chisholm kindly acted as pianist.

The work done by the children during the last eight weeks was on exhibition in the Centennial school building and those who took advantage of the invitation to view the work were loud in their praise of the excellent and various handsome articles of the handicraft.

Especially worthy of mention were the large waste paper baskets which were skillfully and strongly constructed. The smaller baskets, which were in beautifully blended colors, were very artistic.

The kind and local stringing attracted most favorable comment, while the slippers and fancy coat hangers were greatly admired. Many carried away samples of the pieces of work which were for sale.

Much credit is due those who by patient effort produced such meritorious results in so short a time and it is to be hoped the parents, who are not yet interested in playground work, will take advantage during next session of the opportunity of having their children so well instructed.

During the afternoon an exhibition of indoor baseball was given under the direction of Mr. Manning.

The programme with the names of those taking part was as follows: Chorale—By playground children. Solo—Celia Cohen. Recitation—Constance Carney. Solo—Dolly Wiesel. Address—By His Worship the Mayor.

Address—Commissioner Agar. Supervisor's report—Miss Maxwell. Recitation—Florence and Ruth Cathlins. Solo—Zetta Tazman. Address—By Dr. Bridges. Solo—Vera Caples. Address—By Miss Mabel Peters. March and drill—By twenty playground misses.

Indoor baseball exhibition under the supervision of Mr. Manning. Among those present were: Miss Mabel Peters, president of the Playground Association; Walter C. Allison, vice-president; Dr. Margaret Parks, Mrs. Edward Leavitt, Mrs. A. M. Belding, A. M. Belding, C. S. Humbert, Commissioner Agar, and a great many more, chiefly ladies.

Superintendent's Report

The following is the report of the supervisor: To the Playground Association: I submit herewith the following report for the months of July and August of the present year. Though the weather has not been very suitable yet it has not interfered seriously with our play or work. The children might have been seen at any time swinging or playing croquet in the rain, while others, in the building, worked on their baskets or employed themselves with such work as weaving mats, sewing cards, stringing beads, straws and circles, crocheting slippers and jackets and making quilts.

The basket weaving, taught by Miss Bertie Turner, has been marked by the most gratifying success. About fifty of the larger boys and girls have shown their interest in the work by making 97 reed baskets and 38 raffia baskets between 14 hats, 11 napkin rings, six coat hangers and four fancy work bags. All children making a basket for themselves make one or more for the playground; these are sold on the closing day. A prize

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BAULKED AT THE MINISTRY

A farmer was anxious that his son should become a minister, and for this laudable end he sent him to college for four years, but to his great disappointment the youth baulked at the ministry and set himself up as a horse-dealer. The old farmer told his grief to a neighbor, who, however, took a more optimistic view of the matter. "Oh, I wouldn't feel so badly about that," he said. "As a horse-dealer Bill will probably lead more men to repentance than he ever would have done as a preacher."

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HIS LONG LIFE

One Sunday Sammy thought he would take a "long lie," when the farmer came to the "chaum" door and called him to rise. "The day's my ain, an' I'm gae tae tak' a long lie," replied Sammy sleepily. "Na, na," returned the farmer, "may be the days yer ain, but the blankets are mine; see get up out o' that."

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