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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1921

The Evening Times and Star

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THE FOREST FIRES.

The Times today reports a graphic story of the Miramichi fire of 1918, the most terrible forest fire that ever swept any portion of New Brunswick. It was accompanied by great loss of life, as the sweep of the flames was even more rapid than that which a week ago wrought such devastation near Westfield. The statement that the crown lands department of the province has had to fight more than three hundred fires this year cannot but justify the announcement that legislation will be sought to lessen the danger from careless campers. Obviously the department has been compelled to make a very heavy expenditure this year for forest protection, and this, at a time when so little lumber is being cut to yield revenue, and the lumber operators are seeking a reduction in stumpage, confronts the province with a grave situation. It is a situation for which the government is not responsible, and yet one which it must face courageously in the interests of the province. We may not, and probably will not have, so dry a season for many years, but the lessons of this year are too painful to be ignored. The forests must be protected. It has been said by those in a position to know that we have been cutting down our timber at too rapid a rate, and it is to this we added serious ravages by fire the position would be so much the worse. It is true that this year's fire have not ravaged the heavily timbered areas, but they have destroyed much that was of value; and when the fire burns into the ground as it did this year because of the prolonged drought, it makes the land of little value for a considerable period. It is clear that all the people must show a deeper interest in the protection of the woods from fire, so that never again may the experience of the present year be repeated.

TRAGEDY OF RUSSIA

The tragedy of Russia nears the crisis. There is no longer an effort on the part of Lenin and Trotsky to conceal the fact that millions are starving, although they declare the present conditions to be the result of a capitalistic war. Unless help comes from abroad the famine will stalk over vast areas, for there is a crop failure. Why is it that a country which formerly exported enormous quantities of foodstuffs is today starving? It cannot be honestly attributed to crop failure except on the ground that the peasants, weary of being pillaged, determined not to do more than provide for their own wants. They did not plant the usual crop, and therefore the harvest cannot be reaped. No doubt the universal drought affected the crops that were planted, but the shortage is chiefly due to the hopeless apathy of a people crushed under a worse despotism than that of the czar. The stories that come out of Russia telling of people fleeing from the famine, and in their frenzy abandoning their children, are heart-rending, and relief must be sent. It will not, however, bring prosperity back to Russia. That can only come with some stable government, and the abandonment of the theories of Bolshevism. The rest of the world is warned to keep its hands off Russia, and yet is invited to feed Russia, leaving Lenin and Trotsky still in the saddle. No doubt those who give this advice have ground for their belief that it is best to let Russia work out her own salvation, but there is a very natural impatience with a state of affairs which practically compels other nations to help to pay the cost of the mad experiment which has brought that great country to its present helpless condition.

EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.

An educational official from London who is attending the imperial conference of teachers in Toronto has given to the Toronto Globe an interesting account of the method which enables any child to have at least the opportunity to attain the highest scholarship. We quote: "By a system of scholarships in operation all over England, the children of the poor, from the poorest districts in the country, may rise (as one of them did last year) to be Senior Wrangler at Cambridge, or win the most coveted honors at Oxford. This system begins at the elementary school, (which are actively supported by public money, half from the rates, half from the government) and 1,600 scholarships, 800 for boys and 800 for girls, are awarded in these schools. The scholars are thus enabled at eleven years of age to go on to the secondary schools, where, at the age of sixteen, the best are given further scholarships, which will carry them on to the matriculation standard. At this stage there is a further skimming of the cream and pupils of promise are awarded larger scholarships which fill take them through their university course." The advantage of such a system is apparent. It gives the poorest child the opportunity to go forward without imposing a burden upon parents who are already overburdened. Many a bright child is thus saved to the nation. In England provision is also made for the best opportunity for vocational training, and for keeping all children at school or in touch with classes until they

have received sufficient education to enable them, according to their capacity, to become self-sustaining and useful members of the community. Along with this is such a system of child-welfare work, from pre-natal care to careful medical inspection in early childhood as makes for vigorous physical and mental health.

WESTERN CATTLE TRADE.

While the grain men of the west are looking forward to the successful harvesting of a great crop of high quality livestock, the men are facing a crisis. They declare that the market for western unfinished cattle is in danger of destruction, and that there has been a decrease of more than ten dollars per head in the average value of these cattle. They further say that "financial pressure is causing many farmers to sacrifice their cattle and sheep at prices considerably below the cost of production, thus destroying their own assets and demoralizing still further an already demoralized market." They have therefore called upon "Mr. McGeen" to "call a conference" presenting the banking, transportation (rail and ocean), farmers, stockmen, manufacturers and other interests concerned, to be held at an early date to consider the condition of the live stock market from all angles, and remedies for same, and especially to consider some means of credit extension to farmers and stockmen so that they may not be compelled to throw their breeding and unadvised stock on the market at sacrifice prices.

The cattle trade of western Canada has grown to great proportions, and a check to its further growth would be a severe blow to the interests of the whole country. If markets are not available, many interests will suffer. The unfavorable conditions in regard to live stock make the prospect of large grain crops all the more welcome.

French dislike of Germany as well as French regard for the Poles appears to enter into the consideration of the Silesian question. Less than a Polish of the total population of Silesia is Polish. The country has been Germanic for hundreds of years, and any settlement that does not consider the interests of both sections of the population would not endure. Even in the territory where the plebiscite was taken the Germans had a majority. It should be possible to effect a settlement that would be fair to both elements in the population. It is now up to the League of Nations.

An American banker who was recently in Berlin, Germany, found, says an exchange, that he could get a first class room in one of the leading hotels for less than \$1 per day, a meal for 35 cents and a hair cut for six cents. In Cologne his room cost him 60 cents a day and the charge for breakfast, for which he would have been assessed \$1.50 in New York, was but 38 cents. He also found that everybody in Germany appeared to be busy.

The tribute paid to Mrs. G. A. Kuhlberg by the Women's Canadian Club yesterday was expressive of the feeling toward her of far more than the members of the Club. Her work in St. John during the years of her residence here has been that of a leader in women's work for the general welfare of the people, and her place is one not easily filled.

Moncton Transcript: Why should the overhauled export traffic of Montreal be routed to Boston when we have a Canadian Government Merchant Marine ready in need of revenues? And also when there are many men out of work who might be employed handling the traffic on Canadian railways and Canadian docks.

King George has intimated that he is prepared, if it is thought desirable, to forego much of the pomp and circumstance associated with royal functions. Being a man of democratic feeling, he doubtless finds it irksome to be so much on dress parade. The people, however, love pageantry and ceremonial, and John Bull is rather averse to change.

Mr. Hughes, secretary of state, will head the American delegation at the disarmament conference. Mr. Hughes favored the League of the United States into the League of Nations. He recognizes fully the importance of avoiding a policy of isolation for his country.

With favorable weather this evening's aquatic events on the harbor will afford the citizens a spectacle that will arouse their enthusiasm and awaken an echo of the cheers of other days when St. John gave itself up to the full enjoyment of a royal party.

The people who go up river today for the week-end will at least be able to sleep in peace, which they were not able to do a week ago. Never was the value of rain more effectively demonstrated hereabouts than during the last week.

The fire loss in Nova Scotia in June was over a quarter of a million dollars. In an ordinary year that would be regarded as a very large total—but this is an exceptional year.

OLD ROADS.

If you turn west from the tanken river, And toll through the trees up the mountainside, You will come upon traces of old roads, fashioned By folk that long ago lived and died. Here are the stones of their leafchoked sluiceways, And here are the tracks that their wheels have worn, And the broken spans of their rotted bridges Amid a tangle of weed and thorn.

They wind on, these roads, past roof-trees fallen; Past crinlike chimneys, forsaken and cold; Past unpruned orchards where yet in August The harvest apples hang out their gold.

Where by these roads now the tireless fowler, Seeking grouse, through the thickets may stray, Men once went trudging with cumbrous flintlocks, Bound for a muster or training day.

Along these roads to the springtime, jowing With a whistle men strode in days gone by, Now the only music amid the stillness Is hidden woodbird's grieving cry.

There, round the hearths that were home for someone, Cling lilies in rot and matted grass; There, where the haymakers passed at sundown The shy, wild shapes of the forest pass.

G. S. B., in New York Tribune.

LIGHTER VEIN.

The Question. "Now, friends and comrades," said the street corner politician, after a long speech made in the pouring rain, "any question?" "Yes," piped all that remained of his audience in an urbane "Can I have the box you're standing on to make a go-cart with?"—The Evening News (London).

Too Late.

A member of one of the theatrical club tells of a stranded but still laughing leading man, who was obliged to put up at a dilapidated country hotel. He glanced frowningly about the office, reluctantly signed the register, and took the brass key from the proprietor. "Is there any water in my room?" he demanded.

"There was," replied the proprietor, "but I had the roof fixed."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

The Laggards.

Milly—Men live faster lives than women. Billy—Perhaps you are right. At any rate it takes a woman much longer to reach the age of thirty than it takes a man.

In the Dark.

"I told him he mustn't see me any more." "What did he do then?" "Switched off the lights."—Life.

Did All Dotted Up.

The bride entered the room on the arm of her father, who wore a gown of champagne satin trimmed with Venetian point lace and with a veil of the same. Seen in a Chicago paper.

His Opinion.

"What is your opinion of bobbed hair for girls?" "For girls of sixteen it's all right, but it's no style for girls of thirty-two or over."—Detroit Free Press.

They Couldn't Catch Him.

Brown was a testy fellow, and if there was one thing more than another that he hated it was to be caught. As a consequence, he was very suspicious of any deed or word the meaning of which he could not understand. Once when he visited a menagerie he had an interesting chat with one of the keepers, and as he was about to leave the man asked: "By the way, air, have you seen our black-faced antelope?" "Ah," thought Brown, "he's trying to make a fool of me." "No," he replied stiffly. "May I ask with whom your black-faced antelope lived?"

Law Abiding.

"Jones was operated on for appendicitis yesterday, and after it was all over the surgeon discovered that he had left one of his scalpels inside Jones before he sewed him up." "That was tough. Did they have to open him up again?" "Oh, yes, Jones insisted upon it. He was afraid he might be arrested for carrying concealed weapons."—New York Sun.

Home Humor.

Pa—What's the matter with Johnny? Ma—He was trying to reach the top shelf by standing on some dictionaries and they gave away.

Pa—see—words failed him.—Boston Transcript.

Had Him Both Ways.

Things had gone wrong at the office all day, and the chief was in a real temper, which rose to white heat when he broke his glasses and could only read with difficulty the figures his clerk set before him. "Just look at this 9!" he roared. "It's exactly like a 7." "The figure is a 7, sir," replied the clerk.

WESTFIELD FIRE.

About one-third of an inch of rain fell here yesterday, and in the Westfield district it was of incalculable benefit. The ground was in a receptive state for rain owing to dampness and heavy fog. G. H. Prince, chief forester, said last night that though the rain had done much good it had not been sufficient to extinguish the fire completely. There were no actual losses, he said, except in one or two isolated sections, and certain portions of the fire line were completely out. Some men have already been laid off, and others will be laid off today.

"POOR LITTLE NIPPERS"

(Ottawa Journal.) Youngster was killed while playing on an Ottawa street yesterday. Poor little nipper. The street is a dangerous place to play in, yet the children must play somewhere. A properly planned city would provide play places easily accessible to every district. But what city ever is properly planned? Cities just coming into existence in this country of wonderful spaces are still, as in the past, growing an old way like Toronto. Even their parks are not made for children. Between "keep off the grass" signs, the embargoes of landlords, and the dangers of fast traffic child-life in a city is a schedule of limitations. Poor little nipper.

TEACHING BUSY LITTLE FINGERS

Make Beautiful and Useful Things.

Idle Vacation Days are Turned to Profitable Account for Children of All Ages at the Hester How School.

(Toronto Globe.)

Basket weaving, dressmaking, embroidery, knitting, tatting, crocheting—these are some of the accomplishments learned by the children who attend the Hester How Vacation School held each morning from 9 to 12.

Situated in the midst of a densely populated district, the Hester How School, with its spacious, well-ventilated rooms, is a boon to the younger people during the idle vacation days. Here they love to congregate, and here they learn, under the happiest conditions, lessons that will make life easier and homes brighter in years to come.

Attendance is High.

This season 1,100 children have registered, and although the attendance has been fluctuating, there has been a daily average of over 400.

In the kindergarten, which is in charge of Mrs. Burke and Miss White, 400 little tots have enrolled this summer, and the average attendance has been 125.

The junior sewing class, conducted by Mrs. Brennan and Miss Heron, has had a membership of 300 and Miss Chapman, who teaches sewing to larger girls, reports an average of 60 for the summer.

In the basketry department, conducted by Miss Lush, 88 boys and girls have registered.

"How did our young pupils?" asked a Globe reporter of Miss Jamieson, the Principal of the Hester How Vacation School.

Catching Them Young.

"Well," replied Miss Jamieson, "they come at all ages. Here is a little girl now with her tiny sister. How old is your sister?" asked Miss Jamieson.

"A year and a half," replied the child, giving the baby a motherly caress.

"You do," said Miss Jamieson, "we let them come at any age, and long before they are able to do any work. We begin with the simple kindergarten practice of working with wool on cardboards, the teachers of the Vacation School lead their pupils on to remarkable achievements. In the junior department they begin by making simple pen wipers and needle cases, working with wool on canvas. Then they are taught various stitches and by degrees learn how to make all sorts of useful articles. Yesterday Mrs. Brennan proudly displayed some very neatly made kitchen towels and bed sheets, and also towels trimmed with pretty crocheted edgings, aprons, robes, cushion tops, dolls' clothes, etc."

Show Great Skill.

One clever little needlewoman of thirteen—Miss Polito—had in five weeks made a beautiful centerpiece and a pin cushion cover in French and eyelid embroidery, the quality of the work being well high perfect. Another girl of eight—Sadie Zickler—had outlined a design on a cushion top with remarkable success.

The dressing of dolls is also taught, and many garments are cut out by the teacher for the work brothers and sisters who send in their own work. The children, who are never so proud as when making something for Tony or Baby Bess.

In the senior class Miss Charlton supervises the making of dresses, aprons, fancy bags, dust caps, etc., and also the knitting of socks. One dress, made by hand in her apartment three years ago, has been service ever since and is still quite wearable. Another frock, constructed in this workshop last summer, was sent to Russia to be worn by a child there.

Produce Fine Tatting.

Girls giving from ten to thirteen have, with the assistance of Miss Lane, produced some beautiful tatting and pretty woven woolen tams. Their evenly-knit sweaters should also receive honorable mention.

A fine array of baskets testify to the success of the classes conducted by Miss Lane. The past few days Miss Warner, a former instructor, has been assisting, and under her direction, articles of more intricate design have been produced. All the materials necessary for the various departments are supplied by the board of Education, and the teachers charge regard the conducting of these vacation classes a joy and privilege.

Samples of basketry and of tatting were sent, as usual, to the Exhibition. Last year in an open competition thirteen pieces of needlework out of the fifteen displayed by the Hester How School received prizes.

RECENT DEATHS

Mrs. Henry R. Titus.

The death of Mrs. Isabella I. Titus, wife of the late Henry R. Titus, formerly of Rothesay, occurred at Wexley (Mass.), on Tuesday, August 9. Mrs. Titus was born in St. John, the daughter of the late Charles H. and Hannah Estabrook of this city, and her husband was one of the first of the ship-builders who made their homes at Rothesay. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Harry R. Reid of Newton (Mass.), and one sister, Mrs. T. H. Hall of St. John. The funeral is to take place at Newton.

Thomas Edwin Hoyt.

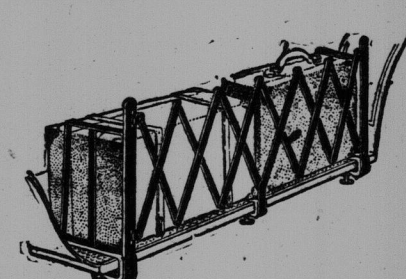
Sincere sympathy will be extended to Mr. and Mrs. George Hoyt by the death of their little son, Thomas Edwin, which occurred at their residence, 192 Sydney street, on Friday, August 12, at the age of five months. Besides the parents a little sister survives. The funeral is to be held on Sunday from the parents' residence at 3:30.

Mrs. David H. Betts.

Many will regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Annie M. Betts, which occurred at her residence, 182 Bridge street, on Friday, August 12, at the age of eighty-one years. Mrs. Betts was the widow of David H. Betts and leaves to mourn three sons and three daughters. The funeral will be held this afternoon from her late residence.

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KING HARD HIT BY GREATER EXPENSES

Orders Further Economies and Declines a Suggested Civil List Increase.

London, Aug. 12—King George has been hard hit by the increased cost of living during and since the war. This statement was made in the House of Commons by the Rt. Hon. Austen Chamberlain, Government leader, who said that the King's civil list (the sum provided from public household) has shown a progressive deficit for several years.

The deficit in 1919 was £24,500, and in 1920, £46,000, and it probably would be greater in 1921, despite a reduction in the state functions and the strict economies which the King has initiated.

King George has been meeting the shortage from a fund he had accumulated for such an emergency and had refused to give his assent to a suggestion that the government temporarily increase the civil list, being unwilling to involve the public with an additional charge in view of the serious state of the national finances.

King George also had favored a material reduction in the ceremonial splendor traditionally associated with the British throne, but the government had advised him that parliament and the great mass of the population of the empire would prefer to maintain the customary dignity of the crown.

Meanwhile greater economies had been introduced in the royal household, and although costs had diminished, the royal expenditure was only 14 per cent. greater than in 1910, and the King believed that the government was possible and was appointing a committee to examine into the question of salaries of palace and other expenses, hoping that an appreciable reduction would enable him to avoid asking for an increase in the civil list.

Mr. Chamberlain, recalling that the King in 1916 voluntarily contributed £10,000 to the national treasury, said King George wished to make further contributions, but that the government had advised him to contribute to public charities instead of to the exchequer.

DR. SWAINE IS STILL MISSING

Ottawa, Aug. 12—Considerable anxiety is entertained for the safety of Dr. J. M. Swaine, entomologist of the Department of Agriculture and Capt. Fitzherbert of Ottawa, who left here a week ago by airplane for Pembroke district on department investigations, but were forced to land on Lac Du Moine, Que. The department has received no word as to his whereabouts.

\$500 REWARD

The above reward will be paid by the city of St. John, to any person (other than a person belonging to the Police force of the city and county of St. John), not being the actual murderer, who shall give information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person who murdered little Sadie McAulay, in the vicinity of Riverview Park, on or about Tuesday, Aug. 2, instant.

JOHN THORNTON,
Commissioner of Public Safety, City of St. John

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PREPARED
FIRE CLAY**

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W. H. Thorne & Co., Ltd., Market Square.
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Dove's, 17 Waterloo St.
Geo. W. Morrell, Haymarket St.
J. M. Logan, Haymarket St.
Quinn and Co., 115 Main St.
C. H. Ritchie, 370 Main St.
P. Nair & Son, Ltd., Indian Row.
J. A. Lisert, Variety Store, 263 Brunswick St.
H. G. Enslow, 1 Brussels St.
H. Stout, Fairville.
W. E. Emmerson, 81 Union St. West Side.

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