

# The Evening Times-Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 7, 1924

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## BRITISH POLITICS

The British Parliament will re-assemble tomorrow. The balance of the week will be devoted to the swearing in of members and other preliminaries to the session. Next week the real business will begin, and a Canadian Press cable from London predicts that on Jan. 17 the Baldwin Government will be defeated in a vote of want of confidence, and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald will form a Labor Government. Without reference to exact dates it is taken generally for granted that a Labor Government will be formed. Some days must elapse while it formulates its policy, and when it faces the House its fate will depend entirely upon the course pursued by the Liberals. It is said Mr. MacDonald has his cabinet already chosen, and is ready to take up the reins of government. There is a rumor that after the present Government resigns Mr. Baldwin may also resign the leadership of the Conservative Party. His tariff policy has been defeated and the rumor is that a new pronounced protectionist would now be more acceptable to the leader of his party. It is quite clear that the Labor Government is to have its chance, and that the fact has not greatly disturbed the people at large, who are evidently willing to give that party the right of way, reserving their own right to send it about its business when it attempts to pursue too radical a policy. That there is not likely to be satisfactory government under present conditions is obvious, and another appeal to the people is not likely to be very long delayed. The new Government must live on sufferance of the other two parties, and its path will be strewn with difficulties so serious to be overcome for a whole parliamentary term.

## CAMPING SITES

The field secretary of the Automobile Club, of Washington State, says that automobile camping parks today, to the motoring public, have become a barometer indicative of the spirit and progressiveness of the community tributary to it, and are either an asset or a handicap to that community. To be an asset they need, he says, to be provided with comfort stations, water, a few cooking utensils, and a caretaker. The county commissioners of Clark county, Washington, some three years ago acquired a beautifully wooded and rolling tract at the north city limits of Vancouver, Wash., on the Pacific highway, of 22 acres which, under their supervision and that of the county engineer, has been highly improved from year to year, until today, although not fully opened or equipped, is recognized as one of the most sanitary and best maintained parks in the west.

It will be noted that the municipal authorities in the west think it worth while to cater to tourist traffic. Here is another illustration from British Columbia. "Another step toward the establishment of a permanent tourist camping ground on the Lakelse drive, Penticton, was taken recently, when the committee representing the municipal council, boards of trade and good roads league met and adopted a plan of development the first part of which it is proposed to carry out as early as possible in the spring. It was estimated the cost of planting all the trees on the camping ground, constructing shelters and a permanent pavilion on the portion to be developed first, would be approximately \$1,500."

While a few camping sites have been provided in the Maritime Provinces no attempt has been made to do it on the western scale, and the winter is a very good time to consider what may be done in the spring to make certain localities more attractive to the motorist, whose stay in a place means money expended. On the general subject of preparation for tourist traffic the Maritime Merchant says:—"There has been a great deal of talk for some months about the necessity of doing something to increase the tourist traffic next summer, but from all the news that comes to hand, very little progress has been made. Every year about the time the tourist season is at its height many people say that we must do something to increase the accommodation for visitors. Why do we not have this, and why do we not have that? They ask. It all ends in talk. This should not be so. Now, in the living present, it is time to take action. Those interested in the development of the tourist traffic and who are usually so eloquent about it in mid-summer should commence now to do something practical for next summer's business. It will not be possible to accomplish anything in time unless the enterprise is embarked upon at once and pushed along energetically."

## QUEBEC FORESTS

More effective forest protection is the watchword in Quebec. A special committee of the Provincial Association of Forestry Engineers has recommended the division of the province into twenty districts with a provincial appropriation of at least \$750,000 annually to carry on fire protection work. The committee would have the sub-inspectors appointed without regard to politics. These would report to inspectors who in turn would report to the Minister of Lands and Forests. It is pointed out that sixty per cent. of the timber of the province has been destroyed by fire in the last forty years, and that definite and strict measures of protection must be provided. These include the employment of forest guards and lumberjacks to reforestation on a practical basis; an annual cut in proportion to the resources available; and a forest inventory every ten years to determine the relations of the cut to a continuous supply. The Province of Quebec has immense forest wealth, but great incursions are being made, not only to produce lumber but to supply pulp and paper mills, which are growing in number. With its great forests and water power there is a temptation to operate on a larger scale than would correspond with a wise conservation policy, even without the added destruction by fire. It is now felt that the latter must be lessened, and it can only be done by a comprehensive organization. This costs money, but if properly done it brings more than adequate results, looking to the future industrial welfare of the province. And that is as true in the case of other provinces as of Quebec. What would be today the position of New Brunswick but for the great revenue it derives from its crown lands? Here as in Quebec the protection of the forest justifies itself in the fullest measure.

## The Women's Council of this city

last week heard an impressive address in behalf of the education of blind children. In that connection the following paragraph is of interest:—"At the top of the first-class English Honors List of the University of London issued recently is the name of Miss Sadie Isaacs, who wins the Bachelor of Arts degree. This honor carries with it a special award—the George Smith Studentship, value £100. Miss Isaacs, who is 22, is blind. She lives in Bethnal Green. She became blind at the age of eight, and her brilliant educational progress is proof that her blindness has not been a bar to realizing her ambition. All her studies have been conducted in Braille. When she entered the University in 1920 she said 'I hope to get the B. A. English honors degree.'" And she did.

## The Ottawa Citizen thinks there may

soon be a declaration of Conservative policy, in view of the changed situation at Ottawa. It says:—"In view of the narrow majority held by the Government and the consequent likelihood of an election in the near future it is expected that important pronouncements of the policy of the Conservative party during the coming session of Parliament will be made at the convention of Eastern Ontario Conservatives here on January 11. Delegates from all quarters of this section have signified their intention of being present at the convention and the banquet at which Right Hon. Arthur Meighen and Premier G. Howard Ferguson of Ontario will speak."

British Columbia, thanks to the Panama Canal, looks forward to a steady growth of trade with the Atlantic seaboard, in the United States as well as north of the line. The Vancouver Sun says that already enquiries from the Eastern States indicate a new interest in the lumber trade for the spring building programme, and the Pacific Province expects to derive considerable benefit from an enlarged trade. It will be to some extent a competitor with the Maritime Provinces in the American market.

Sun Yat Sen predicts a war in ten years with Russia, Germany, India, China and Japan against "today's parasitic oppressors." The trouble with Sun Yat Sen is that he has not been permitted to have his own way in China, and to appease his own great thirst for imperialistic power.

The cold wave that set the west shivering spent itself very largely before it came to St. John. Once more we are a fortunate people.

The political air is full of rumors of pending Cabinet changes at Ottawa. One guess is as good as another.

St. John must not get the reputation of a city where hold-up men may ply their trade with impunity.

## Press Comment

### A NATURAL QUESTION.

(Toronto Globe)

Poland and Jugoslavia are debtors to Allied countries under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. They have borrowed a billion francs from France for military purposes and given what M. Poincaré calls adequate securities. As one of their creditors, Great Britain naturally asks what these securities are and if they take priority over British claims. The British people are tired of paying their debts while their creditors refuse to follow their example.

### THE CASE OF HARRY THAW

(Bangor Commercial)

Harry Thaw, it is said, is to make another effort to regain his liberty but it will be unfortunate for the cause of justice if he is successful. Thaw killed Stanford White and escaped conviction on the ground of insanity. Many said then that it would be but a short time before, through the potent agency of the Thaw money, he would obtain liberty but this has not proven the case. Thaw is either insane or responsible for the death of White and in either case should be confined.

### COURAGEOUS PROPHETS

(Boston Post)

Mme. Marcia, the famous Washington astrologer, and Prof. Gustave Meyer, a seer of Hoboken, have been telling us about all the delights and disasters ahead of us in 1924. As a rule, their prophecies are rather too much like the utterances of the Delphic oracle of ancient Greece which was always right whatever happened. They agree, however, in one departure from vague generalities. Congress is going to legislate beer and light wines. Inasmuch as there are more dregs than wets in the present Congress, this prophecy seems one that should be classified as an unnecessary risk. The stars have perhaps ordained that this shall come to pass. But it looks as though there were more moonshine than stardust about these forecasts.

### WASTE BECOMES WEALTH

(Saskatoon Star)

Mining men in British Columbia say that there are millions of dollars worth of platinum in the placer tailings of fields that were thought exhausted. When the old miners were getting out the gold, platinum was worth much. Fifty cents an ounce was all they got for it. But platinum has proven itself a more valuable metal. A bit of it must go into every Mazda light, into every telephone, and it is much used in expensive jewelry. What has happened in the British Columbia gold fields is but fairly typical of our greatest riches, derived from its crown lands? Here as in Quebec the protection of the forest justifies itself in the fullest measure.

### MIRACLES WITH GLANDS

(Vancouver Sun)

Dr. Ortega, Spanish gland wizard, says he can rejuvenate old women to the age of youth, and even make insane and idiot women wise or at least mentally normal. If his claim is correct, his discovery will be a great blessing to the world. But Dr. Ortega should carry his experiments further. There is much to be done. Dr. Ortega may be able to make idiot women wise, but can he make old men young? He may be able to make ugly women beautiful, but can he graft on noses or so that will make them able to cook? Let him solve these problems and the world will ring with his fame.

### HONORS FOR AN ACTOR.

(New York Herald)

Unusual honors will be shown on his arrival here to James K. Hackett, who sailed yesterday from Cherbourg on the Majestic after a sojourn in England and France. Mr. Hackett is the subject of a civic celebration to take place at the City Hall. A Committee of One Hundred has been formed to arrange for his reception. Mr. Hackett is probably no better an actor today in his own country than he was when he was in England during his stay abroad, special importance as an ambassador of the act of France. Mr. Hackett went to London in 1920 and played Macbeth, led in 1921 and played Hamlet, and in 1922 played Othello. He was invited by the authorities to represent Shakespeare in the final tableau of the Mollere Tercentenary at the Trocadero.

Mr. Hackett was decorated by the French Government with the Cross of the Legion of Honor and received in England the unofficial recognition of social notice from the highest sources. He was a guest at the reception in Buckingham Palace on the eve of the marriage of the Duke of York. In both countries his acting aroused a deep admiration of the public, but other actors have been as successful in this way without receiving such general recognition.

Mr. Hackett, who played here last in a stage version of W. D. Howells' "The Rise of Silas Lapham," long ago established his reputation on the American stage, so was a competent ambassador in that field. His qualifications as an unofficial representative of this country are equally well settled. His grandfather was Rev. Abraham Kettlet, a chaplain of the Continental Congress in 1776, who fought through the war for independence, and who was also helpful in framing the Constitution of the State of New York.

His father, James Henry Hackett, was born in New York on William street in the year 1800. He was the famous Falstaff of the American stage. The brother of James K. Hackett, Recorder John K. Hackett, served on the bench for twenty-three years. The actor, who is now on his way back to this country, was born in this State and prepared at Public School 69 for the College of the City of New York, from which he was graduated in 1881. His mother was a native of Jefferson county in this State.

## ENGLISH BIRDS

Their Songs, Haunts and Habits.

(By Frederick Pangborn.)

England is the home of the feathered songsters. The diversity of the birds of England are English bred and taught by their parents to sing as a bird should sing. There are only three birds that take their departure in the fall and return in the spring. They are the cuckoo, the swallow and the dabbler. The cuckoo is the first bird to arrive upon the British shores in the spring and in early spring thousands of people are picking their ears to hear the cuckoo's first notes, and as soon as his voice is heard it is a true sign that winter is about to take her final flight.

It is not here that I wish to speak upon the cuckoo and his habits, but prefer to speak upon the birds from the smallest to the largest. There are seventeen species of English birds, namely, the lark, the sparrow, the robin, the yellow hammer, the thrush, the chaffinch, the greenfinch, the bulfinch, the nightingale, the lark, the peewee, the landrail, the starling, the magpie and the crow. I have traveled a good part of Canada and have noticed that the best feathered songster you have in this country is the robin and he is nothing compared to the song of the English robin. All the singing birds I can find here are the robin, the lark, the sparrow, the thrush, the chaffinch, the greenfinch, the bulfinch, the nightingale, the lark, the peewee, the landrail, the starling, the magpie and the crow. I have traveled a good part of Canada and have noticed that the best feathered songster you have in this country is the robin and he is nothing compared to the song of the English robin. All the singing birds I can find here are the robin, the lark, the sparrow, the thrush, the chaffinch, the greenfinch, the bulfinch, the nightingale, the lark, the peewee, the landrail, the starling, the magpie and the crow.

(To be Continued.)

## SHOP ASSISTANT

AWARDED VERDICT

Gets \$2,500 Damages Because Employer Had Her Room Searched.

London, Jan. 7.—A shop assistant whose rooms were alleged to have been ransacked on suspicion that she had stolen goods from the King's Bench Division. Mrs. Abbott, while employed as an assistant in a silk department, was called into the office and interrogated by two police officers concerning the loss of two rolls of silk. She answered the questions and gave all the information she had. Then, she alleged, she was told by one of the officers that they did not believe her, and that if she did not tell the truth she would be sent to prison. She said she was made to accompany the police to her flat, which was ransacked from end to end. Eventually her employers told her that they were quite satisfied about her innocence, but she was told that her employers' reply was that they could not be responsible for the loss of the goods. The police carried out the search in a manner which she said was not proper. A buyer for the silk department was shown some silk produced by Mrs. Abbott as her property which she had stolen from the King's Bench Division. "You and the two policemen seem to have extended to this lady as much courtesy as a candidate at a parliamentary election," summed up the Lord Chief Justice. "If Mrs. Abbott were right in her statement of what happened she had been treated with a great deal of respect and what was due her; her dignity had been affronted and rights invaded."

There were cases—and this case was one of them—where the jury might think it right to mark their sense of what was done by giving what was called exemplary damages so as to make it plain that the conduct complained of was such that a British jury would not tolerate.

The jury agreed and they gave her \$2,500 damages.

If no immigrants were admitted into the United States, the population would increase in eighty years at the present rate.

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## SWEET MAIDEN OF QUODDY.

(James De Mille.)

Sweet maiden of Passamaquoddy, Shall we seek for communion of souls Where the deep Mississippi meanders, Or the distant Shashichewan rolls? Ah, no! In New Brunswick we'll find it— A sweetly sequestered nook— Where the swift gliding Skoodowabakookies Unites with the Skoodowabakookies.

Medusnak's waters are bluer; Nepisgut's pools are more black; More green is the bright Oromocto, Or Miramichi or Restigouche; But colors more radiant, in autumn, I see when I'm casting my hook In the waves of the Skoodowabakookies.

Or perhaps in the Skoodowabakookies. Let others sing loudly of Eaco, Of Passamaquoddy or Micouche, Of Kennebecs of Quaco, Or Miramichi or Restigouche; But as emblems of union forever, The Musquash or dark Memramook; There's none like the Skoodowabakookies.

Excepting the Skoodowabakookies. Think not, though the Ma-gua-da-vic, Or Bocabee, pleases the eye; Though "Chi-put-nec-ti-cook" is lovely, That to either of these we will fly. No, when in love's union we're pledged, We'll build our log house by a brook Which flows to the Skoodowabakookies. Where it joins with the Skoodowabakookies.

Lighter vein. Just that. Nadroze—"Don't you find your son somewhat restive since he finished at college?"

Talltimber—"Yes, very restive. Ever since he graduated he ain't done nothing but rest."

Suspicious. "Hubby, dear, do you still love me as much as ever?"

"Certainly, wife—why do you ask?"

"Well, every time I call unexpectedly

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