

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1922

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PROVINCIAL FINANCES

That the financial statement of the province for the past year would show a deficit was a foregone conclusion. The only way it could have been avoided would have been to starve the public services to an extent that could not be considered for a moment. New Brunswick has one chief source of revenue, its crown lands. In this respect it is in a position different from that of any other province. When the quantity of lumber cut on the crown lands is small, the revenue shrinks in proportion, and other sources of supply must be discovered. That has been and is the problem of the provincial government. It did not create the conditions under which the cost of every public service was increased by higher wages and higher cost of materials, while a reduced lumber cut was steadily reducing the revenue out of which the bills for that in such large measure he paid. Its opponents will of course seize upon the financial statement to argue that expenditures should have been reduced in proportion to the decline in revenue; but the services had to be maintained, and the opposition to the last session of the legislature offered no serious objection to the passing of the estimates. Indeed, there was a general feeling a year ago that before the present time the lumber trade would begin to revive, and that there would be much larger revenue than has actually been made available. The government is not alone in its troubles. Every manufacturer, every merchant, every citizen who has not an assured income faces the same problem of adjustment to difficult conditions. It cannot be truly said that the government has been extravagant or wasteful. The public work carried on, and especially that on the roads, was needed, and the result has been highly satisfactory to the people who use the roads. They have heartily approved of the government policy. While the deficit is large, the outlook is by no means gloomy. It is true that the Valley Railway hangs like a millstone around our necks, but the likelihood of being relieved of that burden has improved. Moreover, the Foster government is not responsible for that situation. It has simply done its best with a legacy handed down by the former administration.

It is well at this time to consider the record of the government which today finds itself, in common with all other governments, facing a serious financial problem. Its highway policy, its public health policy, its policy in relation to the crown lands and conservation of the forests, its aid to agriculture, stock raising and dairying, its hydro-electric policy, the aid given to vocational training—all these and other measures stand to its credit, and are in striking contrast to the record of its predecessor. Of course the conditions which exist today must be met by reduced expenditures, and by such financial arrangements as will carry the province along into an era of better times. Great numbers of private individuals and firms the country over are confronted with the same problem. There is no reason to despair in one case or the other. The worst is over. The government frankly takes the province into its confidence, as it should do, and the legislature will take all the conditions on the table when it meets to consider what policy shall be adopted to tide the province over until world-conditions have so improved that enterprise will once more become active and the financial strain eased down to a point where receipts and expenditures will assume the right relative proportions.

GET AFTER THESE WRETCHES

There is need of a better method of dealing with men who desert their families. Those concerned in child welfare in St. John have to deal with an increasing number of cases where the man who should support his family has taken himself off to another part of the country or perhaps has not even deemed that course necessary, but simply shirks his responsibility. This problem is country-wide. At a meeting of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children in Montreal this week reference was made to "the appalling number of cases of desertion reported to the society," and it was further declared that one out of every two inmates of reformatories or industrial schools came from these broken homes. The report said further: "Still the authorities cheerfully pay the bills of reformatories and orphanages and the public remains pathetically indifferent. The province of Quebec is paying out over \$100,000 a year in supporting children of deserting fathers, without making even the slightest attempt to place the responsibility where it belongs."

The report also commented on the problem of non-support and the unsatisfactory disposition of such cases by jailing men unless some system of payment for labor in prison were devised. Reference to this state of affairs in our own city and province was not only widespread, but non-support should be made so serious a matter for any man that he would think twice before making himself liable to punishment. One of the chief reasons there is so much work for child-welfare societies and so large an expenditure for municipal homes and other institutions is the fact

with which men may turn over the care of their families to the public while they enjoy immunity from punishment and are free to be as lazy and useless as they choose. A law to reach them effectively is imperatively needed in Canada.

THE GRAIN PORTS

While St. John people are wondering what effect the Grand Trunk connection with Portland will have on the trade of this port the west, as was shown in the Times on Thursday, is watching with great interest the experiment of shipping grain from Vancouver and via the Panama Canal. A Winnipeg letter to the Toronto Telegram says: "If the westward route can perform the service as promptly and with even a slight decrease in cost over the route down the lakes, the transportation managers do not hesitate to say much of the grain will seek an outlet via Vancouver. Several million bushels went that way this year, ordered by New York, Montreal and Toronto shipping agencies. It too early to analyze returns to determine the value of the experiment, but it is certain if the westward trade route is to prove popular that Vancouver must erect more storage elevators. In that event the Winnipeg Grain Exchange men assert all grain produced west of the Alberta east border will go via the Pacific. The balance they do not believe at this stage can ever be exported more profitably than at present via the lakes."

The same writer gives some interesting figures. It shows how much grain was shipped eastward via the lakes and rail. Nearly one-half of this went via U. S. ports. "For the year ending July 31, 1921, 312,876, 393 bushels of grain were shipped eastward via the lakes and rail. Nearly one-half of this went via U. S. ports. For the year 1921, ending Dec. 31st, 161,261, 468 bushels went down the lakes from Canadian ports. Canadian boats shipped 129,516 bushels, but of this quantity 7,049,468 bushels went in Canadian vessels to U. S. ports. American boats transported to U. S. ports Canadian grain to the amount of 91,698,910 bushels."

It is to say, about half the business goes to American ports. Meanwhile the ports of the maritime provinces have to be content with the cold shoulder.

In striking contrast to what some of the county councillors in some parts of the province have been saying about public health measures, were the addresses of Dr. Doris Murray and Mr. McBride, president of the National Council of Child Welfare before the Local Council of Women yesterday. The penny-wise and pound-foolish policy of petty partisans in the counties will not stand the test of intelligent discussion. So far as St. John itself is concerned, while a good beginning has been made, the infant mortality tables reveal a great need of more trained workers and a more widespread campaign of education.

One result of the recent freight rates hearing before the Railway Commission here is that the Toronto Globe sets out clearly to its readers the handicap under which our foundrymen labor when they have to rail their pig iron from Ontario and rail the manufactured product back again to a market, the handicap being doubled since 1914. This, of course, is only a part of the story about the disabilities under which these provinces labor, but it is worth while to get even some of the facts before the people of the central provinces.

Too often when one St. John organization or delegation from St. John made an appeal at Ottawa, its efforts were offset by those of persons or interests which wanted something else, the net result being that St. John has a reputation for not knowing what it wants. Why not get everybody interested and asking for the same thing, so that there may be no mistake about public sentiment? The time is opportune. Either the board of trade or city council working separately is merely a voice crying in the wilderness.

Hom. H. Mercer, Quebec minister of forests, expresses the hope that next year his department will be able to plant at least one tree for every tree that is cut. By such a policy the timber lands of Quebec can be made a perpetual source of wealth. It is a policy all the provinces must sooner or later adopt.

The news from Ireland and about Ireland that attracts most attention and gives rise to the greatest satisfaction is that which relates to the brotherly attitude of Michael Collins and Sir James Craig—big men, both of them.

A Peking cable says that Premier Liang Shih-Yi has resigned. What effect this will have upon the military governors of provinces or in promoting unity in China remains to be seen.

BOOST YOUR CITY.

"We can knock it, we can rap it. We can kick and we can scap it. But let's advertise our town another way." Let us land it and applaud it. Let's commend it and defend it. Till the world shall know we mean just what we say.

Why not sing and shout its praises—Mention all its happy phases—Show the world the best town on the map? Boost it at the store and table. Boost it when and where we're able. All together, now. Let's boost—and "can" the "rap."

LIGHTER VEIN.

Checking Up. One morning a negro sauntered into the office of a white friend. "Good mornin' Mr. Withrow. Kin I use yo' phone a minute?" he asked. "Why, certainly, Sam."

Sam called his number, and after a few minutes' wait, he said, "Is this Mrs. Whiteside? Well, I seen in de paper, where youall wanted a good cullud man. Is you still wantin' one? Then the man house got is puttin' satisfactori, and you doesn't contemplate makin' no change soon? All right, ma'am. Good-bye."

Mr. Withrow called to Sam as he left the phone. "Now that's too bad, Sam, that the place whickee I'm dected to 'Oh, dat's all right, Mr. Withrow. Iee de nigger what's got de job, but Iee jest a wantin' to check up."—Judge.

A Dangerous Proposition. The conjurer in the village school room having invited any man from the audience to step up on the platform, and a youth had responded.

"Now, friend," the conjurer, "I suppose you consider it a matter of impossibility for me to make the rabbit that box on the table pass into your coat pocket?" "I dunna about impossible," was the reply, "but I wouldn't do it if I were you, sir."

"Oh, you'll be in no danger, I can assure you," said the sleight of hand man. "I wasn't thinking about myself," the youth answered calmly. "I was thinking of the rabbit. 'You must have a ferret in my pocket.'—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

While visiting friends in Cleveland a young Detroitier was presented with a quart of rum. He declined to take it home in his suit case. As the steamer neared the dock he became more and more nervous. Finally in desperation he confessed his fears to a fellow voyager. This kindly individual offered to trade suitcases and the responsibility. The young man was vastly relieved and the change was made. The luggage was not searched and a few minutes later the rum was gone. The young man was exceedingly grateful. "By the way," he observed, "as they exchanged again, 'you must have a lot of things in your suitcase. It's awfully heavy.' 'Yes,' said the stranger, 'I have twelve quarts in mine.'"

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, the English actress, lives in the manner of the days gone by, and she has lost none of the gift of repartee, which has brought her delighted listeners many a fine evening in times past. Recently she was invited to a dinner and could not find the house, finally having to induce a policeman to help her hunt for it. She arrived at the party very late, still escorted by the policeman. "Ridley, how very obscure, my dear," she told her host. "You're not even known to the police."

MANY WILL GO TO ROME CONVENTIONS

Steamship Companies Report Large Bookings for Eucharistic Congress. (Montreal Gazette.) Steamship passenger traffic via the St. Lawrence route from Montreal will be given a good impetus on the opening of the Eucharistic Congress, which will be held in Rome, Italy, and will commence her maiden voyage to Rome on May 22. Portable altars have recently been supplied by the White Star-Donline Line to all its steamers, and facilities have been arranged to allow for the daily celebration of mass by passengers bound for Rome.

Similar parties en route to the book-conventions will leave Montreal on the new White Star-Donline liner Regina, 18,800 tons, which will sail on her first trip from this port on May 13, and proceed direct to Liverpool. The Regina, which will commence her maiden voyage to Halifax and Portland on March 16 from Liverpool, will be the largest one-class cabin steamer sailing on the St. Lawrence. She is stated to possess many novel features, including the provision of several private suites-de-luxe, comprising sitting room, bedroom and bathroom, a feature that heretofore has only been found on the larger vessels carrying three classes of passengers.

PLEADED WITH YOUNG WOMEN TO SET STANDARD

With the largest gathering of the week the evangelistic service was continued last evening. Rev. J. Briley led the singing. After a short address by the pastor, Rev. J. A. Swetnam spoke on "How a young man got his life." He made an appeal to the young women of today to live at a higher standard and set an example for young men in their morals. He said no young woman of Christian character should allow a degenerate young man, or a gambler or a pool room hanger to lead her to the marriage ceremony. It meant a disfigured life in the future.

Rev. Mr. Brindley sang a solo and Rev. J. Rupert and Rev. J. A. Swetnam a duet, and there also was quartette singing.

Use the Want Ad. Way Use the Want Ad. Way

LOCAL NEWS

The study class of the Portland street Methodist church held the regular monthly meeting last evening at the home of Mrs. M. E. Grassie, Germain street, with a large attendance. Miss McIntyre, the leader of the class, gave an address on Canadian missionary work in Formosa. Others taking part were: Mrs. H. B. Clarke, Mrs. Howe, Mrs. Corman and Mrs. A. J. Myers. The hostess was assisted during the social hour by Mrs. William McIntosh and Miss Wootton.

The fourth of a series of winter dances was held by the Knights of Pythias last night. Music was rendered by the Studio orchestra, and many people took advantage of the splendid food which the Castle boasts. During the evening refreshments were served by a committee. The general committee in charge of the dance included: H. C. Heans, H. W. Kinsman, Arthur Nixon, H. L. Yemura, R. C. Thomas, J. A. Stephenson, W. A. Simonds.

The Edict club met last night at the home of Mrs. H. A. Powell with the president, Rev. R. A. Armstrong, in the chair. The subject for the evening was "Famous poems set to music." Mrs. Frank Miller, Mrs. Murray MacLaren, Mrs. Kent Scovell, Miss Louise Knight, Mrs. Courland Robinson and Thomas Guy contributed to the musical numbers used to illustrate the subject. Resolutions of sympathy were sent to F. B. Ellis, Mrs. Harold Lawrence and A. C. Skelton, members of the club, on account of their recent bereavement.

CATTLE IN ENGLAND PLAGUE STRICKEN

Foot and Mouth Disease Exists in Newcastle and Near Hull.

London, Jan. 28.—Confirmation has been obtained of reports of the existence of foot and mouth disease among cattle in Newcastle, and also among cattle and pigs at Hesse, near Hull. A report has also reached the Minister of Agriculture from the local authorities of the existence of the disease at Seaham, near Sunderland.

A VICTIM OF AMNESIA; FORGETS BRIDE'S NAME (New York Times.)

A young southern bride, alone in a big New York hotel since her husband disappeared a few days ago, was made happy last night when word came to her that the boy had been found in Rochester, recovering from amnesia due to an airplane fall in the Argentine.

The youth is Edward C. Sheppard, an orphan of New York. Outgoing the delirious brain that almost failed him after he had been found wandering on the street, he remembered that he had married a girl whose name he couldn't recall and whom he had left in the Hotel Pennsylvania here. Word was sent to his city by officials of the Rochester General Hospital, with the added information that the young man thought very obscure, my dear, she told her host. "You're not even known to the police."

It turned out to be two, and the girl, shaking with loneliness in the big city, badly frightened at the loss of the husband, she had married in Richmond, Va., was found quickly at the hotel.

Then, impatient to catch the first train for Rochester, she told her story. Sheppard, who had a copy for a New York newspaper and later a mechanic, enlisted in the Eightieth Division, was trained at Camp Lee and flew in France.

At the height of the Argentine offensive he took on a bombing job that ended when he crashed in the forest and lay unconscious three days. They patched him up and in the course of time he became a patient in the Walter Reed Army General Hospital in Washington.

There he met Marie Selden, herself an orphan, Italian, and young fellow, plighted his word to her. They became friends. As soon as Sheppard was able to leave the institution he took a train for Richmond where the girl was awaiting him at the home of her sister, Mrs. H. L. Mann.

They were married about two weeks ago and started north on a honeymoon. They tarried in Baltimore, then came to New York. Three days ago Sheppard started alone for Washington to get \$1,800 he said was due him from the government. With that they were going to San Francisco, part of the way by automobile. There they were going to settle down if they liked the coast.

How Sheppard got to Rochester he doesn't know. He has no idea, according to reports from there. Neither had Mrs. Sheppard. But she will get there today, to nurse him and see that everything comes out all right.

WORK IN PITTSBURG FOR 21,402 OUT OR 21,721 WHO APPLIED

Pittsburg, Jan. 28.—Only 21,402 of the 217,821 persons who applied for work in 1921 at the Pittsburg office of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry were provided with jobs, according to the annual report of Superintendent S. H. Thompson, made public today.

In 1920 the office found employment for 107,283 applicants.

SUSSEX PERSONALS.

(Sussex Record.)

The Countess of Ashburnham of Frederick was the guest of Sheriff and Mrs. S. A. McLeod this week.

Harry Warren left for Halifax, N. S., last week, where he has accepted a position with the Union Bank of Canada.

Mrs. Silas McCully, who recently returned home from Montreal, where she underwent an operation at the Royal Victoria Hospital, is much improved in health.

Miss Katherine Kenney will leave on Thursday for Lowell, Mass., where she will enter a hospital, there to train for a nurse.

ONE-MAN CARS SAVE SASKATOON LINE \$50,000

Saskatoon, Sask., Jan. 28.—Through the introduction of one-man street cars by the Saskatoon Street Railway, a decrease of \$50,000 in the company's deficit for 1921 is shown in the annual report. The deficit last year was \$8,996, as against \$38,844 in 1920.

During the months of January, February and March our stores will close at one o'clock on Saturday.

The Vacuum Bottle

Is such a dispenser of comfort that we can ill afford to do without them nowadays. There should be at least one in every home. In fact some folks have two or three in the house—they are so handy for serving coffee, chocolate and other liquids, piping hot or ice cold, as desired, also excellent for keeping baby's nourishment constantly at the right temperature.

The Alibo Bottle

is our special. Japanned case with aluminum top and cup. Pint Size.....\$1.85
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Refills Always in Stock.

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Desolvo has no equal for thawing frozen pipes, stacks, etc., quickly and easily. It can also be used as a solvent to remove stains from marble and Porcelain.

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WOOLEN GLOVES	DRIVER CAPS	STREET CAPS	WOOLEN TOQUES	LINED GLOVES
Warm, all wool—Some have wrist, others long cuffs. Grey, Heather. Mixture. \$1.00 a Pair	With a soft woolen lining and pull down band for your ears. All sizes. \$1.00	of soft Chinchilla cloth interlined with warm felt. All sizes. \$1.00	with and without peaks, and some are interlined. Men's sizes. Small Boys' sizes. \$1.00	Cape Gloves with real Lambskin lining. Gloves of \$2.50 value. \$1.50 a Pair

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Since 1859 St. John, N. B.

Final Month End Clearance Sale

Saturday, Monday, Tuesday

NAVY TRICOTINE DRESSES Special Display of New Smart Dresses at very special price, \$19.50. See Window Display.	FUR TRIMMED COATS All Pure Wool Velours, Duveltyms, all satin lined throughout; best grade fur collars and some have cuffs; regular \$50 and \$60. Three days only, \$29.90.
SPECIAL SELLING SKIRTS Serges \$3.95, \$4.95, \$5.75, \$6.75 and \$8.50. Plaids, Stripes, etc., \$7.95. Regular up to \$13.50.	WHITEWEAR SALE Gowns, best quality, 98c. Splendid range of Chemise, Drawers, Camisoles, Underskirts, etc. Big display on the third floor.

F. A. DYKEMAN & CO.

FREDERICTON R. M. A.

The annual meeting of the Fredericton branch of the Retail Merchants Association met last night. The reports of the secretary and treasurer were read and officers elected as follows:—President, William R. Fraser; 1st vice-president, W. L. Jennings; 2nd vice-president, James Mavor; secretary, R. W. Lindsay; treasurer, J. H. Fleming; additional members of the advisory board, J. J. Weddall, Robert McCann, C. H. Burt, A. Murray, B. R. Cameron, D. R. Crowe and C. W. Hall.

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