

The Evening Times-Star

The Evening Times-Star, printed at 25-27 Canterbury street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by New Brunswick Publishing Co., Ltd., J. D. McKenna, President.
Telephone—Private branch exchange connecting all departments. Main 2417.
Subscription Price—By mail per year, in Canada, \$5.00; United States, \$6.00; by carrier per year, \$4.00.
The Evening Times-Star has the largest circulation of any evening paper in the Maritime Provinces.
Advertising Representatives—New York, Ingham-Powers, Inc., 25 Madison Ave., Chicago, Ingham-Powers, Inc., 15 South La Salle Street.
The Audit Bureau of Circulation audits the circulation of The Evening Times-Star.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 10, 1926.

DEVELOP THE PORT.

His Worship, Mayor White voices the thought of thousands of citizens of Saint John when he says that the stage is at last completely set for vigorous and definite action in order to secure the comprehensive development of this port, the expansion of its facilities on the scale demanded by its strategic situation and its national value, and that increase of traffic which must come here unless the public interest is to be sacrificed and the natural laws of transportation violated as they have been in the past.

For more than twenty years Saint John has been building hopes on schemes of harbor development that have never been carried to completion. It has had from the leaders of both parties binding pledges regarding harbor equipment, but the plans have always been interrupted, the pledges have been broken or evaded, and the people of this, the natural Atlantic winter port of the country, who spent \$2,000,000 of their own money to provide facilities for national export and import traffic, have seen freight of Canadian origin steadily diverted to the upbuilding of alien ports.

Finally, we have come to a new turn in the road. We have had from Sir Henry Thornton, from Vice-President Hungerford, and from the representative of the great Canadian wheat pool, most striking testimony as to the value of this harbor from the national standpoint, and as to the degree of expansion which is due it justice is to be done the people of Saint John, and, more over, if Canada is to be well served in the matter of the expeditious handling of its freight.

Mayor White rightly seizes upon the significant statements of Sir Henry Thornton, his declaration in favor of a harbor trust, and his assertion that the Maritimes are entitled to special consideration. The Mayor naturally gives thought to the testimony of the wheat pool's agent before the Duncan Commission, in which he said that the port would be used up to the limit of its facilities, so far as export wheat is concerned—a statement carrying all the more weight because the speaker represented a body handling the great bulk of Canada's export grain.

Furthermore, the Mayor is impressed by the recent indications that the Canadian National Railway and the Canadian Pacific are in harmony with respect to the Saint John situation, and by the conviction of the heads of both these great systems that development here should be through a harbor trust which would permit not only of rapid port expansion but likewise of the desired measure of co-operation between the two railways, an end which every port recognizes as highly desirable, indeed vital if all interests are to be fairly served.

Sir Henry Thornton and others who appeared before the Duncan Commission in Montreal drew upon one point which the people here have very much in mind, which is that when new legislation is prepared care must be taken to avoid any scheme which would impose charges upon shipping so high as to handicap Saint John in competition with other harbors, Portland particularly.

Another point strongly emphasized at the Duncan hearing was that while we should have here one central harbor authority, directing development along scientific lines, having unified control after the fashion of the Montreal Harbor Board, and sharply, alert to provide enterprising and sound harbor management, the governing body must also be prepared to sell this port's advantages effectively to all those who control or influence the routing of export and import traffic. This is a most important aspect of the whole question. We have already had ample proof of how much can be effected by the proper presentation of this route to shippers in the provinces west of us, and this line of endeavor must be expanded and followed up in the fashion warranted by the dividends which we know will be reaped from that process.

In the past this port has suffered gravely from conflict of local opinion as to the right scheme of development to be followed, and perhaps still more heavily because of lack of continuity of policy at Ottawa concerning Maritime harbors, the interruptions due to changes of government and the failure of one government after another—notwithstanding the platform pledges of both—to carry into actual practice the all-Canadian transportation principle to which the leaders on both sides have so often professed the utmost devotion. We in the Maritimes know, and at last the people in the other provinces have come to know, that while these professions were being repeated, and ignored, the American lake and port cities and the American railways were being enriched by a vast and increasing flow of Canadian traffic which should have been handled by Canadians to their own profit.

The Mayor rightly says that we need not await the publication of the Duncan Commission's recommendations before organizing here to take advantage

of the existing situation. The Duncan Commission, it is expected will complete its work soon after election day, and will submit its proposals, which we believe will be sound and far-reaching, before the incoming federal ministry. We shall have, also, about the same time, the judgments of the Railway Commission upon several questions of the most vital interest to us.

Unless Canadian opinion is greatly misled, we shall have an early session, and certainly there will be a widespread demand for prompt and vigorous action upon public problems the consideration of which has been too long delayed. Now is Saint John's opportunity. If we are true to ourselves, and unless the next national administration plays us false, we shall be able to develop this port into one of the great Atlantic gateways of this continent. In order that we may not miss this tide, we must not only unify local opinion behind a sound plan of scientific harbor development, but we must press our claims resolutely and insistently at Ottawa and refuse to take No for an answer.

THE ENGLISHMAN'S TEA.

The English institution of afternoon tea is probably one of the main reasons for the widely-held, but not altogether accurate, opinion that Englishmen are inveterate tea drinkers. Now comes a story of a London professor who has invented a mechanism for waking those prone to oversleep themselves and, as a part of its operation, the contrivance makes a cup of tea. The knowledge that Englishmen are accustomed to drink tea first thing on waking will probably confirm the impression as to national tea drinking proclivities, but in point of fact this matrimonial habit is a comparatively recent innovation.

The custom has been introduced from the East where the morning cup of tea has been drunk from time immemorial. There the practice is something as follows: A bearer enters the room carrying a tray on which tea, buttered toast and fruit are placed. He puts this down on a small table by the bedside and proceeds to roll up the mosquito net and tucks it behind the sleeper. Then he is faced with the difficult, and sometimes dangerous, problem of awakening his master. Usually he shakes him gently by the shoulder and immediately jumps back a yard or so to avoid possible violence—European who have lived for any length of time in tropical climates are liable to have large livers and short tempers. Some of the wiser bearers have adopted the custom of shaking the sleeper's toe—a kick aimed from a recumbent position is easy to dodge. But the main thing is to get the sahib to open his eyes and immediately his glance falls on the cup of tea, all is well—the morn smiles.

This custom of early morning tea, when once contracted, is very hard to break. Consequently Anglo-Indians returning home have introduced it into England where it has rapidly gained in popularity. The spread of this habit is well evidenced by the account of the professor's invention and will doubtless serve to confirm the impression already mentioned that the English are incorrigible tea addicts. There are worse vices.

Odds and Ends

He Touched Wood

(Toronto Star.)
A man there was who made this boast, "I have a throat more tough than most, I laugh at so-called Scotch or rye, All that home brewers brew I've tried, I've got a true cast iron inside. No weakling stomachs go cash in Their checks, to kickles booting gin, Of which this throat of mine's afraid. To every potion that's man-sized, I've got a mouth that is bomb-proof, No drink alive can raise its roof, My stomach's guaranteed non-skid." He said to him, "Touch wood." He did.

That's What They Were.
The local church conference was over, and the hostesses were returning from seeing the visitors off at the station.

"Who did you have, Mrs. Brown?" asked Mrs. Jones.
"Oh, I had a very nice minister," replied Mrs. Brown. "Who did you have?"

"Well, I had two locust preachers," "Oh, you mean two local preachers," Mrs. Brown said.

"No, I had two locust preachers," was the reply.

"But locusts are those things which come in swarms and eat up every thing and—"

"That's right—and I had two of them!"

Located.
(London Chronicle.)

The American statesman was introduced to the Scot as "one of the leading politicians of modern times and the greatest authority upon international law that the world has ever known."

The Scot looked him up and down for a moment, and then asked: "From what land d'ye come?"

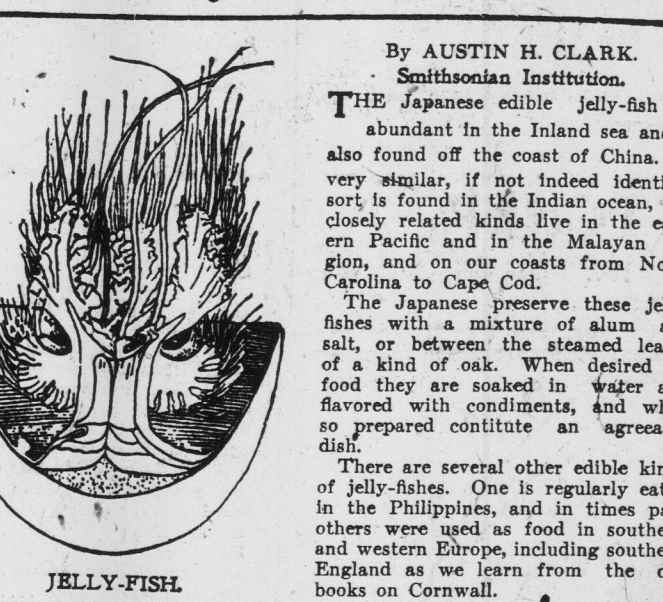
"From the greatest country in the world," replied the statesman with a smile.

The Scot shook his head. "Puir bairn, puir bairn!" he sighed. "Ye've lost yer Scottish accent!"

May As Well Get Used To Them



Queer Quirks of Nature



JELLY-FISH.

THE Japanese edible jelly-fish is abundant in the inland sea and is also found off the coast of China. A very singular, if not indeed identical, sort is found in the Indian ocean, and closely related kinds live in the eastern Pacific and in the Malay region, and on our coasts from North Carolina to Cape Cod.

The Japanese preserve these jelly-fishes with a mixture of alum and salt, or between the steamed leaves of a kind of oak. When desired for food they are soaked in water and flavored with condiments, and are served as a delicacy.

There are several other edible kinds of jelly-fishes. One is regularly eaten in the Philippines, and in times past others were used as food in southern and western Europe, including southern England as we learn from the old books on Cornwall.

PRODUCING ORATORS.

Peterboro Examiner.
There is no lack of talkers in this country; parliamentary debates unmistakably prove that fact, but there is a dearth of logical, eloquent speakers with something worth while to say and a facility to put it in words. The education of our young people in oratory, if whatever scheme that promises fruitful results, is a stage of development that all should welcome.

GOOD-BYE TO GROUPS.

(Victoria Colonist.)
I sincerely hope for the good of this country that the last of this group government in the federal sphere of Canada. Political groups have been demonstrated to be narrow and sectional in their views, and when weak and unscrupulous leaders, more concerned about retention of power than the general welfare of the country, are ready to purchase the support of groups at any price, then the situation is desperate.

The Political Fray

Liberal
MEIGHEN'S WAR-TIME POLICY.
(Toronto Star.)

On November 16th last the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, speaking at Hamilton, declared that Canada should hold a general election before sending troops to war. In subsequent references to this declaration he said: "This is the policy of the Conservative party." Sir John Willison, in a cable to the London Times, said: "There is serious and widespread dissatisfaction among Conservatives over the declaration made by Mr. Meighen, the Conservative leader, at Hamilton, that Canada should not engage in war without the approval of a majority of the House of Commons. There is no prospect of the party supporting Mr. Meighen in the policy he has announced at Hamilton." But Mr. Meighen is still head of the Conservative party. He is Premier of Canada and leader of provisional government that is seeking endorsement at the polls. The election on September 14 affords the first opportunity for Mr. Meighen's Conservative party to have had to express approval or disapproval of Mr. Meighen's pronouncement at Hamilton. Support given to Meighen candidates will indicate approval of the party's policy. The election of a majority on the Commons will signify that the people of Canada want a general election to be held while other British dominions are rushing troops to save the Empire. The only way to withhold approval of Mr. Meighen's un-Canadian, un-British and unintelligent policy is to defeat the candidates who stand upon his platform.

MEIGHEN AND BRITAIN.

(Ottawa Citizen.)
Nothing more distinctly separatist has been pronounced in Canada since the National movement, which allied itself with the Conservative party in 1911, than Mr. Meighen's declared policy of holding a general election on the question of military co-operation with Great Britain, before sending troops abroad in another war. In effect, Canada is to enjoy all the benefits of partnership within the league of British nations in peace time, but when the hour of peril comes again the Conservative party's policy—as pronounced at Hamilton and in Bagot county—is to hold a general election before shouldering the responsibilities of partnership; in short, to open the way to dissolve partnership.

A RUMOR AND A CHALLENGE.

(Le Soleil.)
We challenge Mr. Meighen to repeat his declaration of Hamilton and Bagot county to us simply in the name of the party that he holds to these declarations. We know that he has been denounced by a strong group of his party for his pretended volte-face. Rumor is freely current that he has entered upon an agreement in writing with Hon. Mr. Bennett not to repeat the ideas they contained. We have reason to believe that this rumor is well founded. We challenge Mr. Meighen. We ask him to reply.

LIMELIGHT

AIRY CAMPAIGN.

SALT LAKE CITY—Senator Reed Smoot of Utah has acquired a new hobby. He's an aviation enthusiast, taking a plane wherever he possibly can. He has recently flown here from Los Angeles and is now given over wholeheartedly to the prospect of doing the bulk of his campaigning for re-nomination and re-election by airplane. While the present-day airplane lacks a few of the conveniences of the observation car, particularly for kissing and glad-handing purposes, it must be admitted that it covers more territory in a far more speedy fashion. Perhaps the Gentleman from Utah has solved his political problems.

WHO? WHO?

LONDON—The other day, while London was undergoing that sweet-scented exhalation which follows the greatest cricketer in the history of the game, a wandering American happened to ask a young Englishman, "Who's this Jack Hobbs I hear so much about?"

"When the native had revived, he took the penitent American off and told him that Jack Hobbs was the greatest cricketer in the history of the ancient and honorable game and that, this very day, he had piled up some 800 runs, not out, and that this performance annexed a variety of records. "Oh," said the American, "he's a sort of Babe Ruth, isn't he?" "Who's Babe Ruth?" asked the Englishman.

PRECIOUS.

NEW YORK—In a recent conference with President Coolidge, Will H. Hays, to whom it is the usual thing to refer as the "Movie Czar," outlined a plan which provides for the preservation of a time, fire and shock proof vault of news films which picture historic events. Mr. Hays mentioned as examples of the sort of thing which should be placed in the vault, the flight of the first airplane, the signing of the Versailles Treaty and presidential inaugurations. "That's all very well, but who's to judge what films shall be preserved for, as the films go, posterity? If Congress is to be given the power—may a benevolent Heaven protect posterity!"

EXPLOITING VERSUS EXALTING.

(Winnipeg Tribune.)
Like all other young countries, we have too many people exploiting Canada's resources and her true patriotism is a sacred thing. It runs deeper than self-interest, party feelings, superficial flag-waving. It is a spirit of love for all that is fine and honorable in the life of a nation.

A FRIENDLY PRECAUTION.

(Boston Transcript.)
In deporting alien gunmen, it will, of course, be only the part of decency to see to it that they do not take their guns with them.

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A STABLE TARIFF.
(Montreal Gazette.)

The tariff, as directly affecting in some way practically all industries and all business, is too important to be left subject to the changes produced by the caballing of groups and the whims of extremists under a system that leaves the Government of the day dependent on a majority of from one to a dozen, which any little group may destroy, whenever the whim seizes it or the Prime Minister undertakes to act without its consent. Such a state of affairs has existed under the King Government for the past five years. Its recurrence can be prevented by the voters on polling day sending to the House of Commons a straight majority strong enough to permit of the Government having a policy and a will to make it effective.

THE NATIONAL RAILWAYS

(London Free Press.)
The statements made by Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King and Hon. Charles A. Dunning that the Canadian National Railway will be in danger if Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen is returned to power are almost "at daggers drawn" with the Canadian National Railway would not be today a public-owned system if it were not for Mr. Meighen. When the Canadian National Railway and the Grand Trunk Pacific were threatened with nationalization, it was Mr. Meighen who was responsible for the policy of obtaining the system for the people. He was almost "at daggers drawn" with the Liberal government and fought it through parliament. The Liberals opposed the measure in the House, and if the Liberals of that day had had their way the bill would never have passed.

POEMS I LOVE

"A Serenade," by Sir Walter Scott.

THIS simple song, with its everlasting lover's question, loses nothing, placed beside other serenades. It has the lilt and beauty such verses should possess; and if one finds it almost too simple, he should remember that this kind of amiable loveliness is not easy of accomplishment.

Ah! County Guy, the hour is nigh,
The sun has left the sea,
The orange flower perfumes the bower,
The breeze is on the sea.
The star of Love, all stars above,
Sits hushed his partner nigh;
Breeze, bird and flower confess the hour,
But where is County Guy?

The village maid steals through the shade
Her shepherd's suit to hear;
To beauty shy, by lattice high,
Sings high-born Cavalier.
The star of Love, all stars above,
Now reigns o'er earth and sky,
And high and low the influence know—
But where is County Guy?

DINNER STORIES

A SPORTSMAN with a wonderful power of imagination was telling how at one shot he had bagged two partridges and a rabbit. His explanation was that, though he had hit only one partridge, the bird in falling had clutched another partridge and brought that to earth entangled in its claws.

"But how about the rabbit?" he was asked.
"Oh," was the calm reply, "my gun kicked and knocked me over and I fell on the rabbit as it ran past."

SISTER BROWN had been testifying at the weekly prayer meetings, of the waywardness of her daughter who would rather go to dances than to church. This had been going on for weeks in spite of the feeble protests of her husband. Finally at one of these prayer meetings she arose with new testimony. She concluded thus:
"And now that my daughter is going to be married, this burden has been lifted from my shoulders and placed on that of a man. I am so happy that if I had one more feather in my wings I would fly to heaven."

But in the general chorus of "Amen," no one heard the mutterings of her husband, who grunted:
"O Lord, stick it in and let her fly."

Just Fun

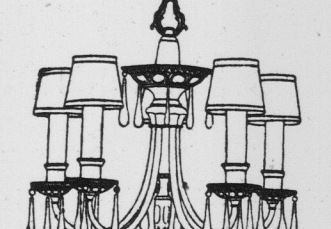
LITTLE BOY (sightseeing in Ottawa)—Hey, poppa, when are we going to see the red tape, huh, poppa?

"SOME MEN," said Uncle Ephraim, talks like dey was sure of going to heaven when they actually safe fun keepin' out o' jail."

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW.
MISS MARIAN C. HARDING, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, formerly of Detroit, Maine, who is assistant headmaster for her aunt at the

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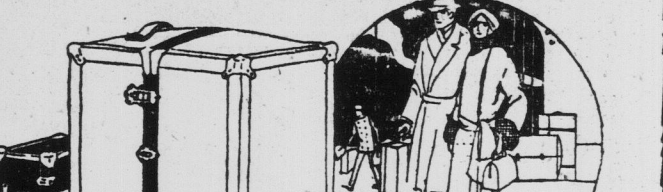


Norton Beauty Parlor, wishes to announce her engagement in the near future. — Personal item in a Maine paper.

THE evening lesson was from the Book of Job, and the minister had just read, "Yea, the light of the wicked shall be put out," when immediately the church was in total darkness.

"Brethren," said the minister with scarcely a moment's pause, "in view of the sudden and startling fulfillment of this prophecy, we will spend a few minutes in silent prayer for the electric light company."

THE Eastern scientist who predicts that heat eventually will be broadcast may be right about it, but there are some Janitors temperamentally unfitted to be announcers.



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