

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 9, 1914.

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## A PROGRESSIVE CITY

The Times has received a special magazine issue of the Holyoke, Mass., Daily Transcript, celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of that live newspaper. Holyoke is one of the busy and progressive manufacturing cities of the state, with a population about the same or perhaps a little larger than that of St. John. This special issue of the Transcript gives a very readable history of the city, and a very full account of its great manufacturing interests, whose success is largely due to the great water power available.

In glancing through this voluminous, splendidly illustrated and extremely interesting magazine one is especially interested in the story of Holyoke's playgrounds and schools. The city is developing an excellent system of municipal playgrounds. When the Massachusetts legislature in 1908 adopted a state law providing for public playgrounds, to be put in force by vote of each city and town, Holyoke organized a Civic Improvement League, carried on an educational campaign, and accepted the new playgrounds law by the largest pro rata vote given by any city in the state. The next year a Women's Civic League was established to further the movement. In 1909 the city council purchased three tracts of land in the most congested districts of the city, paying for them the sum of \$25,000. A playgrounds commission was next appointed by the city government, three of its nine members to be women. The year 1910 saw the playgrounds movement in full swing, with organized play on four different grounds, and the work has steadily proceeded since. There were five play centres in 1911 and 1912 and wading pools and shower baths have been made a feature. Some of the playgrounds are also made available for the use of the larger boys and adults, and in the winter the wading pools are converted into skating rinks. The Transcript says it is not unusual on a pleasant winter afternoon after school hours to see eighteen hundred children on the rinks. The opening of the school halls for the use of the people during the winter evenings, and the extension of the playgrounds both in number and equipment are being vigorously urged by the commission, which in one of its reports says:

"It is the aim of our commission to conduct the work assigned to us in such a manner that the child shall be led from joyous play into an equally joyous sense of the dignity of labor. We agree to turn the aimless energy of the child into the definite purpose of helpful play and interesting work. We long to give to the children, with light and call of their parents, clean, sunny spaces instead of alleys and tenement courts. We desire to develop all the sweetness and goodness of the childish spirit."

Holyoke has an excellent system of evening schools, which are patronized by working people, and the Transcript says that during the next few years these schools will be revolutionized and brought into closer connection with home and life activities. A splendid new school building lately erected is so constructed that there is a large hall on the first floor which may be used for auditorium and gymnasium purposes, and especially for social centre meetings. The Transcript says:

"The desire for neighborhood sociability is stronger in our cities than we have realized. It lacks opportunity for expression. A meeting place for the discussion of matters of common interest and for the formulation of plans requiring community co-operation would be as beneficial today as in the days when the town meeting was more widely spread."

Provision is made in the Holyoke schools for manual and industrial training. There are four manual training rooms in the grammar schools and a well equipped shop in the high school, while courses in sewing and bookbinding for girls has been extended to the seventh and eighth grades. We may quote one more paragraph which presents an ideal that is worthy of universal attention:

"The school of tomorrow will be a broadly social institution, touching in a great variety of ways the life of the community in which it is located. It will contribute efficiently and widely to the health, intelligence, social sympathy, industrial skill, and citizenship ideals of the people whom it serves. It will be the largest factor in the fuller realization of those social conditions upon which depends the happiness of mankind, individual freedom, world-wide sympathy, and tolerance and universal peace."

The evidence in the Stewart-Pinder lawsuit at Fredericton has grown more and more interesting as it has proceeded.

More than fifteen hundred men have been laid off in the railroad yards in Toronto in the last fortnight, and it is expected more will follow. Freight business is said to be very dull. In Calgary the citizens fear that damage will be done by the army of the unemployed. In all the cities throughout the west the winter is marked by an increase of unemployment. In St. John the loss of the Empress steamships has made this a

harder winter for the longshoremen, and it is increasingly difficult for laboring men to find employment. These facts are not discussed at Conservative meetings, but they are attracting the attention of thoughtful people all over Canada.

Mr. Douglas of Sydney predicts that additional protection for the steel industry will be given at an early date by the Borden government. He does not appear to have said anything about reducing the food taxes.

That was a very pleasant surprise when the Ladies' Committee of the Protestant Orphans' Home received a check from one whose boyhood days were spent in the Home, and who had kindly memories of the care and training he had received in that institution.

The annual shipments of lumber from St. John are not nearly as large as they were some years ago. A total of nearly eighty-seven million feet to transatlantic ports last year, however, is no small item. The shipments to the United States last year were not as large as formerly, but nevertheless formed another important item in the trade of the port.

The development of Coldbrook as an industrial garden suburb appears to be making very excellent progress. The announcement that another automobile factory is to be established there, and that New York capitalists are behind the movement, is good news, and affords another argument in favor of the extension of the street car line to Coldbrook.

Premier Roblin of Manitoba told a temperance delegation yesterday that he was entirely opposed to the abolition of the bar so long as wholesale houses were permitted to sell liquor. At a meeting in St. John last night one of the charges made was that wholesale houses shipped liquor freely into prohibition districts.

Captain Mowatt, a deep water captain of many years' experience, and a native of Charlotte County, has been telling the people of St. Andrews and St. Stephen that there is no finer opportunity to establish great docks to accommodate the largest ships afloat than on the St. Croix. The citizens of the border towns are evidently determined to keep the claims of the St. Croix before the country, and if the predictions of transportation men concerning the enormous development of Canadian trade through Canadian Atlantic ports are to be fulfilled there can be no doubt that the time of development of the St. Croix harbor will come.

A correspondent of the Standard asked: "Does free trade reduce the so-called high cost of living to any extent?" and in reply quotes the captain of an American fishing schooner to show that it does not. Let us see. When there was a very small duty on New Brunswick potatoes entering the United States the price in Aroostook was fairly low. As soon as an embargo was placed on New Brunswick potatoes the price in Aroostook advanced. Free trade or nearly free trade had kept the price down for the American consumer. The embargo put the price up.

Word comes from Ottawa that the Borden government is in a dilemma in relation to the naval question, and that three different views are being pressed by different members. One is for a revival of the emergency programme, another is for Canadian coast defence and shipbuilding, and still another for a delay of another year before taking any action. If Mr. Borden had not abandoned the true Canadian and Imperial policy which he and all his party endorsed in 1909, these troubles would not have come upon him. The position of the Liberals is more fortunate. They approve now, as they did before, the policy which, in common with Australia, this country adopted and which Australia is carrying out in good faith.

According to the St. John Standard, Mr. George W. Fowler told the Conservatives on Wednesday evening that "if St. John wavered in its support of Mr. Hazen he could rely on the support of the rest of the province." The doubt concerning the safety of Mr. Hazen in this constituency which was in the mind of Mr. Fowler, and which led him to make this observation, was also in the minds of his hearers, and was one of the reasons for holding the meeting. Mr. Fowler, addressing a St. John audience, was wise enough not to assert that St. John was at Mr. Hazen's back; but he did what he could to cheer the despondent St. John Tories by telling them the story that the rest of the province was behind Mr. Hazen. If they desire to hug this dear delusion to their bosoms, they should be warned not to go out along the Intercolonial, in Mr. Fowler's own constituency, to ask the people about it.

The boys in the schools of Waplogash, N. H., destroyed last year 9,000 brown-nail moth nests, for which they were paid at the rate of \$2.50 a hundred through the generosity of a summer visitor.

## BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9.

J. A. Chisholm, K. C., ex-mayor of Halifax, who is fifty-one years of age today, was for many years a partner of Pender Borden in the law business. He has been quite a prominent figure in the eastern province for some time, being a studious, cultured and public-spirited citizen. To him must in large measure be given the credit for the successful carrying out of the celebration of 1908 which marked the 160th anniversary of the establishment of responsible government in the British colonies. Though a strong Conservative, he is a great admirer of Joseph Howe, and has edited that statesman's speeches in two large volumes.

## LIGHTER VEIN

## A Resolution

I will not vow from New Year's day to be a perfect man. I'll simply vow, along the way to do the best I can.

—Detroit "Free Press."

## A Rate Privilege

Lots of children are permitted to pat their mothers' pet dogs if their hands are clean.—Florida "Times-Union."

## His Contribution

A little boy of five was invited to a children's party. The next day he was giving an account of the fun, and said that each of the little visitors had contributed either a song, a recitation, or music for the pleasure of the rest.

"Oh, poor little Jack!" said his mother. "How very unfortunate you could do nothing!"

"Yes, I could, mother," replied the young hopeful. "I stood up and said my prayers!"

## Had Heard of Burbank

Brown (to his neighbor Jones)—He says he's experimenting with a vegetable which will bring him in thousands of pounds.

Jones—What is it?

Brown—He's trying to rear an onion with a violet scent.—Exchange.

## Practical Physics

Motorist—What do you mean by making me slack up? You needn't get funny about an old horse like that shying!

Farmer—Maybe, sir, but he's a bit shaky on the legs and I had to think of the draught!—Exchange.

## Marvelous

Alys—Albert promised me he wouldn't smoke a cigarette for two days.

Ethelred—He'll keep his promise; that boy has wonderful will power.

## The Cook's Retort

"Mary, when I hired you you said you were a competent cook. I wish you'd cook something we can eat."

"And I wish you'd eat something I can cook," was her reply.

## Boarding House Criticism

Landlady — "Will you, take tea or coffee?"

Boarder — "Whichever you call it."—London Opinion.

## A Common Case

"That politician believes in the greatest good to the greatest number."

"I didn't know he was so altruistic."

"He isn't. With him the greatest number is number one."

## Much Worse

"What's the matter?"

"My wife found a letter in my pocket."

"I see. One you had forgotten to mail."

"No; one I had forgotten to burn."

## A Fine Husband

"Gladys Jane has a perfectly lovely husband."

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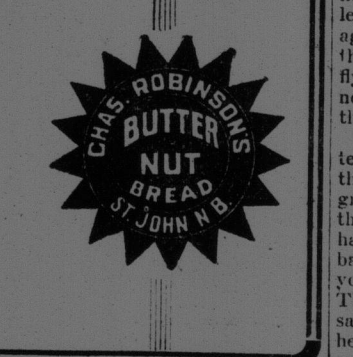
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## THE CORPSE SCORED

New Brunswick Tells of Weirdest Ball Game in History.

(The Baseball Magazine.)

They were sitting around the lobby of the Russell House in Ottawa one rainy evening recently discussing modern baseball, and finally the conversation drifted into the usual channel—great baseball plays, of the brave seasons that are gone.

"I guess it has been my privilege to see a play that has never been equalled in this or any other country," remarked the quiet-looking young man from Jowen east, "and it was not in the big leagues that I saw it either."

His companions grinned skeptically at the suggestion of a great baseball play down in the Bluebonnet country, but the young man from down by the sea calmly lit his cigarette and continued: "For the last ten years I have followed baseball faithfully. I have read countless stories of great spectacular plays, and witnessed many myself, mostly in the big league. But it remained for a small country town in New Brunswick to stage what I honestly believe to be the most intensely dramatic baseball episode that there is a record of."

It was a game between the old Chatham Stars—a fairly good scrappy team, as teams went in country towns in those days—and a nine from the University of St. Joseph at Memramcook, where some really fast stars have been developed. The game was being played on the college campus, and for some reason or other the rivalry between the teams was intense and bitter. The championship of Northern New Brunswick was at stake. For eight innings the Chatham pitcher had the collegeans mystified and scoreless. With the score two to nothing against them they came to the bat in the ninth. A puny groundie and a foul fly to left field, and the students saw nothing but defeat and humiliation at the hands of their old rivals.

O'Hara, the weakest batter on the team, walked nervously to the plate and the crowd started to leave. The little grandstand. Then something happened that made them stop and linger. O'Hara had doubled to right field on the first ball sent up to him. Robidoux, a scrappy young Acadian, was the next man up. The crowd was imploring him to at least save the team from a shut-out, but after he had fouled for two strikes the cheers subsided. The pitcher grooved a specy

straight ball for the heart of the plate. Robidoux's bat, swung in desperation with all his might, met it squarely on the nose. The ball was seen to soar far out over the center fielder's head, both runners raced madly around the bases, and the crowd roared its delight. Then there was a sudden lull. O'Hara had fallen face downwards on third base, and remained motionless.

Robidoux's hit was a sure home run, but if O'Hara did not move the other base runner, according to the rules of the game could not pass him, and then the game might be lost after all. The crowd groaned. And it was then that the strangest thing happened on a ball field. Robidoux made straight around the bases, reached third, picked the pros-trate O'Hara into his arms, and started for the home plate. A few moments later, amidst mad cheers from the excited crowd, he had touched the plate with O'Hara, done likewise himself, and was carrying his apparently unconscious comrade to the bench.

Notwithstanding the violent protestations of the Clatham players the umpire lay at first sight.

ruled that both scores would count, and as the score was thus a tie, ordered the teams to play on. And now came the most dramatic scene of all. Young O'Hara was dead. Aweled with the announcement the crowd stood around with bared heads, while the village doctor worked hard to restore, if possible the young player to life. O'Hara had sacrificed his life that his team might win. He had scored a run while dead, and thus made what, to me at least, seems to be the most solemn, most dramatic, and greatest play that baseball has ever seen."

An elm recently cut down in Linye Centre, N. H., measured 21 feet in circumference and had cast a shadow, when in full leaf, 130 feet in diameter. It was brought from Tolland, Conn., and set out as a small tree in 1779.

A man standing seven feet one inch high was recently married to a woman one inch under five feet in Kansas City. Both declared that it had been a real case of

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