

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 7, 1923.

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YET MORE SPEED NEEDED.

In voting for the bond issue to provide for the ornamental and street lighting system the City Council yesterday enabled the Civic Power Commission to get on with its work. The work of the Commission cannot be pressed too rapidly, since the City must begin to pay for the Municipal current on May 1st. The City Council and the Commission, having the same object in view, must work in harmony to avoid delay. The New Brunswick Power Company will make a fight. It is well organized and always on the job. The interests of the City must be no less zealously promoted. Delay injures the City and helps the Power Company. The citizens have a right to feel, having embarked upon the policy of providing themselves with light and power with the utmost energy. The fact that there is to be competition should stimulate the Council and Commission to greater efforts, and to a determination to make civic ownership and distribution a complete success. There is a direct challenge to the City and it must be accepted. Whatever reduction in the Power Company's rates there may have been or may be in future is a direct result of hydro, but the people can only get the lowest rates, and get them permanently, by civic distribution. It has been shown that unnecessary delays have already cost the City a great deal of money. City Hall has been responsible for unnecessary delay ever since the City was notified that Musquash would be developed. One result of the delay was the defeat of two Mayors. The City Council should now exhibit as much speed as two former ones did of hesitancy and delay, for the first of May is at hand.

WHAT PORTLAND IS DOING.

The City of Portland, Maine, is losing no opportunity to advertise itself as a seaport, and especially as a winter port for the trans-shipment of freight to and from Canada. Last week the Chamber of Commerce had as its guests the Governor and his executive and the members of the Maine Legislature. These visitors were entertained at a banquet and grand ball, and inspected the new State pier, now nearing completion. They heard also an address descriptive of the pier and its value to the state by Frederick H. Fay of the engineering firm who have had charge of the engineering of the project. The pier is one thousand feet long, and there is 35 feet of water at mean low water. A grain gallery connects the pier with the Grand Trunk elevators. The two-story pier shed is designed to handle immigrants as well as freight, and will contain waiting rooms, examination rooms, detention and board rooms, railway and steamship ticket offices, lunch counter and other features of the best type of modern immigration station. Saloon and second class passenger facilities will be provided for. The railway tracks extend the whole length of the pier, which will be equipped with the most modern freight-handling equipment. Special provision will be made for handling package freight. Mr. Fay said:—

"Package freight will be handled by means of cargo hoists such as are almost exclusively used at the port of New York, by a locomotive crane for handling heavy packages, and by electric storage battery tractors and trailer trucks for the movement of freight within the pier sheds. Provision is also made for the installation of gantry cranes in the future whenever business develops to an extent sufficient to warrant their use. The new pier will have ample trackage for handling railroad freight cars. Beside a number of tracks near the middle of the pier, there is a track extending the entire length of the pier on the easterly side between the pier shed and the edge of the wharf. This will enable heavy freight to be taken by car alongside the ship and loaded by pier crane."

Some other observations made by Mr. Fay will be of very special interest to readers in St. John. He said:—

"For five years I and my associates have studied the situation at the port of Portland from every angle. We have been concerned chiefly with the needs and the possibilities of further development of the State of Maine, particularly along agricultural and industrial lines. We have given consideration also to the Canadian situation and the probable future trend of Canadian business through the port of Portland which is pre-eminently the natural winter port for the Dominion."

"Speaking as one who has some knowledge of the situation existing at many, perhaps most, of our important American ports, I state as my conviction, that, in proportion to size of present business no port in this country has relatively brighter prospects for growth and development than this chief seaport of the State of Maine."

"Will these possibilities of development of the port of Portland be realized? That depends upon many things. The main provision of improved facilities for doing business is not enough. One does not succeed in the business world by sitting idle in the vain hope that somehow or other business will come his way. Each one of us must work hard along lines of well-directed effort to achieve any reasonable measure of success in our own business. The directors of the port of Portland can do much but no body of five men, however able they are, can do the job alone and unaided. The success of this enterprise depends very largely upon you—the people of the State of Maine. If you back the State pier project with unity and wholeheartedness and will take advantage of the opportunity which is yours, the port of Portland can be made to contribute in a very substantial way to the prosperity of the entire state."

"Maine with its water powers, its timber and its soil has great potential possibilities for growth along both industrial and agricultural lines. Growth in industry and growth in agriculture both depend, however, upon transportation, upon the facilities of commerce. In addition to the natural advantages which we have mentioned, Maine has the great asset of being a seaport state with an extensive coast line and more good harbors than any other state in the Union."

"There is here the opportunity for the development of cheap water transportation as a supplement to the existing transportation facilities by rail to the mutual advantage of rail and water lines and to the benefit of the state in lessened freight rates."

It will be noted that Mr. Fay dwells upon the importance to the whole State of the development of the trade of Portland. Of similar importance to New Brunswick is the development of the trade of the port of St. John. Mr. Fay says Portland is "pre-eminently the natural winter port for the Dominion," and we note that the new pier is linked up with the Grand Trunk elevators. St. John must look to its laurels, and in its efforts to get its full share of Canadian traffic it should have the hearty support of the whole Province. It is well to know what our neighbor and rival is doing, and to put the knowledge to practical use.

The decision of Rev. F. S. Dowling to accept the call to Sydney will result in the departure of a minister who has not only been the beloved leader of his own congregation but a man deeply interested in social welfare work in the City and Province. Along with Rev. H. A. Goodwin and some others, Mr. Dowling strove earnestly to establish a strong Social Service Council in this Province, and was for some time its efficient secretary. He has also been very deeply interested in the establishment of the Maritime Home for Girls at Moncton, and in that connection rendered most valuable service. All good causes affecting the general welfare appealed to him, and to the limit of his physical strength he labored both as minister and citizen to promote them. As a preacher he did not hesitate to challenge the wrong and uphold the right with fearless vigor. While congratulating him on the call to a larger work, the people of St. John will regret his departure from the city.

The citizens of Halifax have shown that they interpret as St. John has done the meaning of the honor paid to Miss Winifred Blair. Lieut. Gov. Grant, Premier Armstrong and Mayor Murphy gave the weight of their social influence to the reception of Miss Canada, which appears to have been almost as enthusiastic as that which she received in this city. The Chronicle adds this editorial tribute:—"Halifax is delighted to have the pleasure of welcoming and entertaining Miss Canada, and its pleasure is all the greater because the sister City of St. John has the honor of being the home of this charming Canadian girl." The citizens of St. John appreciate very highly the fine spirit displayed by those of the sister city.

ANDERSONVILLE

(George Haven Putnam, in The Independent.)

Some of the men who were captured with me were taken to Andersonville, and two of them survived to get back. Their accounts were fully in line with the evidence presented in the report issued in 1864 by a Congressional committee. This report carried photographs of men whose feet had rotted away in the putrid squalor of that camp of horrors. In 1864, a committee from the stockade appealed to Captain Wirz for permission to move the stockade to a dry and clean spot nearby. The ground within the enclosure had become thoroughly infected. Wirz refused the request, saying, in substance, that the Yankees might as well not there as elsewhere. I was told that an old physician in Andersonville, after an inspection of the stockade, was so horrified at the conditions, which would, he felt, bring disgrace to Georgia and to the Confederacy, that he secured signatures from a group of leading citizens to a petition addressed to Jefferson Davis, calling for the removal of Wirz and for decent treatment of the prisoners. The petition was handed to Davis in person by a trusted correspondent of Richmond and was pigeon-holed. Davis took no action.

WHAT'S WHAT

By Helen Doole



At an informal dinner the hostess may go in first with the other women, the men following, and all standing beside their indicated places until the hostess has seated them. The other men follow with the women assigned to them as dinner partners by the hostess, and the hostess brings up the rear of the procession with the man who is supposed to be the most honored for the time being.

A formal dinner should not be attempted with insufficient or unskilled service. Those of us who have ever made that mistake will never repeat it. The little dinner without ceremony is at once easier and more enjoyable for all concerned.

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THE PHAROAH.

(Verna Sheard.)

They may not wake thy long-embalmed sleep,
Or stir thee, Pharaoh, from thy
Thine are the secrets still that thou didst keep.
While through three thousand summers bloomed the rose.

They may not wrest a single sign from thee,
Who art so rich in old forgotten lore—
What are thy gems? Thou art the mystery
That they will carry through the border door.

Who shall say what thy love was—or
thy hate?
Thy lips are sealed far closer than
Thou art inscrutable—a King in
golden state—
With golden dust upon thee like a bloom.

They marvel at thy treasures—pearls
banked high;
Jasper and ebony—ivory turned to
stone—
But still today the caravans go by—
Bearing such precious things from
place to place.

Thy glittering chariots that were locked
away—
The alabaster jars the potters made—
The painted gods to whom you used
to pray—
When these are touched—what man
will be afraid?

But when they cross the threshold
of that place
Where silence wove its web year after
year—
And drew its curtain o'er thy dreaming
face—
They come more slowly, shod
perchance, with fear.

Then shouldst they bear thee out
beneath
When Egypt's sand is silvered as the
snow,
The old moon will greet thee from
the sky—
The Pharaoh that long since she used
to know!

LIKE A LOVE LETTER.

Worthy to be classed among the curiosities of correspondence is the following letter written by an Indian clerk to his chief, while the latter was away on leave.

"Respected Sir—I am sad since your departure. Nothing pleases me. My state is like crazy till I do not see you. I hear your voice. Your beautiful talks I remember well. Your face comes before my eyes and I keep you in my heart. My state can never be well unless I do not see you."

"I pray at each and every moment for your good health and good rest. Hoping this will find you keeping all right, I beg to remain, Sir, your most obedient servant."

A DIFFICULT PROBLEM.

(Woodstock Sentinel-Review.)

A woman whose husband was given six months in jail at Welland recently pleaded that she and her six children were allowed to go to jail with him, as without him they had no means of support. The woman's plea will serve to call attention to a defect in our penal system. It results in many cases in inflicting severe punishment on the innocent than on the guilty. When a man, who is the sole support of his wife and family, is sent to jail he is fairly well provided for. He is deprived of certain liberties, but he is also relieved of responsibilities. He is furnished with food, lodging, clothing and heating, and also with medical attention if he should need it. His wife and children, although they have committed no offence against the law, may be left without either food or clothing or shelter, except what charity may supply.

The problem is a difficult one. One solution suggested is that all prisoners should be provided with employment while in the penitentiary. He created quite a good record, both at college in Cape Town and also at Cambridge, where he studied law. In the South African war with Britain, Smuts earned his spurs, proving himself to be as good a soldier as he was a lawyer. He made fast friendship with Botha, with the result that both in private and public life they were like David and Jonathan. One of the greatest qualities which General Smuts possesses is moral courage, so that when his conscience tells him a thing is right, whether it makes him unpopular or not he does it, and thus it is that men of the Herby type cannot understand at times the far-seeing statesman, as represented in South Africa's Premier.

Smuts' besides being conscientious, is loyal. Having made peace with the British, he has always remained true to the agreement, and when self-government was offered to the Transvaal

FUEL SUPPLIES RUNNING OUT.

Dr. Ephraim Scott, as well as a profound admiration for his skill as a tactician. He understands the futility of argument, the efficiency of bold, decisive and unargued positions. He is well aware that everyone of the statements contained in his last letter have been answered scores of times. The only one of his twelve "fictions" that is new to me is that which refers to the Student Christian Federation, which Dr. Scott claims to be a separatist movement. The note of the whole recent convention in Toronto was union, not separation.

I beg your permission to express myself briefly on some of the points mentioned by Dr. Scott's letter:

1. It is not the truth—it is pure fiction to say that the Assembly is the servant nor the master of the Church. It is the Church itself, acting in its representative capacity. The Assembly is the Assembly, arrived at under the due process of reference to Presbyteries under the Barrier Act, is the voice of the Church, and is final under this and to note that Anti-Unionists claim to be Presbyterians. This is not true. It is pure fiction. They are Congregationalists. Congregationalism has had a great history; but it is not Presbyterianism. The difference of Presbyterianism is the principle of representative government. To deny this and to pour contempt on the Chief Court of the Church, is to display ignorance of the constitution and history of the Church of Scotland, the mother of us all.
2. It is not true—it is pure fiction—to say that we are tied up forever for doctrine or of polity framed and enacted in the 17th century or any other period of the history of the Church. The Church of Christ is free. It is not tied up under the dead hand of the past. It lives and grows and is in bondage to no man and to no system.
3. It is not true—it is pure fiction—to say that the Bible, the supreme standard, is to be interpreted by the Confession, our subordinate standard. No any point that may be in dispute. To say so is to make the confession final, if not infallible, and that is folly, if not blasphemy. The Church is free under her Lord and His word, to adopt new forms, both of thought and ecclesiastical procedure, when the Spirit of God moves her thereto.
4. It is not true—it is pure fiction—to say that our Lord and His Apostles expected or permitted the existence of denominational divisions in the Church. There is not a shred of justification in the whole New Testament for the existence of schismatic churches. It is a denial of the teaching of the New Testament to note how Anti-Unionists urge that the onus probandi rests on Unionists. This is not true—it is pure fiction. The Scriptures, as well as the experience of the Church, is a direct inference from the teaching of the New Testament regarding the unity of the Church. The onus probandi lies on the Anti-Unionists. They must produce Christian reasons against Union. Such reasons do not exist. With many, probably the majority, of Anti-Unionists, the real spring of their opposition to Union, is the feeling of superiority they profess to entertain toward Methodists, morally and spiritually. This, of course, is sheer self-righteousness; and is exposed to the Divine judgment that follows upon pride. Also, people who are in glass houses, ought not to throw stones.
5. It is not true—it is pure fiction—to say that the United Church will be the result of the union of the two churches. That is the statement of the ground common to the three union communions. It is an interpretation of the ministry will be tested as to their soundness in the faith. The statement is certainly short of the truth. The fusion of Faith, and far shorter than Wesley's fifty-two sermons. Is it any the worse for that I row not! Many think it is too long yet in any case, it is a systematic exposition of the Church's faith, the basis on which the three churches are uniting.
6. It is not true—it is pure fiction—to say that the Union is a mere compromise and a surrender to the majority. That they are absolutely loyal to the spirit and tradition of the Church of Scotland, which has borne a steady and unflinching stand against separatism and sectarianism.

I absolutely agree with Dr. Scott when he says, "freedom lives among the descendants of the Mother Church, they will refuse to be coerced by a capricious minority, and they will stand for a living and growing Christian fellowship. We belong to the 20th century, not to the 17th; and we refuse to be managed by formal, outworn, however fitting for the period in which they were framed, will mean for us chains and slavery."

F. B. KILPATRICK.
Knox College, Toronto,
March 3, 1923.

THE AUTHOR OF A CANADIAN POEM.

(Toronto Globe.)

A romantic story of research for a historical fact has come to us from Miss Janet Carnochan, the Niagara historian, in answer to the request of a poem, popular some years ago, entitled "Canada," and beginning:

"Canada, Maple land, land of great mountains,
Lake land and river land, land 'twixt the seas."

Miss Carnochan narrates her long search and the publication of numerous letters some 10 years ago. At that time John C. Saul had inquired for the authorship in The Toronto News, and Dr. D. Logan wrote saying he had searched through 360 volumes—books and booklets—and interviewed a score of gentlemen, but without result. However, he said he had found it in a little volume of patriotic verses compiled by Col. Denison in 1861, so that it was probably written between 1861 and 1860.

"I then wrote saying that I first saw it in a Methodist Sunday school paper, published by Rev. H. Withrow, of St. Catharines. I used it in my pamphlet, 'Niagara a Hundred Years Ago,' in 1890. In the Sunday school paper the initials 'A. C.' were signed, but it frequently appeared without any signature. After my letter appeared came one from Rev. G. M. Cox, of London, Ont., in 1912, in which he gives the name of his brother, and says: 'Concerning the letter which Miss Carnochan has written you, I beg to say that the poem was the work of my late brother, Alfred Beverley Cox, a barrister well known in this city, who died May 1, 1904. It was first published in The Week in 1868. I think in December. Very soon after it appeared my brother wrote to me that it had been published anonymously, and with the initials 'A. C.' were signed. I should make this statement, My brother, now that I see there is a possibility of credit being given to the wrong person I think it only right that I should make this statement. My brother, now that I see there is a possibility of credit being given to the wrong person I think it only right that I should make this statement. My brother, now that I see there is a possibility of credit being given to the wrong person I think it only right that I should make this statement."

Canada, Maple land, land of great mountains,
Lake land and river land, land 'twixt the seas:
God grant us hearts that are large
as our heritage,
Spirits as free as its breeze.

Smuts as they fear, that we walk in humility,
Feet that are reverent—not fear that is base.
Grant to us righteousness, wisdom, prosperity;
Peace—if unstained by disgrace.

Grant us Thy love, and the love of our country,
Grant us Thy strength, for our strength is Thy name.
Shield us from danger, from every adversity;
Shield us, O Father, from shame!

Last-born of nations, the offspring of
Heir to wide prairies, thick forests,
red gold:
God grant us wisdom to value our
heritage,
Courage to guard what we hold.

A former resident of London, Ontario, says that A. Beverley Cox, and his brother, Rev. George M. Cox, were two remarkable men, who had lived in that city, the former of whom wrote the poem on Canada quoted in this column. He was a great deal more than a poet. He was a man of letters and had been heard of more than for his modesty. It was quite characteristic of Beverley Cox to bury his authorship so that the identity of the author would be lost.

The Cox brothers were members of the Beverley family in London and old and well-known in the law by profession, and a man of wide intellectual attainments and interests. He had a very nimble wit and wrote good many humorous stories anonymously for the newspapers and periodicals. He is best remembered in London for his self-sacrificing work among young men in that neighborhood. He died in 1904, a comparatively young man, and no citizen of London was more deeply regretted. His funeral was the occasion of a public demonstration and testified to the hold he had on the community.

His brother, Rev. George M. Cox, also studied law in his youth, but entered the Anglican ministry, and when he retired he was holding a charge in London. Like Beverley, he was exceedingly witty, and he wrote both prose and verse that should be preserved. He was also a humorous speaker and a great demand. He was one of the shining lights of the Baconian Club of that city.

Boiling will soften wood so that it may be bent at will.

New York's first policeman was a Hollander.

KNOX COLLEGE MAN ON CHURCH UNION

To the Editor of The Times-Star:

Sir—I have a warm personal regard for Dr. Ephraim Scott, as well as a profound admiration for his skill as a tactician. He understands the futility of argument, the efficiency of bold, decisive and unargued positions. He is well aware that everyone of the statements contained in his last letter have been answered scores of times. The only one of his twelve "fictions" that is new to me is that which refers to the Student Christian Federation, which Dr. Scott claims to be a separatist movement. The note of the whole recent convention in Toronto was union, not separation.

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Knox College, Toronto,
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GENERAL SMUTS.

(D. C. in Montreal Gazette.)

General Hertzog, leader of the Nationalist party in the South African House of Assembly, has just moved one of his periodical retrospects of "no confidence" in the Smuts government. Hertzog is the stormy petrel of South African politics, and nurses a bitter, unrelenting hatred of British and all things British. But what manner of man is the Premier of South Africa—General Smuts? Smuts is of South African-Dutch extraction, although he never ceases to be the lightest, yet he is one of the best known men of his time. And the reason is not far to seek, for Christian Jan Smuts has remarkable outstanding abilities and qualities. He was born on a farm and is a farmer himself, although he is a student and delights in reading and learning. He is a Cape Town and also at Cambridge, where he studied law. In the South African war with Britain, Smuts earned his spurs, proving himself to be as good a soldier as he was a lawyer. He made fast friendship with Botha, with the result that both in private and public life they were like David and Jonathan. One of the greatest qualities which General Smuts possesses is moral courage, so that when his conscience tells him a thing is right, whether it makes him unpopular or not he does it, and thus it is that men of the Herby type cannot understand at times the far-seeing statesman, as represented in South Africa's Premier.

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Smuts perceived how the bitterness of defeat could be turned into something high and noble. The Transvaal could not be a republic naturally, but it was made a part of a united South Africa, which in turn became a free nation under the British Crown. The Union of South Africa, today, which embodies Cape Colony, Natal, the Free State and the Transvaal, is a monument to Smuts. The popular Premier of South Africa owes much of his success to Botha, who was calm, cool, dignified, and whose determination to make a stand, so that they had to be driven slowly from the extreme north to the extreme south of a territory as large as France and Germany together and then over the Portuguese frontier in Mozambique. This territory has a hot and moist climate which has many drawbacks; the bush abounds, it is extremely dense and full of thorns three inches long. Smuts is the only premier in the world today who has distinguished himself as a soldier. But a man may be big in his own country, yet when he goes to the great world stage he makes little mark. Not so with Smuts. He is the premier of South Africa, but he is also one of the leaders of the British Empire and in the front rank of the statesmen of his time. In 1917, when in Britain, he was asked to remain as a member of the British War Cabinet, in which there were but five members, and he was the statesman at the peace conference who evolved a workable scheme for putting the League of Nations into practice. He helped in the solution of the Irish problem. He has carried out successfully many delicate missions on behalf of Britain. He is appraised on his own merits. Christian Jan Smuts is every inch a man and a gentleman.

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