

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 7, 1921.

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SETTLERS FOR FARMS.

The Montreal Herald points out that the province of Quebec offers a large field for carefully selected British immigrants. The like is true of other provinces. The trouble is to get the desirable class, wishing to go on the land, and with some means to establish themselves. The Herald says:— "Canada will welcome any number of British settlers of a desirable class selected by her own agents. We cannot have too many who will go on the land and become producers of the soil. Only in this way can we pay off the huge national debt of two billion dollars and keep down the burden of taxation. There are millions of acres waiting for such settlers as desire to become independent of the stultifying conditions under which they now endeavor to subsist in congested areas. The gain will be mutual. On our part the need is population, probably our greatest need. Given that, and there are no bounds to the expansion of the Dominion. As we understand it the Dominion is to work hand in hand with the British government, the latter furnishing the capital and providing the means of transportation. This organized co-operative movement will be guided and directed on these shores by the Dominion, and, we trust, the provincial authorities as well."

If such a scheme as this is really proposed, and carried out, the maritime provinces offer a very inviting field. We have the land and the climate and other advantages which must appeal very strongly to the British farming class. Whether they settle in groups in selected areas or take up land individually in different sections of the province.

BETTER DAYS IN MEXICO

That conditions are greatly improved in Mexico is the view of one hundred and fifty-eight business and professional men of Los Angeles, who made a fifteen day tour in that country and witnessed the inauguration of President Obregon. In their report to the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce they discount the correspondence sent out by those who would like to convey false impressions concerning Mexico, and say:— "The truth is that the better class of Mexicans are striving for a stable government, for the development of their lands, mines and commerce, and are sincerely trying to set their country right before the world. A new era is dawning in Mexico. The next decade, we believe, will see great progress and development in our neighboring republic."

The party visited Mexico City, Guadalajara, San Luis Potosi, Monterrey, Laredo and San Antonio. Their report says:— "Few people who have not visited Mexico can visualize the results of its nine years of revolution. Northern Mexico has been almost denuded of cattle and other live stock. Banks and large mercantile houses have been suspended for several years; industry has been paralyzed, while agriculture and mining have been reduced to a small fraction of former activities. Transportation lines by land and sea have been reduced to very restricted service and must be rebuilt to meet the demands of re-establishment. Mexico has had ten presidents within this period. It is therefore of little wonder that there should have been questioning and doubt as to the new regime. President Obregon, however, appears to be the man of the hour in Mexico. He has won the support, apparently, of all elements, inspiring hope and optimism in the future, where there has been suspicion and distrust. A new element is in control in Mexico today—youth, virile men, largely from the west coast. Obregon is the one outstanding dominating personality among them and he gives promise of an administration that will unite his people, uplift the lower classes, attract capital to develop the magnificent resources of the country and protect the foreigner in his rights."

The American visitors concede that it is a colossal undertaking which faces the new government, but they found that in sections traversed by them the country is being rehabilitated, travelling is safe, the railway services are being improved, merchants are more confident, finances are improving, mines are re-opening, and industry is becoming more general and more active. Banks in the larger cities have re-opened in large numbers, and are receiving deposits and making loans. For the first time in nine years the country is widely at peace. Every railway of the republic is operating without armored cars or armed guards. The new government has a definite and progressive programme to better the condition of the great poor class and to form a sane, literate and healthy middle class. President Obregon is especially desirous of friendly relations with other nations. Mexico is a country of immense resources, and is capable of being made a very prosperous country. The new government will have the good-will of other nations in the performance of its great task of national development."

Judge Campbell of St. Catharines blames a certain type of moving pictures for crimes committed by youths. Chicago has banned the moving picture that portrays the commission of crimes such as make an insidious appeal to youths of vicious tendencies.

THE FUTURE OF JAPAN.

A New York Journal sets forth very clearly in the following paragraph one of the chief causes of anxiety in Japan regarding the future of that country:— "Corrected figures of the new Japanese census show a total population of 77,000,000 in the Empire, on an area of 360,000 square miles. The population of Japan proper, without Korea, Formosa and Sakhalin, is just short of 56,000,000, upon an area of 146,000 square miles. The density of the population is almost identical with that of the United Kingdom, or about 380 to the square mile. The population of Germany before the war (1910) was only 310 to the mile; that of France (1911) was 189, and that of the United States is now about 85. Our four States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Ohio have about the area of Japan. These figures show why Japanese statesmen find the question of guaranteeing sustenance and improved well being to their teeming millions an urgent one. Nor do mere figures of population and area tell the whole story. In no other nation except the United States is population rising so fast. Japan was outstripping Europe even before the war. In the decade 1901-1911 the population of England rose 10.3 per cent, while the decennial increase in Japan revealed by the latest census is 12 per cent. We think of the Germans as a fertile stock. Yet the surplus of births over deaths in Japan in 1914 was 716,000; the surplus in Germany, with its one-fifth greater population, was very slightly larger—736,000."

Consideration of these figures explains the anxiety of Japan to provide for the future of her people. As yet about sixty per cent of her people are engaged in agriculture. Efforts to get people to emigrate to Korea and Formosa have not proved successful. The other alternative is industrial expansion at home, and as there is an abundance of raw material available in Continental Asia, as well as a market for manufactured products, this solution of the problem of caring for growth in population cannot but gain favor. Other countries must therefore recognize in Japan a coming keen competitor in industry and commerce.

Why does the Standard misrepresent the case about the new railway bridge plans? It is not true that the civic authorities were consulted or advised concerning the height of the bridge. It was only when the facts were learned last June that the demand for a change was made. The city was ignored in the matter and has a perfect right to ask for a change in the interests of navigation of the river. That change will still be asked for—at Ottawa.

The staff of the General Public Hospital has submitted a scheme of improvement which would cost about half a million dollars. The municipality must grapple with this question or fall in its duty. The present hospital facilities are very inadequate. There are needs which must be met. The public health is so vital a matter that delay means economic loss as well as unnecessary suffering on the part of persons in need of the best hospital treatment.

Because the legislature fixed the valuation of the New Brunswick Power Company's property at a figure so much higher than the people of St. John regarded as a fair valuation, the company now increases the car fares to get the returns to which the legislature has declared it is entitled. And the people pay.

The Standard pleads for a return of the good old patronage system. This is not at all wise. The friends of the Standard will not be dispensing patronage after the people get a chance to speak and it would therefore have nothing to gain by the reversion to the old system.

Sweden has ratified the proposal of the League of Nations to have an international court of justice. Doubtless her example will be generally followed. The League of Nations is doing its work well.

There appears to be a very good prospect that the Fordney tariff bill will not pass the American congress. It is being very strongly opposed in the senate.

It is alleged that Canadian grasshoppers are preparing to invade the United States. Hark now to the scream of some senator in the American wheat belt.

The New Brunswick Hockey League stands out for clean amateur sport. Its course is in the interest of real sport in this province.

Toronto Telegram:—"Scrap of paper" man is dead. He brought about the biggest scrap in history and died on the scrap heap.

The question of a naval holiday is to be brought squarely before the United States congress.



(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

CITY AND COUNTRY.

It seems a ghastly pity that all the girls and boys are thronging to the city, grow tired of village joys. The city bids them enter, gives them the cordial hand; and down, in old Hay Centre the empty buildings stand. "Aw, chum," the kids are saying, "the old town is a frost; we'll go where bands are playing, regardless of the cost." The country town is shrinking, it's known a dismal slump, with only graybeards drinking around the village pump. The sad-eyed merchant prices gaze down the dusty street, and bawling shelf worn quines, invoke the name of Pete. The young folks all are leaving, they go on every train, to search for joys deceiving, and pleasures all in vain. Adventure is the mentor that counsels them to go; and down in old Hay Centre the life is pretty dead. Hay Centre's ways are quiet, she's calm, without, within she has no mid-night riot, or garish brands of sin. Her people all are sleeping when village docks strike ten, and no cheap sports are keeping high wassal in a den. They go to church on Sunday to hear the pastor shout and all the dimes on Monday still hang the washing out. Hay Centre has no pink uns to chronicle life's game; but from such towns our Lincolns and other great men came. It's said to see her dying, abandoned, dusty, gray; but all the kids are signing to tread the Great White Way.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Dominion Happenings of Other Days.

THE MICMACS.

When the early explorers came to the present Nova Scotia province they found the land in the possession of bands of Indians whom they named Micmacs. The Micmacs lived in comparative peace among themselves, although there was always danger of an attack from savages in west is at the present time the United States. With the coming of the whites and the subsequent war between the French and the English the Micmacs were vastly increased and the time came when there was almost a constant warfare for the redskins either in defence of their own area or assisting the French in their campaigns against the English.

With the final delivery of the country to the English, the Micmacs were permitted once more to live in comparative peace. As the land became developed they were placed in reserved areas or reserves of in a large measure by the Dominion government. In Nova Scotia at present all the Micmacs are of Algonquin stock. Most of them are farmers in a small way, raising hay, potatoes, horses and cattle, but no sheep and very few pigs. Many are employed throughout the province as laborers while others find work as basket makers and at other small wood works. In the woods they are very valuable as lumbermen and trappers.

The nineteen agencies have a total population of 2,001, of whom the vast majority are Catholics. They own 10,000 acres of land with a value estimated at \$85,000. Only about one-eighth of the land in the Indian reserves is actually cultivated by the bands. The total value of the Indian property last year in Nova Scotia was \$245,000, while their average earnings from all sources were only \$15 per head. Their cost to the Dominion government in the same time was \$25,000.

AS THY DAYS

(Rev. George Scott)
Hark to the matin chime,
Over the waste,
Use well thy precious time,
Haste thee, Oh haste!

'Tis but a little space,
Thou art secure,
Pray then for needed grace
Strong to endure.

Scarcely the morn arose,
Now it is noon,
Fear not to earn repose,
Sleep cometh soon.

Pause not but use thy strength
Ready and bold,
Guerdon shall come at length,
'Tis treasures untold.

Golden the western skies,
Vespers shall ring,
Then shall thy wandering eyes
See the Great King.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

At that, the flame affair has its compensations—it has kept D'Annunzio from writing more poetry.

Couldn't Show It There.

Her physician is so imperative that you go south for the winter. Fair patient—That's out of the question, doctor. My husband has just bought me a new set of winter furs.

Red and Green.

She had very red hair. A rude youth declared the railway carriage in which she was seated, glanced at her once or twice, and then edged away to a far corner.

"Excuse me, miss," he giggled, "but I must not get too close to you or I might get burnt, you know."

But she, a Lancashire lassie, was quite equal to the occasion. "Don't thee fret, lad," she replied, "thairt much too green to burn."

Couldn't Tell Him!

He stood upon the Catalina pier and watched the fishermen bring in the giant blue-fish tuna. Wide-eyed, he gazed upon the 400-pound catches, and gasping he saw the huge fisherfolk swing up from the boats. Finally there was hoisted up a black bass, a 500-pounder. It was too much for the tourist. Pointing his finger at the monster, he paled and articulated wildly: "The man that caught that fish is a damn liar!"—Lewiston Journal.

In Their Element.

She—Why do they put corn meal on the dance floor?
He—To make the chickens feel at home.—The Panther.

GALT HOLD-UP MAN ROBS GIRL, ESCAPES WITH \$20

Galt, Ont., Jan. 7.—A hold-up man, said to be about 19 years of age, with a revolver held threateningly in his hand, compelled Miss Margaret Pollock, a clerk in George Bernard's store here, to hand him \$20.

Miss Pollock followed the thug to the street and saw him just as he disappeared. She telephoned to the Troquois Hotel, next door, then collapsed from shock.

When the man entered the store he pretended that he wanted change for a \$20 bill. Miss Pollock obtained the change and as she turned towards the stranger the revolver was pointed in her face. The man grabbed her \$20 and ran. She was alone at the store at the time.

LOCAL NEWS

The vocational classes commenced last evening and there was a full enrollment in each of the classes. A short lecture was given to each class but the payment of fees and the enrollment took up the most of the evening. The following members of the committee visited each class: Dr. A. F. Emery, chairman; Alexander Wilson, Mrs. W. E. Raymond, Mrs. R. O'Brien, Miss Barnett, W. C. Lawson and Mrs. Milligan.

At the annual meeting of the St. John branch of the Canadian Bible Society last night in the Central Baptist church Rev. Hamilton Wile spoke on the subject, "The Bible as the Word of God." Rev. S. S. Poole, also gave an address. Rev. Dr. R. Heine told of the distribution of Bibles among foreigners in this country. Rev. A. Goodwin, Rev. G. A. Kuhn and Rev. F. H. Bone, also took part in the meeting. The treasurer, R. T. Hayes, and the secretary, Sheriff A. A. Wilson, reported. G. M. Rogers was in the chair.

Sergeant Major A. E. Wood and his companion were taken to the central police station yesterday afternoon by Sergeant Detective Power and Detective Biddiscombe. The man was seen in King street by Policeman Dykeman who followed him and telephoned the detectives. His companion was released last evening but the alleged sergeant major confessed that he was not as he had represented himself so was held for investigation.

SHIPPING

ALMANAC FOR ST. JOHN, JAN. 7.

A.M. P.M.
High Tide... 10.25 Low Tide... 4.34
Sun Rises... 8.09 Sun Sets... 4.02

PORT OF ST. JOHN.

Cleared Yesterday.
(Str Metagama, Turnbull, 7665, for Liverpool.

CANADIAN PORTS.
Halifax, N. S., Jan. 6.—Sid, str Mount Clay, Hamburg; Knut Hamson, Liverpool.

MARINE NOTES.

C. P. O. S. Metagama sailed at 8 o'clock last evening for Liverpool with 100 cabin and 300 steerage passengers.

DOUBLE TRAGEDY

Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Mrs. Anna Valent, forty-three, was shot and killed by Edward Freeland, forty-five, in her home here today. Freeland then killed himself.

YORK CO. COUNCIL AIDS NEW HOME

Frederickton, Jan. 6.—The York county council met yesterday afternoon and voted \$30,000 to the municipal home now under construction at Nashwaak. The total cost of property constructed and equipment is estimated at slightly more than \$45,000. Of the \$30,000, \$10,000 is to be assessed for this year and \$20,000 is to be raised by a ten year bond issue.

BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

London, Jan. 7.—The text of two long telegrams exchanged during the last week by M. Tschichaner, Russian Soviet foreign minister, and Earl Curzon, secretary for foreign affairs, each seeking to blame the other side for the protracted trade negotiations, are interesting only as showing that the chief point of contention is Great Britain's insistence upon modifying the preamble of the July agreement by defining precisely the geographical areas within which the Soviets pledge themselves to refrain from anti-British propaganda.

Lord Curzon expresses the hope that the Soviets will authorize Leonid Krasin, the Soviet representative, to return to London to sign the agreement.

SWEDEN RATIFIES.

Geneva, Jan. 7.—The Swedish government has notified the secretariat of the League of Nations of the ratification of the protocol establishing the court of international justice. Sweden thus is the first of the signatory countries to ratify. As soon as a majority of the members of the league take similar action the statutes of the court will come into force.

Dr. Wallington Koo has been appointed president of the Chinese representative on the council of the League of Nations.

JUST HOME FROM WAR

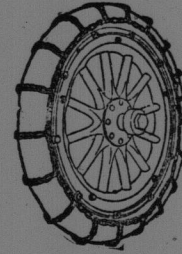
Paris, Jan. 4.—Joseph Blin, a French soldier, who was reported missing in August, 1914, has just returned home. He said he was wounded and taken prisoner. He was imprisoned for refusing to work, and was released on November 26.

MARY'S LAMB IS DEAD

(Boston Globe)
Joseph B. Hethington of Flushing had an attack of poetic fever last week, and an operation removed the following decidedly frappe rhyme:
Mary had a little lamb,
Her father killed it dead,
Now Mary takes the lamb to school
Between two hanks of bread.

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Reg. \$60.00 Brown Broadcloth \$39.90
Reg. \$55.00 Brown Serge \$45.00
Reg. \$63.00 Navy Serge \$45.00
Reg. \$76.00 Navy Serge \$60.00
And a hundred others just as cheap.

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Heather Tweed, dark brown mixture, pockets and belt, tucking and buttons; regular \$11.25. On Sale for \$8.15.

All Wool Serge in green plaid. One side button effect, two slash pockets; regular \$15.50. On Sale for \$11.95.

Taffeta Silk in novelty black and white plaids, finished with fancy girdle; regular \$16.50. On Sale for \$12.95.

Accordion Plaited Serges, Twills, etc., all at special prices.

Dykeman's January Sale

COMMON COUNCIL

The civic estimates for the current year will be made public at a meeting of the common council in committee next Monday morning. This decision was reached at the adjourned meeting of the council committee yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Frink read a letter from the Stevens Construction Company in which it asked that all but \$1,000 be paid to it of the five per cent being retained by the city. The contract called for five per cent of \$135,000 to be retained by this city for one year. In addition to this five per cent, Mr. Stevens had put up a maintenance bond of \$30,000 for three years. Thomas Stevens appeared before the council and said that he needed the money to meet his obligations and asked that all but \$1,000 be given him. Mr. Frink said that the work had been well done and thought that \$1,000 would be ample for any defects that might appear in the work. The mayor said that to grant the request would have a bearing on new contracts which might be made and said he would not vote for it until the matter came before the comptroller. He suggested that the matter be left with himself. Mr. Frink the comptroller and Mr. Stevens and that they hold a meeting. A motion to this effect was passed.

Mr. Frink brought in a recommendation that the proposed improvements in Adelaide road be paid for by bond issue instead of from general assessment. The amount was \$26,016. He said that other large amounts would have to come

out of general assessment for street work which had been decided on and that this work should be done by bond issue. Mr. Thornton thought the matter could be discussed after the estimates for the public works department had been brought down. He said that so far as his appropriations were concerned, they would be about the same as last year. A lengthy discussion took place as to whether the proposed work was of a permanent nature or not. It was finally voted to issue bonds for \$20,640 and to draw upon the general assessment for \$5,376, the latter amount being for macadamizing and road surfacing.

Mr. Bullock made a motion that, as Peter Chagaris' lease to a property on Rodney wharf had expired, the lease be renewed to his brother, George N. Chagaris, on the same terms. The rental is \$300 per annum. The motion was carried.

Mr. Jones made a motion, which was carried, that he be authorized to call for tenders for the work of deepening Newmarket Brook and the laying of a concrete sewer. The DeBury estate and a tenant on the property were both willing for the work to go on.

The committee approved of the estimate of \$5,000 for sewer and \$11,000 for water excavation for the work being done in Douglas avenue.

DROWNED IN RIVER

Monroe, Me., Jan. 6.—Edwin S. Curtis, one of the best known and highly respected residents of this town, lost his life by drowning in the stream, lost from his home. He left his home to go to his woodlot, not far distant. It was found that he had broken through the ice and been swept down stream by the swift current. His body was soon recovered.

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Quinn and Co., 415 Main Street.
C. H. Ritchie, 220 Main Street.
P. Nae & Son, Ltd., Indiantown.
J. A. Lipsett, Variety Store, 283 Brussels Street.
H. C. Enlow, 1 Brussels Street.
I. Stora, Fairville.
W. E. Emerson, 81 Union St., West End.