

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 16, 1911.

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THE EVENING TIMES  
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH  
New Brunswick's Independent  
Newspapers.

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British connection,  
Honesty in public life,  
Measures for the material  
progress and moral advance-  
ment of our great Dominion.  
No graft!  
No deals!  
"The Thistle, Shamrock, Rose  
entwine, the Maple Leaf for  
ever."

## CHEER UP

Mr. J. Norton Griffiths, head of the great construction company which is in line for the Courtenay Bay contract, and with whom St. John hopes for a closer acquaintance in the near future, occupies a conspicuous place in this morning's despatches by reason of an interview credited to him by the New York newspapers, in the course of which he predicts war between Britain and Germany within six years, which war is to involve Canada, the United States, and perhaps the major part of Europe.

Mr. Griffiths, who has spent much time in Canada recently, gives it as his opinion that one governing factor in the recent Canadian elections was Canada's recognition of the danger of war and its desire to stand firmly by the Mother Country and so safeguard the Empire against Armageddon. He is quoted as speaking with a dismal certainty regarding the approaching conflict, saying that it may come in a much shorter time than six years, in fact that it may be anticipated almost any time, because Germany is deliberately and persistently challenging Britain. If Mr. Griffiths is correctly reported, his statement of the case is one of no little gravity, and it must be remembered that he has had exceptional opportunities for forming an opinion on the trend of international events.

Nevertheless, while preparations against war goes on apace, there is a surprisingly large number of optimistic and peacefully disposed people who will take the liberty of believing that the outlook is by no means so bad as might be thought from Mr. Griffiths' interview. Britain is spending about twice as much as Germany on new war vessels, and in the construction of the more formidable type—the last word in line-of-battle ships—is admittedly showing the way to all other nations. The game is out, no matter what the cost may be. There are indications already that, great as the strain is upon Britain, it will affect other European nations even more severely and that they will be ready before long to listen to reason.

Meantime preparation for war is a form of insurance that is absolutely necessary, and since Canada shares in the belief of this insurance, it is her plain duty to contribute her fair share to the cost. This is a proposition which most Canadians will accept as self-evident, although most of them will continue to believe that Germany will never be in a position where it will be safe for her to attack Great Britain. The Kaiser, though he has rattled the sword somewhat frequently in the scabbard, has never yet made war. Years ago it was said that he was demented, but events have disproved that theory. Since he is not mad, he will not fight when the odds are hopelessly against him and during his life time they will always be hopelessly against him. He has been outmaneuvered by British diplomacy, just as he has been outmaneuvered in the terrible expenditure necessary to maintain British supremacy on the ocean.

The terrible strain of preparation must continue for some time, and today no man can see the end of it, although all believe the end must come. But military observers, though they see signs of war, as Mr. Griffiths does, cannot see before them clearly any date within our generation at which Germany will be strong enough to risk the future of her Empire upon a single throw in the North Sea.

## AS OTHERS SEE US

One of the most awful spectacles in the world is a New Brunswick base ball game as seen through the eyes of an Englishman unaccustomed to that particular form of sport as played in this latitude. One of the English newspaper men who came to St. John last summer and were conducted through the province—but why spoil the story? Here it is in his own words in all its naked deformity, so to speak:

At Woodstock we were entertained at lunch, and then whirled off to a baseball match. Baseball is a complicated sort of "rounders." I don't profess to understand it, any more than I do Association Football, or the fascination that it seems to possess my slender experience of football is to "the old folk at home," to venture once more upon an unverified quotation. A feature of the game which at first puzzled and then repelled me was the presence in each team of a "rooter." The business of this, to my thinking, unimportant-looking, gamester apparently is by impudent obstructions, outcries, and insinuations to get the striker off his game, to divert his attention from the pitcher, or vice versa, forget which. The ball, by the way, is pitched at the striker with quite amazing velocity. But the special feature of this

match was the step which was taken by a player to emphasize his disagreement with the umpire, which was, after course, by abusing the latter, deliberately to give him a punch on the jaw; the umpire returned the blow promptly, and punched the player's nose. For a few moments it looked as if there would be a free fight to add to the attractions of the game, but the umpire-puncher was walked off, and after staying a little while longer I was motored away. So ended my first and only experience as a spectator at baseball. Alike from ignorance of its technique and from a temporary objection to American ways of playing games, I don't think I shall ever trouble to look on at baseball again; the presence of the "rooter"—if I correctly remember the name—alone will suffice to keep me away.

One has to confess that if the desire was to give the visitors the real thing, they did well in Woodstock to arrange to have the "rooter" land upon the stout jaw of the umpire; but of course the visitors were likely to get the impression that this sort of thing always does occur. Although that impression is not correct, it is a fact that "punching" the umpire has become a somewhat familiar feature of baseball, and one that should be sternly repressed. The Englishman in question sets down his impressions as he formed them, without fear or favor, and as he had contributed to one of two new words to our sporting vocabulary and given us a frank picture of ourselves as others see us, he has done the sporting part of the province some service. Whether or not he will be thanked for it is another question.

The spring of 1912 is going to see a marked "boom" in this city and province; and the growth will be found if not so rapid as in the new west.

In spite of reports to the contrary the C. P. R. is finding the telephone better than the telegraph service for business done by telephone. The business will be summer.

Subscribers get a Times of sixteen pages today, so heavy is the advertising patronage. If any reader will look through The Times he cannot fail to find the Christmas presents he wants.

Moncton is booming, Fredericton is preparing to, and in many other sections of the province the forward movement is under way. St. John should give the lead in a province-wide immigration plan. The year 1912 is going to be the real thing.

The newspapers of Canada contain daily references of Liberalism, and the Liberal government to make places for its followers. The spoils system is being worked to the limit. Most of the dismissals are wholly indefensible.

The Standard does its duty by Alderman John McGoldrick today by publishing its regret that it misquoted him on Friday by reporting that he had made an attack upon The Times and The Telegraph. He says he didn't. The Standard also says he didn't. The Times therefore wishes the alderman a Merry Christmas.

## LITTLE BROWN HANDS

(By M. H. Kront.)

They drive home the cows from the pasture,  
Up through the long, shady lane,  
Where the quail whistles loud in the wheat fields,  
That are yellow with ripening grain.  
They find in the thick, waving grasses,  
Where the scarlet-tipped strawberry grows,  
They gather the earliest snowdrops,  
And the first crimson buds of the rose.  
They toss the new hay in the meadow,  
They gather the elder-bloom white;  
They find where the dusky grapes purple  
In the soft light of October light.  
They know where the apples hang ripest,  
And are sweeter than Italy's wines;  
They know where the fruit hangs the thickest  
On the long, thorny blackberry vines.  
They gather the delicate sea-weeds,  
And build tiny castles of sand;  
Where the otter's hammock-stem swings;  
And at night-time are folded in slumber  
By a song that a fond mother sings.  
Those who toll bravely are strongest;  
The humble and poor become great;  
And so from these brown-handed children  
Shall grow mighty rulers of state.  
The noble and wise of the land,  
The sword and the chisel, and palette,  
Shall be held in the brown, little hand.

## NEW HOUSES FOR SALE

—ON—

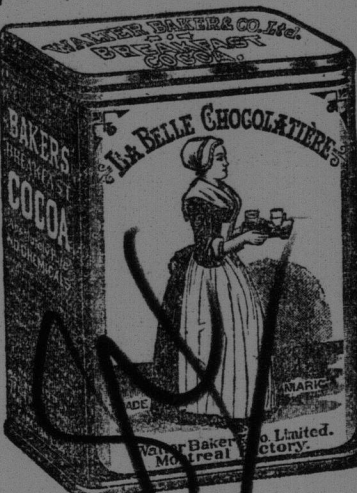
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BERI Olive Oil is the finest oil obtainable for medicinal or culinary purposes.

Sold in St. John only at  
PORTER'S DRUG STORE  
Cor. St. Patrick and Union Sts.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN

"Why, Tommy," exclaimed the Sunday School teacher, "don't you say your prayers every night before you go to bed?"

"Not any more," replied Tommy. "I used when I slept in a folding bed though."

Nell—"It's only a case of platonic friendship between Jack and me, I assure you."

"Belle," I'm glad to hear that, for Jack has proposed to me."

Nell—"What! Oh, the horrid, deceitful wretch! Just wait till I see him!"

Johnny had been naughty, and his mother told him that he could choose between a whipping and being shut up in the cellar. "Who will whip me—you or papa?" queried Johnny. "Your papa," was the reply. "Then it's the cellar for me," rejoined the wise youngster.

Donald and Tam had met. Donald was returning from his wife's funeral, and thinking to act the part of comforter, Tam remarked:

"Pur Donald, an' yer wife's awa'."

Donald—"Ay, but she micht dae waur."

Tam—"An' what is that?"

Donald—"She micht come back."

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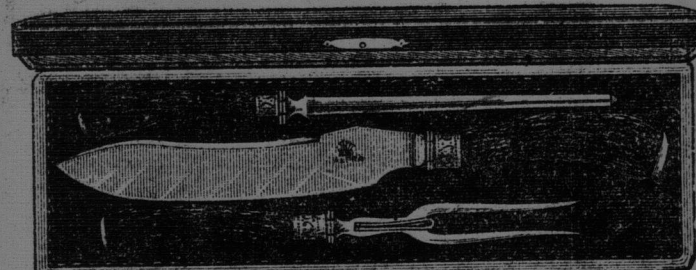
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3 Piece in Cardboard boxes, - - - \$1.50 to \$2.50  
Fish Eaters, - - - \$7.00 to \$45.00

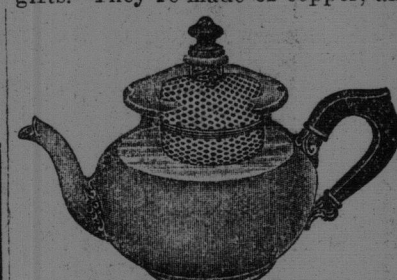
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NICKEL-PLATED TEA AND COFFEE POTS

These articles are very popular and most acceptable as Xmas gifts. They're made of copper, and are heavily nickel plated. While they are made to be put right on the stove, at the same time they are attractive enough to be brought to the table.

PRICES \$1.25 to \$6.50.

A very large range to select from.



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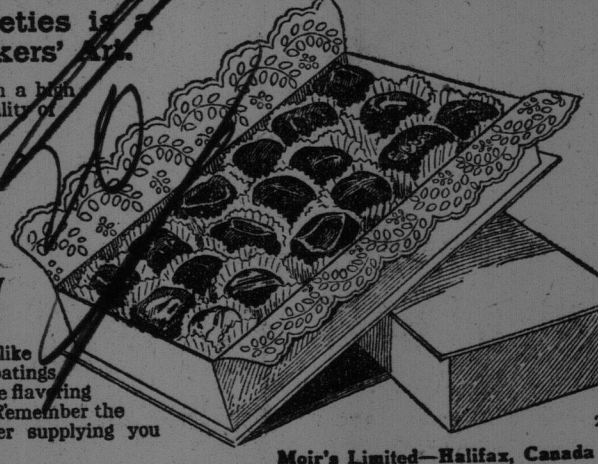
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Each one of the Several Varieties is  
Master-piece of the Candy Makers' Art

We select the best cocoa beans—blend them with a high grade of cocoa butter, pure cane sugar and finest quality vanilla beans. The chocolate used in

Moir's  
Chocolates

is then ground for hours until it attains that creamy-like texture which is characteristic of our chocolate coatings. The chocolate is then applied to the various centres, the flavouring of which is without a rival for pure deliciousness. Remember the name "Moir's"—and insist upon your candy dealer supplying you with them.



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WOOD Backs, 50c., 75c.,  
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DRUGGIST  
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are sensible gifts. They last a life time and continually increase in value, and as to the price of the ring you can have your own choice as we have a splendid assortment at prices ranging from \$8.00 to \$125.00. Compare our prices with others.

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Chocolates 20c. to 60c. per lb.  
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