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SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 13, 1910

THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT.

Whatever lack of interest St. John may have shown in the Boy Scout movement in the past, the citizens who thronged the Opera House yesterday to hear Lieut. General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, did their best to atone for, by the warmth of their welcome to the "Chief Scout," and the attention with which they listened as he unfolded his scheme to develop the character and instill a spirit of brotherhood in the young sons of the Empire. And General Baden-Powell had a message well worth the hearing. In simple and unassuming language he told of the inception and growth of the Boy Scout movement, of its aims and its objects, and the good that it was doing, and there must have been few in his audience who did not realize that the scheme was destined to be a powerful factor in making the boys of the rising generation and of future generations good men and valuable citizens.

General Baden-Powell touched a responsive chord when he spoke of the building up of the Canadian nation, many of its citizens, as he said, not of our blood, and dwell on the importance of teaching the boys of today a spirit of brotherhood, and of sowing the seeds of genuine sympathy which would cause them to make light of distinctions of class or religion. He would inspire a spirit of patriotism, of self reliance, and self control, all of which makes for character and good citizenship. "The Bishops and distinguished churchmen you had with you yesterday," he said, "would teach you how to cure the sins and vices in various sections of society, and I," he added simply, "how to prevent them in the next generation." That, in brief, is the Chief Scout's message. He is building for the future of the Empire. That the boys who come after may have a keener sense of honor, may escape moral and physical deterioration, and be made worthy of the best traditions of the British race.

The Boy Scout movement has been happily described as a national system of athletics and hygiene. As General Baden-Powell told his hearers yesterday it has no connection with militarism, or the routine which would convert a man into a machine. It furnishes growing boys with plenty of healthy amusement, encourages hobbies and handicrafts from which a lad may make a career, and awards badges for proficiency. Obedience is naturally a cardinal virtue, but free scope is given for initiative. The upbuilding of each individual boy's character is regarded as of supreme importance. It embodies high ideals, but withal it is practical and tends to bring out all that is best and most useful in a boy. In short, as one writer has put it, the movement utilizes the "gang spirit," so largely present in the average boy, as a force for his self-development and education, and for human service.

General Baden-Powell has done what he came to St. John to do. He has set forth the advantages of the movement and given instances of how readily boys enter into its spirit. He has asked the citizens to give it careful consideration. In it he sees an answer to the boy problem, which is pressing for solution in St. John today, as much as in any city in Canada. It is no part of his work to undertake local organization. If the visit of this distinguished soldier and philanthropist, for surely he is that also, is to bear fruit, an influential committee, not connected with any organization, should be secured to take the necessary preliminary steps, and obtain the names of young men who will qualify as instructors and scout masters. Judging by experiences elsewhere, there will be no difficulty in getting the boys.

FOUR PREMIERS.

"Four provincial premiers," says the London Free Press, "may be heard speaking in Liberal-Conservative interests in Ontario during the winter season. It is announced that Premier McBride, of British Columbia; Premier Hazen, of New Brunswick; Premier Roblin, of Manitoba, and Premier Whitney, of Ontario, will each give assistance to Mr. R. L. Borden in the Conservative chief's campaign for good government.

"The fact affords interesting thought upon the manner in which the provinces have slipped from Liberal control since Sir Wilfrid Laurier's government gained power at the federal capital. Here are four names which today possess in happy degree the confidence of the people of their own provinces in particular and of the people of Canada in general.

"No one seriously questions Premier Whitney's place in the hearts of the electors of this province. His integrity and independence have commended themselves even among his opponents. His frankness of speech has not been his least admired trait. Moreover, his government has been a promise-keeping, progressive administration. What he may have to say in support of the cause Mr. Borden directs and leads will always find ready listeners.

"Next in interest stands Premier McBride, of British Columbia. The brilliant young statesman has impressed even Sir Wilfrid Laurier with his personal strength, to the extent that a story has been circulated that the federal premier would gladly make a place in his cabinet for Mr. McBride. However true this may be, it is certain that in a most marked degree Premier McBride is the idol of the electors of the Pacific coast. That he will before long be found at Ottawa is freely predicted.

"Premier Roblin has added a notable victory since last he spoke in this province. His almost clean sweep of the Prairie Province after twelve years of power was a result achieved by neither accident or corruption.

since its decisiveness precludes his opponents from suggesting either as the cause of their downfall.
"Premier Hazen is known here as a clean-cut, fighting Conservative. With men of this stamp at his back, Mr. Borden may well feel encouraged."

SHOP ASSISTANTS' CHARTER.

Considerable interest is being taken by shop assistants everywhere in the Bill introduced in the British Parliament to consolidate and extend the Shops Regulation Acts, 1892 to 1904. The Bill limits the working hours of a shop assistant to 60 a week, exclusive of meal times, and provides that he or she shall not work later than eight o'clock in the evening or more than three days in any week. Overtime is reckoned outside of this, but is limited to 30 days in a year and to two hours on any of the 30 days. Early closing is to be enforced on one day a week, every shop to be closed to the serving of customers not later than 2 p. m.

The regulation of early closing will be in the hands of the local authorities, borough council, urban district council, or county council as the case may be, who may by order fix the day of the week on which a shop shall be closed early. They will be allowed, subject to confirmation by the Secretary of State, to fix different hours for different classes of shops; different days for different parts of the district; and, subject to such conditions as may be specified in the order, alternative days. If no order is made by the local authority, the occupier of the shop will be allowed to fix it for himself, but will not be allowed to change it oftener than once in three months.

Exceptions are made in the cases of holiday resorts where during certain seasons of the year, not exceeding four months, the local authorities will be allowed to suspend the obligation for early closing. Also, on a half-holiday preceding a public holiday, shops will be allowed to remain open after two o'clock. Early closing will not affect the following businesses which are also exempted from Sunday closing:—Retail businesses for the sale of intoxicating liquors (on or off the premises), refreshments (including fruit), tobacco, etc., confectionery, newspapers and periodicals, motor or cycle accessories, and also railway bookstalls and refreshment rooms. Bakeries and dairies will be exempt up to ten o'clock in the morning.

Sunday closing will be enforced apart from these exceptions. Further, no person will be proceeded against under the Sunday Observance Act of 1877 for carrying on a retail business. In an area inhabited largely by Jews or in a London area customarily used as a Sunday market, the Secretary of State may by order declare that it shall not be obligatory to close a shop before two o'clock in the afternoon on Sunday if the shop is closed for serving customers from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday. Local authorities will be allowed to make orders fixing the closing time not earlier than seven o'clock during any week-day. Seats for shop assistants must be in ratio of one seat to three assistants, and sufficient ventilation must be provided. The penalties under the Act are a fine not exceeding £1 for the first offence, £5 for the second, and £20 for the third. The Act is to come into operation on Jan. 1, 1911.

THE LABOR PARTY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The Labor party in Great Britain is finding itself greatly embarrassed by the consequences of the Osborne judgment, which makes it illegal for a union to levy upon its members for the payment of the election expenses of Labor candidates, and to provide salaries for Labor members of Parliament. The Osborne judgment affected only the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, but by a series of injunctions it has already extended to practically all other labor organizations in Great Britain.

The system of voluntary contributions is found to be a failure, and in view of the fact that legislation for the payment of members of Parliament and of election expenses out of the public funds, if it is to be looked for at all, certainly cannot be expected earlier than the next Parliament, the Labor party leaders are worried over the prospects for the next general elections. It is said that they propose only to contest the forty-one seats they now hold, and the five seats formerly held by them, which they lost at the last election. In the last election they contested eighty-one seats.

CURRENT COMMENT

(Woodstock Sentinel.)

And now some of the medical experts are declaring that operations for appendicitis are all a mistake; that the appendix is not to blame; that the fault is with the colon alone, and that removing the appendix for the fault of the colon is like cutting off the little toe for a pain in the calf of the leg. A good many people who are not medical experts have always had their doubts about the value of operations for appendicitis. When doctors differ, who is to decide?

(Buffalo Express.)

The minor points won by the Americans embody some important concessions, but they hardly outweigh the loss of the right to fish within bays. However, the matter was fairly presented, fairly argued, and it would be unworthy of this country to make any complaint over the decision. It is, at least, a cause for congratulation that the old quarrel has been settled at last, and that both sides fully know their rights now.

(Toronto World.)

They're doing some strenuous departmental house-cleaning in the Russian government, and upwards of five hundred grafters are now under arrest as the result of recent investigations. The Kingston Whig is unkind enough to suggest that a marked copy of this paragraph be mailed to a number of cabinet ministers at Ottawa—merely as a suggestion.

(Montreal Star.)

A fashion sharp on men's duds says that the continual wearing of things made by tailors kills originality. It does, indeed, but we will bet a Skye terrier to a yard of bologna that the fashion sharp wouldn't even walk downtown after dark in a coat and trousers made by mother.

(Calgary Herald.)

The London cables say that Ethel LeNeve hid her face in a scarf. If she had stayed around with Crispin much longer he would probably have hidden her in some nice, cool, secluded basement.

(London Free Press.)

All very well to turn the first sod of the Hudson Bay Railway. What Canada wants is the turning of the last sod on her two hundred million transcontinental.

(Ottawa Journal.)

Hon. Elihu Root thinks The Hague broth just to the taste of the United States. He was one of the cooks. We certainly like it ourselves.

(Vancouver World.)

Those who are unacquainted with success are probably unaware of the fact that people never meet success. It must be overtaken.

First thing in the morning, ensure a clear head for your day's work. Before breakfast, drink

MAGI
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BIRDS HAVE RIGHT TO LIVE

Live Bird Worth Much More to Agriculturist Than Dead One to Woman's Hat—Reform Needs Women.

There are some women who will not wear feather-trimmed hats, because they do not believe in the slaughter of birds, to supply such gauds, says the Indianapolis News.

There should be more of such women, alas! with all her immediate gentleness, woman is sometimes indirectly most cruel. Doubtless if she could see the bird killed which furnishes the feathers for her hat, she would recoil with horror at the thought of wearing such an ornament, but she does not see the bird killed—and out of sight is out of mind.

Nor does she consider the fact that a live bird in its natural environment is worth any number of dead birds or fragments of dead birds on a hat. There are few birds that are not to be admired either for their beauty, their song or the general cheer their presence lends to humanity. But this is not their whole worth or even their greatest worth. They have an economic value that is not accurately calculated.

In their destruction of weed seeds and insect and animal pests, and in some instances as scavengers, they do a large part of the work of sustaining human life on the earth. It is declared by those who have made a study of the subject that if every bird were destroyed the world would cease to be habitable for humanity in a very few years. The advanced agriculturist and horticulturist realizes this and does his share toward protecting his feathered helpers; nor does he grudge them the light toll they take from his crops as a perquisite. It is true that birds sometimes become a nuisance and do great damage, but this is only true when there are too many of them—a congestion of birds, so to speak—and this does not happen often.

Efforts of Protection.
For a good while efforts have been made in this country to protect the birds. These have met with varying success in different sections, but none has been completely successful. The call of commerce has meant the death of many a bird which not only had a right to live, but was actually worth more money to the world alive than dead. Now, however, an international movement is on foot for the protection of the birds. It will make no appeal to sentiment, but will strike in the most effective way by suppressing as far as possible the traffic in feathers.

The civilized countries will be asked to prohibit the export of feathers, and thus strive to save the birds by destroying the market for their lives. No doubt this will be a difficult task, as this branch of commerce is of considerable importance and will fight to maintain itself, but it is not impossible of accomplishment. Supplementary legislation by Congress prohibiting interstate traffic of the same kind, and by the States prohibiting intrastate traffic would render protection as complete as it is possible to be made from all except international law breakers.

And in this connection let even woman realize that she can render important help in the work. She has created the market for birds' lives and she can, if she will, abolish it.

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By direct private wires to J. C. Mackintosh & Co.

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Dom. I. and S. Pfd.	106 1/2	106
Duluth Superior.	79 1/2	79
Illinois Trac. Pfd.	90 1/2	90 1/2
Lake Woods Com.	129	129
St. Paul SS Marie.	130	129
Mexican.	86	84
Rio Com.	98 1/2	97 1/2
Mont. St. Rail.	237	234
Mackay Com.	89 1/2	88 1/2
N. S. S. and C. Com.	85	84 1/2
New Que. Com.	44 1/2	44
Ogilvie Com.	129	126
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Twin City Rpd. Trst.	112	110
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Commerce.	200	199
Eastern Townships.	163	162
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We have received a new lot of WATCH BRACELETS in gold (Spring Link and Mesh) from \$30.00 to \$80.00. Also gold watch and leather strap \$18.00 to \$30.00. Silver and Gun Metal with Leather Straps, \$6.50 up.

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