

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 15, 1926.

OTTAWA—AND CANADA.

What is going on at Ottawa is an exhibition of political tactics, an exhibition which to partisans seems natural enough under the circumstances, but which is not particularly admirable from the standpoint of the country at large. The elections of Canada, of course, unwittingly set the stage for just such an exhibition because the elections of October last produced something approximating stalemate.

All three parties in the House have shown a reluctance, and more, indeed, than a mere reluctance, to face the country again. This reluctance to another plunge has been much more conspicuous in all parties than any unwavering regard for the public interest.

Both Liberals and Conservatives have been biding, from the hour the House opened, for the support of the Progressives. The Liberals even went so far as to explain that a Progressive vote against the Meighen motion would not necessarily indicate a declaration of confidence in the Government, a position indicating a desire to placate the Progressives at all hazards and emphasizing the extent to which the life of the administration is at the mercy of Mr. Forke and his followers.

But the Conservatives were not behind in the bidding. They gave the Progressives assurance that if a sufficient number of them voted with Mr. Meighen to put the King administration out of business, there need be no election, as Mr. Meighen would take over and carry on, and the Progressives need not precipitate another appeal to the country unless they desired to do so.

The Progressives, having witnessed the prostrations and genuflections of both the old parties for five days, have split in such fashion as to throw a majority of three to the Government and so carry it over the first bridge. That is to say, they have avoided a general election for the present, and they have demonstrated their power to keep on avoiding it for a time. As the two old parties in the House appear to be quite as much hampered at the prospect of going to the country again as the Progressives are, it may be assumed that both Liberals and Conservatives view the vote with a measure of relief, but the situation is not one that is satisfactory to the country at large, which is looking for Canadian progress and settled conditions in the House, rather than regarding the fate of any particular set of politicians.

The Progressives have a measure of excuse for their action in that the programme brought down by the Government is much more nearly in line with the Progressive platform than anything Hon. Mr. Meighen has to offer, more particularly as it is impossible to reconcile his tariff views with those of the Forke group, and it would appear therefore that if Mr. Meighen were in power at the moment he would have to submit to a policy of inaction with regard to what he made the chief issue, or face immediate defeat.

On the other hand, the Government's programme was prepared manifestly with the idea of commanding Progressive support, although the Prime Minister claimed upon many occasions during the campaign that the great need of the hour was for a stable administration with a clear hold upon public confidence, so that it could go ahead boldly and not be compelled to compromise in order to prolong its existence.

The vote may mean that the session will be continued long enough to enable the members to draw their indemnities. That at least seems probable, but it is by no means certain. The country will judge largely by the Government's ability to deal uncompromisingly and speedily with the larger issues, and whether it can do that without a larger following must remain in doubt. As it stands, twenty-four Progressives, or even less, have the power to dictate the policies of Canada, although there are 245 members in the House and the Progressives represent but a handful of constituencies.

Under such circumstances a growing demand in the country for another election may well be the natural outcome of the situation.

THE SKATERS.

Both Moore and Gorman are Thunberg's masters at the three-mile distance on a twelve-lap track, but mastery at the other distances remains to be decided, and it may be well thought that the Finn will prove much more formidable on the six-lap track in Saint John at any distance than he was in Madison Square Garden, where the frequent turns had him almost constantly in trouble. Last night's event helps to set the stage for the great championship meeting here, where, owing to the conditions which will prevail, notably the larger track, every-

thing will be favorable to settling the question of all-round speed supremacy. Although Thunberg was beaten handsomely, it is not to be forgotten that he made a new record for two miles, which indicates how fast the pace was, and which is sterling proof of his speed, remembering that his style was cramped materially by the frequent turns, and that he was skating under conditions to which he is unaccustomed. Although he made a new record for two miles, both Moore and Gorman were within easy striking distance of him all the way, and it seems probable that they could have headed him before the two-mile post had that been the end of the journey. Fast as he was going, his speed did not bother them and they must have had more reserve than the Finn, as the finish shows. Gorman has not been thought to be at his best at three miles, yet he was close upon Moore at the end of the journey last night. The three men are to meet again at the mile on Monday night at Madison Square, but the test here at all distances, on a better track and one more favorable to Thunberg's style, will more fully meet all the requirements deciding who is to wear the world's crown for speed.

Interest in the Saint John meeting—the greatest of the year—is constantly stimulated by these preliminary contests, and Gorman's feat in winning the Middle-Atlantic championship, together with his excellent showing at Madison Square, has increased his prestige with the American skating public and will have a powerful influence in bringing skating enthusiasts from all over the country to the championship event at Lily Lake.

In the winter sporting world to-day all roads point to Saint John.

The ice is much thinner at Ottawa than it was in Madison Square Garden. The House of Commons seems to be going on for fancy skating of a rather timid order rather than speed toward the goal.

Professor McGibbon, who fills the chair of Political Economy at the University of Alberta, brought the merits of the ports of Saint John and Halifax before the Saskatchewan Agricultural Societies at Edmonton yesterday. He pointed out certain grave disadvantages of the Hudson Bay route for grain, and said the sensible thing to do is to introduce favorable rates for shipments through the Maritime Province ports, making full use of the Canadian railway routes already in existence before experimenting expensively with Hudson Bay.

The United Farmers of Manitoba had before them yesterday a resolution calling upon the Government to make use of the Transcontinental for export traffic from Winnipeg to Saint John and Halifax, for shipments of livestock and grain. The resolution was referred to a committee, but announcement is made that it will be passed before the convention adjourns. These westerners do not like the idea of having a \$170,000,000 investment kept in cold storage while Canadian freight charges through American channels to a degree that alarms the whole country.

Odds and Ends

"Tell Me Another"
(Bystander in Toronto Globe.)
In a chapter about legal wit, in his book, "Tell Me Another," Lord Aberdeen relates the following anecdote in which a celebrated advocate named Curran was the principal.

It is said that during the proceedings of a court in circuit in the country on a summer day, with the windows of the building open, while Curran was addressing the Court, a donkey in an adjoining field happened to bray loudly.

The judge, intervening, said: "Excuse me, Mr. Curran, one at a time please." Curran bowed acquiescence, and then proceeded with his speech.

Later, when the judge was delivering his charge to the jury, the donkey again brayed, on which Curran rose and said: "I am sorry, my Lord, but there seems to be such an echo that I can scarcely make out what your Lordship is saying."

East Is East.
(Vancouver Province.)
A despatch from London brings the deplorable news that a passion for the radio has caused the downfall of a Queen of Siam, who has been divorced because the court chamberlain believes her nightly conversations with "invisible spirits from the air" constitute the reason why she has failed to present the nation with an heir to the crown.

How differently are these matters viewed in different parts of the world. A contributor to Punch goes into a whole column of ecstasies about the radio. He explains that he hates every feature that it provides, from bedtime stories to learned ecclesiastical dissertations upon the higher criticism. But the reason he admires it is because it amuses his wife and keeps her from asking question while he is trying to read the paper.

Thrift Note.
A Scotch professional after five years of retirement has resumed the game of retirement. He found his ball—James J. Montague, in the New York Herald-Tribune.

Just Fun

SCIENCE predicts a legless age. Nob being blind, we hope that science is in no hurry about it.

NO ONE ever found contentment and was contented with it.

LITTLE POLITICAL TIP
PRESIDENT COOLIDGE never touches meat; he uses a knife and fork.

KICKERS: Modest feminine garments that keep the knees hidden.

A man to his wife said urbanely, "My love, you converse so inanely; I wish that you would Be still if you could; But for this, dear, I know I wish vainly."

ONE WIFE tests her husband every time he comes home by making him sing, "Who Sells Sea Shells for the Sea Shell Seller's Daughter When the Sea Shell Seller's Busy Selling Sea Shells?"

SURPRISE TWIST ENDING
(Apologies to O. Henry.)

THE HUSBAND returned unexpectedly from a business visit out of town. He found his wife alone.

VISITOR—I suppose they ask a lot for the rent of this apartment? Hostess—Yes, they asked George seven times last week.

ANY FOOL GIRL can vamp a man. The hard part is to keep him vamped.

THE OTHER DAY we met a man who had written the Declaration of Independence upon a postage stamp, but he couldn't dance the Charleston.

WE PITY the poor fellow who says that a baseball team can't have fourteen errors because there are only nine players.

WALLA WALLA—The only city so proud of its name that they named it twice.

WONDERFUL
RAIN Proves Great Benefit; Three towns Die—From Iowa Daily.

"THEY aren't wearing much in winter," said the man who was examining his bills. "My wife's coat of sunburn for last week cost me over \$300."

OVER and over is it demonstrated that gasoline and rum make an unsafe mixture.

TODAY'S OUTBURST
Some poets are rich
Some poets are poor
But most write such
They are a bore.

BEST FRIEND, on hearing the glad news from his chum, "Congratulations old man, whose fault was it?"

NOWADAYS the man who says his house is "pretty as a picture station" is doing some tall bragging.

VERY FEW GIRLS will stay awake at night worrying about the recently announced raise in the price of cotton stockings.

BROWNE—Your daughter tells me that your wife is having her voice cultivated.

Brain—Yes? And did she tell you that the rest of us were growing wild?

ADAM told the Lord he was afraid because he was naked, but a lot of his daughters walk the streets today not the least bit afraid.

SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT
WE'VE OVERLOOKED
NOW that prohibition has taken the liquor out of politics, all that we need now is something that will take our politicians out of the liquor business.

WHEN a woman plops herself down in an aisle seat she seems to regard it as an outrage if anybody wants to occupy any of the other seats in that row.

IT WOULD HINDER HIM
HIS HEAD was crushed in the accident and it had to be amputated. This prevented him from following his former occupation.—London Times.

Dinner Stories

"ARE there any bootleggers in Crimison Gulch?" the visitor asked.

"No," answered Cactus Joe.

"How did you get rid of them?"

"Sent 'em out of town with a solemn warning that if they ever showed up again we'd put 'em in jail."

"And that scared 'em?"

"We hope so. Only the jail is waiting appropriations and won't be built for at least a year."

AS PAT boarded the train and took a seat there was a smile of triumph upon his face.

"What's the matter with you?" asked his friend.

"Pat's countenance beamed satisfaction. "Shure, I've been riding on this road for ten years, and I've got the

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The Place of Execution



(The Security Pact was signed in London on December 1st.)
—From the Evening News, London.

The Best of Advice

—BY CLARK KINNAIRD

THANKING OUR FAULTS.

IT IS an old saying that every man in his lifetime needs to thank his faults.

When Emerson observed that our strength grows out of our weakness, he was only repeating what many wise men had said before him.

"Not until we are pricked and sorely shot at, is awakened the indignation which arms itself with secret forces," Emerson wrote.

"While a man sits on the cushion of advantages he goes to sleep. When he is pushed, tormented, defeated, he has a chance to learn something."

He has been put on his wits, his manhood.

"He has gained facts; He is cured of the insanity of conceit; He has got moderation and real skill."

THE wise man always throws himself on the side of his assailants. It is more to his interest than theirs to find his weak point.

AFTER all, whatever folly men commit, be their shortcomings or vices what they may, forbearance is our duty, remembering that when these faults appear, they are OUR follies and vices that we behold.

They are the shortcomings of humanity, to which we all belong; Whose faults are one and all we share; Even those very faults at which we usually wax so indignant, merely because they have not appeared in ourselves.

As Shakespeare advises, "Condemn the fault and not the actor of it."

Poems That Live

THE TIGER.

Tiger, tiger, burning bright
In the forests of the night,
What immortal hand or eye
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

In what distant deeps or skies
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
What the hand dare seize the fire?

And what shoulder and what art
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?
And when thy heart began to beat,
What dread hand and what dread feet?

What the hammer? What the chain?
In what furnace was thy brain?
What the anvil? What dread grasp
Dare its deadly terrors clasp?

When the stars threw down their spears,
And water'd heaven with their tears,<
Did He smile His work to see?
Did He who made the lamb make thee?

Tiger, tiger, burning bright
In the forests of the night,
What immortal hand or eye
Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?

—William Blake.

best of the company for once in my life."

"How's that?"

"I've just bought myself a return ticket and I'm lowering my voice to a whisper, 'be jabbers I ain't comin' back.'"

ELIZABETH ROBINS said at a London dinner party:

"I don't claim that woman is mentally inferior to man. I only combat man's claim that he is mentally superior to woman."

"An Oxford undergraduate and a Girton girl were having tea together."

"Maize," said the young man, "why do you always say that a little learning is a dangerous thing?"

"Well, Peter," said Maize, looking him over calmly, "if you ever get me you'll know."

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The bad night light of other days damaged millions of eyes. The result keeps the Optometrists busy supplying corrective Glasses. If the damage had been immediately painful like a bruise the victims would have been warned in time. Taken proper precautions and avoided eyestrain.

But, unfortunately, eyestrain is a gradual affair and the symptoms seldom rouse the victim to danger. All people should make it a rule to call every two years at the Optometrist so as to be on their guard. Sight is precious—you need all of it if you can get and you need to keep it at full power.

Sharpe's Opp Oak Hall WEEKLY

Twenty Years Ago Today

From Times' Files.

JANUARY 15TH, 1906

THE Saint John lady bowlers were defeated by the ladies from Fredericton.

JAMES MANCHESTER, president of the Bank of New Brunswick occupied the chair at the shareholders' meeting today.

ALDERMAN A. W. MACRAE announced his intention to retire from civic life for a time, owing to business claims on his attention.

Who's Who IN THE DAY'S NEWS.

RALPH MODJESKI.

THE new \$15,000,000 bridge which is to span the Mississippi river near New Orleans will be built by the "King of Bridgebuilders," Ralph Modjeski of Chicago.

Mr. Modjeski was born in Cracow, Poland, in 1861, the son of the famous tragedienne, Helen Modjeska. At the age of 15 he came to America with his mother. They became naturalized and changed the family name from Modjeski to Modjeska. He is a member of the American, British, French, and Canadian engineering societies.

His latest project, the Mississippi river span, will be the longest railroad bridge in the United States.

Other Views

GETTING MARRIED

(Los Angeles Times)

A judicial writer says that the man who sits down and coldly and calmly decides what kind of a wife he will have will never have any. It is reasonably certain that the sort of wife he wants is not to be had that way. Love has to be spontaneous and not by rule of thumb. At the same time, there are days of weddings being pulled off from day to day in which deliberation and calculation dictated the courtship. Whether such matings are happy or not is another matter.

CANADA'S SUPREME INDUSTRY

(Millerton Sun)

The estimated value of Canada's wheat crop this year over that of 1924 is \$146,488,000, the total value being \$466,755,000. This is an enormous increase in the value of one cereal and spells improvement in Canadian conditions. Canadian field crops for 1925 are estimated to have a value of \$1,112,691,000. This does not include the hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of live stock. The figures demonstrate that as an industry agriculture is first and there is no second.

RURAL DEPOPULATION

(Quebec Soleil)

The economists of every country are trying to find a solution, a remedy,

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Child's Black Cashmere Hose. Sale Saturday	15c	Boys' Rib, fine quality Black Cashmere Hose. Sale Saturday	89c
Child's Scarlet Rib Wool Hose. Sale Saturday	25c	Child's White Cash Hose. Sale Saturday	45c
Boys' Heavy Hose. Sale Saturday	49c	Women's Pure Silk Thread Hose, good range of colors. Sale Saturday	89c

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Unfortunately, the cure hitherto has gone no further than a diagnosis. Yet we can say with some degree of certainty that farmers will remain faithful to the soil as soon as they are easier to invent a specific against tuberculosis than to heal a moral wound which has its primal cause in the towns.

The Story of 1925

The results achieved by The Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada in 1925 as indicated by the figures given below will be very gratifying to policyholders and others interested in the Company's progress:

	1915	1920	1925
Assurances in force	\$48,965,748	\$116,201,347	\$195,068,289
Assurances Issued	8,064,425	30,585,356	33,217,307
Total Assets	11,591,483	19,310,403	35,047,398
Premium & Interest Income	2,362,886	4,973,802	8,925,057
Policy & Annuity Reserves	9,057,508	16,018,229	29,480,492
Payments to Policyholders	536,407	1,349,867	3,111,364

The millions of dollars of Reserves held by The Imperial Life are calculated on so strong a basis that interest earnings of only 3% are sufficient to maintain them. The difference between this 3% rate and the 6.23% actually earned gives an exceptionally wide margin for policyholders' profits and security.

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