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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1920

The Evening Times and Star

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A SPUR IS NEEDED.

What has happened to vocational training in St. John? In other cities and towns in the province evening classes are getting down to work or have already done so, and there is the same keen interest on the part of working boys and girls, and even men and women, as was shown in St. John last winter—and would be shown here again if the proper classes were organized. Have we a thoroughly alive and united vocational training board? If so, why is it not heard from in a manner that would put the whole matter strongly before the citizens?

WAGES AND PRODUCTION.

Employers of labor have been saying that unless production increased they could not go on paying a high scale of wages. They have said that what really happened in the last few years has been an increase in wages but a decrease in production. As one very striking illustration, says an exchange, some statistics published by the Associated Employers of Indiana are of importance. These deal with the pay and work of bricklayers, showing the different wage scales and the different production records for various years between 1909 and 1920 as follows:

Year	Rate per hour	Bricks per day
1909	\$0.55	1,100
1910	.65	900
1911	.80	614
1912	1.00	587
1920	1.25	541

The vocational training board has not expended nearly all of its appropriation for the present year. Not only is there money granted by the city, but with it would have come probably half as much more from the province. Why was it not expended? Why have not classes been meeting since the first of October? Is the vocational board asleep? Are the citizens asleep?

Prof. Dean of Columbia University was in Bangor this week, to address the teachers who are preparing to teach vocational subjects in the high school, and to look over the shop work and domestic science rooms in the high school building. Of additional needs there he said:—

"Bangor needs a night technical school that meets the standards of national aid under the Smith-Hughes act of Congress. Its instructors should teach what the mechanics and the employers use in their business. It should be adequately advertised and problems taught should come not from text books, but from those of real life. The institution should be of the self service order and as easily approached as food service in a cafeteria. Some day the schools of Bangor will be an evening—winter and summer—old and young—American born and foreign-born fact they will be for anyone, teaching any subject open at any time and given for any purpose."

Of the use of such a school he said:—

"Married women who have leisure could attend classes in French, economics, literature, cooking, advanced dressmaking etc. Mechanics should be provided for through blue print, reading, shop mathematics, mechanical drawing, electricity, etc. Garage workers and automobile owners should have opportunity to study loose bearings, carbon removal, and ignition troubles. In other words the schools are not for kids alone. They are for all. Education is not a matter of grades and years. Training and vocational readjustment are always necessary."

St. John is far from being adequately served in this respect. There would be fewer delinquent boys if we had more for the boys to do. The few evening classes now carried on to teach the ordinary work of grown men as well as working boys. The citizens ought to be able to see what this signifies, and insist upon great enlarged opportunities for those in need of that which the class-rooms alone can give them.

CIVICS IN WINNIPEG

There is a split in the labor party in Winnipeg. It has developed in connection with the civic elections. There is a dispute between what is called the Dominion Labor Party and the Trades and Labor Council. One result is that in one ward there are eight labor candidates competing for four seats, and a man nominated by the first named party as a mayoralty candidate has repudiated the nomination and will run as an independent. Canadian Finance, however, predicts that the majority in the ranks of labor will get together on polling day, and wants to know what those who are not officially connected with organized labor propose to do. With them, it says, united effort is the exception rather than the rule, and their energy is saved until after the election, and then used in useless criticism of the administration. For their benefit it says:—

"We have election machinery which, despite some defects, should enable the citizens to secure representative government. Election machinery requires power with which to drive it. The necessary power is generated by the activity of the citizens. If one class of the citizens fails to provide its share of the power the machine does not work properly, with the result that it does not produce representative government. If we are satisfied with class domination we can safely proceed in the present state of apathy toward civic matters, but if we are real citizens we shall not be content with this. We can afford to take a few lessons from labor."

The conditions in Winnipeg, as thus described, apply to other Canadian cities. The people get exactly what they are willing to work for in the matter of municipal government—and usually they do not work.

In a Wisconsin town the other day the Socialist majority in the city council refused its assent to the placing of a captured gun in a city park. Four thousand citizens thereupon took the gun from its storage place and placed it in the park. An eddy of the Socialist leaders who led the fight against mounting the trophy was burned. There is many Germans in Wisconsin.



Rippling Rhymes

By Walt Mason

(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

THERE'S NO RULE.

Old Gaffer Jinks should be a wreck; for eighty years he's been on deck; and when a man has lived that long his cylinders are hitting wrong in thirteen cases out of ten, but he's a wonder to all men, for he is chipper, blithe and spry, and we all stare when he goes by. And if you ask him for the truth concerning how he's kept his youth, he'll say, "I never smoked or chewed, and no one ever saw me stewed." And this should teach us how to hold the health of youth, which is life's gold. Beware the flagon and the pipe if you would reach an age that's ripe! But now old Gaffer Todd appears, and he has lived for ninety years, and he's so brisk and full of pep it thrills us when we see his step. "How have you dodged," I ask this Todd, "a resting place beneath the sod?" "I've always chewed and smoked," says he; "I like a drink and sometimes like a pipe. And thus we learn, so keep us Mike, that we should do just as we like, if we would live to wintry years with supple joints and active gears. Some men, methinks are pre-designed to leave a hundred years behind, and they will see the journey through—makes no difference what they do."

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Jointer Meetings of Other Days

THE RIGAUD COUNCIL

Fearing for the success of his undertakings in New France, Montcalm the great French general, called a council of the Indians to meet at Rigaud, Que., in the middle of the summer of 1757. He was very anxious that the brave should give the French every assistance in the struggle against the English and also that there should be a state of peace between the various tribes of the country. Forty-one tribes and sub-tribes from many parts of the northern land then known came to the feast and council.

It was a wonderful meeting with the leaders of the Canadian Indians sitting in silent rows and smoking their great pipes. What was passing within the minds of the stalwart warriors no one could fathom. Some complained that the picturesque gathering was being handicapped by the great number of French officers who crowded in to hear and see and so Montcalm had to arrange for better accommodation for the native lords. Montcalm explained what he planned and waited for a reply. Pennahouch, chief of the Ottawa rose and said:—

"My father I have counted more moons than any here. I thank you for the good words you have spoken. Nobody ever spoke better of the Manitou of Wasikensick rose and declared that the Master of Life was on their side and that he expressed the appreciation of the braves for Montcalm personally.

After a great deal of council talking in elaborate phrasing the chiefs agreed to keep the peace and give the support of their tribes to the endeavors of Montcalm, who sealed the treaty by presenting a great wampum belt of 6,000 beads to the tribal lords.

GHOSTS.

I would be alone, but ghosts pursue me; They walk beside me with noiseless tread. Out from the shadows they throng to view me— The curious wraiths of my self that is dead.

From the fields of the past, over hill and hollow, Each for an instant will come and cry, "You must leave me. I follow. I follow! You cannot leave me— you once were I."

A barefoot lad, with his fellows playing, Looks up and smiles from the grassy slope, "Why do you start?" I can hear him saying, "Do I look like some one you used to know?"

Still they accost me and still importune, "Where is the good you were going to do? When are you going to make my fortune? Ah, that you were I! Ah, that I were you!"

I, too, must fall from this light and laughter, And wait in the shadows as life goes by. I call to the Me that shall be thereafter, "Remember Me, for you owe me I!" J. L. Sinclair in New York Evening Post.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

They Admitted It.

"Of course," said a suffragette lecturer, "I admit that women are vain and men are not. There are a thousand proofs that this is so. Why, the necktie of the handsome man in this room is even now up the back of his collar."

There were six men in the room and each of them put his hand gently behind his neck—Home Journal.

She Wanted to Know.

A young woman at the World's Series was heard to inquire: "What's that man running for?"

"He just hit the ball," said her escort. "I know," she returned, "but is he required to chase it, too?"—Boston Transcript.

"I must say," remarked the derisive person, "that a man looks ludicrous in the clothing his wife goes out and buys for him."

"Maybe," replied Mr. Growcher, "but not any more ludicrous, in my opinion, than his wife looks in the clothes she goes out and buys for herself."

BRITISH PAPERS ON IRISH BILL

London, Nov. 26.—(By Canadian Associated Press.)—Discussing the passing of the second reading of the Irish bill, in the House of Lords the London Daily Telegraph says editorially that the debate showed more clearly than ever that there is no real alternative to the present measure.

The Telegraph says that all hostile criticism reduces itself to vague hints and undefined complaints that the measure will not satisfy everybody in Ireland. All the angels in heaven could not devise a form of government which would satisfy everybody in Ireland just now, continues the paper, but critics and objectors, whether in parliament or in

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"CLEAN HANDS" FAD HITS WEST NEWBURY

West Newbury, Nov. 27.—School-girls in this town are enjoying many a quiet laugh nowadays at the expense of the boys because of the latter's efforts to keep their hands in good condition especially to keep their finger nails clean.

It all came about through the efforts of Miss Moody, a new school nurse who insists that each pupil shall hold out his or her hand for critical inspection. The girls declare that just before the session bells ring, the boys spend the last few minutes in the dressing rooms busy with nail files and orange sticks so they will pass the critical inspection of the nurse.

While manufacturing has not been definitely incorporated into the prescribed course of study, nevertheless it is being enforced for hygienic reasons, and boys and girls with a tendency to bite their nails have been rebuked.

Frank Gowen, chairman of the School Committee, who has three children in the schools of the town, was unaware that the pupils' hands were being examined until he was told last night by his children, but he agreed that the inspection of hands was of great value to them later. He said he had received no complaints from the parents opposing such an inspection.

The problem of the boys has been particularly perplexing, the claim being made that the most of them have to do

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THE HARD LUCK CHAMPION

Since June Has Fallen From Haystack, Been Hit by Boulder and Fallen Down Stairs.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Representative Mondell of Wyoming, Republican leader of the House, was confined to his bed today as a result of the third accident he has suffered since Congress adjourned last June.

While he was ascending the steps at his home here this week a crutch, which he was using as a result of a previous injury, broke, causing him to sustain a severe fall.

Soon after returning to his Wyoming home last June Mr. Mondell fell from a haystack on his farm and suffered two broken ribs. The second injury, a broken leg, occurred in October, when a boulder rolled down upon him while he was inspecting construction work at the Shoshone Dam. Examination of this injury by a specialist this week was said to have revealed that the bone was knitting improperly and probably would have to be broken.

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