

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 started 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?

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 equipped with the latest tools and machinery, and 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 on a twelve months' service—day and evening—winter and summer—old and young—American born and foreign-born in 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 starting and lighting systems, tightening loose bearings, carbon removal, and ignition troubles. In other words the schools are not for idle 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 common school branch as well as working boys. The citizens ought to be able to see what this signifies, and insist upon greatly 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 majority 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 towards 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 effigy of the Socialist Aldermen who led the fight against mounting the trophy was burned. There were many Germans in Wisconsin.

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

The only way the employer could get a regular percentage of profit on a contract under these conditions would be to pass the increase of cost on to the owner of the house. It was not merely that the latter would have to pay the increase in wages, but the smaller quantity of bricks laid would add a great deal more to the cost. The actual increase would be the difference between laying 1,100 bricks for \$4.40 and 541 bricks for \$1.00. The increase would not be nearly so large if a man laid as many bricks for \$1.25 an hour as he laid in 1909 for 55 cents.

It is possible that this instance is a very extreme case, but there is no doubt at all that with higher wages in the last few years went lower production. Today, with people holding off from buying, it is clear that prices must come down. If wages are not to be lowered, then production must increase to the point where every man will do as fair a day's work as he did when wages were much lower. This is recognized by intelligent workmen, who find themselves confronted in many industries with the choice between more satisfactory work or no work at all. Moreover there are more people looking for work, and every increase in their numbers is bad for the whole country. It is therefore the more necessary that labor and capital get together and adopt the policy which will keep the wheels turning during a period of depression that may last for some time. This is not a time for a clash of interests, but for the exercise of hard common sense by both parties to industrial disputes.

Of the lumber situation in British Columbia, Canadian Finance says:— "Practically all of the lumber camps have shut down and the saw mills are working part time only. The mills refuse to cut prices and the consumer is waiting for lower prices, hence the present stagnation. Foreign buyers are holding off. Australia is suffering from financial difficulties. South Africa refuses to pay prevailing freight rates and Europe is waiting for lower prices and lower freight rates. Despite the present depression, operators believe that business will take a sharp turn for the better at the beginning of 1921."

The Commercial Club has not only endorsed important changes in the building law of the city, but a strong committee will urge the city council to take immediate action in the matter, which is one of very great importance to the future welfare of St. John. This matter has hung fire for years. The Commercial Club will do well to carry on a vigorous campaign until action has been secured. There are always those who raise objections, but a building law that is so old it does not even mention concrete construction is surely in need of change.

The cost of an overhead bridge at the railway crossing has been estimated and it is large. Has the cost of a subway been estimated? Has a survey been made to show exactly what the grade on such a subway would be, and how it would compare with the other grade on Douglas Avenue? If not, why not? Are we eager to do that which costs the most?

It should be made known through the province generally that those who come to St. John seeking work this winter will be disappointed, as from present indications there will be an ample supply of local labor to meet all demands.

The balance of trade is now against Canada. The development of export trade is very desirable. Meanwhile wheat is being held back. This condition will doubtless be changed before spring comes.

The insult to the British flag in New York has called down unsparring denunciation by the press, with the result that the Hearst papers, which are always anti-British, but which do not express the feelings of real Americans.

There will be no exhibition in Halifax next year, but the Association hopes to have permanent structures and an up-to-date plant for a fair in 1923.



(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 three." And thus we learn, so help us Mike, that we should do just as we like, if we would live to wintery 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

Minor Happenings 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 natives 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. Pennahsicut, 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 War than you have spoken."

Kikensick rose and declared that the Master of Life was on the march and that he expressed the appreciation of the natives for the French. 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 wooden 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 cannot leave me. I follow. I follow! You cannot leave me—you once were I."

A barefoot lad, with his fellows playing, Looked up and smiles from the grassy sod, "Why don't 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 once were 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

When We Wound Up The Watch On The Rhine

Narrative of Canadian Participation in The Occupation of Germany After The Armistice

(Continued from Thursday.)

One often reads nowadays of motor cars or trucks, loaded with the spirit of Bacchus being seized while on the way from Canada into the United States, but to become temporary keepers of a whole vessel load of French wine was the questionable honor that fell to a portion of the Second Canadian Division while on the march to the Rhine two years ago tomorrow.

On November 28, the division broke camp in the town where they had rested during the two days previous, just northwest of Namur and after passing through that city swung into the road that leads eastward along the beautiful banks of the Meuse. Passing along the flagged streets of the city, the horses and vehicles rumbled through the still hours of the morning in very much the same manner as other horses and other vehicles had rumbled over the same streets more than four years before. But this time the noise was not so ominous as the previous one had been. The terror-stricken faces that peeped from under drawn shades and watched the invading Prussian horde sweep through to the westward—ages and ages ago it seemed—now projected from this window and that a "bon voyage" was shouted to the khaki figures and drab guns and wagons which had disturbed their early morning slumbers as they set their faces towards the rising sun and the home of the erstwhile invaders.

Past cozy little villas, hestling amongst the trees that lined the Meuse's velvet banks, the column wound its way, following along the north side of the river through the tiny towns of Bouge, Namur and Dinant. Namur, until they reached the great iron bridge that spans the river at Thion. Here they crossed the stream and camped for the night on the other side in the vicinity of Thion and Samson.

The Liquid Cargo. Anchored in the river about 300 yards above Thion was one of those ponderous looking barges which are familiar sights on the rivers and canals of France and Belgium. Her crew, consisted only of her commander, his wife and their daughters, all of whom made their home on the barge. The boat was loaded with different varieties of French wines, which the Germans had commandeered in the occupied territory of France and which they were taking back to the Fatherland by the water route when the knockout was administered and they were compelled to abandon it. As the contents of the vessel might prove a temptation to some of the soldiers, the united barge in Thion was requested by the burgomaster of the town to place a guard on the barge.

The Captain's Story. The captain of the craft told the story of his predicament. Some months ago while carrying on his usual trade within the invaded zones, he was ordered by the German high command to a certain inland port in France. Arriving there he was loaded to capacity with case after case of wine, taken from the peaceful areas of his cargo, so that on the arrival of the Canadians in the vicinity, he had only about half the quantity of the wet cargo with which he started. When last seen he was standing on the deck smoking a blackened clay pipe, scratching his head and wondering where he was going to collect his freight charges and the expenses which he had borne in entertaining a Hun excursion party for the last month or so.

Besides breaking the news they helped the crew of his cargo, so that on the arrival of the Canadians in the vicinity, he had only about half the quantity of the wet cargo with which he started. When last seen he was standing on the deck smoking a blackened clay pipe, scratching his head and wondering where he was going to collect his freight charges and the expenses which he had borne in entertaining a Hun excursion party for the last month or so.

The Manchester Guardian says the debate in the house of lords is one of these matters on which the United Kingdom becomes substantially of one mind. There evidently has been a strong body of support says the Guardian, for the contention of Viscount Grey's speech that party feelings might be put aside in a common effort to get the government, even now, to make their bill a possible means of settlement.

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"CLEAN HANDS" FAD HITS WEST NEWBURY

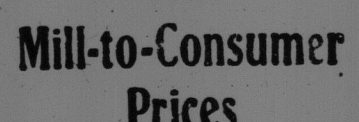
West Newbury, Nov. 27.—School-girls in this town are enjoying many a quiet laugh nowadays at the expense of the boys because of the latter's efforts to keep their hands in good condition especially to keep their finger nails clean.

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 begins, 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 manicuring 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 from a hygienic viewpoint and felt that whatever training the children received along that line would be of 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 with the fad.



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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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