

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1911

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 13, 1911.

The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury street every evening (Sunday excepted) by the St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

Telephone—Private branch exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417. Subscription prices—Delivered by carrier, \$3.00 per year, by mail, \$2.00 per year in advance.

The Times has the largest afternoon circulation in the Maritime Provinces.

Special Representatives—Frank R. Northrup, Brunswick Building, New York; Tribune Building, Chicago.

British and European representatives—The Clougher Publicity Syndicate, Grand Trunk Building, Trafalgar Square, England, where copies of this journal may be seen and to which subscribers intending to visit England may have their mail addressed.

Authorized Agents—The following agents are authorized to canvass and collect for The Evening Times: Wm. Somerville, Elias K. Ganong.

THE EVENING TIMES  
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

New Brunswick's Independent newspapers.  
These papers advocate:  
British connection  
Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion.  
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"The Shamrock, Thistle, Rose entwined The Maple Leaf forever."

## THE CEMENT MERGER

It is the plain duty of the Canadian parliament to investigate in the most thorough manner the charges made by Sir Sandford Fleming in relation to the cement merger, of which Mr. Max Aitken was the promoter.

It is charged by Sir Sandford, who was the honorary president of the Canada Cement Company, that securities to the value of over \$13,000,000 improperly passed into the hands of one man and his associates. The mere fact that such a charge is made by a man of the standing of Sir Sandford Fleming is ample reason for the fullest enquiry, and especially because of the effect the story is likely to have among British investors in Canadian securities. There is another reason. Mr. Aitken is now a member of the British parliament, and cannot rest under the imputation involved in the statements of Sir Sandford Fleming.

Mr. Orde, K. C., speaking for the company declares that the transactions to which Sir Sandford refers were legal and regular, and all Canadians will hope that this is true, and that Sir Sandford is misinformed and in error. Nevertheless, the truth must be established by an investigation, because of the effect of doubt or uncertainty upon the minds of British and foreign investors. Canada is seeking capital for the development of her resources, and has been getting it in ever larger quantities. That which the capitalist desires is security of investment, and what ever causes a doubt to arise in his mind prompts him to seek some other field of operations. Hence the publication of such charges as those made by Sir Sandford Fleming, even if not a dollar of outside capital were involved, cannot but have a bad effect. Parliament must get at the facts.

## THE POWER QUESTION

Presumably the gentlemen of the New Brunswick Electric Power Co., in their desire to provide St. John with cheaper power, would be content with a fair profit on their investment. If they know approximately how much money they will be called on to invest, and what quantity of power they will have to sell, it should not be difficult to fix a price for power that would yield them the required profit. Even if they got what would be considered a handsome profit, the public would not be disposed to object. There is, however, a lack of information on this very point, which no doubt influences the council in its determination to proceed with caution. An interesting statement was made yesterday about the cost of steam power, which must have a bearing upon these negotiations. The fact that the company of electric power much cheaper than it is now available should not determine the action of the council, whose business it is to consider the proposition on its merits and not merely in its relation to existing sources of supply. The course pursued by the council, therefore, in deferring action pending the receipt of further information, will not jeopardize the public interest.

## THE CANADIAN NORTHERN

Some Conservatives and a portion of the Conservative press have adversely criticized the action of the federal government in agreeing to guarantee the bonds of the Canadian Northern Railway. They either say that the additional line from Port Arthur eastward is not needed or they insinuate that the government is playing the game of politics regardless of the cost to the country. This, however, is not the view of the Toronto News, which is ordinarily one of the most bitter opponents of the government. The News says:—

"The News can only express satisfaction over the bond guarantee for the Canadian Northern Railway. It is important that the connection between Port Arthur and the branches of the system in Ontario and Quebec should be made and as this road was begun before the Grand Trunk Pacific was projected the government could hardly refuse such measure of assistance as has now been granted. It is sound policy also to give the new transcontinental road running rights over the Intercolonial system. By this arrangement the final success of a great enterprise is assured, the commercial connection between the east and the west will be strengthened, and the position of the Intercolonial itself, if its local traffic is protected, will be improved."

## PRISON TRAINING

A youth of nineteen, who was about to be sentenced to prison for a short term, asked that he be given two years, and an opportunity to learn a trade. It was not in the power of the court to grant his request, but the fact that he made the appeal is worthy of the attention of legislators. An exchange puts the case admirably as follows:—

"The plea of the boy prisoner in Montreal and the fact that it had to be refused reveals one of the greatest weaknesses of the modern jail system. A youth who leaves jail without any means of earning a living is fairly sure, in average cases, to turn up there soon again. On the other hand, a youth who leaves jail secure in the possession of a definite skill and knowledge that will enable him to earn honestly twice and three times as much daily as he was ever before able to earn, a trade that will enable him to obtain more money by working at it, than the product of his most successful stealings could show, is surely the very best incentive to honesty and hard work. Progressive statesmen and philanthropists should move in the direction indicated, whereby the opportunity of a mechanical education may be offered to young prisoners who otherwise would spend their prison sentence in idleness."

## SPECIMEN BRICKS

The following are some extracts from a Socialist newspaper published in Canada:—"Our Canadian politicians hate labor."

"The British flag waves its folds over millions of slaves."

"The Christian churches have made a firm and fast alliance with mammon and the slave driving capitalists occupy the chief pews thereof."

"The Christian ministers of Canada are wage slaves whose tongues are wagged as the slaves pay the capitalist dictator."

"Have you noticed how laws are being passed to deprive citizens of the right of carrying weapons? The slaves are to be made defenceless. They are to be made to appeal to capitalist courts of law when they get into trouble and we know that the courts of Canada from the bewigged judges on the bench down through the talking lawyers to the doorknobs at the outer gates are nothing but the instruments of triumphant and legalized labor thieves. The capitalists are in control, but not for long. For the slaves are thinking and thoughts among a slave class are the dynamite bombs that will hurl enthroned justice and triumphant robbery into oblivion."

The Rt. Hon. A. J. J. Balfour does not often "go up in the air," but the aviators persuaded him to vary his rule at the military airship manoeuvres yesterday.

If every young man in this city who is away from home, and whose mother is living, will write to her tomorrow, Mother's Day will mean much to many a loving heart that mourns an absent son.

If Sir Baden Powell had been in St. John last night he would have been delighted with the result of his visit to the city last year and the impetus he gave to the Boy Scout movement here.

The Hamilton Spectator says:—"New Zealand sends all persons convicted of drunkenness on four different occasions to an island where there is no liquor and where everyone is occupied raising fruit. A much more sensible way of dealing with the chronic drunk than our own."

That must have been a splendid and memorable occasion which King George and Queen Mary witnessed yesterday, at the opening of the Festival of Empire. Not least significant was the democratic character of the affair and the universal welcome extended to the royal party, in evidence of the great personal popularity of the King and Queen.

The appeal of the Arboriculture Society for protection of trees should receive a sympathetic response from old and young. The Society is endeavoring to make the city more beautiful, and nothing could be more effective than the foliage of trees along the streets. These trees that are set out are the common property of all the people, and should therefore be protected by all.

"MOTHER'S DAY." In Victoria street Baptist church tomorrow the congregation will observe "Mother's Day" with a special service. Rev. R. H. Nobles, the pastor, has requested the congregation to wear roses. The choir will wear them, and will also remove their hats. They will sing special hymns, as "Tell Mother, I'll Be There." "Mother's Prayer," Stanley Williams will sing a solo. Mr. Noble will preach on "Christian Motherhood, the Crown of Women."

## A FEW QUATRAINS

"GOD"  
The unity of Truth and Good  
Is our divine whole;  
Truth is the word and Good the will—  
God is then the Soul.

"MOTHER."  
From God's bright throne in azure skies,  
Where silver-winged angels hover;  
Came Heaven's heart in earthly guise,  
Came charity, came mother.

"THOUGHT."  
Somewhere I know in nowhere-land,  
Sailed nothing from an endless shore,  
To go around on earth's gray sand,  
And drifting, sail one more.

"LOVE'S SILENCE."  
I sing of stars, bright eyes,  
I sing the rose, sweet lips—  
Then needs I sing of butterflies,  
And honey sips?

"THE OLD STORY."  
I heard a youth once say: "I can't."  
I told him there was no such word;  
I met it, too. I must confess,  
But "yes" and turned it to success.  
EWIN BRUCE MacKINNON.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN



"REPARTEE."  
Deems—You are a bigger fool than I thought you were.  
Deems—You have taken on some flesh yourself since I saw you last.



SO CARELESS.  
Mrs. Smith—Mary, you must really take better care of the children. Here you have gone and let poor Arthur bite his tongue again.



ALARMING.  
Fond Father—In giving you my daughter, Mr. Willard, I pass into your keeping the dearest thing I have on earth.  
Mr. Willard—How much does she cost you a year, may I ask?

THE MODERN WAY.  
(Washington Herald.)  
"Yes, I had ten children. They all grew up and married off."

MODERN METHOD.  
(Washington Herald.)  
"My books are in very bad shape," said the high financier.  
"Shall I send for an expert accountant?" inquired the confidential man.  
"No, send for an alienist."

A WAY OUT.  
Reverend Guide—"The question is, brethren, how shall we send salvation to the Fiji Islanders?"  
Deacon Tightwad—"Though I am not intimately familiar with the present case, I would suggest that we send it collect."

A learned scientist has discovered that air is the principal ingredient in wind.

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