

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1913

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 16, 1913.

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### LOOKING FOR A CURE

The United States is interested just now in minimum wage legislation applying to women in some trades. Massachusetts has already passed an act of such a character and more far-reaching bills to the same end have been before other legislatures. In some parts of the eastern states it is proposed that independent and widowed mothers shall be pensioned by the state. Through the efforts of the Labor party, a resolution was recently introduced in the British parliament for a fixed and universal statutory minimum wage—really meaning that all in the United Kingdom who work at all shall be assured decent living pay. It would seem that the world is at last looking about for a cure for poverty in cases where people are industrious but unfortunate. The Saturday Evening Post believes the search may be more successful than many people think. It says:

"It is a large order, but not hopeless. In comparing his budget for this year with Gladstone's in 1861 the British chancellor showed that yearly expenditures for army and navy had risen by nearly fifty million pounds; while for education, old-age pensions, workmen's insurance, and like social services—which figured little if at all in Gladstone's budget—the state this year will spend another fifty million pounds. Eliminating these two items—and allowing for increased postal revenue and expenses of government have risen only nine million pounds since 1861. In other words, the state's economic and social waste on armaments equals its disbursements for fighting ignorance and poverty at home. We think that is the crux of the problem. Poverty can be cured only when preventable waste is prevented. Socialism itself could no more avoid that rule than capitalism can."

### THE NEW BOOKS

It is often interesting to hear the latest books discussed. Quite a number of well-meaning persons make the fact that, broadly speaking, our literature is written for a day, a reproach to it, as though literature had not always been written for a day—the day the publisher's first check would be due. There seems to be a notion that ambitious authors should write for posterity, although it is not clear just how they can do this unless they know what their own day wants. A Canadian professor said recently that he made it a rule not to read new books until they had stood the market test for five years. If then they were in demand, he read them. If they had not survived he concluded that they were of his valuable time had been saved. Possibly he was not aware that the average life of a successful novel is reckoned about twelve months. By "life" is meant the period during which it is in really great demand from the novel-reading public. In this connection a statement from leading publishers is of interest. In 1912, they say, there were twenty-seven best sellers. All of the best sellers in January had disappeared from the list by December. Only one held its place as long as eleven months, and ten were best sellers for one month only. When a book drops from the estate of best seller its descent is often very rapid. It is surprising how few of the best sellers of ten years ago the young novel readers of today have ever heard of. The mortality rate among novels that are not best sellers is probably even higher.

The ambitious author may well conclude that he need not worry too much about posterity, for posterity will have its own troubles. If future generations want his book it will be because his book breathes the spirit of its own time more than any other book.

Speaking of dust, it takes old J. Plutus to do the sprinkling act properly. Witness this morning's performance.

The soldiers who captured the Prince at Aldershot lacked the instinct which Sir John Palfrey (that delightful old rascal) said he had when he ran like a deer from the threatening sword-point of Prince Hal.

Of course one will blame Queen Alexandra for withdrawing the Pilder portrait of the late King Edward, loaned to the Royal Academy, for fear that suffragettes may attempt to damage it.

After reading the handsomely illustrated address presented to him by the Victoria, B. C., board of trade on the successful completion of his long voyage to that port from Liverpool, Commander Beetham of the new C. P. R. liner Empress of Russia, must have felt glad that he did not stop going to sea just because he was sea-sick on his first trip across the ocean.

The province of Saskatchewan is likely to prohibit all boxing bouts in the future. The killing of Luther McCarty at Calgary a short time ago has aroused a strong feeling in the west against boxing and the people of Saskatchewan are determined that no such fights shall take place there. A great many resolutions have been passed by influential organiza-

tions recommending that the federal and provincial governments be urged to enact and enforce at once such laws as will render future ring exhibitions impossible.

A few definite words from the Grand Trunk Pacific management concerning their St. John plans are now needed. Will the Mayor and Commissioners get them, or the Board of Trade? It's time.

When their peace conference deliberations were so rudely interrupted by the London suffragettes, the delegates of the Balkan allies and Turkey probably agreed with the trouble-makers that something should be done to "maintain peace at home."

### BULGARIA IS SHAKEN BY EARTHQUAKE; MANY KILLED

Violent Shocks on Saturday and Sunday in Several Places

Sofia, June 16.—Earthquake shocks of Saturday were renewed on Sunday in many parts of Bulgaria. Two violent shocks occurred in the morning at Grabovia, where much damage was done. Disturbances at Timova Kid throughout Saturday and the trembling of the earth had not ceased yesterday morning. At this place many people were killed and public and private buildings were seriously damaged. Thousands are homeless and destitute.

London, June 16.—Despatches from various points in Southeastern Europe indicate that the earthquake reported from Sofia was widespread. At Bucharest two distinct shocks were experienced. Several towns in Southern Hungary also were affected. In none of these places, however, was there any serious damage.

### MONEY BUYS MORE NOW

An English Journal's Views of Present Day Prices and Those of Old

(Pearson's Weekly.)

If you are the father of a family or a frugal housewife it is reasonably certain that one of your pet grievances will be that the cost of living has increased terribly during the last few years. In the company of others you will gloat over items in your grocery bill and revile the political party to which you do not belong. But you are quite wrong. The cost of living has decreased, not increased, during the last twenty-five years.

Of course you can easily point to half a dozen particular foods that have gone up in price. That is not the point. The point is, whether, after adding together all the expenses necessary to a decent existence, you are or are not better off.

First of all you can write down the necessities that have increased. The list of necessities is not long. It includes the cost of the clothes that you wear, the cost of the food that you eat, the cost of the house that you live in, the cost of the fuel that you burn, the cost of the transport that you use, the cost of the education that you give your children, the cost of the recreation that you enjoy, the cost of the insurance that you take, the cost of the taxes that you pay, the cost of the interest that you pay on your debts, the cost of the depreciation of your property, the cost of the obsolescence of your tools, the cost of the waste of your time, the cost of the loss of your health, the cost of the loss of your life.

As far as the ladies' clothing is concerned, look at the "bargains" advertised in an old newspaper and compare them with those advertised today. You will find a striking difference in favor of today.

A thoroughly serviceable pair of boots can be bought today for \$8, which would formerly have cost nearly double.

Manufacture is tending to develop on a larger and larger scale, and the products, as a result, are cheaper. This applies not only to boots, but to nearly every manufactured article.

Fares to and from work are an item will not be so formidable as you think. Especially if you take the average during the full twenty-five years. And there will be many important items missing. Flour, for example, has not increased; and bread can be bought at the same price.

Next to bread in importance comes meat. And meat not only has not risen in price, but it is cheaper.

Owing to the improvements of late years in the machinery of transport, foreign meat can be sold so cheaply that good "cuttings" capable of making a nourishing stew, can be bought at 2d. per pound; while the housewife who knows how to make proper use of bones will find a good breast-bone at half this price.

Of course the more tasty varieties of home meat are more expensive. But those to whom the cost of living is a vital problem, rightly regard this as a luxury.

Vegetables, with the exception of potatoes, remain about the same, while fruit is ever so much cheaper. Up to Christmas, good cooking apples can be bought at 1d. per pound.

While, owing to certain shipping enterprises, bananas, which used to be an expensive luxury, are now the cheapest of fruits. They are within the reach of the humblest purse, and as they are about as nourishing as so much meat, they must be reckoned as a very important item when calculating the cost of living.

But it must not be forgotten that meat does not live by bread alone—a fact that is sometimes overlooked by the grumblers. There are other necessities to be considered. There are clothes, manufactured articles, and travelling. Nowadays, instead of bad shoddy, we have good shoddy. Compare a modern in the budget of nearly every bread-winner. And the triumph of the electric train has more than halved the cost of travel while giving infinitely greater speed and comfort.

All these things have to be taken into consideration when reckoning the cost of living.

### BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

MONDAY, JUNE 16

Arthur McPherson, M. P., for Portage la Prairie, is thirty-seven years of age today. He was born in Anderson, Ont., and graduated from the University of Toronto at an early age. He became a barrister in 1902 and went into commercial life in Winnipeg. He entered parliament in 1908.

William Saunders, former head of the experimental farms of Canada, was born in Devonshire, England, on this date seventy-seven years ago.

W. V. Cory, deputy minister of the interior since 1908, celebrates his forty-eighth birthday today. He was born in Strathroy, Ont.

### LIGHTER VEIN

Tourist—My physician advises me to locate where I may have the benefit of the south wind. Does it blow here? Landlord—My! But you are fortunate in coming to just the right place! Why, the south wind always blows here.

Tourist—Always? Why, it seems to be blowing from the north now.

Landlord—O, it may be coming from that direction, but it's the south wind. It's just coming back, you know.

Kirby Stone—I hate to mention it, dear, but I must tell you that business has been awfully poor lately. If you could economize a little in dress—wear something plainer—

Mrs. Stone—Certainly, dear, I shall order some plainer dresses tomorrow.

Flick.

There was once a chap who went skating too early, and all of a sudden that afternoon loud cries for help began to echo among the bleak hills that surrounded the skating pond.

A farmer, cobbling his boots before his kitchen fire, heard the shouts and yells and ran to the pond at break-neck speed. He saw a large black hole in the ice and a pale young fellow stood with chattering teeth shoulder deep in the cold water.

The farmer laid a board on the thin ice and crawled out on it to the edge of the hole. Then, extending his hand, he said:

"Here, come over this way and I'll lift you out."

"No, I can't swim," was the impatient reply. "Throw a rope to me. Hurry up. It's cold in here."

"I ain't got no rope," said the farmer; and he added angrily: "What if you can't swim—you can wade, I guess! The water's only up to your shoulders."

"Up to my shoulders!" said the young fellow. "It's eight feet if it's an inch. I'm standing on the fat man who broke the ice!"

Moths can be kept away from furs or clothes by putting a piece of linen damped in turpentine in drawers or wardrobes. This must be renewed once or twice during the year. Moths will never attack carpets and curtains which have been well sprinkled with salt.

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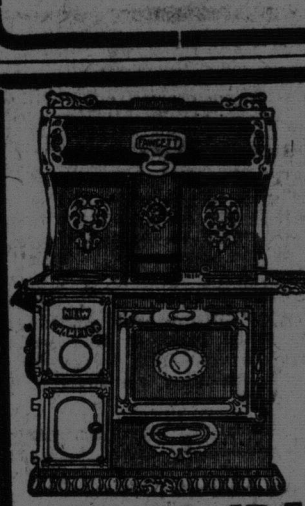
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### PARADISE FOR DOGS

Wealthy New York Women Put Pets in Sumptuous Homes

In the suburbs of New York there is a large country house enclosed by trees which shelter from the sun, grassy lawns and exercising grounds, and made gay with tubs of bright-hued flowers, striped awnings, snow white tents, and a quaint little summer house. It is a delightful spot, and it is inhabited by the pet dogs of wealthy New York women. Its verandahs are covered with the use of the pets when the days are too warm to allow of much exercise.

The larger dogs sleep in the drawing-room, which has windows from ceiling to floor. In another room across the hall the smaller pets reside. Soft rugs cover the floor, flowers and growing plants decorate it, and the white enamel "cages" with their cushions give a cool and dainty appearance to the room. Here are sleeping baskets, upholstered in satin and furnished with embroidered sheets of the finest linen and covers of the softest silk. Each morning sees the entire furnishings of the room out-doors in the summer houses for an airing. To place them directly in the sun would fade the delicate colors.

Men attend to the daily toilet of the larger dogs, but the wife of the proprietor and an assistant take care of the little pets. This is no small task, for tiny mouths must be washed out with toothbrushes, baths must be given, and

### Cheap Towels and Towelings

Linen Hand Towels from 20c pr. up. Dish and Roller Towelings from 5c yd. up. Table Linens, Unbleached, 25c yd. up. Table Linens, Bleached, 35c yd. up.

A. B. WEITMORE, 59 GARDEN STREET

### WOMEN'S BEAUTY

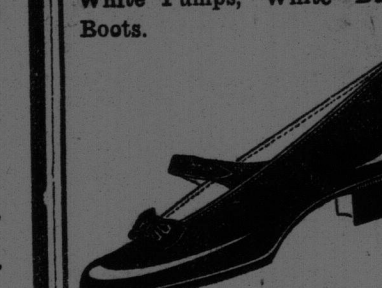
(London Tit-Bits)

"At what age is a woman most beautiful?" has been the subject of a somewhat spirited discussion in Parisian art circles. M. Ferdinand Humbert, the head of the School of Fine Arts, owns to two ideals. As an artist his favorite feminine type is between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five—the time of "radiant youth." As a mere man, he considers that women of from twenty-five to thirty-five years old are the most fascinating and charming.

The veteran painter, Harpignies, is not so generous, for he sets the time of beauty at from sixteen to twenty years—the age of youthful simplicity unmarred by the cares and anxieties which years bring in their train. M. Gabriel Ferrier, on the other hand, accords to beauty a lengthy reign. He considers the woman of today is beautiful from the age of twenty-five to fifty, for she has become mistress of the art of how to make the best of herself with the help of skilled dressmakers and modistes.

M. Bartholome, the famous sculptor at her best.

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5c. Bar Castile Soap 4c.  
Fly-Stop Fly Paper 2c. Each.  
Oil Stove, 2-Burner, 90c.  
Rubber Balls, 2c., 4c., 5c., 9c., 12c.  
15c., 22c. to 50c. Each.  
Sand Pails, 5c., 10c., 14c.  
Hosiery, Gloves and Underwear.

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of the beautiful Parthenon statues, set the time of beauty at between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five, but the reservation that there is no beauty without goodness, and that beauty of face and form, without heart of soul, has no appeal to him.

Jean Boucher, another famous sculptor, says that woman is at her best between the ages of sixteen and thirty, though from youth to old age she is adorable. What would appear to be the most conflicting opinion of all, however, is the point of view of the fair sex, is expressed by the famous portrait painter, Francois Flameng. "A woman's greatest beauty may dawn at any age," he says. "Let every man form his own opinion, according to individual tastes as to which of these years a woman is at her best."