

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1913

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 11, 1913.

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HON. JOHN V. ELLIS

The late Hon. John V. Ellis occupied a unique position in the journalism and public life of New Brunswick. He had been a journalist in this city for more than fifty years. His early contemporaries are gone. Those who are now conducting the daily newspapers in this city were young reporters or had not yet entered the profession when Mr. Ellis was in his prime.

The personality of the editor of the Globe gave that journal great influence. Perhaps there never was a time when all the people agreed with the views expressed by the Globe, and there were many times when its views were denounced with bitterness; but Mr. Ellis was not influenced by criticism, nor very much concerned as to the popularity of views which he considered to be sound; and so, as the years passed, whenever a new situation developed, the people wanted to know how it would be regarded by the Globe. Even those who were most likely to oppose that which Mr. Ellis supported were anxious to learn his attitude and that of his newspaper. He was a writer of great ability, with an admirable command of clear, forcible English, and was always regarded as a formidable opponent in a public controversy. Few writers could lay an adversary more politely, or with greater neatness and despatch.

With advancing years his views on many subjects became less radical, and it is an interesting fact that his last important vote in parliament was cast against the party with which he had been closely identified until the last few years. During these years, however, the breach between him and that party had grown steadily wider and wider.

Personally, those who were most intimate with him have always described Mr. Ellis as a very lovable man. No man who has filled the office of postmaster in St. John ever showed more interest in the welfare of the whole staff than did he during the period in which he held that position. All who have ever been connected with the Evening Globe in any capacity have testified to the kindly heart and generous interest in the welfare of every one about him which Mr. Ellis always manifested.

It is a great merit to have conducted for half a century a clear newspaper, and that merit is chiefly due to Mr. Ellis, even by those who were always an opponent of his. In complete harmony with his views on public questions.

The cause of education has sustained a loss in Mr. Ellis's death. He did much to encourage the pupils of the public schools to do their best, and he was always an earnest advocate of higher education, and of the strengthening of the higher institutions of learning in this province.

A journalist who also enters public life, in the political arena, must necessarily wield a large influence in the community. Mr. Ellis's political ideals were not all endorsed by any party, and there was a time when his views concerning the relations of Canada and the United States were such as to be extremely distasteful to both the great parties; but his views on this question underwent a change as the years passed. In the provincial legislature and in the parliament of Canada he proved to be a useful and valuable representative, and there can be no doubt that, had he been less independent in the course of his life, higher political honors might have been his. During the last year his friends had observed with regret a gradual weakening of Mr. Ellis's physical powers, and a gradual decline of the keen intellectual ability which had marked his career for so many years.

It will take some time for his fellow citizens to fully realize that he has passed from their midst. Fifty years is a long period when we consider the lifetime of a man, though it is short in the history of a city or a country. Mr. Ellis came to St. John nearly sixty years ago; or, to be exact, ten years before confederation. In all the stirring events that have since transpired here he had his share, as an active journalist and a citizen of growing influence. It cannot be said that he was always an optimist, and it will probably be admitted that it was a good thing that his counsel was quite frequently rejected in matters relating to civic as well as national affairs; but such an admission must be accompanied with a tribute to the sincerity of the editor of the Globe and the courage with which he presented his views, even when he knew they would prove unpopular. Mr. Ellis was recognized as a representative Canadian journalist, and public men everywhere received the expression of his views upon public questions with respect.

His name is written large in the history of journalism in New Brunswick, and he will be remembered as a living force for very many years in the affairs of the city of St. John. There is one phase of the character of Mr. Ellis which will be held in especially grateful remembrance by his fellow citizens, and that is the spirit of benevolence revealed by him in relation to charitable institutions, as well as individuals in need of assistance. Many institutions found in him a generous

contributor. He gave liberally and without ostentation to every cause which appealed to his kindly heart.

Evidently money is not scarce in St. John. A larger amount in taxes has been paid in time to save the discount this year than was the case last year.

Cephus rains have greatly improved the crop outlook in the west. The like is true in our own province. In view of the financial stringency a bumper crop is greatly desired.

They have an incident in Halifax, and the Echo has been investigating a complaint that residents in the vicinity are caused much discomfort by the stench arising from the smoke when the plant is in operation. The Echo reporter says he found on investigation that the residents in the vicinity had good grounds for complaining of the odor from the smoke.

The judgment rendered by Judge Jonah in the beer shop case yesterday will no doubt suggest to the friends of temperance the importance of having legislation relating to the sale of beer and liquor carefully scrutinized by able lawyers, so that if possible all doubt as to its interpretation might be removed before it went upon the statute book.

An Ottawa despatch announces that the contract has been awarded for a dry dock 1150 feet long at Lewis, and that plans are being prepared for one of similar size at Esquimaux, and that the Halifax dry dock is to be extended to the same length. It will be observed that no reference is made in this despatch to the dry dock at St. John, which, according to present plans, will be only 900 feet in length.

Touching the matter of good roads, a Washington letter says:—"Improvement of country roads has enhanced the value of property bordering on such roads so that the cost of improvement is equalized, if not exceeded, says the Department of Agriculture in a bulletin issued Wednesday. The department has gathered a mass of data through the office of public roads, which is making a special study of the economic effect of road improvement. According to the information land values not only have increased, but farm values as well show marked advances as a result of road improvement."

The Bangor Commercial says:—"An additional expense that the users of anthracite coal will be called upon to meet in the future comes from the recent action of the Pennsylvania legislature in levying a tax of two and one-half per cent. on all coal mined and shipped out of the state. It was not to be expected that the coal operators would stand for the tax without passing on the charge to the consumers, and consequently the companies are now adding the amount of the tax to the bills for the coal shipped out of the state. New England, burning Pennsylvania coal, suffers, and it is not strange that the call is being loudly raised for federal ownership of the anthracite mines."

MORE THAN EVER
PAID TAX BILLS
TO SAVE DISCOUNT

One hundred and sixty three thousand dollars, or nearly one-quarter of the total amount of taxes assessed the citizens of St. John for the year ending July 10, were paid at the chamberlain's office at city hall yesterday, and from today on the taxpayers who have put off the evil moment will have to pay the full amount of their assessment without the five per cent. discount allowed those who pay on or before July 10.

As compared with last year, citizens have paid their taxes somewhat earlier this time. The last three days are generally the rush time and last year \$850,000 was paid between July 8 and 10, while this year \$855,000 was the total amount taken in on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Nearly six hundred more taxpayers have also turned in their money this year, the number to date being 7,771 as compared with 7,129 for 1912.

The total amount taken in this year is \$308,000 while last year on the same date the figure was \$240,886. Comparing the total amounts of assessment for the two years with the figures last quoted shows that the standard of promptness among the taxpayers has remained about the same, for the total assessment for this year is \$698,065, whereas last year it was only \$660,729, an increase of about five per cent.

Nova Scotia Brakeman Killed. Halifax, July 10.—William Murphy, a brakeman, employed on construction work at St. Peter's canal, Cape Breton, was instantly killed today. A loaded train moved out of a cut and Murphy stepped back until it passed. As he did so another train came along and struck Murphy. Several cars passed over his body, mangleing it terribly. He leaves a widow and four children.

IT SOMETIMES DOES. We're told a woman's crowning glory is Her hair, Oh, fudge! Oh, fie! And likewise I must say gee whizz! For glory will not dye.

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

FRIDAY, JULY 11.

Alexander Macdonald Allan, one of the highest authorities in Canada on the subject of fruit, and who has represented the dominion at several international exhibitions, was born on July 11, 1844, near Stratford, Ont.

His Honor John Augustus Barron, county court judge of Perth, is sixty-three years of age today. He was born in Toronto but practised most of his life in Lindsay. He has written several law books and has contributed papers to the press advocating the formation of a Canadian navy. He has also at various times acted as conciliator under the Lemieux act.

LIGHTER VEIN

THE BRIGHTER SIDE

"Well," chuckled the optimistic fellow. "I've got one satisfaction."

"And what's that?" asked the sympathetic friend.

"If I had succeeded in myself telling people that I was a self-made man."

WHY THEY CHANGED

"So you had to change doctors? Wasn't the first one doing your father any good?"

"Oh, I guess he was handling the case all right, but he insisted on being paid the first of every month."

HARD TO FIND

"Not going to a summer cottage this year?"

"No. Pa and Ma couldn't find a place to suit 'em."

"What's the trouble?"

"Ma wanted to go somewhere where she wouldn't have to cook all the time for Pa's relatives, and Pa insisted on a place where he wouldn't have to spend every Sunday rowing Ma's folks around the lake."

HANDICAPPED

"So you didn't catch a thing on your fishing trip?"

"No. But I didn't expect to, so I wasn't disappointed."

"You didn't expect to?"

"No. You see, Brown insisted on taking me to a spot he knew where they always bite."

REMINISCENT

My boy's just bought a brand new gun, a model of its kind.

The barrel is of nickel steel, and in that gun you'll find the greatest of improvements that the mind of man can reach.

From self-ejecting of the shells to compensating breech, but as I ain't that dainty gun, with all it has to show.

I think I'd like to the old-time gun I owned long years ago.

It was a muzzle-loader, sure, and hammer, large and tall.

Cocked back three times with wicked snaps—and sometimes wouldn't fall.

The ramrod was of choicest ash held fast by metal straps.

And standing out like pillars were the nipples for the caps.

I'd take that gun and hunt for crows, and as a joyful task I'd ram a wad of paper on the powder from my flask.

A dump each barrel shot I'd previously placed.

Within the tunnel of a belt that swung about my waist.

And then I'd shoot. The wave of smoke would linger half an hour.

The numbness in my shoulder showed that shotgun's shooting power.

But though it "hung fire" half the time, and kept me chilled with fear.

Somewhat I wouldn't trade it for a model of this year.

If I could go back to its day, as old men yearn to go,

And get my collar-bone jarred loose while shooting at a crow.

—Galveston News.

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MAY CHANGE TARIFF ON PRINT PAPER

Senator Smoot Finds Conflicting Rates in Schedule of 1911 and New Law

Washington, July 10.—That the provision of the Underwood tariff bill levying a duty of 12 per cent ad valorem on print paper valued at more than 2½ cents a pound and not more than four cents a pound, may repeal a portion of the Canadian reciprocity act of 1911, is contended in the analysis of the measure prepared under direction of Senator Smoot, Republican member of the Finance committee. If it does not operate to repeal the law, it is contended that there will be two rates in controversy on this grade of paper.

Besides the duty of twelve per cent ad valorem, the bill would impose a countervailing tax in retaliation for export license fee or other charge imposed by a foreign country.

"An interesting point to consider," the Smoot analysis sets forth, "is the effect of the enactment of this paragraph on the portion of the Canadian reciprocity

act which admits to entry free of duty paper imported from Canada valued at not more than four cents per pound. With respect to printing paper valued at more than 2½ and not more than 4 cents per pound, it is manifest that there is a complete repugnance between the two statutes, for by the terms of one, the act of 1911, it is free of duty, and by the terms of the tariff bill, it is subject to a duty of twelve per cent ad valorem. Nor can the two statutes be so construed as to stand together.

Under such circumstances the rule of law is that the statute of later date, must prevail over the earlier statute, as being the latest expression of the legislative will, and that consequently the earlier statute stands repealed by implication.

Republican leaders will make a point of this on the floor of the senate. Tomorrow the tariff bill will be reported to the senate, but the majority report favoring the measure will not be presented by Chairman Simmons until Monday.

MR. BOWES' PROMOTION

C. H. Bowes of Vancouver, has recently been appointed assistant general passenger agent of the C. P. R.

Mr. Bowes is a Bangor man. He began his railroad experience in the general offices of the Bangor & Aroostook R. R. where he became chief clerk in the passenger department. He then came to St.

John where he was on the staff of the district passenger agent of the C. P. R. for some time. Afterwards he was connected with the Metropolitan S. R. R. with offices in New York city and then went to Vancouver.

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