

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MAY 1, 1923

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Letters To The Editor

To the Editor of The Times:
Six—Will you be good enough to grant me space in your valued columns to set forth certain facts concerning the recreational side of the Y. W. C. A.? During the last week I have been asked the following questions: First, "Is the recreation centre just for games?" second, "Are parties the chief thing down there?" third, "Does the Y. W. reach the class of girls you want to reach?"

"The recreation centre is not an entertainment bureau. It is not, primarily, a place of amusement. It assuredly is not for any particular 'class.' What an extraordinary word to use in connection with the Young Women's Christian Association—for the association recognizes neither race, sect nor creed; its work lies among all types of girls in the community; and we want them all."

"The erroneous idea of our work suggested by the first two questions arises from a widespread misconception of the true significance of the word 'recreation.' Recreation does not mean amusement; it does not mean 'just games,' but it does mean all those activities that we do for choice, which lead to health and happiness. It is play that transforms and develops and actually makes over."

"Our Y. W. test for recreation is simply this: Do the things that our girls do in their leisure hours make them better able to carry on the next day's duties? Do the activities in which they indulge at the recreation centre renew them in body, mind and spirit until they fairly radiate health and good cheer? Proper recreation is a thing of the spirit and it has the power to transform, to make over, to re-create a girl into another and altogether better person. Countless times I have seen it done."

"Moreover, what is recreation for one girl or one group of girls may be the very last thing that should be indulged in by another group. Hence Y. W. C. A. workers study their girls and, after thorough knowledge of conditions which surround them, they make up a programme calculated to meet that group's particular need. Youth demands some outlet for its exuberant energy, and the Y. W. C. A. encourages all wholesome fun, not only among our girls but between them and their men friends as well."

"Now, just a word as to the origin of recreation centres as an important part in Y. W. C. A. work. In face of the world-wide social unrest and the danger of lowered moral standards resulting from the disintegration of society following the great war, the Y. W. C. A. felt impelled to make a special effort to reach every group of girls in the community if the standard of young Canadian womanhood were to be kept up. Hence it established recreation centres (under careful supervision) as counter-attractions to the lower forms of certain commercialized amusement resorts."

"These recreation centres bring within reach of the underprivileged girl—as well as her more fortunate sister—good cheer, friends and healthful activities. Through the gymnasium, the Y. W. C. A. teaches her that her body is a sacred trust as well as a means to be used to promote its health, grace and beauty. The competitive games, basketball, indoor and outdoor sports of all kinds are stimulating and healthful activities. Through the gymnasium, the Y. W. C. A. teaches her that her body is a sacred trust as well as a means to be used to promote its health, grace and beauty. The competitive games, basketball, indoor and outdoor sports of all kinds are stimulating and healthful activities."

"Recreation is still in its infancy, but I am convinced it will continue to play a more and more important part in social welfare work. I maintain it is the natural means of approach and that it is probably the surest way of keeping in close touch with the average girl. The Y. W. C. A. naturally accepts a certain responsibility for conditions under which our girls are brought up."

"The extension of Christ's Kingdom upon the earth. With sincere thanks for granting me the privilege of reaching so many citizens about a matter pertaining to a large portion of the girl life of the city, believe me to be, Gratefully yours, KATE A. FOSTER, Aet. Gen. Sec. Y. W. C. A., St. John, April 30."

"THE PORT OF ST. JOHN. To the Editor of The Times: Sir—With the close of one of the busiest winter seasons at the port, it would seem to be an opportune time for the monthly meeting of the Board of Trade on Monday evening next. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance."

"I feel sure that the press of St. John will extend its co-operation with this committee, along both informing and suggestive lines, the subject of port administration will receive consideration at the monthly meeting of the Board of Trade on Monday evening next. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance."

"According to the last report of the chairman of the Toronto Harbor Board, 'courage, tenacity of purpose, and earnest co-operation are necessary for success' at that port. St. John, being an all-year-round port, needs an observance of these fundamental principles even more than Toronto. Hoping for your assistance along above lines, Yours sincerely, R. E. ARMSTRONG, Secretary."

"Note: During the fiscal year ending March 31, 1923, the arrivals at the port of St. John numbered 740 ocean steamers, 118 sailing vessels and 1,876 coastwise craft, as against 524 ocean steamers, 127 sailing and 1,518 coastwise vessels the previous year. The quantity of outward cargo the last fiscal year was 712,145 tons in weight, and 182,295 tons measurement. For the previous year it was 684,214 tons weight and 189,984 tons measurement. St. John, April 30."

"A meeting of the creditors of Louis Harris, of this city, was held yesterday afternoon, at the office of the trustees, the Canadian Credit Men's Trust Association, Ltd. The inspectors were given power to make an attempt to sell the business as a going concern."

"Orange Pekoe"

The tiny little leaves that have just appeared on the tea bush are known as 'orange pekoes' and the flavour of an 'orange pekoe' from a hill top garden swept by warm spicy breezes is just—superb! The new "Salada"

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der which our girls are brought up hence it is bent on procuring for the young womanhood of St. John such means of character building and such helpful social environment as will strengthen their moral force. No less than 1,400 girls pass through the recreation centre in the course of a month. The atmosphere in which the Y. W. C. A. in St. John seeks to carry on its special service to young women and girls is the very same that is the essence of church life, i.e.—the love of our neighbor growing out of the love for God. In bending all our energies to develop, by our symmetrical four-fold programme, the very best type of young Canadian womanhood, the association hopes to prove a great factor in

the extension of Christ's Kingdom upon the earth. With sincere thanks for granting me the privilege of reaching so many citizens about a matter pertaining to a large portion of the girl life of the city, believe me to be, Gratefully yours, KATE A. FOSTER, Aet. Gen. Sec. Y. W. C. A., St. John, April 30."

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The graduating class of King College Law School will be made up of seven young men this year. The names of the graduates were announced last evening by Chief Justice H. A. McKeown, dean of the faculty, as follows: Thomas Green, Ottawa; George Kelly, Randolph H. Bennett, A. E. Richard, P. C. Quinn, and H. N. Jonah, St. John, and H. D. Baldwin, St. George. The degrees will be conferred upon the graduates at Windsor, N. S., on Thursday of this week.

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