

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 2, 1919.

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NEED OF JUVENILE COURT.

The police magistrate of Peterboro, Ontario, recently ordered two boys to be lashed. One was nine and the other six years of age. They had broken into three stores. The boy of nine years was given ten and the boy of six years five lashes, laid on by a policeman. In addition the older boy's mother, a widow, was fined \$12 and the father of the younger boy \$18, or ten days in jail. The Trades and Labor Council will lay the case before the attorney-general of Ontario. The Toronto Globe offers this comment: "All this procedure seems to have the warrant of law, except that it is doubtful whether a child of six could be sent to jail. Their crimes were premeditated so far as this aggravation can be attributed to children of their tender age. They may have been unusually difficult children to deal with, or the careless management of the parents may have been responsible for their downfall. But the punishment meted out to them is repulsive to the tendency of the times. Juvenile courts have been established all over the continent in order to correct without spoiling wilful children, and such a court is badly needed in Peterboro."

St. John witnesses no lashing of children, but it is still without a juvenile court and probation officer to deal with such cases as those of which the Globe speaks. Young persons may still be arrested and kept overnight in cells, who ought to be summoned and dealt with in a juvenile court removed entirely from the police court atmosphere. The municipal council has declined to make a grant for such a court, and it is now up to the city council. The conditions surrounding much of the child-life of St. John are very undesirable. A properly constituted juvenile court, such as they have in Halifax, for example, would greatly help to improve the conditions.

SIR ROBERT'S PLEDGE.

In a message to the people of St. John on the eve of the elections in 1917 Sir Robert Borden said: "The thorough and efficient equipment of St. John harbor is part of our policy. I desire to emphasize what I declared at St. John on the 11th of September, namely, that the defeat of the Laurier government will not retard, hinder or prevent in any way the construction of terminal facilities at St. John, or the equipment and development of that port as one of the Atlantic national ports of Canada."

In a speech in St. John at that time he said: "On several occasions when the party had laid down its platform it has emphasized the necessity for the nationalization of the great ports of Canada, of Montreal and Quebec, of St. John and Halifax."

Sir Robert's pledge, so far as St. John is concerned, has not been fulfilled. We all know what has been done for Halifax, and that the port of Quebec has not been compelled to do what is now asked of St. John, which is to provide out of harbor revenue for the interest and sinking fund on the present debt and all future expenditures for harbor development. Commission is not nationalization, and Sir Robert Borden in 1911 promised nationalization.

It is because of the different treatment St. John has received from that accorded Halifax and Quebec and because the pledge of nationalization has not been carried out, that the citizens, before they vote on commission, should have definite knowledge of what the government proposes to do in relation to through traffic here, the facilities for handling it, and the rates to be charged shipping using the port. Let Sir Robert and his government speak again.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

A recent despatch says that "It is anticipated that when the provincial premiers and ministers are in Ottawa to attend the National Industrial Conference in September, the first definite steps will be taken in connection with putting into effect the plans for the encouragement of technical education covered by the bill passed by parliament at its recent session."

The question to be decided will be the manner in which the federal grant, to the extent of \$10,000,000, covering a period of years, shall be spent. It is explained that the federal government desires quick practical results, in order that large numbers of young people may be fitted as rapidly as possible for efficient work in industry. Of course this is the aim of the provinces as well, but no system can be satisfactory that does not include pre-vocational work in the public schools as well as the vocational high schools and technical colleges. At the very outset provision should be made for working boys and girls, who have left school; but the whole educational system of each province must be adapted so such courses as will enable all pupils who do not desire to take a full classical course to pass into a vocational high school and get a course of practical training along desired lines, whether for commerce or industry.

August brings us the fifth anniversary of our entrance into the war.

Through the courtesy of W. H. Golding the Times today presents an outline of the chief features of the big celebration of August 14 and 15. It gives in proper sequence the list of events which so far have been arranged both for the tribute to our soldiers and the welcome to the Prince of Wales. It will be of general interest as placing together in orderly manner the various parts of the programme, and will guide the people in making their plans for participation in the big times that are promised.

The allied supreme council in Paris is taking up the case of the profiteer and the speculator in food and may adopt a system of international collective buying to check those who are making wealth out of the necessities of life.

The U. S. senate again has passed a bill repealing the daylight saving measure. President Wilson probably will veto it again.

And now the National Liberal Convention takes the first place among Canadian events.

A HINT FOR MOTORISTS

(Montreal Herald.) Just remembering that the slower a wheel turns the more traction it has will enable many motorists to avoid the terrors of a self-dug grave when stuck in mud or sand. Nine owners out of ten, when stuck in the mud, will put their cars in low gear and then race their engines for dear life, shortening the life of both tire and motor. With the wheels going at such a pace it is impossible to get any traction, even if straw or twigs are placed beneath the treads, and the chains will be slipped around idly. The effect is usually to dig a deep hole and increase the difficulty.

The correct way is to pack cloth or twigs below the wheels, use long gear and only speed the motor sufficiently to take the clutch without stalling. Above all things, don't race the engine.

The Montreal Daily Star of July 25 contains a cut of Geo. S. McSweeney, who has recently been elected vice-president of the M. A. A. A. Rugby Club. Mr. McSweeney is a son of the late Wm. B. McSweeney, a prominent barrister of Halifax. It will be remembered that Geo. McSweeney married Miss May Joughins, daughter of G. H. Joughins, a prominent C. G. Railway official. He is a nephew of Hon. Senator McSweeney of Moncton.

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LIGHTER VEIN.

Would Have Given Him Cause. Bix—Weren't you nervous when you proposed to your wife? Dix—No, but I would have been if I'd foreseen the present cost of living.

Figuratively or Literally. The art of rolling up wealth begins with rolling up the shirt sleeves.

Household Hint. Guest—Your cook is perfection itself. How do you manage to keep her? Hostess—We learned what dishes she likes best herself and we have those only.

"Does your wife take in washing, Sam?" "No, sah."

"But I understand she did take in washing, Sam?" "No, sah, you're wrong. I takes in de washin', sah, and I takes de washin' out. All m' wife does is t' stay at home and do it, sah."—Yonkers Statesman.

Perfectly Simple. A Boston man who was passing the night at a hotel in a Southern town told the colored porter he wanted to be called early in the morning. The porter replied: "Say, boss. Ah reckon yo' ain't familiar with these heah modern inventions. When yo' wants to be called in de mawnin' all yo' has to do is jest to press

de button at de head of yo' bed. Den we comes up an' calls you."—Boston Transcript.

Nothing to It. He's always talking. I should think he would find it hard on his voice. "Yes, but if you listen to him you'll realise how easy it is on his mind."—Browning's Magazine.

A smart city barber received a shock when an old countryman planted himself down in a vacant chair and asked to have

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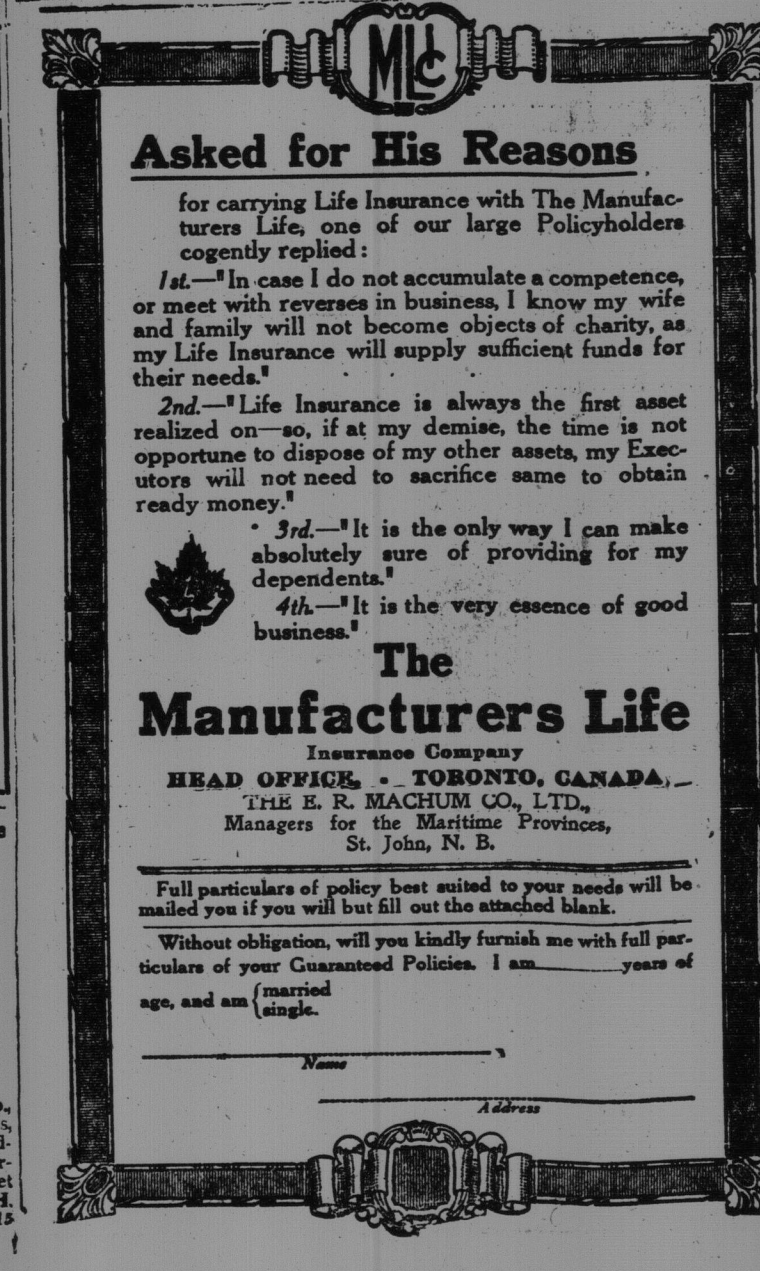


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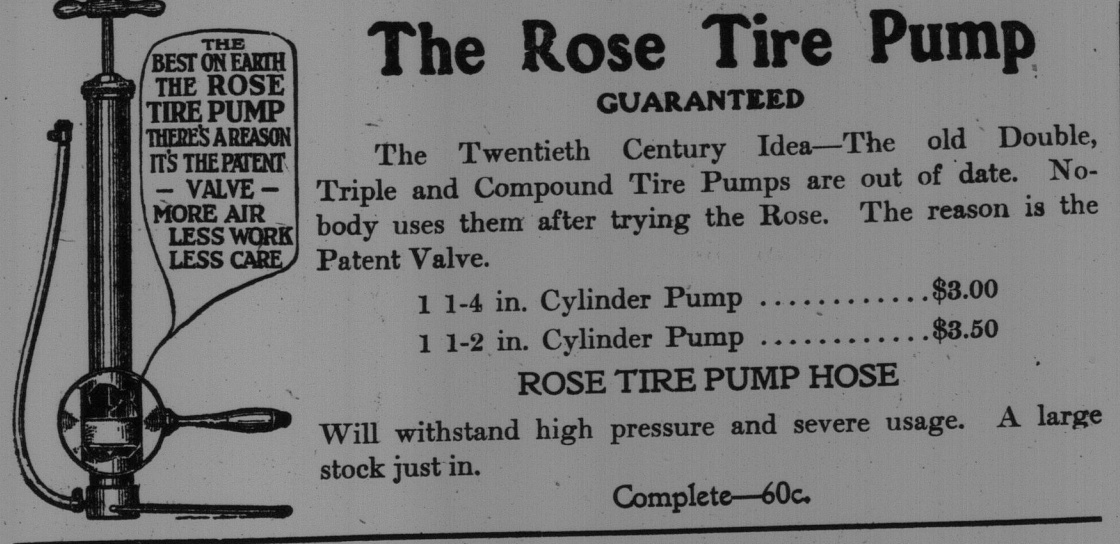
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his hair cut. Never in his life had the barber seen such an extraordinary crop of hair. It stuck up in wild, unkempt tufts, of different lengths, and looked more like a half-worm mop than anything else.

"H'm," said the man with the scissors, "who cut your hair last?"

"O, my wife did," answered the yokel, with a shamefaced expression.

"What did she do it with, eh?" snorted the barber, disdainfully—a knife and fork?

Merry Little Sunshine. Visitor—I just looked in to cheer you up a bit and I'm very glad I did, for I met the doctor going out and he says you are worse than you think and may not recover.

A curate, who was very young and very nervous, had recently been appointed to a county parish, and he was officiating at his first wedding.

The bride and bridegroom smiled encouragingly at his first blunders, but matters got serious when he turned to the bridegroom and asked:—"Wilt thou have this woman as thy wedded husband?"

The bride, tittered, but the curate, getting hotter and hotter, tried again.

"Wilt thou have this man to this wedded woman?" he said.

At this the bridegroom interfered:—"Aw don't know wot yer wants me to hev," he said, "but aw coom here for her," laying his horny hand on the bride's shoulder, "an aw'll hev her or nowt."

A senator told this story at a dinner recently as illustrative of the old adage that often appearances are deceiving.

"I was passing down the street of a small town," said the Senator, "when I chanced upon a small boy swinging on a gate.

"My lad," I said, "don't you think it wrong to waste your time swinging on a gate on such a beautiful day?"

"Ain't wasting my time," he retorted. "I'm working."

"How's that?"

"I'm earning a thrift stamp. You see, sir, Mr. Jones is up on the piazza with his sister, and he is going to give me the price of a thrift stamp to stay here and watch out for father."

Warned Her. "Where are you going?" asked the butcher's wife.

"I'm going out to get some butter."

"Well, say—don't buy it at that store across from my place. The man over there borrowed my scales this morning."

Almost as good as the old lady's remark about loving to hear the French peasants "singing the Mayonnaise," is the English corporal's expressed pleasure at seeing the "domes and marisettes of Bagdad."

Church—Is your friend the doctor operating much now?

Gotham—Oh, yes; every day.

"Must be making a lot of money, then?"

"On the contrary, he's losing money. He's doing his operating in Wall street."

—Yonkers Statesman.



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