

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 16, 1921.

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LET THE ACT SPEAK

The Globe assures its readers that "harbor commission is a very simple proposition." Why, then, does the Globe not understand the proposition? That it does not understand would seem to be apparent from what it says in the following paragraph:

"If they (the people) vote in favor of harbor commission, then it will be the duty of the city to make out a deed of transfer to the crown, specifying in that deed what rights it is transferring and what the conditions of the transfer shall be for all time. That deed, accepted by the crown, all further charges for the upkeep of the harbor and for the construction of harbor works, will have to be provided for by the crown through charges on shipping, as the city has been doing it, or by other means."

There is no provision for doing it "by other means." The harbor commission act declares that the harbor revenue must bear the burden, and Hon. Mr. Bantyne made it even more clear in his remarks when the bill was before the house. The Globe says further:

"The city is not specially concerned as to what these means shall be, so long as the shipping of the port is not overburdened, and that the necessary improvements to the harbor are provided."

There is not a word in the commission act to provide that the shipping of the port will not be overburdened. Why does the Globe, if the matter is simple, fail to understand it and make it clear to its readers? Our contemporary goes on to assert that the whole case is involved in the question: "Shall the city bear the expense of maintaining a national port, or shall the responsibility be placed on the shoulders of the nation as a whole?" This is not the question. There is not the slightest approach to nationalization in the harbor commission act. The harbor would simply be taken over by a commission which would make such expenditure as the traffic would bear—and the government itself would not spend one dollar. That and that only is what the commission act provides, with the single exception that it guarantees payment of the interest and principal of the \$857,282.45 in twenty-five year debentures the city is to receive, in the event that the commission should fail to get enough out of harbor revenue to pay the bill. On the other hand, the commission would have to pay to the government three and a half per cent per year on the cost of construction of the grain elevator, marine wharf and other government wharves already in existence, besides providing for interest and sinking fund on all new construction—raising all the money by charges upon shipping. Why does not the Globe quote the act for the information of its readers? For example, the following:

"Sec. 20—The principal and interest of the sums of money which may be borrowed by the corporation under this act, and the principal and interest of the debentures to be issued under the authority of this act, shall be repaid out of the revenue arising out of the rates and penalties imposed by and under the act for the harbor, and on account of the harbor or out of any other revenue vested in or coming to the corporation, and the lawful charges upon the said revenue shall be as follows, and in the following order, that is to say:

(a) The payment of all expenses incurred in the collection of the said revenue and other necessary charges;

(b) The defraying of the expenses attendant on keeping the wharves and the other works vested in the corporation in a thorough state of repair;

(c) The payment of interest due on the debentures issued by the corporation to the city under the authority of the act;

(d) The payment of interest due on all money hereafter borrowed under this act;

(e) Providing a sinking fund for paying off all money or the liability for the payment of which is assumed by the corporation;

(f) The cost of operating docks and wharves and otherwise carrying out the objects of this act."

A HOME THRUST.

"Where is the spontaneous self-starting citizen, who does the right because he sees it to be right, and gives simply because he loves the cause?" This question was asked last week by President Faunce of Brown University, in the course of the annual baccalaureate sermon. The question is a home-thrust. If democracy, upon which President Faunce insists the world must not turn its back because of its abuses, is to realize the hopes that are cherished, it must do so through the acts of individuals who do right because it is right, and serve because they love to engage in helpful human service. It is because so many fail to do right, or deliberately do wrong, or are prompted by purely selfish motives, that so much legislation is necessary and the great charities and philanthropies go begging for support. We need "the spontaneous, self-starting citizen," who is not so absorbed in selfish concerns that he cannot interest himself in worthy causes in his community and in the world at large.

To make a limited application of this thought, how quickly would the aspect of city life change if every citizen did right, and rendered service that would advance some worthy cause or causes in the community. That there is joy in service those who render it will testify, even when they find their efforts made less fruitful by the indifference of others.

opposition of others. The "self-starting citizen" does not wait to be coaxed or shamed into action. His example is worth a great deal more than he realizes, and his efforts are not in vain. Today the world is seething with unrest. There has been a reaction from the exalted idealism of the war period. There is a degree of disillusionment because hopes cherished in that period in regard to the coming peace time have not been fulfilled. There is not, however, any reason for despair. Conditions might be infinitely worse than they are today, and improvement is on the way. So much depends upon the mental and moral attitude of the individual that each may well do a little heart-searching and bring his or her conduct to the touchstone of right living, high thinking and loving service. The golden rule has not been abrogated. It offers the solution of the problems of the time, and only because it is not made the individual rule of life does danger threaten from within or from without. In it lies the power to transform the industrial, social and political life of the world. It is the inspiration of the model citizen described by President Faunce.

The United States department of labor has learned by investigation that the number of child workers in the country has declined in two years almost to that of the years before the war conditions took so many children into industry. "At the same time," says the New York Evening Post, "the tendency of studies made by organizations concerned with the welfare of child workers is still further to raise the standard minimum working age from fourteen to sixteen years; and an investigation of the records of working children in Boston has led to the conclusion that the years between fourteen and sixteen are rarely used by children at work with purpose or to advantage." The sixteen-year age standard is still in advance of public opinion, but the tendency is toward its recognition.

A bulletin of the United States Public Health Service says: "Tuberculosis patients in United States public health hospitals will soon be able to view a cinema film of one reel that shows the effects of sun treatment on bone and gland tuberculosis, as exemplified at J. N. Adam Memorial Hospital, Perryburg, N. H. It is believed that the showing will encourage the patients to stick to the rigorous outdoor treatment necessary for cure. The film will be taken to each tuberculosis hospital in turn."

The Globe on Tuesday printed an alleged statement of harbor receipts and expenditures. It ignored entirely the fact that Rodney wharf expenditures should be charged to ferry accounts, because under harbor commission the city would have the ferry on its hands, and it ignored also the yearly income from North and South Market wharf rentals, which would be lost to the city under commission. The Globe's statement was therefore incorrect. Why? The Globe has access to the facts. Why does it not use them?

It is to be regretted that the Magna Charta Day observance proposed for this city did not materialize. Even more regrettable are the charitable observations the proposal brought forth in some quarters in regard to our neighbors to the south. These pin-pricks are both foolish and mischievous. It is as unfair to charge the whole people of the United States with responsibility for the utterances of some as it would be to censure the Canadian people at large for the remarks of a Red orator in Winnipeg or Toronto.

Mr. John W. Davis, former American ambassador to Great Britain, in a speech this week described conditions in Russia as a mad dance of death, and said: "Any compromise with the Bolsheviks is but a league with death. Between such doctrines of class rule and class hatred and those which have made the United States, there is a gulf as wide as that between truth and falsehood, right and wrong, life and death."

The Standard this morning alludes to "the innate stupidity of Hon. R. W. Wignmore" in making such a selection as Mr. J. A. McDonald for the New Brunswick senatorship, which it describes as "a pitiable political blunder" and "a gross insult to the people of New Brunswick." All this is presumably in the nature of a house-warming for Mr. Wignmore, who is expected shortly to visit this constituency.

Only the other day the most influential delegation of business men that ever went from the Maritime Provinces to Ottawa, made the journey to protest against the manner in which these provinces are treated. Yet there are people in St. John who would reprove a child-like trust in Ottawa in relation to the control and development of St. John harbor.

Give away the harbor and trust the government at Ottawa—does that appeal to St. John people?

TO A RUINED PAGODA

I do not know why tears are in my eyes Nor why, at sight of your gray, dreamless sleep A throb of beauty and of pain should keep Me silent by your crumbling balustrades. Pain is not here. Only the red deer go Through the still wood. The yellow jessamine Cloaking your broken porch will never glow On fragrant, faithless brow again, nor twine In childish hands. No wild, disturbing praise Of pilgrims, swarming on your cements stair, Will echo like harsh pipes upon the air To make the goldfinch and the linnet cease Their gentle-mannered song. The sleep of peace Holds you so kindly that I do not know Why tears are in my eyes—unless it be That by each broken plinth and frieze, I see Deep-erred rank of peoples, row on row, Wraths of all commoners and hinds, and, Great lords and kings of mighty dynasty. All, all who build upon this earthly sod Or deep in heart, a temple to some god, Yearning, like small, lost children, far a-ross For some kind father-friend to take them home.

—Harold Speakman.

LIGHTER VEIN

Good Cause For Excitement
A pawnbroker's shop was on fire, and the onlookers were much amused by the antics of an excited woman. Every few minutes she would urge the firemen to more strenuous efforts.

"What's the matter, missus?" shouted a bystander. "There ain't no one in there. What's all the fuss about?"

"Fuss! There ain't no fuss at present," shouted the woman; "but there will be if they don't get the fire out soon. My old man's best Sunday suit is in lock there and he doesn't know it!"

—Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph.

Worm Turned

Mr. Bully Rag was cross-examining a down-trodden witness.

"Now, sir," he thundered, "you have stated under oath that this man had the appearance of a gentleman."

"Well, — a gentleman looks like a —" stammered the poor confused witness.

"With unmerciful sarcasm, the counsel plunged to attack again.

"I don't want any of your 'ers,' sir, and remember you are under oath! Can you see anybody in this court who looks like a gentleman?"

The witness eyes for the first time showed anger, and he blurted out:

"Stand out of the way, and then I dare say I can. You're not transparent!"

—London Ideas.

An Englishman visiting the U. S. attended a dinner given by a hostess whose hospitality was noticeably inadequate. Her dinner guests have often been referred to as "samples," and invitations to the second are not accepted with alacrity the second time. Her wealth is large, however, and her social persistence is untiring, so there are usually some guests at the table.

This dinner was of the usual inadequate kind. It served mostly as an appetizer to the hungry Englishman, and when the coffee was served, indicating that the dinner was at an end, his evident dissatisfaction was amusing to the other guests. The hostess did not notice it, however, and said to him, amiably:

"Now, do tell me when we may expect the pleasure of having you dine with us again?"

"Immediately, immediately, madam," was the unexpected reply.

WORKING GIRLS CAMP.

Forty-four Acres at Peckskill Accommodates Fifty at One Time.

(N. Y. Times)
Camp Josephine, at Peckskill, N. Y., a vacation camp for working girls, was opened officially last week. In opening the camp Mrs. Harmon Spencer August is carrying out the will of her mother, Mrs. Della Schoenberg, who left \$80,000 to various charity organizations here. Mrs. Schoenberg was always interested in working girls and had hoped to open such a camp herself, but the war interfered and when she died, three years ago, she directed her daughter to carry out the work. Her aim is for educational, recreational and physical improvement.

The camp covers forty-four acres, and there is a concrete swimming pool and a vegetable garden.

A trained athletic director has been provided for the summer by Mrs. Iverson. Domestic science courses have also been arranged and any who wish to may go into the kitchen and learn the secrets of real southern cooking, according to the most improved methods.

Fifty girls may be accommodated at one time.

Among the board of directors for Camp Josephine are Mrs. Sidney Borg, Mrs. Henry Moskowitz, Mrs. Alexander Kohut, Mrs. Charles Richards, Mrs. Aaron Norman and Mrs. Samuel Bloomington.

NO FRILLS FOR PRINCE.

London, June 16. — The Prince of Wales has intimate plans for his little ceremony as possible when he visits the Yorkshire show on July 21. His wish is that there should be "no top hats and no escorts."

AN ALL WIND.

New York, June 16.—Emma E. Garner of Jamaica and her next-door neighbor, William Whalen, had hot words over the location of a clothes line which had blown in the wind and knocked over a milk bottle. Now a \$10,000 suit for slander has grown out of it.

FATHER OF 33 CHILDREN.

London, June 16.—A notable figure has disappeared in the desert of Egypt. James West, who was born at Nottingham in 1833 and fought in the Crimean and Indian mutiny campaigns. He was the father of thirty-three children.

DOLLAR A TON FOR STEAMSHIP.

London, June 16. — The merchant steamer Ulmenhorst, 3200 tons, which was delivered to Great Britain by Germany in accordance with the Peace Treaty, was sold to an English concern for \$5,000 or a little more than a dollar per ton.

CALLED MEANEST FATHER.

London, June 16.—"You are the meanest man I ever came across. You deserve it all. Stand down," said the Aberdeen magistrate to a merchant who prosecuted his son, Howell T. Whiting, for theft. It was shown that the son received only twenty cents for fourteen hours' work.

DARK DAYS FOR THE SEAL FISHERS

No Market for Newfoundland Catch, as Last Year's Remains Unsold—Use of Airplanes Unsuccessful.

(By P. T. McGrath.)
(Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Evening Post.)

The Newfoundland seal fishery for 1921 has closed with a catch of 101,452 pelts for the nine steamers engaged. This total is considerably above those for the two years previously, but is still far below what would be necessary to make the season's venture a successful one.

The pelts consist of the skin with the adhering fat, and after they are landed, the fat is removed from the skin, quickly made into oil by steam heat, and then shipped to Europe and America for use in a variety of ways—to illuminate remote lighthouses, as a basis for high-grade soaps, and as a substitute for olive oil or cod liver oil for medicinal purposes—while the skins are salted and shipped to the same destinations to be made into leather.

Unfavorable Market.

Last year's catch was small, but most of it remains unsold both in skin and oil, and the outlook for the marketing of the present season's product is not at all favorable. But for the necessity of giving stimulus to the general fishing operations this year, the ships would probably not have been sent to the seal fishery at all. The owners were, however, induced to undertake the unfortunate venture, though they did some what better than was expected early in the season, when the ships were for nearly a fortnight shut off by the ice from access to the herds and only contrived to reach there a few days before the young seals, which are the principal quest, had taken to the water. They are next to impossible to come in contact with after this occurs.

Doubt is expressed now as to whether the fleet will attempt the seal hunt at all next spring, and it is altogether unlikely that there will be under such conditions an increase in the value of the products. This provides the consolation that the herds will have a renewed close time in which to increase and multiply again.

For years past the minds of all engaged in the industry have been seriously concerned over the prospect of the seals being rapidly exterminated. Precautions seemed necessary lest they be killed out, as the whale and the walrus have been in these northern waters, and the industry be brought to a sudden end, which might, if properly conserved, be continued indefinitely. There is absolutely nothing reliable known about the habits of the seals, and opinions in regard to conservation were almost as numerous and varied as those of the individuals who discussed the subject, so doubt was made this year by means of an airplane to scout for the seal herds, locate them if possible, and make an estimate of their numbers and habits — because there are two types, known as "harp" and "hoods"—and generally determine as far as possible the present features of the seal industry, and to legislate to the intelligently undertaken for the future. But the airplane project failed of any practical results, largely on account of the bad weather, when the work was begun. It is intended to repeat the experiment next year.

Ships a Problem.

Probably, however, the policy adopted next year by the seal ship owners will be to abstain from engaging in this venture at all but to utilize the information obtained by the airplane, if it is successful, in new legislation under which the industry could succeed. The type of ship most suited for this venture is an old style wooden ship of great strength of hull and low power, the same type as the Arctic, in which, in 1919, many of the Newfoundland ships also engaged in the past until the killing out of the Arctic whale rendered it unprofitable.

To construct such ships is no longer possible, because of the immense cost of the oak of which their hulls were made, and steel boats, suitable as cargo carriers, were tried a few years ago, but these were not successful either. It looks now as if the future of the industry would be insured through the devising of a smaller type of steam vessel suitable for mail service around the Newfoundland coast during the rest of the year and employed for this work in March and April. These ships could be secured through co-operation between the government and the steamboat contractors, but it is likely to happen until the price of ships drop to a much lower figure than those which rule at present; and until then the industry is likely to be a transitory character, depending in no small measure on the ruling prices for the products obtained.

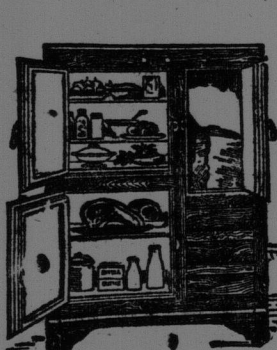
AMERICA'S LOST TRIBES

(Chicago Daily News.)
Letta Parsons, aged 13, wife of John Parsons, and stepmother of his two children, is on trial in Missouri for killing one of them. She is an illiterate child born in the Ozarks and deserted by her parents. After a childhood spent working as the common drudge of various households, she married a wood-chopper. The question arises as to the measure of responsibility that can be assigned to the acts of a child doomed from her birth by her social environment.

More than 3,000,000 Americans of pre-Revolutionary stock live in the Appalachian highlands and in the Ozarks in a cultural state that hardly equals the conditions of the European peasantry of two centuries ago. Out of contact with the massive developments of the United States, illiterate and naive, these lost tribes have been left to their fate. Of a stock which America cannot afford to lose, and possessing many of the finest qualities of the race, they, nevertheless, will be lost, says says President Frost, of Berea College, Kentucky, if help is not given in this generation. The responsibility is broader than their own community. It is an American responsibility.

A recent book, "The Southern Highlander and His Homeland," by John C. Campbell, is issued by the Russell Sage Foundation, is the first authoritative study of a 12,000 square miles of upland country. For the unprivileged people of the rural districts as well as those of the cities, Americans have a definite responsibility. Appalachia, the beautiful southern uplands, needs help.

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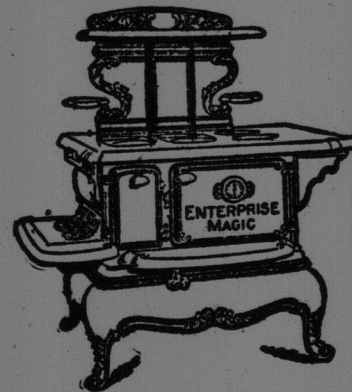
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SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

Edmonton, Alta., June 16.—Claimed to be the only complete specimen in the world, the skull of a Stegasaurus was recently unearthed in the bad lands of the Red Deer valley by an expedition led by Charles Sternberg, expert vertebrate paleontologist, collecting fossil specimens for the University of Alberta. Up until the discovery of this skull the Stegasaurus had been described only by a very small fragment of its head. This specimen will be sent to the university at Edmonton. Mr. Sternberg estimates that fifty per cent of the fossils in the United States museums have come from the Red Deer field. This year there are only three parties operating in this field, the other two being charge of brothers of Mr. Sternberg, who are collecting for Ottawa and Toronto.

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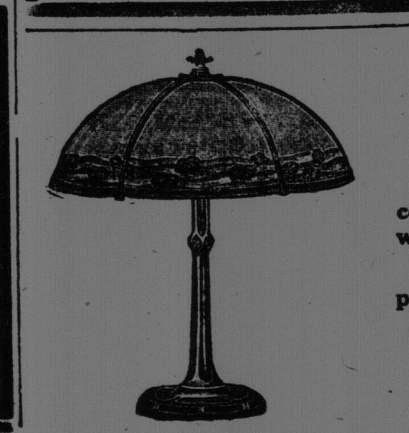
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