

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1918

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WHAT ABOUT ST. JOHN?

Ontario is giving attention to the matter of vocational training. Hon. Dr. Cuddy, minister of education, at a meeting in Toronto a few days ago, hinted at the probable establishment of industrial and technical schools in Brantford, Peterboro and the St. Catharines, Welland-Throld district. A report of his remarks says:—

"The laying out of the course would be very largely left to the localities. Some twelve men residing in the locality in which a school was established would form an industrial and technical school board, and work in conjunction with the principal and experts of the department of education in outlining the course of study best adapted to the needs of the locality. The minister said that if the Dominion government would do for technical and industrial education what it had done for agriculture, the authorities in Ontario would be able to accomplish much. It ought to be part of the reconstruction policy of the Dominion government to give them what they need."

No action has yet been taken in regard to vocational training in St. John, under the new law adopted last spring. The matter is before the city council and the school board, and it is time something more was heard about it. The winter is passing.

GERMAN ATROCITIES.

A correspondent of the London Morning Post, writing from France, relates a horrible story of German cruelty to a British prisoner. He says:—

"A young friend of mine just returned from the western front, tells me that the other day there appeared near Tournai the lone figure of a British soldier, a prisoner of war, turned adrift after the signing of the armistice, by the German jailers. Across his forehead had been branded the word 'Germany'; his tongue had been mutilated so as to render him speechless; the fingers of both hands were missing. Dumb, helpless, starving, in rags, with no means of identification save his service ribbon which revealed him as one of 'the old contemptibles,' he presented so pitiful a spectacle, so tragically a picture of suffering as practiced in their days of arrogance by a people now in their hour of defeat, whining for the application of the 'first principles' of morality and fraternity; that hardened though he had been to sights of horror and suffering by four years of campaigning, my informant says tears came involuntarily into his eyes and he wept like a child."

Is it surprising that punishment of Germans for their crimes against humanity was one of the great issues in the British elections? There has just come to hand an official leaflet telling the story of the sinking of the Canadian hospital steamer Llandovery Castle, one of the victims being an heroic nurse from St. John. It tells how, after the steamer had been sunk the German submarine crew systematically attempted to run, shell and sink the life-boats so that none would escape to tell the tale. Canada has good reason to join in the demand for the punishment of the fiends whose atrocities have blackened forever the very name of Germany.

CLASSES AND MASSES.

What do we mean when we talk about "the masses and the classes" in Canada? What classes are there that are closed to the masses? The son of the man who works with his hands may grow up to become a large employer of labor. The man who is rich may become poor. This is a country of opportunity. There is no exclusive class or place to which the young man may not aspire. There is no permanent line of cleavage. It is quite true that in every community there are degrees of wealth. Speaking broadly, the gap between the richest and the poorest is too wide. Social readjustments are necessary. There is, however, no benefit to be gained by class-war. If industrial conditions press too hardly upon some, the remedy can be found, in a democratic country, without the use of a bludgeon. That method has been tried in Russia, and the result is a more brutal tyranny than that of the Czar. In Canada the masses and classes are not so far apart that there is reason or excuse for destructive strife. Appeals to "class consciousness" are deceptive and dangerous. Undoubtedly living conditions for very many people must be improved, but every needed change can be accomplished at the ballot box and through a process of intelligent up-building.

In an address in London last week Mr. Bonar Law declared that the country's future depended far more on the relation between capital and labor than on anything the government could do. He added:—"I believe now there will be plenty of credit, I believe there will be abundance of markets for everything we can produce, and if those who represent labor will make it their aim to get the biggest share they can of rewards of labor without drying up the springs of labor, they will come out on the top, but if they try to preach that the conditions of a section of the working class

will be improved by reduced output, that will mean ruin and loss for them and this country."

The weather is and has been extremely favorable for Christmas shopping. They are wise who take advantage of it and get most of their buying done before the rush of the last two days preceding Christmas.

When St. John has proper train connection with McGivney Junction this port must get a large share of the traffic of the new transcontinental route. The facilities to handle it must be provided. Harbor commission will be a step in that direction.

As the head of a country of enormous wealth and resources, now for the first time taking an active part in European affairs, President Wilson is naturally an outstanding figure. He will be much courted and consulted. The new democracies with rival claims will all try to get his ear. He will be one of the most sought-after personages in Paris. There is some fear that he may have views somewhat different from those of the Entente Allies in regard to the reckoning to be demanded of Germany, but there is nothing in his utterances to indicate leniency in that regard. The question of sea power and a definition of the phrase "freedom of the sea" are of particular interest to the people of the British Empire, and President Wilson's views on this subject are awaited with a very keen interest.

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Silk or Wool Hosiery75 to 2.00
Gloves, Wool or Fur-Lined2.00 to 5.50
Wool Gloves1.25 to 3.00
Pyjamas, Flannel or Silk2.50 to 7.50
Negligee Shirts, Jap.2.00 to 4.50
Negligee Shirts, Silk5.00 to 7.50
Neckwear35 to 3.50
Handkerchiefs15 to 1.50
Braces in Fancy Boxes65 to 2.50
Armbands in Fancy Boxes . . .50 to .75
Garters in Fancy Boxes . . .50 to 1.00
Braces and Garters, Set . . .1.25 to 1.50
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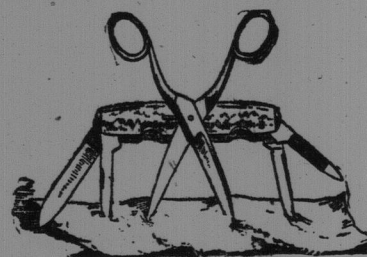
CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Oval Mahogany Serving Trays \$1.79
Round Casserole Dishes (2-Pint) \$1.89

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Pocket Knives and Scissors

Rosewood, Buckhorn, Ivory and Pearl Handles.
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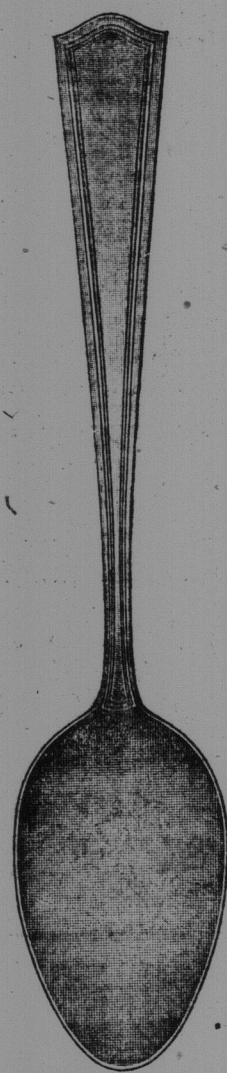
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Electro Plated Knives, Forks and Spoons

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Entree Dishes, Baking Dishes, Casserole Dishes, Cake Dishes, Muffin Dishes, Butter Dishes, Tea and Coffee Sets, Spoon Trays, Sauce Boats, Toast Racks, Flower Baskets, Sandwich Trays, Bread Trays, Trivets, Fern Pots, Egg Frames, Casserole Pie Plates, Marmalade Dishes.

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