

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1923

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## THE DAY'S NEWS.

The day's news contains three items of notable interest. That which directs the attention of the general public is the announcement that the anthracite operators and miners have come to terms and the strike is virtually ended. The miners have gained substantial concessions, and the cost will be passed on to the consumers. The new contract will be in force for two years. In the meantime many consumers will no doubt look about for a substitute for anthracite which will be less likely to be cut off or boosted in price. If they fail to do so they will doubtless regret it two years hence.

The second important item announces the settlement of the Greco-Italian trouble. The Council of Ambassadors practically endorsed Italy's demands, and Greece has submitted, and has sent an ultimatum to Albania demanding that the murderers of the Italian members of the boundary commission be arrested and given up. The amount of reparations to Italy will be fixed by The Hague Court. Thus what threatened to be a very serious matter has been peacefully adjusted. The League of Nations will not be called upon to intervene.

The third interesting item in the news is the unanimous election of the Irish Free State as a member of the League of Nations. The recent elections have ensured the permanency of the Free State as a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and it now enters the League on the same footing as Canada, Australia and other autonomous states of the Empire, whose representatives will welcome the Irish delegates.

The Ruhr situation remains the chief obstacle to the recovery of Europe. France is determined to pursue her policy, and while rumors of collapse come from Germany her policy of passive resistance is steadily maintained. Other Powers would be glad to assist in an adjustment of the dispute, but are given no encouragement. While this condition exists it can only be said that matters are growing worse for the economic welfare of Europe.

## A SPLENDID RECORD.

The remarkable financial achievements of Great Britain in the last few years were very clearly set forth by Premier Baldwin, in a recent speech at the Mansion House, where he was the chief guest of the Lord Mayor and Lady May at a dinner to meet him, the Governor and directors of the Bank of England, and bankers and merchants of the City of London. The figures he presented, to show what had been accomplished, are a striking proof of a national policy of self-reliance, and a sturdy determination on the part of the British people to pay their debts and pay their way. Premier Baldwin said:

"Since the first year of peace we have reduced the expenditure of the country from over £2,000,000,000 a year to but little over £800,000,000. The staff in the Government offices has been reduced to such an extent that today it is only 10 per cent. greater in numbers than it was before the war, and with that we have to remember that we have a vast army devoted to the service of those who earned their pensions from the war, as well as other services introduced during the war, and maintained of necessity since. Finding that nearly half of our income goes to the payment of interest on debt, we have in three years out of income reduced our debt by £400,000,000. Since the Armistice we have nearly halved the floating debt from £1,500,000,000 to £800,000,000. We have paid off all our foreign debt except American—£200,000,000 to Japan, £250,000,000 to South America, and as much again in market loans to Canada. Debt all over the world is the most difficult and dangerous kind of debt—external debt. We have balanced our Budget, and we have established in this year of the Budget a statutory sinking fund."

Thus, in the midst of all the turmoil in Europe, the pressing problems in various portions of the East, where Britain has large interests or mandatory powers; and the tremendous domestic problems arising from unemployment, strikes, and the dislocation of the trade which is the life of the country; the reduction in expenditure and of debt has been pursued as a steady policy, that the credit of the nation might not be impaired. This policy has been pursued in the face of the fact, to quote again from the Prime Minister, "that for one reason another none of the belligerent countries has been able yet to tread in that stern path of rigid economy and self-denial—the taxation of the people—that we have trodden in for the last five years."

Not only has Britain improved her own financial position in so marked a degree, but she has, with the aid of the City of London, under the leadership of the Governor of the Bank of England, succeeded in beginning the

restoration of Austrian finance, and in that respect set a notable example to other nations.

The Lord Mayor, in introducing Premier Baldwin, was able to say that the trade of the country had made some progress towards recovery in the last year, and taxation had been slightly reduced. The burden of taxation had been heavy, but without it they could not have met their obligations in the way they had done and thus retained their position as the financial centre of the world. With the finances of some of the European countries in their present condition it would be unreasonable to expect international trade to expand on a very large scale. On this point the Premier said:

"Credit alone cannot restore the trade of the world, cannot alone give us that export trade we need. For export trade, no less than for the home trade, whatever financial devices may be arranged and secured, all trade comes down in the end to there being a man in some country in the world who will buy what we make and, having bought it, can pay for it." The first essential to an improvement in international trade is the settlement of the reparations question, and the longer it is postponed the worse will be the effect on that trade; but, while he recognized the truth of this, the Prime Minister asserted that British credit must be maintained. Speaking for the Government he said:

"But settlement or not, our path as guardians of the public purse lies straight before us, and straight it must lie for our successors. There is only one road to tread—the road of economy, of debt reduction, of sound, prudent, and careful finance, remembering that above and beyond all things for this country industrially, commercially, and financially, lies the maintenance of that credit of ours which carried us through the French wars of one hundred years ago, which carried us through the war from which we have just emerged, which is carrying us to-day, which will and must always carry us, so long as we may hope to keep our place in the front of the nations of the world, industrially and commercially and financially."

A nation cannot go far wrong when its leaders enunciate these principles and are supported by a people ready to make sacrifices that the traditions of their country may be maintained and every obligation squarely met.

Special features of interest in New Brunswick this week will be the exhibitions in Woodstock and St. Stephen. Both towns have a high reputation in this regard, and doubtless quite a number of St. John people will take advantage of the opportunity to see one or the other under such favorable conditions. Next week the Fredericton exhibition will be a centre of great interest, as that city is easily reached from a large section of the province.

Though the summer is past, the city people who spend the summer months along the St. John river are reluctant to say good-bye to the pleasures of the season. Many were at suburban resorts yesterday, and many motor boats were on the river. It was a glorious day, and the river, the valley and hillsides were very alluring. As yet the tints of autumn are not seen in their full glory. Indeed there are as yet only hints of the glory to come. It was hard to believe yesterday that summer had really departed.

President Beatty of the C. P. R. says that Canada's economic condition is slightly better than a year ago, but the public mind is apparently in a state of doubt, and that the turning of the crops into cash at fair prices is needed to bring distinct improvement before the end of the year. Mr. Beatty again lays stress upon the importance of getting more settlers in the country, and hopes for such action as will ensure a larger influx next year.

Hon. Mr. Meighen is campaigning in the west. Hon. Robert Rogers, in Toronto, has been urging an immediate Conservative convention. The results in recent provincial elections appear to have given new courage to Conservative leaders in the west.

The Social Service Council of New Brunswick has not hitherto been able to arouse as much interest in its work as is manifested in other provinces. Today's annual convention may prove the beginning of a more active campaign.

The gratifying announcement is made that the St. John exhibition will probably show a balance on the right side. Such a result would greatly encourage those who favor an annual exhibition.

The Royal Commission to consider the question of an embargo on pulpwood will hold its initial meeting in Ottawa today. Its investigation will doubtless occupy considerable time.

## PASSING POMF.

(Cyril Fletcher)  
Grieve not for the dying summer,  
Purple hills and scarlet pump  
Decks the woodland for the passing;  
By the marsh and alder swamp.

Listen to the brook babbling!  
As the autumn swings along,  
Some the short chant will be ended  
With the redwing's joyous song.

See the nervous aspen shiver  
In the cool wind from the North;  
Watch the squirrel and the chipmunk  
Carry beechnuts back and forth.

Now the loon is loudly calling:  
And the wild duck scents the Fall  
Over inland stream and mountain,  
Comes the swift and silent call.

Lovely are the ghosts of Summer,  
Clad in russet, scarlet, gold,  
Like the gowns of noble ladies  
Passing through the courts of old.

Over leech and dreary marshland,  
From the South there comes at last  
That strange wind of many voices,  
Telling all that Autumn's past.

## LIGHTER VEIN.

Just Drop In.

Madge—I notice your aviator friend never stays long when he calls.

Marie—No, naturally he only makes flying visits.

Beware The Hints.

The gap in the conversation is in danger of turning into a series of gapes.

This Must Be the Summer Kind.

Edith—I like an engagement with some snap in it.

Maud—One that breaks easily, eh?

Object Attained.

"What did you marry him for?" "His money."

"And why do you want to divorce him?" "I've got it."

Welcome Visitor.

Collector—"I shall call again tomorrow and I trust you will be prepared to pay the bill."

Everbroke—"Yes, do drop in. It's a real pleasure to entertain an optimist like you."

One Thing Saved.

"The burglar took my watch, my diamond pin, my pocketbook—in short, everything."

"But I thought you kept a loaded revolver under your pillow."

"I do—but he didn't find that."

## SOME C. N. R. TRAIN SERVICE CHANGES

Canadian National Railways announce that after Saturday, Sept. 8, suburban trains 137 and 138 between Hampton and St. John will be discontinued. Trains Nos. 39 and 40, between Moncton and Sackville will be cancelled after Saturday, Sept. 8, and run only between Sackville and Charlottetown. This means that P. E. I. connections will be made at Sackville after that date instead of at Moncton. The Cape Tormentine train will run to Moncton as usual on No. 14 train, but will return on No. 17, furnishing evening meals for passengers between Moncton and St. John. Sunday trains Nos. 49 and 50, between Moncton and St. John, will be continued until Sept. 23. After Sept. 8 the extra-first-class car on No. 51 train for suburbanites on the Valley Railway will be discontinued, and after Monday, Sept. 10, No. 52 train between Fredericton and St. John will operate on regular schedule on Mondays. 9-11.

## WRANGEL ISLAND.

(From the Montreal Gazette.)  
The agitation for the annexation of Canada of Wrangel Island will be discouraged by the announcement that comes from the Arctic to the effect that Allan Crawford, who was in charge of the party led by Stefansson in 1921, is dead with all his comrades, and that of the members only an Eskimo woman is left alive. The instructions given to Stefansson by the Government of Canada when he was sent north are not known. Whatever they were they should not have included authority to annex territory which another Government claims, which belongs to another continent, and which is of such inhospitable climate that it cannot sustain even the handful of men left to hold it. Four courageous young men have lost their lives in a venture that should not have been undertaken under the circumstances. Stefansson claims that Wrangel Island will be valuable as an air route station when the development of flying reaches a stage that will make it possible for passengers from northern Europe to travel to China, Japan and Asia more rapidly by going north over the Arctic waste and the pole than by taking the east or west course and sticking to the temperate zone. The thing may be possible, but it will not likely come soon and no more Eskimoes lives should be put in peril for the sake of the expectation.

## CANDY FOR MEN.

(Los Angeles Times.)  
Nowadays the men are using almost as much candy as our fair ones. Confectionery sales in the Los Angeles district for the month of July amounted to more than \$400,000 in real money. Of this a heavy proportion was bought by and for men. A woman who has grown rich making candy for men says that they like the buttery, salty and chewy kinds or those having strong flavors. They like their peppermint and wintergreen of full strength and they like caramels, butter-scotch and taffy. Even during their business hours they like to sink their physical teeth into some firm but conquerable confection while at the same time biting into some mental business problem of the day. Edison is a free consumer of candies and the late President Harding ate unashamedly of his favorite nut caramels. It may not be wise for men to eat liberal quantities of candy, but they are doing it.

A. M. Narraway, of the federal department of interior, and J. E. Browne, of the topographical branch of the department of national defence, arrived in the city yesterday on a joint inspection tour to various places in the Maritime Provinces. The field work of these two departments is carried on in conjunction in most cases and two such parties are now at work in the Maritime Provinces, one being located near Hampton and the other at New Glasgow, N. S.

Royal Arcanum meeting tonight, Market Building.

## SAYS "OLD SKULL" IS FREAK STONE

Expert Declares Find in Patagonia is but Native Freak.

Buenos Aires, Sept. 10.—The opinion of Argentine scientists that the alleged tertiary human skull discovered by Dr. J. G. Wolfe in Patagonia some months ago is not a fossil, has been confirmed here by Professor Elmer S. Riggs, paleontological explorer for the Field Museum, Chicago. Riggs, turning over in his hands the oblong stone object curiously impressed with human-like features, and which for the last two months has served as a paperweight on the desk of Professor de Benedetti, an archeologist, "that, as a fossil, is certainly a piece of bunk. As a geological specimen it is a piece of solid sandstone, a natural concretion, queerly shaped, but not so queer as that. I've seen others like it. It's only one of nature's little jokes."

## INTENSIFYING THE PROPAGANDA

(From the Hamilton Herald.)  
An editorial in The Montreal Star, contributed by Sir John Willison, is a sort of sequel to the "Whisper of Death" articles. Sir John scrutinizes the mind at the height of national affairs and those in opposition, and he finds among them none—no, not one—who is capable of real leadership—no strong man who can be trusted to save Canada from the slough into which it is descending. All will be well, it seems, if some strong man can come to the front and demand that the National Railway system be smashed and the railway lines put back into private hands. That sort of propaganda waxeth.

## LAW'S FAILURE IN OKLAHOMA

(Springfield Republican.)  
The declaration of martial law throughout Tulsa county, Oklahoma, calls public attention forcibly to an extraordinary situation which, according to Gov. Walton, has existed in the state with varying degrees of intensity for two years. The governor's explanation of the necessity for the heroic measures which he has taken is somewhat confusing. Most of the acts of mob violence, as well as his proclamation of martial law, he says, have been due to the widespread feeling that the local law enforcement agencies have no desire to enforce the law. He again says, in explaining his failure to get results through the regular civil agencies, "Local officials are too often allied with these secret, lawless forces, and are unable to interpret the law in a reasonable interpretation. It seems to be that a majority of the officials are indifferent to law enforcement and that a minority, legally helpless, are unable to enforce the law. If this is the case the explanation still needs explaining."

Twenty-five hundred whippings, it is estimated, took place in Oklahoma during the past year. Many were never reported, partly from fear of disgrace attaching to disclosure and partly from fear of the vengeance of the mob. The governor and his secretary are careful to explain that no one organization is guilty of the whippings, though the secretary believes that most of them "could be traced indirectly" to one, and there seems to be no doubt that the epidemic is general.

Why so much energy as is displayed by the infuriated devotees of lynch law cannot be directed to an orderly maintenance of the law that stands on the statute books remains a mystery. Repeated attempts at investigation, the governor explains, have been made impossible "because of the obstacles thrown in the way by all the local agencies." It would seem to an outsider that an overt act of this sort could be definitely located and the guilty head expeditiously removed. If the governor does not possess the power of removal, his only recourse is to go to the Legislature for that power. If the Legislature itself is so controlled by the lawless that it would refuse the grant of the necessary authority, the situation in Oklahoma is more serious than will easily be believed.

Meanwhile the governor's establishment of a regime of martial law is being challenged on legal grounds. Test of the situation in the courts may serve to get to the bottom of the trouble. Judged by ordinary statistical tests, the state stands well in many departments concerned with efficient and enlightened government. Its literacy rate is low, its educational system and institutions are well regarded; its churches are numerous. It seems to have a well-meaning and courageous governor, and men and women who are undergoing a severe test as to their resourcefulness and judgment.

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## ORIGIN OF TWO BITS.

(New York Tribune)

"That'll be two bits," said the erudite barber as Cheevers climbed out of the chair and speculatively rubbed his palm over his chin. "But I'll blow you to a shave if you can tell me what two bits means and where the expression comes from."

The shop was empty except for Cheevers, and the barber hated to let a conversational opportunity slip by. "Thanks," Cheevers beamed. "Two bits is the common designation of 25 cents, which I save through your kind offer. It is used extensively in the South, where it originated, and still flourishes. I'll take a couple of cigars." "Don't be hasty," chirped the barber. "You're only about a mile away from the right answer. It's true two bits is a quarter, but beyond that you're all wrong. As a matter of fact a bit is the American equivalent to the old Spanish real, which was used in California back in '49. When it disappeared finally it had become part of the language. When American silver replaced the real it was reckoned in terms of bits, which were worth 12 1/2 cents. Two of them made two bits, which equalled the American quarter."

"Difficultly arose when anything smaller than a quarter was produced in payment. The bit was the universal standard. Hence a dime was known as a short bit, and 15 cents as a long bit. Copper was taboo. If a customer bought a bit's worth of tobacco and gave the storekeeper a quarter he'd get a dime change. If he had a dime it would be accepted, but if he didn't he was penalized 2 1/2 cents."

"If you'll read the right book you'll find that Robert Louis Stevenson beat the bit game when he went to the Pacific coast. He solved the problem by taking his quarters to the post office where he bought 5 cents worth of stamps and got two short bits in change, which were every bit as good as one long and one short. And he made a nickel on the transaction."

"All right, you big stiff," Cheevers muttered, "I think you're lying, but I can't prove it. Here's your two bits." As he walked out of the shop he laid two dimes on the cash register.

## FUNERALS ON SATURDAY.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Agnes Coholan, took place on Saturday morning from 300 Prince Edward street, to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, where solemn requiem high mass was sung, with Rev. J. Brown as celebrant, Rev. R. McCarthy as deacon and Rev. E. Reynolds, as sub-deacon. Rev. Fathers Duke and Ward were in the sanctuary. Interment was in the New Catholic Cemetery. Relatives were pall bearers. There were a large number of spiritual and floral offerings. Mrs. Coholan was the wife of Francis Coholan and daughter of the late William and Mary Elliott.

The funeral of Mrs. Annie Jeffrey, took place on Saturday morning from the residence of her son-in-law, Ira Phillips, Rothsay Avenue, to the 810 train, for Young's Cove, where interment was made in the afternoon. Funeral services were conducted at the house on Friday evening by Rev. Mr. McKim. Rev. Mr. Rutherford officiated at the grave.

or ethiks, so we refrain from suggesting them.

Rev. R. P. McKim, of St. Luke's church, occupied the pulpit of the church at the morning service yesterday for the first time since his return to the city and his congregation was greatly pleased to greet him. His health is much improved.

## KOLLEGE OF KULTUR.

(Baltimore Evening Sun.)

Presumably Ameri-Kanization — of the hooded and bed-sheeted brand — would lead the curriculum of the college at Valparaiso, Ind. If it were purchased by the Ku Klux Klan, but for a complete education we suppose our courses would be added, such as Chemistry, for the compounding of tar; physics, to instruct in the mixing of that and feathers; ekNomiKs, to teach the selling of nightgowns at \$10 each; mathematiks and even Kalkulus, for similar purposes and the construction of fiery crosses, and rhetoric, for use in Kloneklums and Klaverns.

It would be hard to see what use the budding Kluxer would have for logik.

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