

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1921

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 2, 1921.

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THEY GOT LITTLE COMFORT.

A right is not something to be argued and considered, but to be acknowledged and granted. The maritime province delegates to Ottawa went there to demand their rights. Premier Meighen apparently is disposed to balance one portion of Canada against another. This will not do. The people of the maritime provinces have waited long enough. If they are not to be granted their rights they must consider the next move. A very significant remark was made by one of the delegates, Mr. Ivan Rand, when he said:

"If the present policy is pursued it can only result in isolation for the maritime provinces and that would be much worse than independent isolation because we have surrendered fiscal control and railway control." These provinces surrendered their natural market to make the Dominion of Canada a possibility. The present railway freight rates deprive them of a western market for the product of their industries. This is isolation, and the kind of isolation that will not be tolerated. The government and the people of the provinces must do justice, or the very fabric of confederation will be shaken. No citizen desires such an outcome, but there may come a time when patience will cease to be a virtue. Any nice balancing of chances for political purposes will be holly received by people who are simply demanding their rights.

OUR FOREST WEALTH.

On the subject of forest protection and conservation the governor of Maine says:— "The large paper companies of eastern Maine are in my estimation today making better use of the land, from every angle viewed, than likely would the state if she possessed it. Already they have begun reforestation of burned areas and are, in other ways, truly conserving the forests. The truth is they are obliged to do so because of their large investments in power development and mills. If the state desires to practice true conservation it should aid further in fire protection."

The Province of New Brunswick suffered heavily last year from forest fires, and has suffered considerable loss this season. It is so easy to start a conflagration in a dry season that the danger is constant and the utmost care and vigilance are necessary. No amount of vigilance, however, on the part of the crown land department can reckon with the carelessness of campers and others who leave a trail of fire and smoke behind them. It is necessary to create if possible a public conscience concerning this matter, so that every citizen will feel a sense of ownership and responsibility and realize that the public domain is in a real sense his domain and calls for the same treatment as his personal property. The country's loss is his loss, and in the case of the forests it is one that cannot be made good. Too much lumber has been cut in New Brunswick in recent years, and when destruction by fire is added the duldest mind must perceive that it is time for a wiser policy.

RECREATION GROUNDS.

The demand for playgrounds in Montreal has been accentuated by the revival of an old by-law against children playing in the streets. It is expected by friends of the children that as the city goes on expanding land must be set apart for recreation purposes, and that in areas now congested space must be found, school grounds thrown open and certain streets closed to traffic in certain hours. Mr. John Bradford put the case in one sentence when he said to the Montreal Herald:—

"With 60,000 children in this city who have nowhere else to play except the streets and the playgrounds, and only twelve playgrounds in the city—well, 60,000 into twelve won't go."

Nor will distant playgrounds meet the situation. There must be neighborhood grounds. Children under six will go one-quarter of a mile to play. Between the ages of six and twelve they will go half a mile if necessary. Mr. Bradford cites the example of some other cities and declares that Montreal must buy land in central locations and provide playgrounds. He says:—

"What must be done is to buy central ground in all the congested portions of the city. The money will absolutely have to be spent some time or other. The sooner it is done the less it will cost. Just like an operation in appendicitis, it must be gone through with, and the longer it is put off the worse it will be in the end. Other big cities have realized this. New York spent a million dollars on a central playground recently. In the last five years it has spent \$15,000,000, and Chicago \$17,000,000, on playgrounds. Detroit had a \$10,000,000 bond issue last year to be spent on playgrounds."

These figures are very interesting, and also very suggestive. The time to get playgrounds is before the area becomes congested, and when land can be secured at a reasonable figure.

ASKING TOO MUCH.

In a dispute between the job-printing houses and the members of the Typographical Union in Ottawa the men demand that the employers' books be produced, and their profits (if any) shown. The printers in London, Ontario, recently made a similar demand, but it was afterward withdrawn. If it is not withdrawn in Ottawa, the Journal of that city sees a stormy time ahead, and a demand on the part of employers for the open shop. Presenting the case for the employer, the Journal points out that there are employers because some men decided to go into business for themselves, invest their savings, and take the chance of losing both their money and their time. The bankruptcy records show that the hazard is no light one, and many a man who makes the experiment finds himself forced to give up and look for a job. These who succeed are entitled to a good return because of the risks taken, and certainly a larger return than anyone in their employ, since the latter takes no risk whatever. But there is also a commercial consideration which is well stated by the Journal as follows:—

"Business is sometimes good, sometimes not. One year may be largely profitable; another year may be a losing one. Making business books public has two hazards on that account. When one year there is profit, possibly large profit, publication creates trouble because not merely employees but everybody wants to get a slice; in other words, not only employees want larger pay, but customers demand to have prices reduced. Where some year there is no profit, creditors and business connections get alarmed; credit is liable to be contracted, and a perfectly good business may be permanently injured, may even be destroyed, by a single year's unfavorable showing—which would be as great an injury to employees as to employers."

There can be no doubt that employers everywhere would resist such a demand as has been made by the Ottawa printers. Only when men put their own money as well as their work into a business would they have a right to make such a demand. So long as the employer must take all the risks and assume all the responsibility he alone has the right to know all the details of the business. It might be better for him as well as the men if all shared in the risks, and a great deal may be accomplished by co-operation; but equal knowledge and authority must depend upon equal responsibility and an equal share of the risks of the business. Otherwise there is not a square deal.

The Boston policemen who went on strike in September, 1919, are asking to be taken back. It is extremely improbable that men who took their places and served the city well will now be discharged to give them their old places. The men who went out subjected the city to the danger of lawlessness and crime, and therefore deserve little consideration.

The severe sentences meted out to a group of criminals by Judge Armstrong yesterday should have a salutary effect.

TO TEST SEPARATE SCHOOL QUESTION

(Canadian Press Despatch)

North Sydney, N. S., June 1.—That the next great work to be undertaken by the Orangemen of British North America will be the carrying to the privy council of a test case on the separate school question, was the intimation given by the grand chaplain, Rev. F. C. Ward-Whate, at the 63rd annual meeting of the Orange Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia which opened here this afternoon. Mr. Ward-Whate's prediction was made at a memorial service tonight in honor of the Orange dead. Referring to the recent action of Lieut. Colonel The Rev. John Pringle, of Sydney, in notifying the city council that he will pay no more taxes so long as a portion of these are used for the support of schools which he believes to be illegal, the speaker declared that he believed that very Orangeman in North America was behind Colonel Pringle in his stand. Now that the Tremblay marriage case had been carried to a satisfactory conclusion, the next task confronting the association is to carry a test case on the separate schools in Nova Scotia to the privy council and have the controversy settled once for all.

FOUR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION BOARD MEMBERS NAMED

(Canadian Press Despatch)

Fredericton, June 1.—The board of education at a meeting this afternoon appointed four members of the vocational education board. The term of the three members had expired and two additional ones were to be appointed. One appointment remains in abeyance. The other members with the dates of expiration of term are: Hon. Fred Magee, M. P., Port Elgin, 1926; Rev. Father Tessier, St. Joseph, 1925; George H. Maxwell, St. John, 1924; Angus McLean, Bathurst, 1923.

Inspector S. A. Worrell was appointed to act as deputy inspector for inspectorial district No. 5 during the absence of Inspector A. J. Brooks, taking a special summer course.

A SONG OF LEAVE-TAKING.

Voyagers and merchantmen, you who sailed seas over In desire of new lands and marvels yet to find; Had you ever fear at heart of what you might discover? Cast you ever wistful looks at all you left behind?

When you saw the last of shore, the dim line slow-sinking, When you looked before you, where the first new fog-wreaths curled, Were they all of joyous deeds in some new wondrous world?

Surely there were times for you when seas seemed dear to wander, When the thought of some wide hearth, some long lane summer-green, Took your heart with love of it, and made you pause and ponder Why you left the dear known things for perilous dreams unseen!

Where you went you knew not, and each day brought its wonder— Strange new creatures in the deep and With your world grown strange to you, around, above and under, Did you shrink from what might come ere all your voyage was by?

Voyagers and merchantmen, you sailed seas over, If your hearts grew cold sometimes at change of sea and sky, Say a little prayer for me, each happy, resting rover.

For I, too, have a voyage to make—and of your blood am I!—Clare Griffin in Scribner's Magazine.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Exceptions Caiding (tenderly quoting)—"All the world loves a lover."

Miss Munn—"The rule has its exceptions."

Caiding—"Ah?"

Miss Munn—"Yes. Sometimes the girl does not."—Spare Moments.

Retort Brutal

The Fair One—"These new shoes of mine hurt my feet."

The Brute—"Don't suppose they hurt your feet much as they hurt my purse."

—Answers.

Not Only in Persia

Both men and women in Persia smoke the water pipe—Indianapolis News.

So do they here sometimes on winter mornings, but plumbers say it does more harm than good—Kansas City Star.

Enough From Him

Johnnie: "Pa, why does a man have an Adam's apple?"

Pa: "It was given to him to remind him of the day he got it in the neck, my son."

Johnnie: "You go upstairs and get to bed!"—Answers.

Advice Applied

"First of you, stop worrying."

"All right, doctor, I won't give a hang whether your bill is paid or not."—Boston Transcript.

PRESBYTERIANS TO POSTPONE CHURCH UNION DECLARATION?

(Canadian Press Despatch)

Toronto, June 1.—Unanimous agreement recommending to the Presbyterian general assembly, further postponement of organic union with the Methodist, Congregational and Anglican churches has been reached by the church union committee which will report to the assembly this week, according to the Toronto Telegram.

The report recommends, it is understood, a continuation of the forty-seventh general assembly tonight in St. James' square Presbyterian church here. Only two other names were placed before the assembly to vote, those of Rev. Dr. Ephraim Scott, of Montreal, editor of the Presbyterian Record, and Rev. Dr. E. D. McLaren, of Vancouver. The other two were also nominated, Rev. Dr. W. L. Clay, of Victoria (B. C.), and Dr. W. J. Clark, of Montreal; but these two withdrew before the vote was taken.

RESULTS OF FIRST AID EXAMINATIONS

The results of two examinations in first aid, held under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association, have been announced by the secretary, Miss Marion Mager. The class at Netherwood school at Robb's, which was instructed by Mrs. J. W. Davidson and Mrs. H. H. McIntyre, was examined by Dr. H. S. Bridges and the following were successful: The Misses Mary Van Buskirk, Margaret MacLaren, Doris Armitage, Alice McKenna, Virginia Cameron, Kathleen McKean, Emma Gillies, Elizabeth Wran, Ruth Robinson and Ethel Powell.

Another class, instructed by Dr. G. B. Post and examined by Dr. Bridges, had the following successful pupils: The Misses Helen Hayes, Grace Robertson, Nan Durrick and Irene Green. These passed for certificates.

MILES OF SPAGHETTI.

Caruso Taking Apple Supply on Journey. New York, June 1.—Several miles of spaghetti for the personal use of Enrico Caruso and his party, were on the steamer President Wilson, which sailed for Italy with the famous tenor on board. Caruso had heard there is a reported shortage of spaghetti in his homeland, and took no chances.

IS HON. MR. WIGMORE ONE OF THE MISFITS?

The Standard Hands Him One in Regard to the Breakwater.

(St. John Standard.) The promises of some people are not to be relied upon. The citizens of St. John have been wondering about those promises made regarding the Partridge Island breakwater and are asking a few pertinent questions. The Standard has endeavored to find out what is "wrong" in the matter, and has queried Mr. Stanley Elkin, M. P., last night, relative to the breakwater proposition.

"Why were provisions not made in the supplementary estimates for the completion of the work on the Partridge Island breakwater?" he was asked. "The only reason I know of," he replied, "was that our minister couldn't get it through."

Mr. Elkin said he had personally talked the proposition over with the minister. He was not in a position to know what went on in the secret councils of the government. He had worked every wire he knew to bring some influence to bear that would provide for the completion of the work so much desired by the harbor interests of the city. He frankly admits he is not sure that something has not been accomplished towards securing the completion of the work.

The Minister's Job. It was really, in his opinion, up to the minister of the province. It was his job and he had promised to put it through, but he had evidently failed.

St. John citizens will recall that tenders for the work were called for. They were published a few days in the press, and then suddenly cancelled. Then came the word that the whole job would be completed and the money for the work would be provided in the supplementary estimates. The supplementary estimates have come down but no provision has been made for this important piece of work.

One citizen says that the honorable minister of customs had emphatically stated that he had been assured that the work would be rushed to completion this summer. He now wants to know where we are at and where do we fit in the make-up of things, or is it all because of "misfits" that St. John is not getting what it is entitled to and justly deserves. The citizen concluded his observations with the remark: "I will be another thing for our minister to satisfactorily explain to his friends here."

SAYS WIGMORE SHOULD RESIGN

(Canadian Opinion.)

The minister of customs, who wrote to the French Purchasing Commission on September 10, 1919, soliciting business for the firm of Nagle & Wigmore, of which he is a partner, has the effrontery to defend his action on the ground that he is not benefiting from it personally at the present moment. No doubt, however, when he has received from the customs (as he ought to do immediately) if he has any sort of good sense, he will not refuse to take the future profits, which will accrue to him in some considerable sum, and will allow their stores of oil to pour in riotous flood over his head, as they appear in time as the waters of a Canadian river. The so-called tar sands of the Athabasca banks have been known to man for more than a century; the fact of their existence, long since a matter of scientific record, has become a commonplace in the minds of explorers and traders in that recently-reopened area of the farther north. Their actual extent has not been definitely determined, but an accepted geological estimate puts it at an area of some twenty thousand square miles. Their potential value almost defies calculation. So reputable and conservative an authority as Dr. T. O. Bonar, in 1919, referred to the portable commercial value of the oil sands as follows: Greatest Natural Oil Deposit. "In the district of McMurray, on the Athabasca River, we have the largest natural exposure of oil in the world. Let us suppose the area to be 15,000 square miles, the average thickness 50 feet and the average yield (of oil) to be 10 gallons per ton. A simple calculation gives the result as 30,000,000,000,000 barrels of oil, or 600 times the world's annual production."

These are the facts, as geologists declare them, regarding this enormously important natural resource—its existence known to all; its area vaguely defined; its accessibility acknowledged; and its monetary value beyond the dreams of avarice? Everything there that Nature avails?—

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Blue Bird Is Coming To St. John

Final arrangements in connection with the departure of the delegates to the meeting of the National Council of Women to be held in Calgary were made yesterday afternoon at the meeting of the Local Council of Women held in the Board of Trade rooms. Mrs. W. Edmond Raymond presided. The treasurer reported a balance of \$120 in the general fund.

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UNTOLD WEALTH FROM OIL SANDS OF ATHABASCA

World's Largest Natural Exposure in District of McMurray—Awaits Development.

(Staff Correspondence of the Toronto Globe.) Edmonton, Alta., May 23.—Unnumbered acres of some of the richest and most valuable oil sands in the world are waiting to be developed. The Athabasca River, we have the largest natural exposure of oil in the world. Let us suppose the area to be 15,000 square miles, the average thickness 50 feet and the average yield (of oil) to be 10 gallons per ton. A simple calculation gives the result as 30,000,000,000,000 barrels of oil, or 600 times the world's annual production."

JOBLESS SUE CITY

Sydney, N. S., June 1.—Because they allege the authorities failed to give them relief when they were destitute forty-one Dutchmen today entered suit for damages against the city of Sydney. The men say they were brought to this country under contract by the Dominion Steel Company, but were thrown out of work by a shutdown.

HARDING ASKS YOUNGESTER JURY TO FIX FATE OF BIRDS OF PREY

Washington, June 1.—President "Judge" Harding impelled a youngster "jury" to determine what fate should befall birds that prey on other birds. And, to be strictly up to date about it, "Judge" Harding named girls as well as boys on his jury, and ordered it to study the problem and to report in two weeks.

The children called at the White House as members of the John Burroughs Club to present a book on "Birds in Washington," in connection with the closing day of the American Forestry Association forest protection week. They told the "Judge" how birds eat up bugs that otherwise would eat up trees and crops, then Mr. Harding asked about the birds that kill other birds, and nobody could answer, so he named the "jury."

ESCAPED BOLSHIEVSKI

Sault Ste. Marie Woman Will Return to Family. Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., June 1.—Mrs. A. Portnoy left this city in 1914 to visit relatives in Russia. War prevented her from coming back here, and when it was concluded she could not get away on account of Bolshevik control in Russia. During the last three years no word had been heard about her, until a few weeks ago, when her husband's efforts to find her were rewarded by a cable message stating that she had escaped from the Bolsheviks and managed to make her way to Warsaw, Poland. She will sail from a European port on May 31, according to a cable received yesterday.

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