

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1911.

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 10, 1911.

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## THE SPENDTHRIFTS

"The public works department pay no attention to the provisions of the audit act."

"The department of public works evidently pays no attention to section 14 of the Audit Act, which says that before any department shall authorize any expenditure the certificate of the auditor-general shall first be obtained that there are sufficient public moneys appropriated for the proposed expenditure together with all other expenditures previously authorized out of that appropriation."

Gentle reader, these observations are made by the auditor general of New Brunswick, and the audit act referred to is the famous copper-fastened, warranted to be absolutely safe audit act of the Hazen government. The public works department referred to is the public works department of the province of New Brunswick. The auditor general again and again protested against the over-expenditures, but in every case he was over-ruled by the treasury board, and the glad work of wandering public money for the benefit of favorites of the government went on. This condition of affairs is revealed by the report of the auditor general. Of course the government and its cheerful followers will attempt to justify the course of the treasury board in ignoring the audit act, but this will not satisfy the people of the province at large. That which was supposed to be a safeguard is no safeguard at all. When a hungry follower wants something from the public works department he gets it, and the treasury board promptly over-ruled the auditor. Also the members of the government continue to denounce the old government instead of giving reasons why they should themselves command public support. A change is needed.

## RECIPROCITY AND LOYALTY.

The honorary president of the Grain Growers' Association of Manitoba, in a manifesto to the farmers of that province, which is printed elsewhere in today's Times, points out the inconsistency of the legislature of that province, or at least the toy majority, in denouncing that which the farmers had so earnestly sought and which they are now offered. What he says about Mr. Rogers and Mr. Robin is straight to the point. The former is "ambitious to rule in Dominion politics," and the latter is "laboring under the hallucination of Chamberlainism." The following paragraph goes straight to the point:—

"Their two leaders talked about our transportation companies, our shipping companies, our financial interests, unity of the empire, imperial preference, loyalty and the old flag. What had all that to do with a simple measure of trade between two countries, which could be made use of, or not, according as it was found to be an advantage or otherwise; and any way the United States could bring about the changes, feared by these opponents of reciprocity by simply taking the duty off the articles named."

Reciprocity will give the farmers the economic relief they have been seeking. This is true of the farmers of the east as well as of the west. The legislature of Saskatchewan has declared unanimously in favor of reciprocity. The more the question is studied the less effective will be the frantic appeals of toy leaders who seek to arouse national prejudice for party purposes.

## A SOCIAL EXPERIMENT

The announcement that the Every Day Club has felt itself compelled to remove from its sign the words "open every night free to every man" marks the end of one stage in a social experiment that was entered upon with much earnestness by a number of citizens over four years ago. The present is the fifth winter during which the doors of this club have been open to every man, even the drunken men who drift in there to escape the police. The club has accomplished much that is good, and its active members, though few in number, do not regret the time and effort spent to influence unfortunates and encourage them to become sober and useful citizens. They feel that if professing temperance men in this city had joined with them in active personal work the club might have been continued indefinitely as at first proposed. They have, however, so far as actual personal work was concerned, plowed a somewhat lonely furrow. They could always get subscriptions when these were needed, but they could

not get men. Of late the club room has been a rendezvous for persons who resist all efforts to induce them to remain sober and conduct themselves properly, while there has been a marked absence of active workers in the club. Effort will now be made to establish a total abstinence club of large proportions on the broadest lines. Possibly even greater good may be accomplished by such an organization than by one whose doors are open to every individual who cares to drift in to enjoy light and heat and social advantages at the expense of others.

The Richibucto Review points out that reciprocity will be a great boon to the whole fishing industry of Kent county. The like is true of other shore counties.

There should be a large attendance of west side voters at the meeting in the city hall this evening at which well informed speakers will discuss the commission plan of city government.

Will the Standard say that it has printed Mr. H. V. McKinnon's letters in full and exactly as they were written. A fair paper would do that—has the Standard done it?

The Standard today quotes a number of interesting paragraphs from different issues of the Times. For once it has permitted the truth to creep into its editorial columns.

The statement of the Standard that the Times has abused and misrepresented the city council is as usual a statement made by that abandoned political hack which now has few friends or apologists even in its own party.

Saying that the commission plan is certain to prevail, and that its effect to uphold the present system of city government will end in utter defeat, the Standard is looking about for an easy place to fall. Apparently it believes that by landing upon the Times and Telegraph may come off without serious injury. But it will get its "bums" just the same.

Mr. Haultain, the Conservative leader in the west, tells the tones of the east that he does not propose to sit at their feet to learn lessons in loyalty. The west, he informs them, is quite able to retain its loyalty while it enlarges its trade. He is an out-and-out supporter of reciprocity. Unlike Mr. Robin and Mr. Rogers of Manitoba, he prefers the good of the country to any agitation which seeks to arouse the people by false appeals.

Mr. Hazen was very reticent in his reply to enquiries about the Valley railroad. The public will await with interest the action of the government in this matter. There is a proposition by which, with the co-operation of Mr. Hazen, the people of the valley may be provided with a railway of the highest class, giving them through connection with the west. What will Mr. Hazen do about it?

We are informed by the St. John Standard that the death knell of reciprocity has again been sounded. The fact remains that Mr. Borden's motion to postpone discussion was negated by a majority of forty-one, and that the Liberal caucus at Ottawa yesterday decided to pass the agreement forward to a final vote in parliament. After that has been done and congress has endorsed the agreement, and this country enters upon an era of enlarged trade, the noises will subside.

Citizens of St. John will read with amazement that the men found guilty of burglary in the store of Emerson & Fisher have been allowed to go on suspended sentence. Surely this is tempting justice with too much mercy. The firm in question have suffered more than once from burglary. They have expended money to make it difficult for thieves to enter. They have lost goods and incurred expenses to prosecute men found guilty of robbing them. Yet the men are permitted to walk out of court without punishment. If this sort of thing is to continue crime may be expected to flourish in St. John.

The Richibucto Review, referring to the Hazen government's lumber policy, says that a visit at the present time to the landings will explain the increased revenue in the crown land department, and show how the timber lands are being depleted by the cut and size of the logs. It further states that the cut on crown lands is increasing while practically nothing is done on private lands. These statements support the contention of Hon. Mr. Robinson. The Review points out that with its boasted surplus and more money to spend the government has nothing to show for the expenditure, while its agricultural and immigration policies are unworthy of the name. "The sooner the elections are brought on," says the Review, "the better it will be for the people."

## WHEN WOMEN HOLD OFFICE.

Female Sheriff—Is your husband at home?

Wife (suspiciously)—He is not. What do you want with him?

Female Sheriff—I have an attachment for him.

Wife—What? You shameless hussy!

Boston Transcript.

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STOMACH MISERY  
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## PROGRESS

We say we are progressing, proudly tell How forces yoked by man's imperious hand

Hurry us storm-like o'er the shuddering land, Or drive us through the climbing ocean swell;

How heaven's lightning mutters 'neath our spell, But we are aging—mind, and nerve, and limb,

Our step hath lost its lightness, and the hymn Of Nature turneth to an empty knell.

The birds progress not. This, as every spring Their mossy walls they weave the self-same

Flirt the same colors from the hanging spray, With the old love songs make the covert ring;

Yet for their youth I'd give the centuries' spell, The knowledge, and the heartache, and the pain.

—H. R. Pyatt, in Chamber's Journal.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN



## SYMPATHETIC.

The Wife—"Two weeks ago you said my husband couldn't live, and now he's nearly well."

The Doctor—"Madam, I can only express my regret."

## WELL DESCRIBED.

Nine-year-old Lizzie was taken to her first classical concert the other night.

"How did you like it, Lizzie?" inquired papa, who had been too busy to attend.

"Most of it was tiresome," said the child, "but there was one lady who garbled most beautifully."

## ONE WAY TO LOOK AT IT.

Jinks—"Do you know, I was refused three times before I found a girl who would have me?"

Blinks—"I see. Just like a patent medicine: 'Well shaken before taken.'"—Judge.

## THE BATTLE.

Mrs. Philip Snowden, the English suffragette, said of marriage, at a tea at the Colony Club in New York:

"Marriage, which makes two one, is a lifelong struggle to discover which is the stronger."

## SHE WAS "IT."

Knickner—"I love the good, the true, the beautiful."

Stella—"This is so sudden, but I am sure father will consent."—New York Sun.

## HELL IN LONDON.

In London when the fog hung low From Downing street came wails of woe; Untrilled were swung to and fro And Asquith dodging rapidly.

But London saw another sight; Augustine Birrell, seeking flight, Was pinched and kicked and made a sight And scolded most decisively.

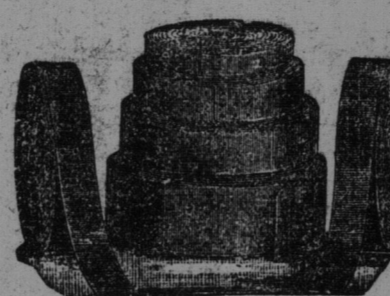
In hobble skirts some were arrayed; Some used their hat pins, some displayed Long nails that tore and ripped and frayed And all were screaming horribly.

Then through the windows rocks went crashing Poor Winston Churchill got a lashing, And Asquith, dreading further thrashing, Concessions granted hastily.

But madder yet those ladies grew, And at the statement wildly flew; If Asquith's fate he had to meet? They scratched his face, tramped on his feet.

And nearly left him buttonless, —Chicago Record-Herald.

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