

# The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 12, 1922.

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## POWER LEGISLATION.

The legislature of New Brunswick authorized the hydro-electric development at Musquash for the benefit of the people of St. John and elsewhere. Surely the legislature of New Brunswick cannot now hand that benefit over to a private corporation. The people must be protected in their right to get cheap light and power. The New Brunswick Power Company has no monopoly of the distribution of these services. It wants a monopoly and would like to have the legislature of the province grant the necessary authority, so that it could fasten high rates on St. John for all time to come. The legislature must protect the people. If St. John does not get the full benefit of the Musquash development, the whole hydro-policy of the government, endorsed by the legislature, will have fallen down.

Mr. Taylor, pleading the cause of the New Brunswick Power Company, talks about confiscation. What he proposes is that the rights of the people be confiscated for the benefit of a private corporation. His picture of the company knocked down and then robbed is capable of another interpretation—that of a city bound hand and foot by legislation and then robbed by corporate greed. There must be no such result in the case of the city of St. John and the Musquash development. To say that because a private corporation is over-capitalized, or mis-managed the people at large must come into this field to preach a doctrine that would be fatal to the welfare of any community.

The friends of the power company are asking the legislature to stultify itself. If it gave the company authority to get eight per cent. on a stated capitalization it assumed that the amount could be earned—not seized. To picture the people of St. John as afflicted by a sudden madness when they are going sanely about the business of accepting an offer made to them by the government of the province is not a clever move. The legislature is not deceived. The people's rights are paramount. They are not responsible for the over-capitalization of the company, the unwise management of the company, its coming into this field and made extravagant promises of what it would do for the benefit of the people. How those promises were kept is revealed in the high cost of inadequate services. The company has no monopoly of light and power. It must now face competition. The legislature of New Brunswick cannot in fairness take from the people with one hand what it has given them with the other. They are entitled to the benefits of the government's hydro-electric policy. The vested rights of sixty thousand people must not be sacrificed for the benefit of persons who speculated in power company stock. The people have a right to get light and power at cost, and if they are not protected in that right there can be no hope of justice in this province as between the people and the greedy corporations.

## THE RAILWAYS.

So far as the maritime provinces are concerned the most interesting announcement of government policy relating to the national railways was this: "That the new board will be asked to advise on division of the huge mileage of the national system into units, each with its own headquarters and under the direction of a general manager who will be subject to the general lines of policy laid down by the board at general headquarters."

This means an end of dictation from Toronto. The new board will take over control of all lines, including the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk, and there will thus be unified control of the whole system, but the system will be divided into units for local operation; and we may fairly assume that the general management of the Intercolonial system will be from Moncton.

The minister of railways also promises a special committee of parliament to study freight rates, and good results should follow. With regard to the general railway situation, it showed improvement last year, and this will strengthen the case for continued government ownership. The report yesterday's debate says:

"One remark of Mr. Kennedy's was applauded on all sides of the house—that the total amount to be voted for railways in the fiscal year which has just opened is \$67,220,000, compared with \$179,065,760 voted in the year previous."

There is still a matter regarding the relation of the Intercolonial to the maritime provinces which needs to be cleared up. These provinces contend that at the time of confederation their right to special rates enabling them to get into the western markets was recognized, but has since been repudiated by the rest of the country. They asked the government to appoint a commission to go into the whole question and decide whether their claims were valid or otherwise. It was a fair request, but was turned down. The maritime members would ask the King government for an amendment and it should be granted. We have a right to know whether consideration is to be of any benefit to us.

## THE PHILANTHROPISTS.

The gentlemen who revel in high finance were heard from in Fredericton yesterday. They cannot understand why their benevolent intentions should be the subject of doubt and suspicion, unless some kind of madness has afflicted the people. That anyone should suspect them of other than the most altruistic motives is quite beyond their comprehension. They really desire to aid the government in its hydro policy of service at cost, and here are the misguided people putting obstacles in the way. The people are a hopeless lot. They do not know what is good for them. Here is a group of disinterested philanthropists ready to relieve them of all worry, and the offer is rejected with unbecoming mirth. It is most pathetic. However, they have the high compensation of that conscious rectitude which rises above the shafts of plebeian scorn. And they have a large and opulent future in which to devise and carry out new schemes for the public good. Their case is never hopeless, for they are always on the job.

## OUR HEADS ARE UP.

The Standard says of the bill now before the legislature for the protection of the people of St. John when they take over the distribution of the hydro-electric current from Musquash:

"It is inconceivable that the bill as presented to the legislature could possibly pass that body; if it ever did, as a legislative body it would not only deserve the contempt and condemnation of all honest men, but would earn for the province of New Brunswick such a name as would make every inhabitant of it ashamed to hold up his head in the face of the rest of the country."

What are the facts? The legislature voted money to develop power at Musquash for the sole benefit of the people. St. John people have decided to accept that benefit. They now ask the legislature which provides the power to protect them while they are getting it distributed. They are asking the legislature to stand between them and a grasping corporation. If it fails to do so the whole hydro policy for which it voted falls down, and the money spent at Musquash will have been spent for the benefit of the New Brunswick Power Company. Give that company control of hydro on any terms whatever and the whole purpose of the legislative policy will have been defeated. The legislature must not stultify itself.

The Standard says: "Now that Mr. P. R. Taylor, on behalf of the N. B. Power Company has offered to supply Musquash current to consumers at an average cost of 6.22 cents, with a maximum of 12 cents for the first year, 11 for the second and 10 for the third, it will be nothing short of criminal folly on the part of the citizens not to accept the offer." When the city can sell 8,000,000 kilowatt hours it can make the rate four cents, and as the market expands the price will go still lower. When the Musquash development has been paid for the only cost will be that of upkeep of the plant and transmission service. If the company has its way the benefits of hydro will be lost to the people. As a matter of fact, Mr. Taylor made no such offer as the Standard quotes, and if he did it would not work out as the Standard says. The Standard does not know, or it deliberately attempts to deceive.

Hallifax Chronicle: "Investigations in the utilization of fish waste have been carried on in Nova Scotia under the direction of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research at Ottawa. The experiments led to the establishment of a company in this province which is now engaged in working up this hitherto discarded material into cattle food, fertilizer and fish oils, thus establishing a new industry."

The whole province is watching the hydro development here, and wondering whether the legislature will reverse its policy by taking the benefits away from the people.

According to one of the power company speakers in Fredericton the provincial hospital may have to be enlarged to include the whole city of St. John. But are we all "crazy"?

## BURNED THE PANTS AND GAVE THE FIRE BRIGADE A RUN

Montreal, April 12.—Thirteen fire reels, a district fire chief, three police lieutenants each with three men hurried to a alarm of fire at 811 St. Denis street here last night, caused by Mrs. A. Cadieux, the tenant of the house, leaving the electric iron on a pair of trousers she was pressing, thereby starting a fire. Passers rang fire alarms in the belief that a disastrous blaze had commenced.

The outbreak was soon brought under control with little damage.

## NUMBER OF IDLE IN OLD COUNTRY INCREASES

London, April 12.—(Canadian Press)—Unemployment returns which for many weeks have shown slow but steady decline, last week again showed an increase from 1,736,764 to 1,742,917.

## SPRING FEVER.

I want to plant a garden now that spring is here,  
I want to watch the carrots and little  
beets appear;  
I want to gather radishes and salad  
lettuce, too.  
And invite my envious neighbors to come  
and pick some, too.  
I crave some Golden Bantam, like in  
the wondrous book  
Sent out by Rossington every year—how  
good the green things look!  
I want to raise cucumbers and Hubbard  
squash and beans,  
And cabbage and Brussels sprouts and  
cantaloupes and greens.  
And young green peas and egg-plants  
and succulent Swiss chard,  
And pumpkin vines, with golden flower  
to trail around the yard;  
I want to plant a garden, new that  
spring is here!  
(And might do it, too, if I hadn't  
tried last year!)  
—New York Sun.

## LIGHTER VEIN.

Easy to Understand.  
"I am ashamed of my failure to keep  
abreast of modern science,"  
learned professor of zoology to the young  
house wife. "Take the electric light for  
instance; I haven't the least idea how it  
works."  
The young woman gave him a patronizing  
smile. "Why," she said, "it's  
very simple, really. You just press  
a button and the light comes on—that's  
all there is to it."

A Child's Viewpoint.  
Joan's canary, "Wifflie," had died, and  
the poor child seemed heartbroken. In  
order to console her, her father gave her  
a cigar-box in which to deposit the remains,  
and with much ceremony he assisted  
in burying the box in the garden.  
"Dad," whispered Joan, when the funeral  
was over, "will Wifflie go to Heaven?"  
"I expect so," replied her father.  
"Why?"  
"I was only thinking," murmured  
Joan, "how cross St. Peter will be when  
he opens the box and finds it isn't cigars  
after all!"

## RUSSIANS LEAD FOREIGN RACES

Census of 1920 Gives Them  
994,356 in New York—Italians  
Next With 802,893.

A study of the 1920 United States census figures made by Dr. Walter Laidlaw, executive secretary of the New York City 1920 census committee, shows that New York City has a foreign white stock population as large as the whole population of Catholicism in the world, and that the Russian element is larger than the population of Warsaw, and that there are 100,000 more Italians here than in Naples.

The leading foreign elements in 1920, according to Dr. Laidlaw, are as follows:  
Russia ..... 994,356  
Italy ..... 802,893  
Ireland ..... 687,744  
Austria-Hungary ..... 603,107  
Germany ..... 595,199  
The first of a series of census summaries to be issued from week to week for the next few months was made public by Dr. Laidlaw, who, in 1906, presided over the census of the city of New York, and who was then in charge of the study of the city's population and who carried through the tabulation of the 1910 census by sanitary districts.

Dr. Laidlaw carried on his work at the City Club, of which he is registrar, in the Fifth Avenue Building, and for the purpose of the census committee access to data not hitherto published by it. Tables prepared by Dr. Laidlaw indicate that the native whites of native parentage numbered 1,164,834 in 1920, showing an increase of 245,516 between 1910 and 1920. The foreign white stock element numbered 4,224,629 in 1920, showing an increase of 546,785 between 1910 and 1920. The Russian and Italian element in 1920, while the Irish element was larger than the German and Irish element at the period of their maximum. In 1910 the German element led with 789,068 and by 1920 it fell to 687,744. In 1910 the Russian element was 296,266 and by 1920 it mounted to 994,356.

In 1920, therefore, the Russian element was over 200,000 larger than the German element ever has been in the city's history. Nevertheless the Russian element was crowded in between 1910 and 1920 by the Italian, which grew 275,715 in those ten years, while the Russian element's growth was 250,091. The Italians in 1920 numbered 802,893, exceeding the German element of 1920 by 13,225 and the maximum Irish element of the same period by 77,882.

The Austro-Hungarian element including all immigrants from the former area of Austria-Hungary, plus their native-born children, increased by 169,229 from 1910 to 1920, while the Irish element in the same period decreased 69,005 persons.

Northwestern Europeans, the British, Scandinavians, Dutch, German, French and Swiss elements combined, fell off from 1910 to 1920 by 205,985 persons, while the increase from the rest of Europe in the same decade was 700,842.

There were losses not only in the Irish element, but also in the city's English, Scotch, Welsh, German and Swiss stock. The French element increased 14,883, the largest increase from Northwestern Europe, but that gain was exceeded not only by Russia, Italy and Austria-Hungary, but even by Rumanian and Greek foreign white stock. The Greeks increased 200 per cent., the Spanish 180 per cent., while the French increase was forty per cent.

The whole English foreign white stock numbered 169,393 in 1920, and from 1910 to 1920 the Austro-Hungarian foreign white stock increased 169,229.

SLEEPLESS FOR 44 YEARS.  
William Warner, South Egremont Hermit, Dies at Eighty-two.

Pittsfield, Mass., April 12.—William Warner, eighty-two years old, a bachelor, and a Civil War veteran, who always declared he had not slept forty-four years, died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Houghtaling in South Egremont.

For years he had lived a hermit's life in New Marlborough, his birthplace, and because of his intimate knowledge of the fauna and flora of the region he was known to thousands of South Berkshire summer residents as "Bill Warner, naturalist."

In 1877 he met with an accident that destroyed sleep. He rested in a rocker at night, but said he never lost consciousness. Two years ago his sight failed.

## FROM SCOTLAND TO FARM IN ONTARIO

Advance Party of Immigrants Arrives from Hebrides and Inverness—All War Veterans.

(Montreal Gazette.)  
Thirteen Macdonald Scottish farmers and fishermen from the highlands of Invernesshire and the Hebrides, the advance party of about 100 others who are coming over to settle in Canada, left Montreal last night from Windsor Station for Chatham, Ont., and will learn the intricacies of Canadian farming on the large Ardan farms, Kent county, which are owned by the Roman Catholic Church. They were accompanied by Rev. Father R. A. Macdonald, M. C. chaplain attached to the 12th Canadian Infantry, who met them at St. John, N. B., when they landed from the S. S. Tunisian, of the C. P. R., Tuesday afternoon.

All are veterans of the Imperial army and several have been decorated for bravery during the war. All are nearly six feet tall, and only three of them speak English with any amount of fluency. The rest speak pure Gaelic, and all their names begin with "Mac" or "Mc." There are three MacLeans and three MacDonnells, two McKenies, two McIntoshes, a McPherson, a McIntosh and a MacIntyre—all are bachelors.

"We're not married yet," said one of the MacLeans with a grin, "but later on we'll write for the ladies to come on John as."

The party arrived by the C. P. R. boat train yesterday afternoon, and spent most of their time seeing the sights of Montreal. On the Ardan farms, five miles from Chatham, they will be introduced into the Canadian way of farming, and some of them will be placed on neighboring farms, after which they will be helped in selecting their own land.

Father Macdonald, himself a Highlander, is the instigator of the movement for bringing in immigrants from the North and Northwest of Scotland. He spent some time in those parts recently and arranged for 150 to come to Canada. Their voyage across the Atlantic is paid for by the British government. The Hebrides and the isolated parts of the Scottish highlands were untouched when the Reformation wave swept the rest of the country, and the Roman Catholic of those parts are to be following the religious customs of many centuries.

One of the party, six feet three inches tall, told of conditions in his native land. It happens to be Lochaber. The ground is used up, he said, and living is precarious. Farming is not carried out in the up-to-date manner which characterizes it in the North American continent. The fishermen from the west coast and the Hebrides have but little experience in farming. They are not used to the quiet life of the farm, and a great or two from the average livestock on these small farms among the rocks. Except for their trained and accurate system of visiting to France and Flanders during the winter months, the newcomers have never been away from their native shores. Father Macdonald stated that they are passionately fond of their homes, and it is not until all will be able to tear themselves away from their islands and highlands. Judging by appearances the men are physically all that can be desired, and they seem quick at adapting themselves to the new conditions of things.

Rev. John Chisholm, director of Protestant Immigration, was at the station last night, and was much impressed by the members of the party. He chatted with some of them in the Gaelic language and afterwards expressed the hope that similar training farms would soon be established for the benefit of Protestant immigrants.

Many of those that arrive later will bring their wives and families with them. They are also bound for the same destination.

BUILDING CATHEDRALS.  
Three men all engaged at the same employment were asked what they were doing. One said he was making \$5 a day. Another replied that he was cutting stone. The third said he was building a cathedral. The difference was not in what they were actually doing, although the spirit of one might quite possibly have made him more expert in his task. They were all earning the same wage; they were all cutting stone; but only one held it in his mind that he was helping build a great edifice. Life meant more to him than to his mates, because he saw farther and more clearly.

The farmer may be only planning seed, but if he feeds his eyes he is feeding the world. The railroad man, the factory hand, the clerk in the store, likewise are building their cathedrals. The investors in stocks and bonds, the executives in charge of great corporations, they are building cathedrals likewise, if only they can catch the vision.

WAGES REDUCED.  
(Montreal Gazette.)  
A drop of ten cents an hour for longshoremen is shown in the schedule of wages which has been drawn up to become effective as soon as navigation reopens in this port. It is provided that the working hours shall be from 7 a.m. until 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. The rate of pay of longshoremen will be fifty cents per hour for such day work; while from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. and from midnight until 5 a.m. the rate of wages will be sixty cents per hour. Double time will be paid, as usual, on Sundays, also for working in meal hours.

Nitrate and bulk sulphur loading will be paid for at the rate of sixty-five cents per hour for day work, and at seventy-five cents per hour on the night shift. A similar rate will be paid in each case for grain trimming and bagging.

Coal handling on general cargo vessels is to be paid for at the rate of fifty-five cents per hour for day work and sixty-five cents for night work. Fifteen men constitute a gang for discharging and sixteen men for loading a ship.

ed and the patient has a temperature of between 102 and 104, with some hemorrhage.

An Athens despatch last Friday said Princess Elizabeth was seriously ill of typhoid fever.

## New Life in the Old Home



The Clean-Up and Paint-Up season is here—now is the time to paint your buildings—to renew worn and faded surfaces on walls, doors, floors and furniture and make your home more cheerful and sanitary—to remove the signs of wear and tear and increase the value of your property.

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—and a splendid variety of Dear Little Fur Chokers so largely favored just now.

In Suits: Some feature the long silhouette, others are smartly finished in the medium length coat model. \$30, \$35, \$42 to \$45. In justice to yourself we urge you see this uncommon Easter assortment.

In Topcoats: See them; note the exceptional tailoring; feel the unusual softness of the rich fabrics. \$24, \$28.50, \$36 to \$50.

In Dresses: Some entirely new models are displayed today. Many are copies and adaptations of high price models. \$25, \$35, \$38.50 to \$45.

D. MAGEE'S SONS, LIMITED  
St. John, N. B.

## SPRUCE UP FOR EASTER

Easter is the time when every one of us is keen to be "well turned out." Our styles include all the fashionably correct models, including the dainty strap effects, in button and buckle styles, and many wonderful styles of walking Oxfords. GREAT VALUES IN MEN'S OXFORDS. Your attention is drawn to our wonderful display of Men's Oxfords, Blacks and Browns. All lasts and styles—\$4.75 to \$10.50. Exclusive agency for "REGAL SHOES."

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With every recurring Easter the desire for new apparel is revived and now Fashion's treasures are assembled here for your inspection.

WRAPS: These are particularly becoming with their soft draping lines, the capes are quite chic, while the coats are practical and dressy. \$15 to \$85.

SUITS: There are the tailored and semi-tailored styles, the smart loose backs and the three-piece. Also Tweeds are in high favor. \$18 to \$95.

FROCKS: You may not need one for Easter day, but you surely will for the many after Easter affairs, and selections are now at their best. \$20 to \$70.

HOSIERY: When you step out on Easter morning what of your Hosiery? Here you'll find what is correct in silk, glove silk, thread silk, and lisle, in black and colors, plain or clocked. 55c. to \$4.25.

GLOVES: And what is more important on Easter morning than a well fitting stylish glove, and here are silks, kids, chamisettes in vast array. 85c. to \$3.00.

Blouses, Shirts, Undershirts, Lingerie, such as will please the discriminate buyer are all here for the Easter parade.

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