

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1920

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A NATIONAL ISSUE.

Two lines of railway owned by the government have terminals at St. John. They connect St. John with western Canada and afford an outlet for its trade. These railways cannot get the maximum of traffic unless the terminal facilities where rail and water meet are adequate to meet all demands made upon them. The government owns the railways and must provide the terminals. The present congestion of traffic at this port is bad for the railways and bad for the country.

In connection with its railways the government must have a definite policy in regard to this terminal port. It cannot afford to have government steamers as well as other steamers held up because they cannot find sufficient berth accommodation. Neither can it afford to be without railway yard space to accommodate all the cars engaged in carrying traffic to and from the ships and those used for local trade.

This is not a local but a national matter. The government must provide its own railways with terminals, so that freight of all kinds may be handled with dispatch and the steamers also given quick clearance. When St. John people present the case they are not speaking for St. John alone, but for every part of Canada that is reached by railways having connection with this port. It should not be difficult, with the aid of a railway map, to convince the most prejudiced mind of the truth of this assertion.

Unhappily there is said to be prejudice, in a quarter where the interests of the government railways should give rise to the very opposite feeling. This is the national port nearest the heart of the country in winter, and the record of its trade during the years of the war tells the story of its immense strategic value as a port to Canada and the Empire. Apart from the latter consideration, it is an ocean terminus of two lines of government owned railway which are bidding for business, in competition with another great railway whose winter terminus is at St. John.

From the purely business standpoint one can conceive of no greater folly than to go on trying to do business without adequate facilities. As already pointed out, therefore, the government must have a clear-cut policy in relation to this port where its trains and its steamers meet. The linking up of the port with the national transcontinental by way of the Valley Railway, and the acquisition by the government of the Grand Trunk render prompt action imperative. The provision of ample terminals is not a matter that can be deferred on account of cost. Having railways implies having terminals for them, and it would be a shameful thing to let Canadian trade go to foreign ports because such terminals were not provided. Today there are more than twice as many steamers in the harbor as there are berths to accommodate them. Other steamers have been sent elsewhere, some of them to foreign ports. The railway yards are so choked that hundreds of cars are held at Moncton and all the available sidings along the division are filled.

If the directors of the national railways do not ask for ample appropriations, and if the public works department does not make provision in its estimates for the urgently needed additions to the harbor facilities, the appeal must be carried to parliament, and the facts laid before the people of the whole country, who are the owners of the railways and have a right to demand that they lose no traffic because of inadequate facilities where rail and water meet. The Commercial Club has made a good beginning. We must have something more than mild pleas and inaudible remonstrances, presented in a deprecatory manner, as if we were humble seekers after special favors from the government. All Canada must be called to the rescue of its railways from such gross mismanagement as would be involved in a failure to provide this national port with every necessary facility for the prompt dispatch of the nation's business.

PEACE TREATY RATIFIED.

With the exception of the United States the great nations lately at war have ratified the peace treaty. The next step is to make effective the League of Nations. The head of the German peace delegation, in expressing great satisfaction that peace has become effective, pledges his country to do her utmost to fulfill the terms of the treaty. His utterances are conciliatory, and devoid of the bitterness with which the world had become accustomed during the negotiations. "We hope," he says, "to meet every emergency." He is not without hope that more cordial relations between Germany and her late foes may soon develop, since so much depends upon the economic recovery of Germany and her ability to meet obligations. There can be no reasonable criticism of his attitude or his words. It is unfortunate that the United States is not as yet ready to ratify the peace treaty and join in the League of Nations. Partisan politics stands in the way. The other nations, however, must proceed with their great task, and if the American

republic is content to be last in making peace as it was last in getting into the war there is nothing to do but exercise patience, confident that in the end the people will thrust the politicians aside and make way for the statesman.

A tremendous task awaits the League of Nations. Some of these are set out by Lord Robert Cecil, who says: "Schemes for the limitation of armaments must be worked out; terms of the mandates must be settled and mandatories appointed; and an International Court of Justice must be established. There are the Russian situation, economic chaos in many European countries, and controversies left unsettled by the peace conference; defects in the peace treaty itself and particularly its financial provisions. All these matters are within the sphere of the action of the league."

VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

For the successful introduction of vocational training in St. John it would seem necessary to have at once a qualified director. It is never wise to make a bad start, and there is no good reason for it in this case. The large number of persons already applying for the opportunity to attend classes is clear evidence that the need of such training is realized by many people, and the number would be greatly increased if there were a qualified director to meet all comers, arouse more general interest, and see to it that the teaching suited the varied needs. The best advertisement of vocational training classes would be the students who were satisfied that they were deriving real benefit from the courses given. It is not reasonable to assume that the office work will be well organized, the needs of the city thoroughly canvassed, and the machinery of the classes go without a hitch unless there is a skilled director. There should be hundreds of students attending evening classes in St. John this winter. Every new one added makes the classes and the work better known. There is a fruitful field in St. John for vocational training, and whatever will tend to make its introduction more successful is well worth doing, to the limit of the available funds. The vocational board wants results. It should not miss so good an opportunity to get them as would be afforded by the employment of a competent director at the very beginning of the work of the enlarged classes.

Twenty-eight steamers in port with only thirteen deep water berths to accommodate them is the best possible evidence of government neglect of a national duty. The commerce of the world knocks at the main door of Canada in winter, and the facilities to handle it are not here. There must be no more pussy-footing around at Ottawa, but a noise that may be heard from Sydney to Vancouver.

The Standard has discovered that there is no room for Liberal principles in Canada. Of course that journal would prefer Tory principles and the rule of the machine, with hold-ups and rackets and such doings as royal commissions in this province have exposed. These are gray and gloomy days for the Standard and its friends.

It does not appear to be generally understood that the vocational evening classes are open to everybody. There is no age limit, except that pupils attending the day schools are not expected to attend the evening classes.

St. John is deprived once more of the Boston steamer service. This is a great inconvenience to many shippers and importers, and it may be hoped a remedy will soon be applied.

The Standard is doing its best to ensure a lively interest in the visit of Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King to St. John. The people will want to see him, if only to learn whether he really does wear horns.

THINKS GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO IS TO HAVE A SHORT LIFE
Toronto, Jan. 12—George S. Henry, M. P. for East York, minister of agriculture in the late Hearst government told the East York Liberal-Conservatives on Saturday that he thought the U. F. O.-Labor administration would not last long. "They represent such a minority of the people of Ontario," he said, "that both the Liberals and Conservatives stand away above them in respect to the popular vote."

Corns? Have You Any?
If so, you want to try Putnam's Corn Extract; it is not a cheap acid salve, but a genuine 25c. cure that does remove corns in twenty-four hours. Be sure and get "Putnam's Extractor." 25c. at all dealers.

A Ventilation Test.

Mrs. Newby was speaking proudly to her caller of their new house, and told of its having hollow block construction, thus ensuring plenty of ventilation. "I don't think your modern dwelling has anything on our old-fashioned frame house in that respect," returned her caller. "Every night we lock the cat in the cellar and let her out of the attic in the morning."



(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

THRIFT.

The sanest thing on earth is thrift; it is the slogan of the wise; without it human beings drift to joints where paupers swat the flies. All workers now are in demand, there's no excuse for idle lads; employers in the market stand and offer forty kinds of Soles. Work brings a hardy recompense, such as it never brought before; do delegate with any sense will let a wolf camp by his door. It's harvest time for those who wish a bank account to rear and raise, to put some money in a dish, and save it away. What profits it to shed your sweat, and through the long hours toil and spin, if you are evermore in debt, and dodging bailiffs and their kin? Be thrifty now, while money flows to every till in tinkling streams, and be prepared for Fate's hard blows, and spend old age in pleasant dreams.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

THE FIRST LIBRARY.

With magnificent public and institutional libraries everywhere in Canada as they are now it is quite difficult to imagine a day when books were few and reading matter difficult to obtain. But the early settlers suffered a great privation from loss of books in their little cabins while even the officers in the cities found it almost equally hard to secure pleasant reading.

So in 1779 Haldimand, the governor of Quebec, wrote to Richard Cumberland, novelist, and urged him to collect some books and have them sent to Quebec. After a long delay five big cases of the works of the day arrived from London. They were a treat to the little colony and formed the basis of the first library in the country. Later they passed into the hands of the Literary and Historical Society of that city.

In Montreal the garrison had heroic endeavors to amuse itself. In the same year they organized a theatre, but it lacked very much properly trained ladies for the various roles and, too, there was not a half-sufficiently large to accommodate the crowds that came. Colonel McLean asked for the use of the vestibule of the Jesuits, his production being along the lines of the "Edinburgh theatre."

The attraction was a concert of vocal and instrumental music and the play to be acted was Moliere's Les Fourberies de Scapin. It was the first occasion that any of the great dramatists' works were ever produced in Canada. It was an event in the limited social life of the little colony in the new land, eagerly anticipated and long remembered, in spite of the limitations under which the concert was held and the play ever witnessed in the Dominion.

IN THE MELTING POT.

(Rev. George Scott.)
The world is in an evil plight,
Why stand ye idly all the day?
Why linger ye until the night
Hides from the view this mortal way.
And men are in an evil case,
Red restlessness in every land,
Thrusting each high and holy place
With flaming sacrilegious brand.
Our times are in the melting pot,
Naught may escape the searching fire,
No victory shall be ours unthought
By weary struggling soul and dire.
Strange unfamiliar shapes and rude,
And senseless clamors shall assail,
Of the unthinking multitude
Chanting to Ashtaroth and Baal.
O brother! let your faith be clear,
Stand to your post and play the man;
He that hath ears can surely hear,
He that hath eyes can surely scan.
Our times are in the melting pot,
The head of iron, and the day of clay,
The heart of gold with steel invulnerable,
All clinging dross shall melt away.
And new ideals shall be born,
A nobler manhood shall arise,
A race whose soul shall loathe and scorn
Their fathers' blighting policies.
All is not lost, though in the strife,
Swayed by brief madness from their feet,
Men should forget their mortal life,
Nourished by bread is incomplete.

The world is in an evil plight,
Stand fast until the day of clay,
Shall bring again the welcome light
And clouds and darkness flee away!

LIGHTER VEIN.

Tit for Tat.
Maibed—Here comes Charlie Dubb up the walk. That boy gives me the shivers.
Marie—Why don't you give him the shake?
"I haven't seen you mentioned in connection with a presidential boom."
"No," said Senator Soeghurn. "I'd rather be inconspicuous in connection with a position I hold than to be prominent in connection with one I'll probably never get."—Washington Star.

Just His Luck.

"You just come along o' me," said the bobby cheerfully to the crestfallen burglar, Jim the Jewbreaker. "So I've coped you at last, have I?"
"Well, mate," replied the captive, "I'll admit it—I'm done! But I give yer a good run for yer money, haven't I? Arf-a-dozen 'ouses in 'ampstead, two in Park Lane and—There's just one thing I'm sorry for, bobby."

"What's that?" inquired the hero of the blue uniform, expecting a confession.
"Why, Bobby, I bin an' clean wasted a tanner's worth of yer money on the Sussex team. He, John Leclair and Finnegan were the big stars of the game last night among the visitors."

DEVELOPING WATER AND COAL POWERS OF N. B.

(Moncton Transcript.)

The next session of the provincial legislature promises to be one of importance. The government is now, but it has already put through some very advanced legislation; it is led by a business man, and it is conducting affairs on business principles. Premier Foster has signified his intention of bringing in a measure dealing with the problem of water power development, a matter of first importance to the province if its industry is to enjoy continuous development. This question of power affects New Brunswick's position in many ways. On the one hand we have Nova Scotia with great coal mines, and on the other the province of Quebec which has developed its unrivaled water powers on a great scale. Industrial development in New Brunswick has been considerable and is full of promise; we have every reason to be proud of the progress of Moncton and other communities in recent years; but on the whole industrial development in this province does not compare favorably with industrial developments in other Nova Scotia or Quebec. And one big reason of our retardation is the lack of power.

The decision of the Foster government to take measures to provide for the development of water powers should have important results. It is only to be regretted that steps in this direction were not taken years ago. If we had a business man for premier, a business man with foresight and knowledge of what has been going on in the other provinces, years ago, we would doubtless have had a considerable number of water power plants all over the province, and possibly we would have had the Grand Falls harnessed to the needs of industry.

Another matter which is engaging the attention of the present government and which touches the power question is that of the development of the coal areas of the province. In 1917, largely through the encouragement of the present government, the output of the mines in the Grand Lake district was doubled, a total of 200,000 tons. During the past year there has been considerable activity there, though strikes have interfered with output. It is a sorry reflection on the enterprise of past governments of this province that we have no definite information as to the extent of the coal resources of New Brunswick. We have estimates, but they are simply guesses.

Mr. Smith, minister of lands and mines, announced some time ago that the government proposed to make an appropriation for the purpose of exploring the provincial coal fields and having the diamond drill cover the whole area. The government also proposed to look into the license system in reference to those who have suffered under lease to keep them busy for 350 years at the present rate of production. It is not conducive to development, and Hon. Mr. Smith has indicated that after the survey of the coal question the government will take measures to rescind leases of coal areas lying undeveloped, and held for speculative purposes. In 300 years new methods of developing power may be devised, and coal may be of little use. At any rate the days of the Famine Compact are over; there is no need to give control of our natural resources to people who simply sit down and wait till something happens to enable them to reap a profit without enterprise or risk.

RAREST OF LIVING MAMMALS.

(Illustrated London News.)
The arrival of a living Okapi in Europe is an event of the deepest interest to naturalists, for this rare denizen of the Congo forest was only discovered (by Sir Harry Johnston) in 1900, and for a long time was never seen alive by Europeans. The specimen here shown was recently brought over, among a large collection of other animals, by Dr. Georges Lebrun, Belgian administrator in the Congo, who succeeded, in spite of great difficulties, in bringing them to the African coast, for shipment, from a point over 1,200 miles inland. This animal, when only a few days old, was obtained from Congo natives by Commandant Landeghem, a Belgian district commissioner, and his wife tended it carefully at her husband's quarters, several hundred miles above Boma. The Zoological Society of London, in whose scientific proceedings the okapi was first named, figured and described, offered a large sum for this specimen, but Mmc. Landeghem, with a natural preference for her own country, decided to present it to the Zoological Society of Antwerp. It is now in the Zoological Gardens there, next door to its relative, the giraffe. It is very tame, and feeds on bread, green stuff, carrots, clover and so on.

The five thousand lepers of Cullion, Philippine Islands, sell the products of their farming and fishing to the government, which in turn furnishes them with rations and supplies. The lepers send money each month to their relatives in the outside world.

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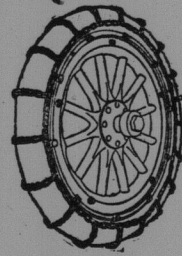
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FOUR HUSBANDS; THOUGHT IT RIGHT

Young New York Matron Says She Did Not Know It Was Against Law.

New York, Jan. 12—Protesting that she did not know it was illegal to have more than one husband at a time, Mrs. Edna Leslie, twenty-three years old, was arraigned in Brooklyn on Saturday on the charge of having had four in the last seven years. She admitted that all of them were alive and that she never had a divorce. John Leslie, who owns a freight boat, was the last of the line, and she declared she loved him best of all.

JOFFE SAYS VON KLUCK AVERTED AN EARLY DEFEAT

Geneva, Switzerland, Jan. 12—Field Marshal Von Kluck, commander of the right wing of the German army in its advance on Paris in 1914, saved Germany from an overwhelming defeat in the first battle of the Marne. This is the tribute paid a former by Marshal Joffre, chief of the French armies in the first titanic struggle of the great war. "Masterly tactics in the retreat from the Marne, while they did not stem the tide of defeat, saved the German right wing from complete disaster," said the marshal. "The enemy was able to re-

MORE TROUBLE WITH WATER IN MONTREAL

Montreal, Jan. 12—Early this morning Chief Engineer Doucet of the water works department issued a statement that a leak in the thirty-six inch force main on Saturday, disabling once again the whole water system of the city, had been found and examined. A joint had become disconnected. It was said the connection should be completed by tonight.

USE The Want Ad Way

Will Speak in Imperial Next Friday



HON. W. L. MACKENZIE KING, M.P., LIBERAL LEADER

Great interest is being evidenced in the speech that is to be delivered by the Hon. Mr. King, and his colleague, Ernest Lapointe, M.P. for Quebec East, at the Imperial Theatre, Friday Evening, January 16.

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