

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1919

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The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by The St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. Telephone—Private exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417. Subscription prices—Delivered by carrier, \$4.00 per year by mail, \$3.00 per year in advance. The Times has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces. Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrup, 303 Fifth Ave.—CHICAGO, E. J. Power, Manager, Association Bldg. The Audit Bureau of Circulations audits the circulation of The Evening Times.

THE PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS.

Premier Foster, in an interview last evening, pointed out that the question of a general election had not been considered by the government, but that should the people should be deemed necessary. Something, no doubt, will depend upon the course pursued by the opposition party. Will Messrs. Murray, Jones, Baxter and Smith resign their seats, or will they and their colleagues in the house attempt to brazen it out in connection with the revelations made before royal commissions? If they adopt the latter course a general appeal to the people may become necessary much earlier than would otherwise be the case. It is quite obvious that the legislature must be purged, one way or the other. There is still no indication of the course the opposition will pursue, and therefore the question of a general election may not be cleared up until after the house meets.

The Standard this morning tries to draw a herring across the trail, in pursuance of a policy it seems to have mapped out for itself, but it does not tell us what Messrs. Murray, Jones, Baxter and Smith intend to do. Perhaps it does not know. It does, however, know that it hates the men who disturbed it and its friends at their feast. Sufficient unto the day is the hatred thereof.

BRITAIN'S CABINET.

The tenure of office of the new British cabinet will depend upon the extent to which the Conservative members are willing to support the broad measures of reform to which Premier Lloyd George is pledged. A reactionary spirit would soon wreck the government after the peace conference is over and attention directed to reforms at home. The spirit of change, even to the point of abandoning old political formulas is abroad, and will not be denied. It is nevertheless true that the extremists among the radicals were rebuked by the people in the general elections, showing that so far as Great Britain is concerned there is no room for Bolshevism. The government has a great opportunity as well as a very heavy burden of responsibility. Mr. Lloyd George has around him a group of men of the highest ability and of high purpose. They will not be in agreement at all points, because they represent many phases of political belief; but it is quite possible to harmonize their views to an extent that will retain for them the confidence of the people. A period of unrest, almost of upheaval, is not unnatural after a great war has shaken a people out of their wonted habits of thought, but in this war Britain has won the victory and that fact will have a great steadying influence, the more so that the battle was fought for righteousness and the welfare of humanity.

A TREATY TEMPEST.

Some gentlemen in Halifax are much worried over the alleged fact that St. John sent the smallpox to their city and then put on the ban to keep it there. That would certainly be a real German trick, but St. John pleads not guilty. The smallpox came here from Halifax, and the reason it came may perhaps be explained by a Halifax despatch to the St. John Standard, which is giving a good deal of space to the Halifax side of the case. In the Halifax correspondence appears the following extraordinary statement, following an admission that there are still twenty-one cases in the Halifax hospital:

"The disease in Halifax is of a mild type and in many cases the patients are not so ill that they find it necessary to go to bed. This is the principal reason why it has been found difficult to wipe it out. Those infected with it not being seriously ill have not, in many cases, called in a doctor, and have been able to attend to their work."

In other words, Halifax admits that it permits persons infected with smallpox to go about their work without even consulting a doctor, and then blames St. John for trying to protect itself. The case from the St. John standpoint has been clearly stated by Hon. Dr. Roberts and Dr. Melvin, the provincial health officer. No doubt the ban will not be continued long, for we refuse to believe, in spite of the Halifax correspondence of the Standard, that the health authorities of that city permit persons infected with smallpox to go about their work as usual. That story is as absurd as the Halifax insinuation that St. John had a malicious purpose in putting on the ban.

The Standard a few days ago loudly demanded that a returned soldier be made registrar of deeds for Kings County. Last night it was announced from Fredericton that Lieut. George B. Hallett, M. C., had been appointed. The news was given to the Standard, along with the other news of the government meeting which appeared in today's Telegraph. The Standard did not print it. That is the kind of newspaper the Standard is.

Germany has failed to carry out the terms of the armistice. Hence it is necessary still to keep 1,000,000 men in the field. It may get necessary to occupy more German territory.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

The Children's Aid Society urges the need of mothers' pensions. Referring to a similar agitation in Ontario the Toronto Globe says:

"Sir William Hearst has promised investigation and consideration of mothers' pensions for the province of Ontario. It might help the government to hasten its decision to point out that the Mothers' Allowance Commission of Manitoba last year granted the sum of \$31,392.55 to 129 mothers, of whom 65 had not one cent of resources of their own, and to 515 children, of whom 400 were under the age of fourteen. The province of Saskatchewan enacted a similar law a little over a year ago, and though the report has not yet been published the figures are no doubt available if the Ontario government is in earnest about the matter."

A British committee on the machinery of government has just submitted its report. A report of one of its findings says: "As regards the employment of women in the civil service, the committee states that the absence of any substantial recourse to women's services has hitherto deprived the public of a vast store of knowledge, experience and fresh ideas, some of which would, for particular purposes, have been far more valuable and relevant than those of the ablest men civil servants." This testimony to woman's efficiency is significant. In New Brunswick we may some day be persuaded that a woman is actually intelligent enough to vote. What?

Col. George T. Denison of Toronto, who has a remarkable faculty for saying the wrong thing has been criticizing President Wilson at a public dinner in Toronto. As a loyal citizen Col. Denison should say no word calculated to excite prejudice against the great ally of Great Britain, without whose assistance the war would have dragged along interminably, and whose co-operation now is so essential to bring order out of chaos in world affairs. Die-hard of the Denison type are not an unusual blessing in any country.

Count Von Hertling, before he died, confessed that Prussianism was the curse of Germany. He should have said something of the sort when he was the imperial German chancellor.

The South End Improvement League is a hustler. It knows what it wants and has faith in the people. Its activity and usefulness will grow.

In the police court yesterday afternoon John Travis was sent up for trial on the charge of stealing a Persian lamb coat and also with breaking into F. A. Johnson's store in Dock street and stealing.



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LOCAL NEWS

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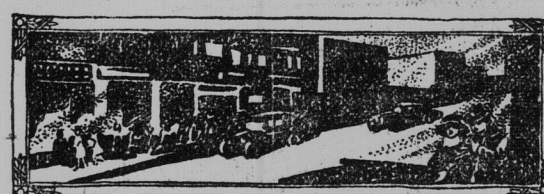


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A granulated compound which when used according to directions will destroy soot in Chimney, Stove, Range, Furnace Pipes or Boiler Flues. It will extinguish and prevent chimney fires, also prevents the carbonic acid in soot from eating out pipes.

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During 1919 let Louis Green share his profits with you. He will give free gifts in return for your purchases of smokers' goods at 89 Charlotte street. Begin now to buy there and save the coupons.

International Longshoremen's Association, Local 218, regular monthly meeting (postponed) Monday evening, Jan. 13, in hall, 35 Water street. All members requested to be present. By order of the president. 92045-2-13

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Don't suffer that agonizing anticipation of "feeling a skid" with its attendant fear of disastrous consequences. Enjoy that "safe feeling". Take the necessary "safety" step in time—put Weed Chains on all four tires at the first indication of slippery going.

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