

The Evening Times-Star

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 2, 1924

LEST WE FORGET.

The people of this country who cheered their sons as they set out for the war, and who expressed honest and deep admiration of the courage and sacrifice they displayed during the most trying years of the struggle, should now listen attentively to the appeal of Canada's war pensioners.

These pensioners of whom there are 48,000, not counting 19,000 war widows, through their organizations are asking Parliament for a continuance of the pension bonus, and that continuance should be granted.

The war pension bonus is in a class by itself. It was brought into force in 1919, and it is a fact that the idea of supplementing the pensions at that time was based on the belief that the cost of living would soon return to something like the 1913 level. But in a short time Parliament recognized that even with the added bonus the pensions were too small, and in 1920 they were increased to the present amounts. The maximum pension for total disability was raised from \$600 to \$900 a year. The maximum bonus of \$300, and the smaller bonus for less serious cases, have been renewed year by year. Unless this practice is followed the bonus would expire in September next. The effect would be to reduce total disability cases to \$600 and war widows to \$480 and, of course, to reduce the smaller pensions by the amount of the smaller bonus given in each class.

Renewing the bonus, or adding it permanently to the pension will not add to the country's present expenditure, and the Canadian people who are represented in Parliament, however much they may favor economy, do not desire to practice it at the expense of the soldier pensioners or the war widows.

During the war, particularly when it was in its darkest period, there was little economy in blood or in treasure. The soldiers who fought for Canada did not spare themselves. Those who survived injuries did not get pensions unless they deserved them. Those who deserve them ought not to be in doubt about the amount they are to receive. Far better than abolishing the bonus would be to add it to the pension, which in the more serious cases, and in the case of war widows, would then be none too large.

MORE BRITISH.

Immigration increases, and a pleasing feature is that the percentage of arrivals from Great Britain is rising. Canada received 148,550 newcomers in the year ended March 31, as compared with 72,987 the year before, an increase of 104 per cent. Of the total arriving in the last twelve months 72,919 were British, or nearly fifty per cent. The United States sent us 20,321 people, or slightly less than the year before. From other countries we received 55,190, while in the previous twelve months there were only 16,872. The British arrivals increased by 111 per cent. compared with the year before.

Of course immigration in the former period was very low, but the figures for the last twelve months indicate that with improving conditions in Canada the tide of immigration will rise rapidly. The problem is more complicated than it was in the pre-war period when in a single year we brought in nearly half-a-million new settlers. That we lost many of those who came is beyond question. Today we are not seeking indiscriminate immigration as we practically did prior to 1914. Canada is selecting its immigrants with greater care, and is seeking also ways and means to keep the best of them once they have reached this country. There is the other and older problem of keeping our own folk in the land of their birth, which is one of great importance. Its solution will be easier as the country continues to recover its old business pace. As our basic industries pick up speed again the desire to seek fortune afar will not be so strong. The very conditions which prevent Canadians from leaving home in considerable numbers—normal conditions of trade and industry—tend to invite extensive immigration, and those normal conditions are bound to be restored in a country whose resources are so great as ours and for whose natural products there is sure to be a sustained demand in other countries.

Mr. Robert Forke, leader of the Progressives, will vote for the Liberal budget proposals and against the Woodworth amendment. So will most of his followers. The Progressives regard the amendment as a want of confidence motion, and if they supported it, as Mr. Forke says, they would be logically bound to vote against the Government's tariff and taxation changes, of which they are in favor. Mr. Forke stoutly repudiates the idea that there has been any bargaining between his party and the Government.

SOME HORRIBLE EXAMPLES.

Mr. L. Frank Tooker, for forty years one of the editors of The Century Magazine, is writing his autobiography, and in a part of it appearing in the May Century he makes this terrible revelation, among others:

"Within two days recently passed through my hands the manuscripts of two authors who have a countrywide reputation of a sort. The punctuation and capitalization of one exhibited freaks of eccentricity that once would have been thought fantastic in a normally instructed child of twelve, while not one of the twenty-four pages of the other contained fewer than ten misspelled words."

He does not stop there, but, pursuing his argument that American education is "top-heavy," he says: "Our colleges and schools of journalism and extension courses have classes which teach the art of short-story-writing, dramatic construction, and other forms of literary endeavor, and students crowd them, though futilely, I believe. They think to learn all the secrets of the art of literary superstructure while they should be digging at the foundation, which is the craftsmanship of flexible English; for the superstructure is the substance of their own imagination or insight, and no one can draft it for them, and their own craftsmanship must give it form."

The elective system, he is sure, is a failure because it has ignored the foundation of thoroughness. Very likely. Of some of the folk who send manuscripts to magazines, but do not get them published, he speaks gloomily: "Surely, it might be supposed that those bright young people—one can deny them the possession of cleverness—who make up the army of would-be contributors to magazines would exhibit in their work an appreciable amount of craftsmanship and skill in the use of the tools of the writing trade. Many of them have ideas, and a few have a certain facile gift of expression, but fewer still are those who show the slightest concern for the fundamental requirements of written English."

This is all serious enough, to be sure, but the editor's horrified repetition to the author of word repetition who spells ten words wrong on every page up to 24, and to the other fellow whose punctuation is delirious, will cause a bit of relief and amusement to an army of readers to whom both spelling and punctuation are mountains of difficulty. Over punctuation there is sometimes room for argument, but about spelling there is no such satisfaction. The speeches of a great many public men are punctuated by stenographers & reporters, sometimes with valuable aid from the speaker himself. The general level of punctuation and spelling should be much better—no doubt about it. But if every body behind the scenes were to follow Mr. Tooker's example, or go farther and tell all they knew about spellers and punctuators they have met, there would be a pretty row. No man has a right to tell all he knows about the spelling and punctuation he has encountered. And it would not be safe. We hope Mr. Tooker's work will prosper, and we note with approbation that authors. They would probably blame he does not name the offending it on the typewriter.

Hon. T. A. Low, Minister of Trade and Commerce, has responded courteously and favorably to the St. John Board of Trade's request in regard to a pamphlet and map recently issued for use at the British Empire Exhibition. St. John and Quebec, which were omitted from the map, are to be given their proper places in a second edition of the leaflet. Better late than never. In any literature purporting to show the principal ports of Canada, the officials of any government department ought to know that the omission of St. John and Quebec is scarcely an intelligent proceeding.

The taxation of small incomes and the question of unpaid taxes evidently need careful and extensive inquiry at the hands of the new Council. The Chamberlain's statement that a very high proportion of those whose taxes are unpaid are really unable to pay—some thousands of them—reveals a rather pitiable situation. But evidently a still larger number can pay but do not try to do so. Action to separate these classes and apply different treatment to each will evidently be necessary.

agreement should provide the big stick. When did soft words ever do more than encourage German resistance? Germany accepts them only as proof of weakness.

Congratulations to His Honor Lieutenant Governor Todd who celebrates his seventieth birthday today, and who will have on this occasion the good wishes of the public and its hope that he may have many years of honor and usefulness before him.

Press Comment

THE COMMON THINGS.

(Cape Argus.) It is astonishing how little many of us know about the common things around us. Shells and sand, birds and butterflies, sunset and sunrise, curving wave and crimson heather, flower and field, mountain and valley may hold for us a wealth of wonder and awe, and we are in a mood to discover it. The realm of gold are near at hand. The right book may hand us the key to the door which opens into them.

PLANT A TREE.

(Border Cities Star.) There is no excuse for not planting trees because they take a long time to grow. It takes a long time to save money, but the massed savings of the people, invested in bank accounts, homes and life insurance, form the bulk of the wealth of this nation. As we are thrifty with our money, so let us be with our trees. Let us, if we have not already done so, start a bank account with nature by planting one or more trees this spring. It will pay us to do so.

THE RIGHT TO PLAY.

(Toronto Globe.) The Kingston Whig strongly advocates community playgrounds. These are necessities of modern life in cities because of the increased danger on the streets from electric cars and automobiles. Vacant lots disappear with the growth of cities. In addition to that lanes are being made for the special accommodation of owners of automobiles, thus cutting down the already small space provided for play. It is not fair to the boys and girls to make them choose between playing on the dangerous streets and no play at all.

THE OPEN FIREPLACE.

(London Times.) There has grown up everywhere an etiquette, almost a ritual, of the fireside, supported by a host of conventional superstitions. You do not, except at your peril, disturb your hostess's coats without her permission; you do not, in country cottages, where belief in domestic devils still persists, play any stranger's tricks with the tongs, the poker, or the logs. Beware how you cross them, or stand them on end, or lay them down where they should not be; they are protected by a dozen taboos. And, like most taboos which continue at this time, these have a reason, if not an origin, in sound sense and ordinary convenience. An owner has a right to do as he pleases with the satisfaction of building it up in his own way. No visitor is less welcome than he who cannot keep his hands out of the grate, and no pedant more irritating than he who goes through the world with a fixed belief that his wisdom alone can make a fire burn.

A QUICK RECOVERY.

(Toronto Globe.) During his mission to the United States in 1887-8 Mr. Joseph Chamberlain was entertained by the New York Chamber of Commerce, when his health was proposed by Mr. Lamar, a member of President Cleveland's cabinet. He had carefully prepared his reply. He was disturbed by hearing Mr. Lamar quote one line from a passage which he had intended to use, but he quickly recovered. "Mr. Chamberlain," he said, "in his concluding observations quoted a line from an English poet; if he will permit me to complete the quotation, I think it is particularly apposite to the view which I am endeavoring to impress upon you. It is Cowper who says, indeed: 'The bond of commerce was designed To associate all the branches of mankind; And if a boundless plenty be the robe Trade is the golden girdle of the globe.'"

The audience was impressed by this proof of his knowledge of the poets and of the excellence of his memory, but he kept his own counsel and modestly accepted their congratulations.

SEEK SUPPLIES FOR LABRADOR HOSPITAL

The local branch of the Grenfell Mission is planning for its first collection of garments for the mission this season and has sent out to its circles particulars of the kind of garments most required. The appeal this year is especially stressed because of equipping a new hospital. The Emily Beaver Chamberlain Memorial Hospital at North West River, Labrador, which was built by Mrs. Lockwood as a memorial to her mother, was destroyed by fire and one patient was burned. Mrs. Lockwood has offered to supplement the insurance money to the required extent in order that the hospital may be rebuilt and there will be need of entirely new equipment.

In other years there was some misunderstanding of the actual requirements of the people of Labrador and many long overcoats were sent out. The workers who have returned from Labrador have explained that because of the deep snow long coats are of no use in Labrador and short heavy coats are what are needed.

30-DAY LIMIT ON MOTORISTS TO U. S.

American motorists crossing the border into Canada this summer will be presented a neat little yellow card. Canadians making the trip to the "States" will be presented blue cards. Failure to present the cards to the Customs offices on return will make the owner or driver liable to a fine of \$100.

This is one of the new rules just announced by the United States Customs service, which is making plans for handling a big increase in motor tourists a the border. Canadians, with blue cards must not remain in the United States for periods longer than 30 days without paying duty on the cars.

A SCARLET AMARYLLIS

(Nan Terrell Reed, in New York Times.) A window plant—A Scarlet Amaryllis, Leaning toward the Sun. Oh, shining, golden, tickle Sun, That painted cup is only one Of many who will beg your smile Or share your radiance a while. That lily lasts a day or two—A week, perhaps, and dies, while you—Some permanent, like Earth, endure, And all Eternity is yours. It may be Man or Circumstance That gave that flower bud a chance To blossom where a World could see, Or only in a room—for me: And blossoming, although it dies, While living it delights my eyes. Was that its purpose?—Who can tell? We do not know our own too well. If recreated we must be, And so return as plant or tree. A myrtle bush, a plot of grass, Where newer generations pass; If recreated we express Some silent form of loveliness, I hope I'll go to some dull room And bring the beauty of a bloom—A window plant, A Scarlet Amaryllis, Leaning toward the Sun.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

Best Thing To Do "I've reached the end of my rope and want your advice."

"Well, tie a knot in it and hang on."

Restless, Naturally Sweet Young Thing—"What makes the heat jump about me?"

Another S. Y. T.—"Bob says the poor thing is on a tack."—The Harvard Lampoon.

She Approved He (after proposal)—"I shall work hard and in a year or two we'll have our own little home in the country."

"Oh, how lovely! We can rent it and board in town, can't we, dear?"

That Determined Look "When my wife has made up her mind," began Peck.

"Well," asked his friend. "I can generally notice the make-up on her face."

Why Did The Owl Howl? (Dry Goods Economist.) Cockney Visitor—"What's that awful noise outside?"

Country Host—"Why, that's an owl." Cockney Visitor—"I know it's an owl. But owls howl?"

A Job to Suit. (The Continent.) Foreman—"Here, now, Murphy, what about carrying some more bricks?"

Murphy—"I ain't feeling well, guv'nor; I'm trembling all over." Foreman—"Well, then, lend a hand with the sieve."

UPKEEP GIFTS DECREASE.

A marked falling off in the gifts for maintenance was reported at the meeting of the directors of the New Brunswick Protestant Orphanage Home yesterday afternoon. It was said that the total amount received for maintenance during the month was \$400 and the average monthly expenses of the three institutions now being conducted was \$2,500. Dr. James Manning presided at the meeting which was held in the British street home. Other reports were satisfactory. The children's health was good and the institutions were filled to capacity. Arrangements were made for the annual meeting in the Board of Trade rooms on May 12.

LAWYER ILL; CASE DEFERRED.

The case of C. B. Fairley, collector of customs in Campbellton, who is under arrest charged under section 393 of the Criminal Code, which deals with the offence of stealing from the Government while in the employ of the Government, which was to have come up for hearing in Dalhousie on Wednesday has been postponed owing to the illness of the Crown prosecutor. Fairley was remanded, but the case will, under the law, have to come before the Judge within eight days of the date of remanding.

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CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

CHANGE IN SERVICE

Effective Monday, May 5th, S. S. Prince Edward Island will make two round trips daily (Except Sunday) between Cape Tormentine, N. B. and Borden, P. E. I.

Connection from St. John

By No. 44 Train leaving at 7.10 a. m., and by No. 14 leaving at 1.40 p. m.

For further particulars apply at City Ticket Office, 49 King Street.

OPENING OF ROADS MAY BE HELD UP

Wet Weather May Mean Possibility of Extending Closed Period.

Unless the weather between today and Monday was of an exceptionally drying character, the plans of the Department of Public Works to open the roads in the southern counties of the province for automobile traffic on that date, would have to be foregone, said Hon. P. J. Veniot, Premier and Minister of Public Works, who was in the city last night.

The plan of the department, he said, had been to open the roads on Monday, May 5, but the heavy rain of yesterday had put a crimp in the arrangement owing to the fact that such weather was ideal for bringing the frost out of the ground, and this being so, it would be foolhardy to allow cars on the road at a time when they could do the most possible damage. The date would have to be deferred to some future time not too far distant, he said.

INQUEST RESUMES TONIGHT.

The inquest into the sudden death of Raymond Nichol Laird, aged 4 years, which occurred in his East St. John home on Monday, April 24, will be continued before Coroner H. A. Porter and jury in the County Court rooms this evening at 8 o'clock. At the previous hearing evidence was given by the father and mother of the boy, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. A. Laird, who he had partaken only of good wholesome food; that he had slept in bed with two other children; that when awakened at 4:30 in the morning, when the father was getting ready for work, the boy presented the appearance of being very ill and soon afterwards died in his father's arms. Dr. H. L. Abramson, provincial pathologist, said last evening that he could not give any information regarding his findings as to the cause of death until he gave evidence at the inquest tonight. The death of the boy was sudden and violent, and at the previous hearing Dr. Abramson stated that he could not understand how a boy with numerous ulcers in the stomach, along with a large perforation on the stomach wall, could sleep through the entire night to the early morning without some distress or sickness showing.

FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFIED.

The regular meeting of the Knights of Columbus was held last evening, following which the first degree of the order, was exemplified to a small class of candidates.

FOLEY'S STONE BEAN POTS.

For good rich BAKED BEANS use plenty of clear pork fat and ALWAYS BAKE IN THE OLD FASHIONED BEAN POT

Made by The FOLEY POTTERY

It pays to use MARTIN-SENGOUR WOOD-LAC STAIN for Furniture-Floors & Woodwork Write to Head Office Montreal for Free Booklet HOME PAINTING MADE EASY SOLD BY

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