

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 20, 1919

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HERE'S A NEW ONE

The Woodstock Press, the organ of the provincial opposition and of Hon. B. Frank Smith, furnishes a new indictment against the old government.

"The action in the chancery court whereby the provincial government has sought restitution of certain moneys from Hon. J. K. Fleming of Woodstock, alleged to have been voluntarily contributed to him by Mr. A. R. Gould and the Prudential Trust Company for election purposes, will not be further pressed for the present at least, owing to the serious illness of Mr. Fleming. Admitting for argument sake that such contributions for campaign purposes he was only following a precedent set in days gone by, and not so long ago, by the then leaders of the government which now prosecutes him, and who escaped trial in some cases by appealing to the government that Mr. Fleming supported and contending that a suit would disgrace the family name of the guilty ones."

If this be true, the old government conceded from the people facts which the people had a right to know. Who were the persons who appealed to that government not to divulge the fact that they had done as Mr. Fleming did, and why did a government pledge to protect the people's interest and to a policy of concealment? But does anybody believe the old government would have spared an opponent? That is quite too much to ask anybody to believe. The Press has said too much or too little.

HOW MAINE WAS SAVED

They are still laughing in the United States at the action of the senate regarding Sir Andrew Macphail's proposition, in an article in the University Magazine, that northern Maine should be ceded to Canada, to give this country better access to the sea. Mr. Harold Phelps Stokes, in the New York Evening Post, says:—

"Maine is saved to the Union—saved only in the nick of time. Had it not been for Senator Johnson of California, who discovered only yesterday the horrible fate hanging over her, and for Senator Hale, who put her through today at the last minute a reservation protecting her, Sir Robert Borden and Lloyd George might at this very moment be plotting no less than the dismemberment of this sovereign state through the League of Nations. But the country need have no fear; they have been foiled."

The manner in which Maine was saved is described in the same entertaining way by Mr. Stokes. We quote further:—

"Picture, then, the California Senator wending his way home to Culver Mansion, near Riverside, last night, through the ill-lighted streets of the national capital, conscious of a week well spent and wondering only if overnight he cannot before the door to further amendments and reservations is shut forever by the adoption of closure, devise some way of putting a few finishing touches on the treaty which he loathes so well."

"Fancy him further, dinner over and the dishes cleared away, drawing a chair before the fire and opening the familiar pages of the Gospel according to St. Cabot, more widely known, perhaps, among laymen as the book of the Transcendentalist. He browses contentedly through its pastoral columns, through the well-typed and accurate death notices, through the thorough authentication of items from Brookline, Dedham and the Newtons, through the 'Strangers Directory,' with its old wood cuts of Franklin street and Blackstone Square. It may be assumed that he is searching for editorial comment on the Peace Treaty, which, during these past weeks, he has frequently found to be congenial and sustaining."

"But he never gets that far. For before he reaches the editorial page he comes to a page with a huge map of Maine on it, full of crosses and dotted lines, and his eye falls on, or rather is transfixed by, this score-head in letters that fairly spring from the page:—

"SHALL MAINE BE DISMEMBERED TO CONCILIATE CANADA?"

And then, after the senator read the story, comes the startling denouement:—

"Senator Johnson realized that there was not a moment to lose. The Senate was to meet at ten o'clock in the morning, and to vote on closure at eleven, after which no more amendments or reservations might be introduced. He well he imagined with what trembling fingers he clipped the tell-tale columns from the Transcript, how he rushed down to the Senate and at the very first available moment asked leave to have the article printed in the Record, and then, without stopping but for the briefest possible exposition of the contents of the article, sought out in the lobby the Senator from Maine and told him how Great Britain was going to steal 8,000 square miles of the territory of that State unless he took action to prevent the steal within the next thirty-five minutes."

"The effect on Senator Hale of this staggering revelation may easily be conceived. What! All of Aroostook and most of Piscataquis, Penobscot and Somerset counties to become foreign soil? Moosehead Lake and Kenebec, Millinocket, Seven Islands, and the Allegash; shimmering waters of Chumbequehamcook, Umbagogus and Lobster Pond, not to mention Patagongonis Lake and the rapids of Fish River—all these to be Maine's no more? From his first casual and horrified study of the map it looked to Senator Hale as if even Patagongonis might have to go. Hurriedly he pencilled and sent to the desk this amendment to the pending resolution, insisting on the right of the United States to decide what questions are within its domestic jurisdiction, and refusing to submit them in any way to the consideration of the League of Nations."

"And all questions affecting the present boundaries of the United States and its insular or other possessions."

The peace treaty failed to pass the United States senate. The Republican leaders have had their way. The whole question will come up again next session, but for the present no action is taken. Failure to adopt is the result of reckless partisanship. It cannot be believed that it represents the sentiments of the majority of the people of the United States. These Republican senators have made of themselves and their country a sorry spectacle.

While the prospect of a soft coal famine confronts the United States, we are told there is to be a strike at Minto because the miners will not accept the award of the conciliation board. The quantity of coal mined at Minto is relatively small, but to cut off the supply would injuriously affect a number of industries.

The Soldiers' Comforts Association made a splendid record during the war, and its work was of incalculable value to the men in the field. In devoting the balance of its funds to the welfare of soldiers' children it fitsly crowns a worthy career. The women who devoted so much time and energy to its work deserve the lasting gratitude of soldiers and their families.

In Winnipeg there is a straight fight in the civic election between labor and the Citizens' Committee. The latter is fighting for the defeat of every labor candidate. This is a result of the strike last summer, and the outcome will be awaited everywhere with keen interest.

One of the duties of the new Commercial Club will be to check corporate greed and prevent the exploitation of the city by private interests. This is as essential as any other task the club may undertake.

It is announced that the Canadian government will proclaim a naval policy in the near future. It is quite safe to say the old Borden policy will not be revived. It was a makeshift and a delusion.

The British policy in Egypt looks to self-government in that country under British protection. That is the purpose of the new constitution, and it is in accord with British precedent.

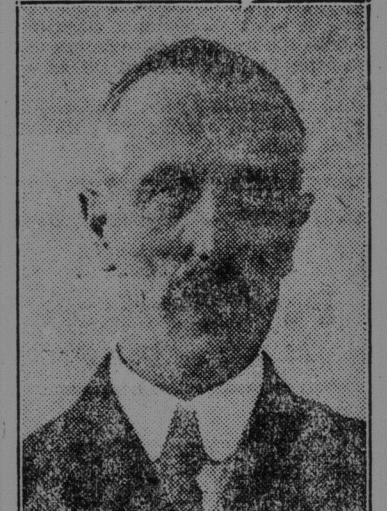
The Bolshevik hope, it is said, to strike England by a movement in Turkestan and Afghanistan, aimed at India. Bolshevism is a world menace.

The question of the open shop has been raised in Moncton, where union men have refused to work with non-union men.

The civic grant of \$5,000 clears the way for the programme of work already planned by the vocational training board in this city.

With 115,000,000 gallons of whiskey released by the government, Great Britain will have a real wet spell.

ONTARIO'S MINISTER OF MINES



Hon. Harry Mills of Fort William, Labor member of the Ontario legislature, who has been sworn in as Minister of Mines.

GIVES UP POSITION.



Major Gen. J. E. B. Seely who has resigned as head of the air ministry in Great Britain.



(Copyright by George Matthew Adams)

SORROW.

My ears are often sore and aching, my heart is on the edge of breaking, I hear so much of woe; the men I know are all complaining, their briny tears forever raining, wherever I may go. In some poor chaps grief is abiding because the cars in which they're riding are made of tin and rust; it makes them sore when costly wagons whiz up the road like fiery dragons, and cover them with d.s.t. Of course to swallow that is hateful; but it were better to be grateful that they have cars at all, that they have boats in which to travel, at any speed, upon the gravel, and by the junk-yard wall. The man on foot is feeling bitter because his neighbor, pompous critic, rides in a boat of tin; upon his tribulations he goes toiling, and in his veins the blood is boiling, he scorns the cheer-up grin. Green envy, reader, is the answer; it's gnawing like a deadly cancer, in Harry, Tom and Dick; it takes the bloom from human pleasure, it turns to dross the old world's treasures, and makes the spirit sick.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domination Happenings of Other Days

SIR WILFRID LAURIER

On November 20, 1841, at St. Lin, a little Quebec province village, Wilfrid Laurier, destined to be a leader of the Dominion of Canada, and one of the most outstanding characters in the empire for many years, was born. He died on Feb. 17 last in Ottawa, full of years and honor.

After completing his education at St. Lin, New Glasgow and McGill University, where he obtained his B. C. L., in 1864, he began his legal career, being called to the bar in his native province. He was a lawyer in Montreal for several years and later for a time was a newspaper man. In 1871 he was elected to the provincial legislature, followed in a very brief time by his election to a seat in the House of Commons. His oratory was brilliant and his leadership so pronounced that in a few years he became the leader of the Liberal party. When the Conservative government was defeated at the polls in 1896 he was called upon to form a cabinet. Until November 1911 he remained in office. At various times he represented Canada at imperial conferences and also at the Queen's diamond jubilee and the coronation of the late King Edward VII. Honors came thick and fast to the brilliant Canadian—not only from Canada and the British Empire, but from France and other peoples. After his defeat in 1911 he continued at the head of the Liberal Party and made many appearances in all parts of the dominion, swaying huge audiences with his powerful oratory. But his physical powers were waning and in February last he collapsed one Saturday afternoon while en route to one of the Parliament buildings at the capital. A few days later he passed away. His funeral was one of the greatest ever held in the dominion.

ROOFS.

The road is wide and the stars are out and the breath of the night is sweet. And this is the time when wanderlust should seize upon my feet. But I'm glad to turn from the open road and the starlight on my face, and to leave the splendor of out-of-door for a human dwelling place. I never have seen a vagabond who really liked to roam.

All up and down the streets of the world and not to have a home; The tramp who slept in your barn last night and left at break of day. Will wander only until he finds another place to stay.

A gypsy-man will sleep in his cart with his canvas overhead; Or else he'll go into his tent when it is time for bed.

He'll sit on the grass and take his ease so long as the sun is high, But when it is dark he wants a roof to keep away the sky. If you call a gypsy a vagabond, I think you are a blithering fool; For he never goes a-traveling but he takes his home along. And the only reason a roof is good, as every wanderer knows, Is just because of the homes, the homes, the homes to which it sees. They say that life is a highway and its milestones are the years, And now and then there's a tollgate where you buy your way with tears.

It's a rough road and a steep road and it stretches broad and far; But at last it leads to a golden town where golden houses are.

LIGHTER VEIN.

"How do you like that cigar I gave you, old man? For 200 bands off that brand they give you a grand house."

"You don't say! If I smoked 200 of those cigars I wouldn't want a grammar-school; I'd want a harp!"

Organized Labor.

A hungry urchin entered a London baker's shop one foggy night and asked for a roll.

The boy then made a novel request. "My brother's outside," he said, "and if 'e hasn't got this 'ere, 'e'll take it away from me. Will yer 'ide it for me, guv'nor, down 'ere," pointing to the back of his neck.

Being a humane man, the shop-keeper came from behind the counter and stuffed the roll down the back of the lad's neck.

"Thanks, guv'nor, that'll do," said the boy as he ran out of the shop.

A few minutes later another urchin confronted the baker.

"As a young blighter bin in and bought a 'buster?"

"Yes."

"Then I'm blowed if 'e ain't got your watch?"

Johnson made a rush for Robson's house agent.

"Excuse me," he said, breathlessly, "but can I have Robson's house? He has fallen in the river and is drowning."

"Sorry," said the plaster-faced house merchant, "but you're too late. I've already let it to the man who pushed him in."

"I can let you have a room on the top floor, sir, if you don't mind sharing it with another gentleman," said the boarding house lady.

All right. But do you suppose the gentleman will retire early? I'm in need of sleep, and don't want to be disturbed.

"You'll probably be able to get a good night's rest before the gentleman comes in, sir. He's been stopping with us every September for six or seven years, and this is the first time he's ever made the trip without his wife."

THE CANADIAN MEMORIAL AT YPRES.

To the Editor of Toronto—Mail and Empire.

Sir,—Will you permit me a little further space in your valuable paper for a few more words on the subject of the Canadian Memorial at Ypres?

I understand from a statement made by the department of militia that:

"The question of battlefields memorials has engaged the attention of the government and the military authorities for some time. A careful report was made and an engineer officer fully conversant with the matter, Colonel H. T. Hughes, was sent to Canada to inform the authorities here at first hand. In the result, by vote 526 at this session of parliament, the sum of \$500,000 was voted as a preliminary appropriation, and Colonel Hughes was sent back to France to carry out surveys, select sites, and do other necessary work, under the general guidance of the high commissioner for Canada. Colonel Hughes has been actively engaged and his co-operation of the war graves commission, the war office and the foreign office."

"With regard to the particular site mentioned, namely, one near Menin Gate at Ypres, this was originally offered to Canada by the Belgian government through General Currie. There has been considerable correspondence regarding it, and the recommendation of the high commissioner was that it should be accepted, subject, however, to first reaching an understanding with the Belgian government as to the extent of the site and other details. On this understanding the high commissioner has been given authority to accept the site and, with Colonel Hughes, is working on the matter at the present time."

May I add that there is a very deep and widespread interest in Canada in the question of Canadian graves in France and Flanders, and no project of the government will receive a heartier endorsement from the Canadian people than that of honoring our Canadian dead on the fields in which they fought and fell.

Yours, etc., HELEN F. DURIE, M. A. Toronto, Nov. 15.

PLAYS UPON WORDS.

The teacher said, as reported in Strickland Gillilan's "Sample Case of Humor": "Some one in the conjunction; pick out the conjunction and tell what it connects."

A boy finally puzzled out this answer: "The conjunction, connecting the goat and the boy." Another boy, who was asked to give a sentence containing the word "understanding," wrote: "The man's trousers were worn out, not with standing."

Another of Gillilan's stories deals with the age-old theme of the inability of some English people to appreciate the American joke. An English girl was present when this conundrum was asked: "How do you make a Maltese cross?"—the answer of course being, "You pull its tail!" The English girl, of course, it's because I'm English and all that, but really I cannot see any similarity between a Maltese cross, and a pulley's tail."

TOYS IN ARCTIC ZONE.

(Philadelphia Ledger.)

In Eskimo land the little girls are as fond of playing with dolls as any other children of their sex and age. Of course, their doll babies are dressed in the costumes of Eskimo people.

Sometimes their doll babies are snow huts in miniature, provided with tin kettles, soapstone lamp and other essentials. The dolls are cut out of driftwood usually, this sort of task passing many an idle hour for the father of the family during the long months of the winter night.

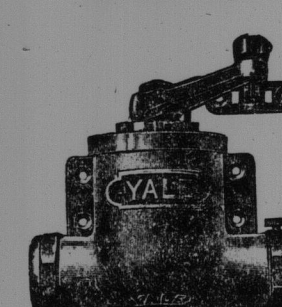
The Eskimos are wonderfully clever carvers in wood and ivory, the latter material being obtained from walrus tusks. To amuse the children a whole Ark of course, is thus evolved, including the polar bear, the seal, the sea lion, the porpoise, the sea otter and various species of whales.

The animals are a collection quite different from that composing the familiar fauna of our own nurseries. Conspicuous among them, however, are the dog and the reindeer. Mr. and Mrs. Noah appear, with Shem, Ham and Japhet, or their equivalents.

Some of the dolls turn their heads from side to side in a lifelike way by the help of a couple of strings wound about the neck and pulled by a finger passed up beneath the manikin's clothing.

Even mechanical toys are not unknown to the Eskimos. One of them has a whalebone spring, which, when released, causes an alarming-looking animal to jump out of a box.

YALE Door Closers

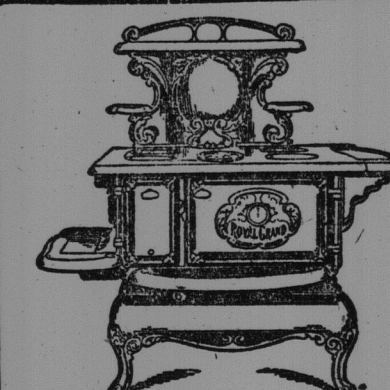


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FAIL TO PASS TREATY IN UNITED STATES SENATE

Washington, D. C., Nov. 19.—Failing after three attempts to ratify the peace treaty, the senate late tonight laid it aside, ended the special session and went home.

All compromise efforts to bring ratification failed, the three resolutions of ratification all going down by overwhelming majorities. The Republican leaders apparently despairing of bringing two-thirds of the senate together for any sort of ratification then put in a resolution to declare the war at an end. The resolution presented tonight, to declare a state of peace will come up at the beginning of the new session, and is expected to start another stubborn fight. The administration is understood to be opposed to such a method of legally ending the war and in the background is a constitutional question as to whether congress can do so by a resolution not requiring the president's signature.

THREE PUFFS IN MINE. \$5.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Nov. 20.—Thomas Rowland, an old-timer, pleaded guilty before Judge Garman to having violated the mine laws by smoking in a gaseous mine. He was employed in the Woodward mine, the most gaseous in the Wyoming Valley.

"I am guilty," he said. "I only took three puffs." "Those three puffs," said the court, "might have puffed you into eternity." Because of the age of the defendant, the court was lenient and imposed a fine of \$3 and costs.

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SHARKS IN CHANNEL.

London, Eng., Nov. 20.—Sharks are being caught in great numbers by fishermen operating in the Bristol Channel fishing waters. Most of them are small ones, but several have been landed that had reached the "man-eating size."

Manager at Minto.

Halifax Echo.—C. J. Coll, formerly general manager of the Acadia Coal Company, has been appointed general manager of the Minto Coal Company, at Minto, N. B., and will take charge of the company's operations on December 1st.

Over stocked sale of ladies' one piece dresses at Lesser's, 210 Union St. See ad.

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