

The Evening Times and Star

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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 Circulation audits the circulation of The Evening Times.

AT OTTAWA.

Sir James Loughheed says the Union government has a platform, and that it will be announced at an early day. It is also announced that Sir Robert Borden has resumed his duties with much vigor and is giving his cabinet an abundance of work. In view of the fact that in the vote in the house yesterday relative to the question of the Canadian ambassador at Washington the government had only six of a majority there is apparent need, both for an active leader and a policy. The country is curious to learn what the policy may be, and whether Sir Robert is to continue to lead. There has evidently been a good deal of difficulty in getting a budget satisfactory to all in the cabinet, and this also is a subject of much speculation in the country. The information is now about to be given. Obviously a large revenue must be produced, and the task of the government has been to devise ways and means of doing it with the least possible friction in a party whose members hold divergent views. No doubt Sir Robert Borden's return would have some effect in bringing about greater harmony, for in his absence there was no real leader, to assume responsibility and say the final word. We may anticipate a more lively session from now until the house is prorogued. The opposition will be much elated over the result of last night's vote.

ALONG THE RIVER.

Summer has come to the Long Reach. The mercury at Public Landing yesterday went to seventy-two in the shade. On Sunday it was nearly as warm, and both Sunday and Monday were perfect days. From the hill behind the Landing one rose in the early morning to see a river without a ripple, the houses and woods and fields on the farther side so perfectly mirrored on the smooth surface of the river. The scene was so beautiful that the line where the real ended and the reflection began could scarcely be discerned. As the sun rose higher the aspect of the river changed continually, and the eye never weary of its beauty. One could hardly believe that a month before a storm had swept its surface, breaking booms along the shore and setting adrift logs which were dashed in places against the side of the Valley Railway, making holes and doing damage that called for the services of a work train to make it safe. One farmer lost eighteen hundred pieces of logs in that storm. The end of a boat-house was wrecked by the force of the gale, and a boat stove in. But yesterday, though the river is still at freshest height and the end of the wharf submerged, the river, viewed from the hill, possessed all its summer beauty, with strips of perfectly smooth water between patches of rippled surface caused by currents and puffs of light wind here and there. To complete the picture a great fish hawk soared and poised high above the centre of the stream, with keen eyes directed downward; and on the wharf a fisherman with hook and line was making a catch of perch, large smelts and the fish popularly known as the chub—all of them choice morsels when taken while the chill of the freshet is still in the water. The season has been late this year. Until Sunday one saw scarcely a leaf, but the two warm days wrought a miracle. Against one background of evergreen the gleaming white of a group of birches and the scarlet buds of some maples made a picture such as no artist's brush could reproduce. In the fence corners dog-tooth violets bloomed, with here and there in the fields a strawberry blossom, while everywhere the fields are beginning to show their mantle of living green. In one garden early peas were up, and one farmer has practically all his planting done, although there are others who as yet have but little seed in the soil. Every succeeding day will now work a miracle along the country-side. Sunday and yesterday people from the city were along the Reach enquiring where a cottage or rooms might be available for the summer. Two motor boats, probably the first pleasure craft of the season, went up the river on Sunday. Yesterday afternoon, besides the regular steamers going up and down, several tugs went up light and one with a tow of scows, while two went down with rafts of logs, and a large sailing scow with all sails spread tacked down the river with a strong current and a light breeze. The roads are now dry and in good condition and motorists are beginning to enjoy again the pleasures of a run along the Reach. The life of the river has begun in earnest after the long winter, and if the Valley Railway provides an adequate service between the city and Oak Point this will be the liveliest summer in the experience of that favored region now brought so close to the city.

The following reference to financial conditions and the price situation is from the financial letter of a firm of well-known brokers: "We are inclined to believe that the wave of reckless extravagance has reached its crest. Once past the line from spending more than income to spending less and there is introduced an element that will eventually prove the saving of the situation. These are the strong features. On the other

hand, there is no doubt that a lowering of prices in many commodities has set in, and while this process is going on, some recession in corporate earnings is inevitable. Labor and money still make improbable any great improvement market-wise or otherwise. Labor unrest is still playing havoc with production, and promises to continue to do so. The immediate pressure on Eastern banks seems to have been relieved, but commercial rates the country over are still high, and tending to advance."

Everywhere about the city today the citizen is reminded of the Salvation Army and its work. St. John knows the value of that work, for the Army has long been active here in religious and social effort, that has borne good fruit. During the war the Salvation Army did a wonderful work at the front as well as at home. Its field of effort in the reconstruction period is wide and the work of vast importance. They who give to the Army know that the money will be well spent, for its organization is a marvel of efficiency and its leaders men and women of sincere devotion as well as good business ability. In England the King and leading statesmen are warm friends of the Army, and all over the world its workers find a welcome and a task. Its claim to support, therefore, is based on the highest and strongest grounds.

Accommodation at St. John for another eleven hundred cars will hold eleven hundred cars. But what does the government propose to do to facilitate the transfer of freight from those cars to the steamers? Does it still propose to have steamers lying in the stream because there are not enough wharves?

The movement to provide a maritime home for women has strong backing. Certainly a jail is not an institution to which female offenders may be sent with any hope of improving either their health or their morals. Healthy employment under healthy conditions should be provided for them.

Daylight saving will become fairly general in the city next week. It will be welcomed by most people, and especially by those who want to plant a garden, see a good game of baseball, or get some fresh air in the park or elsewhere.

In London, Ont., the price of gas has been ninety cents per thousand feet. That has been the price for nine years. Now the company asks permission to increase the price to \$1.85. Even at that the Londoners have a long lead over St. John people.

St. John is to have a real clean-up day. If the incinerator scheme can be carried out the city will make a great step forward in the matter of cleanliness and public health.

A public welfare exhibit would be not only a novel but a valuable educational feature of the fall fair.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Omissions Happenings of Other Days

A MAN HUNT.

While waiting at Koonstad in May, 1900, in the war in South Africa the Canadian Mounted Rifles had some interesting experiences in "outings." The white flag trick had been played on a small party of British troops and three squadrons were sent to a farmhouse at Jordan's Crossing where the crime occurred. There they found four British dead and in their just anger they burned the place. On the 15th at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, just as night was settling down on the veldt, fifty men from each of the two battalions of Mounted Rifles and 100 men from the First Mounted Infantry were ordered to saddle up for a rapid night dash. The 200 men galloped through the darkness, searching farmhouses wherever they were likely to find any of the enemy. When close to a farmhouse the body of the troop dismounted, held itself in readiness while a dozen or so of the troopers dashed forward with revolvers cocked to shoot down anyone who attempted to escape from the house. The man hunt was a most successful one; they captured no fewer than twenty-seven of the enemy and among the prisoners were a commandant, several field cornets and four members of the Johannesburg Mounted Police.

For seventeen hours they advanced through the darkness without off-saddling while they covered in all more than sixty miles. Then they rested for a brief four hours. When they returned to camp General Hutton was so pleased with the exploit that he at once signalled the exploit to Lord Roberts.

The first contingent was now only a skeleton of the force that had left Canada. Its strength was now only 480 men and of forty-five officers only twenty-three were left. From Koonstad thirty sick men were sent back to Bloemfontein. The Canadian Mounted Rifles had been in action again and again and there was hardly a sound horse in the unit. They had advanced in all more than 700 miles—a drive that would have played havoc with any animals. But it was their pride and joy that in all the fighting between Bloemfontein and Koonstad not a man was killed in their ranks and once only six were wounded.



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YOU KNOW HER.

The stately domestic is frequently seen; she's grand and majestic patrician her mien; with hauteur she dishes the loves and the fables; we bow to her wishes and hail her as queen. This damsel resplendent in ermine is shod; so blamed independent she quits at a nod; then nothing will stay her, dissuade or delay her, and when I would pay her it takes all my wad. She's boss of the house wherein I reside; before her I grovel and drop all my pride; she sits in a rocker and reads a cheap shocker, and she is a mocker when grub should be fried. To movies she prances whenever she likes; to blow-outs and dances she gaudily hikes; no dinner is stewing, no coffee is brewing, for mugs she is chewing with Peters and Mikes. She flies into rages, throws fits in the hall, and says that her wages are needlessly small; she soon must be earning more money for burning or curse; but if I should fire her the next would be worse; and so she goes spelling the grub in the boiling. While I'm sadly tolling, her wage to disburse.

SYRIAN ARCHBISHOP VISITS AMERICA; HOPED THAT HE WILL COME TO SAINT JOHN



The arrival of the Most Rev. Cheikalla Khouri, Archbishop of Tyre, in New York a few days ago, has created great interest among the large Syrian citizenship in this city. It is the first time that a Syrian Archbishop ever visited America and an invitation will be extended to him to visit St. John. He was sent to America by the Patriarch of Syria to visit the Syrian Catholic churches. Prior to coming to the United States he had an audience with Pope Benedict in Rome and was instructed to impart the Papal blessing to all his countrymen on this side of the Atlantic. Upon his arrival in New York on board the S. S. La Lorraine, Archbishop Cheikalla Khouri was met by the Pope's representative in Washington, other prominent dignitaries of the Catholic church, the French consul, the mayor of New York and members of the city

council and was escorted to a suite in the Waldorf Astoria. He intends to visit the principal cities in the United States and will also tour Canada and it is the earnest hope of the Syrians in St. John that the Archbishop will be able to come to this city, where they assure him a very hearty welcome. The archbishop is a very highly educated churchman, and well informed on general matters in addition to those more particularly affecting the interests of his countrymen. The picture of His Grace, which the Times prints today, was reproduced from the New York Evening Post. It was taken as he was leaving the steamship on arrival there, and has caught well the smile brought to his face by the welcome accorded him. It will be noted that His Grace wears a beard, which is the custom of the clergymen of his far-eastern country.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Liked That. She—"Don't you think our minister preaches polished sermons?" He—"Yes, I must say I like the finish to them."

None Whatever. She—"Women may gossip sometimes, but they have better control of their tongues than men have." He—"You are right. Men have no control whatever of women's tongues."

Amendments of Trolley Travel. "Pardon me for bumping into you so often," said the polite strap-hanger. "It's the swaying of the car."

Don't mention it. "I said his equally polite fellow strap-hanger. "But pardon me for turning my left side toward your elbow. I was recently operated on for appendicitis."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Swift Times. Profiteer—"Well, we've been in clover for six months now." His Wife—"A few months more and we will belong to the old aristocracy."—Le Petit-Mercure (Paris).

And It Did. Bax—"I hear your friend, the naturalist, has met with an accident. What was it?" "Someone gave him a tiger cub and said it was so tame it would eat off his hand, and it did."—Dallas News.

Chattered, Not Sung. "What is the national air of this country?" asked a foreigner one day last week. "At present the national air is decidedly chilly," responded the waggish native, buttoning up his overcoat.

Where Is She? A man was arrested for speeding his motor in Youngstown, Ohio. He admitted speeding, and said it was because he had just heard of a house for rent and he wanted to get there first.

Query—How fast would a fellow be allowed to drive if he was on his way to interview a good servant-girl who wanted a job?—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

BROWN'S FLATS NOW NEAR AS WESTFIELD

What the Valley Railway Can Do With a Proper Service—Long Reach Brought Close to City.

Brown's Flats has been moved down to Westfield. The Valley Railway, which is responsible for many remarkable things, has also wrought this miracle. That is to say, with a proper service on the Valley Railway, the man who lives at Brown's Flats can get home at night as quickly as the Westfield man who travels by the C. P. R. suburban. And to get to the city in the morning, also with a proper service, he need not rise any earlier than the Westfield man. How does it work out? The Valley Railway train does not stop between Fairville and Westfield. The C. P. R. suburban makes all the stops. The C. P. R. train running time between St. John and Westfield is about one hour. The Valley Railway running time to Brown's Flats is about one hour. It takes the Valley train just forty-five minutes to run from St. John to Public Landing, which is five miles beyond Westfield. The Public Landing suburban will hereafter extend the assurance of his distinguished consideration and sympathy to his Westfield neighbors, while he of Brown's Flats will almost be disposed to assume a patronizing air as he enters the St. John depot to board the Valley Thunderbolt. Always assuming, of course, that there is a satisfactory Valley Railway service, which is still in the future. Not

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to provide such a service would be regarded by the people as an utter lack of business acumen. A good suburban service to Oak Point would transform the Long Reach. With the knowledge that they could get to St. John as quickly or more quickly than if they lived at Westfield, great numbers of people would get summer cottages along the Reach, and the number of winter houses would steadily increase. There is no place within easy reach of St. John which has as many attractions as the Long Reach in summer. The air is warmer and more dry. It is beyond the reach of the fog from the bay. It is an exceptionally favorable locality for gardening and the cultivation of small fruits. A good train service to and from the city would bring more people, more business and more prosperity. The present service is wholly inadequate, and the petitions for a better one are

being largely signed. As May 24 falls on Monday, there will be a great rush of people both by rail and steamer on Saturday to points along the Reach.

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