

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1926

The Evening Times-Star

The Evening Times-Star, printed at 25-27 Canterbury street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by New Brunswick Publishing Co., Ltd., J. D. McKinnon, President.
Telephone—Private branch exchange connecting all departments. Main 2417.
Subscription Price—By mail per year, in Canada, \$5.00; United States, \$6.00; by carrier per year, \$6.00.
The Evening Times-Star has the largest circulation of any evening paper in the Maritime Provinces.
Advertising Representatives—New York, Ingraham-Powers, Inc., 25 Madison Ave.; Chicago, Ingraham-Powers, Inc., 15 South La Salle Street.
The Audit Bureau of Circulation audits the circulation of The Evening Times-Star.

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THE EXHIBITION.

Comparisons are, of course, misleading unless it can be assured that conditions are identical; nevertheless the promoters of this year's Saint John Exhibition may congratulate themselves on the manner in which people turned out to support them. The present estimate of admissions is 88,000 for the week, and, taking the population at 20,000—though it is more—this works out at 1,760 admissions per thousand of local population. The estimate of admissions to the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto for a fortnight is 1,373,000 and if Toronto's population be taken at 600,000 this would give 2,288 admissions per thousand or 1,800 for a week. Taking into consideration the large centres of population adjacent to Toronto and the nation-wide character of its Exhibition the showing of Saint John is all the more satisfactory.

Observers, heretofore unacquainted with Saint John crowds, remarked on the good humor of those who attended the fair. This is a pleasing commentary on local disposition. However good and well arranged an exhibition may be, however the individuals may enjoy themselves, there must always be a certain amount of fatigue and jostling and there is nothing better designed than the former to try temper. Saint John rises superior to that.

Exactly what will be the financial outcome of this year's Exhibition we have yet to learn, but it is understood that 1926 may be counted as one of the most successful years.

WHAT THEY MIGHT DO.

A somewhat more definite goal for the Canadian Clubs of this country has been suggested by Mr. Edgar Tarr of Winnipeg. In his address to the delegates at the annual meeting of the association of Canadian Clubs in Ottawa last week he suggested that the goal should be "the unity of all parts of Canada." In reviewing the meeting the Ottawa Citizen discussed the indications of the renewed earnestness animating Canadian Club workers and their determination to attain the goal referred to. This indication was found in the discussion of future policies and plans, and in the appointment of a full-time secretary with headquarters in Ottawa, and the Citizen says that never before have the leaders of the Canadian Club movement displayed so keen a desire to accomplish something lasting in nation building.

Have the Canadian Club leaders in the various cities been too conservative, too timid in the past? Mr. Tarr believes that in past years the Canadian Clubs have been altogether too anxious to "play safe" by steering speakers who would not be likely to offend or to disturb the conventional opinions of the largest number of their members. Mr. Tarr tells these clubs that they do not yet realize the possibilities of the movement, that they have little vision as yet of its potential strength, that they have a unique opportunity to bring about a very much greater measure of unity throughout Canada.

He very truly says that this is not to be accomplished by any policy marked by too much caution about offending the susceptibilities or the settled opinions of the members, but that the ideals of the Canadian Club enterprise will be served best through calling speakers, men and women, who will deal most frankly with all the problems affecting the patriotism, the happiness, the prosperity of the people at large, whether these problems be described as sectional or not.

Certainly the way to both tolerance and understanding is to be found along the lines of which Mr. Tarr has spoken.

"The Canadian Club is a fine institution," says the Citizen, "but it has yet to realize its highest aims. The present period of flux in national and international affairs seems the ideal time to inaugurate the new and self-confident policy suggested by Mr. Tarr."

"STARLIGHT."

Mr. Harlow Shapley, who at forty has been director of the Harvard Observatory for five years, and who is recognized as one of the most brilliant of present day astronomers, has written an essay called "Starlight," which is intended to give the average layman a little working knowledge of the heavens above, of the stars in their courses and, incidentally, the relative unimportance of man, his earth, his sun, and all that sort of thing. Mr. Shapley does this very well indeed. If anyone is disposed to be self-centred or inclined to magnify his own importance, or the importance of this planet, Mr. Shapley's essay should be most helpful in restoring a better sense of proportion. A reviewer in the New York Nation says of this essay:

It is a furiously whirling and changing universe in which we are conducted. The stars are in their places, but they are doing mysterious things there, and these places are paths or orbits of inconceivable magnitude. Pairs of stars are revolving about each other and periodically eclipsing each other. New ones are flaming up; old ones

are fading out. Millions of dwarf stars are already cold and hence invisible; no one knows how many dead, black giants are obscuring live worlds behind them. Regular gradations of color indicate a regular evolution in temperature. Stars begin large and red, as Antares, with a diameter of 400,000,000 miles; is now; they shrink to yellow and grow hotter; they burn for a while pure blue; they grow yellow again, dull down to a red, and at last go out. Our sun, which is one of the dwarfs, is in its decline. The great galaxy, however, of which it is a remote and minute part will continue for billions of years to show its white ring around the sky to any beings who may be here or elsewhere to see it and call it perhaps something else than the Milky Way. It will continue to draw into itself the great star clusters and distribute them—though Mr. Shapley does not know whether it will ever affect the faint star cloud called N. G. C. 6022, which is about 4,000,000,000,000,000 miles distant from us. He does after all indulge in a few figures. He remarks that the probable diameter of our galaxy is 1,800,000,000,000,000 miles.

A specious territory truly is the ether—illimitable space. Little man upon his little Earth—how he dwindles by comparison. How trivial appears all the fret and the fever, the striving, the bombard of the strutting human who forgets the scope and the meaning of the visible and the invisible universe. Mr. Shapley offers these observations upon the significance of man.

The future history of the stellar system appears, indeed, thoroughly independent of our temporary terrestrial career. Man's station in this scheme is not too flattering—an animal among many, precariously situated on the crust of a planetary fragment that obeys the gravitational impulses of one of the millions of dwarf stars that wander in remote parts of a galactic system. His place in the universe . . . is unimpressive, and his importance in some non-material way is a subject not suited to scientific research or speculation. We leave the subject here, noting that man's role as an investigator and would-be interpreter of the universe is surpassingly fascinating, whether or not it is comically significant.

Many a person who never looks at the stars, or who, looking at them, remarks casually upon the excellence of the starlight, as if it were provided merely to supplement the civic lighting system, might be the wiser, or at least the more thoughtful, for a perusal of Mr. Shapley's "Starlight."

The Dover town council is looking for a sum of money bequeathed a century ago for the purpose of repairing knotholes in the pier. "The idea is a bright one," says the Montreal Gazette, "and might well be adopted in this country, where large numbers of political aspirants will be pathetically anxious of slipping through knotholes on Tuesday evening, and drawing the holes in after them."

Odds and Ends

Sayings of the Week

(London Observer)

"I think that before the British Association meets again in Oxford, our aspect of the universe will be revolutionized once more, and beyond all previous scope."—Sir Oliver Lodge.

"I also never discuss anything except politics and religion. There is nothing else to discuss."—Mr. G. K. Chesterton.

"We shall survive in a future life so far as we deserve to survive."—Dr. William Brown.

"Of the many varieties of Homo sapiens, the civilized Englishman makes perhaps the most agreeable companion."—Mr. G. J. Nathan.

"The peace of Europe at present is the offspring of exhaustion."—Mr. H. A. L. Fisher.

"Our educational system produces a superb average type."—Major J. Hay Beth.

"The idea of the public schools is that all education is life and all life education."—Mr. M. A. L. Jacks.

"I should like teachers to impress upon children the injunction, 'Be wary of the firms who spoil the face of England.'"—Mr. Fred Richards.

Sometimes a headmaster learns a great deal about a boy after a conversation with a parent—and sometimes after such a conversation he makes a great allowance for the boy."—Mr. W. W. Vaughan.

No Church that has had the power to preach poverty.—Mr. R. B. Cunningham Graham.

It is perfectly impossible for any man to talk for twelve months in a year, without talking more nonsense than he would like to talk.—Mr. Baldwin.

Timely Warning.

Electrician (from top of building from which four wires dangled):—"Bill, catch hold of two of them wires."

Bill:—"Right."

Electrician:—"Feel anything?"

Bill:—"No."

Electrician:—"Well, don't touch the other two, there's 2,000 volts in them."

Political Autocrats

(Vancouver Province.)

It is a mystery how some politicians and administrators, in this democratic age and country, become obsessed with the idea that they are supreme autocrats and under no obligations courteously to consult the will of the people who made them.

Stealing His Stuff



Queer Quirks of Nature

MUCH LIKE THE PROMETHEA



SOUTHERN MOTHS.

By AUSTIN H. CLARK.
A COMMON southern moth, found rarely in New York and southern New England, is the angulifera. The male is blackish brown, but the female is dull pinkish washed with yellow, becoming more yellowish toward the borders of the wings.
This moth is much like the promethea, the commonest of all our larger moths; but while in the promethea the males fly only in the daytime and the females only at night, both sexes of the angulifera are night fliers.



A MAN had been in a public telephone box for half an hour. He appeared to be bored, and, though he held the receiver to his ear, he made no attempt to speak. At last one of the crowd outside, exasperated with waiting, opened the door and asked, "Are you speaking to anybody?" The silent one replied: "Yes; I am speaking my wife."

A COLORED mammy came into the office of the estate for which she was to receive her monthly wages. As she could not write, she always made her mark on the receipt—the usual cross. But on this occasion she made a circle.

"What's the matter, Linda?" the man in charge asked. "Why don't you make a cross as usual?"

"Why," Linda explained earnestly, "ah done got married yesterday and changed mah name."

THE fair penitent explained to the confessor how greatly she was grieved by an accusing conscience. She bewailed the fact she was sadly given over to personal vanity. She added that on this very morning she had gazed into her mirror and had yielded to the temptation of thinking herself beautiful.

"Is that all, my daughter?" the priest demanded.

"Then, my daughter," the confessor bade her, "go in peace, for to be mistaken is not to sin."

WE ARE told to love our neighbors as ourselves, but did you ever have:

A neighbor who let his chicken run over into your garden?

A neighbor who got out and cut his lawn about 3 o'clock in the morning?

A neighbor who tried to play the saxophone or some other musical instrument?

FIRST Partner: Let's fire all the help.

Second Partner: Sure; there is she!

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POEMS—I —LOVE—

"My Love's Like a Red, Red Rose,"
by Robert Burns.

THE handful of love poems which Burns bequeathed to a workaday world have enriched it greatly. No one sang more sublimely of the divine passion—not even Shakespeare; and Burns' Highland Mary is a symbol of the perfectly loved woman.

O my Love's like a red, red rose
That's newly sprung in June;
O my Love's like the melody
That's sweetly played in tune.

As fare ye thus, my bonnie lass,
So deep in Luv' am I;
And I will love thee still, my dear,
'Till a' the seas gang dry;

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt wi' the sun;
I will love thee still, my dear,
While the sands o' life shall run.

And fare thee weel, my only Luv!
And fare thee weel a while!
And I will come again, my Luv,
Tho' it were ten thousand mile.

Just Fun

USUALLY when a young man isn't satisfied with the work he's doing his boss isn't either.

A BORE is a man who talks about his rheumatism instead of letting you talk about your asthma.

THE question often arises, do we elect public officials to work, or to talk?

FORGET your enemies and forgive your friends.

ONLY a bachelor is permitted to roll over and go to sleep again when a pan or something falls from a shelf in the pantry and makes a noise like burglars.

Timely Views On World Topics
SOVIETS' FRILLS DO NOT SATISFY RUSSIA'S WORKERS
By F. J. RAMSEY.

American Y. M. C. A. worker in interview on recent return from tour of Russia.

RUSSIAN workers are dissatisfied in spite of the many "frills" introduced by the bolshevik. Wages are no higher than under the old czarist regime and after all it is wages that determine the worker's attitude.

One finds much to praise and much to condemn in Russia today. Private ownership is recognized now. Peasants have the right to sell their farm products and buy what they need.

Small shops and businesses are allowed under private operation. Of course the government owns and operates all the major industries.

A mammoth program of education is under way. Universal education of children is being brought about and tens of thousands of adults are being taught. The soviet hopes to increase literacy from 20 per cent. of the population to 80 per cent. within ten years.

Women in industry are given equal rights and pay with men. An expectant mother is given two months vacation with pay and free transportation to one of the many national rest camps. These are generally at a beautiful country estate formerly belonging to some rich nobleman or bourgeoisie.

On the other hand, there is no personal, political or religious freedom in Russia. The espionage system is worse than under the czar.

Banishment to the exile regions of Siberia is still the punishment for political offenses. I was told that these regions now contain more prisoners than in czarist times. All publications

Americans may starve. Sane French folk and Americans who know and love Paris are quite willing to have tourists stay away a while and here, if necessary, if there can be any or two, these guides really will starve to death. If ever you've been approached by one of those furtive, oily, slipping persons who offer to take you very naughty, you too, will be happy in the idea of starving them to extinction.

Since that time he has been engaged in Y. M. C. A. work in Birmingham. Under the plan outlined by Fildes, of which the American Legion is this country's member, Mr. Saxton goes to Poland for the prime purpose of promoting among the students of his chosen school, better understanding and good feeling for the United States among the youths of Poland. His education is to be his reward.

"I have chosen the University of Warsaw, at Warsaw, Poland, and the social major in sociology and the social sciences," he said. "In the event the regime and after all it is wages that determine the worker's attitude."

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are under the thumb of the bolshevik. Although the communist party numbers less than a million members, its rules are absolutely. All nominations to office are made by the party. Voters can only choose between two communists.

From my personal viewpoint, one of the greatest offenses of the soviet is the teaching of anti-religion. Children are taught atheism in the national schools and anti-religious posters of the most bitter nature dot the bulletin boards of the country.

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