

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 4, 1913

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BY WHICH ROUTE?

Premier Fleming had another opportunity last evening to tell the people whether the Gagetown-St. John section of the Valley Railway is to come down the east or west side of the river. What he did say, as reported in the Standard, is as follows:—

"In regard to the section from Gagetown to St. John, difficulties had been met with, but there would not be a single day's unnecessary delay in carrying out the project."

Hon. J. A. Murray, who also made some remarks on this subject, is reported by the Standard to have said:—

"Engineering difficulties had been met with in connection with the bridging of the St. John River. The old government started a railway at Norton and ended it in the woods. The present government did not propose to start a bridge and be compelled to abandon it when half way across the river, but the government would see that the Valley Railway came into St. John by the best practical route."

The government of which Messrs. Fleming and Murray are members has had ample time to discover a practicable route between Gagetown and St. John. It is idle to assert that they come by the shortest route, and it calls upon the city council and board of trade and the citizens generally to arouse themselves and rouse the whole of southern New Brunswick, in such an assertion as merely to make a transparent attempt to fool the people.

Mr. Fleming and Mr. Murray are evidently still uncertain whether the railway is to come down the east or the west side of the river. If they really knew they would not hesitate to tell the people.

The St. John Globe, which is now and then quoted with great enthusiasm by the Standard, pointed out last night that the valley road will be of no use to the Grand Trunk Pacific unless it comes by the shortest route, and it calls upon the city council and board of trade and the citizens generally to arouse themselves and rouse the whole of southern New Brunswick, in such an assertion as merely to make a transparent attempt to fool the people.

So far as Mr. Fleming's statements of last night are concerned, they will leave the public as much in the dark as before, and this question still calls for an answer.—By what route will the Valley Railway reach St. John—the east or the west side of the river?

THE MAIL SERVICE

The apologists for the government would have us believe that the forwarding of the Tunisian mails by the Intercolonial instead of the Canadian Pacific is merely the result of some little misunderstanding. Such a view, however, is shown to be wrong by the statement of a post office official in Ottawa yesterday that of course the government would carry the mails over its own road.

But, assuming that there is no intention to send later mails by the Intercolonial route, is it not strange that so many things happen by inadvertence that injuriously affect the interests of St. John? Why has not St. John a representative in the government who will insist that he be consulted by the heads of other departments in relation to matters affecting his own constituency? Mr. Borden is in Washington, but it will be noted that at this particular time when the interests of St. John are being sacrificed, and this port is being deprived of the opportunity to demonstrate the truth of its claims as a mail port, Mr. Borden is not in Washington but right on the job at Ottawa. Concerning this matter we do not observe that the Conservative organ took advantage of the opportunity to quote from the Globe, but the following paragraph from the Globe is really worthy of its attention and of the attention of the government.

"There should at once be a frank statement from the post office department of the meaning of the order that the Tunisian mails are to go over the Intercolonial. It should not be necessary to draw public attention to the fact that what is being proposed is not in the public interest, and not fair to the people, who have the right to expect that their mails will get the quickest possible despatch."

AN IMPERIAL PROBLEM

he present is not a very opportune time for Imperialists like Sir Richard McBride to make trouble about the admission of Hindus into British Columbia. The Imperial government is at this moment greatly embarrassed because of conditions that have arisen in South Africa due to the treatment of Hindus in that country. The Hindus there went on strike for better conditions than those under which they were living, and we are told that the great majority of the strikers have been as orderly and far more submissive than English strikers would be; yet there is evidence that some of them have been brutally flogged by their employers and treated, as the Manchester Guardian says, "more like runaway slaves than as equal subjects of the king." It appears that a

tax of \$3 a head is imposed on Hindus whose indentures have expired, the tax being designed to force them either to go back to India or to enter into indentures once more. This is a measure of forced labor, and they claim it is both unconstitutional and illegal and should be repealed. They also claim the right of freedom of migration from one province of the South African union to another, with their families. The Manchester Guardian, from which we have already quoted, declares that "both these demands should be supported with the whole weight of the Imperial government," and Lord Amthill, writing to the London Times, says:—

"The Indians are not making any unreasonable demands or asking for anything which cannot quite conveniently be conceded to them. They are only asking for the fulfillment of promises which have actually been made to them. If these promises had been kept there would not be a trace of this long-standing trouble at the present moment, either in South Africa or in India. The present alarming situation was foretold by all those who have interested themselves in the question and who have never doubted the sincerity of the ideals which have actuated the whole Indian community in South Africa."

In the meantime there is a good deal of agitation in India, and there was recently a great meeting of English and Indian ladies in Bombay to protest, and to enter a plea "for the success of the honor of Indian womanhood in a distant land." The people of India are said to be confident that the British government will see that justice is done in South Africa, but they expect something to be done quickly, and the feeling is one of "strained expectancy."

In a recent speech Premier Asquith, discussing the Balkan situation, expressed great satisfaction that there had been no attack made upon the integrity of Asiatic Turkey, where there are many places sacred to the Mohammedan religion, his view being that danger to the people of that religion in that country would create unrest among the Mohammedans of India. If it is worth while to consider the effect of action in Asiatic Turkey upon the public mind in India, it is surely not less important to consider what the people of India will say if people of their own race and religion, who are also British subjects, are denied the ordinary rights of a British subject in South Africa or in British Columbia. Naturally there is a feeling in South Africa and in Canada against a large influx of people of a race which has lower standards of living, but that only makes more difficult the task of the Imperial government, which cannot afford to guard with indifference anything that tends to jeopardize British influence in the great Indian Empire.

The rebels or Constitutionalists are reported to be sweeping Northern Mexico, and the downfall of the Huerta regime seems now assured.

The announcement that another factory is to be erected at Colbrook is another cheering indication that a fine industrial suburb will be built up there within a few years.

Students of recent history in St. John say it is not so much additional representation we need at Ottawa as more effective representation, when the interests of the city are at stake.

The subject which Dr. Robertson will discuss before the Canadian Club is the subject which has been attracting universal attention in this province during the last year or two, since the real forward movement began to take shape.

Louis Francis Brown, manager of the Burton Holmes travel agency, is telling a good one on himself.

"Mc. Holmes, upon his return from the Philippines, brought a few samples of Filipino money with him," he says, "and thinking I might make some use of it in advertising, I had a card lettered: 'You can make money in the Philippines.' Under this line I pasted several Philippine greenbacks, a \$20 bill, a \$10, a \$5 and a \$2, with sundry silver and copper coins of various denominations, bringing the amount up to about \$88 Mexican or \$19 in United States money. Under the money the sign further read: 'For further information attend the Burton Holmes travel agency, and so on, giving dates, etc.'"

"This sign, displayed in front of the hall where our season opened in Chicago, proved attractive. There was always a crowd and I was congratulating myself that it was a fine ad. when one morning my phone bell rang wildly and a voice from the box office of the hall said:—'Say, you'd better come down here; your money's gone.'"

"Needless to say, I went; it was gone, but the polite person who took it had been, which read:—'Why go to the Philippines? What's the matter with Chicago?'"

A reporter in Chicago, in order to determine how long it was possible to ride on the Elevated system on payment of one fare, took a train at 8:05 a.m., and rode until 6:45 p.m. At that time he had covered all the divisions of the system except two, and could have continued on them if he had wished to.

In a park in Berlin, umbrellas raised on high poles are used to keep the sun off young trees which have been set out.

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4
Samuel Tovel Bastelo, superintendent of Canadian Government Annulments and prior to that employed in the Ontario civil service for many years, was born in Hamilton, Ont., on December 4, 1885.

His Honor James Herbert Denton, Junior Judge of the County of York, Ont., was born near Richmond Hill, Ont., on December 4, 1866. He practised law in Toronto prior to his elevation to the bench.

LIGHTER VEIN

Chasing the Treasurer

He put every cent he had into an "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show, and at the end of four weeks his treasurer, with \$400 to the good, skipped out during the night. So he said to himself, "I'll catch the cue" and set the bloodhounds they had in the show on his trail. "Catch him!" he said, in speaking of it later. Sure they did. They caught up with him and he put chains around their necks and started another show."

Why Baby Cried

Mamma—"What is Baby crying for, Maggie?"

Maggie—"I don't know."

Mamma—"Ond what are you looking so indignant about?"

Maggie—"That nasty, greedy dog's been and took and eaten my 'pump-cake'!"

Mamma—"Why, I saw you eating a sponge-cake a minute ago!"

Maggie—"O—that was Baby's."

A Frequent Cause

"Heah about Chawlie?"

"No. What's wrong with him?"

"Brain fever."

"My word! What caused it?"

"Trying to roll a cigarette in a high wind."—Cleveland "Plain Dealer."

Flash Lights

Debt was probably the last straw that broke the camel's back.

A man never realizes that he is getting old until his children begin reminding him of the fact.

It's only the fool who takes it for granted that the other fellow is one.—Detroit "Free Press."

He Wanted Good Work

"What you need," said the doctor, "is an operation."

"Very well," replied the patient. "Which operation are you cleverest at?"

Her Mistake

Sweet was the lass. It was the evening she expected him to put across the big question. He did not look well. Something seemed to be troubling him. He tried to say something but the words stuck in his throat. Suddenly he turned to her and cried "I'm a dub!"

"No," she said fondly, "you don't appreciate yourself as well as some others do, perhaps. Teehee!"

"Yes," he persisted stubbornly. "I'm a dub!"

"No," she maintained.

"Yes," he shouted. "I'm a dub!"

She was a sensible girl and realizing that he ought to know best, she thanked him kindly for warning her in time and handed him his hat to him. It was only after the door had slammed behind him forever that she realized the awful truth.

He had contracted a nasty cold, and what he had been trying to say was, "I'm in love!"

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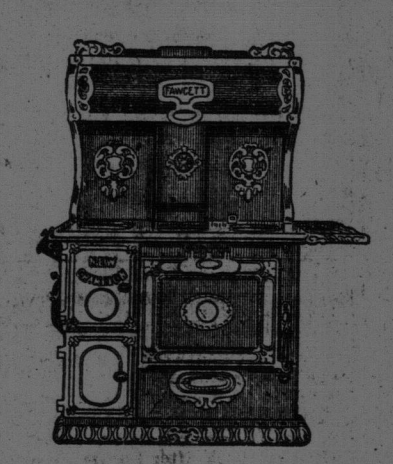
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On the back of his green colored hat, For there are a lot of good fellows I know

Who somehow have fallen for that. The fedora of plush is a lid I don't like. It's a lid that will never be missed. But somehow I've always an itching to strike

The man with the watch on his wrist. I grow peevish at times at the lady-like man

Who says, "Mercy me!" and "O dear!" And the chap in the ball room who uses a fan

Is the chap I could swear on the ear. The swell with the cane in the crook of his arm

Isn't human, I often insist. But some day somebody is going to harm

The man with the watch on his wrist.

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\$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.75, \$3.85, \$4.25, \$5.50, \$6.50 to \$9.50
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