

## The Evening Times and Star

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## THE CHURCHES AND THE CHARTER

A clergyman is reported as having said on Sunday that the Citizens' Committee has left God out of the new charter. From this fact he draws somewhat discouraging conclusions. Let us leave him and the committee to settle this new complication—merely expressing the hope that it isn't so bad as it looks, or sounds—and pass on to consider the work done by the clergyman and the churches for civic righteousness and civic efficiency.

All the members of all the churches would make up a great majority of the electors of St. John. If the clergyman had trained their guns upon civic waste and misgovernment we might have had civic reform or commission long ago. The introduction of commission represents a strong desire for improvement. The one way in which this desire can be defeated is by the success of bad candidates at the polls. If the members of all the churches are active at the primaries their votes will kill off the men who seek to become commissioners but who are unfit for the work. The work will demand courage, public spirit, self-sacrifice, constant vigilance in defence of the public good.

It may be important to print the word God in the charter, or it may not be; but to work for civic betterment in the highest sense will be to put the right spirit into the everyday business of civic government, which has to do with public health, public morals, sanitation, clean streets, decent housing.

If the churches are looking for work in connection with the commission movement they will not have any trouble in finding it. What will they do?

## AT OTTAWA

If the Borden government has any constructive policy on any of the leading issues of the hour, present at Ottawa have been unable to discover any indication of it since the House met. The Toronto Globe's Ottawa correspondent sent this summary to his newspaper at adjournment—

"The only real accomplishment has been the putting through in toto of the Liberal estimates of last session for the balance of the current fiscal year, a process which took only one hour. The rest of the time has been practically devoted to a defensive attitude in meeting the attack of a vigorous and well-manned Opposition, which, from the very outset, made plain the inherent weaknesses in the composition of the coalition cabinet, the opportunity of Conservative pledges in opposition, and the present inability to evolve any united or harmonious policy on the vital issues of the tariff, the navy, the civil service reform, and other matters in which the country is now most interested.

"On the naval question the government has very palpably temporized, and, while condemning the policy of the late government, has enunciated no policy of its own. On the tariff question the only answer to the demands of the west has been the promise of a tariff commission, while at the same time its first act has been to play into the hands of the lumber combine of the west at the expense of the farmer and the homesteader. The promise of civil service reform has been stultified by a wholesale dismissal, without any real investigation, of several hundreds of civil servants to make way for hungry Nationalist and Conservative office-seekers."

Not a very brilliant record for the party that "saved the Empire," on September 21.

## "ELIJAH" SANDFORD

The Rev. Frank W. Sandford, leader of the Holy Ghost and U.S. society at Shiloh, Maine, has been found guilty of causing the deaths of six of his followers who went to sea under his command on the yacht Coronet and died from illness superinduced by lack of food and supplies.

For many years the Shiloh colony has been a scandal to all New England. Sandford drew followers even from the Maritime Provinces. All was quiet that came to his mill, and from converts he took not only their allegiance but their property as well.

Sandford's defense in court was that he had acted under the direction of the Almighty, that he was poor, that he never consciously did wrong; and he appealed from the earthly authorities to a higher tribunal. Even if Sandford be sincere it is time for the State of Maine to reform his activities. The state must become his jailor or his guardian, and must limit his freedom of action for a long time to come. Same or insane, this man should long ago have been prevented from leading ignorant people into trouble and danger by exciting their religious feelings and persuading them that he was guided by divine instruction.

If there is any divine instruction reaching human beings today it does not lead them to carry to sea on a small vessel a company of men, women and children, most of them wholly unfitted to undergo hardship, without proper provision against the perils of the ocean, hunger and disease. The state of Maine has frequently had thrust upon it very convincing evidence that Sandford was crazy or criminal, and had the state authorities taken action long ago, a world of trouble and many untimely deaths would have been prevented.

Among the counter people of Maine and nearby states, there is a curious inclination to run after new beliefs. There is a demand for something "different," and too frequently this something different turns out to be a device of some person like Sandford or Dowie, a form of mad zeal or a new trick to exploit the im-

vary or the mentally twisted. The state cannot give its citizens brains, but it can check the criminals and restrain the insane. It is time.

Mr. J. Norton Griffiths says his firm is waiting for permission to make an immediate start in Courtenay Bay. The spectacle of Mr. Borden restraining Griffiths from making this start is not comforting to the people of St. John.

The Conservative headman is still busy in the Maritime Provinces and Liberal heads are falling rapidly. Each election make it certain that there will be more votes cast against the Borden government when another opportunity offers.

P. A. B. Widener, an American who made many millions by watering toilet stock in Philadelphia, has just purchased Rembrandt's Picture of the Mill for half a million dollars, and three other paintings for a million. How much more appropriate water colors would have been.

Canada's surplus for the last eight months is more than \$40,000,000. The Liberal party made a great business success of its management of national affairs and the Conservatives found a full treasury and a buoyant revenue. The country will observe how the new record will compare with the old.

Another leading St. John church is losing its minister, who is going west. Our school teachers and our clergymen are called away in large numbers, sometimes by greater opportunities for successful work and sometimes by larger salaries. If New Brunswick is to grow in church and educational matters it will have to stop this exodus.

That was a touching scene in New York on Saturday when Mr. Andrew Carnegie seized the hand of Mr. R. L. Borden, premier of Canada, and said to him, with tears in his eyes:

"When we were in trouble Canada sent us 40,000 men. If Canada is ever in trouble we will send you 400,000. Telegraph me when you want me. You know my address."

Some of the orators who assisted Mr. Borden in "saving the Empire" during the last campaign, and who kept saying that Canada "wanted no truck with the Yankees," will be telegraphing Mr. Borden to come home at once.

TRADE AND TARIFF; THE WEST INDIES AND CANADA

Reciprocity Conference Likely to Be Held at Close of Session of Parliament

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—A reciprocity conference between Canada and the West Indies will in all likelihood take place after the conclusion of the present session of parliament. Such a discussion will be necessary to work out the details of the proposed closer trade connections between the two countries.

It is understood that many arrangements in which the countries are not competitors. The betterment of transportation will also come in for some attention.

THE "TEN DEMANDMENTS"

For gross worldly wisdom it would be difficult to surpass the "Ten Demands" hanging in one of the many saloon canneries at Steveston, Western Canada—

1. Don't lie. It wastes my time and yours. I am sure to catch you in the end, and that is the worst end.
2. Watch your work, not the clock. A long day's work makes a long day short, and a short day's work makes my face long.
3. Give me more than I expect, and I will give you more than you expect. I can afford to increase your pay if you increase my profits.
4. You owe so much to yourself you cannot afford to owe anybody else. Keep out of debt, or keep out of my shops.
5. Dishonesty is never an accident. Good men, like good women, never see temptation when they meet it.
6. Mind your own business, and in time you'll have a business of your own to mind.
7. Don't do anything here which hurts your self-respect. An employee who is willing to steal for me is willing to steal from me.
8. It is none of my business what you do at night. But if dissipation affects what you do the next day, and you do half as much as I demand, you'll last half as long as you hoped.
9. Don't tell me what I'd like to hear, but what I ought to hear. I don't want a valet to my vanity, but one for my dollars.
10. Don't kick if I kick. If you're worth while correcting you're worth while keeping. I don't waste time cutting specks out of rotten apples.

ODD SIGNS.

Placard at a moving picture show: "Young children must have parents."

In a barber's shop window: "During alterations patrons will be shaved in the back."

Sign in a Tremont street store: "Empty boxes—suitable for Christmas gifts."

In a tailor shop: "We dye for others, why not let us dye for you?"

In a clothing store: "These pants will look better on your legs than on our hands."

A silversmith has a place next door to a restaurant. The former having put up a placard, "Jewellery of all kinds plated," the restaurant keeper followed with this: "Fattens and Little Neck chums plated."

—Boston Transcript.

## Stationery

Christmas time is the season of entertaining. Express your acceptance or regrets on stationery which stands for quality. You can be sure to procure stationery of the best form here.

PORTER'S DRUG STORE  
Cor. St. Patrick and Union Sts.

## CHRISTMAS

Glad Christmas chime!  
Glad Christmas morn!  
Let all the world be wrapped in peace,  
And every heart with love be warm.  
Glad Christmas time!

Lift up thine heart and list of old,  
The joyous singing in the skies;  
And guard like shepherds of the fold  
Thy precious peace—His love divine—  
And share thy smile with hearts more cold.  
Glad Christmas time!

Lift up thine eyes and see the light,  
Now shining o'er each happy home;  
As when it shone on that still night  
Above the manger home of Him,  
Whose presence makes the whole world bright.  
As Bethlehem.  
Glad Christmas Chime!  
Glad Christmas morn!  
Let all the world be wrapped in peace,  
And every heart with love be warm.  
Glad Christmas time!

Lift up thine heart, lift up thine eyes,  
"Let peace on earth and good will toward men."  
The message ringing in the skies,  
Reverberated by the voice of men;  
With donning hearts come still the wise  
To Bethlehem.  
KVIN BRUCE MACKINNON.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN

LEGITIMATE LIES  
B. F. writes asking if there really are legitimate lies. Yes, indeed. A few that occur to us offhand are the following:  
"She is not at home."  
"It happened to be a friend of mine."  
"Sorry, but I've got an engagement."  
"We missed you awfully."  
—Judge.

## IN SOCIETY.

"How is it your society friend loves so to go to grand opera when she is so deaf?"  
"Why, she sees all the latest styles in evening costumes and knows just what is the best each of her friends can afford."  
"But she can't listen to the music."  
"I know, but will does."  
—Baltimore American.

## FINE THEORY.

"Do you think it is likely to get the conductor into trouble to offer him your vote after he has passed you by?"  
"I really don't know. But I do know that theory has caused my conscience many a time."

## MASH MASH.

Mrs. — ewlyw—I can hire a good cook for \$20 a month, dear. That's not so much!  
Mr. Newlywed—No, dear, but just think how much more we would eat!

## SUSPICIOUS.

John—So you paid a visit to your rich uncle, Jake, and he seemed glad to see you?  
Jake—Yes, I'm almost afraid the old cuss has lost his money.  
Chicago News.

## CONSOLATION.

When the world seems dark and gloomy  
And you're feeling mighty blue,  
And you think that old Dame Fortune  
Has the Chinese curse on you,  
It will bring a lot of comfort,  
Though the pessimist may scoff,  
To consider some poor fellow  
Who's a hundred times worse off.

If your finances are drooping  
In the dismal sort of way  
And you owe someone five dollars  
That you can't make out to pay,  
While you may think you surely  
Are the most forlorn of men,  
You're exactly twice as well off  
As the fellow that owes ten.

When your clothes are gettin' shabby  
And your friends are leavin' you,  
That you've hit the steep toboggan,  
And you're surely on the blink;  
When this autumn you are worn  
The same duds you wore last fall,  
Just consider well the Zulus,  
Who can have no clothes at all.

When you've got a jumping headache  
And you're going to live till morning,  
And your nerves all seem to dance,  
Just consider some poor fellow  
With sciatic rheumatism,  
Who's been laid up since last Christmas,  
And compare your woes with his.

No use kickin' on your troubles  
You can't dodge them and I guess  
That, while everybody has 'em,  
Some have more and some have less.  
You can just defy Dame Fortune  
And her vaunted Chinese curse,  
For no matter much what happens  
It might be a whole lot worse.  
—By Roy K. Moulton.

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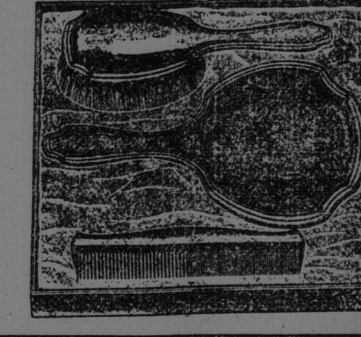
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