

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1921

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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 4417. Subscriptions—Delivered by carrier, \$4.00 per year; by mail, \$5.00 per year in Canada. By mail to United States \$5.00 per year. The Times has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces. Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrop, 350 Madison Ave., CHICAGO, E. J. Pewee, Manager, Association Bldg. The Audit Bureau of Circulation audits the circulation of The Evening Times.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Last night's public meeting to discuss the unemployment question was so poorly attended that one might almost assume that the picture of a large family subsisting on cornmeal and molasses for two days, because the wage-earner of the family could get no work, did not greatly impress the people of St. John. Even the unemployed were not present, but their absence may perhaps be explained by the fact that they were to be the subject of discussion and did not regard their presence as essential. As usual, the meeting did not get anywhere. The mayor's opposition appears to have defeated the resolution in favor of a Dominion employment office, which the city should have as a first requirement. The very clear explanation of the operation of such an office by Mr. Kenneth D. Christie, and the benefits derived from it in Halifax and other cities, should convince any but the most obstinate that St. John ought to have this service. The contention that it would do no good now because the unemployed are found everywhere seems to be based on the belief that the sole business of such an office is to get workmen positions elsewhere. This is not the case. The other cities have not ceased to get benefit from these offices because unemployment is found in all cities. Mr. Christie emphatically declares that the office in Halifax is making the same assertion. The Halifax city council appreciates the office so much that it keeps a clerk of its own there all the time. Let us therefore be frank about this matter of a Dominion employment office, and confess that we are opposed to paying for it—not that it is of no value. And yet it would only cost the city, on the mayor's estimate, \$1,800, while the provincial government would pay a like amount and the federal government as much as both of these. With such an office all men and women seeking work would be registered and classified, and to that extent the citizen who wanted a man or woman for half a day would apply just as a contractor requiring twenty-five or fifty men for a month or more would do. The registration would indicate at once the more desiring cases, and the city departments themselves would find it of great advantage in this regard. The citizens should demand the establishment of this office.

Among the minor suggestions made last evening for providing work, the most practical was that of Mr. Tilley, who believes building construction work can be carried on to a considerable extent, and whose company is putting that belief into a new structure to be erected at once. But if there are more than twelve hundred unemployed, nothing short of a much larger programme than the city has as yet laid out will meet the need. There is an emergency. It calls for general measures.

CANADA THE INTERPRETER.

Mr. J. Wickham Steed, editor of the London Times, addressing the Canadian Club in Montreal, emphasized the declaration of Ambassador Geddes last year that Canada was especially fitted to interpret Great Britain and the United States to each other. He said Canadians possessed the continentalism which the English, Irish and Scotch could not acquire, and could bring about the greatly desired better understanding. "You can do it," he said, "and without you it cannot be done." Mr. Steed's remarks lend interest to the Christmas message of Hon. Mr. Balfour to the American people. He said:

"If this be the season which above all others suggests thoughts of peace on earth and good will toward men, surely there are no nations between whom that peace should be more secure and that good-will more ardent than the two great peoples of English speech. Such has always been my faith; and never did it seem nearer complete realization than at a moment when, under American leadership, so much is being done towards diminishing armaments and removing causes of international offence."

It is fortunate that there is coming into power in Canada a government which will seek the most cordial relations possible with the United States. This does not mean that any Canadian interest will be sacrificed, but where governments are moved by friendly considerations they can do much to promote mutually beneficial relations between the respective countries. The new Canadian premier is personally held in high regard in the United States, where his ability is well known. Both countries are coming well through the after-war depression and looking forward to an era of progress and prosperity. Each can derive benefit from the friendship of the other, and both would profit by closer friendship between Great Britain and the United States, which would, moreover, prove a mighty factor in the making of better world relations and the guarantee of world-peace.

The editor of the London Times was much at home in Montreal. He addressed audiences in both English and French. More Canadians should be able to do the same. There is not enough study of the French language in this country.

WHAT IT MEANS TO CHINA.

The country that has most reason to be thankful for the Washington conference, although her teeming millions may not appreciate its significance, is China. Under the old secret diplomacy, prompted by national jealousies and national ambitions, the partition of China was a constant subject of discussion. Not partition, but her restoration and rehabilitation is now the united aim of the other great powers. Her representatives were early given the opportunity to present their views and give expression to their desires, and they were heard with respect and sympathy. It would be too much to say that self-interest is wholly wanting in the attitude of these powers, but they have learned from the war a great and salutary lesson, and if it has not made them wholly generous it has at least shown them that the ways of peace are more to be desired than those which end in strife. And so China is to come into her own. She is not as well fitted for self-government, nor are her people as united in national spirit and national ideals as the western democracies; but she must be left free to solve her own problems, with such sympathetic consideration and assistance as other nations may properly offer. There are immense potentialities in China. Her resources are almost without limit. Her sons who have come to English or American colleges have shown mental powers that amazed their tutors. Her statesmen are astute. When education assumes its rightful place in the national scheme of development, there is no reason to doubt that world-leaders will come out of that land whose civilization has its roots in a past so ancient as to ante-date the historian. One of the most hopeful features of the great conference, looking to the future of humanity, is the fact that China and Japan are there, in close contact with the western powers, and ready to settle their own differences in conformity to the ideals of the western world. The problem of the Far East is not so formidable on close examination as the imagination and the fears of the world given over to the old secret diplomacy had represented it to be. Amid a world-wide depression caused by war, humanity may yet rejoice as never before in the season which in the Christian world is dedicated to peace and good-will. Ploughshares and Pruning Hooks?

The attitude of France and Japan seems likely to prevent a satisfactory agreement at the Washington conference of the question of the submarine. France is said, however, to have hinted at a possible agreement in regard to European waters such as has been accepted in regard to the preservation of peace in the Pacific. That would open up an interesting new avenue leading to a generally better understanding.

Toronto Globe: "We do not expect a change of government to work magic, but it is true that a new government free to choose new men and to carry out fresh ideas and in close touch with the country has a considerable advantage over a government that is tired and that is not truly representative. A government usually does its best work in its early years."

Hon. Mr. Meighen is to be in the new parliament. He will be welcomed by all parties, for though his own party is utterly defeated, he is an able parliamentarian, who can render good service in the discussion of public affairs.

The news that comes from Ireland is meagre, but it appears to indicate a growing support of the peace agreement.

It is reported from Ottawa that the new cabinet is practically formed, and that it may be sworn in this week.

IMPRESSIVE WHITE GIFT SERVICE

The "White Gifts to the King" service on Sunday afternoon was one of unusual interest. A Christmas pageant, "No Room in the Inn," brought to those present very vividly the Bible story of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. On the platform was arranged a manger, and overhead a star which, when lighted, proved very suggestive of the story. The participants were: Mary, Miss Sadie Barker; Joseph, E. F. Campbell; Gray Belyea; shepherd boys, John McGiffin, Walter Keirstead and Burton Roushrough.

Following the coming of the three wise men, Ralph J. Rupert, E. City Jesus as Mary and Joseph had been refused admittance to the inn. A solo by R. J. Rupert brought the impressive Christmas service to a close. There were almost 800 scholars present, and the offerings in money and gifts were very large.

NEW LIGHT FOR WISE CHILDREN

(It has been discovered by the president of the Institute of Hygiene that Time is a social menace because it is a trick against Nature and the principle of opposing Nature by a deception has a demoralizing effect upon the race.)

Sit down, my child, and hear me tell The dreadful tale of what betide The man who played a trick on Nature (Assisted by the Legislature).

When April's morns more brightly shone He pushed his truthful timepiece on; Result, a moral law was broken—A lie was acted though unspoken.

The very morning after that He kicked an inoffensive cat, And when his wife was shocked (and rightly) He scowled and answered impudently.

The poison acted right and left; And after due and proper warning, Then, past all help from prayer or person, Embarked on forging cheques and arson.

By June there was no single sin That man was indulging in, And all his chime and low behaving Began, you see, with Daylight Saving.

In August, tired of married life, He basely slew his patient wife (An act that none can gloss or pardon) And hid her fragments in the garden.

One hope alone remained slight—He might return (a doubtful might) To ways more righteous, kind and sober When clocks are altered in October.

Alas for him, his luck was out! His callous conduct got about, And after due and proper warning They hanged him one September morning.—MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

"How's this?" asked the lawyer, "You've named six bankers in your will, but you haven't named a single one of them."

"No, judge, that's all right. Those fellows have carried me for so long they might as well finish the job."

One Thing Saved.

"The thief took my watch, my purse, my pocketbook—in short, everything. 'But I thought you carried a loaded revolver.'"

"I do—but he didn't find that."

Ye Cautious Editor.

Editor—You've written a poem and I thought I'd give you the first chance. Editor—We never take any.

Editor—What, never take poems? Editor—No, chances—Boston Transcript.

Where Luck Came In.

"Did your brother have any luck when he was hunting tigers in India, John?" "Yes, Sir, great luck—he never met any."—Irish World.

"Good morning," said an English housewife to her grocer, "like another dozen of them eggs you sent me yesterday."

"Polks like 'em, eh?" observed the shopman.

"Never mind the folks," she retorted. "I want 'em for a special purpose. They're going to let off one on a quarter."

"Indeed—are you going to offer your landlord some apples and pears like that?" "Not exactly," she replied. "You see, it's this way. He's comin' round this morning for the money, so if I crack 'em and hide 'em in our backyard, it's ten to one he'll cry quits about the rent, thinkin' it's the drains."

GERMANY'S COLORS VEX HINDENBURG

Others, However, Strongly Defend the Substitution of Gold for White.

Berlin, Nov. 30.—(By mail.)—Field Marshal von Hindenburg said in a recent interview that the new German colors—black, red and gold—ought never to have been adopted, as to him they symbolized the fratricidal warfare in 1866 between Prussia and other German states.

A historian in the "Vorwarts" defends the colors of the republican flag on the ground that they date back to medieval times. The Emperor Ludwig of Bavaria, it appears, used black, red and gold as colors of his army as far back as 1836.

In 1815, when the first German student societies were founded, black, red and gold were adopted as the banner of liberty and progress. Reactionaries, however, later forbade the colors, but in 1848 they were again adopted as symbolizing German unity. Again they came under the official ban, for Bismarck disliked the black, red and gold, and despite strenuous efforts in many quarters to retain them they were rejected in 1871 as the new German empire's colors. Black, white and red became instead the official German flag.

The writer cites poetry by Heine and Freiligrath at the time of the democratic awakening in Germany some seventy or eighty years ago, when black was represented as symbolizing the death of tyranny; red meant blood, and gold stood for the sacred flame of freedom.

THE ATHOLL LARCHES.

The name of the Duke of Atholl, the newly appointed Lord Chancellor, is intimately connected with the larch, which was introduced to England early in the seventeenth century.

In 1728 the second Duke of Atholl tried the experiment of growing larches from Italy in hot-houses, along with oranges; but the trees did not like the treatment, and only began to thrive when thrown out for dead on a rubbish heap. Duke Atholl has since planted on an immense scale, the fourth Duke planted by the million. From the Atholl woods came the timber for the first warship to be built of larch, a fine frigate laid down at Woolwich about one hundred years ago, and christened Atholl.

PELLETIER TRIAL BEGAN YESTERDAY

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Boston, Dec. 27.—Testimony connecting the name of District-Attorney Joseph C. Pelletier, of Suffolk county, with the alleged extortion of money in 1916 from Meyer Berman, part-owner of a hotel in the West End, was given in the supreme court today. The entire first day of the trial of Pelletier on charges of misconduct in office, upon which Attorney-General J. Weston Allen seeks his removal, was given up to the Berman case.

Seat to be Found for Mr. Meighen

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—To give Premier Meighen a seat in the new session of parliament, A. C. Casselman, member-elect for Greenville, has been appointed to a nominal position in the department of soldier's civil re-establishment at a salary of fifty dollars a month. Acceptance of an office of ennoblement under the crown automatically vacates the seat of the member thus appointed, and the situation has been clinched by the government in arranging for nominations on January 12, and an election on January 26. Intimation was given last week that such a method might be employed, but the name of Donald Sutherland was then being considered as it was understood he was willing to clear the way.

NEW CABINET IS FORMED BY HON. MR. KING

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The King cabinet is formed, but will not be divulged until the premier-elect is certain as to whether Hon. A. B. Hudson, of Winnipeg, can be included or not. It was prematurely concluded here, and not denied, that his trip westwards on Saturday night indicated that he was definitely out of the running for cabinet honors. It is not so, but he is wished to consult with his friends in South Winnipeg as to the altered situation and their ideas as to what his action should be.

A Strong Ministry. The cabinet will be a strong national one with possible exceptions for Manitoba and Alberta. Hon. W. L. Motherwell is now assured for Saskatchewan, and it is hoped that in course of time Hon. A. B. Hudson will see his way clear to entering the government for Manitoba. Ex-Premier Stewart would be an ideal representative for Alberta, but the solid block of Progressives in that province makes it impossible for a seat to be obtained, and there is no vacancy in the senate. Hon. Dr. King and Senator Bostock are expected to be the choice for British Columbia.

The premier-elect and Premier Meighen have been in consultation with each other on matters of public importance, and it is understood that Mr. Henry Dwyton has been informing Hon. W. S. Fielding as to conditions and developments in connection with the proposed merger of the Merchants' Bank and the Bank of Montreal. It is likely that the vacancy created in the Greville to give Premier Meighen a seat when the next session of parliament opens has been made with the knowledge of the premier.

Though the swearing in of the King cabinet cannot be much longer delayed, the few prominent Liberals in the city. They include, Hon. W. S. Fielding, Ernest Lapointe, Hon. W. R. Motherwell, Hon. Dr. King, Senator Bostock and D. D. McKendall. Ontario and Quebec Liberals can reach here overnight and have been seen during the Christmas holidays in Montreal or Toronto.

PREMIER BRIAND IS GIVEN A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Paris, Dec. 27.—The Chamber of Deputies today gave the Briand government a new lease of life by the substantial majority of 177, at the close of a two-day debate over the failure last summer of the Industrial Bank of China.

He said this timber was annually becoming scarcer and that in 1919 the cut was about 350,000 feet, and the annual growth was not more than 200,000,000 feet a year.

PASTOR GIVES HIS BLOOD.

But New Bedford Deacon Dies Despite Minister's Sacrifice.

New Bedford, Mass., Dec. 28.—William A. Andrew, a prominent yachtsman and a town official, died here despite the bravery of his pastor, the Rev. Lawrence B. Somers, who gave a large quantity of his blood by transfusion in an effort to save the life of his friend and deacon of his church, Mr. Somers, who is pastor of the Congregational Church here, it was as a result of the transfusion.

Mr. Andrew was formerly Secretary of the Chitopee and Taunton Y. M. C. A. He was Chairman of the Marine Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk of Marion, a member of the Beverly Yacht Club and District Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic Order. He was born in England fifty-two years ago.

NEW DATA ON CHILD GROWTH

Children's Bureau Finds Young Boys Tallies and Heavier Than Girls.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Boys in this country under six years of age average a third to half an inch taller and "about one pound" heavier than girls, according to a report today by the Federal Children's Bureau, said to be based on the "largest mass of data on the heights and weights of children under 6 years of age ever brought together in this country." The tabulation was made in connection with "Children's Year" and includes native and foreign-born children.

"Foreign children were found to be slightly taller and heavier than other groups in the study," the report said, "a difference for which climate and some other factor other than the nationality composition of the population, which closely resembles that of the native-born."

A selected group of native-born children showed "very little deviation" from the total average, including foreign born, the report said. While negro children under 4 years of age showed a difference in height and weight as compared with white children, this difference was said to have practically disappeared at the fifth year.

LEAVES \$50,000 TO TAILOR IN RETURN FOR SMALL FAVOR

Chicago, Dec. 28.—A small favor done several years ago for Ernest de Saint-Gilles, author, professor and business man, was repaid last week when Mr. de Saint-Gilles' will was filed, leaving more than half his \$100,000 estate to the tailor.

De Saint-Gilles was born in France, taught French in Oxford, Cambridge and London universities, engaged in railroad work in Canada, taught languages at a Racine (Wis.) college, wrote several French textbooks and then entered the insurance business here.

His will leaves \$2,500 to his attorney, trust funds of \$5,000 each to the children of two close friends, a trust fund of \$25,000 to a niece in France, his widow and his equipment to a fellow sportsman, and the remainder of the estate to his wife.

Mr. Craig's estimate as to the total available pine timber in Ontario was as follows: White pine, eight billion feet; red pine, one billion eighty-eight million feet. He said this timber was annually becoming scarcer and that in 1919 the cut was about 350,000 feet, and the annual growth was not more than 200,000,000 feet a year.

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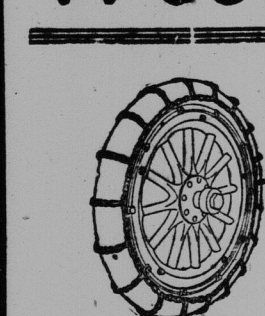
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THIS IS TRUCE WEEK IN IRELAND

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Dublin, Dec. 27.—Today was regarded in southern and western Ireland as the beginning of "Truce week," which is to be devoted to bringing public pressure to bear in favor of the ratification of the peace treaty. An extensively signed petition from all classes of his constituents has been sent to Dr. Patrick McCartan, former representative of the Dail Eireann in the United States, imploring him to actively support the treaty, instead, as he announced his intention, of merely abstaining from either voting for or against it.

The Irish Horse Breeders' Association, at the Leopardstown races today, adopted a resolution which will be sent to the principal members of the Dail Eireann strongly supporting ratification of the treaty. The resolution says that under the new regime horse-breeding in Ireland will become a much more important industry and open new avenues for employment.

The newboys of the city will be the guests of the Y. M. C. A. this evening, and the entire building and staff will be placed at the newbies' disposal. The peace treaty. An extensively signed petition from all classes of his constituents has been sent to Dr. Patrick McCartan, former representative of the Dail Eireann in the United States, imploring him to actively support the treaty, instead, as he announced his intention, of merely abstaining from either voting for or against it.

Inspector Caples of the city police force has returned to duty after being confined to his home for nearly two weeks with a gripple.