

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1926

The Evening Times-Star

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HOW THE OTHER HALF LIVES

The survey of housing conditions made in one section of Saint John by an investigator employed by the Board of Health, is, we must suppose, to be extended rapidly over some other districts where conditions obviously demand an examination of this character. In order that reasonable methods of betterment may be applied as soon as circumstances permit. What has been published already will serve to remind the citizens at large of the saying that one-half of the world does not know how the other half lives. Under modern conditions, we know that that half of the world which remains in ignorance of the living conditions, opportunities, environment and aspirations of the other is perilously situated for the old and valid reason that no man can live unto himself.

There has come to The Times-Star information touching closely upon this whole question, and a glance at it may serve, rather to emphasize the necessity for sane and up-to-date procedure. Let us see.

Recently two doctors who saw much service overseas and who familiarized themselves with housing conditions in Great Britain and on the Continent, said that nowhere within the range of their experience had they seen human beings living in more squalor and wretchedness than in limited portions of Saint John. This is not to be accepted as an indictment of living conditions in the city generally, but what they said, together with other facts presented here, suffices to prove that we cannot safely ignore or permit to continue what is going on in certain streets and alleys within our civic boundaries.

A few days ago a health nurse was talking to a class of twelve women, impressing upon them the absolute requisites for a sleeping room—air, cleanliness, sunlight, and so forth. The women said, in effect, "But how can we possibly have these things when we and our children are sleeping in rooms which have no windows that can ever be opened?"

A short time ago there was found in a North End street a girl five years old living on the second floor of a tenement, and this girl had never been downstairs since she was born. Incidentally, and as showing what can be done by thorough welfare organizations, which we must supplement as rapidly as we can by improvement in building and housing conditions—it may be well to record that two child welfare nurses had under their care during July 630 children, of which number only one child died during that month. It has been estimated by those competent to speak with authority that ten years ago, without attention as is now provided, the number of deaths in a group of 630 children living under similar conditions would have been at least from fifteen to twenty.

Life is more than property. No landlord, we must assume, even if the assumption be too sweeping, desires deliberately to profit through housing property in which women and children are imprisoned during the night in summer and for a great part of the twenty-four hours during our severe winters. In sunless rooms, damp if not occasionally flooded by drainage water, sealed tight against fresh air, foul, cold, and inhabited only because of the blackest of necessity.

It is not to be assumed for a moment that the landlord is always, or in most cases, morally or directly responsible for such conditions. The civic authorities must do justice as between the property owners and the tenant. But there is one feature of the case which cannot be ignored, and it involves our duty to ourselves as well as our duty toward every class of our fellow-citizens. In a word, decency and philanthropy altogether aside, we cannot afford to permit these plague spots to continue. If we do, we shall shame our citizenship. In addition to taxing it ever more heavily for hospital, asylum, police and other charges, which are steadily increasing because we shut our eyes to breeding places for crime, disease, and that hopeless squalor which dumbly submits to the iron pressure of circumstances beyond its control and sinks constantly into ever lower levels.

S-51.

The Boston Transcript very properly draws attention to the unwritten and unspoken message from the "U. S. Navy" submarine S-51. Estimating the time lapsing between the collision and the sinking as one minute—ample for a craven to desert his station and fight for individual escape—the fact is stressed that every body was found at the post where duty decreed the man should be. This is just what we should expect of a gallant profession and a disciplined service, but the extracts from the individual

brotherhood of those who steeled themselves to meet death, to the last faithful to duty and tradition.

The annals of every military nation are dotted with records of self-abnegation in the name of duty, but how is it that devotion to discipline in the ultimate test is so universally upheld and applauded as a shining virtue, yet modern tendency is towards relaxing the bonds of restraint? Like all good things carried to excess, discipline may be extended beyond its legitimate bounds and become submission to tyranny. Yet do we not at least pretend obedience to many restrictions which our forefathers would have fought as gross infringements of individual liberty?

On the one hand we rebel against healthy discipline, on the other we bow slavishly to restrictive methods—are we modern extremists, unable to steer a middle course? If so, why? Can it be that our popular education does not may serve, rather to emphasize the necessity for sane and up-to-date procedure. Let us see.

True discipline is the most invaluable stabilizer a nation can possess. Without it no nation has survived. Let us, therefore, teach and foster discipline in the nation, the home and the individual, and learn the lesson of the message given to the world by the gallant officers and men who died at their posts in the S-51.

THE NIZAM

The alleged challenge of the Viceroy of India's authority by the Nizam is peculiar and almost incomprehensible. That native chiefs rule without opposition or corruption has always been insisted on by the Government of India and British officers of the Political Department have invariably advised and supervised freely. There must be something not yet made public behind the story of the Nizam's refusal to accept the appointment of British administrators.

Hyderabad, the state over which the Nizam rules, is the premier state of India and stands in the centre of the Deccan, the plateau of Southern India. Its area is 68,000 square miles, its population 12,500,000 and its annual revenue about the equivalent of \$25,000,000—not an inconsiderable kingdom. The ruling dynasty is of Turkoman origin and descends from Asaf Jan, who in 1712 became Viceroy (Nizam) of the Deccan on behalf of the Moghul Emperor. With the decay of the Moghul power, the Nizam became independent and so ruled until the assumption of the title of Emperor of India by Queen Victoria, when all native chiefs became feudatories. That is the Nizam's position now and hitherto he has been a staunch supporter of the British Raj.

The suggestion that the Nizam's case resembles that of the recently deposed Maharaja of India is misleading. In the latter case misrule arose through weak and ineffectual administration. The Nizam's trouble, so far as one can judge, is the result of a strong and ambitious ruler's desire for independence incompatible with the true facts of the situation and liable to create dangerous precedents. Of course in the military sense the Nizam is virtually powerless.

Women athletes will feel justifiably proud of Miss Ederle's feat in swimming the English channel. Besides being the first of her sex to accomplish this feat of endurance, the intrepid lady has broken the time record previously held by Sebastian Tirabochi.

Odds and Ends

Not So Much Begging
(Edmonton Journal.)
The efforts of Nation's Business Magazine for better business letters were rewarded by the following verse from Carolyn Wells:
They beg to inquire and they beg to state.
They beg to advise and they beg to relate.
They beg to observe and they beg to mention.
They beg to call your kind attention;
They beg to remark and they beg to remind.
They beg to inform and you'll find;
They beg to announce and they beg to intrude.
They beg to explain and they beg to include.
They beg to acknowledge and they beg to reply.
They beg, and they beg, and they beg, oh, why!
They reluctantly beg for a moment of time.
They beg to submit you an offer sublime.
Till I wish I could put the annoying array
Of beggars on horseback and send 'em away.

Students From China.
(Edmonton Journal.)
Two Chinese university men who will pursue postgraduate studies in Toronto during the next two years have reached that city after an 8,000-mile journey from Chungking, capital of Szechwan province, West China. They are Dr. T. C. Whang, a teacher of dentistry, and S. Shiao, B. A., a probationer for the ministry in the Chinese church, founded by the West China mission of the United Church of Canada. Both are graduates of West China Union university, with excellent academic records.

Queer Quirks of Nature

SPIDERS CONQUER ALL THE ELEMENTS
By ARTHUR N. PACK

AGES before man conquered the air even with the clumsy balloon, which merely lifted and entrusted him to the mercy of the elements, the spider had learned to brave the upper air.

Most spiders are born fully equipped for the battle of life, but as they come in large families it is best that they scatter.

One of the main food courses consists of the weaker brothers and sisters. Were the brood to remain together the logical result would be one well-fed spider. Then, too, birds are the spider's enemy. And since the walking is rough and the trail unmarked for baby spiders, mother nature, ever ready with device, has smoothed the way for her spider children.

From the spinnerets, small tubular organs, is ejected a fluid which on exposure to the air hardens into silk. This of course is the substance from which the egg cases, and the lining to the homes of those species that make burrows and trapdoors.

So when the young spiderlet feels the urge to travel he merely walks up the egg case, and the lining to the home of those species that make burrows and trapdoors.

Perhaps his jumping-off place borders a broad river. Then if the wind be light the chances are against his reaching the farther shore. His trail of silk, which he spins as he walks, for spiders can walk even on this unspun silk. And if a hungry fish takes off with his glider, and starts on his adventure.

become worse, which is particularly inconvenient, now that the season is at its height. In fact, progress between Park Lane and Piccadilly Circus is mainly a succession of stops. A good deal is hoped for from the experimental scheme of electric signaling which the authorities are now hurrying forward.

WHOLESALE GIRLHOOD
(Chatham News.)
In the traveling bag of a young girl killed near Chatham was found a Bible, in which her name served as a means of identification. Traveling with her was a pocketbook, like many another good old custom, the reading of the Bible has given way before the feverish activities of modern life. Few have either the time or the inclination to peruse a book these days.

THE POLITICAL FRAY
Conservative Liberal
MR. MEIGHEN AND PROTECTION (Montreal Gazette.)
Those electors of Canada who are concerned for the industrial welfare of the Dominion, and who are in danger of being misled as to what is or what is not the Conservative tariff policy, might do well to read the following study of the utterances of the Prime Minister and of other responsible spokesmen of the Conservative party. By so doing, they are likely to find that the Conservative tariff policy is by no means as repulsive as it is represented by some of the opposition speakers and by some of the utterances of the Prime Minister. It is not, as we understand it, a policy of high protection, of a prohibitive tariff, nor a tariff so constructed and applied as to stifle fair competition. There has long been a free trade among low tariff advocates and free traders to laugh at the term "adequate protection," and to ask for some precise definition of the adjective. Yet the meaning is clear enough, and it expresses to a nicety the tariff policy which has been preached and practiced by Conservative governments in Canada for many years, and practiced for fifteen years by the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. It means a tariff union which the industries of the Dominion can live and prosper, affording employment to Canadian cities, providing a field of safe investment for Canadian and foreign capital, and enabling Canadians to make the fullest use of the great natural resources of the country. It is a policy, first and foremost, of stability and security, and as such it represents a principle which the King Government openly and deliberately abandoned.

MAKING A CHOICE.
(Ottawa Journal.)
Faced with such a choice—choice, on the one hand, of a party whose five years in office were followed by failure, and which was found guilty and condemned by Parliament for dishonesty, vacillating, and whose principles depend upon the whim of the hour—and on the other hand, of a party whose leadership is honest, straightforward and able, and which stands for what is historically good in fiscal policy, as well as for a constructive, forward-looking policy for modern economic needs—there should be no doubt of the nation's verdict.

KING AND BALDWIN.
(Toronto Mail and Empire.)
Mr. King cannot imagine Premier Baldwin in England adopting the same course that Premier Meighen has followed in Canada. And anybody who can imagine Premier Baldwin demanding a dissolution, as Mr. King did, in order to escape a vote of censure by Parliament.

MR. KING'S DISTASTE.
(Toronto Mail and Empire.)
Having explained that in asking dissolution he was not influenced by a prospect of censure and defeat of his government in the House of Commons, Mr. King may now add that he was actuated by a temporary distaste for office.

THE MARITIMES.
(Toronto Globe.)
Mr. Meighen may interest the Maritimes in the transportation question, but how does he expect them to warm up to his tariff talk when they see him in the house of commons, they see Sam the cause of many of their troubles?



He Can Fly, or Walk on Water.

Perhaps his jumping-off place borders a broad river. Then if the wind be light the chances are against his reaching the farther shore. His trail of silk, which he spins as he walks, for spiders can walk even on this unspun silk. And if a hungry fish takes off with his glider, and starts on his adventure.

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Just Fun

THERE'S no substitute for reliability.

THE kind of mother who used to say that her twelve-year-old daughter was six, so that she could travel on half-fare, now says she's sixteen, so that she can drive the car.

ONWARD.
I'll not confer with Sorrow
Till tomorrow.
But joy shall have her way
This very day.

WHEN a bad dog bites a tax assessor, you never hear of anybody but the assessor wanting to kill the dog.

"I LIKED that young fellow you were with the other night, so I asked him to dinner this evening," said the hardware merchant to his daughter. "I told him to drop round in his business clothes."

"Oh, father!" said the girl, "he's a swimming instructor."

THE house-to-house canvasser had talked for an hour.
"This egg-beater," he said, "speaks for itself. He's going to make Italy suppose you keep quiet for a moment and give it a chance."

"Go on," said the Californian, "what would any one use a kettle of that size for?"

"Why, to boil your California cabbage in," said the New Englander.

COUNSEL: "Now, sir, tell me, are you well acquainted with the prisoner?"

Witness: "I've known him for twenty years."

Counsel: "Have you ever known him to be a disturber of the public peace?"

Witness: "Well—he used to be long to a band."

A REGULAR old soak, well known to the police, was brought up in the ordinary course of affairs before a magistrate who knew him perfectly well. He recognized "his honor" familiarly.

John Jones, said the magistrate, with severity, "you are charged with habitual drunkenness; what have you to offer in excuse for your offence?"

"Habitual thirst, your honor."

WHO'S WHO
IN THE DOWNS
ANDRE TARDIEU.
THE only member of the Poincaré cabinet who is not affiliated with a political party is Andre Tardieu, Minister of Commerce. Six former premiers, several of them bitter political enemies, comprise the latest cabinet to attempt to stabilize the economic status of France.

Tardieu was born in Paris, Sept. 22, 1876, and was educated at the Lycee Condorcet and the Ecole Normale Supérieure. He began his diplomatic career in 1897 as an attaché at Berlin. The following year he was assigned to the office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. From 1899-1902 he acted as secretary of the council of ministers of the character of Deputies, secretary of the Franco-American war co-operation, high commissioner of France to the U. S. (1917-1919), minister of liberated regions (1919-1920), and French plenipotentiary at the peace conference in 1919.

He possesses the War Cross and is an officer of the Legion of Honor. He is also the author of several books dealing with diplomatic questions.

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PARIS—The French Academy of Sports has decided that a woman who has spent fourteen years in India and Asia, even though on an official mission to study Buddhism, is—in the nature of things—a sportswoman.

She adventured where few European women have been before and gleaned experiences bizarre and thrilling. So the Academy has awarded her the Grand Prix Feminin d'Athlétisme. This is the highest honor in its gift.

GRUEL AND UNUSUAL.
ROME—Signor Mussolini is unquestionably a man of determination, genius and power. He's going to make Italy a great Empire, come what will. His latest move to keep money in Italy and encourage all sorts of domestic enterprise is to forbid the issuance of

passports to Italians who wish to go away from Italy for vacations, particularly to France, where even the lire goes far. Italians cannot send their wives to Alps now, with encouragement to spend a week at each Alp. They've got to stick it out on the home grounds.

POEMS I LOVE
"God's World," by Edna St. Vincent Millay.

ABOUT a decade ago, Miss Millay, and lover of poetry who read her regal instant fame; for every critic gauged her work as the best of the modern markable "Renaissance" agreed that the award should have gone to her. I forget the name of the winner in this contest, but I have never forgotten "Renaissance"—far too long to quote, too, from the pen of this gifted young American.

O world, I cannot hold thee close enough.
Thy winds, thy wide gray skies!
Thy myths, that roll and rise!
Thy woods, this autumn day, that ache and sag
And all but cry with color! That gaunt crag
To crash! To lift the lean of that black bluff!
World, world, I cannot get thee close enough.
Long have I known a glory in it all
Even in the least of this.
Here such a passion is
As stretcheth me apart. Lord, I do
Thou'ldst make the world too beautiful this year.
My soul is all but out of me—let fall
No burning leaf, no prieth, let no bird call.

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