

POOR DOCUMENT

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The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 20, 1926.

A GOOD BEGINNING.

A more auspicious beginning of a national convention than that of the Canadian Board of Trade yesterday could not be desired. The felicitous welcoming addresses of Lieut.-Gov. Todd, Premier Baxter and Mayor White in the morning, followed by that of President Simms of the Saint John Board of Trade at the banquet which overflowed the great dining hall of the Admiral Beatty last evening, developed an atmosphere of the greatest goodwill; while the broad national outlook of these and other speakers imparted itself to every delegate and guest.

This is not an ordinary assembly of business men met to discuss matters of purely personal or class concern. The delegates are actuated by a desire to promote national unity and welfare, and the matters they discuss are of national importance. Particular stress was laid by speakers from different parts of the Dominion upon the national obligation to see to it that prosperity is not denied to any part. That is the spirit which will destroy sectionalism and make Canadians a united people.

Greatly diversified commercial, industrial and other interests are represented in the convention. There is no serious problem affecting the economic welfare of any section of the country but will find in this assembly some man sufficiently familiar with it to give intelligent discussion, whether a practicable solution may be found or not; and it is not possible to overestimate the value of such exchanges of views on the part of eastern, central and western men at this convention makes possible.

Naturally, the chief interest yesterday centred in the address of Sir Henry Thornton, and his hearers were not disappointed. His clear-cut statement of the relation between solvent railway systems and a solvent country appealed to the sound business sense of his hearers; while they were glad to hear his expressed opinion that such a rate structure is possible as would tend to the development of each portion of the Dominion without jeopardizing the financial standing of the railways. Perhaps no speaker has put in fewer words or more forcibly the fact that the rest of the Dominion cannot afford to lose the Maritimes, and is therefore obligated to ensure their prosperity and growth. When he asked put the case in his expressed it to their people at home, he rendered us and them a real service for Maritime prosperity is essential to national unity.

Sir Henry believed what prices will be obtained on higher range of values for some years to come, and contribute greatly to agricultural wealth in the west and to national development in the east as a result of the utilisation of water powers. He is convinced that mineral development will build up prosperous communities which will provide markets for our products, natural and manufactured. It was not possible to listen without absorbing some of his optimism.

"His fellow-citizens might well indulge a feeling of pride as they listened to the address of President Simms of the Saint John Board of Trade; and the visiting delegates were obviously impressed. The address was an expression of clear thinking on Canada's past, present and future, and set a high standard for the citizenship which is to achieve for Canada a great destiny.

In reviewing the addresses delivered yesterday it is a pleasure to direct attention to that of Mr. Paulhus of the Chambre de Commerce, Montreal. He voiced the sentiments of Quebec province, and these are particularly acceptable to the people of the Maritimes; for he too, made it clear that Maritime prosperity is a national concern. What he had to say about the development of our industries through a larger consumption of the product in other provinces was eminently practical.

Our readers will wish with great interest all the deliberations of this convention, and they cannot but recognize the fact that if it follows up the resolutions it adopts and keeps them before the Government, its influence as a national organization will steadily grow from year to year.

THE CITY SURVEY.

The Citizens' Research Institute of Canada, through Dr. Horace L. Brittain, has, after a general review of our civic situation, submitted its proposals. These the city has accepted and presumably Doctor Brittain will commence work immediately. Out of this will assuredly emerge real constructive suggestions for a thorough rebuilding of our civic edifice. This is indeed satisfactory, but not as acknowledged by all and not excluding His Worship the Mayor and the Council—before it was needed.

There is to be a survey of assessment and taxation involving examination of methods now in use and analysis of existing legislation. There is to be a

general survey, departmental, inter-departmental and legislative. A general examination of engineering methods, examination of the city's accounting methods, as a result of which considered judgment as to the desirability of audit will be delivered, are among the accepted proposals. Doctor Brittain has made preliminary arrangements for the services of Mr. Storrie, a well-known municipal engineer, for examination of that side of the city's business, and with Messrs. Touche & Company, chartered accountants, for the services of a principal of their firm to examine accounts. Speaking generally this appears to be a comprehensive inspection of city affairs. Presumably the business methods of the Board of School Trustees will be included in the survey, in that a considerable proportion of our taxes goes to the support of the public schools. Payment of taxes by installments, already approved in principle by the Mayor, and the apparently unequal incidence of taxation will also, it is presumed, come under review.

Shortly after assuming office His Worship declared nationalization of the port of Saint John as his leading constructive policy. It is highly gratifying to note that Sir Henry Thornton, President of the Canadian National Railway, made it clear in his speech last night at the dinner of the Canadian Board of Trade that he also considers nationalization essential to the proper development of Saint John. Things appear to be moving, and our critics can scarcely say that Saint John is languishing for want of energy on the part of her citizens. Well begun is half done, but that does not absolve us from sustained effort. Let us keep it up and soon Saint John will be among the most prosperous cities of the Dominion.

BELICIOSITY.

Professor Bemmelen has raised a highly controversial subject in declaring that male sex impulses are the direct cause of war. There are other authorities who state that the sex impulses of male and female are basically identical. Professor Bemmelen says that bellicose instincts are evident only among men. By reference to history and by observation of all walks of everyday life in all states of civilization this might be disputed. Granted there is always danger of confusing the exception with the rule, but what about the Spartan mothers, the Amazons, the Arab and Pathan women, the Russian Battalion of Death, what about Joan of Arc, Boudicca, Lady La Tour, are girls less violently quarrelsome than boys?

Nietzsche, with his Superman which initiated the "biological necessity" of war, is, of course, only philosophizing from one side, and takes little account of mental evolutionary processes. The idealists who would abolish war in a day go to the opposite extreme and disregard the slowness of evolution, physical and mental, and the liability of all to revert to type. The conquest impulse is but another manifestation of the theory of the survival of the fittest. That theory has never been seriously controverted and that survival instinct is no stronger in the male than in the female. Frequently is the opposite the case. "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."

Odds and Ends

(Pathfinder.)

He was running a small hardware store in a newly developed district, and the wholesale dealers found him backward in payment of his accounts. They sent him letter after letter, of them polite, but each more threatening than the last. Finally they sent their representative down to give him a sporting chance.

"Now," said the caller, "we must have a settlement. Why haven't you sent us anything. Are things going badly?"

"No," everything's going fine. My bankers will guarantee me all right."

"Well, you see, those threatening letters of yours were so well gotten up that I've been copying them and sending them out to some customers of mine who won't pay up, and I've collected nearly all outstanding debts. I was only holding back because I set sure there must be a final letter, and I wanted to get the series complete."

VALUES ON BROADWAY

(New York Evening World)

Nowhere does hierarchy of value change more suddenly than on Broadway. The day after Gertrude Ederle swam the channel Marcus Loew offered her a contract for thirty weeks at \$4,000 a week, \$120,000. The swimmer's manager deferred action on it. Another woman swam the channel and the offer was reduced to \$1,000. Two men duplicated the feat and now channel swimmers are a drug on the vaudeville market at \$500. "If another woman does swim across," said a vaudeville booking agent to me yesterday, "channel swimmers will have to pay us for the privilege of appearing in our theatres." If Miss Ederle had signed on the dotted line when the first contract was offered, she would have had \$120,000, for the contract would have been good, no matter how many others duplicated her feat. Naturally, Marcus Loew is not sorry her manager wanted time to think it over.

Just Fun

PERHAPS you have noticed that the belle at the ball dings dogs at home.

RUMOR has it that a real estate agency at Miami, Florida, has decorated the inside of its office to resemble a Spanish bull-ring!

THE worst has happened. Yesterday we saw a youngster lift his balloon trousers while crossing a wet spot.

ALARM clocks are just like Parliament. They are cursed if they don't ring and they are cursed if they don't.

VITAL STATISTICS: If all the people that eat at boarding houses were put at one long table, they would reach.

TEACHER—If a man took two drives, one midiron shot, and two putts to make a hole, how many shots would that be?

Little Johnnie—Father would call it three.

A GOOD cook does her best work on an empty stomach.

THE man who laughs at his wife when she has a bad cold in the summer should be arrested for attempted suicide.

Timely Views On World Topics

MOST SIGNIFICANT COUNTRY IN WORLD IS RUSSIA TODAY

By SHERWOOD EDDY.

Member of the National Board of Directors of the Y. M. C. A.

DURING August I made my fourth visit to Russia with a party of 24 American business men, editors, educators and social workers. After nine years under the present government, while our country has been flooded by propaganda both red and white, it seemed that this time had come for an unofficial group to make an objective study of actual conditions in Russia. Let us keep it up and soon Saint John will be among the most prosperous cities of the Dominion.

The significance of the present experiment in Russia can hardly be exaggerated either in its possibilities for good or for evil. Here is the largest country in the world. Here is the largest white population in industry. This year they have recovered almost all their former maximum production, both in industry and agriculture. For good or evil, from the point of view of shaping history, Russia is perhaps the most significant country in the world today, together with the United States. The present Soviet government has come to stay. No other has made so many changes and adaptations, none has been more willing to confess its many mistakes and learn from them. Its army has been reduced to one-sixth its size of six years ago, from 5,000,000 in 1920 to some 800,000 today, being less in size and expenditure than the army of the United States. The present Soviet government has come to stay. No other has made so many changes and adaptations, none has been more willing to confess its many mistakes and learn from them. Its army has been reduced to one-sixth its size of six years ago, from 5,000,000 in 1920 to some 800,000 today, being less in size and expenditure than the army of the United States.

Finally, with all its own glaring evils and mixed motives, it may be a good thing to have a nation that stands as a challenge to all the rest of the world wherever capitalism is ruthless, wherever imperialism exploits the weak nations and helpless races. Here stands a nation like an adversary, a weapon against injustice everywhere, although it has itself been cruelly unjust to its former exploiters.

May I in closing add one word of conviction regarding Russia. The good and undoubted evils in the present Soviet system are leading many in this country to treat with contempt what may prove to be the most significant social movement of our time.

The excesses of the French revolution, the violence, equality, fraternity and democracy in a partly emulated France. Our feelings have been too recently and deeply stirred both by the passions of the war and of the Russian revolution to reevaluate what will probably prove an immeasurably more significant and constructive movement than the limited and local event in France.

Dinner Stories

A BREATHELESS throng, assumed to be connoisseurs, were listening to the concertary recital. Perspiring young artists were doing their best to justify training. There were food mammals, bowed papers, and the usual array of brothers, sisters, aunts and cousins, in whose imaginations loomed distinction for the young artists. One violinist approached his greatest moment, producing a tremolo. A heavy lady in the back row, sympathetic to the last degree, whispered to her companion: "How sorry I feel for him! Isn't he nervous?"

TWO colored stereotypes unloading a vessel at a dock were passing complimentary remarks about each other. Every time they met the discussion was renewed with added sarcasm on both sides.

"Yo' jest keep on pestificating," remarked one of them, "an' yo' is sho gwine to be able to settle a mighty big question for de scientific folks."

"What question dat?" countered the other.

"Kin de dead speak?"

LITTLE Horace had been allowed the privilege of sitting up a little later than usual. Finally his mother called to him to come upstairs.

"Oh, say, sis," begged the boy, "can't I stay up just a little longer? I want to see you and Mr. Todd play cards."

"But we are not p... g to play cards tonight, Horace," said Mr. Todd.

"Oh, yes, you are, you can't fool me," replied the boy. "I heard mother tell sis that everything depended on the way she played her cards tonight."

Motto for the Gaffer.
What we have we hold.

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Spain: "I'll just gather in this nice one."
John Bull: "Not if I can help it."
—From The Evening Times, Glasgow.

Queer Quirks of Nature

By ARTHUR N. PACK
Director of the Y. M. C. A.

MOST of us in our woodland walks in early autumn have been somewhat surprised to start a yellowish-brown frog of medium size, often far from water, and perhaps have tried to capture it, but without success. He made long and remarkably quick jumps, and when he stopped, the eye usually failed to locate him, for his color was exactly that of the browned leaves or pine needles.

This is the wood frog and he is well named, for, except in the breeding season, his home is the forest floor. Let us review briefly his life history. When we started him he was merely taking a vacation after his annual task of raising a family, and had nothing to do but to hop around in the autumn woods, making a living by bug-hunting and looking up a place for his winter quarters.

As he pursues this pleasing task, he snows and warms the earth once more. Then he awakens and hops to the nearest pond or quiet woodland pond where he turned off in the fall. The smoke of the city colors the clean, shiny stones a tone just a shade lighter than anthracite coal. Wintry winds blow old papers and whatnot into the basin of it. Then along comes a heavy snowfall, to perch on it, becomes solid and makes the whole scene look like last year's ash pile.

POEMS I LOVE
"On a Mercenary Army," by A. E. Housman.

I FOUND the War poem in the London Times during 1918. It is not included in Housman's last volume. Much noticed and been made by the British pacifists of what they termed England's little "mercenary army."

It is typical of him that he could not be bothered with interviews as he had from his last trip but rushed away immediately to his office where, he knew, work was piled up awaiting him. He scoffs at any idea of retiring.

HOW MANY POTATOES.
MISTER?

PARIS—In the future we may stock up the old family car with several bushels of spoiled potatoes instead of oil and gasoline as we start out for a Sunday ride. Officers in the French navy department are now working a fuel composed of vegetable and mineral oils, which is fireproof. A navy boat recently ran several hours on the fuel and an airplane has also used it in test flights. While the French Government has taken no steps to bring the fuel into universal use it feels they have found a solution to their gasoline problem and also the disposal of spoiled vegetables.

WHAT TO DO!
CLIVELAND—The city fathers here are faced with the annual problem of what to do with the water fountain in the public square over winter. It's a gorgeous thing (in summer) of imitation rock, with imitation moss clinging to it and the silvery, sparkling water trickling down its sides in the sunlight. But the

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Other Views

IT MUST BE FUN

(Ottawa Journal.)

It must be fun to drive an old motor truck. No fenders to ding in more than they are, no body to batter more than it is, no paint to scratch, no anything that could possibly be lowered in value. Haulage of the road, riding roughshod over all rules. A swine among pearls and manners to suit. It must be fun to drive an old motor truck, and if it is owned by somebody else who is "judgment proof," so much the better.

KEEP THE HOME MARKET.

(Novelliste)

The idea that progress depends above all on foreign competition disappears as fast as the public realize that the encouragement of home industry is a supply of goods of the best quality at attractive prices. Private enterprise, which is not lacking in Canada, is the first requisite of success. Let business men of the country find the necessary capital and let the tariff be raised sufficiently to inspire the confidence of foreign capitalists and in a very short time we shall see industrial Canada in the throes of a boom without precedent in our land. Countries which have based their prosperity on protection have accomplished greater advances than free trade countries. In Quebec there is a strong sentiment in favor of developing the home market.

MUSIC IN VAUDEVILLE

Eric Blour, in Musical News and Herald.

We want fine musicians to tumble gradually to the realization that it would be by no means injurious to their dignity to collaborate with the halls that bear the name of their craft, and this is the important point—to work with them as they are at present constituted instead of waiting for improvements that will never be attained except through their collaboration. What the music-hall wants is a musician who has taste and competence enough to score all the song accompaniments and the rest of the music score, to refine the harmony to improve the orchestral texture. An accompaniment to a comic song, for instance, could be varied for each verse with some sort of reference to the words, while music-hall artists, though up to the present it has been considered more or less of a nonentity by urbanites and has been ignored by social scientists. To the city all that is not city is country, but while the village may seem a part of the country, its inhabitants differ quite as widely, in their interests and their point of view, from the country citizen as the latter does from the city population. There are more than 12,000,000 people living in the villages of the United States. Some of them are farmers, others are tradesmen, proprietors, owners and managers, but the majority of them are unskilled laborers engaged in manufacturing. Taken as a whole, the American village is a small-scale manufacturing centre. It has also been discovered that the number of children per family is smaller in the village than in the open country, that the number of old people and clergymen is larger in the village than elsewhere and that native white stock predominates in them.

IMPORTANCE OF SMALL

(Buzor Commercial.)

The vital role played in the national life of this country by the village—the community of from 250 to 2,500 population—is only now being discovered. The small town always has been conscious of its own importance, though up to the present it has been considered more or less of a nonentity by urbanites and has been ignored by social scientists. To the city all that is not city is country, but while the village may seem a part of the country, its inhabitants differ quite as widely, in their interests and their point of view, from the country citizen as the latter does from the city population. There are more than 12,000,000 people living in the villages of the United States. Some of them are farmers, others are tradesmen, proprietors, owners and managers, but the majority of them are unskilled laborers engaged in manufacturing. Taken as a whole, the American village is a small-scale manufacturing centre. It has also been discovered that the number of children per family is smaller in the village than in the open country, that the number of old people and clergymen is larger in the village than elsewhere and that native white stock predominates in them.

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