

# POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1919

### The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 10, 1919

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#### WE ARE SAVED.

It is least gratifying to learn that there is no disposition at Ottawa to force harbor commission on St. John. The spectacle of an armed force marching down to city hall and at the point of the bayonet demanding the execution of an agreement to hand over the harbor to some gentlemen named by the government would be very impressive—but extreme measures will not be taken. The citizens will not have to seek shelter with machine guns in the ruins of the old courthouse or take to the trenches in Brussels street or City Road. To what extent we may be indebted to the brave gentlemen who have just returned from Ottawa is not yet known. But we may breathe freely once more. Now if some one will rise up and announce that Sir Robert Borden's pledge of 1911 is to be redeemed and the port of St. John nationalized we will have a really happy Christmas.

#### GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.

Something should be done to counteract the influence of any persons who would leave with the government at Ottawa the impression that the harbor commission on the terms imposed. When a delegation goes to Ottawa it should go with the endorsement of the citizens, to ask Sir Robert Borden to redeem his pledge of 1911. Anything short of that will not be satisfactory to the citizens, whatever a small minority think or say. Harbor commission will not serve. It is for the people to get together, regardless of politics, and call upon the government to redeem Sir Robert's pledge of eight years ago. The gentlemen at Ottawa do not think of the nationally when they think of St. John. There was a time when this city had a representative in the government who saw the port of St. John in its right relation to the trade of Canada, but there has been a very marked change in the last two or three years. We have been receiving branch line treatment from the department of railways, and only just now has the railway management been induced to put St. John in its rightful place on the railway map. The people must now see that the government is induced to put this port on the map in a way befitting the second port in volume of trade in Canada. What is it that stands in the way—indifference, or politics? Whatever it is the people should wake up. It is the really big thing for St. John. What has the Commercial Club to say about it?

#### WHICH QUESTION, NEIGHBOR?

"What are they going to do with those women?"

This question has been asked so many times in the last few days that it has become a commonplace. The word "they" refers to the Children's Aid Society, and the women are the mothers of the children found in squalor and filth and disease in a tenement in City Road last week.

People who ask this question assume a detached position. They are indignant, of course, but it is no concern of theirs except that they may be asked to contribute something to the fund of the Society. But suppose we change the form of the question and put it another way:

"What are we going to do to improve social conditions and save other women and children? What have we been doing during the years when others were struggling to get a Children's Protection Act, a Medical Inspection Act, better housing laws, playgrounds, community centres, district nurses and the like?" If those who ask the first question will ponder over the second one they will perhaps see that they cannot afford to assume a detached attitude—for two reasons.

The first reason is that they profess to be Christians, living in a Christian community, and there is not a pagan from Dan to Beersheba who would not laugh their solemn and self-complacent professions to scorn as he pointed his finger to the tenement in City Road and to so many others nearby like it in this city.

The second reason is that it does not pay to have slums, because they carry with them poverty, disease, crime, hospitals, reformatories and jails—which touch the pocket of every taxpayer.

Such conditions as have been revealed in the last week are not new or of sudden growth, nor are they exceptional except in degree. And such conditions will continue, with their burden of suffering and sorrow for helpless children until the community gets out of the spotlight of selfish social enjoyment long enough to turn the spotlight on the den where misery and vice are married to each other, and are bringing forth a brood that is defective or vicious—both—to lower the average of intelligence, morality and efficiency in the community for the next generation.

What are "they" going to do? What are "we" going to do? Choose ye whom ye will serve.

#### WANTS THE "OLD FLAG" AGAIN

The Toronto Telegram has been seeing visions and dreaming dreams. Once this wild wall and fearless prophecy:

"A Conservative party, Unionist party, or any other sort of party that goes to the polls under a Borden leadership will be overwhelmed by disaster more complete than the calamities of the Conservative party that went to the polls under a Borden leadership. The Borden government can still do a great work in applying the years that remain in the lifetime of the present parliament to the working out of a wise and progressive solution of urgent national problems. The Unionist party should hold together, if possible, under the leadership of Sir Robert Borden, until the Unionist government has finished its work in 1923. Then the Unionist party and the Borden leadership will have to disappear. Then the forces of nationality and progress will have to hoist the old flag of protection and go to victory or defeat in battle for the old cause of Canadianism."

"Hold the fort for we are coming," is the essence of the admonition to Sir Robert. By the year 1923 the Conservative party will be ready. The Telegram does not even mention Premier Drury and his farcical, and disingenuous, quite as cheerfully all who want a lower tariff. The old flag of protection is to flap once more, but it is to be known as the flag of Canadianism. The dear old flag. It has served the turn of the Tories more than once. It is a bit difficult to follow the argument of the Telegram without putting a question mark here and there.

Dr. Morrison was brought to trial on April 24. The jury, possibly influenced by the deaths of Lount and Matthews, found him innocent of all charges against him. Fearing another arrest he left Canada, so soon as the trial was over and made his home in the United States. Other trials followed, and while the death sentence was sometimes imposed by the courts, the prisoners escaped the trial penalty of the law. Some were exiled, others sent to prison and in other cases the evidence was conflicting and the men received the benefit of the doubt and were freed.

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Christian Science Monitor: "It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and so it is with the British railway strike, which has proved a blessing in disguise. After the war the government found itself possessed of great numbers of motor vehicles, and in the national emergency of the strike nearly 25,000 of these were hauling merchandise about the country. As a result, the Road Board in Britain, in order to facilitate traffic, widened roads, cut down hedges obstructing the view at cross roads, and prepared plans for new streets to divert the abnormal traffic from the restricted thoroughfares where jams were experienced. So the motorist will now proceed along the highways and byways of rural England in greater safety, and motor lorries, having been found so efficient in clearing the docks of congestion, will be used for this purpose to a much greater extent than formerly."

The New York Evening Post says that the weakness of the ordinary system of reporting cases of tuberculosis was illustrated by a house-to-house canvass made last year by the Chicago authorities. Examining over 165,000 people, they found 8,000 tubercular, and ascertained that fewer people were ordinarily reported as having the disease than died of it each year. The Evening Post contends that "health officers should have authority to send those who deliberately scatter infection to sanatoriums; and provision should be offered for the after-care of arrested cases."

Chicago has a tuberculosis sanatorium that cost \$2,400,000. At the same time there were planned a vigorous education department; a home extension department to remodel dwellings, build sleeping porches and equip sickrooms; and a dispensary department, whose branches scattered over the city should detect cases, select patients for the sanatorium, and with field nurses and doctors supervise home care."

Prof. Roland, speaking in Halifax a few days ago, said: "Persons who manifest a deep and sincere interest in city institutions and their homes manifest public spirit. Each individual ought to consider himself responsible for the bettering of the community. Each citizen might be likened to a member of a football team, who for the greater success of the team faithfully plays his particular part."

#### AT MONCTON ALSO ON THE AIRDROME MATTER

Moncton, N. B., Dec. 10.—At a meeting in city hall yesterday, attended by Mayor Price, J. M. Stevenson, representative of the Eastern Canada Air Lines, Limited, and others, a proposal to establish an aerodrome in the vicinity of Moncton was discussed. Mr. Stevenson said about eight acres would be required.

#### GROW YOUR OWN SUGAR.

London, Eng., Dec. 10.—"If there were only sugar beet factories available for the British enterprise in this country this year, dealing with, say, 1,000 tons of sugar beet roots per day during the winter, it would be possible to invite British farmers to devote 10,000 acres of their land to this crop," said Sir Herbert Matthews, secretary of the Central Chamber of Commerce. "Such an acreage would yield at least 100,000 tons of topped and washed roots, from which not less than 12,000 tons of sugar would be produced. This quantity would supply the requirements of one million people for one year, based upon the war ration."



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#### THE REDS.

How long, I often wonder, will we endure the Reds, who're always raising thunder, dogmatizing their foolish heads? They're always talking treason, they plot the overthrow of order, law and reason, they'd lay our bulwarks low. From foreign kennels crawling, all crimes get their ap-plesauce, no horror's so appalling that it would give them pause. How long will we endure them, as guests of Uncle Sam's? When will we start to cure them as packers cure their hams? From pestiferous alleys, from slums across the sea, from prison halls and galleries, they come "to set us free." Ah, yes, they talk of freedom, and say that we are slaves; they write long tracts and read 'em, the frothy, unwashed knaves. If my soul with sadness that there are thoughtless Yanks who listen to their madness, and join their crazy ranks. And thus we see the danger of letting him remain, the loud and lousy stranger, with murder on the brain. I would not have a person upon our shining strand who spends his leisure cursing the customs of this land, if any gent's suspected of treasonable thought, I'd have that gent collected, and hanged and drowned and shot.

#### CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

#### DEATH PENALTY FOR REBELS.

After the rebellion had been crushed out in Upper Canada, in the early days of December, 1837, a list of prisoners who had been captured in the operations was sent to the trial judges. In most cases the charges had to do with the rebellion, and the prisoners were sentenced to death. The list included the names of the following: Samuel Lount and Peter Matthews, who had been captured in the operations of the rebellion, and were sentenced to death. The list also included the names of the following: John Lount and Peter Matthews, who had been captured in the operations of the rebellion, and were sentenced to death. The list also included the names of the following: John Lount and Peter Matthews, who had been captured in the operations of the rebellion, and were sentenced to death.

#### WINTER SONG.

All through the oak-wood  
Rooks fly and call;  
Fast down the rustling boughs  
Brown acorns fall.  
What though December dawn?  
Rooks will sing;  
Over the rimy lawns  
Startles of speckled coast,  
Whimsical song,  
Where the wind-falls lie  
Gossip and throng.

#### LIGHTER VEIN.

Mrs. Koppik had a hypochondria, and whatever complaint another had she at all times had it, or had had it quite recently. The other day a friend of hers dropped in, and in the course of conversation remarked:

"I've been suffering terribly of late from insomnia."

Mrs. Koppik hadn't the faintest idea what insomnia was, but she was not to be outdone.

"So have I," she answered, "something dreadful."

"And what do you do for it?" inquired the friend eagerly.

"Why, my dear, I find the only thing that does me any real good is to go to bed and sleep it off."

"I can't get over it," a Scotch farmer remarked to his wife. "I put a two-shilling piece in the plate at dinner this morning instead of my usual penny."

The teacher had noticed the mistake and in silence he allowed the farmer to finish the plate for 23 consecutive Sundays.

On the 24th Sunday the farmer again ignored the plate, but the old teacher stretched the ladle in front of him, and in a loud, tragic whisper, hoarsely said:

"Your time's up now, Sandy."

The Literary Editor.—That young fellow Scribner sent in a paper this morning entitled "Why Do I Live?"

The Literary Editor.—Returned it with an inclosed slip saying, "Because you pulled this instead of bringing it personally."

Putting the "H" in Music.  
"The 'orn of the 'unter is 'ard on the 'in," sang the little boy at the Ragged School. But somehow his version of that line in "Kathleen Mavourneen" jarred on the nerves of the teacher.

"My little man," she said kindly, "why don't you put a few more stitches in your song?"

"Garn," advised the little man, politely. "Don't you know there ain't no 'H' in music? It only goes up ter G."

The Bride.—You know Jack is such a Married Friend—I know, my dear, but that is a fault that marriage usually cures.—Boston Transcript.

"Be careful in dusting those portraits, Mary," said the mistress to her new help: "they are all old masters."

A look of amazement came into the girl's face. "Gracious, ma'am!" she gasped, "who'd ever thought you'd be married all them times?"—Boston Transcript.



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