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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1913

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LAW AND THE HOME

Those who are interested in the welfare of women and children, and in the problem of protecting them from brutal and drunken husbands and fathers, will be glad to know that an amendment to the criminal code adopted at the last session of the Canadian parliament places a new weapon in their hands, the following section has been added to section 242—

"Everyone is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$500 or to one year's imprisonment or to both, who (a) as a husband or head of a family is under a legal duty to provide necessaries for his wife or any child under 16 years of age; or (b) as a parent or guardian is under a legal duty to provide necessaries for any child under 16 years of age and who if such wife or child is in destitute or necessitous circumstances, without lawful excuse neglects or refuses to provide such necessaries."

Complaint is frequently made in this city of drunken fathers who neglect to take care of their wives and children. It would not solve the problem in every such case to have the man locked up for a year, but there are certainly cases where the family would be able to get along very much better if the worthless husband and father were put away. No doubt there are also cases where the fear of a year's imprisonment would prompt a man to remain sober and provide for his family. Indeed there are some men who do not properly provide for their families against whom the charge of drunkenness would not be brought. They are sober savages, to whom fear would speak much more strongly than duty, and upon whom the new law might be expected to have some effect.

So far as the children are concerned, some advantage has already been taken in this city of the Children's Protection Act passed by the New Brunswick legislature at its last session, but the full benefit of this law cannot be enjoyed until further legislation has been secured to incorporate a Children's Aid Society, and make it possible to provide a children's shelter and the necessary machinery to care for the little ones temporarily, and place them eventually in good homes.

SIR WILFRID'S LOYALTY

The St. John Standard loses no opportunity to question the loyalty of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Today it quotes a sentence from a speech made by Mr. Borden in Halifax in which he said:—"The unity of the Empire cannot be maintained if its greatest dominion adopts a policy of scamping under the cover of neutrality in time of danger or of trouble." The Standard says that Mr. Borden here advocates the maintenance of British connection, while Sir Wilfrid Laurier denies our responsibility to the Empire. The Standard has not the fairness to say that it was Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who declared that "when England is at war, Canada is at war." Neither does it care to tell its readers that the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill recently described Sir Wilfrid Laurier as "that Sir Wilfrid Laurier denies our responsibility to the Empire is a falsehood so gross that only an utterly reckless and irresponsible journal would give it utterance. The Liberals and their leaders are quite as loyal as the Tories and Mr. Borden. They do not, however, permit their loyalty to thrust them into a position of self-confessed inferiority, such as the Borden naval policy involves.

WEST INDIA SERVICE

An Ottawa despatch says that the minister of trade and commerce has closed a contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for a five years' service between Canada and the West Indies, beginning November 1. The steamers are to have a carrying capacity of 5,000 tons, with a speed of 11 or 12 knots, and suitable passenger accommodations. They will sail from Halifax direct and will return by way of St. John. It is announced that an arrangement has been made whereby perishable cargo may be taken from St. John to Halifax without increased cost.

There are two objections to this service. One is that none of the steamers sail direct from St. John, and thus this port is placed in a subordinate position when it should have at least equal treatment with Halifax. The other objection to the service is that the steamers are too slow. The Standard's Ottawa despatch says that a heavy subsidy is granted, and is contributed entirely by Canada. An effort is made to give Mr. Foster great credit for the establishment of this service, but it will probably be found before the term of the contract expires that he has been responsible for another very costly experiment, from which Canada will derive very little real benefit.

A correspondent of the Financial Times of Montreal describes Waterloo, Ontario, as "the Hartford of Canada," since it has the head offices of no less than five insurance companies.

A FAIR APPLICATION

The Manchester Guardian very effectively turns some statements of the Tory press in England against the Tories. They have been denouncing the labor unions for pursuing or threatening to pursue a violent course. For example, the Pall Mall Gazette made the following observations:—"Whenever force is employed in any sphere, argument ceases. Force must be met by force. Criminal force in this as in all other connections must be met by the stronger force of social order. The determination of the lawless must be met by the deeper and wider determination of the law-abiding. This is the life-and-death issue for the state."

The Guardian agrees with the principle herein set forth, and invites the Pall Mall Gazette and other Unionist papers to apply it to Sir Edward Carson and his friends. The Saturday Review, referring to certain labor agitators, says:—"The simple argument of these men who indict on edification and infame mobs is that ordinary law and government is not applicable to those who preach revolution under the guise of trade unionism." The Guardian invites the Saturday Review to omit the word trade in the above sentence and make the application. But the Saturday Review goes further and says:—"There is an end of government unless the government uses every means with which the law supplies it for muzzling and repressing the leaders who are endeavoring to secure the control of affairs and to set up an imperium in imperio for whatever purpose."

The Guardian says that this is a little harshly stated perhaps, but it is sound doctrine, and above all substantially sound Conservative doctrine. "There is an end of government" unless Carson and Ulster is steadily faced and brought to nothing. In a word, all that the Conservative press and politicians may say about labor leaders who incite their followers to riotous demonstrations applies with greater force to Sir Edward Carson and those with whom he is associated.

Many citizens should attend the Agricultural Society's fair at Moosepath Park tomorrow.

Five counties in Ontario desire to establish a central prison farm to take the place of the various jails within their borders. This is believed to be the beginning of the establishment of a series of such farms in that province.

Occasionally we hear it said that John Bull is rather slow, and in some dangers of being outdone by the Germans or somebody else; but a London cable informs us that in an aviation contest between England, America and France, England has won.

The late Mr. James Ross made public bequests amounting to nearly half a million dollars, in addition to gifts ranging from twenty-five thousand to several institutions during his life time. Since his fortune is estimated to have amounted to from twelve to fifteen millions he could well afford to make these gifts.

Sir Edward Carson's campaign in Ulster is not taken seriously, because it is recognized that the will of parliament must prevail in this matter of Home Rule for Ireland. It is quite evident that the Unionist leaders are willing to jeopardize the public welfare by tacitly encouraging the Carsonian campaign, and there could be no stronger evidence than this fact in itself affords that the Unionists are not worthy to be entrusted with the responsibilities of office at Westminster.

Investors are reported to be showing great interest in municipal bonds. The Montreal Financial Times says:—"The demand for municipals continues the feature of the bond market. Bond houses report that they are being cleaned out of municipals which have been as so much dead stock for months. Induced by bargain prices, investors small and big are strong buyers in the market at the moment." Of the proposed St. John issue, the Financial Times says:—"St. John, N. B., is proposing to make an early loan of \$200,000. In view of the fact that the maritime 'municipals' are usually more conservatively thought of than the western towns it seems highly probable that St. John will meet as ready a sale as did her sister city Halifax when the latter recently entered the market."

Verdict in Trudel Fatality

Quebec, Sept. 28.—An inquest was held on Saturday on the bodies of the eight children of the Trudel family, who lost their lives in the fire which destroyed their home on Friday morning. The jury returned a verdict of death by asphyxiation and recommended that the municipal authorities more strictly enforce the rules concerning the construction of buildings, so as to prevent, if possible, in the proportion to its size Britain has eight times as many miles of railway as the United States.

LIGHTER VEIN

Surprised
Robins—Jogge found a surprise awaiting him when he got home last night.
Dyers—What was it?
Robins—His wife was asleep.

Her Sir's Consent
"Yes, though it grieves me," he began, "I cannot pay her bills, young man, this lifts the load to some extent. Take her—you have my full consent."
—Judge

Horrid! Horrid!
Knicker—How do you remember to water the plants when your wife is away?
Booker—I keep 'em in the bath tub.

How It Was
"Is your wife going away this summer?"
"No—I'm sending her."

COAL TRADE OUTLOOK

(Coal Age)
Bituminous operators again out of the market and tonnage difficult to obtain. Occasional congestion reported, but the season is now sufficiently advanced to look for a hard situation at any time. Wholesale anthracite continues dull.

The retail anthracite trade received a slight impetus during the week, due to the first appearance of colder weather. Greater activity is noticeable among dealers and consumers, but the movement is not of sufficient proportion to affect the wholesale situation. Mines continue working under curtailed production and some of the smaller sizes are still going into storage. The most interesting development during the week was the recent announcement of a proposed increase in the water freights out of New York harbor. The companies claim that this business has been done at a loss in the past and they are determined to eliminate all such unprofitable features of the trade.

Bituminous operators who were in the market a few weeks ago, have again withdrawn and the situation is notably stiffer. The short coal supply is having a steady influence while the spot market is stronger and the outlook even more perplexing. There is a particular scarcity of West Virginia grades and quotations are showing a strong tendency to increase on what little prompt coal is offered. The season has advanced to a point where a firm situation may develop very rapidly.

New York—Bituminous market steady and well supported and on spite of the rumored withdrawal of the railroad buyers. Anthracite continues dull and production restricted. Retail trade what stimulates by a fall in temperature.

Boston—Hampton Roads coal firm, and the outlook more perplexing. Receipts still heavy. Georges Creek in short supply. Signs of increasing demand for Pennsylvania grades. Bargain rates on anthracite from New York to advance October 1.

Philadelphia—Anthracite trade is slowly becoming more active. Curtailed operations still continue, but there are indications of a resumption of activity. Bituminous market continues strong with demand good, and prices on about a parity with the week previous.

WEDDED IN SEATTLE

Frederick Glenzer—Word has reached Fredericton telling of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Whitehead, eldest son of this city, and Miss Margaret Hazel Girdle, said to be a Vancouver, B. C., young lady, on Aug. 18, in Seattle. Little is known here of the wedding, any more than it took place secretly and that Mr. Whitehead has since left his bride and joined the rush to the Shushanna gold diggings to seek his fortune.

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Going September 25th, 26th and 27th
Good to Return October 1st
\$12.50

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Tickets on sale daily Sept. 20 to Oct. 15
Good for Thirty Days from date of sale.
\$10.50

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Potatoes 20c a peck. 2 cans of Salmon for 25c. Tomatoes 12c a can. Peas 10c a can. Green Tomatoes 90c a bushel. Corn 9c a can.

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