

The Evening Times-Star

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ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 22, 1924

PAINTING ROSY PICTURES.

The farmers of Western Canada may be counting their chickens before they are hatched in estimating enormous gains as a result of the advance in the price of wheat if recent weeks, but they have benefited already to a very large extent as a result of the rise in price of the wheat crop of 1923 still remaining in their hands. A Winnipeg despatch of last Friday estimates that western farmers and dealers have profited to the extent of \$5,000,000 by the advance in the price of old wheat in recent weeks. In Saskatchewan they are figuring out their gains if the price of the 1924 crop should hold the advance of the past six weeks, which has been about 42c a bushel. A Regina estimate places the Saskatchewan crop at 169,000,000 bushels; and, although this is contrasted with 242,000,000 bushels last year, the higher price would result, according to the estimate, in over \$7,000,000 extra money pouring into the farmers' pockets. If the price holds until this year's crop is marketed. While the rest of the country may have been worried a bit by reports of crop shortage in the West this year, the farmers themselves have been keeping their eyes on the market quotations; and, since timely rains appear to have removed the danger of a severe crop shortage, they are beginning to count their gains rather than lament over their losses.

The situation is improved because the Mother Country will be looking to Canada for a good deal of wheat. Australia has exported a large quantity to China and Japan, and the bulk of the Argentine crop has been shipped Russia will have very little wheat for export, according to information received in England, and so there will be a large market in the Mother Country for wheat from Canada. All grains have benefited by the advance in wheat, and the farmers' outlook, therefore, unless bad weather should change the whole situation, is very good.

The farmers of the United States are also reported to be jubilant over the market changes. A New York despatch last Friday said that the advance in crop prices in the past three days was described as not only enabling the farmers to wipe off old debts and get a fresh start, but as promising more to general business than anything that has happened in the last year. The increase in value of the principal crops harvested by the American farmers is estimated to have been, during the last month, \$420,000,000; and on this basis Wall Street was figuring the total value of all crops this year in the United States at \$11,000,000,000, or \$800,000,000 in excess of last year's value; and \$2,000,000,000 more than in 1922, and \$4,000,000,000 more than in 1921. It is further said that the spectacular advance in the price of farm products is reflected in a revival of business generally, and a greatly improved sentiment throughout the country. Along with wheat there has been an advance in the price of oats, rye, cotton, hay, hogs and other products. While the value of the crops is only about 16 per cent. of the national income in the United States, the prosperity of the farmers is a vital consideration to many industries and a benefit to all.

CO-OPERATION IN INDUSTRY.

The annual dinner of the executive and employees of T. S. Simms & Co., Ltd., last evening was more than a family affair. It was of universal interest because the President announced the adoption of an employee industrial partnership plan, whereby the employees will become stockholders, in a small way at first but gradually increasing their interest from year to year without reference to the wages paid. This means that the present owners for the future forego anything more than a reasonable stated dividend, and give the employees the benefit of whatever further gains are made, affording the latter the opportunity of eventually controlling the business.

Then there was the reference of Mr. John Drewe of Winnipeg to the quality of the product of a St. John industry, and his splendid tribute to Maritime Province people, regarding their capability of competing in industry. What he said should be of the nature of an inspiration to our people generally.

Years ago the late T. S. Simms, traveling in these provinces as the representative of an American house, saw what he believed was an opportunity to establish a successful industry. It was hard and toilsome work, often discouraging; but today Simms goods are shown at Wembley as they were at Lyons, and more than three

hundred persons are employed in a large plant that is one of the outstanding industries of St. John. The late Mr. Simms left a worthy successor in his son, Mr. L. W. Simms, now president of the company, who believes as his father did in the principle of co-operation in industry.

FAVOR SMALL INDUSTRIES.

The Halifax Mail has been looking into the question of the kind of industries that would be likely to succeed in that city. It says it is useless to wait for big industries to come along, and that in the opinion of live business men interviewed the hope of Halifax lies in organizing a number of small ones, employing from twenty-five to one hundred hands. Illustrations are given of articles imported that are and can be as well made in the Maritime Provinces, and reference is also made to natural resources upon which industries could be based. Why, it asks, export our own apples and import our preserves? Why export our fish in the raw state and import canned fish? Why not put up both fish and fruit in many forms for outside markets? Concluding an article on the subject, The Mail says:

"The fact of the matter is we have been exporting our brains and our raw materials and both go together, for it takes brains to put the raw material into the finished product. Our business men should get together, have a survey made of the possibilities and get behind the men who will tackle the proposition. For we must stop the export of brains and of raw material, if we are going to hold our own or go one better."

There is too much force in The Mail's remark. A keen observer asked The Times-Star the other day this question: "Do you know what your largest export is from this province?" And, without waiting for a reply, he himself answered:—"Brains." It ought to be possible to base many industries of modern capacity upon our natural resources, if capital were added to the brains which we know are available but which do not now find a field of activity in our own province.

The passing of Douglas McArthur removes a citizen who was in business for more than forty years, and who until a few years ago took a lively interest in public affairs. Mr. McArthur was for some years a member of the City Council, and always took an active part in provincial and federal politics. He was also connected with fraternal organizations and active in church work. A very outspoken man, he did not always please those who listened, but his own views were strongly held and as vigorously expressed. He had almost reached the three score years and ten when the end came, after several years of indifferent health, during which he was unable to take his usual active part in affairs. Many old friends of past years will learn with regret of his death.

Hon. Ernest Lapointe made a neat rejoinder in the House of Commons last week to the assertion of Premier Ferguson of Ontario, that the resolution establishing extra territorial rights for Canada, in which the Senate concurred, was a blow at the constitution, and that the provinces should be consulted. Mr. Lapointe said the resolution did not affect the provinces and that, moreover, "Premier Ferguson's protest was three years too late, as the legislation was originally proposed by a Government of which Mr. Ferguson was a supporter."

In the Senate at Ottawa last week, Hon. J. D. Reid drew attention to a press report to the effect that Senator King purposed retiring, to be succeeded by his son. Senator Dandurand blandly replied that when Dr. Reid was in Montreal he would introduce him to the editor of the paper responsible for the report from whom he might receive the information he desired.

In France medical tests are necessary before a driver of an automobile is given a license.

WRITS ISSUED FOR BY-ELECTION

Ottawa, July 21.—Writs have been issued today by the chief electoral officer for the by-elections in the constituencies of Stantoin and Rimouski. Nomination date for the two constituencies has been fixed for Aug. 16 and polling day for Aug. 30.

The by-elections are the result of the resignation of Hon. Walter G. Mitchell, former Liberal member for Stantoin, and J. E. S. D'Anjou, former Liberal member for Rimouski, who has been appointed registrar for that county.

ISLAND OF EIGG.

The Island of Eigg, which is the property of Sir William Peterson, the well-known London shipowner, is about three miles in length with a circumference of eight miles, and contains about 6,000 acres. It is formed by two ridges separated by a central valley. The southern ridge is known as the Scur of Eigg. It is a basaltic column with the ruins of a fort on the top, and was described by Hugh Miller as "a tower three hundred feet in height, perched on the apex of a pyramid, like a statue on a pedestal."

The island contains the ruins of monastic buildings, founded, it is alleged, by St. Columba about the beginning of the seventh century. The island, it is conjectured, frequently repaired to Eigg to escape from the turmoil of Iona, where, attracted by his fame, came flocks of pilgrims and penitents, and the poor, besides such students as desired learning—at that time wholly in the possession of the monks.

The geology of the island is interesting to students of the science, and this accounted for the presence of Hugh Miller. In his "Crucible of the Betsy," the great geologist gives a vivid description of the geological structure of the island. On the beach of Laig Bay, which is on the western shore of the island, there are the famous "musical sands." The sandstone, ground with shells, covers the beach. While Hugh Miller saw a squawking gull, but to hear a sound which might be described as something like that made by the twanging of a stringed instrument. This remarkable sound is said to be similar to that emitted by the sands of the "Mountain of the Bell," near the Gulf of Akaba, on the Red Sea, and at another locality north from Cabul in Afghanistan.

TITLED FARMERS.

A titled English couple who are leading the simple life on an Alberta farm are Lord and Lady Rodney, who recently left England to return to their ranch at Port Saskatchewan. Lord Rodney is seventh in descent from the famous Admiral Rodney, and his wife, whom he married in 1917, was Marjorie Lowther, a niece of Lord Londonderry.

When the war ended they deserted London society, and went West, determined to start life afresh, and to live simpler lines, says The Yorkville Post. They were wise enough, instead of buying land at once, first to try and get some practical experience, and only after that to buy the land, if necessary, as a hired worker.

"If you are going to work in the fields," Lady Rodney said to her husband, "I will work, too, at whatever women do on farms." So they both sent off to the Employment Bureau and got jobs. At the time the jobs did not mature. So the two titled would-be farmers set out on their own in the Saskatchewan district, and while Lord Rodney learned the business of life in the West, they are thoroughly established, and Lady Rodney is as keen as her husband, in spite of the fact that at Barley Stalk and do most of the housework and cooking.

Their present establishment was once the summer home of a Quebec Judge, and is a fine example of the type of house which young Englishmen who want to train as farmers.

LEPROSY EASY TO CURE?

In an address on the leprosy problem of the British Empire, Lieut.-Col. Sir Leonard Rogers pointed out that leprosy is far more curable than pulmonary tuberculosis, says the London correspondent of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Sir Leonard thinks that the time has come when a more vigorous effort should be made to apply recent knowledge with a view to the ultimate eradication of leprosy from the British dominions.

He estimated the total number of sufferers throughout the world at between two and three millions, and those within the British Empire at a minimum of 800,000. The idea that the disease was hereditary, he said, erroneous. The children of lepers, if removed from possible infection by separation from their parents at an early age, grew up in a normal and healthy manner and produced untainted children. He therefore pleaded for the segregation of lepers, stating that while the disease was probably no more infectious than tuberculosis, it was communicable through prolonged contact with a leper.

The method of transmission was not as yet proved, but it was probable that it was conveyed by bacilli from a leper invading the body of a "contact" through a slight skin wound or by the bite of an insect. If every leper could be isolated from the day he became infected, the disease would die out in a generation, he concluded.

SAY THE KIND WORD.

Do you find yourself tongue-tied when you feel disposed to say a kind, encouraging word to others? If so, you will never regret setting yourself to overcome this fault, for it is a lamentable one. There is enough harshness, enough coldness, enough indifference, enough callousness, enough unkindness in the world. Why not do all you can to make people a little cheerier, a little brighter, a little happier? Money isn't the only thing we can give which will help and please others. We can give a word of sympathy, a word of appreciation, a word of praise. Was it Thoreau who relates that when he replied to a beggar who asked him for a coin, "I'm sorry, I haven't a penny even to give you, brother," got this reply: "It is something that you have called me 'brother'."

Many of our older generation of industrial giants are drivers. They believe in driving rather than in leading, in swearing at workers rather than in praising them. Many of our most successful business executives of the younger generation have learned that men work most and best when given encouragement and consideration. In these democratic days autocratic bossing often leads to labor troubles. After all, is not more satisfaction to be gained from running a business harmoniously than in attempting to rule everyone with a rod of iron? And, in social life, do we not all prefer friends who do not hesitate to say kind rather than cruel things?—Forbes Magazine (N. Y.)

THE OLD HOME BY THE STREAM.

(By Wellington P. Mackenzie.)
Now the sunset fast is dying,
And the crimson tides of grey,
While the hush of night steals softly
Round the peaceful close of day.

While the rich and winny fox-gloves
In their gaudy clusters gleam,
I would that I were roaming
Near the old home by the stream.

There it flows mid cedar wildwood,
Where the old road leads along,
And the crows are wending homeward
While the day is all but gone.

There across the pensive valley
Swings the long bridge in my dream,
Where so dearly memory lingers
At the old home by the stream.

While the wind blows sad and mournful,
Through the swaying hemlocks nigh;
Speaking in its softest whisper
Of my barefoot days gone by.

And the western clouds seem dreary,
In the sun's last fading beam;
As the night winds waft a token
Of the old home by the stream.

Now 'tis not the same old yonder,
Since loved ones have crossed the sea;
And that is what the whisper
Of the night winds say to me.

LIGHTER VEIN.

It's So Sad
"I hope that's a nice book for you to read," says mummy. "It's a lovely book, but I don't think you would like it. It's sad, darling."

"How is it sad, darling?"
"Well, she dies, and he has to go back to his wife."

Ups And Downs.

A notoriously absent minded man was observed walking down the street with one foot continually in the gutter, the other on the pavement.

A friend meeting him said: "Good evening. How are you?"
"Well," replied the absent minded one, "I thought I was well when I left home, but now I don't know what's the matter with me. I've been limping for the last half-hour."

Cracklings.

The hours I spend with thee, dear heart,
Are fraught with joy and bliss, although
At times I'd like to kick apart
My Radio, my Radio.

Each word a shriek, each song a blast,
But still I tune and tune in vain—
I listen in unto the tune, and there
You screech again.

"Batteries and amplifiers,
O tuning coil that makes me cross,
I wish that I could cure your static
—Paul J. Artale in The Chase.

THE SIZE OF ATOMS.

Far Smaller Than Anything One Can See, Feel, Taste or Smell.

In ways too intricate to be described here we have little by little got some knowledge of the probable size of atoms, writes Theodore M. Richards. They must indeed be exceedingly small. For example, in a teaspoonful of water we have good reason to believe that there are very nearly a million million million million atoms.

That number is so tremendously big that it is beyond our ability to imagine it, even though we can write it down. It means, of course, that the atom is far smaller than anything we can see or feel or taste or smell. Indeed, the atom must so small that if we imagine a tennis ball magnified to be forty miles in diameter the atoms in it would then be no larger than grains of fine sand one one-hundredth of an inch in diameter.

Only two or three of the kinds of atoms that we now know on earth appear to be capable of splitting up into smaller ones.

Of these atoms radium is the most striking example. Its "atoms" seem to be steadily going to pieces at such a rate that of an ounce of radium only half an ounce would be left after 1,600 years. So far as we know, the half that was lost would have turned finally into a sort of lead, together with a strange gas called helium. Each "atom" of radium perhaps yields one atom of lead and five of helium. Moreover, radium itself seems to be slowly formed from another still heavier element, uranium.

WHEN HANGINGS WERE IN PUBLIC

Reminiscences of Justice as Administered in Canada Many Years Ago.

Reviewing a book, Pioneer Crimes and Punishments in Toronto and Home District, by James E. Jones, Police Magistrate of Toronto, which has just been published by George N. Morang, a writer in The Toronto Globe says:

Although Mr. Jones' work deals mainly with this portion of Canada, references are made in the earlier pages to punishments inflicted in England many years ago, and to such practices as hanging the bodies of executed men in chains, under the delusion that the ghastly sight would be a deterrent to crime. On the whole, this kind of barbarism seems to have been somewhat less prevalent in the new country than in the old. In 1798 convicted criminals were branded here in open court. This punishment was abolished in 1802, except for manslaughter. Hangings were in public, and some painful deaths were given the gallows an attractive or at least striking appearance. A sheriff's auction presented in 1828 for an execution amounted to 292, of which 244 were for erecting and removing the gallows and 47 1/2 for painting it. Public hangings were abolished in Canada in 1869. Banishment was used as a punishment in early days, although, Upper Canada having no colonies, there was no specific place to which the exile could be sent. He simply had to go and take his chance of finding shelter in some foreign country. One man was banished for life for larceny. The lash was in common use, and it was not reserved for flagrant offences. In 1818 two were sentenced to be whipped with 39 lashes for petty larceny (under \$10). Under the present law the use of the lash is restricted to certain crimes. But Mr. Jones has no belief in its efficacy, pointing out that crime thrived when it was commonly used; and he quotes the opinion of a Canadian deputy warden against the practice. The stocks were used in Upper Canada, but there is no record of the still more cruel punishment of the pillory. "In early days in England the prisoners' ears were frequently nailed to the pillory, but there is no record of this having been done in Canada." Solitary confinement, against which Dickens made an impassioned protest in his "American Notes," was imposed in Canada at various times down to 1870. In 1828 the prisoners in the Toronto Jail petitioned for an increased allowance of bread, but were no more successful than Oliver Twist. In 1849 the diet of the prisoners was reduced from one pound and a half of bread to one pound a day, but in 1854 they were again given one and a half pounds, "same as males." At one time the bread was distributed, not at each meal or even daily, but at the caprice of the jailer. Soup was afterward reluctantly added.

In 1811 prisoners slept on straw laid on the floor, and as late as 1833 the grand jury pointed out that there were not enough blankets and recommended an additional supply, with bedding and "the necessary quantity of water."

At one time Mr. Best owned large property in money and lands but, being of a generous nature and not very keen as a business man, he lost most of it and died poor.

He was best known in the neighborhood of Victoria by the interesting lectures he gave on Switzerland. His explanations of paper manufacturers, in which he took great interest locally, also brought him before the public eye. He did much toward making the Province of British Columbia known in Europe. Everyone knew the quiet and gentlemanly bearing of one of the best analytical chemists that the province possessed and many will miss his genial smile and good company. Three daughters and a brother survive him in the East.

FLIVVERS DRIVE SEDANS.

Washington, July 22.—(United Press)—Flivvers are rapidly driving out sedan chairs in China. Sedan chairs, once the universal means of transportation, and an interesting sight in the Chinese streets, are disappearing before the competition of the automobile, according to information received at the Department of Commerce. It is estimated that there are now 300 passenger cars and 128 trucks in operation in Canton, once the stronghold of the sedan chair.

In that city, where more than 3,000 of the sedan chairs were in operation three years ago, the number has fallen to 1,250, according to an official report.

LATE W. F. BEST WAS KNOWN AS LECTURER

Was One of Best Chemical Analysts in Province and Helped to Give B. C. Publicity in Europe.

The late William Frederick Best, who died recently in Victoria, was one of the best analytical chemists in British Columbia, says the Colonist. Born in New Brunswick in 1868, after passing through the public schools of St. John, he went to Germany and graduated as an analytical chemist from Heidelberg University, then returning to St. John where he subsequently taught for several years in St. John High School as professor of chemistry.

About twenty years ago he came West, with the Yukon as his destination, but was so pleased with Victoria on arrival here that he decided to remain here instead and established himself here for some years as a chemist. When the streets of Victoria were being paved on an extensive scale he had an office in the City Hall where he tested all the asphalt that was used in the public works. When the war arrived he became a chemist at the Victoria Chemical Works, at the outer docks, and after the war he re-entered private business, opening an office in the Sayward Block, where he was busy in public and private work in analysis connected with local productions.

At one time Mr. Best owned large

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WATCH THE PAPERS FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS

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