

The Evening Times and Star

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TIDINGS OF JOY.

It ought to be highly satisfactory to the citizens to learn that the successors to the New Brunswick Power Company propose to join in boosting the city. The people already know that when the Musquash current is distributed they will get cheap light and power, and that the price will never again be subject to change in order to provide more profit for a corporation. Cheap rates will be perpetual, for as soon as the capital expenditure at Musquash has been repaid the only charge will be to provide for the annual upkeep of the plant. The water will always be there, and once harnessed it does its work without interruption.

The people also know that when the Musquash current is available the city will have a real street lighting system. The old, dingy appearance will give place to a blaze of light, such as they now have in Halifax. This will make the city much more attractive, as well as safer for the people.

But now we are told the city is not to get all the glory. We are to have cheaper gas, which will be good for industries using it. We are to have new street cars, and of course a better service. It is not that delightful! The age of philanthropy has dawned, since it was proved conclusively in the early days of the fight for hydro that the company, even with a monopoly of light and power, could not get along without a rate of about twelve cents per kilowatt hour for electric light, along with the existing high rates for gas, and a poor street car service.

Voluntarily were submitted in evidence to show the sad state of the Power Company and its still more awful state if anybody interfered with its market for light and power. From every platform in the first mayoralty contest over hydro, and again when Mr. Bodell came down to sing the swan-song of the hapless company, vent forth the assertion that rates could not come down and competition be secured without grievous injury to the widows and orphans and other persons financially interested.

But—what has happened? The company has already reduced its rates below what was represented as a living scale. It is losing the contract for street lighting. Citizens in great numbers are signing up for hydro; and yet the company can cut its gas rates, get new street cars, invest more money in the city, and have no fear of disaster.

Obviously, since we must believe all that was said about the disaster that would follow competition and any material reduction in rates, somebody must have stumbled upon a nest of philanthropists in New York, whose benevolence in life is to pour large benefactions upon deserving communities. St. John ought to consider itself very fortunate, indeed. The prospects for industrial expansion appear to be improving all the time. Even the Bondholders Association must now see that its loud-voiced fear that this city was about to isolate itself from the financial world and go headlong to ruin is without foundation.

Meanwhile the citizens will sign up for hydro and await the good things to come from New York.

SOMEWHAT VIOLENT

The proposal to have a censorship of books in the United States has aroused the ire of Mr. Theodore Dreiser. What he says, in an article published in The Independent, is such an attack as would, if it came from any other country, arouse the most bitter resentment. Perhaps Mr. Dreiser is not taken seriously, but here is what he says:—

"Look at the intellectual level of Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and other rural districts. Why, it is so low it is simply beyond belief. The greater part of the United States is America is not able to think. It has material prosperity, beautiful homes, machinery galore, and yet the majority of its people have the mentality of a European or Asiatic peasant. They are concerned with their little marriages, their little deaths. National or artistic problems have no place in their lives. Take any large, successful organization. Listen to them talk. When they do not talk business, their conversation is like that of children—boys of nine or ten. They know nothing of art, of science, of religion. Literature is the last thing they know anything about. Make an intelligent remark to them and they look like a panicky because it happens that you did not tell them a funny story. This country has wealth and leisure that is, as H. G. Wells says, staggering. But its people simply do not think. They are carried away by nuts and fool ideas. You can slam its young people into universities with their classrooms and laboratories, and when they come out all they can talk about is Babe Ruth. It is a hopeless country for intellectuals and thinking people. The only thing they can do is to make an existence among themselves, to have

a freemasonry of their own from which the rest are excluded."

In the phraseology of the street: "Now, what do you know about that?"

Rev. C. W. Bispan, rector of a Protestant Episcopal church in Philadelphia, in the course of a sermon denounced the Eighteenth Amendment. Bishop Thomas J. Garland, head of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, had this to say: "Dr. Bispan was voicing his own personal opinion. I dissent from that opinion most emphatically. I believe in the Eighteenth Amendment. It has brought many blessings to the American people and there is not the slightest chance that it will ever be repealed. The consensus of opinion in the Episcopal Church as expressed in resolutions adopted by numerous diocesan conventions shows that the church stands squarely behind the Eighteenth Amendment." It is recalled that on a former occasion Rev. Mr. Bispan made certain charges against Congressmen which he found it necessary to retract. Another clergyman made this comment on his latest utterance: "After a law is passed it becomes a citizen, and particularly a clergyman, to cry out against it. It sets an example to lawbreakers and encourages disrespect for law."

Halifax Chronicle:—"In the important Bill which Premier Armstrong introduced in the House of Assembly on Tuesday amending the Education Act, provision is continued for the establishment, organization, government and maintenance in school sections of free public libraries. A free public library, small it may be, but stocked with good books, in every community in Nova Scotia would be a boon of priceless value to the people, and ultimately, we believe, in the results achieved would repay the cost a thousand fold. The money spent upon free library facilities for the people, especially for those who are far removed from educational centres, will be the best kind of investment for the Government and the people. It might well go much further than this Bill now proposes in making generous provision for so worthy an institution."

Secretary Hughes announces that the United States has not changed its attitude toward Russia. It will not interfere in the internal affairs of Russia. His country loaned Russia \$187,000,000. This debt the Soviet Government repudiates. Under such conditions recognition of that Government is impossible. "We want to help," said Mr. Hughes. "We are just as anxious in this department and in every branch of the administration as you can possibly be to promote peace in the world, to get rid of hatred, to have a spirit of mutual understanding, but the world we desire is a world not threatened with the destructive propaganda of the Soviet authorities, and one in which there will be good faith and the recognition of obligations and a sound basis of international intercourse."

Following the interview with the Government at Fredericton, Mr. Walter S. Thompson, representing Sir Henry Thornton, has wired Premier Veniot that a special car will be placed at the disposal of Maritime Province delegates, to go to Montreal early next month and place before Sir Henry the views of the Boards of Trade relative to matters discussed recently in Amherst. Thus the matter of the western boundary of the Atlantic region of the C. N. R. will be discussed with Sir Henry himself and the Maritime Province view clearly presented.

The extreme radical wing of the Labor party in Canada was favorable to the Russian Soviet scheme of getting a loan from workmen in Europe and America. A million dollars was hoped for. We are told that altogether the subscriptions outside of Russia amount to only three thousand dollars. The world at large is not favorably impressed by the results of Soviet rule.

Of fatalities from fire in Canada the Canadian National Safety League says: "As reported by the 'Monetary Times,' deaths from fires have been as follows:—

Month	1920	1921	1922	1923
January	22	17	25	24
February	30	18	21	24
March	35	11	16	11
April	8	7	10	..
May	13	13	14	..

"This does not look like much of an improvement. What are we going to do about it?"

We are now told that since the new owners of the New Brunswick Power Company show such faith in St. John there should be an arrangement by which they could control the Musquash power and get rid of a second distribution line. "Will you walk into my parlor," said the spider to the fly.

The Marriage Game

The Snappiest of Pastimes As Played to a Decision Every Day

By Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Hutton

MOVIE TEMPERAMENT.

His Play—What's the matter with these queens of the movies that they are always getting divorced from one chap and marrying another one? Don't tell me it's temperamental, because a movie queen has about as much right to change partners for that reason as a stenographer has a right to go into hysterics because her boss doesn't like the way she spells "receive." Give a

woman any way of having her own bank-roll, and then add to that a lot of publicity, and the first thing she thinks of is to change husbands to make the public and her new or old Her Counter-Play—Don't be vulgar, my dear. If you were fair—which I don't expect you to be—you would have observed that the women of the movies are no more temperamental than the men. It is amusing to think of a fellow jumping into matrimony and then finding that he can't live on his salary of only twelve hundred dollars a week. Can you fancy a woman behaving in that way? Well, scarcely, my dear. I know a much better word. Oh, never temperamental, if you want to, but I mind—I imagine you can guess the word!

The Referee—Well, I'll

SEA FOG.

(By Elizabeth Newport Hopburn, in The New York Times.)

Wet sand beneath my feet.

A pearl-gray veil that shifts

Its wind-blown lace against my face—

Sea fog that ebbs and drifts.

I look on naked space,

And taste the salty spray,

And hear the wings of primal things

As on that far first day.

When God made seas and skies

And the first stars began to shine

And all the breathing that live

On happiness and pain.

He made, too, man's despair,

And woman's feeble mood,

And stars and suns and April air

And forest solitudes.

Alone, upon the sands,

Wet spray upon my hair,

I dream of laughing yesterdays,

And of that reckless pair

Who ran along the beach,

Who raced the raging sea,

And needed the angel of the storm,

And dared infinity!

So glad and gay and free,

So drunk with youth were they,

Until Fate rang the curtain down

Upon their foolish play.

Yet still, when winds are chill,

And when the fog-horns blow,

Their faces gleam, as in a dream

I hear their laughter low:

Maker of silver fog,

Of shining sky and sea,

I thank thee for that matchless gift,

Unharnessed memory!

I thank thee, too, for this—

That sun and sea and sky

Are linked with mortal loveless,

With Youth's white avatar!

LIGHTER VEIN.

Disappointing Customer.

Customer—But you guaranteed this would last me a lifetime.

Clerk—Yes, but you looked pretty sick the day you bought it.

Christiania Koser.

Genuine.

"Mac, would you like a little of something Scotch—the real thing?"

"Well, now—I never said."

"Of course you would. Mary, bring out that pot of Dundee marmalade."

Life.

Auntie Understood.

It was Dorothy's eleventh birthday

and her parents had given her a silver

thimble. Her friends admired the gift,

but Dorothy kept her sentiments to

herself. In the evening a very human

aunt was shown the useful present.

"Poor child!" was her only comment.

"These are the first words of sympathy I've had today!" said Dorothy

and her pent-up feelings found relief

in tears—Boston Transcript.

Just Like Father.

The dolt of a father is arousing a new

ambition among children. In an element-

ary school recently a master was

heard saying to a boy who seemed to

be making a general nuisance of him-

self, "I'll be hard for you to find em-

ployment when you leave school if you

behave like that."

"I'm not going to find a place, sir,"

replied the boy. "I'm going to be like

father and live on the dole!"—Daily

Express.

CREOSOTED WOOD BLOCKS.

Wooden flooring for stables has much

to recommend it, but unfortunately the

conditions connected with its construction

and use are especially favorable to

decay. Frequent renewals of such floor-

ing often cause owners to adopt some

more durable and less comfortable

material. The Forest Products Labo-

raries of Canada (Dominion Fore-

stry Branch), Montreal, point out that

the remedy lies, not in discarding wood

and substituting concrete or stone pave-

ment, but in using wood which has been

rendered proof against decay. For

this purpose creosoted wood blocks are

suggested as possessing the greatest

number of advantages as a stable floor.

Creosoted wood-block flooring is warm

and easy under foot, very resistant to

wear, easy to clean and has sanitary

RAPID GROWTH

GERMAN SHIPPING

(From the Berlin Correspondence of The London Daily Mail.)

Nothing in the history of Germany since the war is more remarkable than the rapid restoration of her mercantile marine.

In the summer of 1914 Germany's mercantile fleet was estimated at 5,135,000 tons. By the Treaty of Versailles she was forced to hand over so much of her shipping to the Allies that her mercantile fleet practically ceased to exist. In June, 1920, she possessed no more than 419,000 tons of shipping, and the vessels in the fleet were under 16,000 tons. Today Germany possesses more than 2,000,000 tons of shipping.

The surprising rapidity with which Germany has acquired ships is to be accounted for by

1. The munificent financial help of the German Government.

2. The purchase at cheap prices of ships from foreign countries.

Germany does not let the grass grow under their feet. Their mercantile marine had hardly been taken away from them before they were busy with plans to build a new fleet and to establish anew their great position on the high seas.

The Imperial Government, which might well take as its motto the German proverb, "Every man is his own neighbor," was ready to give financial support to the plans for the restoration of the fleet. On August 18, 1919, the principle of the liability of the empire to compensate the owners of ships handed over to the Allies was established by the Reichstag.

After long-drawn-out negotiations between the government and the shipping companies it was settled in February, 1921, that the amount to be paid in compensation should be 12,000,000,000 marks, which, at 240 marks to the pound, represents 50,000,000.

The agreement was, perhaps purposefully, loosely worded and left a loop-hole for the ship owners to extort large sums from the government on the ground that the devaluation of the mark made it impossible for them to meet the expenses of shipbuilding.

It is a large sum, but the government will be less generous in the future than it has been in the past.

With the capital provided by the government at their disposal the work of shipbuilding began and last year the output of the shipyards of no country except Great Britain surpassed that of Germany. The cost of construction was reduced by agreements between the various industries involved and the happy plan of living on credit.

Circumstances have also favored the acquisition of ships from abroad easy. In 1920 a crisis in the shipping world brought home the fact that the world possessed some 2,000,000 tons more shipping than before the war.

With ships and freight falling the Allies did not exercise their right to take 200,000 tons of shipping annually from Germany for five years after the conclusion of peace, and, in point of fact, they had no use for many of the German ships already in their hands. Thus the process of buying back ships began.

Even by September, 1921, Germany had back thirty-seven ships, including the Cap Polonia, a vessel of 20,597 tons, which was acquired for 21,600,000, for the Hamburg-South American Steamship Company.

When the reports of the shipping companies for the last year are published in the early spring, as is the custom, they should afford a wonderful picture of progress. As it is, it is remarkable to note that the North German Lloyd, which possessed a proud fleet of 116 steamers on the high seas in 1913, and owned nothing more important than river steamers in 1920, had a year later acquired a flotilla of twenty-five ocean going steamers.

Particulars of traffic in the port of Hamburg give an idea of the recent progress. The following statistics show the ships which set sail from Hamburg to its ancient state of prosperity:—

1919. 16,687 ships 1920. 5,180 ships

1918. 1,602 ships 1921. 9,842 ships

1919. 2,706 ships 1922. 12,782 ships

Of the 12,782 ships which left the port last year, 5,280 sailed under the German flag.

After a number of years he traveled for R. Jones & Co. wholesale dry-goods men of St. John. In leaving Sussex and taking goods on the road there was much to be said for the custom. It was the winter, and the rugs were not furnished; the coach left Sussex late at night and arrived at Fredericton at breakfast and at Sackville for supper. It was a long and tiresome pursuit after learning. Here, Dr. Inch, late superintendent of education for New Brunswick, was a youthful member of an excellent staff of teachers, of which Dr. Pickard was principal. From Sackville, Mr. Roach traveled by stage-coach by way of Halifax, as there was no direct route between Sackville and Windsor. Rev. Dr. Pickett of Kingston, N. B., was principal of the school. After leaving Windsor school, Mr. Roach returned to Sussex and farmed on the homestead for a few years, then went into partnership with a brother who was doing a large manufacturing, farming and general store business.

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