

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1918

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 15, 1918.

The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by The St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. Telephone—Private exchange connecting all departments. Main 2417. Subscription prices—Delivered by carrier, \$4.00 per year; by mail, \$3.00 per year in advance. The Times has the largest afternoon circulation in the Maritime Provinces. Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrup, 301 Fifth Ave.—CHICAGO, E. J. Powers, Manager, Association Bldg. British and European—Frederick A. Smyth, 20, Lodge Hill, LONDON, E. C. England. The Audit Bureau of Circulations audits the circulation of The Evening Times.

THE WAR SITUATION.

Reuter's correspondent, in a cable published in the Times today, says: "Judge that the most critical period of the battle was on Friday last. It was at a stage then that had the enemy pressed his advantages the consequence would have been serious. His failure to improve his opportunity was presumably because he could not. Since then there has been a steady improvement in the general position."

A bulletin today says: "Seven attacks by the Germans in the Merville sector of the northern battle front have been repulsed by the British, who inflicted heavy losses on the enemy."

Other reports today tell of the complete failure of German attacks at other points. One cable tells of the dreadful losses of the Germans, barriers of piled up bodies checking those behind, or being used for shelter from the withering British fire. Such losses must be making heavy drafts upon the enemy's reserves.

While the danger is not past the outlook has greatly improved. After more than a week of the keenest anxiety the Allies breathe easier, and a large measure of confidence has been restored.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

In Toronto recently, making a convincing appeal for greater industrial education in Canada, Colonel David Carnegie addressed a large meeting of the joint committee of technical organizations in the chemistry and mining building of Toronto University. Preparation of the child for industrial training, he declared, was the most immediate need of the day, and urged upon his hearers the importance of strong action, either in the form of direct representations to the government, or separate action by the organization or by individuals.

Col. Carnegie, referring to the training of those who had already left school, said that "The forming of classes for the instruction of the ordinary worker to skill him in the adaptable portion of a classified industry, would be one way of unearthing the genius undoubtedly dormant in many because of the lack of proper educational facilities."

There are two phases of the problem of vocational training. One relates to the training of persons who are already engaged in industry, and this is deemed so important in the United States that many corporations, employing great numbers of men have themselves established evening classes for purposes of instruction. Nova Scotia has recognized the value of such training, and the successful evening classes in many towns are the result. One of the speakers at the Toronto meeting already referred to declared that "unless the government took speedy action in this regard he knew of several associations that would take hold of the matter."

The New Brunswick committee on vocational training advocates evening classes in the towns, but its attention was chiefly directed to the public schools, with a view to creating conditions which would ensure every pupil some vocational training before leaving school, and give opportunity to those who desired it to pursue a further course before going out into the industries. The legislature should give effect to the recommendations of this committee.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The public health act now before the legislature provides that there shall be a minister of health and an executive styled the bureau of health. This bureau will consist of the minister, the chief health officer, the chief medical officer, the chief of laboratories, and not less than three nor more than five district medical health officers. The members, other than the ministers are to be appointed by the governor-in-council. It is not essential that the minister be a medical man, but it is extremely fortunate that at the outset there is available for the office, and to organize the department, a physician who has given the subject so much study and is so deeply interested in giving the province health laws of the highest value. Hon. Dr. Roberts, whether his legislative career be long or short—and his friends hope it may be long—will have given his native province such distinguished service in this regard as to give him very high rank among provincial legislators.

The powers of the bureau of health will necessarily be large, but for the first year we may anticipate—and indeed it is the purpose of the department—that the work will be largely educative, in order that the people may be made thoroughly acquainted with the provisions and requirements of the law, and urged to comply with those provisions and requirements in a public-spirited and whole-hearted way. The task of education will not be difficult when the bureau of health has been established and its members set out to give the people the fullest information on the whole subject.

The contention that this is not an opportune time to spend money to conserve the public health can have little effect upon the minds of those who realize that the war is robbing the province of so many of its most vigorous and intelligent sons, and making so many more of them physically incapable of hard work. Health and vigor lie at the basis of na-

tional development and prosperity. Ignorance or disregard of the laws of health makes the infant death rate appalling; high results in far too many deaths or disabilities or needless waste of time and money through unchecked epidemics and permits for too large a proportion might easily be overcome by proper care to prevent the children to grow up handicapped by some physical defect which might easily be overcome by proper treatment in childhood or youth.

The legislature at Fredericton has before it a comprehensive measure which ought to become law at this session. It is a fine thing to observe the Academic members of the house standing up for this progressive legislation. They realize its value and commend it to their own people. It is in no sense a party question. A health department must be above and beyond all partisan considerations for it is a matter of vital importance to all the people.

This province has been slow to realize that importance, and is far behind other provinces. Dr. Shearer reminded the house last week that the health laws of the western provinces are far more drastic than the measure now before the house at Fredericton. The conservation of life is of infinitely more importance than conservation of natural resources. The war gave us a rude shock when it revealed to us the fact that a very large proportion of our young men were physically unfit to endure the hardships of military service. It is for us to see to it that a larger proportion of the next generation of young men and women are physically sound, and able to acquire themselves with credit in an age in which the industrial and commercial competition will be intensified beyond anything the world has hitherto known.

The Roberts health bill is a challenge to every member of the legislature to put country before party and consideration for national efficiency before dollars and cents.

The resignation of Count Czernin, the Austrian foreign minister, may have important political results.

What will you do this week to show that you mean to help the war garden campaign?

There were 185 Canadian casualties last week. Every one is a reminder of duty to those at home.

Fighting Joe Martin is going back to England. The scent of battle is in his nostrils, and Canada is too tame.

The Americans have had their first severe experience of fighting, and proved their quality by repulsing repeated assaults by the Germans.

Lord Rhonda declares it is not Paris but food the Germans are now fighting for, and that it is the cry of "give us bread" that has caused the furious assaults made by the armies of Hindenburg.

The Irish question continues to be a centre of interest. Cardinal Logue and two bishops are quoted today as denouncing conscription, and we are also told that British labor and some Liberals are against it, and may cause trouble for the government. But we are also told that a home rule bill is being drafted. A mass meeting of Irishmen in Chattanooga, Tennessee, yesterday protested against the Nationalist opposition to conscription, and declared that the supreme issue is the prosecution of the war. If this is the view of Irish-Americans generally it should have some effect.

Hon. Everett Colby, of New Jersey, who will probably be in St. John this week, and who has lately returned from France, told an Ottawa audience yesterday that there would be absolute famine in France in a few months unless Canada and the United States made greater sacrifices than they have yet done. Our soldiers are in France. Famine in France means hunger for them. If there is anything that will shake us out of our well-fed indifference surely it is the thought that the men who today stand between us and the Prussian drill-sergeant, and the Prussian violator of women and murder of children, may go hungry because we have failed to do our part at home. We must save more food; we must produce more.

"If ye break faith with us who die, We shall not sleep, though poppies blow In Flanders fields."

ABOUT OURSELVES.

The population of the world is about 1,623,000,000.

The average age at death is thirty-three years.

Fifty-seven million three hundred and seventy-two thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven died annually.

Nine hundred and eighty thousand five hundred and sixteen people die weekly.

Five thousand three hundred and eighty persons die every minute.

About three people die every two seconds.

Sixty persons have died while you were reading this item.—From Sunshine.

LIGHTER VEIN

An Ounce of Prevention.

For the third time in one afternoon the lady found her new maid fast asleep in the kitchen easy chair.

"What, asleep again?" she said. "When I engaged you you said you were never tired."

"I know I did," the maid answered, "but I should be if I didn't sleep."

Chicago Herald.

Five Pennies.

"Here's a nickel, dear, for doing that errand for me."

"Make it five pennies, please, auntie."

"Why, child, the amount is the same."

"Yes, but a nickel comes in too handy when mamma wants to go and telephone somebody,"—Boston Evening Transcript.

Of Course Not.

"Why am I rejected?" asked the applicant for military service.

"Weak heart," replied the examining surgeon.

"Weak heart?" retorted the youth. "If I had a weak heart do you think I'd want to go into this kind of a war?"

Made Over.

"Agnes married a self-made man, didn't she?"

"Yes, but she has compelled him to make extensive alterations."

A New Name for 'Em.

The head of the household had no sooner arrived at home the other evening than he was sent forthwith to see "what in the world was the matter with the furnace." His derby hat encountered the top of the door leading into the basement, with the result that the hat received a good-sized "stove" in the front.

As he emerged from the basement, after a tussle with the offending heating plant he was met with a shout of laughter by the six-year-old heir to the family fortune.

"Gee, mother!" exclaimed the lad. "Look! Dad's got a dimple in his hat."

WHAT ABOUT BOURASSA?

(Toronto Globe.)

The disturbances in Quebec have died down, but so long as the arch-disturber of the peace of the province and of the dominion remains "longue free" there is danger that they will be renewed. Mr. Bourassa is not only an open enemy of the military service act, but he is an enemy of the British Empire. It is from his province for almost twenty years that the Dominion of Quebec has absorbed the idea that it is not Canada's war, and that to the French-Canadian it is a matter of the utmost indifference which of two groups of land-hungry powers, all of them oppressors of the little nations, wins the war and reaps its spoils.

Some time ago the Globe pointed out that the Nationalist leader has been poisoning the wells of public opinion in his native province for almost twenty years, and that the responsible leaders of the people, save during the agitation over the naval service act in 1910-11, when Sir Wilfrid Laurier was in the saddle, have been fighting for the life of the government against the Nationalist-Conservative combination, have never attempted to destroy his pernicious influence by public discussion and a campaign of enlightening. The toleration displayed by the Union government toward Bourassa and his crew of disloyalists is disquieting. Are there still secrets of 1911 undisclosed that may lead to light if Borden strikes at Bourassa?

A leader in the industrial life of Ontario, writing to the Globe, says: "It is the surprise of thousands of loyal Canadians that the government has allowed Bourassa to poison the minds of the Quebec peasantry and to issue pamphlets to the Allies. It appears to me that the patience of the people of this country has almost passed the limit, when we consider the supineness of our government in allowing rank treason to be published for years and circulated not only in Canada, but in France and Italy."

There are many other supporters of the government who think that the man who translates into violent action the British policy of the Nationalist leader. Let the axe be laid to the root of the tree.

Deserting Austrians.

Rome, Mar. 2.—(Correspondence Associated Press).—Large numbers of Austrian deserters have been taken from the great marshes east of the Livenza. They are able to swim and are very fit. They are on fish and such food as they are able to steal from the Italian peasantry. The Austrian army has not sufficient military police to stop the frequent desertions, and men taken from the ranks to act as policemen often desert themselves.

COAL

Best Quality Reasonable Prices

R. P. & W. F. STARR, Ltd.

Whole and Retail Dealers in

59 SMYTHE ST. 159 UNION ST.

TO SAVE COAL

And to Have a Clean Fire

BURN HARD WOOD

We can supply it, sawed or split, ready for use in ranges or cooking stoves, and sawed up for grates and furnaces.

J. S. GIBBON & Co.

LIMITED

No. 1 Union Street

6 1-2 Charlotte Street

Telephone Mains 2636 and 594

4-22.

SAWED HARDWOOD and GOOD SOFT COAL

The Colwell Fuel Co., Ltd.

J. F. BRITAIN, Mgr.

Phones West 17 or 90.

Reserve, Sydney Soft Coal and Hardwood

Good Goods—Promptly Delivered.

A. E. WHELPLEY

Main 1227

SURFACE DRAINAGE

Importance of This on Farm Lands in New Brunswick

(Experimental Farms Note.)

This year when above all others in the history of the empire good crops are desperately needed, our farmers should take every reasonable precaution to insure crop growth and on the majority of farms in eastern Canada the timely removal of excessive water from the soil is of first importance.

Underdrainage is the ideal way in which we remove water and to deepen the area in which plant roots can gather food, but it is too slow and expensive for most farmers to undertake on an extensive scale and in some locations and on some soils it will not remove the surface water quickly enough for best results. At any rate, but little underdrainage could be accomplished now before cropping.

It may be stated as a general rule that, in the maritime provinces at least, there should be such surface drainage provided as will remove water from melting ice and snow and from heavy rains without leaving ponds in the fields.

At the experimental station, Fredericton, where underdrainage has been carried out extensively, it has been found absolutely essential to early spring cultivation and later to crop growth to provide surface waterways in addition to the underdrains.

Except under unusual circumstances, this drainage is not expensive. On flat ground or where there is no underdrainage on slopes and the subsoil is full of springs, the plan followed is to plough in narrow lands of not more than thirty-three feet, make the dead or open furrows deep and clean them out with a grader or shovel. Then a good outlet must be given at the ends of the dead furrows so that the water can be carried off by a cross furrow wherever the line of natural drainage crosses the area. At the experimental station a steel grader costing \$85 is used. This machine can be hauled with one good two horse team or, if necessary, four horses can be used. On ground free from large stones an open three foot deep can be quickly made with this grader. It will also do good work in turning roads.

Narrow lands and deep open furrows, of course, make the field more difficult to work economically as they necessitate cultivation in one direction only and are a nuisance in working machinery, but if it is necessary to go a foot deep, the one could not be obtained, this inconvenience will have to be tolerated. Thousands of acres in eastern Canada which in ordinary seasons will not give a crop might be successfully cultivated by this means.

In all fields where water is liable to form ponds, a swale should be artificially made to carry off the surface flow. By using a plough, the grader and scraper, such swales can be quite cheaply made. If it is necessary to go a foot deep, the swale should be from fifteen to twenty feet wide, if more depth is required the swale should be correspondingly wider. By this means the water is taken off without confining it to a narrow stream, consequently, there need be no washing away of the soil and there is no obstacle to the working of ploughs or chisels in cultivating or harvesting. Sufficient surface drainage, by whatever means it can be accomplished, is an emphatic necessity.

AMERICAN STEAMER BURNS OFF N. S. COAST.

Sydney, N. S., April 14.—The agent of the "American Steamer" was advised today that an American steamer was burned off the Nova Scotia coast on Saturday night and that her crew had been transferred to a United States warship which came to her assistance. The name of the vessel was not mentioned.

TWENTY UNEMPLOYED TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

Calgary, April 13.—Idlers in Calgary are being gathered in by the police and up to now twenty unemployed men were lodged in the cells at headquarters on charges under the new order-in-council recently issued by the dominion government.

A Leeds auctioneer who sold a grocery stock by auction was fined \$1 for selling goods to a man in excess of his ordinary requirements.

COAL

Best Quality Reasonable Prices

R. P. & W. F. STARR, Ltd.

Whole and Retail Dealers in

59 SMYTHE ST. 159 UNION ST.

TO SAVE COAL

And to Have a Clean Fire

BURN HARD WOOD

We can supply it, sawed or split, ready for use in ranges or cooking stoves, and sawed up for grates and furnaces.

J. S. GIBBON & Co.

LIMITED

No. 1 Union Street

6 1-2 Charlotte Street

Telephone Mains 2636 and 594

4-22.

SAWED HARDWOOD and GOOD SOFT COAL

The Colwell Fuel Co., Ltd.

J. F. BRITAIN, Mgr.

Phones West 17 or 90.

Reserve, Sydney Soft Coal and Hardwood

Good Goods—Promptly Delivered.

A. E. WHELPLEY

Main 1227

Give Your Old Car a New Dress

You can do the job yourself in a few hours of your spare time work at a nominal expense with

Effecto
AUTO
FINISHES

It's easy—it's fun—and you can turn out a fine, clean, satisfactory job. Effecto Auto Finishes are not a wax or a polish, but a durable quick drying, high lustre auto finish. Furnished in clear or six popular automobile shades. A quart is sufficient for the average small car. We also carry Effecto Top and Seat Dressing, for renovating the leather work of autos.

T. McAVITY & SONS LTD.

Velocipedes and Bicycles



Help your children enjoy themselves. See our large assortment of Velocipedes, Carts, Wagons, etc.

Bicycles (Crescent and Ivanhoe)..... \$42.00 to \$50.00

Hummer (Boy's Bicycle)..... \$14.00

Velocipedes (Steel frame, steel and rubber tires)..... \$4.00 to \$8.50

Kiddy Cars..... \$2.00 to \$2.50

Carts and Express Wagons..... \$1.00 to \$10.00

Ask to See the Lightning Butter Machine

Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

TALLER AND HEAVIER BOYS.

AN illuminating point on the results of raising the school age for half-timers was made by Clem Edwards in the British Parliament, on the resumed debate on the Educational Bill.

The Robson Act of 1899, Mr. Edwards said, raised the school age of the half-timer from eleven to twelve years. In the years before the act was passed, the average height of a thirteen-year-old child in the textile districts who had been two years in the mill was 58.7 inches. In 1907, eight years afterwards, the average height of the thirteen-year-old half-timer who had been only one year in the mill was within a fraction of 58 inches, while the weight of similar children had risen from 69.1-4 to 76 pounds. The bill was read a second time, a motion by Mr. Peto for its rejection having been rejected.

RECENT DEATHS

Mrs. Bruce W. Weston.

The death of Mrs. Winifred Retalick Weston, wife of Bruce Vernon Weston, of the Customs House staff, occurred at her home, 215 Ludlow street, West St. John, last night. Her early death is mourned by a large circle of friends. She is survived by her husband and infant daughter, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Retalick; one brother, Fred Retalick of Portland, Ore., and two sisters, Miss Maude Retalick, superintendent of nurses at the General Public Hospital, and Miss Edna at home.

La Tour Flour

Best Manitoba Government Standard Spring Wheat

is of uniform high-grade, and you can depend on it absolutely for every household purpose. It makes lovely creamy bread, delicious biscuits and pastry.

Direct From Mill to Home

Per Barrel, \$12.00; Per 1/2 Barrel Bag, \$5.90; Per 2 1/2 lb. Bag, \$1.55

Phone West 8

FOWLER MILLING CO., Limited

Now Is The Time

Carson Garage is the place to have your Ford car overhauled and repaired. All employees are experts on Ford cars, as we specialize on them.

Carson Garage

63 Elm Street, North End

TELEPHONE M 3085

PUBLIC NOTICE

A Bill will be presented for enactment at the next session of the Provincial Legislature the object of which is to amend the Act 7 Edward 7, Chapter 67, so as to include within the provisions of the said Act the laying of cement or other permanent sidewalks and granite and cement curbing.

Dated at the City of Saint John, the twenty-seventh day of February, A. D. 1918.

HERBERT E. WARDROP, Common Clerk

THE BERLIN BARBERS.

At a recent meeting of the boss barbers of Greater Berlin it was unanimously decided to advance the minimum price of a haircut to seven cents and that of a haircut to seventeen and a half cents and to advance the price of other work in the same proportion.

Berlin papers, in reporting this decision, note that the barbers say the new prices are not war prices, but are to continue after the war is over. It is also pointed out that these minimum rates already are greatly exceeded in many of the Berlin shops.

U. E. Secretary of State Robert Lansing—"Let us as a nation of free men who love liberty better than life and who are determined to see the triumph of their country and the restoration of a just peace show to the world that the American spirit is unquenchable."

Hon. James M. Beck—"If it may be called boasting, the French people have made but one declaration. 'They shall not pass.'"

Fore and Aft.

One man suggests that if knickerbockers should become a war fashion.

FIG SEN

TAKE ONE AT NIGHT MAKES YOU FEEL RIGHT

104 Royal Quality Stores

FIGS in Greater Berlin and in all other large Prussian cities may be used only for the making of sausage, the Berlin Tageblatt recently announced. The paper says this is because nearly all the pigs have been slaughtered.