

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 6, 1921.

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, 1877.

THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE

The departure of Premier McPherson for London, to attend the conference of British prime ministers, attracts public attention to that conference and what it may do. Since it is merely preliminary to a later and more important gathering of imperial statesmen it will be chiefly interesting because it will reveal the attitude of representatives of the different parts of the Empire toward a few questions of great moment.

The Montreal Gazette points out: "To begin with, the conference is consultative, not executive; its members have no equal authority; majority decisions are not binding on the minority, and conclusions reached are ineffective until ratified by the several parliaments of the commonwealth."

There is, however, on record a resolution adopted by an Imperial conference in 1917, which is worthy of note at this time. It was moved by Sir Robert Borden and strongly endorsed by General Smuts, premier of South Africa. It said in regard to the future relations of the nations within the Empire: "They deem it their duty to place on record their view that any such readjustment, while thorough, preserving all existing powers of self-government and complete control of domestic affairs, should be based upon a full recognition of the Dominions as autonomous nations of an Imperial Commonwealth, and of India as an important portion of the same; should recognize the right of the Dominions and India to an adequate voice in foreign policy and in foreign relations, and should provide effective arrangements for continuous consultation in all important matters of common Imperial concern, and for such necessary concerted action, founded on consultation, as the several governments may determine."

General Smuts said: "If this resolution is passed, then one possible solution is negatived, and that is the Federal solution. The idea of a future Imperial parliament and a future Imperial executive is negatived by implication by the terms of this resolution."

And the resolution was unanimously adopted. Whatever the coming conference may recommend, we may be sure it will not go beyond the bounds set by the resolution of 1917.

ANGLO-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

The subject of Anglo-American relations came up in the United States senate last week, in a discussion on the navy appropriation bill. Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin opposed as excessive the appropriation of \$500,000,000, which was championed by Senator Poincaré of Washington, acting chairman of the committee on naval affairs, and declared himself as in favor of the United States being the world's second naval power, Great Britain being first. "I see no reason," he said, "why the United States should attempt to outstrip Great Britain."

Thereupon Senator Poincaré interjected: "The senator thinks we ought to take our hats off every time we meet Great Britain, and bow." He added, however, that he did not want any rivalry with Great Britain, and was sure the United States was not going to have any trouble with that country. He did not want the United States to be the first naval power, but to have a navy equal to that of any other nation. Senator Lenroot replied that there was very little prospect of entering into an agreement for disarmament if the United States as a condition insisted upon becoming the first naval power of the world. Great Britain might not object, but said Senator Lenroot: "I want to say right here, Mr. President, that we might as well frankly state this one fact, that if the English-speaking peoples of the world shall at any time in the future engage in war with each other, civilization will be gone, and it will make very little difference what happens afterwards."

The speaker went on to point out that Great Britain, owing to the vast extent of her possessions, needed a larger navy than the United States, and the fact should be recognized. Senator Williams endorsed this view, pointing out that even in a war in which she was not a participant a situation might arise which would mean the starving of England, and she must therefore be prepared to protect the sea routes that made possible the feeding of her people. Senator Poincaré argued that if Britain or Japan had a strong navy and the United States a weak one the former would assert their rights in an offensive way—not that this was their policy, but it inevitably followed where a strong power was dealing with a weak one. "We do it ourselves," he declared, "on many occasions, and until you bring about an agreement between the powers for a limitation of armaments the only way you can command respect and enforce justice throughout the world."

This "Big Stick" policy appears to have the approval of the majority of the senators, as Senator Lenroot's amendment to reduce the appropriation for the construction of airplane carriers from \$59,000,000 to \$37,000,000 was defeated by a vote of thirty to twenty. It is worth noting, however, that President Harding is said to have sent out feelers to ascertain whether it would be possible to bring about an international conference to provide means for a limitation of armaments; and the senate has already gone on record by asking the president to invite Great Britain and Japan to join the United States in a conference for the purpose of restricting naval construction by mutual agreement. The president is also reported to have in mind a new association of nations which would include the United States, and would be a development of the present Allied Supreme Council. The whole tenor of the news from Washington indicates a desire to find a way to get an association of nations that would meet with the approval of congress and the people of the United States. The people would probably accept the League of Nations, but congress is not yet persuaded. In the meantime it is made clear that those who would create ill-feeling between the United States and Britain have no formidable following in congress or the country.

A fine illustration of international good-will was given last week when the Prince of Wales and the American Admiral Sims together received the honorary degree of doctor of laws at Cambridge. At a luncheon the Prince and the Admiral both dwelt on the need of Anglo-American friendship as the one thing that could save world-civilization. Admiral Sims said the co-operation of the Allies was as necessary in peace as it had been during the war. He advocated a better understanding between England and America by an exchange of ideas, and praised the work of the Salgrave Institute. Mr. Glover, the public orator of the occasion, when presenting Admiral Sims to receive his degree, referred to Anglo-American unity in the war, and said: "We accept it as an omen and prophesy of a happier age."

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Only the day before, at the Waldorf in New York, eleven hundred Rotarians on route to the International Convention in Edinburgh, which has as its chief purpose the promotion of international good-will, received a message from President Harding, himself a Rotarian, and heard a stirring address from Bishop Mannix, who described the purpose of the delegates as "a splendid mission." We may well conclude with the words of the president and the bishop, the New York Times, was devoted almost entirely to emphasizing the unique opportunity for promoting unity among English-speaking peoples that lies in what is said to be the largest pilgrimage of American business men to British soil.

"It seems to me there is opportunity for very great service in the cause of good international relations in your visit to Europe at this time," wrote President Harding. "Very many, probably the large majority of the delegation, will in a way be making a visit to the old home land, for a very great proportion of our people are derived from the Anglo-Saxon stock of the mother country. It cannot but be altogether desirable that the people of the great English-speaking countries shall establish more and more intimate social relations and constantly improve their understanding of each other. As your splendid delegation of representative Americans goes away on this mission of unity and international good-will, I want every one of you to know how earnestly I hope for good and helpful results from your visit to the United Kingdom. I know the mission will do credit to our country and am sure it will make for that fuller understanding which all the world so greatly needs now."

Bishop Mannix in his speech asked the delegates to take this message to their British friends: "Tell them that because you are true Americans you do not forget, nor intend to forget, the debt we owe to the great British navy and the indomitable armies of all our English-speaking allies who stood between us and the enemy in the perilous times of war. We know who stood for our cause and we intend to stand in loyal friendship with those who stood by us and for our cause. We may be a care-free, heedless people, but let them we do not intend to permit any individual or group to tell others that we shall not carry and display on all suitable occasions the flags of those nations that fought with us in the war. Tell them, in conclusion, that we Americans desire peace with all the world, and because we wish this we seek to cement the loyal friendship existing between us and Great Britain and all our English-speaking allies."

Unofficial correspondence sent out from government headquarters at Ottawa indicates that the request of the delegation from the maritime provinces is to be negatived. The press of the upper provinces appears to be entirely unsympathetic. If the formal government answer is no more comforting, the formation of a maritime province party would seem to loom up in the not distant future. If the pledges of confederation are not to be kept, these provinces must reconsider the whole national situation.

Premier McPherson goes to the Imperial Conference as a representative of the government. He has not yet received the endorsement of the people, and therefore can hardly be said to represent them. If the general elections had been held before his departure he would probably have stood at home.

English troops are in Ireland and Irish troops are in Silesia. Could there be a better illustration of the differences of opinion about an international

THE WOODLAND POOL

(Rev. George Scott.) I know a quiet woodland pool, Only the vixen beside, Dumb of ill-temper and cool, Or bathe in its pelagic tide.

There many a shy white violet, With orchid fair and lily-blossom, Amid the soft green moss is set, Where spilling foot can seldom come.

Only the squirrel may invade The secrets of that calm retreat, Or romp in its monastic shade, Or ply its quest with nimble feet.

So jealously the maple trees Weave far above a leafy screen To guard its fragrant sanctities, That scarce the sun may peep between.

And vagrant breeze has never stirred The estimate of its lily-blossom, Only the crooning of a bird, To soothe the vigil of its nest.

The hazels throw their tangled shade Where, mid the brackets cool and sweet, Sky creatures wander unafraid, And fairies may with fairies meet.

I know a quiet woodland pool, Only the vixen beside, Re-echo in the spaces cool, And through the reedful shallow floats.

LIGHTER VEIN Parting of the Parts. You never realize how many parts an auto has until it hits a telegraph pole.

Her Faux Pas Mrs. Wigg—"O, I saw the most damning military display today. I quite lost my head over it." Mr. Wigg—"Well, having lost your head, of course you have no use for a new hat."

Overdoing It Jones—"You say she is proud?" Bones—"From what I saw, she wouldn't read a serial story because she'd have to buy it on the installment plan."

Adds Touch of Realism. Customer—"Why don't you drive that car away from the table, waiter?" Waiter—"Well, you see, sir, stewed rabbit is on today, and the guano motor it gives the customers more confidence, like, to have the car well in evidence on these days—Pearson's Weekly."

Financially Educated. "What did your friend do with the money?" "Well, sir, he can't get for money in such a way that it seems like an honor to give it to him."—Virginia Reel.

Logic. When Johnny broke his rocking horse in angry words his mother spoke: "But Johnny's mother says he loves it." "What good's a horse unless it's broke?"

Going Up. She—"You used to say that Mary was such a sweet, peevish little girl." He—"Well, she soon got over that; you might say she became expensive."—The Pitt Panther.

LOCAL NEWS

J. M. Woodman, the general superintendent of the New Brunswick and Maine Division for the C. P. R., left last evening for Montreal.

Richard Ryder, teamster, of 37 Magazine street, was struck by an automobile while on his way to work yesterday afternoon. He received a severe cut on the head and it is feared that internal injuries may also have resulted. An X-ray photograph was taken at the General Hospital.

The fire department was called out about 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon by a still alarm to extinguish a fire in the roof of Campbell & Fowler's ice factory, City Road. The blaze was extinguished without much difficulty, although one stream had to be played on it for a time, and a certain amount of cutting was necessary to get at the seat of the trouble.

The Canadian gun-bust Canada, which during the war was in this port on many occasions and which is well known to St. John people, may be given by the government to the Navy League for use as a training ship for members of the Boy's Naval Brigade and other lads. The craft has been offered to the league for this purpose, and the league has accepted it on account of the expense of maintenance for which provision has not yet been made.

An old watch brought to the city in 1823 by Robert Ritchie, grandfather of R. S. Ritchie, was presented to the National History Society by Mr. Ritchie. It forms a striking contrast to the watches of today, and if properly cared for will still keep good time. An old brooch made entirely of wood which evidently saw much service in pioneer days, is another gift which has been made to the society by A. Y. Smith, boilermaker and merchant, of St. David street. Mr. Smith thinks the brooch was made by his father, John Black Hall Smith, who brought it to St. John in 1858.

COUSIN KATE AT UNIQUE EXCELS THE STAGE PLAY

Cousin Kate, a famous Charles Frohman play by Herbert Henry Davies, was shown in motion pictures at the Unique Theatre yesterday with the beautiful and talented Alice Joyce in the role played by Ethel Barrymore in the spoken play. It occasioned many expressions of delight from the numerous patrons of the popular little theatre. The reception given the screen version gave assurance that the adorable Kate Curtis is destined to be as popular in motion pictures as she was on the spoken stage for years. The role of Cousin Kate proved ideal for the charming and fascinating star, and her portrayal delighted everyone present. Several persons who recalled Ethel Barrymore in the role as a treasured memory remarked that Alice Joyce gave as transcendent a portrayal on the screen as the famous Frohman star did in the spoken stage. New fame was won both for the greatly loved character in an immortal drama and the popular screen star.

GOVERNOR OF ALASKA

Washington, June 7.—Scott C. Bone, a former Seattle publisher, who was publicity manager for the Republican National Committee in the 1920 campaign, has been nominated by President Harding to be Governor of Alaska. Mr. Bone was formerly editor in chief of "The Seattle Post-Intelligencer."

DR. CLARK ON THE RAILWAY PROBLEM

Outlines Contributing Factors in Address at Portage la Prairie.

Reduce Private Cars and Passes, His Advice—Thinks Extension Should be Suspended for Present—Question of Revaluation.

Winnipeg, June 7.—The problems of Canadian railways were discussed here today by Dr. Michael Clark, M. P., Red Deer, Alta., who is on his way home from Ottawa business and the stopping of the railway situation. Conditions cannot be met by the waving of a magic wand. The railway problem is part of the national problem, and can only be solved by steady adherence to these fundamental business qualities which invariably lead to success in any field of human endeavor. There is a demand, in the first place, on our Canadian railways, but many shrewd observers are looking for its increase here also.

"A condition of more or less general prevalence is the increase of motor traffic, at the end of the parliamentary session in Britain, a large number of members of both houses of parliament, with their retinues, used to swell the ranks of the railways. Now it is quite commonly the case that these gentlemen motor from London to their shooting boxes in the provinces of England, and the Highlands of Scotland. Similarly, in our western provinces, to my knowledge, commercial travellers are saving time and getting fresher and fresher air by substituting automobiles for the train. Motor traction applied to freight is not so general here as it is becoming in the west country, but many shrewd observers are looking for its increase here also.

"Prohibition has adversely affected the income of railways. People who relieved the burden of long journeys by a glass of wine at dinner, supplied by the railway companies, now carry the money to the end of the journey to help to pay their water rates. This may be bad or good, just as we look at things. But the fact is there, and must be faced. If we could be made to live on water, less will be grown and less will be carried. "A potent cause of present disaster is to be found in the inflation of wages and rising expenses during the war period. Time will bring some readjustments in these matters, but these readjustments must be brought about carefully.

"The case of immigration has been advocated as a help to the railways by Mr. Beatty, the able and popular president of the Canadian Pacific railway. Freight trade in lumber easily commensurate itself to captains of industry for obvious reasons, and it may be readily conceded that the present population has been to our advantage. Rapid increase of immigration at the present time is not to be recommended, and the immigrants recommended are land workers, it needs to be pointed out in reply that our difficulty is not a rise in population, but that we are short of the land when placed there. They have been leaving the farm for the city, in many cases leaving a few acres to the city. Emigrants of the most desirable class and in the most satisfactory numbers will be best obtained if we attract them to the land, and let them come. It has been truly said that the best immigration agent is a successful settler. The primary requisite is to make earnings a remunerative occupation. This can only be done if we lessen the farmer's expenses and increase his markets. These changes can only be brought about by a more judicious use of land, than an immigration policy. At best, increase of population is a very gradual and slow cure for a very acute trouble.

"The important thing, however, are to increase business and stop leakages. To do these things is a challenge to our patriotism. Canada needs a citizenship in some small degree worthy of those who gave their lives for her—a citizenship that we would gladly face the question of re-valuation, which has received prominence from Mr. Crea's advocacy. The national road has been built or bought by and belongs to the people of Canada. They gain nothing by attaching a fictitious capital value to the property, indeed they lose for investment and people are both depressed and dispirited by reports of annual deficits calculated on a false basis. So far as I understand Mr. Crea's proposal, it is that we should relieve the management of the indebtedness of endeavoring to show good results under an inflated capital value. "The important thing, however, are to increase business and stop leakages. To do these things is a challenge to our patriotism. Canada needs a citizenship in some small degree worthy of those who gave their lives for her—a citizenship that we would gladly face the question of re-valuation, which has received prominence from Mr. Crea's advocacy. The national road has been built or bought by and belongs to the people of Canada. They gain nothing by attaching a fictitious capital value to the property, indeed they lose for investment and people are both depressed and dispirited by reports of annual deficits calculated on a false basis. So far as I understand Mr. Crea's proposal, it is that we should relieve the management of the indebtedness of endeavoring to show good results under an inflated capital value.

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AIRMEN TO PAY HONORS TO GIRL KILLED IN FALL. New York, June 7.—Full honors paid to aviators who die in action will be accorded Miss Laura Bronwell, famous Sunday afternoon. The entire aviation cadet corps of the New York police department, of which Miss Bronwell was a captain will escort her body to the railroad station where relatives will take it back home for burial. Two planes of the same department will circle overhead, strewing the cottage with flowers. Experts advance the theory that Miss Bronwell's fatal fall was due to her inability to reach either the hand or foot control levers when the seat cushion fell out of the machine while it was tipped upside down. She was but five feet, two inches in height and needed the cushion to maintain a firm grip on the controls.

DECIDES AGAINST TWO SECTIONS OF LIQUOR ACT. Regina, Sask., June 7.—In a judgment yesterday, the Saskatchewan court of appeal holds two sections of the Saskatchewan temperance act as ultra vires of the provincial legislature, thus upholding the decision of the police magistrate. The sections are 11 and 12 which have to do with reports from liquor houses on business done. One calls for a statement on stock on the day the act was passed, the other calls for a statement on stock on the day the act was passed, the other calls for a statement on stock on the day the act was passed.

BIG SEIZURE OF DRUG AND WINE ON STEAMSHIP. New York, June 7.—Crude opium valued at more than \$200,000, buried deep under coal in the bunkers of the steamer Woodruff, was seized yesterday by port officials. One thousand bottles of red wine, similarly concealed, also were taken.

DIES AS SHE WATCHES THE SUN GO DOWN AT NIAGARA ON THE LAKE. St. Catharines, Ont., June 7.—Wife seated in a motor car on the commons at Niagara on the Lake, Mrs. E. A. Cruikshanks, wife of Brig-Gen. Cruikshanks, Ottawa, died suddenly on Sunday night while watching the sunset. She was born in New York state. Mrs. Cruikshanks was in Toronto attending the meeting of the National Chapter of the E. O. D. E. and had gone to Old Niagara to spend the week-end, and to attend the meeting of the Ontario Historical Society, of which her husband is the president.

SAVED WOOD AT 100. London, June 7.—E. Buswell, who has just died, celebrated his 101st birthday by sowing wood, which, he said, helped to keep him "young." He was three times married, and leaves nearly 30 living descendants.

A NEW MAGNET. London, June 7.—A new invention, declared to be the greatest electrical device discovered since wireless telephony, has just been brought here by two Swedish scientists, Alfred Johnson and Knud Rehnke. It causes a very weak electrical current to hold together a piece of glass or metal and a piece of metal.