

POOR DOCUMENT MARCH 2 1919

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1919

The Evening Times and Star

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HOUSING IN ST. JOHN.

The Board of Trade and Rotary Club will unite this evening in a discussion of the housing question. There are two phases of the subject as far as this city is concerned. We need not only more and better houses but a proper housing code. With such a code many houses into which people are now crowded would have to be improved or closed. A recent case has disclosed conditions under which exorbitant profits are secured from cheap tenements. This is a condition that should not be permitted to exist, and there should be legislation to prevent it, for it grinds the faces of the poor. There appears to be in this city a degree of reverence amounting almost to worship of vested interests. It is carried to an extreme that blocks the wheels of progress. We must get out upon the broader platform of community interests.

The action of the federal government in providing loans for housing is being followed by legislation in all the provinces. There must also be action, however, by the municipalities, and this evening's discussion should do much to make the general situation clear. The whole question is surrounded by difficulties, because of the high cost of construction, and because efforts to get a proper housing code are always opposed by those who own houses that ought to be repaired or closed. The question must be faced, however, and it is folly to assert that nothing can be done. If business men set themselves seriously to the task they can find a way, just as the Canadian people have found a way to do extraordinary things during the past four years. If the war had lasted another year Canada would have found the money to meet the expense. Why not show the same ability and energy in solving the problems of reconstruction? If the people will let this thought sink into their minds they will not hold up their hands in despair because the housing problem presents difficulties. They will proceed to solve the problem forthwith. Difficultly, said Gladstone, is the condition of success.

The Times prints today a copy of the housing bill now before the legislature of Nova Scotia. The New Brunswick legislature, which meets this week, will also have a bill dealing with the question. Meanwhile this evening's discussion will provide the people with valuable information.

APPEAL TO THE LEGISLATURE.

The New Brunswick Power Company have as much reason to be delighted as the people of St. John have to be indignant at the report of the Carrier Commission. A careful study of the report shows that the city is asked to provide dividends on \$1,000,000, which will later be increased to \$3,000,000, and for no better service than when they were asked to pay dividends on something like \$250,000. They are also to have the pleasure of paying their share of the large cost of getting this remarkable report. To say that it is an amazing report is putting the case very mildly. The people of this city are to be penalized because the New Brunswick Power Company bought out the St. John Railway Company and demanded dividends on an enormously larger issue of bonds and stock without improving the service rendered or increasing the actual value of the property. The sop that is thrown in the matter of public control is worthless, since the company would really have control, and the public directors could not even choose an accountant without the consent of the company directors. Of course there is an appeal to the Public Utilities Commission, but the company also has an appeal to the governor-in-council, which appoints the public directors, although the city pays them.

No bill based on this report must pass the legislature without a determined protest by the citizens. They know that the service rendered by the new company is no better, if as good, as that rendered by the old company, and nothing can convince them that they should be condemned to pay, for all time to come, for something they do not get. The commission is pleased to lecture the citizens upon the heinousness of the sin of laying burdens upon a street railway company, or doing anything that might tend to make capital timid. We do not observe, however, that they have any censure for stock-watering operations which lay heavy burdens upon the long-suffering public. The citizens must look to the legislature for justice, and there is no time to be lost, for the legislature meets this week.

Mr. Elkin's announcement that the representatives of a great British shipbuilding firm are coming to St. John to look over the situation revives interest in the question of a steel shipbuilding industry at this port. It is also announced that a big British company will further develop the gas and oil fields of the province and test the oil shales.

The Poles and Ukrainians are determined to fight it out. Evidently the era of peace and good-will has not arrived within their borders.

THE TARIFF QUESTION.

The following is the Hansard report of what Hon. J. A. Calder said in the House last week on the question of the tariff:

"I am referring now to the tariff question between east and west. You know we might as well look that squarely in the face and recognize the situation as it exists; there is no use dodging it. That situation is there. What are the people of Canada going to do? Can it be settled in some way or another? Is there a possibility of a settlement? There is no doubt as to the feeling out west. There is no division among the people. All parties are practically united. What is to be done? You will have an opportunity later in the session to consider the question. In the meantime I simply wish to point out to the House, and to the people of this country, that that is one of the other questions on the horizon that in many ways looks dangerous; at any rate it divides the people of this country into two hostile camps, fighting against each other all the time. If Canada is to be what we hope it shall be, then an honest and earnest attempt must be made to solve that problem which stares us squarely in the face."

It is clear from Mr. Calder's remarks that later in the session the government will propose changes in the tariff policy. High tariff men like Mr. Cockshutt have intimated that they would not object to some lightening of the tariff burden. The controversy, therefore, will not be over the question of the existing tariff but over that of the extent to which the downward revision should go. The west is for radical changes, but may consent to a moderate reduction for the present, looking to more drastic revision when we have got a little farther along with the immediate tasks imposed by the sudden change from war to peace conditions. It was not a western man, however, but Mr. McMaster (Liberal) of Brome, who declared earlier in the debate that "the great question before the Canadian people in this era of reconstruction is going to be the tariff." He scouted the suggestion that the tariff be left alone until we have reconstructed. To this, and to the invitation that the Union Liberals should split with the government at once on the tariff issue, Hon. Mr. Calder replied:

"My honorable friend from Brome, if I judge his speech aright, seems to think that there is just one thing to be dealt with at the present time, and that is the tariff. Well, there is just the possibility that our houses may burn down. We have problems confronting us right now, demanding immediate attention, all kinds of problems that must be considered and solved during the next few months, and I wonder if the people of this country are asking us to lock horns just at this moment on a question that has divided the people of Canada for something like forty or fifty years. I doubt it very much. There is something bigger at stake than mere politics at the present moment. We have bigger, more important work to do. When the time comes when there may be those who will desire to play politics in this country. Well and good; let that be done when the time does come. Just now we have something else to attend to."

Presumably Mr. Calder expresses the views of the Union Liberal members. If so, a vigorous attempt will be made to adopt a moderate measure of tariff reform and postpone sharp controversy for a later session of the house, or until the urgent matters of unemployment, soldiers' settlement and others arising out of the war have been dealt with in a practical way. It is clear that the west wants radical reductions in the tariff, and must receive some measure of recognition. The extent of that recognition will be the issue upon which the debate will presently centre.

The number of soldiers who were killed or died of wounds in the war was 7,354,000. This is a frightful toll, and there are to be added those who died of disease and the great host of civilians who were murdered or died of starvation or pestilence. Russia was the greatest sufferer and Germany came next in the loss to her armies. Then came France, Austro-Hungary, Britain, Italy and Turkey in that order, the Turks losing 400,000 men. The losses of the small nations, Belgium, Roumania, Serbia and Montenegro were also heavy in proportion to their armed strength. When we think of the number of Armenians and other Christians slaughtered by the Turks, and all the loss of civilian life throughout the war zone, the crime of Germany is seen to be without a parallel in history.

The Unionist Club of this city, which is a Conservative organization canvassing, held a smoker on Saturday evening. The speeches were good and the smokers excellent. Everybody was happy. And if there should be an election by-and-by—why, of course!

Hon. J. H. Thomas, labor member, warns everybody in England that the present industrial dispute may have disastrous results to the nation, and that there are to be added those who died of disease and the great host of civilians who were murdered or died of starvation or pestilence.

The chairman of the Portland, Me., Harbor Commission says that several times in the past twelve years the C. P. R. has inquired about the possibility of securing steamship berths there.

The St. John Typographical Union declines to agitate for five per cent beer. Therein it sets an excellent example to other unions.

AN EXPLANATION.



"I say, Russian, what is the meaning of this Bolshevik business?"
"It means absolute equality—nobody has anything to eat."

HAMPTON.

(Rev. George Scott.)
Do you ever go to Hampton, Where the river winds along, In the symmetry of beauty, In the majesty of song?

Oh, the pleasant homes of Hampton, Hanging on the green hillside, Standing among their maples, With their verdant lawns stretched wide.

Oh, the merry woods of Hampton, How delightful 'tis to be, Where the crickets and finches Pour their liquid melody.

Oh, the lovely roads of Hampton, How they lure the willing feet, How they quicken all our longings, For some restful cool retreat.

All their turnings and their windings Under kindly summer skies, Only lead to fresher beauties Spreading out before our eyes.

There's a restfulness in Hampton, And a healing soothing balm, Sweet healing and refreshment, In its pleasant rural calm.

There's a restfulness in Hampton From the city's heat and glare, That is tonic to the weary, That we find surpassing rare.

YOUTH IS SHOT; FATHER ARRESTED

Sensation Develops in Ontario Case—Had Been Out After Rabbits

Kingston, March 3.—A sensational arrest was made on Saturday when Provincial Detective Boyd took into custody James A. Hartwick on a charge of murder in connection with the death of his son, Frederick Hartwick, who was found dead within 100 yards of his father's home in the village of Parham on Feb. 12. Father and son went out into a bush a short distance from Parham on the afternoon of Feb. 12 shooting rabbits. The father came home that night, but the son did not, and the next day a searching party found the dead body of the young man.

First reports were that young Hartwick had accidentally shot himself, but the case took a sensational turn when the coroner's jury returned a verdict to the effect that the son had met death "by some unknown hand." It was stated that two bullet wounds were found in the young man's body, and that the fact had been established that the bullets could not have been fired from his own rifle.

WAS WITH THE P. C. L. I.
An enjoyable gathering occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Elworthy, 85 Duke street, recently in honor of Private J. Elworthy, who has just returned from France, Games, etc., helped to make the evening pass pleasantly, and the welcome home to the returned soldier was a hearty one. Private Elworthy enlisted in Regina on Jan. 8, 1916, and after five months of training was sent with a draft to the Princess Pats, joining that unit on June 9. He saw twenty-nine months of service with them, leaving on Nov. 16, after the armistice had been signed to return home. Although a native of England, he felt no desire to remain in the old country and was glad to get back to Canada again.

"Nobody at weddings ever gives the bridegroom away."

"Of course not; you couldn't find anybody that mean."—Baltimore American.

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NEW WOOD FOR MAKING NEWSPRINT

Birch Can Be Used—Will Help in Reproduction of Cut-Over Land

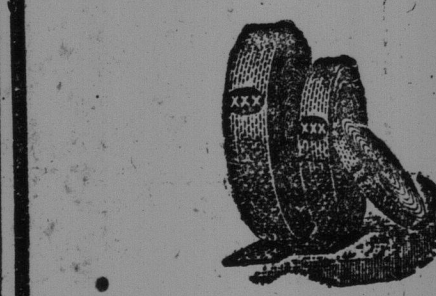
Quebec, March 2.—The most serious obstacle to the proper handling of the mixed forests of Eastern Canada has been the lack of utilization of the hardwood species, particularly birch. This is especially true at the mixed forest lands held as pulpwood limits, where, over vast areas, the coniferous species comprise from one-quarter to one-half of the stand, the balance being hardwoods. The cutting of the conifers, especially spruce and balsam, has a constant tendency to convert the stand into a hardwood forest, partly because of the actual reduction in numbers of the conifers, while the hardwoods are left standing; and partly because the coniferous seedlings are protected from actual growth, on account of the dense overgrowth of the hardwoods, which spread out and close in the space about the removal of the conifers. If the hardwoods, particularly birch, could be used to commercial advantage, a serious menace to the conservation of our pulpwood forests would be removed.

The primary reason why the hardwoods of our northern forests have not been utilized has been the difficulty of transportation, due to the absence of railways. They are too heavy to be driven long distances in streams, without very severe loss by sinking; and, besides, the amount of flood water in the rivers and streams is hardly adequate to float the spruce and balsam to their destination, to say nothing of carrying large quantities of birch. As a consequence, birch has remained practically a weed tree over enormous areas of eastern forests where there is no rail transportation.

At last, however, there is a possibility that the problems of transportation may be partially solved through the winter use of motor tractors for log-hauling on ice roads. This would apply not only to hardwoods but to coniferous species as well, where in the case of log drives the loss by shrinkage is serious, especially in the case of the spruce and balsam. The use of tractors for log-hauling is already established in parts of British Columbia, and in various sections of the United States.

The second obstacle to the removal of the hardwoods in our northern mixed forests has been lack of a suitable market, particularly by the pulp and paper companies, which hold rapidly increasing areas of such lands. Formerly, only spruce was accepted for use as groundwood in the manufacture of newsprint; later, balsam was accepted in an increasing proportion, and now both species are used practically without discrimination. It has always been considered impracticable to use birch or other hardwoods acceptably for groundwood. The Forestry Department of the Laurentide Co., has, however, for a long time urged that experiments be made with a view to the utilization of birch in the manufacture of newsprint, and an experiment recently made by the company gives excellent promise of satisfactory development along this line. A test run was made, the results of which indicate that, in the manufacture of newsprint, up to ten per cent of birch groundwood can be used to excellent advantage in admixture with spruce and balsam groundwood.

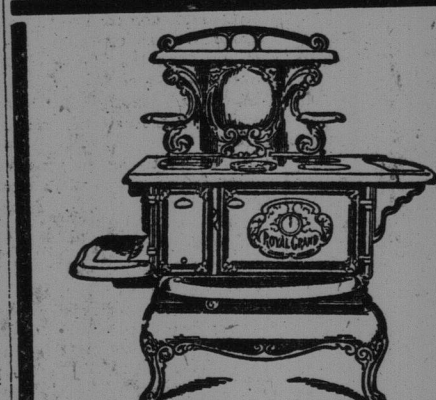
It is expected that further tests will be made, in collaboration with the Dominion Forest Products Laboratories. Should the final results be satisfactory, and should the use of birch for newsprint be found to be a practical proposition, a new era will be opened up in the intelligent handling of our forest resources. It will then be possible to utilize large quantities of birch, in the manufacture of newsprint, thus materially relieving the increasing drain upon spruce and balsam. At the same time, the logged-over areas will be in good condition for future production, instead of their quality being depreciated as has been the tendency under the only methods of operation hitherto considered feasible. Should these developments come to pass, forestry will find an immense scope for activity in our northern forests, replacing, at least in part, the destructive methods of generally practised hitherto.



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BISHOP LeBLANC'S PASTORAL LETTER

Strong Appeal for Observance of Lent and Prayers for Peace

The annual Lenten pastoral letter of Bishop LeBlanc to the clergy, religious orders and Catholic laity of the diocese of St. John, of which he is the head, was read in all the Catholic churches of the city and throughout the rest of the diocese yesterday. The letter was read at all the masses in the Cathedral yesterday morning, and was presented to the people at the 9:15 o'clock mass by his lordship himself.

The letter sets forth, among other things, a strong appeal for penance and mortification during the coming season of Lent, with a special exhortation to the laity for the practice of prayer.

Special mention is made in the letter of the use of prayer for the coming of a permanent peace, and closes with reference to the recent encyclical letter from Pope Benedict XV. to the Catholic laity, with an ardent hope for the successful conclusion of the peace conference.

The closing paragraphs of the letter read yesterday are as follows: "During this holy time, let all the faithful unite in prayer that the wrath of God may be turned from His creatures, that peace may reign once more on earth, and that there may be harmony and concord among princes and rulers. Do not imagine, dear brethren, that temporal calamities are the effects of chance, or the mere work of the passions or the ambition of men. Those who, viewing the revolutions which have taken place of late in the world, only look to secondary causes as the immediate agents of the evil, will be apt to attribute the distress of war and other evils in which whole nations have been involved, to the ambitious enterprises of warriors or statesmen, but we, the children of faith, are to look farther. The eye of faith penetrates the veil which is drawn over the acts of God, and discovers in every event the work of that all-ruling Providence which extends from one limit of creation to the other and disposes all things wisely for the good of His rebellious creatures. Convinced of this truth, let us acknowledge the sovereignty of God, and let us put our trust in Him. Let us put our trust in Him in power, not in gold, nor in the possession of many things, but in the Almighty."

"In an encyclical letter addressed to the Catholic episcopate, the holy father, after expressing his gratitude to God for the signing of the armistice, says: 'There remains now the great gift granted us shall have its crowning, that the delegates of the various nations to meet in solemn congress shall give the world a just and lasting peace. Such grave and complex decisions will have to be taken before. Therefore, words are waiting to express how greatly the delegates need to be Divinely enlightened so as to be able to accomplish their mission. Their decisions in the highest degree will affect the interest and good of all humanity. Thus, Catholics who favor order and progress must invoke the Divine assistance upon those participating in the peace conference. We desire this duty to be recalled to all Catholics.'"

"In compliance with the wishes of the holy father, we ordain that, in parochial churches, public chapels, and religious communities, the Litany of the Saints be recited on Sundays after vespers, or on any other hour, until the actual declaration of peace. Moreover, we earnestly exhort the faithful to offer every day some prayers, in their own homes, for the Divine guidance of the delegates at the peace conference."

"The prayer for Peace, at mass, will be said as usual until the declaration of peace."

"The regulations for Lent will be the same as those of last year."

"The reverend clergy will read this letter to their congregations on the first Sunday after its reception."

Given at St. John on the Feast of St. Mathias, Feb. 24, 1919.

LEBLANC, Bishop of St. John.

WM. M. DUKE, Chancellor.

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ST. JOHN MAN TELLS OF MISSIONARY WORK IN FAR OFF KOREA

Rev. A. F. Robb, M. A., for the last seventeen years one of the missionaries of the Presbyterian church in Canada to far away Korea, preached in the First Presbyterian church, West St. John, yesterday morning and in Knox church in the evening. In the First Presbyterian church Mr. Robb was introduced by the minister, Rev. Dr. Morrison, who conducted the service.

Mr. Robb took for the subject of his sermon the work of the Presbyterian church in Korea, and he showed that there were in all four different Presbyterian churches operating and co-operating in that land, these churches being the Canadian Presbyterian church, the Australian Presbyterian church, and the American Presbyterian churches, north and south. He said that it is only thirty-four years since Christianity was first proclaimed in that land by these churches, and yet they have thousands upon thousands of converts and have established medical colleges, hospitals, public schools and high schools. All the churches use one common hymn book, and have one series of Sunday school publications, and the time is not far distant when there will be one Korean Presbyterian church.

Mr. Robb showed that last year the Koreans in connection with the Canadian Presbyterian church had raised \$104,000

in support of Christian ordina, amongst themselves and their heat neighbors. He intimated that the average wage of the Koreans was twenty-five cents per day, and that amount of money manifested as in Christian liberality on the part of Koreans Christians as \$1,000,000 or given by the same number of Presbyterians in Canada. Mr. Robb showed picture of the class graduating in theology in this Union Theological Seminary in Korea. The class numbered twenty or four more than it is forecast graduate this spring from all the theological colleges in connection with the Presbyterian church in Canada.

Charlotte town, P. E. I., March 2.—Fire, which started after a dance being held in a hall, presumably the store, destroyed the business portion of the town of Alberton. Both side the main street were laid in ruins, store of Benjamin Rogers, the office and the Mallet building being only buildings left standing. The estimated at about \$100,000 and have one series of Sunday school publications, and the time is not far distant when there will be one Korean Presbyterian church.

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