

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1924

The Evening Times-Star

The Evening Times-Star is printed at 23-27 Canterbury Street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by New Brunswick Publishing Co., Ltd., J. D. McKenna, President.
 Telephone—Private branch exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417.
 Subscription Price—By mail per year, in Canada, \$5.00; United States, \$6.00; by carrier per year, \$4.00.
 The Evening Times-Star has the largest circulation of any evening paper in the Maritime Provinces.
 Advertising Representatives—New York, Frank R. Northrup, 350 Madison Ave., Chicago, E. J. Powers, 19 South La Salle Street.
 The Audit Bureau of Circulations audits the circulation of The Evening Times-Star.

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THIS PORT AND OTTAWA.

In the course of his speech in the Budget Debate yesterday Hon. A. B. Cope, Secretary of State, took up among other matters the question of additional traffic for Maritime ports. So far as the telegraphed summary of his speech affords information he did not enter upon the question of inviting a greater use of these always open ports through a further change in Great Britain. It has been suggested with force from time to time that this preference might well be confined to good entering Canada through its own ports, or that the Government, which has already given Canadian ports a slight advantage by this plan, might well further increase that advantage by the same method.

Mr. Cope is quite right in saying that the Maritime Province will not get anywhere by "abusing" Sir Henry Thornton and the Canadian National Directors, and he suggests that something useful might be accomplished by organizing in the Maritimes a strong committee to visit the West, get into direct contact with the grain shippers, and so persuade them to route a larger proportion of that traffic to Maritime harbors.

This is one suggestion which a St. John committee on port matters already has under consideration, among others, and it may be found a useful enterprise, worth taking up aggressively. But, while it is quite true that Maritime ports must better themselves and go out after business, there is another angle to this question, which is that these ports should not have to "sell" their advantages to the Canadian National. That is to say, over and above what the ports can do for themselves, the Canadian National, through its management, its agents and its connections, already has control of a great deal of traffic not specifically routed by the shipper, and in addition to that, is in a position to exercise considerable control over freight which the shipper may desire to have routed to ports other than Maritime ones through his lack of knowledge of the fact that these Canadian ports would serve his purposes quite as well or better.

In Hon. A. G. Blair's day, and when the Transcontinental and Grand Trunk Pacific were constructed, we heard a great deal about the use of railways as a lever for developing the territory they served. This argument applies with greater force now that the Government owns such an immense railway mileage, and thus possesses so powerful an instrument affecting the material progress of the country. The Maritime Provinces are asking that, so far as these Government lines are concerned, they be used to develop, in accordance with sound transportation laws, this part of the country quite as much as others, and, primarily, that these Canadian harbors of ours be given preference over alien ports.

It is good Canadian doctrine, and good business doctrine, too.

A PECULIAR SITUATION.

A very interesting political situation has developed in British Columbia. The date of the elections has been fixed for June 20, and the three parties are carrying on a vigorous campaign. The Vancouver Province says that with Premier Oliver back from Ottawa the political pot is boiling hard. Conventions are being held, and public addresses given by leaders; and attention given to the question of candidates. Members of the Provincial Government, as well as Mr. Bowser and other Conservative leaders, and General A. D. McRae and others of the Liberal Party, are on the stump.

It will be remembered that the Provincial Party preferred charges against both the Liberal Government and Hon. Mr. Bowser concerning transactions in connection with the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. Behind these charges were General McRae and Sir Hilbert Tupper. The investigation has been held, but the charges have not been sustained. Now comes a very interesting development which is the subject of much comment in the Pacific Province. The Victoria Colonist, a Conservative paper, has suggested that since the Conservative and Progressive parties both desire the defeat of the Oliver Government they should unite their forces to bring about this result. The Colonist adds that so long as there is a division it does not see how the defeat of the Government can be accomplished. "The opponents of the Government," says the Colonist, "will go to the polls under a heavy handicap when they are divided into two distinct parties."

It will be a very remarkable occurrence if the union of forces The Colonist suggests should take place. Mr. Bowser, the Conservative leader, and General McRae and Sir Hilbert Tupper of the Provincial Party have been assailing each other most bitterly for many months past. If any alliance could be placed upon what the Provincial Party leaders have been saying, they would regard the return of Mr.

Bowser to power as a calamity quite as serious as they say the return of the Oliver Government would be. It would seem, therefore, more probable that there will be three parties in the field, in which case we have the expression of opinion by the Conservative Colonist that under such circumstances the defeat of the Government is doubtful. There is still time, of course, for change, but little prospect of a union between the Conservative and Provincial parties.

SEE THE GOOD, NOT THE BAD.

The world grows better in spite of the pessimists. The other day in Toronto, in the middle of a campaign to secure funds for a hospital, it was found that unauthorized solicitors had been collecting money which they intended to keep for themselves. About the same time a woman was found to have stolen some tag day boxes containing money for the blind. And still the world is not going to the dogs. These, in fact, were rare and exceptional cases, representing a few abnormal individuals and not the general trend, which is both honest and philanthropic. The Toronto Star says truly that the vices of a few should not be allowed to obscure the virtues of a multitude. And it adds this wise and encouraging comment upon the growth of the spirit of charity and kindness—

"The thing of real significance is the gifts of the many, not the pilfering of the few. The willingness of individuals and the state to translate sympathy into dollars has given new hope and new life to countless thousands who would have been doomed to hopelessness and misery in other ages. There has been a great awakening to personal and community responsibility for the welfare of underprivileged, afflicted, or sub-normal human beings. Whether the affliction be financial, physical or mental, there was never a time when so many helping hands were held out; never a time when so many people made it their business to plan and work for the well-being of others."

THE PENSIONS.

Fair-minded Canadians will think it well that the petition of Canada's disabled soldiers against any decrease or uncertainty in connection with their pensions has met favorable consideration at the hands of the Dominion Government. There was some talk about abolishing the bonus which was given in order to supplement the pensions which were found insufficient when the cost of living was at its high level. As a matter of fact, the lower pensions were not sufficient even had the cost of living been less.

It is said in Ottawa that the assurance given the pensioners last week by Dr. H. S. Beland, that the present pensions and the bonus will be continued, will have the assent of all parties in Parliament, as certainly it should. The Premier, in a statement to the pensioners' representatives, endorsed the stand taken by the Minister of Civil Re-establishment, so it may now be taken for granted that the disabled men will not have any further cause for uneasiness on this score.

Before the session is over it is expected that legislation will be brought down confirming the arrangement outlined by Dr. Beland. It is probable the bonus will simply be added to the pension. If that be done the pensions in the various classes will be by no means too generous. Pension and bonus together for men who are classed as totally disabled now amount to \$800 a year. "This amount," says The Ottawa Citizen, "is no more than adequate for the man whose earning capacity has been destroyed by war service. But the public should understand that very few of the incapacitated men who were in Ottawa this week receive anything like \$800. The average pension for disabled soldiers in Canada is probably much nearer \$300 per annum. Nor are they asking that it should be increased. They have merely petitioned the Government to stabilize the present rates. The Government's decision to establish the pensions on a permanent basis is in accordance with the overwhelming sentiment of the people of Canada."

Some little time will be necessary in order to complete a sort of political reorganization in France. Then, if all goes well, the British and French Governments may be able to find common ground in dealing with Germany. If that can be done, and if they can act firmly in concert, the way towards European tranquility will be made considerably smoother. The existing uncertainty and confusion have plagued the world too long.

The fact that the Montreal Branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada has condemned further expenditures on the Hudson Bay Railway should have some influence at Ottawa. These engineers believe the project unsound, or at all events not at all justifiable now or in the near future. They

know that there already is adequate port accommodation, the utility of which is not to be questioned.

Press Comment

FLOWER THIEVES.

(Ottawa Citizen.)
 The person who will rob a flower bed which are intended for all to enjoy deserves sharp punishment. The public should co-operate with the authorities in waylaying him. Sometimes destructive children are to blame. But more often it is a degraded adult who hopes to profit. The police and public will be doing a service by keeping a sharp lookout for this meanest of criminals.

THE SUCCESS FAMILY.

(Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.)
 The father of Success is Work. The mother of Success is Ambition. The oldest son is Common Sense, and some of the other boys are Stability, Perseverance, Honesty, Thoroughness, Foresight, Enthusiasm and Co-operation.
 The oldest daughter is Character. Some of the sisters are Cheerfulness, Loyalty, Courtesy, Care, Economy, Sincerity and Harmony.
 The baby is Opportunity.
 Get acquainted with the "old man," and you will be able to get along pretty well with all the rest of the family.

THE BREAKFAST PIE.

(New York Herald-Tribune.)
 This appeared in the Washington dispatches:
 "President Coolidge gave his Congressional guests an old-fashioned New England breakfast. The menu consisted of ham and eggs, buckwheat cakes and Vermont maple sugar and coffee."
 Thus perishes a long-standing illusion. Joseph C. Lincoln, the smallest of Cape Cod, tells a story of a native asking a local grocer why he had been to import cantaloupes, a product of England, and the grocer answered: "Why," he said, "them summer folks eat 'em for breakfast, same as you would pie."

Yet Mr. Coolidge, who ought to know New England customs as well as any man living, did not include pie in his old-fashioned New England breakfast, thereby creating the impression that pie has never been served as a breakfast dish or never has been served for that meal. This will be a blow to fiction writers, particularly those of England, who never serve an English breakfast in a book without including pie, and explaining that in America a pie is not a pie at all, but a tart.

Of course, it is possible that there is more in the episode than meets the eye. If Mr. Coolidge eliminated the pie out of deference to the tastes of his Congressional guests, the home folks would say that he was "stuck up" and the Senate would have another six months of investigation ahead of it. What say the Senators from Montana?

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS A HEAD.

(Toronto Star.)
 As to the league spending more money on efforts to improve the condition of labor throughout the world than on settling international disputes, that seems a desirable condition, provided money is wisely used. Only at lengthening intervals does the world quarrel. The league provides the machinery for reaching a peaceful settlement. But in every country and at all times the welfare of the nations is a matter of concern. Backward nations are holding up the progress of the more advanced industrial, because their cheaper means of production gives them too great an advantage in competition. The manufacturers of no country are more likely to profit than those of Canada from the standardizing of labor conditions. The Montreal Herald admits that 25 cents per head per annum does not seem much of a contribution for Canada to make for an effort to abolish war and establish co-operation for mutual good. The entire cost of the League of Nations during the last four years, distributed among 44 nations, is not one-half the cost of a single dreadnought. People who begrudge the money surely cannot have their hearts in the right place. And if they begrudge the money, they should realize that the incomparably better returns are secured from the investment in the League of Nations than from any equal amount spent for purely national purposes.

BELATED SOFT SOAP.

(New York Herald-Tribune.)
 The revision of the Japanese exclusion clauses of the immigration bill by the House and Senate conferees, in accordance with President Coolidge's suggestions, does not alter the ultimate effect of the measure. The concession is solely as to time and method. Postponement of the date of exclusion until March 1, 1925, "before which time the President is requested to negotiate with the Japanese Government is relation to the abrogation of the present arrangement on this subject," is nothing essential to the purpose of the bill. It does afford an opportunity for the diplomatic courtesy which should be extended to a friendly nation. Congress can hardly be so perverse as to reject a settlement that will spare Japan a needless humiliation, at the same time accomplishing the object desired by the United States. The continuation for a few extra months of the "gentlemen's agreement" of fifteen years' standing, need have harmful consequences. It removes the affront to Japan of a summary notice of trespass. It preserves the semblance of good manners.

The country at large undoubtedly shares with California a thorough-going objection to Japanese immigration. The House and the Senate represented the people squarely in passing an exclusion measure. They did not, however, reflect fair-minded public opinion by their brusque and inconsistent way of terminating the existing understanding. They gave America the appearance of a bully. The conferees have shown a better spirit in softening the harsh assertion of legislative power in the interest of international good-will.

TEAR GAS IN THE WAR ON CRIME.

(Boston Transcript.)
 Report has it that the commercial use of tear gas is increasing. We read of a concern in Chicago that has equipped 3,500 banks and 250 police departments with devices of projecting the gas. The enterprising burglar, a-burgling of the bank, is likely to find himself immersed in streaming fumes, and shedding unaccustomed tears. Un-

der such circumstances he might well long, in the words of the late W. S. Gilbert, to lie a-basking in the sun, where he could listen to the merry village chimes rather than the clangs of the gong on the approaching police wagon. War on the criminal, to be sure, follows in its development the art of war in general. As the strength of the defensive armor has increased with the growth of the attacking gun, so defensive measures may be adopted by resourceful burglar against new perils. Legislatures may yet be classifying gas masks among burglars' tools. The properly educated safe-cracker may in future be as careful to have his mask at hand as to wear the gloves that prevent the leaving of tell-tale finger prints.

But it has been demonstrated that the use of tear gas in police work is no laughing matter. The fact that criminals will find some measure of protection against it does not show its value. It will be much more extensively used after appliances for liberating it in the right amount and the right direction have been perfected. The time may come when even the desperate criminal will shudder at sight of a policeman's club merely pointed in his direction. A Pittsburgh man is making a club with a gas reservoir, the gas is expelled when the trigger is pulled, and the do the rest. Presumably the policeman is afforded protection against back-firing by the contrivance. Attention is also being given to improvement in guns and grenades for distributing the gas, and there is no doubt that the use of gas, especially in dealing with riotous assemblies, is in keeping with the dictates of a practical police force. Gas is not for police use may cause much discomfort but produces no permanent disability. Compared to the order, shoot to kill, the gas represents the standards of the higher civilization. Nevertheless, the innocent, pursuing their law-abiding ways, will have much to learn about the gas man who will have learned to shoot straight.

HONESTY IN POLITICS.

(New York Times.)
 Concluding in the April Quarterly Review his gossip account of the Personality of Lord Morley, Mr. J. P. Morgan has several pages on the general question of public and private morals. The epithet "Honest John," long fastened upon Morley, was not his own choice. He would have been content to let it pass, but he sometimes resented it. He would have been the last to lay claim to moral superiority over his fellows in public life. On crucial questions, he would stand impartially for what he believed to be right, as against the merely expedient, even if it cost him his seat in the House of Commons.

Lord Morley—Well, but so they are. Let us ask Haldane. Haldane, as public morality and private morality two different things? Lord Haldane—Well, they should approximate. Lord Morley—Did they approximate in Disraeli? Mr. Morgan—He hadn't the honesty of Mr. Gladstone. Lord Morley—Well, but was Mr. G. always honest? This is a hard question. Probably Lord Morley had in mind was the Gladstonian fondness for intricate reasoning and involved statement which to his enemies sounded like casuistry. In January 1918, Morley discussed the cabinet difficulties into which Mr. Asquith had got himself over the suffrage question and said: "Mr. G. would never have given an undertaking which he could not discover, if need be, some ambiguity which permitted an escape." These matters are the failings or foibles of great men. Morley would have commended them uncompromisingly at the time when he wrote his "Essay on Compromise," but that was long before he himself entered politics. Once in that world, he did the thing of applying to the inflexible moral tests where he came to believe that they did not belong.

INTO THE GREAT UNKNOWN.

(Boston Transcript.)
 There are venturesome souls 'way down East in Maine. Some of them are willing to penetrate The Great Unknown—in this instance, however, not that barren from which no traveler returns. Instead, it is a tract of country which is in its primal state as a wilderness and concerning which romantic tales are told. Attention has been directed to The Great Unknown by the Maine State Publicity Bureau, an enterprising organization which well understands the advertising value of mystery and the lure of the unknown. A letter from a Bar Harbor resident asking for information concerning a region in Washington County "shrouded by Indians and white men alike." Secretary Coe of the Publicity Bureau lost no time in getting busy. As a result, he now makes public letters from Dr. V. N. Miner, president of the Calais Chamber of Commerce, and Ross Yates, a well-known guide. The result is that an interested public may now know something of The Great Unknown.

Dr. Miner describes it as a region in which is "a considerable mountain with a cave, and when the wind blows in certain directions a noise can be distinguished coming through a gorge. There is an old Indian myth," adds Dr. Miner, "that the place is haunted. A stream runs down the side of the mountain and is known as 'The Unknown Stream.' But the Calais authorities does not agree with the idea that the place is now shrouned. He says that years ago there might have been dread in traversing the region, but since then it has been penetrated by many hunters. Mr. Yates, while not contradicting Dr. Miner, points out, nevertheless, that visitors to The Great Unknown are few and far between. He pictures it as a wilderness filled with wild animals, with streams abounding in fish. But he is willing to take his chance as guide if the other man will do his share of watching at night and look out for himself if a bear gives chase. It is a prospect not without thrills, but perhaps Mr. Ross Yates, the well-known guide, is not lacking in that sense of dry humor which is revealed in the utterances of many a Maine guide as he comments on his occupation and his charges.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Orthographical Hint
 He—"Do you favor abbreviations in spelling?"
 She—"Only Miss to Mrs."

Editor's Luck
 Western Exchange—"Every girl in town but the editor has a new spring hat. Moral: Don't be an editor."

Checking The Items
 Absent-minded Professor whose wife has gone on a visit—"Let me see. I've given the cat some seed and let the bird out. What else was it she asked me to do?"

And Proud Of It
 Foreman (to man seeking work)—"Are you a mechanic?"
 Applicant—"No, sorr, O'm a McCarthy."

Unselfish
 Storekeeper—"What kind of candy do you want, little boy?"
 Boy—"Something tap for a cent, so I can give my little sister one."

A Service to Both
 Mrs. Smith—"I was glad to find her out when I called."
 Mrs. Smart—"I knew you didn't like each other, so I told her when you were going to call."

The Rounders of The Sky
 "There is no immortality in nature," "I don't know. Some of the clouds seem rather questionable—they live high, are often dissipated and can usually be classed with the wets."

Overheard By J. C.
 Sam (meeting friend on Common)—"De pashon done told us dis mawning about Lot's wife bein' turned to a pillar of salt."
 Hustus—"Dat so? Say, if de age er miracles wasn't pas' an' gone, Ah'd losh mah temph some day an' ask de Lawd ter turn mine inter a week's groceries."

Mistaken Inference
 "Mother," said little Edgar, "when I grow up I'll be a man, won't I?"
 "Yes, dear," answered his mother, "but if you want to be a man you must study hard and learn how to behave yourself. You must not be lazy."
 "Way, mother," he asked, looking rather puzzled, "do lazy boys grow up to be women?"

Lightning Courtship
 A colored cook of middle-age, who had saved considerable money, suddenly got herself engaged to a sporting man of her own race. One morning she nibbled saw her gazing abstractly out of the kitchen window and inquired: "What's the matter, Hannah?"
 "Well, mum," she replied, "with my husband—that is to be everything goes with such lightning speed that I'm confused. Day before yesterday we got acquainted, yesterday we got engaged, and today I find he already owes me \$5."

TIME CHANGES ON MAY 18TH

Will Go Into Effect On C. N. R. Lines
 "Night Train to Halifax Daily Except Sunday—Changes on the Valley Railway."

Changes of time on C. N. R. Lines, effective May 18th, affect several of the trains in and out of St. John.
 No. 44, leaving at 7:05 a.m., will run as far as Moncton, connecting there

with the Maritime Express for Halifax, and at Sackville with train No. 42, leaving there at 1:10 p.m. for Tormentine—making the P. E. I. first steamer connection.

No. 23, the Sussex train, will leave Sussex at 5:45 a.m. (Atlantic Time) and arrive in St. John at 7:45 a.m. No. 24 will leave for Sussex at 4:15 p.m. and reach Sussex at 6:15 p.m.

Suburbans for Hampton will leave at 11:20 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. Suburbans will leave Hampton at 12:35 p.m. and 6:35 p.m. for St. John.

All trains, including suburbans, will operate on Atlantic Time, as per time table.

No. 10 will leave at 10:25 p.m. for Halifax, daily except Sunday and will do the suburban work between St. John and Hampton, replacing No. 136 suburban. Under the new schedule No. 10 will arrive in Truro at 8:40 a.m. and will leave at 9:20 a.m. for Halifax, arriving at 11:50 a.m.

No. 9, night train from Halifax, will leave Halifax at 8 p.m. daily except Saturday for St. John, arriving here at 6:40 a.m., daily except Sunday. No. 9 will do the suburban work from Hampton to St. John, replacing suburban No. 131.

Afternoon connections for Prince Edward Island will be made by No. 14 train, which will leave St. John under new schedule at 12:35 p.m., connecting with No. 40 at Moncton for Cape Tormentine. Cafe parlor car will run between St. John and Tormentine, returning on No. 39 train from Tormentine, and connecting with No. 13 train between Moncton and St. John. There will be no cafe parlor car on No. 43, the evening train from Moncton to St. John.

Trains Nos. 19 and 20 will continue to run between St. John and Springhill, N.S. No. 20 will leave here at 6:10 p.m., and make the Maritime Express connection at Moncton for Quebec and Montreal.

On the Valley Railway train No. 45 will leave St. John Station at 2:05 p.m. (Atlantic Time) for Fredericton, arriving there at 5:25 p.m. This train will run through to Newcastle, Chatham and Loggieville, leaving Fredericton at 7:10 p.m., and afford connection at McGivney Jet, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings with No. 51 train from Moncton for Edmundston and Quebec, carrying the buffet sleeper, arriving in Quebec the day following.

Train No. 27, leaving Loggieville, Chatham and Newcastle in the morning, will arrive in Fredericton at 1 p.m., and connecting train will leave Fredericton at 1:30 p.m., arriving in

St. John at 5:10 p.m. There is also stock by this train, and with No. 52 train services will be furnished on Edmundston on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It will thus be seen that St. John has direct and connecting service with all parts of the Province better than ever before.

Further particulars regarding all train services will be furnished on inquiry at City Ticket Office, 46 King Street, or at Ticket Office, Union Station.

8-20

If a hungry child cried outside your door—

YOU couldn't refuse a piece of bread to a little boy or girl. The pitiful cry would reach your heart, at once. Those who come to the Salvation Army—men, women and children—cry out to us in their sorrow, their poverty, their hunger—and, we can't refuse them.

Remember this when a canvasser calls at your house

When a Volunteer Worker calls at your home for a donation to the Annual Self-Denial Appeal, please remember that he—or she—is the representative of the multitude of folks who, through one cause or another, are forced to seek the Army's helping hand.

But the Army does more than relieve a temporary pang of hunger. It interests itself in those who need its aid. It delves into causes. It puts its finger on the source of trouble and exerts every human and spiritual effort to effect a permanent cure.



If you should not be called on, please forward your donation—as much as you can spare—to

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