

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1921

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 16, 1921.

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MR. MEIGHEN'S DILEMMA

The Ottawa correspondent of the Conservative newspapers like the Montreal Gazette are saying that Premier Meighen personally favors an early appeal to the people. The Ottawa Journal is inclined to believe the elections will soon occur. These papers agree that most of Mr. Meighen's supporters in the house are opposed to an appeal to the country before another session, and the reason is quite obvious. Another session allows much to be desired, and very few of the members have any hope of being in the new house. Mr. Meighen, however, has to consider his own position as leader and it may possibly lead him to disregard the views of his supporters who advise him to consider the future, not of individuals, but of the party. To cling longer to office might, and undoubtedly would be to invite a more crushing defeat, and leave the Conservative party in a still worse position. The wildest optimist does not contend that the government will be sustained in the general elections. The cabinet has not been reorganized, and it has lost the confidence of the people. To attempt reorganization now would be an extremely difficult task, since everybody can see whether the political tide is tending, and no man relishes the prospect of defeat. If Mr. Meighen faces the issue now and goes down, he might at least be the leader of a fairly strong opposition, and he is not an old man. A number of his colleagues are ready for the retired list, and are a source of weakness to the government at the present time. The choice of the premier to make is whether he is ready to accept defeat now or wait and accept a worse one.

IN IRELAND

Premier Lloyd George, on behalf of the British government, has offered Ireland such a measure of home rule as even the Home Rulers themselves in years gone by never dreamed of. Mr. De Valera has replied with a demand for Irish independence. Sir James Craig, speaking for Ulster, has made it clear that Ulster stands by its parliament and the imperial connection. The "republican parliament" meets today in Dublin for a four days' session to consider the situation. It has to choose between the very generous terms of the British government, which Gen. Smuts very strongly urges it to adopt, and a renewal of bitter strife. The government has made it clear that separation is not to be considered for a moment. The hour of decision is at hand. The true has given the people time for reflection, and it may be that the extremists will be outnumbered. There is a suggestion that the question may be submitted to a plebiscite of the people of southern Ireland, or that a new "parliament" may be elected. The general tone of discussion is still optimistic, perhaps because few persons can persuade themselves to believe the Irish people would deliberately choose war in the face of a measure of home rule so broad that one Ulster journal asserts it would, if given effect, disrupt the Empire. There can be no doubt that if the terms offered are flatly rejected the conditions in Ireland will be made infinitely worse than they have ever been. The door is still open, however, and the counsels of Gen. Smuts may yet prevail.

ROCKWOOD MEMORIAL

The Rockwood Park memorial, erected in memory of seven young men who gave their lives in the great war, is a tribute to the patriotic zeal of the young ladies who form the Rockwood Comfort Club; and it is a memorial which through the coming years will remind all visitors to the Public Gardens that they who fell in the cause of right and for the preservation of the British Empire and the great principles of democracy are not forgotten. It is well to have these monuments erected, to record for future generations the deeds of brave men gone before, which preserved the heritage of Canadians and advanced the cause of Christian civilization. We reflect all too little in this age of universal hurry and mad pursuit of worldly aims, and it is well if now and then the sight of a monument such as the Rockwood Park memorial of enduring granite causes us to pause and reflect upon those principles and virtues which are the guarantee of human welfare in every age and clime.

The announcement that Premier Briand of France will attend the Washington conference encourages the belief that Premier Lloyd George will also attend. A conference of such transcendent possibilities calls for the presence of national leaders.

The United States and Great Britain are planning great battleships. One writer aptly observes that they seem to be arming for the disarmament conference. That conference, however, may have a very marked effect upon the armament for battleships.

A bug that eats the potato bug has been discovered in Ontario. We are all interested in this bug. May his tribe increase.

WILL THE GOVERNMENT ACT?

Referring to the unemployment situation the Toronto Globe says: "The cities do not want a repetition of last winter's experience. The industrial and trade depression came with little warning, and relief methods had to be improvised in the winter months. The public authorities cannot plead that they will be taken by surprise again. There has not been the expected recovery, and it has been recognized for months that special provision would have to be made for the unemployed when the seasonal work of the summer and autumn slowed down. There is no sign that the Federal government has regarded it as a national problem calling for Dominion-wide measures. It will be a grave injustice if the entire load is to be put again on the shoulders of the municipalities, as it was a year ago. It would mean that Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Hamilton and a few other cities would be flooded by non-residents seeking work or charity, and that they would have to bear a disproportionate share of the cost of relief."

This aspect of the case is worthy of prompt and serious consideration. In some cities the situation is even now acute. Mr. John Keane, charity officer of the Ottawa Board of Control, said last week that the situation there was the worst in his experience at this time of year. He produced figures showing that 1,141 families, containing 5,706 individuals, were in receipt of relief at the present moment in Ottawa. In January, 1920, the figures were only 850 families and 2,113 individuals, so that this year, in a summer month, the situation is more than twice as acute as last year in the winter. What will the condition be next winter? People—most people—do not want charity. They want a chance to earn a living. If they do not get it, and if there should be great numbers of them, destitution, disease, and possibly crime, as Mr. Keane points out, will be prevalent. The federal government took no steps last year to promote work, nor does it appear to have any such intention this year. Will it do anything to ensure a proper organization for the administration of relief? There is a suggestion that the government—what is it doing? No doubt spring will bring better times, but a hard winter intervenes. In the words of the Toronto Globe: "If the government has not a policy ready it will be guilty of culpable neglect."

Mr. J. D. O'Connell has chosen a method of giving pleasure to children which appeals to every childish heart, and to the hearts of many whose childhood is long past. The spirit which he gives is so entirely commendable that he gains universal sympathy and goodwill. He is well described as the children's friend, and St. John people extend to him the assurance of their high appreciation of his generous recognition of the little ones of this city. If the spirit which prompts him were universal there would be fewer thorns in the path of childhood, and we would have a healthier and happier rising generation.

Belfast is apparently incorrigible. Nowhere else in Ireland, so far as the cable tells us, is the truce violated; yet in Belfast last night a clash occurred in which one man was mortally wounded. That is not to the credit of Belfast.

Sir John Simon expresses entire confidence in the future of democracy. His faith is well based on the recent history of autocracies.

THE ARMENIANS PRAYER

Byrant Washburn, when he returned from England, where he had been illustrating "The Road to London," an Associated Exhibitors' production, told the audience he was standing in Soho, London, a district almost entirely populated by foreigners. The Turk and the Greek simultaneously arose from their table and started toward the Armenians, who covered in the seat. "Why did you chuckle when we were cursing each other?" bellowed the Turk. "Do you think you can laugh at us?" yelled the Greek, brandishing a knife. "Pardon me, gentlemen," snipped the Armenian, "I was praying."

"Praying?" echoed the Turk. "What the devil were you praying for?" shouted the Greek. And the Armenian answered: "Mr. Turk, I heard you pray to your God to destroy the Greeks, and then I heard the Greek gentleman pray to his God to destroy the Turks, and while you were doing it I was praying to my God." "What were you praying for?" asked both. "Well," replied the Armenian hesitatingly, "I prayed to God to fulfill both your wishes."

The highest figures of production of asbestos ever recorded for the province of Quebec are furnished by Mr. Perrault, the minister of mines. In the annual report of his department, just issued, these reached a little less than 200,000 tons, valued at \$14,792,000, an increase of twelve per cent. in quantity and of thirty-five per cent. in value as compared with the previous year. During the years 1918 and 1919 the asbestos industry was very active and the average market price per ton rose to \$83.38 for 1918 and to \$80.47 in 1919, which were unprecedented figures, an advance of more than three times the price of 1914, which was \$26.96.

The greater part of the asbestos is exported as raw material and is turned into manufactured articles in the United States. Last year the value of these exports was approximately \$8,000,000.

LIGHTER VEIN.

A Candid View. "You have been returned to your distinguished position many times." "I have," replied Senator Sorghum. "Your constituents felt they couldn't do better."

Strained Music. The organist at Gloucester Cathedral declares that the present vogue of wearing hair over the eyes is responsible for a lot of poor singing. His opinion is open to criticism, but it is generally admitted that it would be better if some singers wore the hair over their mouths instead.—Eve (London).

Proud Moment. An old gentleman was interviewing applicants for the post of gardener. The first one before him did not look promising, but the old gentleman thought he would give him a fair chance.

"How long were you in your last place?" he asked. "Off his guard," the applicant replied: "A month, sir."

"Eh! that's not long. And the place before that?" "Three months, sir," the applicant replied boldly.

"That's better now, and the time before that?" The applicant drew himself up proudly as he said: "There weren't no time before that, sir. I got off with a \$10 fine."—Los Angeles Times.

Her name was Fannie Adams, her color Cuban brown, her age sixty, and she came as a pupil to a night school. "Ah, waanster learn ter write mah name," she announced and teacher wrote it for her and set her to copying it. She was thinking of the many other things she'd teach Fannie Adams after the first had been accomplished. Night after night an elderly woman sat in the same class-room learning to write without the copy—and she was seen no more in class. But three months later, to the surprise and satisfaction of teacher, she looked up one night to behold Fannie Adams among her pupils. "Well, Fannie," she said, "what do you want to learn now?" "Ah, waanster learn ter write mah name," she said. "But," said the teacher, "you did learn to write your name."

SAY COAL COMPANY OWES THE MINERS

Sydney U. M. W. Intends to Place Lien on One of Port Hood Coal Mines.

Sydney, N. S., Aug. 16.—Unless the wage money is forthcoming, the United Mine Workers will place a lien on one of the coal mines at Port Hood, J. B. McLachlan, district United Mine Workers' secretary, stated yesterday.

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THE ADVANCE OF EDUCATION IN PALESTINE MARKED

London, July 30.—So comprehensive is the education plan of the government of Palestine that, at the present rate of progress, the whole country will be provided with schools within four years, it is announced here. Since January, 34 new village schools, providing elementary education for 1,860 children, have been opened, while state-aided schools provided in villages by the inhabitants have been taken over by the government. An additional 28 schools will be opened during the current financial year, it is announced. Measures also are being taken for the development of the two training colleges for teachers. Teachers are also being appointed to live in the villages and to instruct and teach their children. A central education committee has been formed, consisting of four Moslems, three Jews and three Christians. Under the arrangements now in force the people of the villages provide the buildings and furniture and keep them in repair, while the government pays the salaries of the teachers and other costs of maintenance.

SAYS TENNESSEE "DEVIL" MAY BE INDIAN RELIC

50-Pound Winged Image, Dug Up by Coal Prospector, Perhaps Carved by Cliff Dwellers.

Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 16.—Further information as to the petrified body of gigantic proportions found near Helenwood in Scott county, Tennessee, have been received here. "Cruise" Searcy, who found the "devil," as he calls it, on July 20 last while prospecting for coal. The formation weighed something like 500 pounds. The freak is described as having a head of abnormal size adorned by horns resembling those of a ruminant. Its mouth is of unusual size, with twenty-four prominent front teeth. The arms, too, are of unusual length, with enormous hands. A chain resembling an ordinary trace chain encircles the neck, long wings of brownish color reach from the shoulders almost to the ankles. An imprint of the left hand is plainly visible on the chest. Sexton believes the object may be an image left by some old tribe of Indians or cliff dwellers.

GOVERNOR SMALL

Of Illinois, the indicted governor. He says: "It is a hard job working for the interests of the people."

A NOTABLE CONVERSION.

(Toronto Globe.)

The Mail and Empire asks, "What other question of world politics transcends that of bringing the British empire and the United States into co-operation for promoting and maintaining the peace of the world?" We freely admit the importance of that object, and we agree with our contemporary that such an entente has been the dream of many of the largest minded of the friends of mankind. It goes on to say that Mr. Meighen's strongest party opponent should be willing to render him full credit for the signal service he did to Canada, to the empire, and to the world by removing a wedge of distrust between Great Britain and the United States.

We have no desire to withhold credit from Mr. Meighen for taking a friendly attitude toward the United States, but we cannot forget that he and his party friends, and the Mail and Empire itself, are very recent converts to that position. Until recently it was their fashion to denounce the Liberal party as pro-American. Twice at least in 1891 and in 1911—the Liberal party proposed red-emption with the United States. Not content with opposing the project on economic grounds, which was legitimate enough, the Conservative party described it as a disguise for a movement for political union. Liberals were branded as traitors to Canada and to the empire, while Americans were accused of slyly endeavoring to entrap Canada into annexation. Our neighbors were described in most unfriendly terms, and every possible effort was made to arouse anti-American prejudice in Canada. Even within the past year the campaign literature of the Conservative party said that those who were advocating lower duties in Canada were friends of the American manufacturers, and were no better than friends of the Kaiser. There was evidence that a vigorous anti-American campaign would be part of the ammunition for keeping the Meighen government in office. Apparently this idea has now been abandoned, and Mr. Meighen has adopted the Liberal policy of cultivating friendly relations with the United States. It is a most welcome conversion, and we should be happy to believe that we have heard the last of anti-Americanism as a campaign cry. If Mr. Meighen can bring his party friends to the penitent bench, nothing more remains to be done, because Liberals and Progressives do not need to be converted to the faith which they have always held.

LANDLORD FINED AGAIN.

Bronx Man Must Pay \$50 for Failing to Supply Hot Water.

(New York Times.) Aaron Elayoff, a tailor and landlord, who lives at 1,165 Vyse avenue, the Bronx, was fined \$50 yesterday, the second time in two months, on complaint of a tenant, Mrs. Bertha Zoller, also of 1,165 Vyse avenue, because he did not supply hot water, as agreed. The fine was imposed in the Bronx Court of Special Sessions by Justice Edwards. Herman and Healy, who gave Elayoff until Aug. 15 to pay the fine.

LANDRUS' BUSY DAY.

Versailles, July 29.—Heard Desire Landrus, who is to appear for trial in October on charges growing out of the disappearance of eleven women to whom he had promised marriage, is busy studying the docket of his case, numbering some 7,000 documents.

81, ADMITS HE'S A BURGLAR.

Pleads Guilty to Trying to Rob a Sleeping Policeman.

Mr. McCormick, eighty-one years old, was permitted to plead guilty to burglary in the third degree as a first offender by County Judge Mitchell May in Brooklyn yesterday. "How many times have you been in prison?" District Attorney Lewis asked when McCormick asked permission to plead in the lesser degree as a first offender. "Sure, sir, I never kept count," was the reply.

McCormick was indicted for burglary in the second degree as a second offender. On July 20 he entered the room of Patrolman William McCarron in Brooklyn while the latter was asleep, and started to make off with his watch. McCarron awoke in time to arrest him.

McCormick said his home was in Haverstraw, N. Y.

WOMAN, REMOVED SWALLOWED BY CHICAGO

Chicago, Aug. 16.—Three months ago Mrs. Alla Levy swallowed a six-inch hatpin when she became excited as her small son fell off a chair. She told her husband, but he was asleep. She went to a doctor, and the pin, which had punctured the stomach walls in three places, was removed. Today she is in the road to recovery.

FAMOUS MOGAL JEWELS TO BE RETURNED TO INDIA


London, Aug. 16.—Famous Mogal jewels are to be returned to India. The jewels are to be returned to one of the great Indian museums, and Delhi has been suggested as their eventual resting place.

The jewels were made for the Mogal Emperor Shah Jahan about 1650. After the sack of Delhi in 1739 these and other treasures were carried off by the ruler of Persia and Afghanistan, Nadir Shah; the fugitive Shah Jahan restored them to Benkt Sing at Lahore in 1813; in 1840 they were bought by the Governor-General of that time, Lord Dalhousie, eventually passing to his daughter, and after her death to the Victoria and Albert Museum, in London. Each jewel is carved from a single stone. One is an emerald bow ring, intended to protect the left thumb when a strained bow string is released, and the other is an emerald toilet cup, mounted in gold jeweled with rubies, the most being chased and partly overlaid with translucent gold enamel.

TARIFF COMMISSIONS.

(Toronto Globe.)

The United States has a Tariff Commission, not very important as such as we have had in Canada, but a permanent body which was supposed to work for a tariff tariff of free trade politics. The New York Journal of Commerce says that it has not prevented the drafting of a tariff bill. It has not even provided the frame of a scientific tariff. No other tariff passed within fifty years has evoked so much opposition as the Fordney Bill. The Commission has fallen down. "This weak-kneed, unscientific, discredited, and temporary current conditions in tariff-making and to worship the gods of any political party that happens to be in power has almost always been characteristic of government boards and commissions."



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BLUE LAW FOR GIRLS.

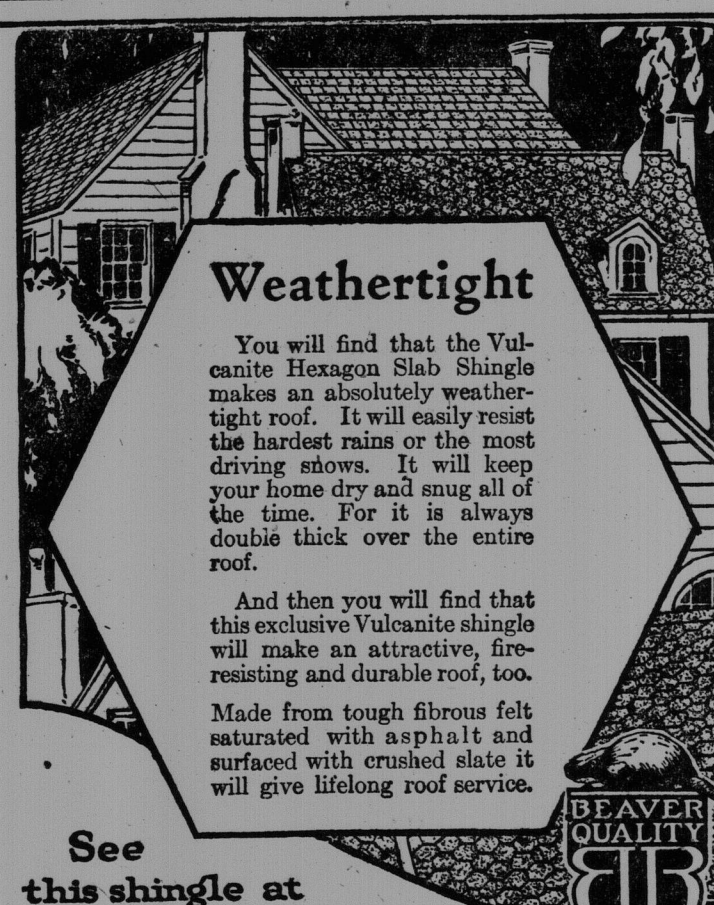
Washington, Aug. 16.—A "Blue Law" for the girls was introduced in the House today by Representative Herrick, Republican of Oklahoma. Representative Herrick would prevent girls from going into the movies or on the stage. His bill is designed to prohibit beauty contests conducted by newspapers and by film organizations. "My motive for introducing this bill," said Mr. Herrick, "is that the young American woman of today is drifting farther away from home life, coasting to be interested in maintaining a home, being a wife and rearing a family. It is a notorious fact that the American-born population is decreasing and that the recent immigrants and their immediate offspring are increasing and that if the same conditions continue for another decade, America may be converted into a foreign country with foreign ideas and ideals."

THE MASONIC VISITORS.

The visiting Masonic officers of the Supreme Council for the Dominion of Canada, Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, J. Alex. Cameron, 33, and Alexander McDougall, 33, were entertained by the Cornishian Lodge Number 18 to luncheon at the Weymouth Hotel, Hamilton, yesterday. "Won't you please ask the judge to postpone this call; this is my busy day."

A few days ago, a wander came to fetch Landrus before the judge for some sort of a voluntary statement. Landrus lifted his head from the table covered with copies of documents concerning his trial, and with an air of infinite boredom said: "Won't you please ask the judge to postpone this call; this is my busy day."

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