

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1905

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MAJOR WHITE

The Times owes it to Mayor White to express an impression that may have been conveyed by an article in this paper on a meeting paper that the mayor had gone on a vacation, to be away for some time. The Times alluded to certain important matters now pending, and expressed the view that the mayor's vacation was not well-timed.

The criticism was not well-founded. The mayor's visit to Montreal was brief, and while there, as was stated in yesterday's Times, he devoted attention to several matters of importance to this city. The Times cheerfully makes this acknowledgment, and is glad to commend the mayor for the interest manifested in local affairs while in Montreal. This journal has no desire to offer criticism that is not justified by the facts of the case, whether it be of the mayor or any other individual.

FOR CLEAN STREETS

The question of clean streets is one in which all the people are interested, though all do not manifest an equal interest. Not infrequently may be seen rubbish of various kinds in front of a store, and one might be pardoned for the suspicion that it came from the establishment, and not from the knowledge of some of the inspectors. The civic authorities make some effort to keep at least some of the streets clean. It is perhaps not without reason that they are criticised for not doing more. But what about the citizens in general? Do they manifest a proper desire to do what they can?

These questions are suggested by the statement in a Boston paper of what is being done in the town of Chelsea, as follows:

School children working to keep clean city streets is an experiment which is about to be given a thorough trial in Chelsea. Already plans have been prepared for the school teachers, working in conjunction with the Chelsea Women's Club, which is to furnish receptacles for the waste collected, to carry out the idea, which was originally suggested by Chester H. Wilbur, until recently principal of the Williams Grammar School, Chelsea, but at present teaching in South Boston. Superintendent of Schools Gregory plans to have the boys and girls of the Williams district, comprising the Williams Grammar, Cary, Broadway and Frank B. Fay schools, keep a strict watch on the streets within the district and remove all papers and unsightly waste that may collect. The receptacles will be neat and will be placed at convenient points. There are about 2500 children in the four schools, and it is believed that they, together with many of the parents, is expected to help to keep the streets in excellent order. Mr. Gregory believes that the interest aroused by this work is sure to result in a general desire to prevent property of all kinds from being defaced and will inspire the children to higher civic ideals. Should the experiment prove a success it is intended to extend it to other districts.

Whether the example set by Chelsea is without precedent or not it is certainly worthy of commendation. Whatever tends to stimulate local pride in outward appearance is certain to produce good results. The destructive element is far too much in evidence in cities, and the young and untaught are the chief offenders.

A SERIOUS PROBLEM

A boy deliberately piling rubbish against the corner of a building in the middle of the afternoon and deliberately setting it on fire, without any apparent reason or provocation for such an act, reveals a moral condition which the ordinary mind cannot fathom or explain. One would like to know by what kind of home influences such a boy has been surrounded, whether he has been given even the rudiments of education, and what the conditions were which produced in him the tendency to wanton destruction and even crime.

Betimes some such revelation, whether accompanied by serious results to others or not, bids us pause and ask if all is being done that should be done to save our children from such an act, reveals a moral condition which the ordinary mind cannot fathom or explain. One would like to know by what kind of home influences such a boy has been surrounded, whether he has been given even the rudiments of education, and what the conditions were which produced in him the tendency to wanton destruction and even crime.

STARTLING RESULTS

In March last the physical examination of school children was introduced in New York. A report of the result says: "From March 27 to April 28, under the new system of thorough individual examination, 7166 school children were examined. Most striking of all the results, perhaps was the discovery that 17%, or more than 17 per cent, suffered from very defective eyesight. Dr. John J. Cronin, chief of the division of school inspection of the

department of health, emphasized particularly the fact that of New York's school children. The number 1273 represents only those whose eyes are affected in the worst way; a much larger proportion have lesser defects. "The inspectors found," said Dr. Cronin, "within the last few months that about 23 per cent of all children in the schools have defects of vision, interfering with the proper pursuit of their studies. Of these, a large number have pronounced glasses. This has already resulted in an improvement in the school work, as borne out by the teachers' reports. The reason so many children are found backward in their studies is because there are so many with physical defects, such as defective sight and hearing, who are unable to keep up with other children of their age and who retard the progress of the class."

The United States government has compiled from consular reports in all parts of the world for the last eight years a book on the growth of municipal ownership. While they do not give an up-to-date statement of the experience of the various countries, a Washington correspondent says that "the general tone of the reports is so optimistic that it would have made an excellent campaign document for Judge Dunne in his recent mayoralty campaign."

The Connecticut Legislature has refused to pass an anti-screen law for the schools.

THE SYDNEY CARNIVAL

A. W. Cervice, secretary of the Sydney Carnival Association was in the city yesterday. He says that they are making great preparations for the carnival to be held there the week of July 31st to Aug. 5th. About \$10,000 or \$15,000 will be expended on prizes, and Mr. Cervice says the carnival will be undoubtedly the best ever held in lower Canada. It is expected that Earl Grey will be present at the formal opening on Monday July 31st.

A LITTLE OUTCAST

"A Little Outcast," that much talked of play, will be seen at the Opera House next Thursday night. It comes with a wealth of scenery and tons of electrical appliances, for those bewitching effects which have been astonishing theatre goers. The play is a pretty, natural story, all warmth and grace and singular originality; the kind of play to captivate all sorts and conditions of men and women. The play opens in the office of Mr. Hartcourt, a wealthy broker, who is about to take his clerk, Paul Weston, into the firm as a junior partner. Incidentally, Weston has won the heart of the broker's pretty daughter, Madeline, and has wedded her secretly. Mr. Hartcourt approves of him, and the young pair agree to postpone their wedding that evening, when the partnership papers are signed. But, before evening, DeVoe, the broker's nephew, who had hoped to be both son-in-law and partner of his uncle, learns a dark secret in Weston's career, and plans the young man's downfall. He discovered that, years before, Weston had served a prison sentence for another crime, and was recognized by "Red" Darby, a former cell mate. In buying the man's silence, DeVoe became involved in a money transaction and is denounced by DeVoe (who is the real culprit) to Mr. Hartcourt, as an ex-convict and a thief. He is strictly cut off by the broker, and Madeline is ordered to forsake him. Branded as a thief, and forsaken by his former friends, Weston becomes an easy prey to drink, until he falls to the level of habitual drunkards and consorts with criminals and outcasts. At the darker part of his career, on the eve of committing a great crime, Weston is brought to his senses and a sudden realization of his situation and his better self asserts itself. His redemption and ultimate triumph over his powerful dramatic incidents, in all of which the faithful newboy "Bob" is his trusty ally, and the curtain falls on a happy home scene where Weston, restored to his friend's confidence and to his wife's love, receives the spontaneous cheers of the audience, which is ever ready to applaud the triumph of virtue and good will.

A number of novel characters are introduced, among them being a new type of "dope fiend" in the person of "Quin" a once noted lawyer, who, when under the influence of the drug, raves in every language but his own and is in his own words, "As the gods; knowing good and evil, but untouched by either." Bob, the newboy is played by brilliant, petite Anne Blanche, who imbues the part with her own winning personality, and captivates her audience from the first minute of her entrance. J. Irving White, formerly with E. H. Sothorn, is the leading man and that fact alone would attract a host of theatre goers who are always delighted to greet old favorites.

A QUESTION OF BARGES

Ottawa, May 15 (Special)—E. Lantano, M. P. P., and E. H. McAlpine, of St. John, are in the city seeing the government in connection with the pilotage of barges. Formerly the towing of barges required pilots. Under a recent decision this has been done away with. The pilots object and Messrs. Lantano and McAlpine are here in the interests of the pilots.

Handsome Presents.

Packages of Rainbow Cut Plug Smoking Tobacco contain coupons which can be used for handsome presents.

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After Waiting Two Months "Walk-Over" Button Oxfords for Women. Many ladies have been patiently waiting for these exclusive styles for upwards of a month, and will be glad to see this announcement. Tan Button Oxfords Patent Button Oxfords, on the new and nobby Ske-toe last. See Our Window. The McRobbie Shoe Co., Ltd.

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YORK THEATRE, SATURDAY, MAY 20th. DR. GRENFELL will lecture on his work in LABRADOR, under the auspices of the Local Branch of the Deep Sea Mission. Tickets, 25c. On sale in Drug Stores.

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SEE SWEET CLOVER A Charming Play by a Strong Company --- Last Night's Presentation.

After witnessing such a play as Sweet Clover, as presented at the York Theatre last evening, one wonders why there should be any demand for the highly sensational drama. A clear and healthy atmosphere pervades the play, and the action of the people is that of real people, moved by the feelings and motives that mark the conduct of rational men and women. It is a very pretty romance, not entirely removed from the shadow that is never far removed from us and yet entirely without the gross intrusion of the coarser passions. Perhaps one felt once or twice that the comedy was not quite natural, but it was in good hands and the general feeling of enjoyment was not marred. Taken all in all, the company is probably the strongest that has been here since the last production of the Theatre's "Brier Bush."

The acting of Miss Ethel Davis, as the innocent country girl, around whose pathetic life romance the action of the play is centered, was so true, so simple and unaffected, and so strengthened by personal charm, and a voice that is clear and clear, that from the moment of her first appearance she held the sympathy and from the admission of all. Miss Clara Reynolds Smith was no less effective, though in striking contrast to the maiden aunt of an intensely practical turn, and yet with a romance of her own of thirty years standing that does not culminate until the last act of the play. Not only did she provoke a great deal of mirth but also much hearty applause. Miss Ethel Wynne, young fugitive, victim of a romance, was yet another type of womanhood, whose minor woes and worries were both entertaining and amusing. In minor parts Miss Olive Higgins and Miss Henriette Jenkins left nothing to be desired.

Of the male members of the company there are two that smuck of the country, with the delightful down east accents, and two are of the city, and one is of that rollicking type known as the student. As far as the acting of the play is concerned, it is a masterpiece. Holcombe, the father of Lois (Miss Davis) whose life has known a great sorrow and whose heart is broken in his little girl. He gives a fine conception of the part. Mr. Robson, as the "boom trader" and the other parts are handled with a sure hand. There are several very strong scenes, that were greeted last night with hearty applause and several passages of dialogue that are a comedy drama such as one likes to see, and it is in the hands of an exceptionally strong company. It is a large and fashionable audience in attendance last evening.

MARINE NOTES The schooner Nota Bene, while sailing up Parrabrook harbor last Monday, got ashore on the point below Huntley's wharf. She has an engine and a large crew and will probably be a total loss. The schooner Concord, Captain Lake, from Windsor, loaded with fertilizer, for Carrs Brook, met with trouble during the night of the 9th instant by water going under her, causing her to ground over, so that she filled with salt water when the tide came in. Goods were hauled out in a few minutes, and she was probably no insurance. Loss likely to be borne by the shippers, the Nova Scotia Fertilizer Co., of Halifax. ST. JOHN'S, N. F., May 13.—The Canadian government is endeavoring to cancel the charter of the sailing steamer Sable Island, which was chartered for the Hudson Bay expedition, owing, it is said, to "pressure being brought to bear at Ottawa to secure the charter of a steamer owned in Canada. HALIFAX, N. S., May 14.—The government steamer Lady Lambert, which returned this afternoon from Sable Island, reports no wrecks on the bars since her last visit. The Lancer took down a party of Marooned officials who, after sentence with Gov. Bessier, decided to leave a wireless station half a mile east of Governor's residence, which is the highest point on the "Atlantic graveyard." The Canadian government is now erecting a wireless station at Campdown, the outermost military signal station at the entrance of Halifax harbor. This will be completed in two weeks, and the Sable Island station will then be ready for operation early in July. All Marooned Atlantic liners passing within 200 miles of Sable Island can report by wireless to the station. Messages will be transmitted to Campdown, 100 miles away, at the latter place telegraph companies will make connection, and it is claimed reports can be sent from Sable Island to London in 18 seconds. When the new stations are installed, Sable Island will be one of the most important marine stations in the world, as it is estimated forty steamers pass within communicating distance every day.

Hints to Pipe-Smokers Don't re-fill a heated pipe. Let it get away to cool; take another puff and fill up with Rainbow Cut Plug Smoking Tobacco.

THE BEER LICENSES Inspector J. B. Jones has notified all druggists, restaurant keepers, beer sellers and other persons dealing in such beverages that they must procure their licenses not later than May 15th, or they will be liable to prosecution.

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