

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1925

The Evening Times-Star

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OUR FUEL SUPPLY.

The theory that an anthracite strike in the United States may be prevented because of Canada's present readiness to fall back upon the product of its own coal mines is more flattering than convincing. At a time when all of the Northern States are very definitely afraid that an anthracite strike is coming, Washington despatches quote "a high government official" as saying that a settlement of the difficulty is likely at the Atlantic City conference because the anthracite operators fear a loss of their business through increased production of Canadian coal in case there is a strike in the anthracite fields. This unknown authority says that Canada's increasing effort to develop her own coal fields and to become independent of the American industry is a leading factor making for a settlement of the anthracite dispute. At the present time coal mining in Canada, in view of the Cape Breton strike and disturbances in the Western coal areas, is a long way from justifying the Washington statement. This country has been taking time after year, for a very long time, about achieving its independence in the matter of fuel by a greater use of its own mines, but thus far little has been accomplished. The proposal to convert our coal into coke on an extensive scale has not yet materialized, although it is still regarded hopefully. The country generally believes that our own coal could be used to a far greater extent, and certainly Canada has had a sufficient warning in its past experience of high prices and scarcity due to American labor troubles. At present a shipment of Alberta coal, some 25,000 tons, is being sent to Ontario, with the idea that if it proves an acceptable substitute for anthracite, heavier shipments may follow. There is unfortunately as yet no certainty that future freight rates will permit this coal to be marketed in Ontario at a price which will make it attractive. We are still confronted with a similar problem in the matter of marketing Maritime Province coal more extensively in the Upper Provinces.

Let us hope that the Washington statement regarding the probability of a settlement in the anthracite fields is justified. Meantime those who can secure suitable fuel will be wise in doing so while it is still available. It is estimated that the increased wages which the anthracite miners are demanding would mean, if granted, an addition of three dollars a ton to the consumer. It may very well be, as the Washington despatches assert, that the miners will be content with a nominal increase upon the present scale, but there is no certainty as to that. About the only thing that is certain is that the consumer in the end pays the cost of all strikes, and that not infrequently he is penalized by strike threats which affect the price of coal because a scarcity is prophesied or anticipated. So far as Canada is concerned the whole fuel situation is most unsatisfactory, and permanent improvement is to be expected only when this country has learned to make a greater use of its own mines, and so achieved at least a measure of independence so far as American coal is concerned. At the moment a settlement of our own coal disputes and the resumption of mining is one of the country's most urgent needs.

GETTING READY.

It is announced from Toronto that Hon. Mr. Meighen is soon to make a political tour of the West, and that, in fact, the opening of the federal campaign by the Opposition is at hand. The Toronto newspapers say that Mr. Meighen in conference with his lieutenants there a few days ago at the Albany Club told them that he expected the elections would come in late September or early October of this year, and that the thing to do was to choose candidates at the earliest possible moment.

Hon. Mr. Meighen's first big speech in the campaign is to be delivered in West York, in support of Sir Henry Drayton's candidature, and it is expected that he will start for the Prairie country soon after that. Sir Henry Drayton is likely to accompany him.

The new Premier of Nova Scotia is to be invited to participate in one of the great meetings of the campaign which is to be held in Toronto, and Conservatives there have expressed the opinion that "if Mr. Rhodes deals successfully with the strike problem in Nova Scotia" his presence in Ontario later will be of great help to their cause. It may be that they are reckoning without their host in this matter, as Mr. Rhodes, during the Nova Scotia campaign and after it, declared himself in favor of drawing a clear line between federal and provincial affairs. Indeed in his campaign manifesto he expressed the view that the provincial party should take care to remain free from any federal alliance, so that its policies

might not be hampered by the acts or commitments of any federal party. There is a general expectation now throughout the country that the elections will come in the autumn, probably in October, and it is thought likely that the campaign will be comparatively short. A period of forty-five days between dissolution and the election date is necessary, and while the campaign may be said to be beginning already, the intensive electioneering may occupy only about six weeks.

HINTS OF A CRISIS.

The public has learned very little concerning recent diplomatic exchanges between London and Washington regarding the trouble in China, but it now appears that relations between the United States, Great Britain and Japan have been subjected to some strain, and that this has been relieved through the agreement of the United States to warn China that it must live up to its treaty obligations and give proper protection to foreign residents. Britain and Japan had already taken that course. As a result of a conference between President Coolidge and Secretary of State Kellogg at the end of last week the United States has made its attitude in the Chinese matter clear, apparently at the request of Great Britain and possibly of Japan, and it is now announced that the three countries will continue their united stand in China, happily avoiding a break in relations which at one time was feared.

The American Secretary of State, in a short and somewhat cryptic official statement, says that the corner-stone of his country's Chinese policy is a scrupulous observance of the obligations to China entered into at the Washington conference "and the insistence that the Government of China take adequate measures for the protection of foreigners and to carry their responsibilities under the treaties." It is intimated that Great Britain, because of conditions growing out of the Shanghai riots, was contemplating resorting to an independent policy to protect its own interests, and an editorial in the London Times, saying that British policy in China must be "stiffened" and appearing to force shadow that course, was the subject of somewhat sharp comment in the United States. It is now stated that the United States is to join with the other powers in formally requesting China to call a conference to consider customs duties, as she is bound to do under the so-called nine-Power treaty agreed to at Washington at the time when the limitation of armaments was under consideration.

It is thought that the Chinese Government was taking advantage of the recent disturbances to postpone indefinitely this customs conference, and there was a feeling that doubt as to Washington's position was strengthening the hands of anti-foreign influences in China. Apparently the expectation now is that as China has been formally notified that Great Britain, Japan and the United States are in full agreement, the Chinese authorities will realize the necessity for making a sincere and thorough effort to prevent further riots and to give foreigners real protection. If this hope is justified the diplomatic representatives of the principal foreign powers will impartially seek to fix responsibility for the Shanghai riots and give due consideration to the Chinese claim that the sovereignty of that country is affected by foreign interference.

Moose hunting in Maine, which has been prohibited for nearly four years, is to be resumed in the coming autumn. The Portland Press-Herald is informed by guides familiar with conditions that the number of moose in Maine at present is even greater than was to be expected from the annual increase during the long close season. One theory is that a considerable number of the animals have migrated from New Brunswick, but there is no certainty as to this, although old guides say that there is a more or less constant interchange between border counties. Only the record of moose killed in Maine this year will provide proof as to the effects of the long close season, but there seems no doubt that it has been highly beneficial.

In 1918 Toronto had only seven golf clubs, with some 3,000 members; to-day it has twenty-two clubs, with a total of more than 14,000 members. The Toronto Star, in the course of an article telling how rapidly golf has grown in popularity in Canada, estimates that the amount now spent annually on the game in that city exceeds \$2,000,000, and says the golf properties there represent an investment of from twenty to thirty million dollars. Winnipeg has fourteen golf clubs, and Montreal thirteen. The Montreal club exceed those of Winnipeg in membership, but in proportion to population Winnipeg is said to have more golfers than any city in the Dominion, with Calgary a close second.

Odds and Ends

"You never know what you'll find among the odds and ends"—From "Notes by a Wayfarer."

A Ghost Story

(Toronto Globe)
A weird ghost story with quite a place in legend and literature is brought to mind by a ceremony at Rpt. Ticonderoga, between Lake Champlain and Lake George, in Northeastern New York. A tablet will then be unveiled to commemorate the gallantry of the 42nd Regiment of Foot, now the famous Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), which on July 8, 1758, lost over 600 of its 1,000 men in the disastrous attack on Abercrombie against the French under Montcalm. The tablet will be unveiled by Cadet John Campbell of St. Andrew's College, and son of James A. Campbell, V. S. Toronto, a direct descendant of the brother of Major Duncan Campbell of the Black Watch, who was fatally wounded in the battle.

It is of Major Duncan Campbell that the ghost story is told, and it carries the true flavor of the Highlands, where the gallant soldier lived before going to war. The tale has been told by Parkman in "Montcalm and Wolfe," and Stevenson gives it in verse in his "Ticonderoga." According to Parkman, the young laird, Duncan Campbell, sat late one evening, before 1750, alone in the old hall of the ancient castle of Inverawe, in the wild Western Highlands. He heard a loud knocking at the gate, and found a stranger with torn clothing and kilt smeared with blood, who breathlessly asked protection. He said he had killed a man in a fray and the pursuers were at his heels. Campbell promised to shelter him. "Swear on your dirk," said the stranger, and the laird swore.

The stranger was then hidden in the castle, but in a short time came another loud knocking at the gate by two armed men, who shouted: "Your cousin Donald has been murdered, and we are looking for the murderer." Campbell, remembering his oath, professed to have no knowledge of the fugitive, and the men went their way. The laird lay down, and when at last he found sleep he awakened in terror to find at his bedside the ghost of his cousin Donald, who said in hollow voice: "Inverawe! Inverawe! Blood has been shed. Shield not the murderer!" In the morning Campbell told the murderer that he could hold him no longer. "You have sworn on your dirk," was the reply; and the laird, compromised by leading the murderer to a cave in the mountains. The next night, as Campbell lay tossing in feverish slumbers, the ghost again appeared and repeated the weird warning. At daybreak he hastened to the cave, to find that the stranger had departed, but when as he strove in vain to sleep, the vision appeared once more, this time less stern, and said: "Farewell, Inverawe! Farewell to us meet at Ticonderoga!" Campbell remembered the strange name, and when, a few years later, as a member of the Black Watch, his regiment was ordered to the attack on Ticonderoga, in the war to take Canada, he was filled with horror, but his companions told him it was not Ticonderoga.

On the morning of the battle he was haggard, and told his fellow-

officers: "I have seen him! You have deceived me! He came to my tent last night! This is Ticonderoga! I shall die today!" Campbell was wounded in the battle and died in a few days.

"A Big Time Coming."

(Baltimore Sun)
Telephoning at sea becomes a reality as the result of installations on two of the ocean lines, which permit passengers to communicate verbally across the sea. The liveness of the sea is likely to become a myth. Anyone with special proclivities need wait only a few years for the privilege of continuous chatting across the Atlantic. Their friends on land will be connected to the seafarers through radio stations at the ocean's edge and the receiving station moves around, as on a ship at sea.

One thus gains a picture of a new earth and a new sea. Or if it is not a picture, it is a hint that the imagination can play with on the assumption that the possibility of radio transmission still remain for the most part unknown. Moving vessels and trains unhampered by fuel, factories operating on no charge for freight bills on coal, or for the cost of erecting and maintaining electric transmission lines, isolated farms and the most distant towns pulling power out of the air, airplane streams running like trackless and wireless trolleys, and over all a steady stream of conversation without the aid of wires and poles—that sort of happenings make a lot of difference to the way in which human beings live. There may even be almost no reason for living, but there may be difficulty in living at all. It would be a shock to find that they have done to your Ten Commandments.

have usually proceeded on the assumption that the earnings of prisoners should help pay for the upkeep of prisons, rather than for the upkeep of prisoners' homes. That system is all wrong. Those most entitled to the earnings of convicted men are the wives and children whom these men leave behind them in destitution when sentenced for offenses in which those suffering wives and children had no part.

Disarmament Still A Delusion

(Thrill Magazine)
Seven years after the war to end all wars, the powers of the world maintain, on a peace footing, at least 6,000,000 troops, and the total organized reserve forces in the world are 24,000,000. The armed nations today, because of their mechanical guns, new chemical laboratories and air craft, are more formidable in their equipment than before the catastrophe of 1914. The fleets of the world are stronger than in 1914. The air navies are being continually developed and expanded.

"A Conversation in Heaven."

(New York Times)
It sounds like a French invention, almost smacking of Cleopatra himself. At any rate, the story has been going the rounds on the Continent and has reached England. It is to the effect that President Wilson, traversing the golden streets of New Jerusalem, encountered no less a person than Moses. The following exchange then took place between the two: "You are Mr. Wilson, are you not?" "I am."

"Why do you look so young?" "I am very sorry for you." "Why so?" "Wherever you Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States?" "I was."

"I didn't see you issue the Fourteen Points for the settlement of the great war?" "I did."

"Well, I am sorry for you, because they have done such dreadful things to your Fourteen Points."

"For the matter of that, I should advise you to go back to the earth and see what they have done to your Ten Commandments."

Not Compulsory
(Boston Post)
There seems to have been considerable misunderstanding of the action of the Rhode Island police officials in relation to a 35-mile-an-hour speed for motor cars on country highways. It was at first given out and generally believed that the new regulations would make that rate of travel compulsory.

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Government Convention

A meeting of Ward Delegates will be held

Thursday, July 16

AT 8.30 P.M.

At Government Party Headquarters, 34-38 King street, for the purpose of selecting candidates to stand for election in the interest of the provincial government in the Constituency of the City of Saint John.

Premier Veniot will speak.

P. D. McAVITY, Vice-Chairman

894-7-17

IN LIGHTER VEIN

According to Uncle Ez.
"Hit appears," said Uncle Ezra, "that de opportunities of life am a heap like fish—hit am alius de bigger ones dat git away."

All His Own.
"Does your boy find his sums hard?" "Oh, no, the sums are easy enough, but his answers are too original to suit the teacher."

So There!
"Why did you break off your engagement?" "Oh, my dear, Jack became simply impossible. He criticized the way I dressed and objected to my friends, and always wanted me at his beck and call. Then on top of all that he suddenly went off and married another girl so I made up my mind to have nothing more to do with him."

Social Position Assured.
"I hope this expulsion of ours is going to injure us socially," remarked Eve ruefully.
"Oh, I think not," returned Ada calmly. "Nothing of the sort can prevent us from heading the list of first families, you know."

Antediluvian Joke.
"This is my busy day," said Noah to the reporter.
"Well, there is certainly a lot going on," returned the scribe as he watched the animals entering the Ark.

Eight Billions
(Louisville Courier-Journal.)
Eight billion dollars is the country's automobile bill for one year. Two billions were spent for new cars; the other six billion went into tires, repairs, gasoline and garage service. The initial cost isn't the whole difficulty of the pleasure car and there is one for every seven people. The International Chamber of Commerce gasped when the figures were presented at its conference in Brussels. It looked as if this Nation were "stealing on the gas," but at the same time eight billions were spent with dealers, garages and gasoline stations, savings bank deposits doubled, checking accounts, assets of building and loan associations and life insurance in force almost trebled. Motor transportation must have speeded up the production of wealth beyond the turnover of the motor industry.

Some Russian Proverbs.
Time does not bow to you, you must bow to time.
If all fools wore white caps we should look like a flock of sheep.
Trust in God, but mind your own business.
Measure thy cloth ten times, thou canst cut it but once.
A great head has great cares.
The greatest king must at last be put to bed with a shovel.
The burden is light on the shoulder of another.
Pray to God, but keep rowing to the shore.
The future belongs to him who knows how to wait.
Select your wife with your ears rather than with your eyes.
A woman laughs when she can, and cries when she wishes.
If you are afraid of the wolf, don't go into the forest.
Men carry their superiority inside, animals outside.
When money speaks, truth keeps silent.

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