

FOUR

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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 10 1909.

I. C. R. CLERKS.

For some years clerks employed in the St. John and Halifax freight offices of the I. C. R. have been endeavoring to secure better pay, and at the present time are carrying on a somewhat active campaign in this matter. Years ago it was the custom, when a clerk thought he deserved a few dollars extra, for him to apply through his immediate superior for the increase. The official to whom such applications were made reported on them to the management of the road and on the recommendations so handed in action was taken.

A little more than a year ago a number of clerks applied about the same time for increases, and were informed that the general manager's authority in this direction was somewhat restricted. These applications were, however, referred to the management at Ottawa and replies were received to the effect that clerks need not hope for any immediate increase, as the schedule then being paid was considered fair. On receipt of this information a movement was started to secure by other means what was apparently not forthcoming in response to individual applications. The freight clerks in St. John and Halifax formed a union, affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and being thus entitled to the benefits of the Lameux Act asked for a board of conciliation. This board was granted, although no dispute existed, and held sittings at Halifax. In the evidence presented the clerks submitted statements of the cost of living in St. John and Halifax, told of the increases of years and endeavored to show that the salaries paid were scarcely sufficient.

The board of conciliation recommended, among other things, that freight clerks at St. John and Halifax be granted generally fifteen per cent. more pay, but coupled with this in respect to freight clerks was overruled. That is, the finding of the board was that the staff should be reduced, but somewhat better wages paid. Since then the matter has been hanging fire. Hon. Mr. Graham in reply to a communication from the union, states that the matter of re-arranging the schedule is under consideration. There are many questions relative to the I. C. R. regarding which some uncertainty as to the future policy exists, but as the government railway is now reaching a point where radical changes in the whole method of administration must be made, it is only reasonable to suppose that the application on the part of the clerks is to be treated on the same basis as other requests of a similar nature, and that it will be dealt with in the general system of reorganization now contemplated.

GENERAL BOOTH.

Salvationists through the civilized and portions of the uncivilized world—today celebrate the birthday of their great leader. General Booth is a wonderful old man, he has been a wonderful man for the longer part of his life, but even with the burden of age upon him, he apparently still exercises that determined activity, that originality of leadership which have enabled him to create the most effective reform organization in the world today. At the age of eighty a man does not usually calculate on many more years of energy, but General Booth has no thought of death. It is a matter which has never caused him the slightest anxiety. His desire is to live the right life, and to teach others to do the same. In this latter effort he has achieved notable success, and his name is held among those of the greatest of his generation.

There are rumors of still more civic candidates and indications that a few of the weaker men now in the field will drop out before nomination day. In several wards, it is now believed, three covered fights will be carried on. This seems a waste of men, but when there is absolutely no organization among citizens such situations must be expected. The individual element now governs the contest, as all tickets have been dropped. May the best men win.

Dr. Daniel, M. P., in an interview in today's Standard, declares that the opposition has "been wonderfully strengthened both in numbers and debating ability," as a result of the recent general election. Perhaps Dr. Daniel will explain who compose the wonderful increase in numbers. Certainly the results of the elections did not seem to indicate any such change.

Talk about elections! The contest in Newfoundland on May 8th promises to be one of the most exciting in history.

Dr. Fugate will welcome further investigation into the case of the Central Railway. Has Mr. Hasen the decency to authorize a full and fair enquiry?

THINGS JAPANESE.

Japan's budget for 1909 provides a total taxation of 200,311,132 yen. The principal items are, in yen: Land tax, \$5,488,397; sake tax, \$1,523,810; customs duties, 47,239,721; income tax, 25,729,885; business tax, 23,057,792; and textile fabrics consumed, 19,462,194; tax on sugar consumed, 17,098,516. In addition the profit of the Monopoly Bureau will be \$4,281,983 yen.

By subsidizing Japan encourages ship navigation, shipbuilding, agriculture, banking, waterworks, harbor works, preservation of old shrines and temples, sewage and sanitary works, education of settlers, deep sea fishing, colonization, technology, sugar manufacture, mulberry farming and other lines of effort.

Formosa's civil administration budget for 1909 calls for an expenditure of \$2,234,640 yen, with a revenue of \$2,254,449 yen.

On December 31, 1908, Japan's outstanding national debts (domestic and foreign) amounted to 2,214,597,272 yen, a decrease during the month of 26,622,533 yen.

Japan's currency in circulation on December 31, 1908, was 593,399,746 yen, consisting of 150,645,474 in specie and 442,754,272 in convertible notes.

During December, 1908, the Tokyo bank clearing house did a business of \$2,000,000 yen, an increase of \$11,123 yen over December, 1907.

Postal banks in Japan had on December 31, 1908, 8,020,450 depositors, with 104,483,567 yen to their credit.

Dividends paid by various companies ranged from 4 to 35 per cent. The excess of imports over exports was \$8,020,036 yen. Raw cotton led in imports and raw silk in exports, being \$9,000,000 yen and \$108,000,000 yen respectively. The imports included machinery worth \$4,000,000 yen, and petroleum \$5,000,000 yen. Other chief imports were rice, beans, sugar, wool, flax, hemp, oil cake and iron bars and rails.

In its mercantile marine Japan has 1,613 steamships, of 1,153,340 aggregate tonnage; 4,615 sailing vessels, of 572,219 aggregate tonnage; and 1,320 Japanese "ships of the old style," of 111,462 aggregate tonnage; in all, 7,523 ships, of 2,037,111 aggregate tonnage. Japan is selling coal to China to the value of 7,000,000 yen (\$500,000) a year, fully three-fourths of all the coal China imports.

The big vessels for use in the Pacific trade are now being built at the Mitsubishi dockyards for the Oriental Steamship Company. One is of 15,000 tons and two of 8,500 tons each.

Shipbuilding at the Japanese yards generally is at a very low ebb. Many workmen have been laid off. Attention is being turned to making machinery and boilers.

In forty years (1868 to 1908) Japan's foreign trade has increased from 300,000 yen to \$14,000,000 yen.

"A man about town, as near as I can figure it out," remarked Uncle Goshall Hemlock, "is a fellow who wants to loaf around from his pocket. Ain't that right, take up a place with the solid citizens every evening in the grocery?"

"Why have we stopped, captain?" "On account of the fog, madam."

"Oh! but my dear captain—surely not! Look! It's perfectly clear up above."

"Yes, madam—but we're not going that way, unless the boiler bursts!"

Briggs. "In a doubtful conversational rule. When in doubt talk of the weather."

Griggs. "Safe nothing! I met my tailor yesterday, and on my speak of the weather he replied: 'Yes, it is unsettled, and that reminds me of that little bill of yours.'"

Innocent Magistrate. Officer, why did you bring this prisoner up before me? Can't you see he's as deaf as a door nail?"

Policeman.—"Oh was told you'd give him a hearing, sir!"

Taft Scores for the Philippine Islands  
Tariff Bill Amended to Allow Free Entry of 300,000 Tons of Their Sugar Per Annum.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—President Taft has won a signal victory for the Philippine Islands in the acceptance by the Senate committee on finance late tonight of the provision of the Payne bill for the free admission of 300,000 gross tons annually of Philippine sugar. This decision was reached after the subcommittee considering the sugar schedule had taken to the White House Charles B. Warren, President of the Michigan Sugar Company, and had confirmed an agreement between Mr. Taft and Mr. Warren, made in this city last fall while the president-elect was a guest at the Boardman residence.

SATURDAY SERMONETTE

CONCEIT.

I want to sing the praises of the conceited boy and man. He is generally persecuted, I am going to defend him.

"Gie us a quite conceit o' ourselves," is a good prayer, "let us pray: 'What man who went through boyhood, young manhood, and down to old age, blushing, stammering, understanding himself, deprecating himself, will not join in the prayer and heartily say amen.'"

Some children are taught that bashfulness is a virtue and confidence—a proper confidence—is a vice.

"Let not a man think more highly himself than he ought to think." But let him not think more humbly of himself than he ought to think.

The boys who were called conceited because they were not cowed with self-consciousness which was wrongly called modesty, but which is the worst kind of egotism, are the boys who are going to do something in this world.

The boys of whom it is said "they have no conceit at all" are the boys who will never plough a farm straight, because they think they never will.

Self-depreciation is not a virtue, it is almost a sin.

I like the thought of Editor Dawson of the Standard that "Canada is not a slight, delicate sentimental young lady, but a young stout with a iron face, eyes that see as far into a brick wall as any in the world, and an arm like a platoon of a steam hammer."

Canada has been too "humble." If she had more "conceit," and gone through her hundred years with the thought "I will be a great nation some day, and the day is not far away," it would have been better for her and for the world.

I wish our Canada had a conceited boy, what a strong self-reliant young giant he would be today, trying to get a glimpse of his steady eye and a lifting of his strong shoulders. "Yes, mother, stand at my back and hold me fast," and I can build my ship and man them with men who will fight if the need comes—as all the "North-men" have fought!

We want to breed what are called "conceited boys," but are really the making of men who will say, "We can and we will!"

The men who have built our C. P. Railway and Grand Trunk and our colonial, and the army of strong men who control them, were all called conceited boys.

All the inventors and discoverers from Watts to Edison and Marconi, were called conceited.

Every boy and man who has ambitions are called conceited. Every boy who has aspirations after higher things, especially if he is a poor boy, is called conceited by a goodly number of poor judges of boys, and the meaning of words.

Saving boys, assertive boys and conceited boys—do you use the word conceited properly—are foolish boys who will never amount to much. But the boy who has not courage, self-reliance, and a proper belief in his own powers, is a lame duck and is as if he were incompetent.

Grady, supported by a company as versatile as themselves, offered some 20 years of age, dark haired and with a black moustache. The landlady declared that she did not notice that three arrived and only two left. On leaving, Romanoff gave up the key of the room, saying that he was going in a few days with his friend at Flumindio.

The supper had not been finished, the wine was eaten during the following days by the servant. Two glasses of wine had been poured from the bottle. The body was in perfect state of preservation, the face only being of a mottled hue.

HOW OUR ANCESTORS DRESS UP.  
Once gentlemen—worn sword belts and gaiters. These have disappeared, but their ghosts still guide all tall, rickety sewed upon each cut and two others at the back of the frock coats of all afternoon males.

Bonaparte about 1753 a hatter named John Hetherington of London made and wore the first tall hat, now known as the silk full dress, plume or stovepipe hat. A horse saw him and ran away. The owner of the horse, Hetherington, but lost his case, the judge doubtless holding that an Englishman has an inalienable right to dress as ugly as he can. One time there was a king who had a deformed knee. He abandoned the knickerbockers which revealed the weakness of the royal leg and took to long trousers. Hetherington and the king have long since gone to their reward, but their shoes still ride civilized men, one at one end and one at the other, from Paris to Tokyo, and Lord 'a' mercy, we haven't even laugh at the spectacle.

—Frank Crane in Atlantic.

POWER OF THE WILL.  
"I've just been reading about the power of the will. It's a wonderful thing."

"Yes, I know of a will that makes seven children and thirty-two grandchildren behave"—Puck.

"It's an ill cock cannot lick his own fingers"—Shakespeare.

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Saturday April 10 1909  
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POWDER EXPLOSION DOES

TREMENDOUS DAMAGE

Plant Completely Destroyed and Many Houses Wrecked—One Killed and Over Seventy Five Injured.

WAYNE, N. J., April 9.—More than 50,000 pounds of government powder exploded today at the Dupont black powder mills here, instantly killing one workman, Jerome Marsh, seriously injuring two other men and slightly injuring about 75 other employees. The eight buildings of the plant were completely destroyed while houses were wrecked in all parts of the surrounding country.

GOVERNOR TILLEY IS

GROWING WEAKER

HARTFORD, Conn., April 9.—That Governor George L. Tilley who is ill at the executive mansion here is gradually growing weaker, was manifested by the statements issued during the day and tonight by his physicians. Later yesterday afternoon the governor began to grow restless, a condition that continued during the night.

Tonight Dr. Graves stated that the governor's condition had not improved over that of this morning and that he was gradually growing weaker.

BILLIE RHODES WITH FRANKIE CARPENTER COMPANY.

There will be no mistaking the hearty welcome Frankie Carpenter, the charming favorite, will receive at the Opera House Easter Monday, when she and the inimitable comedian, Jere

Grady, supported by a company as versatile as themselves, offered some 20 years of age, dark haired and with a black moustache. The landlady declared that she did not notice that three arrived and only two left. On leaving, Romanoff gave up the key of the room, saying that he was going in a few days with his friend at Flumindio.

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TEA AND CONCERT IN BRUSSELS ST. CHURCH

The annual tea and concert given by the ladies of Brussels street church will be held on Tuesday evening, April 13. Supper will be served in the schoolroom of the church from 6 to 7:30 p. m., and a high class concert will be provided in the main auditorium commencing at eight o'clock. The decorations will be appropriate for the Easter season. The ladies in charge of the tables will be as follows:

Miss Taylor, Mrs. Frank Alwood, Mrs. Hoyt, Mrs. Kimball, Jr., Mrs. Kimball, Sr., Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Fred Brown, Mrs. J. Golding, Jr., Miss Titus and Miss Rice.

Mrs. Pales Mrs. Cohoe, Mrs. B. A. Stammers, Mrs. McFarland, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Hour, Mrs. Scribner, Mrs. Geo. Colwell, Miss Elliott, Miss Annie Smith, Miss H. Bettie, Miss M. Bettie and Miss E. H. Brown.

Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. L. Belyea, Mrs. Vail, Mrs. Walter, H. Golding, Mrs. W. E. Homer, Mrs. Fred Tutts, Mrs. G. Hatfield, Mrs. Harry Peters, Mrs. H. T. Worden and Mrs. Charlie Jackson.

Mrs. A. H. Chipman, Mrs. C. J. Stammers, Mrs. Z. Alwood, Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Genter, Miss Emma Smith, Miss Maud Stillwell, Miss McLean and Miss Nellie Keith.

Mrs. T. M. Belyea will have charge of the tea and coffee.

LONDON AS A MUSICIAN.  
Jack London, the author, was introduced one day to a musician.

"I, too, am a musician in a small way," London said. "My musical talent was once the means of saving my life."

"How was that?" the musician asked.

"There was a great flood in our town in my boyhood," responded London. "When the water struck our house my father got on a bed and floated with the stream until he was rescued."

"And you?" said the musician.

"I accompanied him on the piano."

BODY OF YOUNG MAN

FOUND IN A TRUNK

Believed to Have Been Victim of Russian Revolutionary Society.

Story of a Supper—Victim Poisoned by Prussic Acid, is the Opinion of an Expert.

ROME, April 10.—The discovery of the body of a young Russian in a trunk left in a garret of the Via Frattina has created the deepest excitement. The body lay undiscovered for February 28 until this week.

It is considered certain that it is a case of vengeance by Russian revolutionaries on a traitor or a spy, but the suggestion that the corpse is that of Aseff, the notorious "revolutionary" agent of the Russian secret police, is discarded, since the body is that of a young man, while Aseff is middle aged.

The victim is not yet identified. It is not even definitely ascertained that he was of Russian nationality, for his gravat and collar bear the name of a firm at Cracow (Austrian Poland). Nearly all the Russian and Polish consuls in Rome have been required to inspect the corpse, but no one has recognized it.

THE VICTIM POISONED.

An expert examination has established the fact that the victim was poisoned by prussic acid. The poison hindered the decomposition of the body, which was found to have no wounds of any kind.

The landlady states that on February 25 a person of some 45 years of age hired the room. The following day he called at the boarding house. He used to make long excursions through the city, and he seemed to be very friendly to the landlady. He was leaving for Flumindio, near Rome.

The lodger spoke German with the serving maid, who is a German. He said his name was Vladimir Frank. On February 25 the trunk was carried in by a coachman.

NAMED ROMANOFF.  
Later details show that the lodger's name was Romanoff. On February 24 he called at the boarding house in the Via Frattina which is almost exclusively frequented by Germans.

On the morning of February 25 he sent for a trunk. Toward noon on the same day he was visited by two friends. On the evening of the following day he ordered a supper, consisting of ham, cheese and wine. At 8 o'clock he returned with a friend. They left shortly afterward to fetch another young man.

At 8 o'clock Romanoff again went out with another young man, some 20 years of age, dark haired and with a black moustache. The landlady declares that she did not notice that three arrived and only two left. On leaving, Romanoff gave up the key of the room, saying that he was going in a few days with his friend at Flumindio.

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FIVE ESCAPE FROM

NAVAL PRISON

Sawed Through Bars of Window and Dropped Three Stories to the Ground.

BOSTON, Mass., April 9.—Five men made their escape from the naval prison at Charlestown tonight by sawing the bars of a window and dropping to the ground from the third story of the building. They are James J. Fitzgerald, who was serving a sentence of ten years for fraudulent enlistment; John J. Grogan, Harry C. Webster, Thomas McGarvey and George Ross, all of whom are said to have been serving sentences for desertion varying from six months to two years.

An armed guard from the navy yard went through all the saloons in the vicinity of the yard as soon as the escape was discovered, and the police of this city, Chelsea and Everett were notified, but at a late hour no report of the fugitives had come in.

THE DANUBE RIVER

GIVES UP ITS DEAD

Body of Young American Student Who Disappeared Last Month Found

VIENNA, April 9.—The body of Oly- or Bray, an American student of medicine, who disappeared last month and for whom diligent search has been made, was taken from the Danube today. It is said at the time of his disappearance that young Bray was suffering from a serious nervous disorder. He was the son of a manufacturer living at Industry, Pa.

HUGO'S GALLANTRY TO A YOUNG GIRL.

During the latter years of his long life Victor Hugo was very fond of surveying mankind from the vantage ground of the top of an omnibus. He used to make long excursions through the city perched on the top of the omnibus, which he seemed to prefer to any other vehicle. An amusing and characteristic anecdote of the great poet, who was most courteous and attentive to the better looking sex, is related by the Paris papers. One day as he was enjoying a ride under these conditions a fascinating young woman climbed up to the summit of the tram car on which he happened to be the only next to him. He used to take possession of it when a sudden jolt sent her first into Victor Hugo's lap. As soon as she had recovered herself the pretty girl turned to the poet and, her fair cheeks suffused with crimson, said: "I beg pardon, monsieur." "And I?" he replied gallantly, "thank you, made-moiselle."—Paris Figaro.

A SLIGHT.