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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1920

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 26, 1920.

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THOSE RECOUNTS

The Standard says: "The application for a recount is nothing but a put-up job to irritate and annoy Mr. Baxter."

This is wholly untrue. Mr. Bentley believes he got a majority of votes in St. John county and should be declared elected. In asking for a recount he is exercising his rights.

But what of the recount in the city? Did Mr. Tilley ask for it? Not at all. Mr. Tilley, who is the candidate personally concerned, did not want a recount. Nor did the other candidates.

It is the opposition leader who took this course, presumably in the hope that Mr. Bentley would reconsider. The Standard has grossly misrepresented the case. In one case a candidate demands a recount because he believes he was elected. In the other the candidates did not desire a recount, but one was demanded at the behest of the opposition leader, upon whom the responsibility must rest.

NO IMPORTATION

Nova Scotia and the three prairie provinces have spoken. They have said that when they declared for prohibition they wanted it—and they propose to have it. So long as liquor could be imported legally into any of these provinces they could not enforce the dry law. That importation will now be stopped. Through cowardice the federal parliament passed the bill to the provinces, and because of that there has been delay, and we have had Quebec flooding the market with liquor. So far as the four provinces which voted yesterday are concerned that will now be stopped, and the like will doubtless occur when Ontario and New Brunswick take the vote. British Columbia has not voted on the question of importation, and as its legislature has dissolved the whole question is still in an unsettled state in that province. The prospect is, however, that before another year passes the province of Quebec may occupy a lonely and not at all enviable position in relation to the liquor traffic. Its wines and beers make the cities practically wide open, and conditions in the city of Montreal today are very far from being creditable to the province. This is the testimony of every visitor who is not dominated by a thirst, or is not a misguided fanatic on the subject of personal liberty. In New Brunswick today the prohibitory law, which the people by a popular vote declared they wanted, can not be properly enforced because liquor can be imported legally in large quantities from Quebec. The like is true in Ontario. These two provinces must follow the example set yesterday by Nova Scotia and the west.

PRODUCTION AND PRICES

The monthly letter of the Canadian Bank of Commerce gives an admirable summary of the present situation in regard to industry, labor, and commodity prices. It says:

"In practically all business centres in Canada a condition is developing in which labor has to be employed whereas from the beginning of the late war the present tension of the supply of labor has not been equal to the demand. Employers are now in a much better position to adjust their labor forces so as to obtain more efficiency, and the effect of this has been in evidence for some time past. On the other hand, there has been marked diminution in the demand for many classes of commodities. These two tendencies—the one towards greater efficiency in production, and the other towards more careful purchasing—will accentuate the trend towards lower prices. In the absence of any marked changes in wage schedules, however, and with only a slight surplus of labor on the market, it would appear that the decline in prices cannot be rapid."

It has been asserted in behalf of labor that no reduction in wages would be agreed to, but in the New England textile mills, when confronted by the alternative of a decline in wages or no wages at all, because the plants could not be operated, a reduction was agreed to and the mills are busy. But even where wages are not reduced there can be an adjustment of the labor forces so that production will be increased, and that is equivalent to a lower scale of wages when the whole output is considered. The thing that Mr. Lloyd George is insisting upon is that if the miners get more pay they must produce more coal. In regard to industrial conditions in Canada, the tendency is now toward increased production, and this in turn will have its effect upon prices, the more so that the people are purchasing more carefully than for some years past. Expectation of a sharp general decline in prices is not justified.

The refiners have reduced the price of sugar to seventeen cents. The retail price must now come down and as one sugar company is quoting sixteen cents there is a prospect of further decline in the wholesale price. If the sugar now held in immense quantities on a falling market had been offered some months ago at a reasonable figure the refiners would have fared better.

OUR FOREST WEALTH

Canada's domestic exports for the twelve months ending in August were valued at \$1,219,223,896. Of this amount nearly 22 per cent, or \$267,480,144, was represented by wood, pulp and paper, exported chiefly to the United States. The exports of wood pulp increased 10 per cent, and of paper 15 per cent, in twelve months. The growth is likely to continue. When there is added to the export of forest products the annual forest wastage due to fire and other causes, the question arises: How long can the country stand the drain? Sooner or later, unless there is a very judicious regulation of cutting, and a system of replanting, the growing scarcity of lumber and pulpwood will seriously affect prices and in the case of certain lands it will deprive provinces of a very profitable source of revenue. The Dominion Forestry Branch points out that so long as forest products are comparatively cheap there will be no extraordinary effort to protect and develop them, and herein lies the danger. With a growing export demand, which may be expected despite the present overstocked market, the chances are that the source of supply from year to year will be steadily diminished, until scarcity and high prices arouse the government to a sense of the necessity for a more careful policy. New Brunswick is as yet in a very favorable position, but the conservation policy of the government will need to be continued and perhaps made more restrictive as time goes on. Heavy exports, at the expense of future industry and profit, are not wise economy, and constant vigilance and careful stock-taking must mark the policy of the province.

The wets were in a majority yesterday in Halifax, Windsor, and a few other large centres—but not in all. We would expect a large wet vote in Winnipeg, where the radical foreign element is strong. On the other hand, in Cape Breton, where it was predicted the wets would have a majority, the workingmen voted up a majority in favor of a bonny province. Their feeling was expressed by Secretary J. B. McLachlan of the U. M. W. when he said: "I hate the liquor traffic with a whole-hearted hatred, because I have seen it used over and over again to dash the hopes of working men when they were on the eve of doing something for themselves."

The St. John Boys' Club, with a trained director in charge, was opened last evening for the season. More than a hundred boys were there. Soon there will be two hundred. With only one large hall and a tiny reading or class room, it is necessary to do many things on the one floor, but the arrangement has been greatly improved, with more equipment, and there will be more to interest the boys than in any former season. To hear that hundred voices joined in the choruses of popular songs, followed by recitations, chess, would put the musical director of the Rotary Club on his mettle. The citizens should have a kindly interest in the Boys' Club, the only one of its kind in the city.

Toronto Globe: "It is much easier for the bootleggers to carry on their wretched business when a wet and a dry area are contiguous than if liquor has to be transported over a long stretch of dry territory. The situation is a fresh challenge to the prohibitionists of Ontario. They must do more than maintain the ground they have won. The campaign which was under way in this province when Ottawa gave the liquor traffic a reprieve should be revived in full vigor without loss of time. The trade has now two points of vantage—Quebec and British Columbia—and it is becoming aggressive again. It must be fought to a finish."

It is a cold couple M. Leon Bourgeois, president of the Council of the League of Nations, gives to Uncle Sam, when he says Article X. is not considered in Europe as a vital and essential element of the covenant. In the United States they have been fighting over Article X. as if it were the whole covenant.

King Alexander of Greece is dead. He was king only in name, for Venizelos is the ruling spirit in that country. There have been rumors of an agitation in favor of a republic, in the event of the king's death, and the news of the next few weeks will be scanned with great interest.

Since there is to be no Boston steamship service this winter it should be possible to make such a rearrangement as would afford ocean steamers a larger space at east side wharves, and so use the C. N. R. elevator to better advantage.

President Hanna reaffirms the decision that railway men cannot hold their positions and at the same time seek provincial or federal honors in politics. Railway men in Winnipeg say they will resist the ruling.

They Seldom Can

"I can't see why a man like Tomkins ever picked out that woman for a wife." "He told me why one time. He said market was fine only woman he ever ran across who could get all the core out of an apple before she cooked it."



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THOSE PRICES

The price of silks and motor cars has reached a lower spot; but necessities, like eggs, still cost a frightful lot. The price of many silken duds is lower, I admit, but when I price a peck of spuds I straightaway have a fit. I could exist without a hat all trimmed with costly lace; but I must have some bacon fat to feed my haggard face. Expensive hats have slumped, they say, but bacon does not fall, and so I bash my head-piece gray against the kitchen wall. The price has slumped on linens, which ought to soothe my soul; but when I buy a can of beans I get the back from other settlements. After a while the price has declined; the doodads worn by gilded loons cost less, if loons will buy; but oh, my friends, the poor man's prunes are still too beastly high. Don't think the profiteers are dead because some price shrinks; still, still they clutch on in our bread on all we eat and drink. Until this profiteering stops, the situation's blue; we can't afford to buy the hops and raisins when we'd brew.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

PHILIP WRIGHT.

Philomen Wright, the father of the Ottawa, was a native of the United States, where he was born in 1850. At the age of forty years he came to Canada and ascended the River Ottawa in search of land which he thought would be suitable for farming. Finally after heroic endeavors he reached a point about sixty miles back from other settlements. After a great many delays and long trouble he secured the right to survey and settle the township of Hull, the county of Ottawa. When this was accomplished, he set to work with great zeal, being rewarded in a few years by seeing a thriving settlement spring into existence. Not satisfied with the quality of live stock that the pioneers possessed, he imported from England at much expense pure blooded animals and made them available for the others who lived in the community. He was the projector, too, of some of the chief improvements upon the Ottawa river. His memory is preserved in the thriving town of Hull, which among the older settlers is more frequently called Wrighttown. This place he founded and he lived to see it reach considerable commercial importance. At the present time it is virtually a part of the capital of Canada, and in itself one of the thriving industrial centres of the Dominion. The district here first saw in the wild, wooded state, which has been developed with the passing of the century, that today it is covered with farm homes and comfortable villages in which live a happy and prosperous people.

HARVEST TIME

Pillowed and hushed on the silent plain, Wrapped in her mantle of golden grain. Wreathed of pleasing weeds away, Summer is lying asleep today.

Where winds come sweet from the wild And the smoke of the far-off prairie fires, Yellow her hair as the golden rod, And brown her cheeks as the prairie rose.

Purple her eyes as the mist that dream At the edge of some laggard sun-drown'd stream; But over their depths the lashes sweep, For summer is lying today asleep.

The north wind kisses her rosy mouth, His rival frowns in the far-off south, And comes caressing her sunburnt cheek, And summer awakes for one short week.

Awakes and gathers her wealth of grain, Then sleeps and dreams for a year again. —E. Pauline Johnson.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

A Hard Lesson

"What's become of that girl who married on a bet?" "She is now earnestly engaged in a movement against gambling—Boston Transcript.

Not a Matter of Relief

"Music bespeaks a universal language," said the enthusiast. "I have heard so," replied Mr. Currox. "But judging by the programmes, the words of a universal language are just as hard to spell and pronounce as any other."—Washington Star.

Paw Knows

Willie—Paw, what is the man of the hour? Paw—Any man whose wife tells him to wait and she'll be ready in a minute, my son.

Maud—Willie, you put that book away and get to bed.—Knoxville Journal and Tribune.

Old and New Methods

"Happiness," said Jud Tunkins, "has to be cranked up, but trouble always has a self-starter."—Washington Star.

The Truth

Sybil—"Did you tell him the truth when he asked you how old you were?" Sophia—"Oh, yes!" "What did you say?" "That it was none of his business!"

The One Master

"He's boasting that he is master in his own house." "Must be a widower without children."—

Suspicious

Maud Miller was asking the boy, "I wonder if he is paying me attention for a farmer's vote or a woman's vote?" she mused. Sun and New York Herald.

Or a "Situation"

When a statesman runs into a brick wall and sees no way to get over or under he emits a few sharp yelps and calls it a crisis.—Baltimore Sun.

A Fresh Start

"Jack's married." "Got through sowing his wild oats, eh?" "No, he's already started a new crop with his wife's money."—Boston Transcript.

Self-Reliant

"You seem very proud of your new son-in-law?" "I am. He's been in the family three months now and so far hasn't asked me to get a better job for him."

HON. MR. DUGAL

(Frederickton Mail.)

It is generally conceded that Hon. L. A. Dugal of Nova Scotia who yesterday retired from the provincial cabinet, has rendered good service to the province. Hon. Mr. Dugal was first elected to the legislature in 1912, being one of only two members returned in opposition to the Fleming government. Handicapped as he was by a lack of knowledge of the English language, he was constantly at his post and kept a careful eye on the work of the administration. During the session of 1914, he preferred grave charges against Premier Fleming from his place in the house, which charges he was able to establish before a royal commission named by the government. His finding made by the royal commission resulted in the withdrawal of Premier Fleming from public life, and the taking of a sabbatical leave of absence. Mr. Dugal has been a member of the Foster government without portfolio since its formation on April 4, 1917. A man of pleasing personality and sound judgment and unimpeachable honor, he was held in the highest esteem by his colleagues in the government. His relations with them were always of the most cordial nature, and his retirement which has been brought about by pressure of private business, is deeply regretted by one and all of them. Hon. Mr. Dugal is still a comparatively young man and it is to be hoped that some time in the near future the province will be able to avail itself of his valuable services.

THOMAS E. WILSON

Thomas E. Wilson was born in London, Ontario, of Scotch-English parents. He is forty-two years old. He was a school boy and it was in that big city that he finished his meagre education. Then he moved to Chicago when he was a school boy and it was in that big city that he finished his meagre education. Then he moved to Chicago when he was a school boy and it was in that big city that he finished his meagre education. Then he moved to Chicago when he was a school boy and it was in that big city that he finished his meagre education.

One day Nelson Morris & Co., the Chicago packers, asked the chief clerk of the Burlington Railway to send him a young fellow to keep tab on their refrigerator and other cars. He selected the young fellow to keep tab on their refrigerator and other cars. He selected the young fellow to keep tab on their refrigerator and other cars. He selected the young fellow to keep tab on their refrigerator and other cars.

"Will you let me go out and look it over?" asked a fifteen-year-old youth who had had only one year's experience. His superior assented.

Off he went to the stockyards. "I found," he said, describing his visit, "that conditions at the stockyards were not exactly pleasant. When I got there you found the plank roads floating in the mud, which had a knack of squirting up the legs of your pants. If you stepped from one plank to another, everything was rough and crude and uninviting, quite different from the clean and sanitary conditions of today."

"Inside Morris & Co's office the employees were so crowded and huddled together that they appeared to be working on top of one another—a great contrast from our handsome C. B. & Q. quarters. "But there was no lack of business. It looked as if a fellow could find a lot to do. I thought I could see an opportunity for a fellow willing to work and to stay by the proposition. The prospects appeared to me so I accepted the job at \$100 a month. Lewis getting only \$40 a month from the railroad."

That was one day in 1918. One morning in the summer of 1919—the 21st of July—Americans woke to find the name "Wilson & Co., successors to Salsberger & Sons Co." blazoned in bold type in every newspaper, in subway, surface and elevated cars, on thousands of bill boards, and on hundreds of meat establishments throughout the country.

"Who is Wilson?" everybody asked. The public was curious to know who this could be, this man whose name overnight had displaced that of a great concern which had been a household word and whose products had been familiar to every American home for sixty years. Surely he must be a man of no ordinary reputation and attainment. What had he done to obtain such distinction?

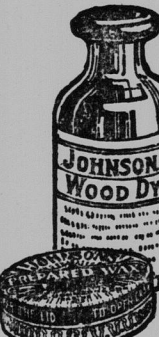
The man was the penniless clerk who was not afraid of the stockyard and its hard work. That was Thomas E. Wilson. His latest achievement is the best establishment of a sporting goods business doing a nation-wide trade.

At the convention of the Investment Bankers' Association of America in Boston, Mr. Wilson delivered a striking address on the present situation in industry.

HOMES FOR TEACHERS.

The Minister of Education for Alberta strongly believes that teachers should be provided with homes at public expense. In Alberta the rural school section supplies a five acre plot and a house. The Government pays one-third of the cost and the section supplies the balance. This is the second year of the plan and already 50 teachers' homes have been completed or are in the course of construction. This increases the demand for married teachers and tends to security of tenure in one's position. As the average salary of the rural teacher in Alberta is \$1200, it can be seen that the Prairie Province is making a real effort to overcome the shortage of teachers. The Hon. Dr. Smith is intensely interested in the rural school, and hopes to see every school adequately staffed.

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WORLD'S COAL SHORTAGE

While we in this country (England) have looked forward with dismay to the possibility of a coal miners' strike, knowing the havoc it would play with industries and with the public convenience and comfort here, it is doubtful if we have generally realized what it would mean to the rest of the world, and particularly to the continent. Even without a strike, there is a great coal shortage which prevents the war-stricken countries from recovering as fast as they otherwise would and as they need to do before our own trade can become satisfactory. American writers, we notice, estimate the coal deficit of the countries which have inadequate local supplies at 88,000,000 tons a year, after allowing for the deliveries which Germany is required by the peace treaty to make to France, Italy and Belgium. Apart from those deliveries, the total is 112,000,000 tons. The peace treaty requires that Italy's twelve, Holland's ten, Poland's seven, Argentina's four, and Denmark's three million tons each. If our output were on the pre-war scale, which enabled us to send over 72,000,000 tons of coal, besides coke and manufactured fuel, in 1918, we could meet a big part of this deficiency. At present we are only exporting at the rate of about 22,000,000 tons a year. Apart from the hardships we are inflicting upon others or at any rate doing little to prevent, we are depriving ourselves of a trade worth over 220,000,000 tons of present prices, losing all the profits which shipping would get from it, and even causing our food imports to be dearer, because the ships which bring them have often to go out in ballast when they might be carrying coal. It is a sorry story.—Manchester Guardian Commercial.

GRAIN DUST EXPLOSION

Usually the public is skeptical about spontaneous combustion as the cause of a fire or explosion. But scientists say there is no doubt that recent explosions in flour and grain mills are due in most cases to spontaneous combustion.

U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Meredith, deploring the action of congress in allocating an appropriation for the Bureau of Chemistry, said in a recent speech: "There used to be, every now and then, a mysterious explosion in a grain elevator or a mill. A great deal of property was destroyed and many lives were lost. The Bureau of Chemistry discovered that there were explosions of grain dust and began a crusade of preventing such explosions by education. For a year and a half after that crusade was begun there was not a single explosion in mills reached by our men that resulted in the loss of human life and none in which the property loss was of any consequence."

In spite of that refusal of life and property congress refused last year to make any appropriation for continuing the work. However, the Grain Corporation of the United States Food Administration recognized its value, and as an insurance measure for the protection of government stored grain, financed the work until a few months ago, when the Grain Corporation ceased operations."

PURGING THE LANGUAGE

(Ottawa Journal.)

The so-called split infinitive has been shunned so much and those who employ it in newspaper and other writings have been called to account so often that it must be a relief to many to find the word "rules" based, not on principle, but merely on what has come to be considered as "correct usage." It is such tyrannical "rules" that have been the cause of the "pedantic conservatism" that would bar the split infinitive from the language.

FARM UNDER A HAT

"The farmer must be educated to be the intellectual peer of any man," says Wm. G. Smith of Minnesota, "and so he must be taught successfully those systems that absorb too much of his profits." A bright young boy once said he had a farm which was exempt from taxation, and was subject to execution, and equal in value to any other of three times the area. "Where is your farm?" he was asked. "Under a hat!"



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