

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 23, 1922.

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WHERE MILLIONS STARVE

Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, who has done such valuable work in relieving the suffering in the famine districts of Russia, has made another spirited appeal for further assistance. The situation is unutterably pitiful, he says, particularly in the Volga district where the famine is "beyond all doubt the most appalling that has ever happened in the recorded history of man." Twenty million people have been affected in the famine area, and a very large number of them have already starved to death.

Dr. Nansen explains that unless the peasants can sow their crops next month there will be more starvation next winter. He wants the world to know the truth, "In one Samara province," he says, "there is a graveyard to which the dead are brought in cartloads, stripped naked because the living cannot afford to bury clothes. A man stands at the head of the cart and a man at the tail, and they pitch the bodies out on the ground. The snow mercifully covers the ghastly forms, which look more horrible for a remaining semblance of humanity. They lie in piles for a time and then a communal grave is dug and they are piled in. A grave digger was asked how many folk he buried a day. He replied that he did not know." The angel of death has been striding fast across the snow-covered Volga plains Dr. Nansen says, and has reaped there a mightier harvest than was yielded to him even by the war.

Following closely on Dr. Nansen's latest appeal comes a report from Moscow that with the food supplies that are being rushed to the famine areas the worst phase of the situation will be passed by the middle of April. This does not mean that the famine will be ended, but merely that conditions will be somewhat improved. It must be remembered that the peasants cannot look to the Moscow government for the seed which must be sown soon if Soviet Russia is not to experience another winter of starvation and death, but that their hope lies in help from foreign lands. Last year the farmer found the results of his crops were uncertain and he planted no more than would provide for his family. Moreover, the large estates where modern agricultural methods were employed were allotted to communist adherents who did practically nothing towards raising any kind of crop. To complete the failure the railroad system was disorganized, making it impossible to transport grain to the cities of the north and the more seriously affected famine districts. As the transportation system under the Soviet rule was completely broken down, Russia would not have escaped the famine even had the acreage been increased in 1921 and had the country not suffered from drought.

When the terrible suffering of the Russian people was discussed with Tolstoy during the famine period several years ago, he said: "The sufferers are like a great good natured boy who tries to smile in his tribulation because he is inspired by the faith that in the end all will come out well." That appears to be characteristic of the people today, according to those who are in close touch with the situation. When the Russian peasant recovers his strength it is to be hoped that he will find the power to relieve himself of the heavy burdens the bloodthirsty rascals at Moscow have placed upon him. It is no secret that Lenin and Trotsky are having their own troubles. They have given up their hold on Northern Russia, and their government has retired from the Caucasus as a result of the spirited demands of the patriotic people there who insist upon the right to rule themselves. Lenin's attempt to extend his power on the southern coast of the Black Sea has been defeated by the Turkish Nationalists, the republic of Archangel has grown in strength, and a union of the northern states has threatened the Bolshevik regime. At the same time the independent people in the Ukraine have made it increasingly difficult for Trotsky's lieutenants. All this leads one optimistic observer to ask: "May not the day of redemption have at last arrived—the moment for which the good-natured boy has waited and upon which he has pinned his faith?"

The Standard says there is not a particle of evidence to show that under civil distribution the electric current from Musquash would be any cheaper than the New Brunswick Power Company's price to the consumer for its current today. The Standard speaks for the New Brunswick Power Company, which seeks to get hold of the Musquash current. Will the Standard answer this question? If the power company is given hydro at 1.2 cents, at what price will the company deliver it to the consumer? That is all the people want to know about the power company in this affair. The question has been asked before, but it has not been answered. Let us have the answer now.

Are the people to get the benefit of the Musquash development, or is it to go to a corporation which the people have been fighting, and which would welcome the chance to strengthen its grip upon the city?

PLEASING RESULTS.

Medical inspection of school children is only one of the progressive steps resulting from up-to-date health laws, but it is an important one. It has been made plain enough that many pupils are backward in their studies because of disease, sometimes not apparent, or malformation which is easily treated if taken in time. Careful medical examination of the school children is therefore necessary, and it is a highly paying investment. In this connection an interesting report has just been made public by the United States Public Health Service, from which the following paragraphs are taken:

"Backward children are not always, perhaps not often, backward because of either mental deficiency or slothfulness. Many of them are backward solely because of such ordinary and easily remediable defects as adenoids, nearsightedness or bad teeth."

"A case in point was recently reported by the official representative of the Public Health Service in the eighth sanitary district of Vermont, in which the Service is co-operating in a rural health work project. "Medical inspection of one of the graded schools in October, 1919, showed that it had been thought necessary to instruct in a special room sixteen pupils who had seemed to be unable to keep up with their respective classes. Physical examination showed that each of the sixteen had some serious hampering physical defect (chiefly enlarged tonsils, adenoids or defective hearing or eyesight) which, rather than any mental handicap, was the probable cause of their inability."

"Through the co-operation of the school directors the facts were brought to the attention of the parents or guardians of the children and all were set right before the end of the year. "On re-examination of the pupils the next December (1920) it appeared that all of the sixteen previously backward children had caught up with their proper grades and were keeping up in them with their classmates. A year later, in December, 1921, some of these sixteen children were among the mental and physical leaders in their grades."

The New York Herald declares that this is "one of the most astounding instances of mental stimulation in human beings through improvement of physical conditions" ever brought to its notice. It is further proof, as the Herald says, that the place of the physician and the nurse in schools is well established.

The city council has had since last November, or rather since the hydro-electric development at Musquash became assured, to find out what a civic distribution plant would cost. It has not done so. It has acted throughout as if it regarded the New Brunswick Power Company as the natural distributor. This will not do. The issue must be faced before the civic elections, and candidates must make their position absolutely clear. Any candidate who favors giving the power company any profit whatever as a result of distributing the current from Musquash will quickly discover that he does not represent public sentiment.

The friends of the New Brunswick Power Company will be very busy until the civic elections are over.

There is a new elevator in City Hall, but the real bolt will come on election day, and it will be hydro-driven.

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

Harry and Clyde Westhaver, sons of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Westhaver, of Sheet Harbor, N. S., were drowned yesterday afternoon. They were crossing a brook, when the ice broke up. Kenneth Campbell, Liberal, was elected by a majority of 489 over C. F. McHardy, Conservative, in the provincial by-election in Nelson, B. C., yesterday. Trapped in the upper story of their burning home, three children of Mr. and Mrs. A. Berrall, of St. Francis Xavier, thirty miles west of Winnipeg, perished in the flames, on Tuesday afternoon. The fire was thought to have caught by one of the children lighting paper.

In the Crown land office at Fredericton yesterday, fifty fishing leases were offered for sale at public auction. Fourteen leases were not bid in. The total proceeds of the sale amounted to \$22,565 a year.

MORE MENNONITES TO MOVE TO MEXICO
El Paso, Texas, March 23.—With 1,200 of their co-religionists already in Mexico, 14,000 more Canadian Mennonites are planning to migrate to the southern republic, according to J. F. Webb, agricultural agent for the Mexico Northwestern Railway. Fifty trains will be needed to carry the new group of colonists. If freight rates can be adjusted, he said, the move will begin about June 1.

LITTLE SABOTAGE YET.
Sydney, N. S., March 22.—A slight increase in the average output of Cape Breton collieries on Tuesday indicates that the McLachlan policy of "sabotaging the output" is not yet being extensively adopted at the collieries. The Scotia output for the day was 2,489 tons and the Glace Bay area, 8,796 tons.

IN MEMORIAM.

Viscount Bryce, O. M.
Born 1838. Died January 23, 1922.
So long a day waning in light so clear
Shines o'er a world perplexed and
malcontent,
Like a fair sunset whose first stars appear
Before its fire is spent.

Fulness of years was his, a stainless
scroll
Of high achievement; and men loved
in him
That ardor of the indomitable soul
Which time could never dim.

The vanished frontiers of a world ob-
scure
To him were as familiar walks of
home;
And his swift spirit trod with footsteps
one of
Byzantium and Rome.

His garnered wisdom and his prophetic
cry
Showed him the ancient and the un-
born years;
So he died dreaming of a world made
By sorrow and pure by tears.

And one dream which he followed
through many lands
Shall now an earnest of fulfillment
have,
When the two nations whom he loved
clasp hands
In silence o'er his grave.
—D. M. S. in Punch.

NEED BETTER CLASS OF IMMIGRANTS

Ottawa, March 22.—Addressing the third annual meeting of the Canadian council of immigration of women, which convened in Ottawa today, Hon. Charles Stewart, minister of immigration, emphasized the need of closer co-operation between the provincial and federal governments in immigration matters. In this connection he referred to a paragraph of the report of the federal government to return the natural resources to the prairie provinces, the problem of securing suitable settlers became one of vital importance to the provinces. A large programme of immigration encouragement could not be embarked upon at present in view of the unemployment situation. What was needed was farmers with capital and farm laborers.

Mr. Stewart said that he was satisfied there must be greater supervision and selection of immigrants overseas before embarkation.

COMMUNISTS' PLOT TO EXPLOIT CRISIS

Raiding Parties Ready for Immediate Action on British Factories.

(Special Cable to the New York Times and Montreal Gazette.)
London, March 20.—The Communist plans for exploiting the industrial crisis in this country have reached an advanced stage. Disclosures were made today of the Soviet plot to seize factories affected by the engineering dispute and to bring into the country the workers in other industries. Instructions have been issued from the headquarters of the Communist party in London to brandish tactics employed by their advanced parties in order and prepared for immediate action. These raiding parties are to take the factories over and run them "in the interests of the workers."

Information has been received by a special branch of Scotland Yard that the communists have been studying the militant tactics employed by their Italian "comrades" some months ago and that plans for action in England have been drawn up on a similar line.

In a memorandum issued by the Communist party on March 13, the suggestion is put forward that attempts should be made to put a violent strike in operation, "embracing, of course, employed as well as unemployed workers."

A side light on the mentality of the Communists is furnished by a paragraph of the memorandum containing advice on how to keep up the enthusiasm of the men, it runs:

"For example, the arrival of a messenger, with news of a factory where the men have ceased to work in sympathy may be received an hour or two before the mass meeting. In such a case hold up the news until the mass meeting is in progress and let it be announced there by a perspiring messenger."

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER WINS THE DEBATE

Halifax, March 22.—In the annual maritime inter-collegiate debate held here tonight, St. Francis Xavier, supporting the declaration "that labor is more responsible than capital for the undesirable economic conditions of the present and the past few years," defeated Dalhousie, the three judges, heads of maritime colleges, being unanimous. Six college presidents attended. The debaters were St. Francis Xavier—M. E. Murphy, D. S. McDonald and J. W. McGowan. Dalhousie—M. C. MacDonald, L. W. Fraser and J. H. McFadden.

TAX COMMISSION FOR NOVA SCOTIA

Halifax, March 22.—In the house of assembly today, Hon. H. H. Wickwire, minister of highways, introduced a bill providing for the creation of a provincial tax commission, the duties of which will be to adjust in a fair and equitable manner the valuation and assessment of all property and income, liable to assessment for provincial purposes, in the towns and municipalities of the province. It is so stated that at present there is great disparity between the rates of taxes paid by different districts for provincial purposes. One of the first tasks of the commission will be to establish uniformity of taxation on a basis of population and wealth.

A BOARD OF TRADE NIGHT.

A week from tonight the Board of Trade will hold a social night at Ryland Hall. It will be a smoker and refreshments will be served, but the real feature will be sporting films shown by Harry Allen, chief of the New Brunswick guides, and a speech by G. Fred Pearson, publisher of the Halifax Chronicle, and a member of the Halifax Board of Trade, who will talk on maritime co-operation. It will be a New Brunswick and St. John-Halifax night, with special reference to maritime unity in promoting common interests.

SHOT DEAD BY HER GRANDFATHER

Six Year Old Child Loses Life in Mock Skirmish, Playing Indian.

Six-year-old Emma Bauer decided on a surprise for her grandfather, Ernest Fuchs, when he returned from his work to their home in Brooklyn, N. Y. It had been the nightly practice of Fuchs to indulge in a game with the child, who was motherless. As Fuchs entered the dining room Emma suddenly confronted him, garbed as a desperate Indian, and wielding a piece of wood as a tomahawk.

Fuchs, who is fifty-two years old, felt terror as the little girl, who was the only child of his deceased daughter, advanced on him from beneath the covering of the dining table. He remembered that his son Richard, nineteen years old, had thrown a pistol in the drawer of the dining room sideboard some time before with the remark that it was empty and useless.

He reached into the drawer, got the weapon, and pointing it at his granddaughter, said, "Like all bad Indians, you must die." He pulled the trigger, there was a report and little Emma fell over dead with a bullet through her heart. The grandfather refused to believe that he had killed the child, and running up and down the apartment with Emma in his arms pleaded with her to speak to him.

In a few minutes William J. Bauer, an electrician, father of the girl, entered with Richard Fuchs, owner of the pistol. He placed the dead child on a couch and then rushed to an ambulance from the Bradford Street Hospital. The surgeon said Emma had been instantly killed. A policeman was called in and reported the facts to Assistant District Attorney Selvaigi, head of the homicide bureau. Mr. Selvaigi said that the grandfather was not to blame, as it was evident that the shooting had been an accident. Richard Fuchs was arrested, however, on a charge of having a pistol.

BROTHER JONATHAN.

The weekly Observer, an old journal published in St. John, in its edition of June 14, 1883, contains an interesting account of the festival in Buffalo on St. George's Day, April 23. The account stated that A. M. Clapp, editor of the Morning Express of that city, in speaking at the banquet, eulogized the English press and concluded by reciting the following verses:

Ho! Brother! I'm a Britisher,
A chip of heart of oak,
That would not warp or swerve, or stife
From what I thought or spoke—
And you, a blunt and honest man,
Kind and true,
I tell you, Brother Jonathan,
That you're a Briton, too!

I know your heart's an honest heart,
I read your mind and will,
A greyhound ever on the start,
To run for honor still;
To share it if you will,
And stout to see it done,
I tell you, Brother Jonathan,
That you and I are one.

"God Save the Queen" delights you still
And "British Grenadiers,"
The good old strains your heart strings
Thrill,
And catch you by both ears;
And we—O hate us if you can,
For we are proud of you,
We like you, Brother Jonathan,
And "Yankee Doodle," too.

There's nothing foreign in your face,
Nor strange upon your tongue
You come not of another race,
From baser lineage sprung;
No, Brother! though away you run,
As trusty boys will do,
Still true it is, young Jonathan,
My father fathered you.

Well, well, and every praise of old,
That makes us famous still,
You would be just, and may be bold,
To share it if you will.
Since England's glory first began,
Till just the other day,
The half is yours; but, Jonathan,
Why did you run away?

O, Brother, could we both be one,
In nation and in name,
How gladly would the very sun
Lie basking in our fame?
In either world to lead the van,
And go ahead for good,
While earth to John and Jonathan
Yield tribute gratitude.

Add but your stripes and golden stars,
To brave St. George's cross,
And never dream of mutual wars,
To duce's mutual loss.
Let us two bleed where others bap,
And love where others hate,
And so, my cordial Jonathan,
We'll fix, I calculate.

What more? I touch not holier things,
A loftier strain to win;
Nor glance at popes, priests or kings,
Or heavenly kith or kin,
As friend with friend, and man with man,
O let our hearts be thus,
As David's love to Jonathan,
Be Jonathan's to us!

He gave a toast—John Bull and Brother Jonathan, "like the Siamese twins, although quarrelsome at times, they never yet ventured to sever the ligament of mutual interest that binds them together. May their next spat end in blending them so intimately that John will be totally unable to distinguish himself from Jonathan."

NO COURTS MARTIAL IN FUTURE WARS

Paris, March 23.—Owing to the vast number of cases of injustice in the late war, Gen. Sarraill, leader of the French troops in Salonica, declares there must be no court-martial in the next war. The general insists that in time of peace offending soldiers must be tried in the ordinary courts, but that in time of war certain judges should be "mobilized" for regular judicial work. All the cases submitted to them would be prosecuted under a special code, but entirely removed from the influence of army officials.

TIDAL WAVE SWEEPS OVER CITY OF VENICE

London, March 23.—Central News despatch from Venice, says that a tidal wave late last night inundated the city, the water rising to a depth of more than three feet in some of the public squares.

Thermos Lunch Kits

The workman used to carry his sandwiches, pie and coffee in a two-story tin pail. By lunch time the sandwiches were dry as chips, the pie was mashed flat, and the cold coffee was unfit for human consumption.

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CHICAGO IS TO HAVE A "CANADIAN WEEK"

Chicago, March 23.—The city council today designated the week of April 9 to 15 as Canadian Week to celebrate the one hundredth and fourth anniversary of peace and uninterrupted social and business intercourse.

SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

(Sackville Post)
It is understood the Local Council of Women have finally signed a contract with D. A. R. Fraser of this town for the erection of a soldiers' monument in the square, corner of Weldon and Bridge streets. The foundation was laid last fall and now Mr. Fraser will proceed with the work of erecting the main shaft. It will be about twenty feet high and will be surmounted by a Greek cross. The names of all the Sackville men who were killed overseas will appear on the shaft. Mr. Fraser hopes to complete his contract some time in August, when there will no doubt be a formal unveiling. The monument proper will cost about \$2,000 it is understood.

Warned Against Politics.

Mexico City, March 9.—(By Mail.)—Catholic priests and clerics in Mexico have again been warned against mixing in politics in a letter published recently by Jose Moray del Rio, Archbishop of Mexico. The warning was prompted by the threatened expulsion of Jose Maria Sans Cerrada, a Spanish priest, for alleged activity against the Oregon administration.

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