

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 23, 1925.

THE GRAIN AND THE RATES.

Mr. D. L. Smith of Winnipeg, sales-manager for the wheat pool, says that grain follows the cheapest route. He says further that American channels do not get the traffic solely because their overland rates are lower than those to Canadian ports, but also because there is more available tonnage in American harbors. Mr. D. Macrae of Regina, manager of the Saskatchewan wheat pool, says that organization would gladly ship its grain by all-Canadian routes if the rates were sufficiently cheap, but that, if Canada is to handle its own traffic, the rates would have to be much lower than they are now because the haul to Canadian outlets is longer. All of which is neither new nor convincing.

It is maintained in other quarters that if the traffic were brought to Canadian ports sufficient tonnage would become available. Tonnage, it is pointed out, seeks the traffic to a greater extent than traffic seeks the tonnage. Moreover, if it were accepted that tonnage is the controlling factor, it would naturally follow that more and more of Canada's grain would be carried through foreign outlets. The more that goes that way, the more tonnage there will be to handle it. But Canada, unfortunately, is by no means so helpless in this matter as might be indicated by the statements of Sir Henry Thornton and the spokesmen on behalf of the wheat pools. For example: after this country spent \$170,000,000 to build the National Transcontinental line, the Quebec Board of Trade applied to the Railway Commission for a reduction of the prohibitive rates on grain which had been put into force on that railway. That was in 1921. The then chairman of the Railway Commission, and another member of the board, in explaining why the Commission refused the Quebec application, said that if the Transcontinental hauled the traffic at the rates justified by the nature of its construction, the whole transportation structure would be upset. This was taken to mean that the country had built a railway of such high standard, capable of hauling traffic at such low rates, that it would be dangerous to competing railways to use it for the purposes for which it was constructed. And at the time the diversion of Canadian traffic was by no means so serious a problem as it is to-day. It has become so great as to alarm the country, as has been proved by the vigorous protests of leading newspapers from coast to coast. To-day neither Parliament nor the Railway Commission could afford to take the position that the Transcontinental cannot safely be used to haul traffic at lower rates because of the effect upon competitors. Any such position is to maintain that it is injurious to the public interest to make low traffic rates possible by means of a high standard of construction.

Under Sir Henry Thornton's plan of exerting "persuasion" upon the ships, the loss of traffic has steadily and rapidly increased. Therefore, if we are to resort only to persuasion of the shipper, if we are to appeal only to sentiment, we shall soon be paying American transportation agencies, American workmen, American port workers, for handling practically all of the Canadian wheat crop.

And if we cannot protect our own ports and railways, how long will the country agree to a policy of protection for the factories of the Central Provinces?

The C. P. R. stands ready to haul traffic to Canadian ports at rates at least as low as that given to American ports. The Canadian National, by using the Transcontinental, can haul traffic to the Maritime ports as cheaply as it can haul it to Portland. The rate to the shipper is no greater one way than the other. The Canadian route involves no substantial loss in time. Keeping the traffic in home channels would cut down the railway deficits. It would give employment to thousands of Canadians and result in the distribution in this country of many millions of dollars in addition to the vast sums which Canadian traffic now bestows upon American agencies.

This country, we may be sure, will refuse positively to accept the dictum of Sir Henry Thornton, or of any other authority, that its loss of traffic is beyond cure. Any such doctrine is merely one of despair, and it is contrary to the public interest, and unworthy of this Confederation. If it were to be accepted there would be trouble ahead.

The Government of the day must repudiate Sir Henry Thornton's gospel of failure and helplessness.

The council of the Montreal Board of Trade has complained that the penalties under the Bankruptcy Law are not sufficiently severe to secure their purpose. The Bankruptcy Law, says the Gazette, "though not long on the statute books, has been considerably amended by Parliament, but its administration still gives occasion for complaint. The story of its predecessor, the Insolvent Act, is being repeated. Such measures give a careless,

reckless, unfortunate or dishonest dealer a cheap way of getting rid of his debts. The temptation to strengthen this feature of the law by irregular methods is evidently strong in some cases."

The London Free Press declares that "We do not blame Halifax or Saint John for being fighting mad when they see millions of bushels of Western grain traveling via the ports of New York, Baltimore, Boston and Portland and huge elevators lying idle in their harbor." And, says the Kingston Standard, "many other places are fighting mad about this, too."

Odds and Ends

Chew Leather and Keep Your Teeth

(Kingston Standard.) No less a person than Mr. Diamond Jenness, M. A. (Oxon), Acting Director of the Department of Mines, has just stated how people may retain their teeth in splendid condition. The plan is very easy: The only thing you have to do is to follow the example of the Eskimos, who are said to have the finest and most regular set of teeth in the world, and no pure-blooded Eskimo has been known to suffer from the common white man's tooth troubles, pyorrhea or cavities. They are in this enviable position because they use their teeth, not only for chewing food, but for softening leather, shaping soft copper, and various other useful purposes.

There it is, the plan we mentioned, and it is a great idea. Few men or women wear slippers, so they could easily get some leather to chew in order to make nice soft material for these, and improve their teeth at the same time. Men could well take this up as against the ladies' knitting and could member of the board, in explaining why the Commission refused the Quebec application, said that if the Transcontinental hauled the traffic at the rates justified by the nature of its construction, the whole transportation structure would be upset. This was taken to mean that the country had built a railway of such high standard, capable of hauling traffic at such low rates, that it would be dangerous to competing railways to use it for the purposes for which it was constructed. And at the time the diversion of Canadian traffic was by no means so serious a problem as it is to-day. It has become so great as to alarm the country, as has been proved by the vigorous protests of leading newspapers from coast to coast. To-day neither Parliament nor the Railway Commission could afford to take the position that the Transcontinental cannot safely be used to haul traffic at lower rates because of the effect upon competitors. Any such position is to maintain that it is injurious to the public interest to make low traffic rates possible by means of a high standard of construction.

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Just Fun

EVERY MAN thinks his wife should be happy just because he's "Her Husband."

FEW BOYS will change at college as long as the laundries continue to keep up their prices.

THE BANKER will put your idle money to work and pay you its wages.

OH, WELL, every air disaster makes us more grateful for the width of the oceans.

WOMEN may be as old as they look—but they can't be as naughty as they try to look.

SOMEBODY robbed a loan office in St. Louis instead of a loan office in St. Louis robbing somebody.

"MY FACE is my fortune, sir," she said.

"My woman, you're bankrupt," was his reply.

IT'S ALL RIGHT to begin at the bottom except when you're learning to swim.

WHILE many young women are not content with anything less than a career, the telephone operators are satisfied with what you might call a "calling."

Don't worry me with tomorrow, I got bills to pay today.

Tomorrow is another's sorrow, For my bills I'll fail to pay.

"KNOW THYSELF" the sage declared, and the best way to do that is to marry some woman who doesn't mind telling the truth.

READING the Bible in the public schools may be all right, but let's not let it be in the pupil first.

A. K. says he has conclusive proof that the reason women's minds are clean is that they change them so often they don't have time to soil them.

IT ISN'T what a girl knows that bothers us, but how she learned it.

THE DRUG STORES will not sell you carbolic acid any more unless you tell them you intend to mistake it for.

WHO WAS the young man standing in King street the other day intently observing a young lady, stepped up to her and said "Pardon me, You look like Helen Black." "Yes," she replied "I know I do but I'd look far worse in white."

"DRINK to me only with thine eyes," is the most unpopular line in all poetry, according to some.

A mystery that puzzles me, I can't find the answer to it.

Is how some stars get on the screen—When they should be behind it!

Timely Views On World Topics

INSTEAD of leading all other countries in the advancement of fundamental scientific knowledge, the United States occupies a position far in the rear of the majority of European nations," announced Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, in a recent speech.

"The difficulty we experienced in securing a place in science beside the nations of Europe can hardly be due to lack of innate ability, judging from the leading part played by the United States in finance, in architecture and in applied science. It results partly from the fact that American civilization is only beginning to emerge from the pioneering stage, and partly from the financial and other inducements which so often lead talented men reluctantly to accept well-paid academic and research posts."

ADVOCATES FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

"We have prided ourselves on our practicality as a nation. Would it not be a practical thing to do to give adequate organized financial support to pure science?"

"We have in recent years developed our industrial research upon a scale hitherto unparalleled in history. We have an increase in some 10 years from 100 to over 500 laboratories engaged upon search for applications of known scientific fact and law. These results have been magnificent. But all these applied science laboratories are dependent upon the raw material which flows from the laboratories and men engaged in pure science. And the industrial investigators are the first to demand more support to pure science."

Dinner Stories

THE maid having failed to appear to take Bobby home from kindergarten, the teacher said to the little fellow, "Now, Bobby, you know God is always with you, you must think you have hold of His hand."

Next morning, she said, "Well, Bobby, you got home all right?"

"Yes, Miss Wilson, I got home all right, but I can tell you I made God run every step of the way."

WHEN William H. Crane was young, he had the actor's usual vaunting ambition to play Hamlet. So with his first profits he organized his own company and he went to an inland western town to give vent to his ambition and "try it on."

When he came back to New York a group of friends noticed that the actor appeared to be much downcast.

"What's the matter, Crane? Didn't they appreciate it?" asked one of his friends.

"They didn't seem to," laconically answered the actor.

"Well, didn't they give any encouragement? Didn't they ask you to come before the curtain?" persisted the friend.

"Ask me?" answered Crane. "Man, they dared me!"

The Best Way



Settling the boundary question in the good old way.

The Best of Advice

BY CLARK KINNAIRD

WHEN RELIGION WILL HAVE ITS GREAT REVIVAL.

IN THE City of Cleveland, on the opposite corners in its most important thoroughfare, Euclid avenue, stand two houses of worship representing different religious denominations—Unitarian and Jewish.

The other day the rabbi and the pastor exchanged pulpits.

"A new religion is emerging that is greater than either Judaism or Christianity because the whole is greater than its parts," the minister told the rabbi's congregation.

"The religion of the future will result from the merging which is already taking place of Buddhism, Mohammedanism and other religions in the east, and the Jewish and Christian faiths in the west."

"This new religion will absorb the religious and ethical values of all the great world religions."

It is notable that in agreement. In his sermon to the Unitarian congregation, the rabbi said:

"The world is not ready for a universal religion, though individuals in each creed who have outgrown their church may be ready for such fellow."

"Even in such cases it were wiser for those individuals to remain in their churches to lead and their own group upward than to desert them without progressive leadership."

"The way to bring about better and more amicable relations between races, nations and religions is not by projecting into the area of division ideas of universal religion, a single nation or an all inclusive race but by a mutual respect and understanding one for the other."

What these men said is not important. What they did is of great importance. Their action points the shining way out of the wilderness into which churches, by their intolerance have become wanderers.

Even in the pulpits it is admitted that religion is losing its hold upon the people. Many churches never have half their seats filled. The "jazz age" is blamed. Perhaps there is another reason.

Perhaps the mistrust of other creeds the churches have inculcated into people is the cause. Teach a man disrespect for another's religion, and the quality of his own is sapped.

Our intolerance of other creeds is always based on misunderstanding. We forget that "Religions are many but religion is one." All creeds teach peace, honesty, right living. The Christians call Him God, the Mohammedans, Allah, but to both He is the Supreme Omnipotence.

When pastors begin to exchange pulpits and tell frankly what their creeds believe, religious intolerance will get its death-blow, and religion will have its great revival.

Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn.

—Wordsworth.

Poems That Live

THE WORLD IS TOO MUCH WITH US.

The World is too much with us; late and soon, Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers; Little we see in Nature that is ours;

We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon! This Sea that bares her bosom to the Moon, The winds that will be howling at all hours, And are up-gathered now like sleeping flowers, For this, for everything we are out of tune; It moves us not—Great God! I'd rather be A Pagan suckled in a creed outworn—

So might I stand, on this pleasant lea, Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn; Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea; Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn.

—Wordsworth.

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Twenty Years Ago Today

From Times' Files.

THE funeral of the late Col. Charles H. Ray, former mayor of this city, took place from Trinity Church this afternoon.

ON account of the illness of Officer Collins, the chain-gang has not been at work for two days.

THE South African steamer Oriana cleared for Capetown.

VASSIE & CO. are now settled in their new offices.

ARTHUR McHUGH, a messenger in the Customs department, was presented with a purse by the customs officials.

Other Views

The Tables Turned. (Ottawa Journal.)

Talk as we may about the rising generation, but it is a fact that parents were never so well managed by their sons and daughters as they are today.

Why Not the Canada Brand? (Boston Transcript.)

England is importing Vermont turkeys and maple sugar, but Vermont will never rest until she has King George eating pumpkin pie for breakfast.

The Reason Why. (Winnipeg Tribune.)

We maintain close friendship with the United States because Canadian interest lies in that direction, and because the United States' interest equally lies in the same direction in maintaining her friendship for Canada.

GEN. ANDREWS may keep booze out of politics, but he will have trouble keeping it out of some of the politicians.

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THREE BUCKLE OVERSHOES at..... \$4.50

FOUR BUCKLE OVERSHOES at..... \$5.00

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