

POOR DOCUMENT

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Editorial

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1926

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The Evening Times-Star

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NATIONALIZATION

MAYOR WHITE made a strong pronouncement at last evening's banquet for the Union of New Brunswick Municipalities on the subject of nationalization of the port of Saint John. In connection with this matter it will be necessary to do some clear thinking. We must discriminate between nationalization and harbor commission. Under nationalization the Government will take over the harbor area at Saint John as the property of the Dominion, and it will be operated under Government control either through the Department of Marine and Fisheries or by Commissioners appointed for the purpose. Premier Baxter and the Board of Trade suggested the appointment of a commission of three, one to represent the Government, one the Canadian Pacific Railway and one the Canadian National Railway, and this suggestion has met with favor from Sir Henry Thornton and President Beatty. The presence on the commission of two men representing the transportation companies would ensure such a policy as would keep down the charges, while at the same time seeing that all necessary facilities were provided.

Harbor Commission is quite a different matter. Under it, as in the case of Montreal, the harbor revenue would have to be high enough to pay the interest and sinking fund on all harbor expenditure, and this might make the port charges so high as to drive away business. We do not want any such result as that. The Federal Government is obligated by the Confederation agreement to provide facilities for the passage of freight through this port on such terms as will bring the business. We shall be content with nothing less than the fulfillment of that agreement.

BUYING AT HOME

"THE first duty of the consumer in any part of the Empire is to encourage the producers in his own country."

This assertion was recently made by Hon. Mr. Amery, Dominion Minister, in discussing the campaign to increase the production of the Empire in all its parts. Mr. Amery is right. If the people of each portion of the Empire do not encourage their own producers the latter will not be so well able to reach out after trade in other markets. The larger the home market the better is the position of the producer in relation to markets abroad. It is, of course, assumed that the home producer is able to meet fair competition, both in quality and price; and, if he does so, he has an undoubted claim upon the considerations of the consumer. The latter will benefit from any extension of the business of the former, because enlargement of output means a larger expenditure of money and greater prosperity for the community.

The thoughtful buyer is not the best citizen. Other things being equal, or nearly so, the home producer should be assured of the support of the home consumer. To take a local illustration, we need more industries in the Maritime Provinces. Are those which already exist receiving the full measure of local support? If not, they are prevented from enlarging their output and giving more employment which means more wages to distribute more rents paid, more goods purchased in the stores. From every viewpoint the home producer ought to be encouraged in order that employment may be found for more people; and if, because he has a flourishing business at home, a producer can reach out to other markets, the gain to the community in which he operates is proportional.

To come still nearer home, is Saint John people patronizing factories located in this city, or do they neglect that opportunity to encourage home industry and provide more work for our own people?

AN OLD HOME WEEK

IT is particularly gratifying when a former citizen manifests his interest in his old home town in such a manner as it indicated by the letter from Mr. George D. Robertson of Los Angeles, published in The Times-Star yesterday. Mr. Robertson believes we should have an Old Home Week in Saint John next year. He is willing to contribute a sum of money toward carrying on the campaign, and to come to the city a week in advance to render any assistance possible. The thought of an Old Home Week has been in many minds from year to year, and the matter has been discussed in a sympathetic way, but without any action taken.

Mr. Robertson suggests August or September. Our annual exhibition is held in September. Could the two events be made to synchronize? Would it not be worth while for the City Council, the Council of the Board of Trade and the Directors of the Exhibition Association to hold a conference and consider Mr. Robertson's suggestion? Of one thing we may be assured. If all the people who have left Saint John in the last twenty years could be persuaded to return for a short visit, the population would be very materially increased. Such a conference as is here suggested would do no harm, and might be productive of much good.

THE LABRADOR CASE

THIS final court of appeal in the Empire is engaged settling the dispute between Canada and Newfoundland as to who owns the Labrador hinterland, rich in timber and probably richer in mineral wealth, and just where the "coasts" of Labrador end and the province of Quebec begins. The undoubted fact is that the "coasts" of Labrador belong to Newfoundland, and the main settlement hinges on the interpretation of the word "coasts."

Sir John Simon, counsel for Newfoundland, goes back to the James I. Bible, as generally used, to prove that at the time Labrador—or its coasts—was given to Newfoundland the word was employed to designate land frontiers and even the region enclosed, as well as seaboard. For example, "the coasts of Tyre" is plainly not intended to indicate mere seacoast, and the frequent modern use in the English language of the combined word "seacoast," which would otherwise be redundant, gives strength to the contention that "coasts" in the

Stuart period might well have meant something more than it does now.

La Presse complains that upwards of \$1,000,000 has already been spent in connection with this claim, and suggests that a good dictionary ought to be sufficient to settle the litigation. But this is hardly the case. The million has not been spent to define the meaning of a word, although a decision on that point may settle the claim. The money is necessarily expended because two portions of the British Empire consider they have the right to certain territory, and to secure justice almost any expenditure is worth while.

As for deciding the claim on the authority of a dictionary, it must be remembered that words take on different shades of meaning very rapidly, and three centuries is enough to change a word's significance out of recognition. Besides, it would hardly help matters. One dictionary gives after the first and usually accepted modern meaning: "(Archais) The uniting or boundary line of a country, or the region enclosed within the bounds; chiefly pl." Another has it: "The exterior line, limit or border of a country; frontier border." (Obs.) From the river, the river Euphrates, even to the uttermost sea shall your coast be. Deut. xi 24.

The question is not so simple as La Presse affects to see it.

Lloyd George is said to be wearing a bright blue soft hat. Presumably a cool color and yielding texture are necessary to offset a fiery brain and a hard head.

The New York Musical Courier says: "Eisteddfod in English means session." Presumably session in Welsh means Eisteddfod.

Because he must sojourn in civilization and forego a shooting expedition to Canada, Gene Tunney describes himself as being "slave to a myth." Not much myth about that quarter million dollars that accompanied the heavyweight title.

It is of interest to note that the Egyptian Government intends to introduce a measure into the Egyptian Parliament limiting the cotton acreage of Egypt to one-third of normal for three years. This all results from the slump of cotton prices which is causing such a to-do in the United States. One wonders what India is going to do about it.

It is satisfying to note that Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King has promised the closest possible co-operation of the Canadian Government with Great Britain's Imperial air route expansion plans. In the political sense distances are measured most accurately by the time taken to proceed from spot to spot. One of the problems of the far-flung Empire has been that of communication. A new means of transport that divides distances, measured in days and hours, divides the problem by three. Wherefore let us concentrate on the aeroplanes and the airship.

Apparently Islam has its counterparts of our Christian Modernists and Fundamentalists. A Cairene professor is being tried for heresy because he declares that portions of the Koran cannot be accepted literally. In point of fact Mohammedanism has long produced free-thinkers who sometimes have gone their way unimpeded, while others have paid the usual penalty for daring to think for themselves in an intolerant world. According to the letter of the Egyptian constitution, liberty of conscience is allowed. How far this will extend when interpreted in the light of Islamic law will appear from the trial of Taha Hussein.

Odds and Ends

Wisdom in High Places

(Toronto Star)

The price control proceedings in the case between Canada and Newfoundland involved, on Monday, the following dialogue:

"Lord Finlay: 'What does Hochelaga mean?'"

"Sir John Simon: 'I imagine it is an Indian name.'"

"Lord Finlay: 'No doubt.'"

This enlightening exchange of opinion recalls an incident in the Canadian House of Commons when the late William Pugsley was a member of the government. A member of the opposition tried to catch him on the exact location of the Canary Islands (which had been figuring in the debate) and the following exchange took place:

"An hon. member: 'And just where are the Canary Islands?'"

"The Hon. William Pugsley (very solemnly): 'In one of the seas.'"

Canada Has Trump Card

(Los Angeles Times)

A Canadian report shows that in the Dominion the last fiscal year there were no fewer murder cases recorded than in the previous period. In all there were fifty-four. This is hardly a good week's record for Chicago. But the joke is that in Canada a conviction means death. And in Canada they convict them without brass bands, American beauty roses or sob sisters.

Making the Point Clear

(Toronto Star)

Policeman: "What are yer standin' ere for?"

Loafers: "Nuffin'."

Policeman: "Well, just move on. If everybody was to stand in one place 'ow would the rest get past?"

Sometimes Misused

(Kiwanis Magazine)

"Stop! Look! Listen!" is for a railroad crossing, and not for a business office, although frequently used as such.

Let's Hope So

(Humorist, London)

"I cannot think of a worse instrument than the saxophone," says Senator Mascagni. We sincerely hope nobody else can.

Both Fired

(American Legion Weekly)

"You had some fresh shrimps here last week," began the purchaser. "Now—"

"Yes, ma'am," interrupted the market man apologetically, "but I fired both of 'em."

Here's a Good One

(Southern Lumberman)

A Chicago editor says that words won't check the crime wave. Words won't; but maybe sentences would.

Good Losers

(Border Cities Star)

Cynics to the contrary, the elections proved that Canada has a lot of mighty good losers.

Hard To Figure

(Guelph Mercury)

The best fortune teller in Canada has never been able to guess election results any better than anybody else.

Name the Bird

(Kitchen Record)

When a girl says she has an appetite like a bird, make her name the bird. An ostrich eats a peck at

Other Views

THE BAD CITIZEN

(Medicine Hat News)

WE ALL love the city, town or village in which we live, and wish to become good citizens. A careless person can make one a worthy citizen because he is a danger to himself and to all those about him. Every time you hear the fire alarm you are pretty safe in saying "There is a bad citizen!" Someone has been careless; that fire could have been prevented."

CLEANING THE AIR

(Boston Post)

"Can city air be rid of dust?" asks the November Scientific American. During the coming month the haze settling down from the smoke of countless chimneys will be denser. A dust-counting machine actually found, in January, 1924, 4,000 dust particles in one cubic centimetre of air, while on a very clear day above the city's dust there were but 100 in the same space. Ways of reducing this screen which shuts off the sun's health giving rays and injures the lungs of those who must breathe it are being sought by Government. Every effort to reduce smoke pollution means so much clear gain in community health.

THE HOPE OF EUROPE

(Vancouver Province)

Signs of a new hope accumulate in Europe. The greatly-battered "Spirit of Locarno" for all the evitable reasons which followed it, was still discernible in the admission of Germany to the League of Nations. The men of, and even more energetic than the cynics—those "defeatists of the peace" who are the spiritual congeners of the quitters and cowards of the war. As the latest evidence that there is a firm will towards the rehabilitation of Europe, comes the new German Government, under the joint chairmanship of Sir Robert Horne and Dr. Brüning, has been formed in London. It is to investigate the economic problems of Europe, especially as they concern Britain and Germany, and it is to suggest policies to the two governments.

U. S. SHIPPING AT LOW EBB

(Farmers' Sun)

American shipping must enter upon a new era of activity, supported by the entire public, or face the prospect of lagging behind the constantly growing merchant lines of England, France, Germany and Italy. It is declared by the United States Shipping Board.

In an announcement of its October schedule of hearings, the Shipping Board delivered the warning that "since the World War shipping has been at a low ebb in the United States." The shipbuilding activities of foreign governments were noted by two members of the board, T. V. O'Connor, chairman, and J. H. Walsh, who visited Europe during the past summer. In England, France, Germany and Italy, not only ships but harbors, docks and wharves are being constructed in large numbers.

ECHOES FROM OLD LONDON

LONDON, Oct. 14.—Downing Street is even less agitated than the Quai d'Orsay about the rumor that the ex-Kaiser Wilhelm may, like the gentleman in the "Mikado," desire to visit his friends and his relations. Negotiations just concluded, under which Germany buys out the Imperial German railways, and the ex-Kaiser's return to Germany, but not even the most Junker-minded statesman could have foreseen his abdication and flight, and the revelations made regarding his conduct before and during the war, it is quite certain, if it were Germany's return to a monarchy, the chosen ex-Kaiser would not be Wilhelm Hohenzollern.

TRADE UNIONISM AND TERRORISM

That there has been widespread terrorism over the coal strike cannot be doubted. Thousands of men are still deterred from doing what they want to, and returning to work, not so much by personal fears as by dread of things being made terribly unpleasant for them. This sort of thing should certainly be made impossible, and the obvious way is by some drastic enactment dealing with the broad but tragic factor of "respectful picketing."

Most Liberals now admit that particular legislation, such as the new Criminal Law Bill, must make strong proposals on this subject, and on the secrecy and efficiency of the ballot, quite apart from the fact that the Government must give prompt effect to them. But it only brings ridicule on the whole question when, as one middle-aged respectable lady did at Scarborough, while a certain amount of support, it is proposed to impose corporal punishment in such cases. Colonel Jackson did well to scotch that naive project.

A BRIGHT LITTLE SEASON

At the West End those who are living depend largely on the great world of fashion are looking forward hopefully to quite a smart "little season" between now and Christmas. Not only will the Court soon be discarding the ex-hat but it has worn since Queen Alexandra's death, but their Majesties will be spending more time than usual in town. There is no longer any reason to keep in close proximity to Sandringham now the Queen Mother is no more. The prospect of having the Queen in London this season is even more gratifying to the West End theatre managers than to the shopkeepers.

There are several much-discussed plays that the King and Queen are anxious to see, and a Royal visit still remains one of the best bits of luck that can come the way of the theatre. I hear, by the way, that King George, who is rather conservative in his tastes, has since his last birthday succumbed to the wrist-watch fad for the first time.

THE CONTRAST

A veteran trade unionist observed today what a glaring contrast in personalities and methods recent events in the mining dispute have furnished. Mr. A. J. Cook has been ideal of our Labor extremists. In the same way, and with the same people, Mr. J. H. Thomas is the bete noir. How does a comparison of the two leaders work out so far as the results to their respective rank and file are concerned?

The position of the coal industry as a whole, and of the miners in particular, needs no pointer today. But the railways are doing well in their efforts to surmount post-war troubles. After a big scheme of re-organization, the companies and their employees are working together harmoniously, and the condition of the railwaymen is far better than ever before. If the proof of the pudding is in the eating, then Mr. J. H. Thomas' shares, despite all "Red" abuse, are higher by streets than those of the man chosen by the miners to follow Mr. Frank Hodges.

INTERNATIONAL SETBACKS

It must be confessed that recent events have given a heavy setback to the happy augurs of Herr Stresemann's eloquent speech on the occasion of Germany's admission to the League of Nations at Geneva. Everything then seemed rose-colored, but there came, first, Herr Stresemann's remarkable speech to his compatriot pressmen, telling them Germany's League admission implied a verdict of "not guilty" so far as war responsibility went.

This was followed by the offer of a castle of refuge in the Palatinate to the ex-Kaiser. And then came the resignation of General von Seeckt, the soldier who created the camouflaged post-war German army, consequent on the revelation that, despite his energetic denials, the ex-Crown Prince's eldest son had been allowed to take part with his old Prussian Guard Regiment in the recent German army manoeuvres. This fact is the more significant because this young gentleman is generally regarded as the most likely nominee for the Crown if monarchism ever gets back its hold in Germany.

Poems I Love

BY CHAS. HANSON TOWNE.

"Unto Us a Son Is Given," By Alice Meynell

THE beautiful spirituality of this poem cannot fail to be evident. In her mysticism Mrs. Meynell is peerless. Francis Thompson seems to me the only poet of his time who could outreach her. She could say so much in so little, and her delicate craftsmanship was never more apparent. I think these lines have permanent beauty.

Given, not lent,
And not withdrawn, once sent,
This infant of mankind, this One,
Is still the little welcome Son.

New every year,
Newborn and newly dear,
He comes with tidings and a song,
The ages long, the ages long;

Even as the cold
Keen winter grows not old,
As childhood is so fresh, foreseen,
And spring in the familiar green.

Sudden as sweet
Come the unexpected feet,
All joy is young, and new all art,
And he, too, whom we have by heart.

Just Fun

DAUGHTER: Mother, I simply must have a new sweater.
Mrs. Newyrich: How uncouth, daughter! You should say perspire.

DON'T do nothing too much.
SOME people can't use their own advice because they give it all to others.

"WELL, here you are," said the doctor, "a pill for the kidneys, a tablet for the indigestion, and another pill for the nerves."

"But, look here, doctor," said the patient, "how will the little beggars know where to go when they're inside?"

ONE day our swell ball team wins.
Next day our rotten ball team loses.

MEN always want the front seats
In a theatre and the rear ones in a church.

IF you don't let your toes turn in
They can't bother you by going to sleep.

CHINA will not be able to cut much of a figure in the world until she begins to have a servant problem.

A TIME will come when our premiers, senators, and captains of industry will say, with tears in their eyes, "All that I am, I owe to my husband."

There, little Stumble, don't you cry!
You'll be a Dance Step by and by.

BOBBY (boasting)—My sister's got a diamond ring!
Billy (hiding mine's)—Got two lawyers, ten letters and a detective.

ONE can't always say what he wants
to in the paper, for the linotype may take a notion to say it differently.

"YOU don't need to open your mouth so wide," said the dentist. "I'm going to stand right here on the floor."

HOSPITALS cause ten operations
suckers to grow there formerly grew not one.

WHEN a father dies his children pay for him.
When a father dies and the children leaves a conspicuous legacy, his children pay for another like him.

NICK—What's the way to the nearest bank?
Dick—Don't ask me; I'm not a bank director.

WHAT has become of the "poor working-man?"
OBEY that impulse—quit your foolishness.

THE WAY OUT

MR. CRIBSTON (who recently has changed his name to Brown) — I want to change my name to Robinson. Lawyer—But why do you want to change again?

Mr. Brown—Ven de say to me, 'Vot was your name before it was Robinson?' I want to say it was Brown. — Punch, London.

ALL WET.

"SO BROWN took a course in first aid. Is he good at it?"
A little hasty sometimes. A man was nearly drowned yesterday, and the first thing Brown did was throw a glass of water in his face."—Answers, London.

After Dinner Stories

The lecturer on health had finished his discourse and invited his audience to ask any questions they chose concerning points that might seem to need clearing up, when a tired-looking man inquired anxiously: "Professor, what do you do when you can't sleep at night?"

"I usually stay awake, although of course, everybody should feel at liberty to do otherwise. Are there any other questions?"

A smart youth was visiting another city for the first time. He stopped a pedestrian to learn the way to his destination.

"Say, Pat, can you tell me the way to Centre street?"

"An' how did you know me name or Pat?"

"Oh, I guessed."

"Ye're good at guessin', sor?"

"Fine."

"Thin guess where Centre Strate is."

The visitor remarked affably to the man of the house:

"Your family is wonderfully talented. One son plays the cornet, two daughters play the piano and the guitar, and your wife plays the banjo, and the other children play ukuleles. As the father of such musical geniuses, you must be something yourself, aren't you?"

"Yes," was the answer, "I am a pessimist."

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Saint John's Silk House

The Rhyming Optimist

Summer is gone and the garden now, shorn of all blossom and bare of bough, dreaming while of the vanished rose, waits for its raiment of winter's snows. Waits, through the mist of the autumn rain, waits, to the moan of the wind's refrain, sombre and empty of all sweet things, nests of linnets and bluebirds' wings. Loneliness stalks like a gray-clad ghost here, where but lately a feathered host chorused their bliss to the rising sun, sang through the hours until day was done. Summer is gone and the garden lies desolate under the autumn skies; yet, down the wind comes a faint refrain: "All must slumber to wake again; all things lovely and gay and bright now must sleep through a lengthy night; dreamless still, till as swift days wing, Earth swings back to a fuller spring."

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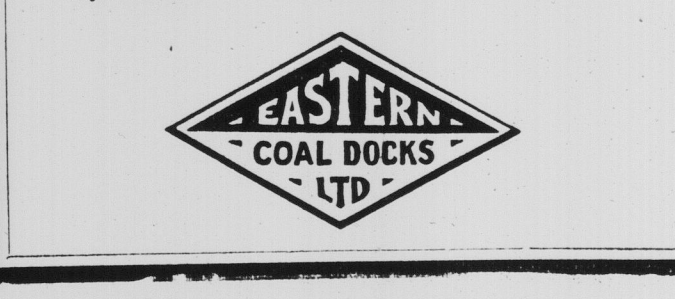
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