

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1917

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ROCKWOOD PLAYGROUND.

The present discussion in regard to the Rockwood Playground should bear good fruit. Ex-Mayor Frink is quite right in saying that the old council secured the privilege of laying a large sewer from the Marsh Creek under the railway tracks to the playground, and that the sewer was laid and is now there to take the drainage, or part of it, from the large area available for recreation purposes. The secretary of the playgrounds association and members of the Rotary Club had the ground looked over by Mr. Woods and Mr. Reek, of the agricultural department, during the past year, and they agree that the question of drainage is not a serious one. There was a previous report by G. G. Murdoch on the same subject. Mr. Reek offered to come down and take some levels and report further on the scheme, but the season was then so late that this was not done.

It is possible for St. John to have at the entrance to its beautiful park one of the finest recreation fields in America. It would even be possible to have a pavilion with shower baths, bringing the water by gravitation from Lily Lake. It would be worth while to bring an expert from the Playgrounds Association of America to lay out the whole area, indicating the proper location of baseball, cricket, football and tennis fields, running track, outdoor gymnasium and children's playground. Then the field could be developed from year to year in accordance with the general plan.

The first need is for a baseball field and running track, and these should be provided as soon as practicable. If the citizens could but realize what proper facilities for athletic sports would mean to the young manhood and womanhood of the city, they would urge in the strongest manner the importance of beginning the work of development next spring.

A PASSING HUMOR.

The Moncton Transcript, the day after the elections, mildly observed:—"In New Brunswick, a disgraceful creed and social campaign, conducted with unblinking effrontery by a clique of Protestant clergymen, who hesitated not to use the pulpit for the blackening and defamation of the loyal reputations of supporters of their churches, because they differed with them in their politics, was not without its influence. The wise adoption of such a policy cannot be without regrettable influences. Men will forgive the ordinary appetites of party politics even when introduced into the pulpit, who will not forgive attacks upon their loyalty even by clergymen. No self-respecting Liberals will take the hard of one of these brazen Tory thieves for their reputations for loyalty, whether he be in the pulpit or out. It is the infamous insults, the lying attacks upon their loyalty, which have stirred Liberals to their very souls. Men who have worked unceasingly and ungrudgingly for the Empire's good, who have broken out, feel so bitterly at the insults in the Tory newspapers of their being pro-Germans, of the malicious slanders circulated by the Tory women canvassers, that many of them, so long as God gives them breath will never take the hands of these Tory assailants of their reputations, again even in ordinary social friendship. They will never work with them in any common cause. So far as the leaders, made of female, in this infamous campaign of vilification and slander upon Liberals whose loyalty is as deeply-seated as theirs and possibly more so, are concerned, there can be no co-operation based upon mutual confidence and respect. The friendships of the past are with many broken, the animosities and resentments borne of the Tory campaign attacking their loyalty as British subjects, will long linger. The vilification, publicly and privately, passed all forgiveness."

The St. John page of the Transcript suddenly disappeared the same day. Perhaps the loss of it worried the editor and got on his nerves. But the mood will pass, and the Transcript will eventually overlook the shortcomings of its opponents, and join with them in the promotion of many good causes.

INTOLERANCE.

The Imperial League of this city has a fine Tory flavor, which has been quite noticeable from time to time. The League has now gone on record as "unalterably opposed" to even the "rumored admission" of Sir Wilfrid Laurier into the union cabinet. The Times has no reason to believe Sir Wilfrid would at present consent to enter the cabinet, but there is no more reason why he should not be acceptable than in the case of Joseph Howe when the latter decided to enter Sir John Macdonald's cabinet after the country had endorsed confederation, which he had so bitterly opposed. If now Sir Wilfrid Laurier should feel free to pursue a similar course it would be a great gain for the cause of Canadian unity.

All the intolerance is not confined to Quebec province—more's the pity. One of the finest things said since the result of the elections was announced was said

by the Hon. N. W. Rowell, Liberal-Unionist, in Toronto. He said:—"This is now the hour for reconciliation. If Quebec really accepts the decision of the Canadian people and co-operates in carrying out the law of compulsory military service, national unity will be re-established in Canada, and if the sons of Quebec go forth to fight with the sons of the other provinces in the common cause, there will be developed such a spirit of unity and co-operation as will bind together races and provinces in the Dominion as they have never been bound together before. Let us all earnestly hope that this result will be achieved."

Quebec will not be conciliated by a boycott, nor by an exhibition of intolerance equaling or surpassing her own. This is a time for kindly counsels and the larger view of national duty and responsibility.

THE OTTAWA OUTLOOK.

The Toronto Star says of the new government and the new house of commons:

"The government has received a majority which will render it free from all anxieties and cares except those connected with the prosecution of Canada's part in the war. Its duties will be onerous, and its responsibilities grave. The war has again reached a critical stage, and it will be necessary for the allies to put forth every ounce of their strength pending the arrival of the American armies in full force. In order that Canada may do its share it will be necessary not only that the needed reinforcements of men be sent, but that the resources of the country shall be organized in a far more systematic way than has hitherto been done. To this purpose we may now expect the union government to give its undivided attention. Hardly less important will be the duties and responsibilities of a new parliament, in which for the first time the western provinces are adequately represented or nearly so. The parliament will be fresh from the people. It will contain many new members, and we may hope that it will be fruitful in suggestion and constructive criticism. The country and the cause have need of all its wisdom."

The Halifax Chronicle puts the case clearly and strongly when it says:—"The government has a great opportunity before it, coupled with grave responsibility. There are many things, apart from what it has declared to be the imperative duty of the hour, which call for action. There is pressing need for a cleaning up all around, for the abolition of the curse of patronage and graft, for the elimination of wasteful expenditure and extravagance, for the weeding out of the parasites in the military and other branches of the public services, for the establishment of efficiency and for the galvanizing of all the departments of the administration into new life. The people have taken the Union Government into faith, and faith must be justified by works—not political and partisan, but practice."

A visit to the stores reveals the fact that the spirit of Christmas prevails despite the war. The display in the shops was never more attractive, and the number of customers would seem to indicate a brisk trade. The children are not to be forgotten, and though the price of meats and poultry is very high there appears to be an excellent supply. Apart from high prices we do not feel the pinch of the war, and that should be a cause of thankfulness, and of gratitude to the gallant men overseas who hold the Hun at bay.

The Bangor Commercial, which describes the victory of the union government in Canada as "a victory for the Allies," says:—"It was difficult to believe that there could be any other result or that Canada would refuse to back up the efforts of the Canadian soldiers who have won great glory for their valor in France and Flanders."

BELIEVED VICTIM OF TONG MEN IN NEW YORK

New York, Dec. 21—Believed to have been the victim of Tong men, George D. Gee, a Chinese employed by the United States government as an investigator of the opium law, was stabbed to death in his home here. His body was found by his American wife. The slayers left no clue.

Four nights ago Gee led internal revenue agents in a raid on a Chinese opium den in Newark, N. J. Federal authorities alleged that for some time one of the Chinese secret societies had placed a price of \$500 on Gee's head. Gee first entered the federal service several years ago. His face was familiar to Chinese the country over, government agents said, because he appeared recently in a moving picture film which depicted the opium traffic and the precautions the government takes against it.

Former Premier Calliaux defended himself before the Committee of Eleven, appointed by the Chamber of Deputies. "I have been too friendly with all sorts of people. My wife often warned me, saying, 'Be careful, you will end by getting yourself assassinated.'"

If the glass percolator of your coffee pot breaks, use a glass lemon-squeezer for the time being.

A BIRKS BROOCH

As a Christmas Gift of moderate cost, we shall be glad to show you an exceptionally fine selection of Brooches many of them priced as low as from \$5 to \$10.

Prevailing designs feature combinations of pearls with the more popular semi-precious stones—peridots, amethysts, sapphires, etc.

Painty Cameo-set Brooches in several unique mountings are shown from \$5 up to \$100. Lingerie Clips in many pleasing styles, \$3.50 to \$15 per pair.

All 14-kt. gold. Birks production.

Many Christmas Suggestions are contained in our Gift Book.

Diamond Merchants

Birks

Goldsmiths Silversmiths

MONTREAL

DR. C. G. HEWITT HONORED.

Ottawa, Dec. 21—Dr. C. G. Hewitt, F.R.S.C., dominion entomologist and consulting zoologist of the department of agriculture, has been awarded the gold medal of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. At the same time he was elected an honorary fellow of the society "in recognition of eminent services to the cause of bird protection" in England and Canada.

A good fresh coconut is light brown in color and you can hear the liquid inside when you shake it.

Give Slippers For Gifts

A big variety to select from at astonishingly low prices.

Ladies' Kid Boudoir Slippers in rose, blue, grey, tan, black and brown... \$1.65 to \$2.35

Ladies' Felt Comfy Slippers in red, blue, brown, maroon, \$1, 1.15, 1.35, 1.50 up to 2.50

Ladies' Woollen, Felt Sole, Slippers in dark colors and plaids... \$1.00, 1.25, 1.35, 1.65

Dr. Jaeger's... \$2.50

Ladies' Felt, Fur Trimmed Julietts with leather sole and heel; grey, brown, and black, \$1.85, 2.00, 2.25

Laced... \$1.95

Ladies' Kid Strap Slippers, \$1.95, 2.50, 2.65 up to 5.00

Men's Kid Everett Slippers in black or brown, \$1.95, 2.75, 3.50, 4.50

Men's Woollen, Felt Sole Slippers in dark colors and plaids, 80c, \$1.25, 1.35, 1.50, 1.75, 1.90

Men's Felt Slippers with leather soles and heels, \$1.35, 1.50 and 2.25

Children's Felt and Woollen Slippers... 65c. to \$1.00

Store Open Every Evening Until Christmas.

FRANCIS & VAUGHAN

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What Counts Today

in FOOTWEAR is the measure of SERVICE first. In

HUMPHREY'S FOOTWEAR

you get SERVICE, comfort and Good Appearance in the measure that suits the times.

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Useful Christmas Gifts

Dainty and Serviceable Goods that will surely please the recipient.

WOMEN'S BOUDOIR SLIPPERS In brown, black, blue, red, old rose and grey kid... \$2.00 and \$2.25

WOMEN'S COSE FELT SLIPPERS In brown, red, blue and black at \$1.50

SKATING BOOTS Men's... \$4.00

Boys'... \$2.25, \$2.50, \$3.50

Women's... \$4.25

Girls'... \$3.50

Snowshoes... \$3.00

Slipper Trees... 25

Boot Trees... 75

Polishing Outfits... 50

ENGLISH PLAID FELT HOUSE SLIPPERS

For Men, Women, Girls and Children Women's Kid House Shoes, \$2.50 to \$4.50

Women's Fine Dress Slippers, \$4.00 to \$7.50

Women's Overshoes... \$1.50 to \$3.00

Men's Overshoes... \$1.75 to \$3.50

Men's Kid House Slippers, \$2.25 to \$4.50

Women's Gaiters... \$1.00 to \$2.25

Women's Fine Walking Boots, \$5.00 to \$12.50

Men's Fine Walking Boots, \$6.50 to \$9.50

Be sure and see the display of Comfy Slippers on our Christmas Tables.

McROBBIE

FOOT FITTERS

50 King Street

Christmas Cakes and Pastry

Fruit Cake Pound Cake Colonial Cake Patties

PIES: Mince Washington

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Flashlights



Boys simply go wild over them, in fact, they are prized by every member of the family. There's always something to locate after dark, or a trip to the cellar, attic or storeroom, and its needless to mention the peril of lighting matches on such occasions.

Our Christmas Pocket Flashlights are all new style, with modern, long-lived batteries and Mazda lamps and range in size from a cute little nickel plated vest pocket pattern to an 8-inch spot light, and at prices ranging from 85c. to \$3.50.

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CHRISTMAS NEWS

Certain To Please Her

These are all Practical Presents. Stop and consider how much more gifts are appreciated that are useful.

ELECTRIC GOODS



SILVERWARE

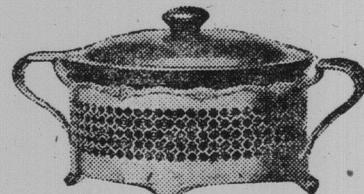


TABLE CUTLERY

Dessert and Table Knives (cel-luloid)... \$4.00 to \$5.50
Stainless Dessert and Table Knives... \$10.50 to \$12.00
Pearl Knives and Forks (in cases)... \$2.75 to \$3.00
Celloloid and Pearl Butter Spreaders (cases)... \$5.50 to \$6.25
Rogers Bros' "1847" Dessert and Table Knives and Forks... \$6.00 to \$11.00

Electric Percolators... \$15.00 to \$17.00
Electric Chafing Dishes... \$15.00 to \$20.00
Electric Egg Broilers... \$6.50
Electric Irons... \$4.50
Electric Toasters... \$4.50 to \$5.00
Electric Grills... \$6.00 to \$8.50
Electric Heating Pads... \$4.50
Electric Lamps... \$4.00 to \$10.00
Electric Flashlights... 85c. to \$5.00

Casserole Dishes... \$1.75 to \$8.00
Bake Dishes... \$6.00 to \$10.00
Butter Dishes... \$2.50 to \$6.00
Pickle Dishes... \$3.00 to \$6.00
Bread and Cake Trays... \$2.00 to \$7.00
Toast Racks... \$2.00 to \$5.00
Tea Sets... \$25.00 to \$30.00
Toilet Sets... \$7.50 to \$12.00
Cake Baskets... \$5.75 to \$8.00

Christmas Special—1 Pint Thermos Bottle... \$1.59

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Per 1/2 Barrel... 6.40
Per 1/4 Barrel... 6.15
Per 24 lb. Bag... 1.60

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Foley's Stove Linings

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TELEPHONE MAIN 1601

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FIRST RETURNS FROM AUSTRALIA AGAINST CONSCRIPTION ACT

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 20—A special cable to the Vancouver World from Sydney, Australia, states that the first returns of the conscription plebiscite give a majority of 120,000 against conscription with more than a million votes counted. Another million votes remain to be counted, including the soldiers vote.

May Not Mean Defeat. Sergeant-Major Ungar, of the Arzacs and well known as one of the prominent conscription orators in Vancouver during the recent election, speaking this evening, on the partial returns of the

BEST YOU FORGET

Besides the incomparable saving advantage offered by this up-to-date Grocery Store, you have absolute assurance that everything is of the highest quality.

We would like to call your attention to the fact that we carry a large and varied line of Xmas Candies, Stockings, Crackers, etc., besides everything in Fancy and Staple Groceries.

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Cut Glass Comforts \$2.75 each

Aynsley China Cake Plates 75c

Children's Tea Sets - 50c

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Australian elections, said that while these looked unfavorable, it was probable that the returns came largely from New South Wales, which was one of the "anti" strongholds. There were 750,000 voters in the state and in its previous opposition it was supported by Queensland and South Australia. The states that favored every man doing national work were Victoria, Tasmania and the Northwest Territories, the lead of 179,000 of the anti would be easily wiped out by the soldier vote, which totals about 380,000, which will be practically solid for conscription. To defeat the measure, the "anti" must, therefore, overcome a lead of 100,000 votes on the last million yet to be heard from.

In the present election 65,000 aliens are disfranchised.

In the conscription election in Australia last year, the issue was defeated by a margin of 61,000 votes, 1,085,000 ballots being cast in favor of conscription and 1,146,000 against it. Women voters estimated place the number of Australian soldiers who were entitled to vote in the election this year at between 300,000 and 350,000.

Moncton, N. B., Dec. 20—(Special)—A very pretty home wedding took place at noon today at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bliss Mollins, Prince street, when their daughter, Miss Marcella Jean, became the bride of Robert Hoar, also of Moncton. Rev. E. H. Cochrane, pastor of Highfield street Baptist church, performed the ceremony. They left this afternoon for Montreal, Quebec and Niagara, and on their return will reside in Moncton.