

The Evening Times and Star

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THE GAG APPLIED

Because they fear to face the people of the country with their naval policy, the Tories have applied the gag in parliament and placed another blot upon the record of the party. The Liberals resisted the application of gagging to the list, and the cry of "shame" which Sir Wilfrid Laurier greeted its application by Mr. Borden and his supporters will be echoed throughout the length and breadth of Canada.

WORKING MEN'S HOUSES

A very striking statement was made at the last meeting of the National Housing Association of the United States in Philadelphia in December last by Mr. Granga Sard of Albany, president of the Albany Home Building Company, in the course of a discussion of the subject of financing the small house. Mr. Sard said: "I attended a hearing before the legislature last week, the subject of which was the twenty-eight bills for the comfort and health of the working people."

THE ORCHARDS LANDS OF LONG AGO

The orchard lands of long ago! O drowsy winds, awake and blow The snowy blossoms back to me, And trail their tresses in the breeze Of happy summer from the trees Of grain that float and overflow The orchard lands of long ago!

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BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

SATURDAY, MAY TEN. Mahlon K. Cowan, a prominent Canadian lawyer, is fifty years of age today. He was born in Rythymaston. On becoming a lawyer he practiced his profession in Windsor. He sat in parliament for four years, resigning to become solicitor for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. He is now in private practice in Toronto.

S. H. Ewing, a prominent manufacturer of Montreal, was born in Londonderry, Ireland, on May 10, 1838. He is interested in many financial undertakings in Montreal and is rated a millionaire.

J. W. Tyrell, civil engineer and explorer was born in Weston, Ont., fifty years ago today. He has had many interesting experiences, traveling through Northern Canada with his brother, J. B. Tyrell.

SUNDAY, MAY ELEVENTH The Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice in the Borden government, was born in Montreal on May 11, 1860. He practiced law for many years in Montreal, finally becoming judge of the Supreme Court of Quebec in 1901. He retired from the bench in 1906 and entered parliament in 1908.

Leon Cohen, a prominent Jewish merchant of Montreal, was born on this date in 1868 in Poland. He is deeply interested in the welfare of his people and the betterment of Jewish conditions in this country.

Wallace Downey, noted builder of racing tracks, including the German Emperor's track, "Metzger," was born in Montreal, N. S., on May 11, 1862. He is now resident in New York.

LIGHTER VEIN BOUGHT. A man from the city went to a small country town in New Hampshire to pass his vacation. At the station he took the stage, which was drawn by two dilapidated horses and found that he had no smaller bill than a one, which he handed to the driver.

Which horse do you want? The driver looked at it for a moment and then said: "Which horse do you want?"

CORRECTING A HUSBAND. A colored woman went to the pastor of her church the other day to complain of the conduct of her husband, who, she said, was a low-down, worthless trifling fellow. After listening to a long recital of the delinquencies of her neglected spouse and the efforts to correct them, the minister said: "Have you ever tried heating coils of fire upon your head?"

REGRETTING THE COST. Henry never knew stairs could be so troublesome and alpine until that midnight. He had reached the turning point of his perilous journey, when his wife appeared, armed with the well-known candle and poker.

"You're drunk, Henry!" she cried indignantly. "Your drunk!" "Well, if I ain't," responded Henry demurely. "I've spent \$3.65 for nothing at all. And he wept—Judge."

Don't Trifle With Your Skin. At no time should the skin be trifled with. Oresone, Lotion or powders should be used, which are sure to give you no harmful ingredients. There is nothing in the market today that is so perfect or that will preserve your skin or keep it in better condition than Pearless Cooling Cream.

25c Per Bottle. You can get it only at Porter's Drug Store. "The Biggest Little Drug Store in the Town" Car. Union and St. Patrick Streets

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WOMEN VOTE IN SCANDINAVIA

Influence For Good in Public Affairs. ONE IN CHARGE OF SCHOOLS. Another Holds the Balance of Power in the Copenhagen Municipal Council and Has Been Named Dictator—A Clever Tactician.

(Times' Special Correspondence) Copenhagen, April 29—Scandinavia's energetic, masterful women are leading the men in all useful enterprises. In Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland they have rights which range from the full political vote and right to sit in the legislature down to mere participation in local self-government. Of late they have been concentrating strongly on municipal work; and the results are pronounced excellent, for the Scandinavian capitals and large cities are the best governed in Europe.

Lately, at a public meeting in which the full faculties of civic New York came up for discussion, Stockholm's mayor put the poser: "Why don't they let women do the work?" He added that Stockholm has now eight women municipal councillors, and that the city had gained thereby. The public satisfaction is shown by the rise in the number. In 1910 only two women councillors were returned; at the 1911 election the number rose to five and at the election of 1912 eight were chosen.

Fran Emilie Broome, the senior of these councillors, is the best authority on continuation schooling in all North Europe; and the most practical worker in this domain. When Stockholm sought a particularly efficient person to control all the continuation schools, male and female, it chose Fran Broome. It has since made her also supreme director of the city's elementary school system. When Fran Broome entered the municipal council she started a vigorous campaign in the interests of the schools. She demanded more and better teachers, better pay, and more strict supervision in order to make sure that no child escaped being educated. The result of her four years' work is that Stockholm's elementary and continuation schools lead all others.

Another talented Stockholm city worker, whose services far transcend any man's, is a municipal councillor, Anne Lindhagen, daughter of a famous burgmeister. Frustrated Lindhagen leads the movement to beautify and ennoble Sweden's capital. A few years ago she woke up to the fact that Stockholm was being ruined by modern architecture borrowed from Berlin; and that the municipality and private individuals were tearing down historical monuments and showing no regard for history, continuity and aesthetic propriety.

Frustrated Lindhagen began a campaign for the preservation of all city landmarks, and for building in a style which harmonizes with the past. Soon afterwards she started a campaign for parks and gardens. Seven children's gardens have been opened as a result of her agitation; and four of these are among the beauty sights of Stockholm.

The objection first raised in Sweden to admitting women into local self-government was that they would form women's parties and reduce government to a scramble between the two sexes. This has proved untrue. The Stockholm women councillors belong to three parties. Experience shows that they are less party-tied than men when affairs of importance come up. Thus all the women councillors lately united under Frau Broome to agitate for a municipal trades school and a training school for servants. They carried both projects.

Three Stockholm women hold the record for diligence. During 1912 not one of the five female councillors missed a single session. No man holds that record.

In Copenhagen the whole of municipal politics will be this year dominated by Frustrated Blom, who is known as "Dictator of Copenhagen." The explanation is that she holds the balance of power in the municipal council. A fierce struggle is going on between the Social Democrats and three other parties which oppose them. The Socialists stand for a policy of broad local reform, which threatens heavy burdens in taxes. At the municipal election which took place this March the Socialists won twenty-seven seats out of fifty-five. The anti-Socialist parties also got twenty-seven. Frustrated Blom as candidate of "The Christian List" (the City Mission) got the 50th seat. It depends entirely upon Frustrated Blom's will whether Copenhagen is to become "the Red City" as the Socialists predict, or not.

Frustrated Blom is an elementary school teacher, and the most energetic woman in Denmark. She has been for four years a councillor. She is a great enthusiast for education. A few years ago she made a tour of inspection in all the big towns of Holland and Belgium, and brought back good material about foreign ways of training. When her money gave out she did the second half of the tour on foot. She made a similar tour in Finland. She is leader of the Copenhagen rescue movement.

Frustrated Blom is famed through Denmark as a political tactician; and she is now bargaining with the Socialists for their support in useful enterprises, in return for which she will sometimes give them her deciding vote.

Copenhagen is an example of the good results of getting women to take part in municipal government. It is owing to women that the city has its present intense civic life. Formerly municipal affairs were treated with indifference by most citizens. In 1875-85 only about 62 per cent of voters took the trouble to vote. When women became active in civic affairs this indifference disappeared, and at the election of March 89 per cent of the population of both sexes voted. Of women voters on the list 93 per cent voted. This proportion is considerably higher than the proportion of men. Copenhagen's example shows the fallacy of the old objection that it is no use giving women the vote as they will never use it.

A pamphlet has appeared in Copenhagen on "The Beneficial Results of Female Participation in Municipal Affairs." It shows the good influence which women have had on the civic affairs of many Scandinavian towns. In towns where women are active in municipal affairs the proportion of money spent on schools, housing reform, children's gardens, and other useful purposes increases more rapidly than in towns where men alone do the governing. Where women have no influence the proportion of non-productive expenditure, such as expenditure on salaries and clerical work, is higher.

All round, Scandinavia's women are proving themselves as effective in civic work as they are, where they have the vote, in high politics.

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