

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 16, 1922.

The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street every evening (Sunday excepted) by The St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

Telephone—Private exchange connecting all departments, Main 2477.
Subscription Prices—Delivered by carrier, \$4.00 per year; by mail, \$3.50 per year in Canada. By mail to United States \$5.00 per year.
The Times has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces.
Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrup, 350 Madison Ave.—CHICAGO, E. J. Power, Manager, Association Bldg.
The Audit Bureau of Circulation audits the circulation of The Evening Times.

TWO YEARS AND \$10,000.

Nearly two years and over \$10,000 for two useless reports have been wasted by the city since the New Brunswick Electric Commission first announced that it would be able to supply hydro electric energy from Musquash.

That \$10,000 or more would have given the city the services of an expert for a year, and we might now have been in a position to distribute cheap light and power throughout the city. By being afraid to go ahead in a courageous manner the City Council has not only wasted that \$10,000 but deprived the people of the benefit of cheap light and power for a long period. This is the simple truth of the matter, although those who pointed out from the beginning the importance of prompt action were charged by the New Brunswick Power Company and its friends with sinister motives.

We are today just where we were from the beginning, except that a survey for a distribution system has been made. There is the more reason that the City Council should now act promptly. The New Brunswick Power Company, failing to get the Musquash power, will of course want something else, and what that something is is no secret. It wants to be bought out of a price that would place a very heavy and wholly unjust burden upon the citizens of St. John. Already the old plausible appeal that the parties should get together is heard; but, as the Globe points out, the power company has never shown any get-together spirit and is not doing so at present. It likes the lion and lamb method of getting together, with the lamb inside the lion. The people have expressed their will. It is there in the platform of Mayor Fisher. It must be given effect by the City Council, and if the power company will not listen to reason it must accept the consequences of competition.

PRAISE FOR ST. JOHN.

Under the heading, "Advance New Brunswick," the Toronto Telegram says:—
"St. John, N. B., has refused to accept the private ownership destiny prepared for Halifax. New Brunswick will not share the doom of Nova Scotia. The recall of the Mayor of St. John achieved a triumph for progress and created hope for a new activity and prosperity in New Brunswick and St. John. St. John defied the impudent attempt to enhance private ownership as the distributor of electricity produced by public ownership. St. John will grow and New Brunswick will follow up by the complete establishment of public ownership in the production and distribution of electricity on the model of the Ontario Hydro-Electric system."

HYDRO IN NOVA SCOTIA.

"Amherst must have cheaper power." This assertion is made by the Amherst News, for the following reasons which it gives:—

"Amherst is primarily an industrial town. Industry is based on costs. Without in costs, with in the race for industrial expansion. The place where manufacturing can be done cheapest, marketing also being kept in mind of course, is the place where manufacturing will be done. It Amherst offers low manufacturing costs its future is bright and vice versa. The alternative to low priced manufacturing power is decadence. As decadence cannot be countenanced we contend Amherst must have cheaper power."

The News refers to what is being done in other towns and cities, including St. John and Moncton, and quotes the remark of Mr. Lloyd George:—"We must go ahead or go under."

St. John on Monday last decided to go ahead and not go under the thumb of the New Brunswick Power Company.

Winnipeg Free Press—"History repeats itself in the United States. Once the Republicans get full control of all branches of government they cannot resist the temptation of indulging in a leban of insensate protection. Whereupon the people club them over their heads."

Bangor Commercial—"The church bells in Atlantic City, N. J., were rung in election day to call the voters to the polls and the Democrats evidently heard the summons."

SETTLERS FOR THE LAND.

At a meeting of dairymen in Belleville last week, Mr. John Elliott outlined the plan which it is hoped will bring many farm laborers to Canada and keep them on the farms. A report in the Toronto Globe says:—
"Mr. Elliott touched on the immigration question, which will be a big one in the year 1923, when the greater number of immigrants from the British Isles will be placed on farms in Canada. Britain has appropriated \$75,000,000 to aid in settlement in Canada, and \$15,000,000 will be spent annually on this object. Canadian farmers will be asked to deed in trust one or two acres of their farms to a committee, who will on that property erect a laborer's cottage at a cost of \$1,500, \$750 of which will be provided by the British Government. At the end of five years the original owner of the property will have the privilege of repurchasing the house and land for \$1,000. This step is being taken with a view to assist farmers in permanently employing their farm labor."

The province of Quebec is doing a notable work in repatriating families which had gone to the United States, but which are now being induced to return to their native province and settle on the land. A recent statement by Hon. J. S. Poirault, minister of colonization, is as follows:—
"As a result of its special settlement efforts through the clearing of colonized lands the Province of Quebec disposed of 220,000 acres to newcomers during the year ending June 30, 1922. In the 12 months 628 families of French-Canadian origin, consisting of 2,471 persons, returned to the home of their fathers from the New England States. Several thousand additional acres are already cleared for the same purpose and a system of inspection organized."

The maritime provinces must develop a policy which will give them a share of the prosperity that comes with the right kind of settlers.

Italy's new premier proposes a bold scheme of reform in the operation of the various departments of government. It is this outlined in a cable from Rome—"A specific amount will be appropriated by the Chamber for the operation of each department. The workers themselves must decide the details of this. For instance, should the amount allotted some department be fixed at 200,000 francs monthly, the employees are left to judge whether 200 clerks at a salary of 1,000 francs each should be retained or 100 clerks with a salary of 2,000 francs each. All that Mussolini exacts is that the work shall be done properly within the specific amount appropriated." Putting it up to the workers themselves is a device which is not usually adopted by governments. It will be a very interesting experiment.

The early British election returns show that the Conservatives, as far as the record went up to an early hour, were doing well. A majority over all the other parties combined. Labor has not made anything like as good a showing as its leaders had predicted. This is perhaps the most significant feature of the returns. Fuller information regarding the general result will doubtless be received before this issue of the Times goes to press. The Law Government, on the face of early returns, has done very well and will appear to be able to carry on. We are told the campaign was conducted without bitterness. The women voted in very large numbers. We shall know by tomorrow the complexion of the new House of Commons.

Mayor Fisher will not be turned from his purpose to talk about people who voted for him but not for his policy. His platform spoke for itself, and his majority was more than a thousand. Eliminate all doctors who have a better medicine than his and there would still be a big majority for the platform.

The New Brunswick Power Company would dearly love to persuade Mayor Fisher, and especially the commissioners, that the people do not know what they want and should not be trusted to control their own affairs.

New York Evening Post—"It will require a much clearer, more decisive, and far more widespread protest against Volticism before the advocates of light wines and beer can see much hope."

The City Council is to be congratulated on its evident desire to give prompt effect to the will of the people as expressed on Monday.

FOR THE SEAMEN.

The secretary of the Navy League has received from "Fort Cumberland Chapter," L. O. D. E., Moncton, N. B., \$25 toward the Christmas celebration for the seamen.

A PRAYER.

(By Agnes Joyner.)
O, holy Peace, come to our weary earth!
With thy white wings fan from the sliding air
The sickening stench of war. With thy soft hand
Smooth thou the soldier's brow; the brow of her
Who works for him and prays and waits at home.
Earth is plunged deep by dread and mighty force,
And fertile with the blood of Freedom shed;
The seed is sown; the sunshine of thy smile
Will bring forth mighty harvest—and there's need.
Units again the remnant of earth's family
Round the hearth in story, song and dance—
But come not, Peace, until above the field
Where our brave died that Liberty might live.
A greater liberty shall firmly stand;
A liberty more glorious than our dreams.
Have thee conceived; whose strong and shapely arms
Are all-embracing, and her stature grown.
To such a sublime height, her smile which makes
Earth glad, lights also Heaven.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Something Saved.
Mary's mistress, awaiting tea, heard a loud crash in the next room. The lady shivered and rang the bell to call Mary in.
"What was that?" she asked.
"I tripped on the rug and the tea things fell, ma'am."
"Did you manage to save anything?" asked the mistress.
"Yes, ma'am. I kept hold on the tray all right."

New Foreign Peril.

(Punch, London.)
The New York Evening Mail suggests that, as we are not paying our debt, America should send some of her lecturers to England. Don't do that. We'll pay.

Military Poker.

(This saluting business reminds me of a game of poker.)
Yet—"How so?"
Rooke—"An officer passes me and I raise him five."
Yet—"Yes, and whether you do or not, you're liable to get a call."

NEW PROGRESSIVE CHIEF.

(Toronto Globe.)
"A kindly, mild-mannered, solid Scotsman," was the phrase once applied to Robert Forke, M. P. for Brandon, now chairman of the Parliamentary Committee and House Leader of the Progressive party. He has a little more knowledge of parliamentary tactics than most new members, but is one of those men who are always learning. Last session at Ottawa he sat directly behind Hon. T. A. C. Crerar. It is an incidence that his desk-mate, Joseph T. Shaw, should have been his opponent in the vote for new leader. However, Forke was very loyal to his leader, while Shaw was active with the radical element from Alberta. Forke's election shows the Crear policies to a large extent will prevail. The new House leader is sixty-two years of age. He was born in Serveldale, Scotland, came to Canada when twenty-two, and still carries the Scottish thistle in his words. He is a successful farmer, who became quite an expert in municipal affairs before going to the capital. Modest and homespun, he never descending to personalities, Robert Forke has energy and ability to inspire Parliament with the ideas and ideals of his party. As a measure of the esteem in which he is held in Manitoba, his name was seriously considered as premier of that province when the Farmers won it last election.

TEACHING LITTLE FOLK DOCTRINES OF SOCIALISM.

(Toronto Globe.)
Following the example of the movement in European countries, where children are taken to classes on Sunday afternoon to receive an education in Socialism and to sing the hymns of the Socialists, the city of Toronto has opened a class for children of members of the movement in Toronto.
Yesterday about 40 children, from five to ten years of age, were singing with vigor "The Red Flag" and "The Internationale" while a girl with some knowledge of the movement played the accompaniment. They received their "lessons" from clerical women. In the movement the children just now are known as "famine scouts" and during the week last stamps in aid of the famine-stricken areas of Soviet Russia.

ASTONISHING DISCOVERY.

(Edmonton Journal.)
—An astonishing discovery has been made in connection with the new British Lord Chancellor. To what extent the constitution will rock as a result has yet to be shown. He is the first occupant of the post in 300 years to wear a moustache. No objections will be raised in this part of the empire, unless he tries it in the prevailing jax-boy mode.

Should "Tag Days" Be Abolished?

(Vancouver World.)
"Tag days" was a vogue during the days of the war when war charities were in urgent need of funds. No one begrudged either time or money. With decreasing financial results for the efforts of the public-spirited collectors who stand guard at the street corners almost every Saturday, there is also a note of annoyance in some quarters at the City Council for its easy consent to requests for tag days.
A workman writes to The World protesting against a system that makes almost weekly levies on salaried workers of the least-paid class. Many women who are urged to serve as collectors find it hard to refuse. Is there no better way of collecting funds from the other candidates?
San Francisco has adopted the community chest plan for the collection and distribution of funds for charity. This means there will be one big campaign each year to raise the necessary money to carry on the welfare work of the community. It means elimination of incessant campaigns by the various organizations and institutions carry on social welfare work.

The world's only convict-operated game farm is in the state of Washington.

LIQUOR PROFITS IN QUEBEC.

(Ottawa Journal.)
For the year ended April last the Province of Quebec had a net profit of \$4,000,000 in round figures from state operations in liquor. The transactions of the commission amounted to \$15,212,801, in addition to which beer was produced having a wholesale value of further \$15,000,000. Government sells spirits at a fixed advance on cost, but merely exacts a license fee for the manufacture of beer.
From the monetary point of view this was good business, and Quebec, always conservative and prudent in her administrative policies, will probably be envied by those other provinces which do not find it easy to balance their budgets. Yet to many the moral issue will remain. The commissioners have obviously had the aspect in mind, and in their report discuss the statistics relating to crime. They naturally conclude that the policy of the province of liquor, one class, they admit, point to the sharp difference of judgment which prevails with regard to the matter of liquor. One class, they admit, believes strongly in total prohibition, while another favors restrictive selling. In defence of their own attitude they say:—
"Such a change in the habits of a people is necessarily slow, and requires the use of means which are not oppressive, so as not to encourage a reaction, which reaction would mean a battle for another system. It is with this viewpoint that your commissioners accepted the responsibilities conferred upon them."

The report very plainly discloses that the Quebec policy falls far short of perfection. During the year 2,929 investigations took place, 1,600 cases were made out, 168 permits were issued, and 800 investigations are still under way. With Hull right under our eye, no other evidence is necessary to prove laxity and glaring imperfection. In the ultimate reckoning many students of the liquor problem will doubt something more than money profits to counterbalance the obvious loss of efficiency in any community which makes it easy to get liquor. Something is also to be said respecting the demoralization which accompanies the constant and flagrant breaches of even a restrictive law.

SCARCITY OF MINISTERS.

(Quebec.)
According to a statement recently made by the Rev. Dr. Rexford, there is a serious lack of young men willing to offer themselves as candidates for the ministry of the Anglican Church, and for this serious state of affairs the responsibility has been added on the laymen, the Doctor citing in substantiation of such a theory that the Apostles in the history of the church are recorded as calling together the laymen and requesting them "to choose seven young men to be the ministry." The laymen are required to do two things: to make the work of the ministry more attractive and to direct the young men to the ministry. Although young men of the right type are not moved by money considerations entirely, yet the question of making money in other fields has a decided attraction for the ambitious youth of most countries, and the result that applicants for the ministry are less numerous—owing to the insufficient recompense awarded in Christian cases. Of all vocations, the Christian ministry is the most sacred, the most exacting, the most humbling; and, judging by worldly standards, a minister's financial reward, speaking generally, is none too satisfactory.

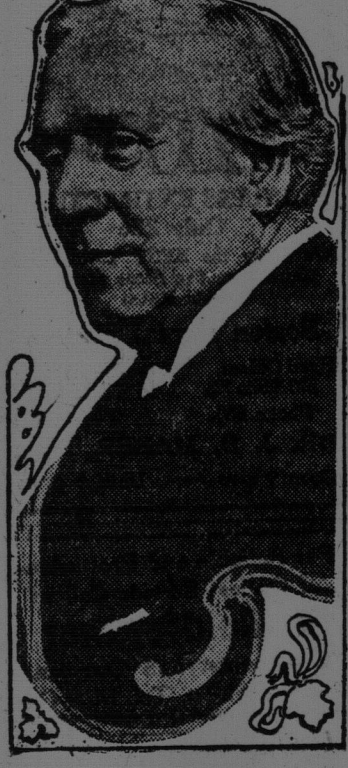
The department of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering has been recently discussing the inclination of the men of science to turn to religion, and the conflict between "science and religion" of a former generation was with religion at all but "Marjorie" Hamilton was charming as "Marjorie" Hamilton was charming as heard to find effect. Widows are Wonderful proved a delightful solo, as did "Dear Old Dutch" and "The Song of the Sea." The latter had an old fashioned setting with a graceful dance in the background contributed by Messrs. Holland, Fenwick, Tennent and Plunkett. Mr. Hamilton, as the White Sulphur in the opening of the second part of the programme again scored a hit with an Oriental song.

Reg's Newman's first number was with Che McLean in a screamingly funny Russian skit, Darkest Russia, during which the duo executed a bizarre Russian dance and sang a comic song. The lighting effects were particularly well done in this act. Later, in solo, "Red" rendered "The Song of the Sea," and "Dear Old Dutch," with fine feeling, and demonstrated his versatility by singing as an encore, "I'm a Daddy," a very funny number. His rendition of "I'm a Daddy" was met with the same expression of approval as on its first rendition here.

Albert Plunkett added to his laurels with three fine solos. Immediately after the prologue, which depicted the return of the Canadian soldiers returning to Mt. St. Eloi, France, after the war, Mr. Plunkett in his delightful manner sang My Lady's Dress, which was accompanied by a fashion show depicting the styles from the Cave Woman days down to the present day. The act of the second part, Coal Black Mammy, and in the second portion of the show renewed his former success. The Wild, Wild Women, to which he was compelled by the insistent applause to add two or three encores. But his big hit was in the stutting song, "I-K-K-Kiss Me Again." His inimitable manner just suited this number and the audience forgot the number times he was encored. He did the accompaniment for the next number but was not commenced. Al might have continued until the end of the show. Both sections of the programme included a farce from the pen of Ted Charters and in addition Mr. Charters did his screaming monologue, Kilt Inspection, as an extra. Jimmie Goode put over a fine, witty and humorous monologue, in which he characterized a British politician. It was regretted that Jimmie, on account of laziness, had to omit some of his solo numbers. Messrs. Young, Murray, Brayford, and Tennent were heard in an excellent quartette number, The Road to Mandalay. It was well deserving of the applause it received. With two others, Bert Wilkinson and Al Plunkett, they also presented a sextette selection.

Holland Davis was a delightful number in which Tom Young delighted the audience with a beautiful tenor solo, Girl of My Dreams, and Messrs. Newman and Holland presented a character dance.
These are only the high lights in the programme. There were hundreds of other little bits, sandwiched in here and there which made the show a full and complete success. The costumes were all new and wonderfully attractive.

H. H. ASQUITH



He denies that his wing of the Liberal Party is flirting with Bonar Law with a view to a new coalition in British Policy.

DUMBELLS RENEW THEIR POPULARITY WITH NEW SHOW

Soldier Players Greeted by Big Audience in Imperial—Some of the Old Favorites are Added to Delight of All.

It goes without saying that the Dumbells were given a hearty reception when they appeared last evening at the Imperial on their third appearance in the city. All the old favorites were there and as they made their entrance were greeted with enthusiastic applause which left no doubt as to their popularity with St. John theatre-goers. The Dumbells presented an almost Imperial on their third appearance in the city. All the old favorites were there and as they made their entrance were greeted with enthusiastic applause which left no doubt as to their popularity with St. John theatre-goers. The Dumbells presented an almost

Without doubt the high honors of the presentation were shared by Ross Hamilton, "Red" Newman and Al Plunkett. "Marjorie" Hamilton was charming as "Marjorie" Hamilton was charming as heard to find effect. Widows are Wonderful proved a delightful solo, as did "Dear Old Dutch" and "The Song of the Sea." The latter had an old fashioned setting with a graceful dance in the background contributed by Messrs. Holland, Fenwick, Tennent and Plunkett. Mr. Hamilton, as the White Sulphur in the opening of the second part of the programme again scored a hit with an Oriental song.

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GOODEY VOLSTEAD.

(New York Tribune.)
In all the queer capers of the election, there is none more diverting than the retirement of Representative Andrew J. Volstead, of Minnesota's Drys, and who was joined in defeating the legislature whose statutory makes put the teeth in prohibition. The former painted the lily by voting for the Rev. O. J. Krue, who boasted he was "drier than Volstead." The latter also supported Mr. Krue, from motives probably associated with their notion of poetic justice. If there is a martyrdom connected with the saying that politics makes strange bedfellows, Mr. Volstead must take rank among the shining victims.

It may solace him to feel that it will be a long time before his name is forgotten. Volsteadism is already imbedded in American speech to express a new phase of repression for which there is no convenient synonym. Mr. Volstead is likely to find himself in the next edition of the dictionary along with Dr. Gullitoh, Dr. Bowdler, Mr. Pinchback, Captain Boycott and other worthies who are everlastingly symbolic.

The political reverse of a gentleman who has inspired millionfold grudges is

perhaps not a national calamity. Very likely Andrew J. Volstead is a royal good fellow personally, and we gladly give him hall and farewell—Ave atque Vale.

IT WAS WORTH WHILE

The New York Herald is a Republican newspaper. Its editorial comment on the election results is short, sharp and decisive. Under the headlines "Worth While" it says—"Fordney, McCumber and Mondell, reactionaries of the reactionaries—all out. The price was high but riding Congress of these incubuses is worth it to the Republican Party, worth it to the country."

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Irvine of Millville on Tuesday celebrated the eleventh wedding anniversary, and that occasion several of their friends tendered to them a shower. H. J. Knox, on behalf of those present, presented to them a large basket filled with useful and appropriate gifts, with Dr. Gullitoh, Dr. Bowdler, Mr. Pinchback, Captain Boycott and other worthies who are everlastingly symbolic.

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