

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 12, 1925.

A PROPHECIC CARTOON.

There is reproduced to-day the famous cartoon published in the Daily Telegraph in October, 1904, just prior to the general election of that year, when the Government of the day was asking the people to sanction the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific. It represents a cow which is being fed in Canada, but milked in Portland, Maine. It summed up the fears of those who opposed the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme, and who said that as the parent road, the Grand Trunk, had its Atlantic terminus at Portland, the tendency would be to divert Canadian traffic to that port, to the detriment of Canadian harbors and Canadian interests.

The people of Canada were told in 1904, when they consented to the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific and of the National Transcontinental—and the latter cost them \$176,000,000—that the main purpose of the new railroad construction was to promote east and west traffic, and to discourage traffic north and south, opening up the West and making sure that Canadian freight would be kept in Canadian channels. Particularly was assurance given that Canadian ports would get the business. Millions from the public treasury were given in the form of assistance to the Canadian Northern, also, and the assurance concerning Canadian ports was then repeated.

Then came a time when, notwithstanding the tremendous measure of public assistance they received, the new railways were becoming bankrupt, and the Government took them over, and incorporated them in the Canadian National system. It was said, then, that one certain result would be to stop the diversion of our traffic to alien railways and ports.

The result has been extraordinary. Not only was the diversion not stopped, but it has been increased, and it continues to increase. The chief excuse for building the Transcontinental was to make a cheap highway for wheat coming east to Canadian ports and for freight westbound to the prairies. But that road lies practically idle, while two-thirds of Canada's wheat crop finds its way to Portland, through Buffalo, New York, and to Norfolk, Baltimore, Boston and other American harbors. Canadian flour goes largely by those routes. The Canadian wheat crop is building up an immense flour industry in Buffalo.

Such are conditions to-day. They constitute a most serious national problem. All over Canada there is increasing protest against a policy which permits the continuance of this economic crime, through which the cow in Canada is milked not only at Portland but at a dozen other American ports, while, in the words of a western newspaper, our own railways and harbors are starved of their legitimate traffic.

CONAN DOYLE LOOKS BACK.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was in a reminiscent mood at the annual meeting of the Savage Club in London recently, and told some diverting experiences he had during his early days of struggle, introducing many names which have since become famous. It was a rough road he traveled when he first began to write. He remembered a time when it was his habit to pour water on his silk hat to renew its gloss, and when the editors were so busy returning his manuscripts that his chief exercise was "a sort of ping pong with those gentlemen, who knocked his manuscripts back as fast as he sent them, and generally on his side of the net." After Sherlock Holmes began to get hold of the public and was being played at one theatre, Doyle encountered a boy who was acting the part of a page, and he says: "If I had said to him, 'We'll go halves for all our lives,' I should have made a great deal of money, for that little boy was Charlie Chaplin."

He went on to refer to some of his fellow-workers in those early days, including Rudyard Kipling, whose illness now excites the sympathetic interest of so much of the world, and who, says Doyle, has exercised a remarkable influence upon English literature, being remarked, came into literature at a time when critics were lamenting the fact that English writing was dead and that there was no sign of a new crop springing from the old soil. Doyle, in those days, was still possessing medicine to some extent, and, at a draper's close by, was there an assistant, whose name was H. G. Wells. There also was a rawboned Irishman roaming about London. His name was Bernard Shaw. There was a young man named Thomas Hardy, and a young journalist struggling for a living writing paragraphs in Nottingham, whose name was Barrie.

Like Doyle, all these authors had to fight hard for recognition for some time after they began to write. Even Kipling was no exception. It was only after long discouragement that he found a publisher with discrimination and faith enough to publish "Plain Tales From the Hills." Sir Conan Doyle can well afford to jest about the

amount of money made by Charlie Chaplin, for his own writings have brought him a rich return, and his fame is beyond price.

At last night's meeting of the Teachers' Association, in the Natural History Society rooms, Mr. W. J. S. Myles strongly urged the teaching of local history in the schools, an excellent recommendation. The early history of this city and this province contains many inspiring and picturesque stories with which the young folk of to-day should be familiar. They need British history, and world history, but more emphasis should be placed upon balancing their historical education by instructing them concerning the early events and the development of their own land.

Odds and Ends

**The Fountain of Youth**  
(Observer, in Halifax Herald.)  
Over 400 years ago Ponce de Leon was searching for the fountain of youth. If you find it, thought, would it be to find it—a draught from it would ward off the changes that old Time faint would make. It has not been found, though men and women have used all devices to extend human life and keep young. Life has been considerably lengthened, but the "subtle thief" is still busy. There are those, however, who seem to have found some way of defying time. I have in mind a woman I met once, and though she was in sight of her eightieth birthday I heard a man giving advice to some friends, and it was this, "If you wish to keep young, spend as much time as you can among young people." People do not age so early as they used to. We have noticed photos of men who could not have been more than 30, and they looked every day of 60. Dress has something to do with it, so has the habit of taking an interest in the world.

**Two-Seated Taxis Advocated.**  
London has started a movement for a two-seated taxicab to take the place of the ordinary taxicab which seats four persons and is now in use in Europe and America. The two-seaters would be cheaper to operate and, therefore, cheaper to the rider, it is argued. There is some apprehension that it would cause overcrowding, however.

**Candles Made of Glass.**  
Candles have become so popular for purely decorative purposes in homes which are well equipped with electricity that manufacturers have designed a candle that will not melt, break or chip. It is made of glass tubes filled with colored silk floss. The silk projects through a hole in the top of the tube, giving the effect of a fringed wick.

**Sand Yachting Popular.**  
In Europe sand yachting is proving popular. Silk mounted on four bicycle wheels, to which a rough steering device and sails have been affixed, are the vehicles used. It is called a safe and thrilling sport for both the young and old. Some of the sand sailboats are as large as iceboats.

**Ancient Toll House Moved.**  
The Round House, Brook street Hill, near Brentwood, England, has been moved back ten yards. For a hundred years this building, a brick built, two-story house of curious design, was used as a toll house on the main Essex road, principally for the collection of fees from the coaches which ran to and from London. It was moved to allow of road widening for modern traffic.

**Cow's Ropes Trip Pedestrians.**  
At Port Couillard, N. B., the police commissioners have been asked to look into the habit of cow owners in tethering their cows for the night, that when she begins her nocturnal grazing she causes them to do all sorts of acrobatics and endangers their lives. The cow has the habit of pulling her rope across the sidewalk and then tightening it about the time someone comes along in the dark.

**Desert Flowers Beautiful.**  
The sterile, sandy, stony wastes of the deserts are not entirely devoid of beauty. Nature sows to it that rare beauty at times relieves the monotony. The semi-arid deserts of the American west have many plants which, once a year for a short period of time bloom with a beauty that rivals any dream of a Persian garden. One of these flowers is the rock rose or fragrant primrose, which blooms after the rainy season and just before the long drought sets in. It is sometimes called the Cinderella of the desert.

**Indian Is Traced Again.**  
In an effort to ascertain just where the American Indian originated, many years have been spent in study and research, and now the latest theory to receive some confirmation is that he originated in Asia and crossed over to America by way of the Bering straits. It is assumed that many years were consumed in this migration, if it took place at all, because the northern west have many plants which, once a year for a short period of time bloom with a beauty that rivals any dream of a Persian garden. One of these flowers is the rock rose or fragrant primrose, which blooms after the rainy season and just before the long drought sets in. It is sometimes called the Cinderella of the desert.

**OLD LADY** (To young, struggling lawyer): And don't you think law is a wonderful profession?  
**Young Lawyer:** Yes, madam, but a damned poor occupation.

**THE CLERK** who sits up half the night often lies down on the job of the following day.

Just Fun

**"WHAT'S** the difference between a boy and a girl?"  
"A girl loves her ring, but a boy rings his love."

**A MAN** was telling a friend about being robbed. "The thief took my watch, purse, billfold, ring—in short everything."  
"But I thought you carried a loaded revolver?"  
"I do—but he didn't find that."

**GRAND RAPIDS** has passed an ordinance prohibiting "necking" on the front seats of motor cars. "It would be terrible if the city should rate sofas with automobiles."

**GLADYS** says the girl who is careful about jumping into autos, never has to jump out of them.

**THE MUSIC** of the movies may not appeal to you, but at least it drowns out the gum chewing.

**CHARITY** may cover a multitude of sins but curiosity uncovers a great many more.

**THE NUMBER** of square people, not the number of square miles, makes a country great.

**"WHAT?"** You are charging me for a shirt which you have lost?  
"Yes, sir. We had washed it before we lost it!"

**IT IS** pretty tough when the wife says, "Kiss me," and the husband mumbles, "What for?"

**MODESTY** is that quality of character which prompts a golfer to walk down the alley when he dons his first pair of knickers.

**DO IT NOW!**  
The knot was tied, the pair was wed.  
And I, the smiling bridegroom, said:  
Unto the preacher, "Shall I pay  
To you the usual fee today?"

Or would you have me wait a year.  
And then pay you three hundred clear.

If I should find the marriage state  
As happy as I estimate?

The preacher lost no time in thought.  
Steady, to him, no trouble brought;  
There were no wrinkles on his brow.

He said, "I'll take three dollars now."

Timely Views  
On World  
Topics

**IMPORTANT** decisions of the recent session of the Interparliamentary Conference and the value of the union were discussed recently by Sir, Gen. E. L. Spears of England in an article in the New York Times.

He said:—"The discussion concerning the codification of international law, for instance, on which a most important paper by Senator Elihu Root was read, proved most valuable, and it is a great pity that a committee was not appointed to consider the matter further."

"This kind of subject is exactly that which the Interparliamentary Union can deal. Laws cannot be imposed on nations. All that can be done is to bring into harmony with each other similar laws in different states, and to gradually awaken public opinion to the importance of striving to obtain the greatest conformity possible in the legislation of the states of the world. The Interparliamentary Union is the only means at present in existence capable of preparing public opinion for such unification."

**Unanimity Was Impressive.**  
"The discussion on dangerous drugs and European customs understanding was also valuable; but what was really impressive was to see the unanimity with which the conference welcomed any attempt which had as its object the peaceful solution of international disputes. In this matter there was no division of opinion, no hesitation. The representatives of the world's Parliaments showed in the clearest possible manner that their people long for peace. This imposing manifestation, this clear indication in favor of peace, was in itself a justification of the conference."

"A good many people have asked whether the utility of the Interparliamentary Union was not over now that the League of Nations is in existence. It played an undoubtedly important part in the past, preparing the way for the creation of the League; but now that there is a clearing house at Geneva, the utility of the Interparliamentary Union was not over now that the League of Nations is in existence. It played an undoubtedly important part in the past, preparing the way for the creation of the League; but now that there is a clearing house at Geneva, the utility of the Interparliamentary Union was not over now that the League of Nations is in existence. It played an undoubtedly important part in the past, preparing the way for the creation of the League; but now that there is a clearing house at Geneva, the utility of the Interparliamentary Union was not over now that the League of Nations is in existence. 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