

POOR DOCUMENT M C 2 0 3 5

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1926

The Evening Times-Star

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CIVIC MATTERS.

There are numerous matters inviting the close attention of the Saint John taxpayer. His Worship the Mayor yesterday held a conference with the Retail Merchants' Association and that body's petition for installment payment. The City Comptroller has prepared a forecast of the probable financial effect of such a system, and while this has not yet been brought before the Council and is therefore not available, His Worship said that it looked as though it would be possible to meet the wishes of the petitioners at no added cost. This will give intense satisfaction to many.

Meanwhile it is stated that a fifth petition for recall, involving, if successful, a fifth civic election, will be added to the four petitions already existing. Of this, presumably in response to the definite challenge issued by His Worship to the "Citizens' Committee," the Mayor himself is the subject. Without laboring the point already noted in The Times-Star, this merely emphasizes the fact that our city's constitution is not what it should be so long as a small minority can precipitate us into the expense and turmoil of a civic election. The Hon. L. F. D. Tilley, speaking for a corporation whose last tax bill amounted to \$12,000, voices strong protest against such expense.

Obviously we need a changed system of civic government. What is it to be? Dr. H. L. Brittain is in the city conferring with the Council with a view to making a survey. It will be as well to hear what he has to say before declaring position for any particular form. But with all these events passing before our eyes it behooves us to keep alert, watch what is happening and weigh its meaning. The Mayor's statement, issued yesterday, appears to answer the recall petition of the "Citizens' Committee," and Doctor Brittain's interview should clear up the points urged in objection to that expert.

Meanwhile there is yet the opportunity observed between the tax of men of apparently equal means but deriving their income from different sources. This is a subject for His Worship's investigation.

PREMIER HERTZOG.

Premier Hertzog of South Africa made an impressive speech at the recent unveiling in France of an imposing memorial to South African soldiers. "Hearing a far-off call from a world in distress, imploring for national freedom and world peace, our countrymen marched to the battlefield, forever determining their born conviction in righteousness and service. If military still stands over the face of Europe, the blame is surely not theirs. On the first place on the victorious statesmen, now rests justification by wisdom and action for the confidence imposed in them by the world to realize the high and noble purpose of the war."

This is the language of a statesman, and will make us think more kindly of a man whose utterances before he became Premier, and some things he has since been reported to have said, conveyed the impression that as a British statesman at least he had much to learn. It is gratifying to observe that his public utterances since he arrived in London to attend the Imperial Conference are those of a man convinced of the desirability of British connection.

REGIONS AND TARIFFS.

In both political parties in Canada there are divergent views regarding the tariff. If a western Conservative would not go as far as one from Ontario in the matter of protection, neither would a Quebec Liberal go as far as one from the prairies in the direction of free trade. That is to say: Neither party is unanimous in regard to the tariff, although the two parties as such are also at variance.

The situation in the Conservative party is easily illustrated. A Toronto spokesman recently declared that the party failed in the elections because it did not play "our trump card—protection." To this the Calgary Herald, a sturdy Conservative newspaper of the west, replies that if the Toronto man would "take a long holiday, trekking across the Dominion and keeping his ear to the ground, he would discover that there is a quite sizeable body of Conservative opinion clearly opposed to Haman-high gallow tariffs."

The Herald asserts that both parties trimmed on the tariff, but that the Liberals trimmed more successfully, and it adds:

"Nor will there ever be a cessation of trimming over this issue in Canadian politics until some leader appears with a policy guaranteed to compose the vital regional differences which are setting the people of Canada into opposing armed camps and making honest and intelligent settlement of truly national issues an impossibility."

The Herald is quite right. It is the regional differences which make one part of the country desire a tariff higher or lower than another part. The leader who will compose these differences must first frankly admit that the effect of a tariff is not the same in Ontario and Saskatchewan, for example,

or Ontario and the Maritimes; and, starting from that basis, frame an economic policy which will contain the element of compensation for differences in the effect of the tariff upon different geographical divisions of the Dominion. If it be asserted that such a plan is unworkable, then it is equally true there will never be an end of sectionalism.

As already noted, there are differing tariff views in the Liberal as well as the Conservative fold, and this tends further to complicate a difficult situation; but the regional differences present the real problem, and the leader of the Herald hopes for is not in sight.

The Toronto Globe says: "Rumor has it that the name of Hon. George H. Murray, for over a quarter of a century Premier of Nova Scotia, with the vacancy on the International Waterways Commission caused by the resignation of Mr. Maganah, Mr. Murray's training and long experience fit him admirably for the position."

The announcement that the British mission inquiring into industrial resources, which has been in the United States and is coming to Canada, will visit the Maritime Provinces before returning to England is a matter of interest and importance. It will afford an opportunity to enlighten the members of the Commission regarding the resources of these provinces and the opportunities for industrial development based upon those resources. We need British capital, and if we can persuade industrial leaders in the Mother Country that there are good opportunities here to produce for world markets the result will be very satisfactory. The better feeling that now exists regarding our future will make our resources known, and to secure practical aid in their development.

Seventeen cars of wheat left Edmonton last week for Prince Rupert, and officials of the Canadian National Railway say that this is the beginning of a movement which is expected to take a fair portion of the western grain crop, using the Pacific route, to the northern port. Of course Vancouver will feel to some extent the competition of Prince Rupert, but there is the satisfaction of knowing that the competitor is not an American port. The people of Prince Rupert have been clamoring for a portion of the grain trade, asserting that they can compete with Vancouver. The test to be made this season will settle that matter. It may be taken for granted that most of the grain raised west of Saskatoon will hereafter seek the Pacific route, and the proportion to be divided between Vancouver and Prince Rupert will be determined by the service given and the rates quoted. The northern port is growing, and a share of the grain trade will bring it still more shipping.

Curiously the effects of various sounds on the human mind. One young man was blindfolded and amid a perfect hush, a young lady whispered the word "Sweetheart" in his ear. The young man faints. . . . Write your own moral.

ODDS AND ENDS

Do You Vote?

(New England Craftsman.)

You say that taxes are too high. But do you vote?

About extravagance you sigh. But do you vote?

"How long" you wail, "must we endure. This state of things that keeps us poor?"

How long? I do not know, I'm sure! But do you vote?

The lights are bad, the streets a mess. But do you vote?

You say that bosses rule the show. That graft is reaching high and low. And doubtless, all you say is so. But do you vote?

You growl at rotten politics. But do you vote?

You howl at bosses and their tricks. But do you vote?

You say, O Decent Citizen (We've heard you, time and time again). "We want things run by business men."

But do you vote?

Unless you do (I wonder, do you?) You've got just what is coming to you.

MOTOR OFFENSES PUNISHED

(Regina Leader.)

Magistrates throughout the province are doing the proper thing in dealing as they are doing with offenders under the Motor Vehicles act. Fines are being promptly imposed for virtually all offenses, and if the violations of the act continue on the scale which has existed, it may be found advisable to make the penalties more severe.

The chief offense is failure to dim lights when passing other motorists at night. There have been many accidents, and many near accidents, because of this neglect. The danger from failure to dim lights, especially where the road is narrow, is very real. Police officers are doing the proper thing in prosecuting all such offenders at every opportunity, and that the magistrates are also alive to the seriousness of the offense is evident from the sentences they are handing out. Motor traffic throughout Saskatchewan is becoming increasingly great, which adds to the necessity for full compliance with all the provisions of the act.

Just Fun

HOW can I drive a nail without hitting my fingers?
"Hold the hammer in both hands!"
MR. GRUMPY, I think I deserve a raise.
"I can't afford it, but you can call yourself a private secretary instead of a stenographer."

NIMROD was a mighty hunter, but what about the man who kept the same collar button for fifty-five years?

BOBBIE (studying lesson) — "Dad, what is 'syntax'?"
Dad — "I don't know exactly; it's probably the money we have to pay for violating the liquor law."

HUHI
Old Bill Painter
Says gets my goats
Though hot, he will
Put on a coat.

THE chap who always takes his own time often robs some other man of his.

TEACHER—What is the meaning of the word "malimony," Robert?
Robert—Pa says it's a word, it's a sentence.

MRS. DETRAVERS—What do you think of this Brown-Simkins wedding?
Mrs. Fastleigh—Oh, he's been married only twice—it's a mere boy and girl affair.

Those Spots Before Uncle Sam's Eyes.
—From "Every Evening" Wilmington, Del.

Queer Quirks of Nature

By ARTHUR N. PACK
WHAT the sharp-shinned hawk is to the small birds, the Cooper's hawk is to those of larger size and to the half-grown chickens on the farm. Differing from the agile and

differs sexually in size, the males being the smaller. Now it happens that the smallest males of Cooper's may be nearly as small as the largest females of the sharp-shin. Thus their roles are supplementary, and any species that cannot quite be managed by the sharp-shin is fair prey for the more powerful Cooper's.

The destructive habits of these predators have been known and protection has been denied them.

Bounties offered for the Cooper's hawk often have been paid for the beneficial species, and, what is much worse, we have deprived ourselves not only of whatever benefit might have been derived from their good offices in destroying pests, but also of the inspiring sight of our larger soaring hawks, a privilege now afforded chiefly in memory.

The Cooper hawk shares with its smaller relative, the sharp-shin, most of its adroitness in the pursuit and capture of living prey. It is of slightly heavier build, relatively, but is by no means easy to distinguish, especially at a little distance, when the difference in size is usually lost. Sometimes, however, it may be told by its more rounded tail.

Cooper's hawk, like all birds of prey, he promptly offered his seat. His father took him up on his knee.

The train stopped again and another pretty woman entered. Again the boy rose to his feet, and with a polite bow motioned her to the vacant knee.

MAEL and her young man had been sitting in the drawing room quite long enough, so father shouted out from the top of the stairs:

"It's time for that young man to go home!"

The young man was indignant, and turning to Mabel said:

"Your father is a crank!"

But father overheard and answered: "Yes, but when you don't have a self-starter, a crank is very handy."

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How Very Blind He Is

NOPE! SOMEHOW I CAN'T SEE IT!

COMPLETE WAR DEBT CANCELLATION

Those Spots Before Uncle Sam's Eyes.
—From "Every Evening" Wilmington, Del.

FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRECLAY FOR LINING YOUR OWN STOVE

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Poems I Love

"Vivien's Song," By Lord Tennyson.

THE more one reads his Tennyson, the more one recognizes that supreme greatness which causes him to be so richly represented in every anthology. No singer of his time has decorated his poems with lines that have become priceless parts of our every-day speech. He is unconsciously quoted by the man in the street, who might be surprised to find that so many of the common phrases he has acquired emanate from the greatest of the Victorian singers.

In Love, if Love be Love, if Love be ours,
Faith and unfaith can ne'er be equal powers:
Unfaith in aught is want of faith in all.

It is the little rift within the lute,
That by and by will make the music mute,
And ever widening slowly silence all.

The little rift within the lute's lute,
Or little pitted speck in garnered fruit,
That rotting inward slowly moulders all.

It is not worth the keeping; let it go:
But shall it? answer, darling, answer, no.
And trust me not at all or all in all

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