

The Evening Times and Star

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THE VOICE OF CANADA

Hon. T. A. Crerar says: "What Medicine Hat said yesterday Canada will say when it gets the opportunity." Mr. Crerar is not alone in this estimate of the political situation. The more the overwhelming nature of the defeat of the Meighen government candidate in Medicine Hat is considered, the more clear it appears that this is more than a local reverse. It is accepted, and rightly so, as expressing the sentiments of the prairie provinces. The prime minister should not prolong his stay in England. He is not likely while there to give wrong expression to the views of this country on Imperial questions, but it is his duty to give the Canadian people an opportunity without unnecessary delay to express their views as to who should represent them at such a conference as that in London. The comment of the press generally on the result in Medicine Hat can give him no comfort.

The only way in which these handicaps may be overcome is for the individual citizen to take a personal interest in civic, provincial and Dominion affairs, to the end that those put in charge of the administration may be capable and honest, and worthy of the confidence of the people. To the extent that citizens neglect their civic duties they place upon themselves burdens that are a handicap to business and industry.

THE LOCAL DEADLOCK.

The streets of St. John are silent today. The street cars are not running. The citizens are deprived of that convenience. They must not, however, be deprived of light and power. That would be so gross a violation of their rights as could not be tolerated. The city council gives assurance that it has made provision for protection. This is absolutely essential and should be accepted from the first. The danger here, as it was in Quebec when the firemen and police went out, is that mischievous persons may be tempted to do damage that could not quickly be repaired. It is wise to face this contingency from the outset, as St. John is not without experience in that regard. There is no occasion for alarm. The officials give assurance that the members of the union who are now idle will remain law-abiding citizens. This assurance may be accepted in good faith. It is nevertheless necessary to guard against the possibility of activity of that class of persons whose regard for law is a matter of expediency, and who welcome such a condition of affairs as now exists in this city. It is quite possible that the struggle between the company and its employees will be prolonged. It is the duty of every good citizen to maintain a quiet demeanor and do nothing to provoke ill-feeling. Those in authority must preserve the peace and protect the public and the property of the citizens.

The Quebec city police and firemen, out on strike, have been given until tonight to return to duty. The city council will wait no longer. The Montreal real estate says: "Quebec police and firemen struck on Saturday, declining to accept the award of a conciliation committee. Youth and other mischievous persons entered some of the stations and did damage. All showed the modern democratic spirit. They could not get what they wanted, so they disregarded duty and smashed the public's property."

The great coal strike is settled and the British miners will resume operations on Monday. The owners will forego profits for three months and the men will accept a reduction in wages. The more radical demands of the men are abandoned. They claim to have established a new principle of profit-sharing on a national basis. Mr. Lloyd George says the settlement is a great and promising experiment, and hopes for new and better relations between capital and labor as a result. The country at large rejoices in the restoration of harmony.

The expression by De Valera of a willingness to consider the invitation of Premier Lloyd George to attend a conference, and his request to several prominent Irishmen to meet him in Dublin, are hopeful signs. Meanwhile the southern Irish parliament has been established, although the Sinn Fein members, who comprise nearly all of the lower house, stand away from the opening. The way is open for peace in Ireland if the advocates of a republic will abandon that impossible aim.

Germany continues to meet her reparation debts, thus proving how insincere were her earlier pretensions on that score. She is also setting other nations an example in industry and in production that is not without its significance and its warning for those in other countries who clog the wheels of industry and commerce.

The result of the Medicine Hat election will give new life to the farmer movement in politics throughout Canada. The high protectionists must look to their political weapons.

"FRIENDSHIP"

Gold and silver may be fine,
And diamonds may be rare,
But give me the good old friendship,
I've longed for here and there.

With every passing hour that floats,
Beneath the crimson sky:
A true and loyal friendship,
Stands true until you die.

When life is past and tasks are o'er,
And worldly deeds are done,
To make a friend and keep a friend,
Is like a fortune won.

JAMES BARR.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Read Affinities

"Are you sure your tastes and Roberts are congenial?" anxiously inquired the fond mother of the newly engaged daughter.

"Oh, yes, mamma," replied the joyous young thing, "we are both fond of Browning and lemon pie and motorcars."

Damaged Goods

"So Maud broke her engagement with Jack because the doctor said he had a tobacco heart?"

"Yes, and I don't blame her. Who wants a husband that's damaged by smoking?"

Ungrateful

The Bore—"I think this weather is awful!"

The Girl—"You shouldn't grumble at the weather. If it wasn't for that you would have nothing to talk about!"

Plenty of Will

"I hear your husband has given up smoking. Doesn't that require a strong will?"

Well, I have the strong will!

Good Business.

"It's good business," said the cinder, "As the train went whizzing by, To seize every opportunity To get into the public eye."

Treatment

This story was told by one of the doctors attending the convention here. A candidate for medical honors was having a hard time answering the questions put to him. Finally, one of the professors asked, "How would you treat a patient for the rheumatism?" "I would send him here to be examined," said the student, mopping his beaded brow.

—Boston Transcript.

IF ALL WEALTHY MEN WERE LIKE THIS ONE.

A man was dying. His family believed he was to leave them well-to-do. But he had suffered reverses, and when stricken with an illness which he knew was to prove fatal, he was actually worth less than nothing; he was many thousands of dollars in debt. To a friend who visited him on his sick-bed, he confessed that he was suffering mental torture because of his financial condition. The thought of what would become of his family haunted him. The friend felt infinitely sorry. The sick man had always played the game honestly; he was held in high respect; and his family were lovable folks.

The friend happened to tell the story to a wealthy man. "How much is he in debt?" asked the millionaire. He was told. "About how much would his family imagine he was worth?" he next asked. He was given some idea. The millionaire immediately wrote out a check for more than the combined amount of the indebtedness, and told him to deposit it to the dying man's credit and to go and assure him that he could live in peace, as his family had been amply provided for. The millionaire forbade the disclosing of his name.

"This sounds like a fairy story, doesn't it?" The truth is, that many men of wealth often do things equally thoughtful and generous as this. Not a few of them have grasped the fundamental truth of the line depicted by a great painter over a shrouded bier:

What I spent, I had.
What I gave, I have.
What I have, I have lost.

No man who cannot grasp the eternal truthfulness of these lines has learned the secret of real happiness or real success. —Forbes Magazine, N. Y.

ENOUGH OF "WAR WORK"

All over this country you will find traces of sloppiness, carelessness, awkwardness, "I-don't-care"ism. God knows there was plenty of bunglers before the war began; but they were in the minority. Today the man who does this work with a conscience, the man who feels as personally responsible for the stuff that passes through his hands as he were going to use it himself stands out like a beacon light on a hill. Today the man who does care; the man who can throw off the disease that is upon the whole world is the man with stamina and character who can face his Maker with a steady eye.

The world has got to have more of him and pretty quick, too. There is no work, house-work, shop work, office work, field work, that doesn't need doing a great deal better than it has been done. The reward for "War Work" that child of laziness and indifference, is starvation, revolution, fire, and murder, and every person who is doing that kind of work today is contributing to the terrible hell-on-earth that is preparing to descend before long. It won't be a fire-and-brimstone hell after death, but it will be a fire-and-gun-powder-and-slaughter hell before death that will make death seem like a vacation—unless we renounce "War Work."

We claim to be thinking beings; we let on that we are superior to the animals; we are supposed to be civilized. If beginning very soon, something doesn't start at both ends of the line, with the presidents of the big corporations and the newest apprentices of the same corporations; and if these people up and down that line don't begin to put honesty, sincerity, decency, intelligence, and civilization into their work, there will be so little work left that no one will need bother to do it. —(a) Barstow, in Forbes Magazine (N. Y.).

WHAT DID HE MEAN?

A merchant in a Wisconsin town who had a Swedish clerk sent him out to do some collecting. When he returned on an unsuccessful trip he reported: "Yim Yonson say he will pay ven he sells his hogs. Yim Olson he will pay ven he sells his wheat and Bill Pack say he will pay in January."

"Well," said the boss, "that's the first time Bill ever set a date to pay. Did he really say he would pay in January?" "Vell, aye tank so," said the clerk, "he said it bime a dem cold day ven you get that money. Aye tank that ban in January." —Forbes Magazine (N. Y.).

BREADLINE FUND STARTED.

The "Bowery Bread Line" in New York is to be re-established as a permanent aid to the unfortunate by an endowment fund of \$250,000, as a memorial to Stephen C. Foster, composer of some 160 songs, most of which he wrote while he was a resident of the Bowery. At a memorial concert last night at the Bowery Mission several of Mr. Foster's songs were sung, and announcement was made that offers of subscriptions had already been received. Several hundred men, many of them old men, who had been provided with typewritten copies of the words of the songs sung "Old Black Joe," while Harold V. Milligan, biographer of Foster, accompanied them on the piano.

"You sang that well," Milligan told the Bowery frequenters at its conclusion. "You ought to do so, because Foster wrote that song while he lived at 15 Bowery in 1863. There is an amusing history connected with another famous song of Foster's, 'The Swallow River,' which one musician has told me he considered the greatest song ever written in English. Foster had chosen several previous names of rivers and was looking around for a better title, when he and his brother finally found the name 'Swallow' in an atlas.

"Foster had never heard of the river, and now, when trains reach that river, they stop so that tourists may get a better view of the stream immortalized in this song. Foster, an actor in the Civil War, wrote and composed scores of songs for which he got no more than \$10 to \$15 each from theatre managers on Broadway and the Bowery."

Miss Olive Nevil, a cousin of Ethelbert Nevil, composer of "The Rosary," appeared in costume in 1860, and sang several others of Foster's Bowery songs.

THE ANGLO-JAP TREATY.

Great Britain and Japan first entered into alliance in 1902. The treaty signed in that year resulted from the joint action of Russia, France and Germany in depriving Japan of most of the fruits of her victory over China in the war of 1894-95 and from the subsequent Russian exploitations in the Far East. It bound the contracting powers to maintain the status quo and general peace in the extreme East and especially to maintain the independence and territorial integrity of Korea. In case either should, in defence of its interests, become involved in a war with a third power, the other was to maintain strict neutrality and to endeavor to prevent other powers from joining in hostilities against its ally. In case of attack by other powers the neutral ally would be obliged to enter the war.

Under this agreement Great Britain remained neutral in the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05. On August 12, 1905, while the peace conference was still in session at Portsmouth, the alliance was renewed. It was broadened so as to apply to India. The neutrality provision was eliminated. Article two stipulated that "if, by reason of unprovoked or aggressive action, wherever arising on the part of any other power or powers, either contracting party shall be involved in war in defence of its territorial rights or special interests mentioned in the preamble (i. e., in the regions of eastern Asia and India), the other contracting party will at once come to the assistance of its ally."

The treaty is thus defensive in character and leaves open to the ally not first involved in the war to decide whether the war was or was not due to unprovoked and aggressive action on the part of outside belligerent. Italy carried out a similar judgment in 1914 under the terms of her defensive alliance with Germany and Austria-Hungary. The revised treaty also recognized Japan's paramount rights in Korea.

On June 13, 1911, the alliance was again renewed for a term of ten years. It was then modified by the insertion of this clause: "Should either high contracting party conclude a treaty of general arbitration with a third power, it is agreed that nothing in this agreement shall entail upon such contracting party an obligation to go to war with the power with whom such treaty of arbitration is in force."

THE PRIME MINISTER'S WIFE.

(P. W. Wilson in The London Daily News.)

Lloyd George's long record is due largely to the strong, quiet placidity of his wife. In temperament, in tastes, in appearance, she is a contrast to Mrs. Asquith. She is a shrewd, home-loving daughter of Welsh nonconformity; careful in money, conservative in religious beliefs and habit of mind; of smart and clever society, splendidly contemptuous; playing no pranks, however innocent, with the proprieties; neither inscribing sonnets nor receiving them; a severe judge of intellectual charlatans; making no enemies; content to do the right thing daily, however dull, ordinary and obvious; the tradition of Mrs. Gladstone, of Lady Salisbury, indeed, of the Victorian era, at its solid and stable best. Lloyd George, like Joseph Chamberlain, has a home where no experiments are risked. This is one explanation of his hold on middle opinions in Britain. With women on the register, and among men also, Margot's Memoirs must always be an expensive political luxury.

A FINE RECORD.

(Halifax Chronicle.)

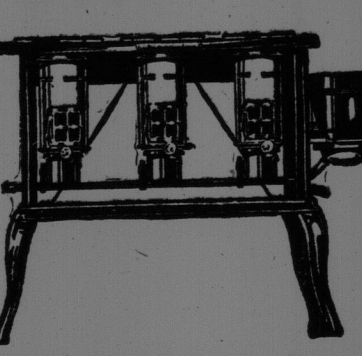
Among the many local schools and institutions whose closing exercises are being held this month, none is worthier of public attention or is doing more praiseworthy work than the School for the Deaf. For 64 years it has been doing not only a noble work in actually making the dumb to speak, but a genuine service to the community in training and useful and self-supporting lives so many boys and girls who have been afflicted. Under patient, and, above all, sympathetic teaching, the handicapped children who suffered have been greatly minimized, if not altogether removed, and most of the 500 pupils trained at the school, who otherwise would have been fitted to become useful citizens. The school for the deaf is achieving in its classes what not so many years ago would have been appraised as marvellous—and it is still wonderful. It has made up, in itself a reputation which is not excelled elsewhere in America, and is second to none anywhere in the quality of its work. The success of the year which closed yesterday testifies that under the capable direction of Principal Bateman and his staff the high prestige of the school is being splendidly upheld.

NEW SOURCE OF PAPER.

The current number of the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute contains a comprehensive and valuable article on the utilization of bamboo for paper making. Bamboo has come much to the front in this connection during the last year or two, and it seems likely that in the near future the manufacture of paper from this material will be undertaken on a large scale in several countries.

A British firm has been granted a concession for cutting bamboo in the

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government forests in Trinidad and has also established a bamboo plantation of 1,000 acres. Leases have been granted or applied for for working bamboo forests in Burma, Madras and other parts of India. In Indo-China two factories, equipped on up-to-date lines, are

actually manufacturing paper, chiefly from bamboo. Paper made entirely from bamboo pulp is of high-class quality. On the whole it is too good for the manufacture of ordinary newspaper and is more suitable for the better grades of printing paper.—Royal Gazette.

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