POOR DOCUMENT

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The Evening Times-Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 7, 1924

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MR. E. H. McALPINE

While for quite a number of years past he had been a man of rather solitary habit, the news that Mr. E. H. McAlpine had passed out of life will be heard with regret by friends scattered all over the province. The news was a shock to his St. John friends, who have been accustomed to see him daily about the streets near his office and had no reason to think he was so near to the end of all worldly things.

Mr. McAlpine was a good lawyer, though never active in the courts. He is best remembered as one of the most lively and effective of the stump speakers of the Liberal party of twenty or thirty years ago, and even in the latest federal and provincial campaigns his voice was heard. As a campaigner Mr. McAlpine was rough and ready, and rather relished an interruption which gave him opportunity for a quick and clever retort. Few political speakers of his time could pour forth such a torrent of raillery and scorn upon an opposing party and its doings, and there was certain to be much laughter when Mr. McAlpine set himself to the task of dissecting an opponent. The men of his prime, such as Blair, Stockton, Alward, Baird, Tweedie, Currey and many other lawyers who were also politicians have either passed away or are out of politics. They were rare fighters in those days, and to Mr. McAlpine the scent of political battle was very sweet. In recent years he took a less and less active part, but his personal interest was as keen as ever, and his comments on men and measures were greatly entertaining. Few men possessed such a fund of good stories about the politicians of the last thirty years or more, or could recount with such tolerant gusto the incidents that revealed the weaknesses or personal peculiarities of noted public men. Politically he would be classed as a good hater, who saw little that was good in the policies of the Conservative party, but that did not interfere with friendly relations with political opponents. Had Mr. McAlpine cared to mingle more with his fellow citizens in everyday affairs, and in the civic and social movements of the time, he would have filled a much larger place in the life of the community, for his impulses were generous and he was a man of excellent ability. He will be best remembered by old friends, and in some respects we shall not see his like again.

THE HALIFAX SENSATION

A writer in the Halifax Mail says:—

"Not in any spirit of petty faultfinding, but just as the statement of a plain truth I am led to say that there is an ever-increasing number of citizens who regard it as an outrage that the ex-City Collector should be in Dorchester, and the ex-Secretary of the Housing Commission should be in Rockhead Prison, while the ex-Secretary of the City Health Board should be enjoying his freedom across the border."

The explanation of these comments is found in the report of Price, Waterhouse & Co., on the condition of the finances of the city of Halifax. Here is one extract:—

"On reference to our report of January 29, 1924, dealing with the financial affairs of the city, you will note that there is evidence of monies having been received by the Collector of Taxes and not turned over to the City Treasurer to the following extent:

Municipal Taxes	$63,023.00
Interest do	3,993.33
Water Rates	8,120.18
Local Improvement Assessments	7,651.88
	$82,788.39

"In addition to the above defalcation in the City Collector's office, we found that the Secretary of the Housing Committee had received collection aggregating $3,909.28 for which he had failed to account; and that the secretary of the City Health Board had received sums aggregating $1,808.28 which he had not turned over to the City Treasurer. In the latter department the records were in such unsatisfactory condition that it was impossible to determine whether the amount of $1,808.28 represented the entire shortage.

"It is quite possible that the shortage in the City Collector's office may be increased as the work of collecting outstandings proceeds since it may be found that items shown on the records as unpaid have already been collected and not accounted for by the collector. At April 30, 1923, the total outstandings shown by the records were as follows:

Municipal Taxes	$1,986,759.77
Water Rates	209,273.93
Local Improvement Assessments	669,181.65
	$2,895,215.35

"Of the balance of $1,986,759.77 of Municipal Taxes outstanding at April 30, 1923, a total of $325,181.00 was collected during the period ending December 31, 1923, leaving the balance outstanding at that date $1,661,578.18.

"Apart from defalcations there will be a loss on collection of taxes as the outstandings represent an accumulation covering a period of fifteen years. Under the provisions of the city charter the lien upon personal property expires at the end of the civic year for which the taxes are rated, and the lien upon real property at the end of three years from the time when such rates are due and payable. The lien for the 1921-22 taxes in respect of real property will therefore expire on May 31st next."

While the chief blame for the situation thus revealed is laid at the door of the city auditor, the auditing firm points out weaknesses and recommends drastic changes in the system in vogue in the various civic departments. The report illustrates the value of an outside audit from time to time. The City Council of Halifax is confronted by conditions which call for the exercise of the best business ability available, to make the needed reforms completely effective and guarantee the citizens against any such disclosure in the future as has now shocked the city. The taxpayers have a right to know that their rights are guarded by their servants in the Council.

THE OIL SCANDAL

The oil scandal in the United States grows worse. The revelations made last Friday before the Senate investigating committee by Edward L. Doheny involves the name not only of Albert B. Fall, to whom he lent $100,000, but those of William G. McAdoo, who is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency; Thomas W. Gregory, second Attorney General in the Wilson Cabinet, and chosen last week by President Coolidge as one of the federal prosecutors of the oil ring; Lindley M. Garrison, first Secretary of War in the Wilson Cabinet; the late Franklin K. Lane, first Secretary of the Interior in the Wilson Cabinet; George Creel, civilian chairman of the wartime publicity committee; and Leo T. Stack, a Colorado politician.

Doheny says he employed McAdoo about a year after he retired from the office of Secretary of the Treasury, and paid him in four years $250,000, and still employs him to represent his oil interests in Washington. He says he paid Gregory $2,000 as a retainer to go before President Wilson and the State Department in his interest; that after Garrison left the Cabinet he was employed to look after Doheny's New York interests; that Lane was also employed after he left the Cabinet; that Creel got $5,000 to use his supposed influence with Secretary Daniels and that Stack also received a sum of money, although he paid it back later, along with the $5,000 received by Creel.

Commenting on these revelations the New York Herald says:—

"If Doheny's story is true, if it is not demolished by the public men involved in his testimony before the Senate Lands Committee, then those public men are eliminated from public life. If Doheny's story is true to the extent that William G. McAdoo has been on his payroll at $50,000 a year for five years, or practically ever since Mr. McAdoo retired from the Cabinet, then it is not conceivable that Mr. McAdoo, until yesterday one of the foremost candidates for the Democratic nomination for President, will have any chance of winning that nomination. Even if Mr. McAdoo could demonstrate that, despite Doheny's story, he never used his influence with the Wilson Administration to aid the oil interests, his political career is finished if it is admitted that he has drawn down a quarter of a million dollars from Doheny. And what is true of McAdoo is true of the others. The testimony of Doheny that he paid money to Thomas W. Gregory, who was Attorney-General under the Wilson Administration, has already had its effect. President Coolidge, who in a spirit of fairness chose Gregory as one of the lawyers to investigate the oil scandal, will doubtless recall the appointment."

Of course the other side of the story is yet to be heard, and one writer points out that there is no hint that the employment of McAdoo as counsel for Doheny was improper or unethical. His chances for the Democratic nomination are, however, conceded to be greatly injured; for, as the Herald further says:—

"The reaction of the public, in so far as the political side of the matter is concerned, is pitiless. The news that has come out in the last few days about oil has so worked up the public that everything connected with the oil leases and the men who obtained them is under suspicion, justifiable or not. Oil is for the moment anathema."

Albert B. Fall is to go before the Senate committee again tomorrow. The others involved will also be heard, with the exception of Mr. Lane, who is dead. As both Republicans and Democrats are involved the matter no longer has a partisan aspect.

Touching the matter of law observance in Canada, here is an interesting paragraph from the Halifax Mail:—"Byron Dauphinee, a justice of the peace in and for the county of Halifax, was, this morning convicted by Judge Wallace in the county court for having in his possession a still contrary to the provisions of the Inland Revenue Act, and was fined $200 and costs and given one month's imprisonment for his offence."

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With regard to the proposed superannuation bill to come before Parliament the Ottawa Citizen says:—"Superannuation should prove to be a sound investment by Premier Mackenzie King in public economy. The Government could afford to pension off superfluous employes in the civil service at full salary rates. It would be sound economy, if, at the same time, precautions were taken to prevent a renewal of the overloading of the civil service through political influence."

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Twenty-two national women's organizations in the United States have begun a campaign for an amendment to the Constitution which will empower Congress to pass laws prohibiting or limiting labor of persons under eighteen years of age. The Supreme Court says Congress has not that power at present. The Women's Committee makes this striking statement:—"Over a million children, from 10 to 16, now work in American factories, mills, mines and other industries. Nearly 400,000 are under 14."

Press Comment

BETTING A DISEASE.

(Manchester Guardian).

There is, among people of good character, any amount of differences of opinion about the moral quality of the act of betting. You cannot truly say either that all good men and women think it always wrong, or the reverse. But everyone who knows the life of towns and of mills and factories outside them, to go no farther, knows that absorption in betting, to the exclusion or dwarfing of other interests, has become an endemic disease eating into the vitals of the English people as the murrain eats into the life of the cattle of Chesshire.

A STRONG INDICTMENT.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

"It is quite apparent that Bulpitt was not suited for farm work," was the somewhat cryptic and seemingly irrelevant observation of Commissioner Lamb of the Salvation Army Immigration Service in the course of a brief interview with the Ottawa press on Friday concerning the death by hanging of the 20-year-old English immigrant boy in a shed on the farm of the Colborne, Ontario, farmer, Benson Cox. For what Commissioner Lamb had in mind is not clear. He does not say why young Bulpitt was not fit for farm work.

The reason, however, is apparent in the further despatches from Goderich relating to the inquest over the boy's demise. He was too well-educated and intellectually gifted to be farmed out to a man like Cox to be a slave amid conditions which surely crushed his spirit. Nothing more tragic could be well imagined than the circumstance that the day after Charlie Bulpit hanged himself, following a lashing from his employer, the following letter addressed to him was received at the Cox farm:

I am writing this in the hope that it will reach you in time to wish you a very Merry Christmas with a good dinner. I guess you will remember the social last year when you went home with a boot-box full of sandwiches. We had a French debate today, but missed your parlex-cous. Some of the chaps at school here fondly imagine you as killing buffaloes, Indians and wolves all day, and have drawn pictures of you as a rough-rider—Quick-draw-Charlie. Do you read as much as ever or don't you have time?

Charlie never had time. He never had time to read this letter. He was a prostrate and lifeless form when it arrived. The coroner said that his only "recreation" was Sunday school once a week—for this brilliant boy who spoke French fluently, knew Spanish, and reveled in books and the things of the mind. What, in the name of common sense, were the immigration people who brought him to Canada thinking about to bind in such bleak and stultifying servitude, from which there was no escape to him but death, a boy of such fine instincts and sensitive nature?

And the grossest aspect of the affair is the alarm of some of the immigration bigwigs that the circulation of this tragic story in Britain will discourage other boys from coming. The whole business of bringing helpless orphanage boys to Canada should be investigated.

A WINTER DAWN.

(By Archibald Lampman.)

Thin clouds are vanishing slowly. Overhead
The stars melt in the wakening sky; and, lo,
Far on the blue band of the eastern snow
Sober and still the morning breaks, dull red.
Innumerable smoke wreaths curl and spread
Up from the snow-capped roofs. From the gray north
A little wind that bites like fire creeps forth.
The purple mists along the south hang dead.
Out of the distant eastward, frosty, still,
Where soon the gold-shower of the sun shall be
A file of straggling snowshoers winds aslant,
Across the dull blue river, up the hill,
Toward the dusk city plodding silently,—
The jaded enders of some midnight jaunt.

(By Isabel Valle.)

Black turns to gray; the tram cars stir,
And through the pane's night vapored blur
The lamplights seem haze-aureoled stars
That swing—pale strands from unseen bars—
Mile after mile along the street
On to the world's end there, and meet.
I wish the gods would always show
As straight and plain a path to go!
No line where wrong is crossed by right;
A lie not something sometimes right,
Or truth a shameful thing to tell;
Signs everywhere; To Heaven! To Hell!
Life—not a maze to stumble through—
But just a lamplit avenue!

LIGHTER VEIN.

"I see Senator Smirk isn't going to run at the next election on account of sickness."

"Sickness? Why he looks hale and hearty to me."

"Yes, but his voters are sick of him."

The Proud Papa.

"Gabe Giggery and Bill Dick Prout had a dickens of a fight tuther day over which'n has got the smartest bunch of children on the Ridge," related Gap Johnson of Rumpus Ridge.

"Well, how did they settle it?" asked the presiding elder.

"They didn't; I've got the smartest children on the Ridge or any place else?"

Senator's Joke.

Senator Borah said at a dinner party in Washington:—

"War-devastated Europe prepares for war again, just as of old. War preparations ruined her, yet she starts right in on them once more.

"Europe reminds me of the doctor who once said to a bilious patient:

'You need physical exercise, sir. What is your occupation?'

"'Piano lifter,' was the reply.

"The doctor frowned. He had made a mistake. Then he pulled himself together and said smoothly: 'A piano lifter. Yes, exactly. Hereafter, lift two pianos.'"

A Severe Attack Of Heart Trouble Was Relieved by MILBURN'S Heart and Nerve Pills

Mr. S. E. Barnes, Athens, Ont., writes:—"Four years ago I had a very severe attack of heart trouble. I consulted my doctor; he treated me for some time, but I only seemed to be getting worse. I finally went to our druggist and purchased three boxes of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and derived immediate relief from their use, and I can truthfully say they are a wonderful medicine. I always keep a box on hand, and if I feel out of sorts I take a few pills and feel all right again."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c. a box at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

MIXED TRAIN CHANGES ON VALLEY RAILWAY.

Effective Monday, Feb. 11, there will be a change in the operation of the mixed trains on the Valley Railway between St. John-Fredericton and Centreville.

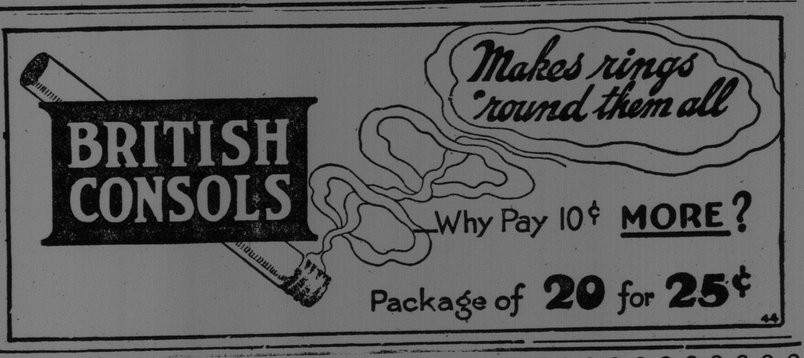
The passenger trains No. 47 and No. 48 will run as under present schedule, but No. 241 mixed will leave St. John at 7.30 a. m., Atlantic time, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for Fredericton. No. 243 mixed will leave Fredericton at 9.40 a. m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for Woodstock and Centreville.

Mixed train No. 244 will leave Centreville at 9.30 a. m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for Fredericton. No. 242 will leave Fredericton at 6.45 a. m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for St. John. 2-12

In 1861 the journey from St. Louis, Missouri, to California by stage-coach required 18 days and cost $225.

RED ROSE COFFEE *For particular people*

Pure! No chicory or any adulterant in this choice coffee C-2



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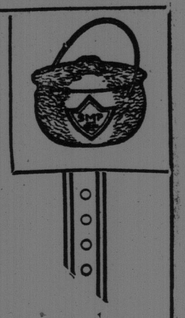
No Paring—*End Them*

Don't let the agony of corns destroy your comfort. Apply Blue-jay—and instantly the pain vanishes. Then the corn loosens and comes out. Does away with dangerous paring. Get Blue-jay at any drug store.

Blue-jay ©B&B 1924

SMP Enameled Ware Makes Cooking a Real Joy



Clean as a china dish SMP Enameled Cooking Ware cooks to perfection, retaining the natural flavors of meats, vegetables and fruits; bakes bread and cake beautifully.

SMP won't crack and, with ordinary care will last for years. It is shown in White, Diamond and Pearl.

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YOU CAN LINE YOUR OWN STOVE WITH **FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRE CLAY**

To be had of—W. H. Thorne & Co., Ltd.; T. McAvity & Sons., Ltd.; Emerson & Fisher, Ltd.; D. J. Barrett, 155 Union street; J. E. Wilson, Ltd., 17 Sydney St.; Duval's, 17 Waterloo St.; J. A. Lipsett Variety Store, 283 Prince Edward St.; Geo. W. Morrell, Hay-Market Sq.; East End Stove Hospital, City Rd.; Valley Book Store, 9 Wall St.; Philip Grannan, 563 Main St.; Quinn & Co., 415 Main St.; C. R. Ritchie, 320 Main St.; Stanley A. Morrell, 633 Main St.; P. Nase & Son, Ltd., Indiantown; J. Stout, Fairville; W. E. Emerson & Sons, Ltd., 81 Union St. West Side; C. F. Brown, Main St.; Robertson, Foster & Smith.

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In the 9 x 12-foot size Gold-Seal Congoleum Art-Rug No. 518 (shown on the floor) costs only $18.00.

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Fifth:—*They hug the floor without fastening of any kind—never curl up at the edges or corners.*

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9 x 3 ft. $4.50	9 x 7½ ft. $11.25	9 x 12 ft. $18.00
9 x 4½ ft. 6.75	9 x 9 ft. 13.50	9 x 13½ ft. 20.25
9 x 6 ft. 9.00	9 x 10½ ft. 15.75	9 x 15 ft. 22.50

Gold-Seal Congoleum By-the-Yard, 85c sq. yd.

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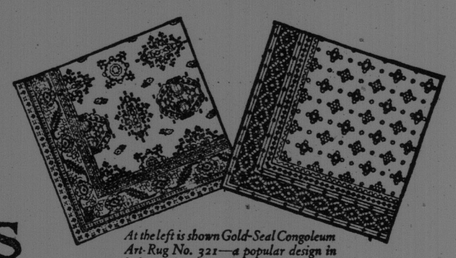

At the left is shown Gold-Seal Congoleum Art-Rug No. 321—a popular design in light tan; at the right is No. 408, a neat tile pattern in blue and white.

Made in Canada—by Canadians—for Canadians