

The Evening Times and Star

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THE COUNCIL AND HYDRO

It is not surprising that citizens are growing impatient with the city council in regard to the hydro question. It is quite incorrect to say that the citizens are going ahead too fast. The city council has been too slow. As the civic elections are at hand it is right and proper to call for a show-down, and nothing short of a clear statement of his views by each member of the council will satisfy the electors.

important fact emphasized by Father Tompkins was that men with even a little knowledge gained at school in early life can learn rapidly in classes with the right type of teacher, and that thus their whole outlook on life is broadened, they acquire a taste for reading and study at home, and become better and more intelligent citizens. He pointed out that seventy per cent. of our people get only a sixth grade education; and hence the need of people's schools where for a short course grown people may go and get such an intellectual awakening as will change their whole outlook and enable them to live fuller lives.

But Father Tompkins touched upon another matter of great importance, and that was the question of a great university for the maritime provinces. He made a comparison which showed how unfavorably we compare in that respect with other countries. Colleges we have in plenty, but the great university is yet to come, and in his view must come if we are to complete our educational system.

Rotarians from half a dozen cities and towns in the provinces heard with intense interest the message of Father Tompkins, and it cannot but have a good effect. He is making a splendid contribution to the cause of education.

Some members of the council favor a deal with the power company, regardless of relative cost of distribution. If it is true the electors ought to know, and if it is not true it should be denied. The council has had before it since early in January the most important business it has called on to transact for many years, and yet on the eve of the elections it is without a policy. The plain question to be decided has been obscured by dragging in that of the ability of the government of the province to fulfil a contract, and by bringing the New Brunswick Power Company in as a third party in the case when its only justification for being considered at all would be a definite offer more favorable to the city than civic distribution would ensure, having regard not merely for the present but for the future. If the city council is well-advised it will get down to business. There has been more than enough time to get all necessary information and formulate a policy.

The figures for Devon last term were 389, Bathurst, 379, Edmundston, 468. Looking over the table it is seen that some towns have less pupils in school than they had ten years ago; others have been almost stationary; and even St. John showed little more gain than Moncton, which with Campbellton makes much the best showing. Of course if compulsory attendance were the rule throughout the province there would be a larger total enrollment, but the figures when compared show very clearly that this province is not holding its natural growth of population. Such increase in enrollment as there has been is found chiefly in some of the cities and towns.

Rev. Father Tompkins, in his address to the Rotary Conference, made short work of the argument of the people cannot afford to provide for education. He submitted a list of figures showing the amount of money spent in the United States for luxuries, such as tobacco, chewing gum, face powder and a few others and then quoted the expenditure for education, which was amazingly small by comparison.

Do lawyers live longer than men who follow other professions? The death of Lord Halsbury, a former Lord Chancellor, at the age of ninety-eight, and that of Lord Lindley, another famous lawyer, in his ninety-fourth year, suggests that they do, says The-Bits.

The most interesting part of his address, however, dealt with the experiment of providing a people's school at Antigonish. To this school last year and this year came grown men, some of them past fifty years of age, to broaden their knowledge, and it was proved conclusively that such men can learn. No student was compelled to take any one subject, and yet in a course in literature there was almost perfect attendance.

Lord Trevelin, the Lord Chief Justice, is seventy-eight, while both Lord Sturdale, the Master of the Rolls, and Mr. Justice Darling are seventy-two. Other legal men who seem to defy old age and lead vigorous lives are Sir Edward Clarke, the oldest member of the English Bar, who is nearly eighty-one; Lord Wrenbury, the Chancery Judge, who is seventy-six, and Lord Loreburn, an ex-Lord Chancellor, who is seventy-five.

How Much Will You Give on Wednesday? It is not a question of will you give—but how much will you give. That is what will interest the Y. M. C. A. canvasser when he calls on Wednesday next. \$5,000 is needed.

With one leg broken and his skull fractured, Nat Capitan, an Italian, residing at 200 Market square, West End, was rushed to the General Public Hospital at 8:50 o'clock yesterday morning and now lies there in a critical condition as the result of falling almost forty feet to the bottom of the hold of the C. P. liner Sicilian, on which steamer he was working at the time of the accident. Capitan, who is married and has three children, is not expected to live.

THE FLOWER MAIDEN.
Oh, where did you gather such fair fresh flowers,
And where did they blossom, my
They lived in the sunshine and nursed
in the showers,
And soothed to their sleep by the
birds' serenade.

Deep down in the woods by the banks
of the stream,
High up the hills where the winds
are at play,
Far out on the plain where the slack
waters gleam,
'Twas there that I sought them since
breaking of day.

Oh, what will ye do with your blossoms
so fine,
And what will ye do with your blossoms
so fair?
Oh, many a garden I hope to entwine
In the silken mesh of my bonny brown
hair.

Yet tell me, sweet maiden, for much do I
muse,
Which of your blossoms you mostly do
prize,
And which of their wonderful petals you
choose
To match with the glow of your innocent
eyes.

And tell me what odorous flowers you
shall seek?
Not roses shall vie with your willow
grace,
Nor roses shall blush with the rose in
your cheek,
Nor shall I shine with the light of
your face.

Whatever is fairest, whatever is best
in bloom
of the garden, the forest, the
streams,
Whatever is purest to lay on your breast,
Shall fade in the glow of your wonderful
dreams.

Whatever is fairest, whatever is pure,
Of these ye shall weave in a crown for
your head.
Though well do I know it, they cannot
endure
To be worn in the light of the smiles
that ye shed.

Oh, tell me, sweet maid, by what mystic
charm
Amid these rare blossoms you surely
shall find,
One worthy the holiest shrine of your
heart,
Might match in its pureness, your virginal
mind.

LIGHTER VEIN.
A Winesap.
A young but exceptionally brilliant
professor in a western college was dis-
missed from the faculty because of his
inordinate betting. The president, in-
terested in the case, secured him a position
in an eastern college. To the president
there he wrote: "The young man has
a promising future, and anything
you can do to cure him of betting will
be a benefit to society."

The professor went east, and was
cordially received. Conversation had
just proceeded in a friendly way when he
said to the president, "I'll bet you sev-
enty-five dollars you have a wart be-
tween your widdler blades."

The president hesitated. "Young man,"
he said, "I never bet, but just to teach
you a lesson I will take you up."
His hesitating reluctance to the young
man's satisfaction that he was in error,
and the professor paid the seventy-five.
The president went west relating the
incident, concluding—"I hope that I have
cured him."

The other wrote back—"I fear the
case is hopeless. The greatest old gen-
tleman, 'you want to marry by daughter-
hood,' why, sir, it was only a few years
ago that you were caddyfing for me."
"Yes, sir," the young man replied,
"but I don't intend to let that stand in
the way. I hope I have sense enough
to realize that a very bad golfer may
make a fairly good father-in-law."

A Fair Exchange.
A rich elderly bachelor named Page
found the dropped glove of a charming
young lady and returned it with this
note: "If from your glove you take the let-
ter 'g,' then give it to me, and that
won't do for me."
In reply the young woman wrote:
"If from your name you take the let-
ter 'p,' then give it to me, and that
won't do for me."

A CHILD WONDER.
IS MURIEL KERR
(Ottawa Journal.)
Their Excellencies the governor Gen-
eral and Lady Byng have graciously
extended their patronage to a recital to be
given by little Muriel Kerr, in the Rus-
sell Theatre, Friday evening, March 24.
No child pianist of Anglo-Canadian
birth has, in modern times, created
such a sensation as this little child won-
der pianist, ten years of age. Muriel
was born in 1911 and has studied piano
work for only a few short years. She
plays the best composition of the great
masters, including Mendelssohn, Chopin,
Bach, Liszt, Beethoven, as well as mod-
erns. By her beauty of tone, romantic
vision and emotional power she estab-
lishes a strong communicative sym-
pathy with her audiences.

CHALLENGE TO
LABOR LECTURER

Henry Somerville, of Oxford,
Promptly Accepted Invita-
tion of Marxian—Spoke on
Catholic Work.

(Montreal Gazette.)
It became evident last night that the
presence in Montreal of Henry Somerville,
M. A., of Oxford, a lecturer in
economics, regarded as a change. At
the conclusion of his lecture on "Labor
Colleges," delivered in the Bourget Acad-
emy, Mountain street, under the auspices
of the Loyola School of Sociology and
Social Service, when the meeting was
open to general discussion, there arose
a man, who afterwards was identified
by his name, answered, "Call me Jimmie
Higgins," and promptly drew to the at-
tention of the audience that there now
exists in this city a labor college, The
Montreal Labor College, at 70 Jeanne
Mance street, which he described as a
college "where economics are taught to
workers from a different angle, and not
from the religious viewpoint. There
are lectures along the Marxian theory
and on revolutionary theories. We invite
Mr. Somerville to visit the Montreal
Labor College and address the revolution-
ary workers. We may teach him some-
thing. Particularly addressing the or-
ganization responsible for last night's
lecture, Mr. Higgins added: "We may
come to teach you how to run your own
school of sociology."

In reply to this challenge, Mr. Somerville
said that if anything were re-
quired to supplement his lecture and to
bring the necessary of institutions fol-
lowing Catholic principles, it had been
stated by the speaker who followed. Mr.
Somerville promptly accepted the invita-
tion to speak at the Montreal Labor
College, and as Wednesday night was
free, said he would be glad to go down
on that evening. He added that when
confronted by the revolutionary workers
he would like to show them they were
on the wrong road.

Undoubtedly the lecturers or visitors be-
fore the Loyola School have been pleas-
ant family affairs, but last night in ad-
dition to the representative of The Mont-
real Labor College, who had come pre-
pared with a supply of literature, other
speakers rose from the floor, asked ques-
tions, and imparted information, ranging
from the advanced of socialism to the
apathy of the masses. Mr. Somerville
answered all questions, and
proved quite adept in facing the various
points raised.

Mr. Somerville has come to Montreal
after delivering a series of lectures at
St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish.
He is about to return to Oxford,
where he is associated with the Catholic
College, established there in
conjunction with the university, and de-
signed to provide bright men in trades
with the opportunity of obtaining
such education as will best them to
accept leadership in their organizations,
and to qualify themselves for public life
leading in the future.

The whole labor movement in Eng-
land is becoming more and more
conscious. It looks to rule the
country. It knows it hasn't got the
men. It is spending money in training
the younger men so that they may be
able to take the place of the old men
as to its lack in this regard."

Frank Hodges, secretary of the
British Federation of Great Britain, was
quoted to the effect that labor will not
gain power by education, but only when
the public has become irritated through
some crime and then, probably will not
long remain in power.

Mr. Somerville drew a distinction be-
tween the Ruskin College and the Labor
College. He said that he attended the former
usually had their socialistic tendencies
tempered and left sobered at the end of
two years. At London they kept free
from the connection with the universities
regarding the latter as capitalistic. They
were frankly sectarian, even to the extent
of preparing their own text books. They
in part are an educated for revolution
and trained their students as
leaders for class struggle. A great deal
of the unrest in England was due to the
propagandists from these labor colleges.
Sir Basil Thompson, until recently in
charge of political investigations at Scot-
land Yard, and his members had attributed
the spread of Bolsheviki ideas in England
to the influences of these educated labor
men. Dr. Shadwell drew attention to
the fact that the young college-trained
men by virtue of their superior intelli-
gence and intellectual training secured an
influence in the trade unions out of
all proportion to their numbers.

The Catholic Viewpoint.
This led Mr. Somerville to a considera-
tion of the subject from the standpoint
of Roman Catholics in England and their
realization that the save their members
from the labor classes from such in-
fluences of leadership it was necessary to
secure counter influences. They had
established social study clubs and then
found it necessary to establish a resi-
dential college. The organization had
been a memorial to the late Father
Charles Plater, who furnished the in-
spiration, but who died before seeing his
idea in being. There had been many dif-
ficulties in organization. Funds were
limited, and it was necessary to build for
themselves in lodgings in Oxford. They
were well equipped with tutors, and
then found it necessary to build for
themselves in lodgings in Oxford. They
had started on friendly relations
with Ruskin, but their intimate studies
were carried out under Catholic prin-
ciples.

The whole broad question of special
education was discussed by Mr. Somerville,
who touched upon the fact that
for years the Socialists had been regarded
as the great men, because they had
studied and had become fluent in ex-
pounding their theories. "But soon the
Catholics will be ready to go out on the
street corners," he said.

"I have been reading of the early
foundations of Oxford," said Mr. Somerville,
"and found that they, too, began
in a very humble way. I found too, that
their principles could be accepted by us
today as charters without change."

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are following in the footsteps of the
founders of Oxford. We are founding a
new Oxford Movement that is going to
be as important as any Oxford move-
ment of the past."
Mr. E. McG. Quirk acted as chairman,
and in introducing the lecturer referred
to him as an old friend whose address
in Congress Hall some years ago had
aided in the organization of the Loyola
School.
At the conclusion of the lecture a vote
of thanks was proposed by Father W.
H. Higgins, S. J., rector of Loyola Col-
lege. It was seconded by Miss Gertrude
Sample.
After this Mr. Higgins rose with his
invitation and led the way into a general
discussion, which was participated in
amongst others, by Miss Madeleine
Sheridan and Mr. Joseph Wall. The
former had a word for the Socialists,
skaters there are who in grace and skill
in the ice outdo the men. The latter
while Mr. Wall voiced his hopes for a
continuance of education.

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