

# The Evening Times-Star

The Evening Times-Star is printed at 23-27, Centre Street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by new Brunswick Publishing Co., Montreal, Quebec.  
Telephone—Private branch exchange connecting all departments. Main 8417.  
Subscription Price—By mail per year, in Canada, \$2.00; United States, \$2.50; by carrier per year, \$2.00.  
The Evening Times-Star has the largest circulation of any evening paper in the Maritime Provinces.  
Advertising Representatives—New York, Frank R. Northrup, 350 Madison Ave., Chicago, E. J. Powers, 18 South La Salle Street.  
The Audit Bureau of Circulations audits the circulation of The Evening Times-Star.

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 4, 1924

## ST. JOHN'S PROGRESS.

The lively fashion in which the construction of St. John's new hotel is being carried forward is eliciting much favorable comment, not only from foreign visitors but from residents of other parts of the province. St. John these days is getting a lot of credit for its progressive spirit and its faith in the future. A gentleman who has visited many New Brunswick points of late remarked to The Times-Star yesterday how often on the trains and in country hotels he had heard people talking of the Admiral Beatty, saying how much it would mean for the city, and the solid proof it afforded of St. John's progress. He noted with pleasure that in much of this comment there was evidence of the conviction that this city is entering upon a new period of advancement. The big dry dock helped greatly to spread that opinion, and the new hotel—a second great project following the first—has meant a lot of high-class advertising and has done a great deal to strengthen confidence in the city's future.

And what, so many out-of-town people are saying about St. John these days is being said by a rapidly increasing proportion of our own population. There is a much better atmosphere now than prevailed a year or two ago, a broadened confidence, a noteworthy growth of reasonable optimism.

The province, by comparison with other sections of the Dominion, and with the neighboring States, is in good condition, and the now definite local government programme of hydro expansion, with its promise of industrial impetus, gives the future a good complexion. What helps the province helps St. John, and St. John's progress and prosperity are of benefit to the province to an extent too little realized.

What has been done of late in St. John gives reason for confidence, but by no means for complacency or the feeling that we can rest on our laurels. Indeed what has been done should rightly have the effect of spurting us on confidently to further well-considered endeavor. We need a new railway station—the travelling public needs it, the business community needs it, the defence of delay are more than ever there. Continued pressure by the city is clearly in order in this matter, just as it is in regard to the question of grain shipments and the routing of a greater volume of national export and import traffic through this harbor. The published list of our industries—their number so great as to surprise many citizens—should serve to remind us how many more might be successfully established, remembering our fortunate location for access to overseas markets and the fact that the province will have abundant power at rates attractive to manufacturers.

With improving fall business, with the promise of a good winter, and past season before us, with the assurance that a better international situation is stimulating world trade, with the knowledge that the next tourist season will see the new hotel open for business, St. John has many reasons for confidence. That in itself is much, but not enough. This is a good time for our business leaders, our public men, our live wires in progressive movements, to be taking steps to go after many other things St. John needs. What has been done is inspiring proof as to how much more can be accomplished by active, determined, patriotic co-operation. Shrewd business men believe Canada will soon enter upon a new period of business expansion. The duty rests upon us to see to it that St. John keeps pace with the times, that it does not merely wait for what the gods may provide, but that it puts its own shoulder to the wheel and vigorously advances its own interests. The cities that work hard for themselves are the progressive and successful ones.

## THE WORK FOR THE BLIND.

There are thirteen St. John children at present in the School for the Blind at Halifax, and some thirty-five or forty from all New Brunswick. From all the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland the number this year is about 160. This institution is officially recognized by the government of this province, and the work of soliciting funds for the support of the school, now being carried on here, is one deserving strong support. To give to this cause is to give with the knowledge that the money will do a world of good. And money is greatly needed. It is a simple truth that very few people are able to fully appreciate the value of that which they have never lost. Men and women who are endowed with the priceless blessing of good sight, and who are privileged to share unimpeded and unhandcapped in the pleasures and opportunities of life, can scarcely realize the difficulties and discouragements of those who have to go through life totally blind or with serious defective vision. The appeal on behalf of the Maritime blind is not an appeal for charity, but for a practical expression of common-

ity interest. Pity is not being asked for the blind, but interest in them for the greater benefit of the community. There are approximately eight hundred blind men, women and children in these provinces. Some of them were born blind; some became blind through sickness or accident; others lost their sight in the Great War.

There are two principal agencies caring for these sightless fellow-citizens of ours, the School for the Blind, in Halifax, and the workshop of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

The School for the Blind, situated at Halifax, and recognized by the provincial governments as the free centre of training for the blind of the Maritime Provinces, has been in operation fifty-two years, during which time hundreds of blind persons have been trained to read useful, independent and therefore happy lives. Up to the outbreak of the Great War, the school by strenuous exertions was kept comparatively free from debt, but from 1914 onward, despite the most careful efforts to keep down expenses, a debt accumulated which now amounts to about \$38,000. By a happy and wise increase in our government subsidies, this debt, by careful management, is not likely to increase, but the interest upon it is a serious drain upon the school's revenue, and until the debt is paid off is taking money that is so much needed for the training of our blind pupils.

It costs \$600 a year to educate a blind child. Two hundred of this comes from the governments of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, and two hundred from the municipalities from which the children come. This per capita is one of the lowest of any institution carrying on work for the blind on this continent.

The work for the adult blind naturally falls out of the school. To meet the needs of the purely industrial type of blind man whose work must be supervised, a broom factory was established in 1919 which now employs nineteen blind men. No happier group of employees can be found anywhere, but those responsible for the running of the factory are working under the shadow of a mortgage of \$26,000. The public is being asked to lift this burden. This factory has applications from quite a number of those who are blind and who are desirous of coming into this institution to be trained for self-support, but they cannot be accommodated through lack of funds. Those of us with sight can scarcely realize the agony of that lonely darkness to which those are condemned who cannot get an opportunity to be trained.

For those who are blinded in later life, or who for other reasons cannot come to a central place of instruction or employment, home teachers are constantly employed. These teachers visit the blind in their homes and teach Braille reading and such handicrafts as will make life worth living for those deprived of sight.

It is for the continuance of this truly humane and Christian work that funds are being asked at the present time. The campaign has the endorsement of the leaders in all the religious, political, social and fraternal organizations of this province. Surely this is a cause with a strong appeal.

## LOOKING BETTER.

The outlook for lasting peace is rapidly improved as a result of the work of the League of Nations conference at Geneva. In the light of the compact subscribed to there more than fifty nations there would have a welcome sense of increased security, and any country meditating aggressive action in future will find itself facing a powerful moral barrier, knowing that civilization, through these peace compacts, has set its face sternly against war. The aggressor will be a moral outlaw and not that alone, for it will be within the power of the League to employ physical force against the offender should any persist in the face of the League's ban, accompanied by withdrawal of trade and of credit.

There is still much to do, but after what has been done the decks are cleared for another disarmament conference, to be held next summer, at which it may be confidently expected that another long step toward abiding world concord will be taken. Prior to this last peace meeting a tremendous obstacle, increased by the feeling between France and Germany, had been the impression among millions of men that another war is inevitable, and inevitable it would be in all probability but for the real desire of a vast majority of the people of almost every nation to preserve themselves and the world at large from another deluge of fire and blood. The desire was translated into action at Geneva. Troubled as conditions still are, the road to lasting peace is much clearer than it was a few months ago. Acceptance of the Dawes plan, in spite of continued and well justified suspicion of German good faith, has exercised, undoubtedly, a widespread moral effect.

It has done much to relieve the nervous tension even in France, where the easily undisciplined determination to be ready and able always to crush any fresh German bid for power has too long kept not only the French but much of the world in a state of uneasiness such as no one expected to exist six years after the armistice.

Slowly but nevertheless surely the way has been prepared for another disarmament conference, to be held next year, and while such a meeting of the nations will bristle with difficulties there is much reason for thinking it will yield very solid results and give the world altogether new and welcome reassurance as to the future. It is suggested that both France and Japan will prove somewhat reluctant and difficult in their attitude toward further disarmament, particularly as regards air craft and submarines, but with British and American sentiment and leadership desiring real progress toward limitation it seems unlikely that either the French or the Japanese would be willing to accept responsibility for prolonging the period of international suspicion and inviting an increase in the terrible burden involved in wartime preparations.

The world realizes to-day more than ever before what it meant to keep nearly forty millions of men from the wholly destructive work of war. It knows what the war was, and the long and frightful aftermath. The nations want security, and they would fight for it still if necessary; but more and more they are coming to believe that both peace and security may be achieved by agreements representing a common determination to prevent war by gradual disarmament and by the employment of such services as can be rendered through a strongly supported league for peace. In the work toward this end Britain will be an outstanding leader, and while the United States is still not ready to join the League of Nations its influence will be cast against war, and from present prospects, it seems probable that the Americans will strongly second British efforts toward further disarmament as a step towards lasting peace. President Coolidge is definitely committed to participation in another conference if he is re-elected, and should the nation elect Mr. Davis, the Democratic candidate, it is thought that he would go even farther than Mr. Coolidge in assisting the cause of world peace. Progress has been slow, but undoubtedly the world outlook has improved very greatly in the last few months, and the next six months should see still more substantial betterment. With a growing feeling of security will come the return of normal trading conditions. The assurance of peace will drive business enterprise forward, and in fact the newly improved outlook will now release many business forces which have been held in suspense by international tension.

If we throw New Brunswick's fishing and hunting into the scale, New Brunswick has more to offer the visitor than New Hampshire. That state has just been taking stock of its tourist season, and estimates that it has entertained 1,500,000 vacationists this year. It is to be noted that the large number of good hotels is credited with getting much of the tourist trade, and that advertising played an even greater part. The business of making New Brunswick's attractions widely known is one that will yield big dividends. The money spent in New Hampshire by 1,500,000 visitors would be hard to compute accurately, but obviously it would be a mighty sum. There is a tremendous money reservoir which New Brunswick can tap by rightly advertising its playground attractions.

Boston has begun to supply its policemen with bullet-proof vests of steel, "on account of the promiscuous shooting of police officers recently," according to the Boston Transcript, "whenever it is believed the criminal might be armed." The American form of civilization, which now demands an armed police, really leaves room for considerable improvement.

Some fifty designs for the Laurier statue that of Brunet, the young Montreal sculptor, has been chosen, and by next summer Sir Wilfrid in bronze will stand on Parliament Hill. MacDonald and Laurier—in the public life of this country none has yet approached them in stature.

The Maritimes, Hon. Mr. McCurdy and The Tariff.

(Toronto Globe.)  
Officers of the nine Provincial Conservative Associations have been called to a conference in Toronto in November. There promises to be considerable reasoning together. It is even hinted that these party leaders may decide to depart from tradition and call a general convention, where party matters and party policy may be discussed with unprecedented freedom.

The insurance Montreal following the Conservative defeat in St. Antoine received much publicity. Undoubtedly some of the sunken vessels in Montreal arose from personal animosities which date back some years. On the whole the complaints heard from Montreal were minimized by Conservatives the rest of the country, and were generally ascribed to political stupidity on the part of big interests. It can hardly be said that the Montreal influence alone led to the conference.

There is also a Conservative complaint from the Maritime Provinces, voiced by no less a person than Hon.

## NEW LAMP BURNS 94% AIR

Beats Electric or Gas

A new oil lamp that gives an amazing brilliant, soft, white light, even better than gas or electricity, has been tested by the U. S. Government and 85 leading universities and found to be superior to 10 ordinary oil lamps. It burns without odor, smoke or noise—no pumping up is simple clean safe. Burns 94% air and 6% common kerosene (coal oil).

The inventor, O. K. Johnson, 246 Craig St., W. Montreal, is offering to send a lamp on 10 days' FREE trial, or even to give one FREE to the first user in each locality who will help him introduce it. Write him today for full particulars. Also ask him to explain how you can get a lamp, without experience or money make \$220 to \$500 per month.

F. B. McCurdy, who held a portfolio in the Government of Mr. Meighen. Says Mr. McCurdy: Our complaint is that, while we are compelled to pay enhanced prices under the tariff wall for all that we buy from Ontario and Quebec, in order that the manufacturers of those favored Provinces may reap their profit from the policy of protection for Canadian industry, and the communities surrounding their points of industrial operations enjoy the concomitant benefits, we get no reciprocal advantages and no consideration.

He adds that the Provinces down here, having to buy manufactured goods from Ontario buttressed by a tariff wall reaching to 35 per cent, find their dollars alarmingly clipped in buying power. He says that if the Maritimes could buy their goods from the United States at the same price as the rest of Canada, there would be no hardship, but "they do not need our beef, cheese, butter, eggs, lumber or fruit, and we must send our produce to other lands." And another sentence reads: "Ontario cannot take even our coal."

While there should be no disposition to make merely political capital out of the misfortune of the Maritime Provinces as pictured by Mr. McCurdy, the point cannot be ignored that the tariff presents difficulties for the Conservative party as it has for the Liberal party; and it may as well be confessed that the difficulty is really national, and that the framing of a national tariff policy is a more complicated problem today than it was forty-five years ago. Ontario and Quebec are now much more highly industrialized than they were in 1879, and have been the same industrial progress in the Maritime Provinces; and the Prairie West, and the Pacific Coast, and the West and British Columbia, cannot be ignored. Extreme views of both kinds are being held. If the leading men of the Conservative party are going to wrestle with this problem they will have to take into account the fact that the Liberal and Conservative parties in this case. That is to say, almost solely of his individual genius for organization and getting things done according to his own particular ideas.

"When I want a thing done, I want it done just as I say it should be done; and if my men can't do it that way, there are others who can," said Booth in describing one of the principles on which he has acted for years.

This tendency to insist on bearing sole responsibility for the company's affairs, and to refuse to distribute his authority among subordinates—has been regarded by some as a failing. However, it is a pardonable fault, if it is. For more than half a century Booth was forced to rely entirely on his own determination, courage and business sagacity, and as a result of that policy he managed to amass not only the greatest individual fortune in Canada, but to establish a mammoth industry as a monument to his success.

A STRAW VOTE.  
(New York Herald-Tribune.)  
"The Literary Digest's" Presidential poll, including 272,299 votes were received up to September 13, confirms the conclusions drawn from all the other 1924 straw votes. President Harding is running well up to the Harding strength. He has a total of 162,478 votes, while the same groups of voters gave Harding 108,024. Davis has 42,611 votes, compared with Cox's 52,002. La Follette has 65,538 votes, compared with a Socialist-Farmer-Labor vote in 1920 of 2,848.

The shifts from one party to the other are hard to follow, since 38,821 persons who answered the postal card did not vote in 1920. In California, where La Follette received his largest vote total—19,829—he had the support of 10,015 Harding voters, 4,010 Cox voters and 5,184 former nonvoters. The larger percentage of La Follette gain from the Republican party is not surprising, since thousands of California Democrats voted four years ago for Harding, whose plurality over Cox was 38,802. This year the total Presidential vote will be much larger, and the straw vote returns indicate plainly that the new voters are maintaining the Republican strength of 1920, in spite of shifts to La Follette, while they are not similarly making good La Follette defections to La Follette from the Democratic party.

PRODUCT OF THE SILLY SEASON.  
(Toronto Telegram.)  
Posting a picture of a more or less attractive bathing beauty on the windshield and windows of motor cars is the latest fad.

Objection is taken not so much to the questionable taste of those who follow the practice as to the danger of the driver having his attention directed to the picture on the windshield rather than to the girl on the highway.

ZERO IN REPRESENTATIVE, ALL RIGHT.  
Government is becoming about as representative of the public as the cliché is of the individual. — Cleveland Times-Commercial.

HOUSE IS ROBBED.  
Four gold rings were stolen from the home of Nelson Gunn, 528 Union street, Thursday night or early yesterday morning. The matter has been reported to the police and the detectives are working on the case.

ORIENTAL CURIOS.  
A collection of oriental curios has been presented to the Natural History Society by Miss Annie Scoullon. It includes a number of Burmese articles and pictures and a costume of an Andaman Islands woman.

In laying a cable to Alaska it is estimated that the cost will be \$1,000 a mile.

## Press Comment

WHAT'S DOWN BELOW, ANYWAY?  
(Toronto Globe.)

Sir Charles Parsons seems to be sincere in his proposal to bore toward the centre of the earth in order to find out what is there. He is one of the most eminent civil and mechanical engineers in the world, and the inventor of the steam turbine which bears his name. He says that he has carried on preliminary investigations for eight years, and that a shaft of at least twelve miles is a practicable engineering project.

But twelve miles would not go far toward the centre of the earth, which at the Equator is 3,960 miles from the surface. Twelve miles, or 63,360 feet, would be, however, much greater than any depth hitherto reached. The deepest mine in the world is a shaft of the same length in Houghton County, Michigan, which has reached a vertical depth of 5,200 feet, or about one mile.

Several other shafts in the same State are between 4,000 and 5,000 feet deep. In England are several collieries over 3,000 feet, and in Belgium two are nearly 4,000 feet in depth. The Victoria quartz mine in Australia has reached 4,200 feet, and the Transvaal gold region, South Africa, several shafts have been sunk to about 4,000 feet. The chief obstacle to Sir Charles Parsons' proposal, aside from the cost, which he estimates at \$20,000,000, would be increase of temperature and increase of rock pressure as the tunnel advanced into the earth. Observations in different parts of the world have shown that the increase of temperature in depth varies. A persistent increase of one degree Fahrenheit for each 20 feet would amount to an increase of approximately 100 degrees a mile, so that the temperature would be 2,000 degrees at 20 miles, and of solar intensity at 100 miles. It is believed, however, that the material of the deeper parts of the earth is a better conductor of heat than the rocks of the crust, so that the increase may become more gradual, and the perhaps 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit may be the highest temperature within the earth.

At twelve miles Sir Charles might encounter a temperature of 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, at which work would be considerably more difficult than at 100 in the shade, about which we complain on the surface. If Sir Charles' "groundhogs" could supply us with some of this heat in Canada we should not need to worry about our coal.

J. R. BOOTH AT 98.  
(Charles Lugin Shaw, in Forbes Magazine.)

If there is one outstanding example of the man who has made a successful success of business without paying much heed to changes brought about by the advancement of industry it is John R. Booth, owner of the greatest empire of timber that has ever been held by one man. Today, at 98, Booth is the richest man in Canada, and still the undisputed boss of his vast holdings. The Booths have had a long and successful career in the business of the pulp and paper industry. There is no mistaking the domination of Booth in the industry bearing his name. He has not only been the planner but the executor of the result of his independent enterprise, and he has taken pride in the knowledge that the tremendous accomplishments of his mills are the result almost solely of his individual genius for organization and getting things done according to his own particular ideas.

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the Cox vote. Coolidge's margin over La Follette on 46,842 answers is 8,019. On a state vote of 1,000,000 this would give him a plurality in California of about 65,000.

In New York, New Jersey and Ohio President Coolidge has about twice as many votes as La Follette and Davis combined. In Illinois he has 88,909 to their joint 20,772. Kansas shows 5,136 for him to their 1,778 and Minnesota 15,690 for him to their 10,805. In Washington Coolidge has 2,252 to 1,681 for La Follette and Davis. In West Virginia he has 1,449 to 832 for Davis and 188 for La Follette. The same voters in West Virginia gave Harding 1,438 and Cox 794.

Comparison with 1924 is with a year in which Democratic fortunes were at low ebb and the Republican vote was abnormally high. Yet there are no hints in all the polls so far published that the Middle West will fall below Harding's, except in Wisconsin, or that it will not support La Follette's beyond the Mississippi, except in North Dakota and perhaps one or two other minor third-party strongholds.

Over the fields, the quiet fields of cattle, Grave fields of home, exhaling a mist like incense, Forgiving fields that suffer the keen plough-share, How gratefully, over these fields, Night gathers!

"And over the lone spaces of the spirit, The plains of mystery and pale adventure, The fields, the sorrowful acres of man's striving, How tenderly, over those fields, Night gathers!"

LIGHTER VEIN.  
A Sadler Sort.  
Native—"Be you tourists?"  
Weary Motorist—"No, detourists."

Deep Dilemma.  
He whistled.  
"In Hawaii they have the same weather the year round."  
"How do their conversations start?"

World Famous.  
A general knowledge paper which a class of boys was asked to work through recently contained the following question: "What is gutta serena?" One boy wrote for his answer: "Gutta serena is a famous opera singer."

Dilemma.  
"Darling," he cried passionately, "I will lay my fortune at your feet."  
"Oh, but you haven't a large fortune," she whispered.  
"No, but it will look larger beside those tiny feet."

Took No Chances.  
"Now I want a very careful chauffeur—one who does not take the slightest risks," warned the would-be employer. "I am your man, sir," answered the applicant. "Can I have my salary in advance?"

Your hat, Sir  
Biltmore carries the mark of distinction. Superb in line, correct in colouring. The crowning detail which denotes the well-dressed man. Ask to be shown a "Biltmore".

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