

POOR DOCUMENT

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FOUR

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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 26, 1909.

TAXATION AGAIN.

It would be interesting to discover whether among the ratepayers of this city, there was one who cheerfully accepted his assessment as his fair share of the necessary expenditure of the municipality. It is not at all probable that the satisfied citizen will be found in advertising his satisfaction. From an experience as old as civilization men have learned that it is not well to boast imprudently of all that a man possesses. We may safely conclude that the man who chuckles over his tax bill will be careful to indulge his delight in solitude. Every man knows that his neighbor also has a tax bill. Moreover, it is that neighbor's tax bill which, with most citizens, makes all the trouble. We all know, or think we know, a good deal about the affairs of other people. And we are all firmly convinced that other men pay less than their fair share of the city's expenditure. For instance, Mr. A. receives an income of \$12,000 and lives in a house for which he pays \$200.00 rent, and he pays an annual tax of about \$2.00. He, doubtless, would be contented to pay that tax were it not for the fact that he discovers that Mr. B. receives an income of \$15,000.00, lives in a house for which he pays \$120.00, and pays the very modest annual tax of \$12.00. Mr. A. is, presumably, a gentleman. He will not, therefore, institute a comparison. Instead he congratulates his neighbor, Mr. B. upon his good fortune and goes home to grumble. He knows absolutely that the burden of taxation is not evenly distributed.

Moreover, though that actual knowledge may be meagre, it is enlightening. Before he possessed it, Mr. A. may have had unquestioning faith in the powers that distribute the burdens of taxation, but now that he has discovered an error, he begins to allow his imagination full play. It may be that he even becomes inquisitive. He begins to gather in a quiet, gentlemanly fashion a good deal of very instructive information. The more inquisitive he becomes the more certain he is that that initial difference between himself and Mr. B., is a very significant indication of a very general state of affairs. If Mr. A. is a man of very limited ability he will simply conclude that the system is inequitable and he will be inclined to think very unkind things about the men who happen to be connected with the administration of affairs. But if Mr. A. chances to be a man of wide experience he will conclude from his investigations that it is no easy task to distribute fairly, the burden of taxation. If he thinks of good purpose he will speedily conclude that up to the present time governments have pursued the policy of least resistance, and have collected their revenues when and where they could. Men may some day discover how to be just and fair in the collection of taxes, but the simple fact is that to-day no group of men, however sincere their intentions, could assess the taxes of a city with absolute fairness to all. Men do not advertise upon the house-ropes their total receipts and expenditures. That fact civic assessors have long since discovered. Indeed they have to a very large extent given up as a hopeless task, the quest for accurate information. They are to be congratulated that they hit it so well as they do.

The man who thinks will discover that there have been two forces at work. First and by far the more constant force has been that of self-interest. The baron who could resist the king did so, the serf and the yeoman who could not resist the baron paid up. Even so is it to this day. Few men pay more taxes than they are forced to pay. There is, however, another force, hardly in its appearance, and inconstant in its operation. There has been a growing conviction that the bulk of the burden should rest upon the shoulders of the strong. Because of that we exempt certain small incomes. But it is never easy to shift the burden to the shoulders of the strong, because of that we raise the poll tax of the man with the exempted income from \$2.00 to \$5.00.

THE LAW AND THE MAN.

The temperance workers of this city are but following present day methods when they seek to legislate the saloon out of certain districts of the city. Their effort has been attended with a large degree of success with displace a few people indeed. It will, moreover, offer an opportunity for St. John to judge the value of such prohibitory legislation as a means of furthering the cause of temperance. But now that the temperance workers have succeeded in placing the saloon from certain districts in the city, they need to remind themselves of the fact that they have not thereby

exhausted the opportunities of serving the cause of temperance. In making many laws there is a tendency to forget men. Legislation is not the only means available for driving the saloon out of business. Drunkenness is invariably the cause of wretchedness, but frequently there is an original wretchedness which is the cause of drunkenness. The man who feels that he has done his whole duty when he has cast his ballot against the saloon, will never revolutionize the world.

In the early days of the temperance movement the workers made much of the effort to throw about the individual man the influence of a new and wholesome environment. Temperance organizations of a social character prospered in a remarkable way. In so far as the campaign for legislation has turned the attention of temperance workers away from this individual and social effort, it has not been altogether good. Now that the campaign is of yesterday it would be well if temperance workers could bend their energies to recover this forgotten efficiency in helping individual men.

APRIL.

Today, with April wandering in a wood,
Mid last year's withered leaves and
trees all bare,
Blithely she sought, dear child, to
comfort me;
Showed me how fair the blue, how
sweet the air,
The long thin shadows of each leafless
tree,
Marked me the path of winter beast
and bird.
The woodchuck's hole, the fox's shy
retreat,
The path the marten makes with
tiny feet,
The songsters dead and rare in wood-
lands heard.

And faint her gentle heart would have
outpoured
Such wealth as August or September
yields,
The flowers and fruits of high mid-
summer's day,
Or glory of the yellow harvest-
fields;
When after toil, in bountiful array,
The goodly stacks are stored,
But blossoms scant were all she could
bestow.

The crinkle-root, and the wako-robin
red;
Hesperides in their lovely bed
All pearly white or pink or purple
glow.
These and the springing trilliums,
white and green,
That greet the schoolboy plucks,
when first
The southwind calls him to the woods
and dingle;
She gave with slim, cool fingers,
then there burst
Upon our ears the white-throat's car-
olling,
Calling unto his queen.
Ah, white-throat's song, so plaintive
and divine!
So full of longing, throbbing joy and
love!
O tender, singing white-throat that
can move
Pity and rapture in this heart of mine!

As thus I wandered, touched by sight
and sound,
The meagre blooms, the chill, dis-
turb me not;
The few lone pipings seemed not deso-
late.
Something invisible, but strong, me-
thought,
Shall soon be richer, fuller life create,
Pren now doth stir the ground.
And this frail child beside me soon
Shall change into a glory like the
down.

And radiant with abounding joy put
on
The beauty and luxuriance of June!
—Robert Stanley Weir, in "The Canadian Magazine" for April.

Eva—"And you refused him? Why?"
Edna—"He was too economical."
Eva—"But I thought you said the
young man you accepted would have
to be economical!"
Edna—"But he was too much so. He
actually proposed on a post-card."

Tommy—"Papa, a man is a bachelor
until he gets married, isn't he?"
Papa—"Yes, my son."
Tommy—"And what does he call
himself afterward?"
Papa—"I'd hate to tell you, my son."
Philadelphia Record.

"So your boy Josh is an inventor?"
"Yes," answered Farmer Cornstossel.
"He has invented a lot of labor-saving
devices."
"What are they?"
"Excuses for not working,"—Wash-
ington Star.

Using a "lost" ad, is like having
thousands of eyes and looking every-
where at once for the missing article.

**CATCHER POWERS DEAD
FROM OVER EXERTION**

PHILADELPHIA, April 26.—Dr. Maurice Powers, star catcher for the Philadelphia American Baseball Club, died in this city today of gangrene poisoning. Powers became ill during the seventh inning of the opening game of the season with Boston as Easter Monday but he continued in the game until the end when he fell unconscious. The physicians discovered that he was suffering from strangulation of the intestines and three operations in turn were performed upon him.

Do Children Need Alcohol?
Ask your doctor how often he prescribes an alcoholic stimulant for children. He will probably say, "Very, very rarely." Ask him how often he prescribes a tonic for them. He will probably answer, "Very, very frequently." Then ask him about Ayer's non-alcoholic Sarsaparilla as a tonic for the young.

TATTOOED THUMB BETRAYS SLAYER

**Quick Witted Baltimore Detective Captures
Robert F. Wood, Who Killed
Niece in New York.**

BALTIMORE, Md., April 26.—A tattooed thumb enabled a keen witted policeman today to trap Robert Francis Wood, who is wanted in New York on the charge of murder. In capturing Wood a chase was brought to an end that was begun by New York detectives on September 22, 1908, on which date Wood shot and killed his niece, Mrs. Almah Linda Roche, in her apartment at No. 40, West Fifty-third street. Wood recently had his photograph made on post cards and enclosed one of them in a threatening letter to his family in New York. This gave police a clue. The local sleuths were informed that Wood had the letter "R" tattooed on one thumb. Shortly before noon today Detective Sergeant Knight stood at the corner of Pratt street and Market space. A man approached him. Knight thought there was something familiar in the man's face and drew out a duplicate of the post card photograph and looked at it closely. It resembled the man who had turned into Pratt street. Still the detective was not sure and he followed the man to a lunch room and saw him sit down at a table. On the Police Daily Bulletin of today is printed Wood's description, and one part of it states that he has the letter "R" tattooed on one thumb. Sergeant Knight entered the lunch room, and going quickly up to Wood, seized one of his thumbs. It was the one with the letter "R" tattooed on it. When asked why he killed his niece Wood said: "Well, my niece would not take my advice, so I killed her."

TEN YEARS IN CELL FOR CAMORRISH CHIEF

**This Means Solitary Confinement With
Never a Breath of the Open Air**

MILAN, April 24.—How Italy metes out justice on the rare occasions when a Camorrist ringleader falls into its clutches is exemplified in the trial which has just begun at the Court of Cassation, one of the leaders of a band whose members devoted themselves to bank frauds, was caught at Milan station while on the way from Naples to reside at a secret meeting of the Camorra. This man, Januario Cannavale, one of the leaders of a band whose members devoted themselves to bank frauds, was caught at Milan station while on the way from Naples to reside at a secret meeting of the Camorra. This man, Januario Cannavale, one of the leaders of a band whose members devoted themselves to bank frauds, was caught at Milan station while on the way from Naples to reside at a secret meeting of the Camorra. This man, Januario Cannavale, one of the leaders of a band whose members devoted themselves to bank frauds, was caught at Milan station while on the way from Naples to reside at a secret meeting of the Camorra.

The court ordered that the entire period be spent in solitary confinement. Such a sentence means in Italy that the prisoner, besides being kept strictly isolated, is also generally harassed once a week, and then never in the open air, but in an inner corridor. A large proportion of these prisoners go mad, commit suicide or otherwise succumb before the term expires. Cannavale has already made three attempts to end his life since the passing of the sentence.

INSTANT DEATH FOR NEW YORK MURDERER

**Percy Hill Electrocuted at Auburn This
Morning—Took Only a Minute**

AUBURN, N. Y., April 26.—Percy Hill was successfully electrocuted in Auburn prison this morning. The execution was devoid of features of any kind, but it was marked by unusual celerity. But two shocks were necessary to kill and the total time of the two was a scant minute. Physicians were of the opinion that death was instantaneous. Hill went to the chair calmly. He was attended by Rev. Cordell Herick, chaplain of the prison, who stated that Hill was reconciled to his fate. Hill's crime was the murder of his cousin, Chas. Hancock, 15 years old, near Cuba, Allegheny County, on March 14th, 1908. Hill killed the girl with a revolver while he was drunk. A brother of the girl saw the crime committed.

DROPPED DEAD IN CHURCH WHILE BAPTISING A CHILD

Big Rapids, Mich., April 26.—Rev. E. G. Franck, pastor of the German Lutheran church here, dropped dead while administering the rite of baptism to a child, at the close of the regular service yesterday. The preacher

had apparently been in perfect health. As he stood at the altar and without the slightest warning he fell to the floor and was dead when picked up. Rev. Mr. Franck was 57 years of age and is survived by a widow and nine children.

GRADUATING REGATAS AT MOUNT ALLISON

**Provincial Students Capably Present
Attractive Programmes—Societies
Elect Officers.**

SACKVILLE, April 24.—In spite of the downpour of rain Friday evening's graduating regatta at the Mount Allison Conservatory of Music was attended by an audience which filled even the extra seats provided and which listened with intense pleasure to each number of the programme rendered by Miss Edna M. Baker, of Toronto, vocalist, and Miss Hilma Hughes, of Charlottetown, reader, and St. John, pianist. Both young ladies acquitted themselves most creditably. A particularly pleasing number was the Lullaby from Godard's Jocelyn sung by Miss Baker with violin obbligato by Miss Hilma Hughes, of Charlottetown, reader, and Mr. Robert L. Stalling, of St. John, vocalist. Next Friday evening a regatta will be given by two more of the graduates, Miss Margaret Cameron, of Sackville, and Miss Jessie Allen, of Vale Fort. They will be assisted by Miss Hazel Hughes, of Charlottetown, reader, and Mr. Robert L. Stalling, of St. John, vocalist. On Friday, May 7th, Miss Gladys L. Dixon, of Sackville, and Miss Alice M. Boyer, of Hartland, will give their graduating piano recital. They will be assisted by Miss Florence Robb, of Amherst, violinist, and Miss Nellie Kilham, of Yarmouth, vocalist. In the past few days the students of Mount Allison University have elected a number of their officers for the next college year. In the Y. M. C. A. the following officers were elected: Honorary President, Dr. Allison; President, J. S. Asbury, '10, of Pictou; Vice-President, R. B. Thomas, '11, of Halifax; Secretary, P. T. Meek, '11, of Truro; Corresponding Secretary, W. E. Thompson, '10, of St. John; Treasurer, W. Irving, '12, of Moncton. The Bursar's Society has also chosen its editorial board for the coming year. Mr. Asbury has been chosen as the editor-in-chief with Fletcher Pencock, '11, of Barfield, as the business editor, and Mr. S. D. Scott, M. A., of St. John, as corresponding editor. The associate editors are Miss Alberta Craig, '10, of Auburn, N. S.; W. B. Shanklin, '10, of Shanklin, N. B.; C. Harris, '10, of Grand Bank, Newfoundland; H. H. Biggar, '10, of Mount Allison, N. S.; S. H. Irving, '11, of Moncton; A. M. Knight, '11, of Elgin, and R. C. Tait, of St. John's, Newfoundland.

SHACKLETON WILL SEEK FOR ISLANDS

**Antarctic Explorer Plans to Locate Lands
at Present of Doubtful
Existence.**

SYDNEY, N. S. W., April 25.—Lieutenant Ernest H. Shackleton hopes to complete the work he has so far accomplished by his expedition into the Antarctic regions by making an exhaustive search in an arctic region. The Nimrod departs from Sydney in ten days' time in charge of Captain Davis and Lieutenant Shackleton, and is going to England via Suez.

HOLDEN'S COMEDIANS TO BE PROSECUTED

It is said that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, but you would have to use a very large ounce to insure yourself against the laughter provoking qualities of the comedy "Pike's Peak" as presented by Holden's Comedians, the jolly company who will be seen at the Opera House on Wednesday, April 28th. A combination of bright, crisp, sparkling dialogue, com-

ical situations, ludicrous complications, clever story and pleasing specialties, presented by an excellent company, form the ingredients of this comedy and popular success. Holden's Comedians is a name to conjure with, wherein enters the comedy element and the reputation as mirth provokers is established. Selected from a large field of comedy experts, they are cast grand masters in the art of compelling laughter and are never so happy as when facing an audience whose bright faces and merry smiles reflect the cultivation of their efforts.

KILLED TWO MEN IN FLIGHT THROUGH SPACE

**Bicycle Rider, Thrown From His Wheel,
Struck Spectators—Was Him-
self Unhurt.**

LOS ANGELES, Calif., April 25.—Thousands of persons at the Coliseum Motor Cycle Track yesterday saw a rider going a mile a minute thrown over the fence and across the grand stand without suffering serious injury. Two spectators, however, who were standing at the race, were probably fatally injured. The accident occurred in the five mile event. Freddy Huysck, of Chicago, was leader, and on the upper turn collided with Earhart, of Los Angeles, who shot up the track as Huysck was going by. Earhart was thrown into the air. His feet struck the head of Howard Piper, of this city, and Piper's head bumped that of Charles H. Derry, of Hiram. The skulls of both men were fractured by the impact.

FORCED TO BECOME BANDIT AND ASSASSIN

**Sicilian Convicted of Crime of Which He
Was Innocent, Has Revenge
on Law.**

ROME, April 24.—Salomone, a Sicilian, who has just been acquitted on charges of murder and brigandage, has had a most remarkable career. In 1893, he was condemned, on doubtful evidence, to penal servitude for brigandage. His conduct in prison was so exemplary that he was released after ten years. On regaining his freedom Salomone's first care was to prove his innocence by obtaining a re-investigation of his case. He failed, however, and then, as he declared, during the trial, resolved, as he was not permitted to vindicate his honor, to reap the benefit of his reputation, and be a brigand in deed as well as in name.

He began by murdering the mayor of his native village of Caltanissetta, who had not only opposed his demand for a fresh trial, but had married Salomone's fiancée during his imprisonment. He managed to evade the police, and for a year pilfered and robbed on the highways, until he was seized in 1904 and sent to the state prison at Perugia to await judgment. His trial only began a few months ago, and has terminated in his favor. The jury took into consideration the fact that he committed the murder under great provocation, and that he had already spent the best part of his years in prison for a crime of which he is believed to be innocent. The prisoner, who has been engaged in composing an epic poem of his life story, created much interest during the hearing of the case by his apt and ready quotations from Dante and Aristotle.

HOW EDMUND BREESE MADE HIS FIRST APPEARANCE

**Prevented a Crisis by Filling in the Star's
Part While That Actor Was
Unconscious.**

Edmund Breese, in a recent theatrical paper, gives the following account of his first appearance on the stage: While working on a ranch in North Dakota, I was sent to Omaha in charge of a bunch of cattle. While there I fell in with a lot of young fellows about town, and as a sort of joke we accepted an engagement as extra men for a repertoire company that was being seen in one of the local theatres. The bill for this night was Michael Strogoft. Prior to making our appearance we were thoroughly rehearsed and showed how our entrance was made with the leading man of the company. The cue for the entrance was an explosion off the stage. At night the explosion did not occur quite as quickly as the leading man wanted it to, and, to hurry matters along a little, he took a revolver and fired it into a nail keg filled with sawdust and a thin layer of powder. This keg was supposed to be ignited by a fuse. Of course, the close range of the revolver caused a terrific explosion, and the barrel burst and threw the leading man violently against the wall, where he fell unconscious. The stage was waiting. It was the climax of the third act. Martha Strogoft, the stage mother of the hero, was standing in the centre waiting to be rescued from a live bomb. Having witnessed the rehearsal in the morning, I remembered the one line that Michael had to say at this particular moment, and, taking in the situation in an instant, I rushed on in his place, threw the bomb out of the window and took the mother in my arms and stood in the centre of the stage and yelled as loud as I could: "For God, the Car and for my country." During the excitement of the moment the audience did not notice the change in actors, as I wore a full beard, in the Russian style, that had been happily provided me by the property man. This beard was very much after the style that Michael wore. Or course I received from the audience the usual number of curtain calls. The manager, who was standing in the front of the house, noticed the difference and came rushing back to say to him he was most grateful and profuse in his thanks, and complimented me for what I had done. As a reward I was offered an engagement with the company at \$10 a week and board. The I made had filled me with a yearning to shine as a real actor and I accepted the position, and that is how I became an actor.

SQUALL CLEARED THE CANADIAN CHANNEL

YOUNGSTOWN, N. Y., April 25.—A northwest squall followed by an even more energetic southwest gale, cleared the Canadian channel at the mouth of the Niagara River this afternoon, broadened the passage torn out by dynamite, along the American shore of the stream and so ripped easy away the lower end of the ice pack, that it is now possible to cross the river in a boat by a straight course from the fort to Niagara-on-the-Lake. The engineers did not work today. It is the general feeling of old residents here that the tons of ice still anchored to the river's bank will now slip down stream without further damage.

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Throw them away and forget all about their associations
Other Patterns \$1.00 \$1.25 \$1.50

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CREUSOT GUN CO. TO BE PROSECUTED

French Government to Take Action—
Defective Material Supplied

PARIS, April 26.—In connection with the navy investigation recently begun by a parliamentary committee, the announcement is made that M. Picard, Minister of Marine, will prosecute the Creusot Company for the delivery of defective material. The Marlin says that the rolling carriages for turrets are sometimes broken and reworked by electricity. Other serious accusations are made regarding projectiles and submarine boats.

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