

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1924

# The Evening Times-Star

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## THE ELECTION PROPHETS

Winston Churchill, when he knew Britain's political battle was coming, wisely refrained from prophesying. This paragraph stands out in an article he contributed to late in the weekly Dispatch.

"Every prediction made a year ago would have been false. Have we any assurance that any forecast, however shrewdly and profoundly judged to-day, will not be fulfilled before a year—nay, before six months are past?"

To-day he is quoted as feeling confident of more support than Lord Beaverbrook thinks he will get from the Liberals at least. There are not a few who are saying that while many prominent or fairly well known Liberals will support Conservative candidates, there is little likelihood that the rank and file will follow their example. A Conservative Government, too, if dependent upon Liberal support, would suffer from a sort of paralysis with respect to the fiscal question, though but a short time ago its protectionist professions were relied upon to give it driving power. Mr. Baldwin's defeat left the party distinctly timid regarding tariff taxation.

As to prophecies, they are many, and it is difficult to distinguish between those made merely in the hope of influencing the voters and those based on real knowledge of the outlook. A few days ago the cable news said London insurance companies were issuing policies which really represented odds of one to one that Labor would not have a majority over all others combined in the new House. But on Wednesday a London special to the Philadelphia Ledger, many other American journals, asserted flatly that odds of two to one were being offered in London that Mr. MacDonald would be the next Premier; and the Ledger is not a "yellow" journal by any means. Scarcely, then, Mr. Churchill's note of uncertainty is justified by conditions at the moment. The old adage credited to Sir John Macdonald, concerning elections and horse races, has lost none of its force. The view most frequently expressed in the news is that the Conservatives and Labor are both likely to make gains, and the Liberals to suffer heavy losses. Mr. MacDonald has been unparading in his denunciation of the Liberal leaders. Labor hopes for the disruption of the Liberal party as a formidable organization, and expects to draw much of the Liberal rank and file to its own standard. While the Conservatives are withdrawing some candidates to assist Liberals to win, the Liberals are withdrawing many more in the hope of throwing ridings to the Conservatives. The effect of this effort to unite in the face of a common danger is still doubtful. Many Liberals evidently think their tactics will give Mr. Baldwin seats enough to make him Premier but still dependent upon Liberal support in the House to an extent which would allow the Liberal group to influence government policy on issues they think vital; and they hope in any case to be able always to render the Liberals impotent so far as actual legislation is concerned. But some of the reviewers see in this sudden Liberal-Conservative alliance the danger that it will be interpreted by many voters as a forcible admission of weakness, that it will weaken Labor, and throw to the MacDonald forces a great number who are eager to be on the winning side.

Conservative strength—and the Conservatives in the last House outnumbered the Labor party very considerably—will undoubtedly be augmented by the rallying cry against Socialism, by the fear in many quarters that Mr. MacDonald with a clear Labor majority behind him, including a big radical group flushed with victory, would seek to translate his frankly Socialist platform into legislation, some of it confiscatory, some of it subversive of rights which a majority of the people of Britain have hitherto held to be sacred and inalienable. There are elements of danger in the situation, but Britain has seen worse in its day and has survived them. The extremists of Socialism will never run away with the country.

## UNCLE SAM AND GENEVA.

Much of the clamor against the League of Nations in a portion of the United States press to-day is necessarily discounted because this is not only a presidential year but the candidates are in the home stretch. At such a time two and two make five. If one candidate favors the League, opposing orators paint it in sinister colors and charge him with trying to hamstring American liberty and independence. The Chicago Journal of Commerce, having scanned the Geneva protocol, sounded the tocsin and reached for the musket of '76. The ratification of that pact, it asserted, would probably mean that the United States would be attacked before long by ten or twelve of the more powerful nations; therefore Uncle Sam must prevent ratification—just how was not set forth—or arm

a gigantic scale without loss of time. There are in the Republican newspapers at this time many such examples of simulated alarm, the chief purpose of which is to beat Mr. John W. Davis. But other and different voices are raised here and there, and it is pleasing to turn from the soap-bubbles to those who still seek to give Americans the truth about Geneva and to remind them of their international responsibilities and duties. Mr. Edwin L. James, a publicist of note, has just published in New York a temperate if searching review of the international situation as it stands after the Geneva conference. In summing up he says:—

"Of course, the protocol is not to be now regarded as a pact which is in effect with full legal force. In the first place, it must be approved by the Parliaments of the main countries concerned. In the second place, its validity is dependent upon a successful arms limitation conference to be held in Geneva next June. If the Parliaments do not approve, if the arms conference does not succeed, the protocol falls of its own weight. But, taking it at its present face value, assuming that the delegations at Geneva represented the will of the Governments of their countries, the protocol in full effect would change the League from a clearing house for ideas into a working force of unimpeded power."

Mr. Coolidge, months ago, advised the world of his readiness to call a disarmament conference after the Dawes plan had been carried into effect, if after taking soundings in the European capitals he found his proposal well received. If Europe has forestalled him after a fashion, his aim being world peace, he should be lighted. If he is President for another term he will doubtless send representatives to Geneva next June. Indeed he is committed beyond recall to that course. So is Mr. Davis. Mr. James cannot see how, or why, the United States can choose isolation and still live up to its benevolent professions. Of his country's position he writes:—

"The situation is in the making. But as it stands now, the United States, out of the League, sees fifty-five nations engaged in the manufacture of what is in effect a military treaty of mutual assistance, which provides that any aggression against a member of the League shall meet the united front of the League, and the decision as to who is the aggressor remains with the League. From Washington this may appear unkind; it may also appear to support the argument that the United States cannot afford to have the rest of the world debate issues which concern us, without our taking part."

Mr. Coolidge seeks disarmament. Mr. Davis tells him that League membership would no more destroy the independence of the United States than the Washington arms conference did, which is true; but the Republican campaign orators continue, with affected gravity, to recall George Washington's warning against foreign entanglements.

When the fever of the election subsides, and the American people face four years of political peace, their President and Senate may be ready to see the cause of world peace by more than gestures.

## THE FLIGHT.

There are some fascinating birds a-wing these days. Read this, from the editorial page of the Boston Transcript:—

"Those who saw the ZR-3 early on this glorious October morning surely never can forget it. At Nahant the silence of these nights is broken only by the incessant roar and motion of the sea. But towards four o'clock this morning another sound was heard, louder, the solitude. A low hum was first audible, like the coming of a gale out of the east. As the hum increased one rushed to the window and there in the moonlight, hovering over the twinkling ocean was the ZR-3, which had forged its way over from Germany in less than eighty hours."

"With a steady, throbbing pant it glided through the half-light. Glistening like a fish in some quiet pool it drew nearer, over the point. It seemed a part of the night, and the giant headlight on its nose shone in a way which can only be described as star-like. No other light either in its cabins or on its bulk was seen. One star like a gleam alone made this silvery creature a part of the October moonlight."

and as evanescent, as it disappeared into the west."

As is natural—inevitable indeed—the ship's coming leads many to recall Kipling's prophetic story which was published long before man joined the clouds of the air. Thus the New York Herald-Tribune says:—

"The wireless despatches describing life aboard the world's newest transatlantic air liner are a queerly thrilling echo of Mr. Kipling's 'With the Night Mail,' and in spite of all our case-hardening to the achievements of aerial navigation there is still something remarkable in the idea that an airship can be built in Germany and delivered in the United States as easily as all this."

"But, as a matter of fact, it does not

seem to have been so easy. ZR-3 will be enormously safer when she is filled with helium. There was an interesting testimonial to the new possibilities of the 'gas bags' a few days ago when a bomb being carried in an army dirigible exploded and there was no fire. None of the crew was killed, although they had no time to take to the parachute and came down with the wreck. A bomb exploding in an airplane would be unlikely to leave any survivors."

After a warning note as to the danger in which the dirigibles of to-day are placed by severe storms, this writer adds: "But if the dirigible is not yet a demonstrated success as a long-distance passenger-carrier, the army's world flight seemed to show that the air-plane is not, either, and of the two types it is possible to argue that the 'gas bag' is the more hopeful. It certainly holds out more alluring possibilities, and its air service deserves great credit for continuing their work with the big rigids at a time when the rest of the world was ready to abandon them."

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales is to visit all the provinces in Canada except those on this side of the Quebec boundary. We may be sure His Royal Highness is not responsible for this neglect of the Maritimes, where live a million of the King's loyal subjects. Probably the gentlemen who arranged the itinerary do not know the Maritimes exist, or perhaps they have the unfortunate idea that they constitute no important part of the Dominion.

The vocational high school can easily be completed before Dec. 31, 1925. The proper to which the question was submitted for decision, said the school should be built. Why not let them have their way once in a while? True, they are mere voters and taxpayers, but no doubt they rather like, on occasion, to feel that they have some little influence upon the administration of their own affairs.

## Press Comment

### WHAT KIND OF WINTER?

(Ottawa Citizen.)  
Raspberries, violets and juvenile raccoons have been reported as making an unseasonable appearance in different parts of Ontario, and the wisecracks are flying. If these phenomena could be taken as unmistakable signs of a balmy winter, one might be impressed. The fact is, however, that they are the products of conditions that have gone before and not of conditions that are yet to come.

A walk in the country now will reveal equally authentic signs of a hard winter. The shrubs and trees are plentifully laden with berries and most of the birds have long since departed for warmer regions. These are signs, in the lore of the people, of a severe winter. If these phenomena could be taken as unmistakable signs of a balmy winter, one might be impressed. The fact is, however, that they are the products of conditions that have gone before and not of conditions that are yet to come.

So that while the weather lore of the "old timers" is always interesting, it is seldom based on scientific observation or accurate data. The most dependable prediction by the coming winter will be very much like other winters. They always are like each other.

## THE LOST ATLANTIS.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The "Saturday Review" contains a suggestive critique from the pen of the French abbe, Ernest Dimmet, showing the way things are going in Alsace and Lorraine. It appears that the French school teachers—instigated by the radical Encyclopedists—have organized a syndicate intended to revolutionize the system of education. According to this scheme, sociology is to be the chief topic of instruction. Children must be given ampler views of the world. Given wider vision, they will become more enlightened. Instead of home training and home traditions, their minds are to be set within the vortex of the history of the entire race. This is the new radical plan. It sounds attractive. It is assuredly a modern tang. It is by no means confined to Alsace-Lorraine. It is, in truth, one of the most far-reaching fables and fallacies of our modern Encyclopedic gossipping.

The big idea is the thing. Nothing else matters. To talk of a billion has an impressive sound simply because its value cannot be comprehended. We live in an age when catch-words have a talismanic spell, and when men are enamored of an idea precisely in the degree it abolishes the real. The trouble of thinking out its meaning and its implications. In Russia the magical word is "Communism." In France it is Syndicalism. In Great Britain it is Imperialism. In the United States it is Americanism. The Socialist talks of nationalizing the Laborite of the "One Big Union," the voter of democracy and the glories of the democratic estate. It seems quite sufficient to outline the big circle, even though its spaces are left a total blank. A person, of course, is very proud of owning an up-to-date encyclopedia, even though he does not understand the drift of any article within its covers.

It is possible to get all abroad and lost upon these cosmic vistas, and, gorgeously tropical and attractive, appear, lose ourselves in a marshy miasma of befuddlement. "Punch," some years ago, issued a cartoon, with English quite twisting towards the far edges of the park for his dog whilst the faithful animal was all the time close at his heels. The dog has a meaning. Peradventure, we have far too many library politicians whose gestures sweep the round of the globe from the comfortable recess of a cosy armchair. The "Encyclopedic" notion

## FRENCH ARMOR, 16TH CENTURY.

(Helen Ives Olchist in New York Times.)

Ho, holly warrior on a gaseyed horse, brandishing a cross moment in this hall of ancient armor, vaulted and nag-hung. Who donned your helmet for the titling course? From what strong hand was your steel gauntlet flung? Almost I hear his eager challenge call, "God and His Lady!"—while his thoughts were placed Upon his own fair prowess yet unused. And it is still unused. The passionate heart That warmed with youth the coldness and the gleam Of your bright hauberk gilded and embossed Has not in any chronicle its part. Shovel of a man whose life and death are lost. Those valiant deeds are now a buried dream. You who were made to shield him, rather, seem The real that has survived time's holocaust.

You were the measure of his knightly pride, That youth who, clad in you gave stroke and thrust. Fell, as his foemen fell, on unknown spears. Not his shining triumph over years. His strength and pride are now not even dust.

## SOME BITING COMMENT.

(Cleveland Press.)

"If the future justifies our hopes and war is ended," said Premier Ramsay MacDonald in Britain, speaking at Geneva, Switzerland, "it will be only through the League of Nations."

"England is here to increase the authority of the league," said the Hon. Lord Curzon of Menais, speaking at Geneva, Switzerland, "it will be only through the League of Nations."

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## CANON CHASE SAYS HE WAS MISTAKEN

(New York, Oct. 16.—Canon William S. Chase today admitted that he had made an erroneous affidavit regarding Louis Angel Firpo, heavyweight of Argentina. The canon's admission was made before Federal Commissioner Hitchcock at a hearing on the canon's complaint that Firpo committed perjury in telling the immigration authorities that he did not know Miss B. L. Fiorat, who came to this country on the same steamship.

Canon Chase said the affidavit to the effect that Firpo and Miss Fiorat came to this country as man and wife was made on information and belief, and that at the time he swore to the affidavit he believed it to be true. Later, he said, it was discovered to be false.

CHAIR SEAT COVER.  
When the dining room chairs get old and worn they may be made to look like new by merely recovering the seats with a plain denim of a neutral color. Modern dining chairs are made so that recovering is a simple process.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.  
A Welcome Accident.  
"A psychologist says that beauty is a matter of accident."  
"That may be, but no woman ever took out a policy against it."

A Sad Tale.  
She always used to shake my hand with such a light as feather.  
Last night I said I loved her and she shook me altogether.

Haps on That.  
First Angler—"Ever notice how Hook is given to harping on one string?"  
Second ditto—"Yes, if you refer to the string of fish, he says he caught seven years ago."

Conversation Discouraged.  
Chatty waiter (glancing out of window)—"The rain will be here in a few minutes now, sir."

Grumpy dinner—"Well, I didn't order it; I'm waiting for my lamb chops."

His Claim to Glory.  
"What I am today I owe to my wife," "Well, what are you?" the other sneered.

"I'm the husband of the best bridge player in our neighborhood," he replied.

On the Gridiron.  
Making both ends meet—using head-work in football.

Overheard at a Party.  
"Who is that lovely woman standing there beside our hostess?"  
"Oh, that Mrs. Wright."  
"Mrs. Wright, eh? By George, old man, who wouldn't rather be Wright than be President?"—Boston Transcript.

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The Webb Electric Co. St. John, N. B. M. 2152. 91 Germain St.

For good rich BAKED BEANS use plenty of clear pork fat and MARYLAND BEAN POT. Made by THE FOLEY POTTERY

It Must Be Mesh

From one end of the land to the other devotees of Dame Fashion turn now to the new velvet Mesh Bags for a touch of adornment beyond substitution. In the smarter places you see them with Gowns, with suits and in miniature at afternoon affairs.

They drape like never mesh draped before, taking on varied cuts—diamonds or jeweled frames, laced and fringed borders. Silver and silvered effects—Green Gold. Sterling from \$12, the miniatures from \$7.50. Every fine link welded in one. Just see them.

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## CONSTITUTION

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CHAMBERLAIN'S TABLETS  
Never disappoint or nauseate—25c.

Will Select Successor to the Hon. Mr. Byrne When That Arrives.

That steps would be taken immediately on receipt of the official appointment of Hon. J. P. Byrne, Attorney-General of New Brunswick, to the Supreme Court Bench to select his successor was the statement of Premier Vautour in a telephone interview last night. The Premier believed that the Hon. Mr. Byrne had received the official communication, but when communicated with Mr. Byrne said that he had not received it.

Chief Justice Barry said that he had received his commission on his return home yesterday. He did not know whether he would be required to be sworn in as Chief Justice as the duties of his new office were no different from those of the preceding one. Although the cold which has confined him to his home for the last week was somewhat improved, Premier Vautour did not expect to be able to leave the house until Tuesday or Wednesday of next week. He said that he was feeling very much better, however.

WRIT FOR BY-ELECTION.  
Ottawa, Oct. 16.—Writs were issued this afternoon for the Federal by-election in Temiscouata constituency of Quebec made vacant by the recent death of Charles Gauvreau Liberal member. Polling will be held on December 1, with nominations on November 17.

TO SHARPEN NEEDLE.  
When the sewing machine needle becomes dull, stitch for several inches through a piece of the sandpaper.

Heating Stove Up Yet?

Furnace in Working Order? Why be caught napping when a cold snap comes? You really need your stove or furnace these cold nights and mornings.

LET US PUT UP OR REPAIR YOUR HEATING PLANT—NOW—before the rush, while we can give it immediate attention. We employ only skilled men of wide experience.

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Countless thousands confirm his judgement! And no wonder—for "His Master's Voice" Victor Records provide the latest dance hits—played by the world's best Dance Orchestras. They are unequalled dance masterpieces.

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Driftwood—Fox Trot  
216465 It's a Man, Every Time—Fox Trot  
Jos. C. Smith's Orchestra

Adoring You—Fox Trot  
216470 In a Rendezvous—Fox Trot  
(Harold Leonard) Windsor Hotel Orchestra

Patsy—Fox Trot  
19399 G'wan With It—Fox Trot  
Art Hickman's Orchestra

Africa—Fox Trot  
19394 Virginia—Fox Trot  
Jack Shilkrut's Orch.  
Waring's Pennsylvanians

Oriental Love Dream—Fox Trot  
19325 My Daddy's Dreamtime—Fox Trot  
Coon Sanders Original  
Night-Hawk Orchestra

Maytime—Fox Trot  
19367 Plain Jane—Fox Trot  
International Novelty Orchestra

Rock-A-Bye My Baby Blues  
19387 Tears of Happiness—Waltz  
The Troubadours  
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