

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MAY 10, 1920

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STEAMERS AND BERTHS.

It is announced that before the end of this month eight more vessels will be added to the Canadian government merchant marine, and that before the end of the fiscal year all but eight of the vessels contracted for will have been delivered, and these eight will be on the way. St. John and Halifax are the Atlantic winter ports of this fleet. What provision is to be made for handling the traffic it will bring. Last winter, when there were only a few of these vessels, some of them had to lie in the stream here and wait for days to get berth accommodation. Next winter there will be more of them, but thus far there is no evidence that there will be any better accommodation for them. The session is passing and Ottawa gives no sign. Perhaps when the budget is brought down this week we will know more about the government's intentions, but this is a matter of national importance and delay means loss to Canada. To have government railways and government steamers and no terminal facilities to connect them is the rankest and most expensive kind of folly. The government should act without delay.

THE WAGE PROBLEM.

Toronto and Montreal are confronted with a possible tie-up of their street railway service. It is announced today that the employees of the Toronto Railway Company, whose pay was raised after the strike last summer to fifty-five cents an hour, will on June 16 demand eighty-five cents. For the company it is said the demand will probably be refused. A strike would probably follow. In Montreal the employees of the Tramway Company are asking seventy-five cents an hour. The Gazette says: "Under the existing scale the per hour pay of motormen and conductors is thirty-seven cents first year, forty cents second year, forty-four cents third year, and forty-eight cents after three years. The request of the men is for a per hour wage of seventy cents first three months, seventy-three cents succeeding three months, and seventy-five cents thereafter, which represents a great increase of fifty-six to 100 per cent, according to length of service." In addition, the men "want extra pay for Sundays and holidays; want the regulation working day reduced from ten hours to eight hours, and extra pay of fifty per cent. for the two hours thus cut out; want holidays extended from ten days to fifteen days; and want all disputed matters made subject to arbitration."

The Gazette declares that if these demands are granted it will add \$4,000,000 annually to the company's expenditures, following an increase of \$2,000,000 in the last two years; while "the company is already hard pressed to make ends meet, to pay fixed charges and provide out of earnings the annual contribution to the city treasury." Under such conditions, since the increase cannot come out of the company's funds, the people must pay it in increased fares. This point was raised by a member of the Typographical Union, at a meeting at which the matter was discussed. He said the delegates of the tramways men had not come out squarely and said that the company should bear the cost, and in order to get the support of organized labor to a large extent he felt that the tramways men should also state that they believed and wanted the increase to come from the profits of the shareholders and not placed on the public.

"We want to know from the tramways delegates," he said, "if when the company asks for a ten-cent fare the men will be willing to come forward and protest against it, and say that there is no necessity for increasing the fares, and that instead of increasing the fares the dividends should be decreased." The Montreal Gazette asserts that because of the financial position of the company every additional dollar of expense must be loaded on the patrons of the railway and the fare will have to be advanced from six to ten cents. It says fares were raised to six cents to meet increased cost of operation and must go to ten cents if the present demands are granted.

The matter is to be further discussed at a meeting of the Tramways Union this week, and a board of conciliation will probably be applied for. The present contract expires the first day of July.

MIGRATORY BIRDS ACT.

The Times has received a copy of the judgment of the supreme court of the United States, sustaining the constitutionality of the Migratory Birds Treaty Act between the United States and Great Britain, which was formed in 1918. The State of Missouri brought a bill in equity to prevent a game warden from attempting to enforce the act on the ground that it was an unconstitutional interference with the rights of the state. The treaty recited that many species of birds in their annual migrations traversed many parts of the United States and of Canada, that they were of great value as a source of food and in destroying insects injurious to vegetation, but were in danger of extermination through lack of adequate protection. It therefore provided for specific close seasons and protection in other forms, and

agreed that the two powers would take or propose to their law-making bodies the necessary measures for carrying the treaty out. They prohibited the killing, capturing or selling any of the migratory birds included in the terms of the treaty except as permitted by regulations compatible with those terms, to be made by the Secretary of Agriculture.

"The supreme court has upheld the treaty and the act based thereon. The concluding paragraph of the judgment is of particular interest. We quote:—

"Here a national interest of very nearly the first magnitude is involved. It can be protected only by national action in concert with that of another power. The subject matter is only transitively within the state and has no permanent habitat therein. But for the treaty and the statute there soon might be no birds for any powers to deal with. We see nothing in the constitution that compels the government to sit by while a food supply is cut off and the protectors of our forests and our crops are destroyed. It is not sufficient to rely upon the states. The reliance is vain, and were it otherwise, the question is whether the United States is forbidden to act. We are of opinion that the treaty and statute must be upheld."

GAS AND INFLATION.

The public utility corporation is ever and always, and in all places the same. Note the following from the New York Evening Post:

"John P. O'Brien, corporation counsel, today filed his objections to the preliminary report of Abraham S. Gilbert, special master, who took testimony in the application of the Consolidated Gas Company to increase its rate for gas above 80 cents a thousand cubic feet, the price fixed by law at present. "The city contends," says the corporation counsel, "that the valuation of about \$71,000,000 put on the Consolidated Company by the special master is about \$40,000,000 too high. The city also insists that the deduction that it costs 75 per cent for the Consolidated to turn out 1,000 cubic feet of gas is exorbitant. We believe the company, if on a proper valuation and if using its full capacity, can turn out the gas at about 63 cents per thousand cubic feet."

Consider the price of gas in St. John and in New York. Consider also the modesty of the gas company in the valuation of its plant. A little matter of \$40,000,000 over-valuation is nothing to a corporation that is out for increased rates. Of course gas is always useful for inflation purposes.

A very striking argument in support of pre-natal care for mothers was presented in Montreal last week by Mrs. Ira Hashrouh of Montreal, when she said that "such diseases as diphtheria and typhoid fever had been halved in regard to mortality within the past ten years and tuberculosis had been greatly reduced, but in the past fifteen years the death-rate in maternity had not been diminished; and the reason for this was that mothers were not protected by legislation. England," she said, "had made a grant just before the war which was used for putting 600 women on the field for pre-natal work, and although war broke out, that grant had been increased so that there were later 1,000 women so employed in this service. The benefit was seen in the fact that in the third year of the war the infantile death rate dropped to 91 per thousand births, whereas the rate in Montreal was 191 per thousand in times of peace and plenty."

If Carranza should be overthrown in Mexico, as now seems probable, his successor would probably be Gen. Obregon, who has expressed friendliness toward the United States. His task, however, would be difficult. Diaz ruled Mexico with an iron hand, but since his time there has been a general state of chaos. There are so many lawless factions in the country that only a strong man may hope to establish a settled government.

Stocks of Canadian grain in store in elevators on April 30 showed a decline of about 8,500,000 bushels, compared with a week before, and were as follows: Wheat, 25,517,547 bushels; oats, 18,168,883 bushels; barley, 3,088,461 bushels; rye, 308,006 bushels.

KILL PORTER ACCUSED ON COMPLAINT OF A YOUNG WHITE WOMAN.

Tampa, Fla., May 10.—An unidentified negro, arrested on a train near Bartow on the complaint of a young white girl on Sunday night, was lynched by a party of men who followed Deputy Sheriff Olive in automobiles. The body was found, riddled with bullets, on a road about eight miles from Bartow. On a card left near the body was written: "That is what you get for insulting a white woman."

Fireproof Suits for Airmen.

London, May 10.—Tests of specially manufactured clothing for pilots and men in the Royal Air Force have been made. The suits, which have a specially devised cloth helmet, were placed on dummies and subjected to petrol sprays and fire. The flames ascended to a great height, but the khaki fabric was scarcely scorched.



(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

ANOTHER STRIKE.

This year I will not swat the flies, as I have soaked them in the past; I'll not as an avenger rise and slay a million, first and last. 'Tis true I may resort to blows, and kill a few in self defence, when they alight upon my nose, and cause me agony intense. But I won't drop all other chores to chase the cheap, besotted flies, although the Health Board is swatting 'em, and says I'm foolish and unwise. For years I've plied my swatting stick, a million billion flies I've slain; results? Their absence makes me sick—my weary toll was all in vain. There'll be more flies this year, I wist, than ever flopped around before; the ones I slew will not be missed; for each one killed there'll be a score. You've heard about the ancient giant who pushed a boulder up a hill; a few feet up the slope it went, and then slipped back, already still. No modern man would stand for that; results in no case, or people quit; and so no more the flies I'll bat, since batting doesn't make a hit.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

THE DUKE OF KENT.

On May 10, 1914, the Duke of Kent who was known later as the father of Queen Victoria, arrived in Halifax to take command of the garrison there a position he was to occupy for almost five years. It was not, however, his first acquaintance with the new land, for as Prince Edward he had come to America in August, 1791, in command of the Seventh Fusiliers and had been stationed at Quebec. He was very popular in society there and the house in which he lived became in later years one of the sights of the city and was visited annually by thousands of tourists. He took an active part in the organization of the amateur musical societies and in various other ways he made himself a favorite with the settlers.

In January, 1794, he received orders to join Sir Charles Gray in the West Indies and left Canada by way of Lake Champlain and Boston. He sailed from Boston on Feb. 6 on a small packet which was very nearly captured by a French warship. If the French officers had known that an English prince was on board the little craft, they would very likely have captured it. But the vessel reached Martinique in safety and later took part in the capture of Port Bourdon and St. Lucia.

When he returned to England later it was with a clear conception of the vast wealth and possibilities of the domains of the empire in the New World and in later years his influence in the old world was of much assistance to the empire that was arising in the west. Through him, too, his daughter, the Princess Victoria, destined to be queen of the nation for more than three-score years, received her first impressions of the value of the North American territories.

A LAMENT FOR ARCHIBALD LAMPMAN.

His was not the glory of the shattering of spears; He did not cross his sword with Death, whose scimitar flags are hurled, But death came to him softly, with his dark eyes dim with tears, And broke a dream of woodland ways across a singing world.

So doff your hats, good poet-men! No fingers like the fallen pen, The sun forgets to mark the time With the music of his rhyme.

His was not the glory of the thundering of wars; His was not a nation's voice—were his a nation's tears? To him the night winds whispered all the secrets of the stars, He was priest of all the joyous springs and of all the dying years.

So doff your hats, good gentlemen, For hearts were made to bleed again, With Archie gone, and all his rhyme, Wholl tell the world 'tis April-time? —Theodore G. Roberts, in the Canadian Magazine.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Reciprocity Demanded. Owen—I'm surprised at your refusing to sign that loan. One friend should always help another.

Oke—True, but you always want to be the other.—Boston Transcript.

Traps and Trappers.

Tourist—My good friend, do you earn your living by simply trapping and skinning animals?

Trapper—Yep! It runs in the family. I got a brother in Philadelphia in the same business.

Tourist—In Philadelphia?

Trapper—Yes! He owns one o' them apartment houses.—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Power of Suggestion.

The critic seemed struck with the picture. "This snowstorm painting is very fine, indeed," he said to the artist, "it almost makes me feel cold to look at it."

"Yes, it must be realistic," admitted the other. "A fellow got into my studio one day in my absence, looked at the picture, and unconsciously put my fur overcoat on before he went out."—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

The Way It Goes.

Kind Old Man—Who is this little boy?

Edgar—Oh, he's my cousin.

Kind Old Man—Your first cousin?

Edgar—Not at all. I had lots more before he was born.

ENJOYABLE CONCERT.

The "Willing Helpers" Mission Band of the Carleton Methodist church, assisted by the Carleton Camp Fire Girls' Club of West St. John, staged a delightful concert on Friday night. There was a good attendance and an excellent programme was greatly enjoyed. The numbers presented included: Chorus by the band; recitation, Clara Scott; vocal duet, Marjorie and Elsie Long; recitation, Marion Brittain; exercise, Marion Fraser; Marion Marr and Mabel Stubbs; recitation, Phyllis Waters; exercise, by the band; recitation, Audrey Livingston; vocal duet, Madeline Irvine and Rita Moffat; recitation, Marion Mabey; exercise, Ruth Galbraith, Clara Scott, Madeline Irvine, Laura Mason, Minnie Fraser, Marion Marr and Mabel Stubbs; recitation, Donald Urquhart. The closing number was a chorus by the band. The next concert will be given by the Camp Fire Club Girls of the Albert school, under the direction of Miss Harriet Smith.

PRETTY ROW IS ON IN ENGLAND

Opinion Is That It Means Split of Liberal Party—Some Press Comment.

London, May 10.—(Canadian Associated Press)—The press and politicians are emphatic in the view that the Liberal party conflict means an irreconcilable split in the organization. There is a disposition to regard the situation as even more dangerous for Liberalism than the home rule secession.

Steps have already been taken to organize purely coalition Liberal election machinery. Attorney-General, Hewart and his colleagues are angry over the treatment in Leamington. One joins the Sunderland result with the Leamington experience as a visible sign that public opinion is bursting party fetters and some independents profess to be jubilant over the withdrawal of the coalitionists as clearing the situation.

The Daily News, which calls the Leamington incident a coalition rout, finds in the prime minister's position a "reason why the vote against coalition was salutary and necessary." "Let Liberalism fight and lose for a while if it must," it says, "but let it at least surrender its soul to reaction."

The Times is against coalition and thinks that the morale of the Liberal split is that a great part of the nation is tired of the insincerities of the present system. The Mail says that coalition is not justified now, it is an anachronism. It says public opinion is not in a state of coalition though the government may be. The Chronicle regards the proceeding as extremely regrettable and the methods of opposition by the Liberals as an unmistakable confession of weakness.

FIGHT FOR LIFE WITH A BURGLAR

Hoboken Business Man Is Shot Five Times and Will Likely Die.

Hoboken, N. J., May 10.—In a battle for his life with a masked burglar discovered in his home here yesterday, Frederick E. Baker, vice-president of the White Metal Manufacturing Company, was shot five times, suffering wounds from which his surgeons believe he cannot recover. The intruder used two revolvers, one in each hand, and fired at the manufacturer as he was pursued about the house. He escaped.

Baker, who leaves for Cincinnati today and had \$1,500 in cash in his home. The police think the robbery was attempted by a person who knew this. The money was not taken.

QUITS HARVARD TO GO TO LONDON

Cambridge, Mass., May 10.—The resignation of Harold J. Laski, lecturer on history and tutor in the division of history, government and economics at Harvard University, to accept appointment as professor of political science at the London, England, school of economics, was announced today. This school is a department of the University of London.

NEW YORK THEATRICAL MANAGER IS KILLED.

Auburn, N. Y., May 10.—Charles Baker, a New York theatrical manager, who was injured in an automobile wreck near here on Saturday, died early today. Mr. and Mrs. Baker were in a car with Mr. and Mrs. Helen Bernstein of New York, both of whom were injured. Mrs. Bernstein, it is said, is not expected to recover.

BUREAU OF HEALTH.

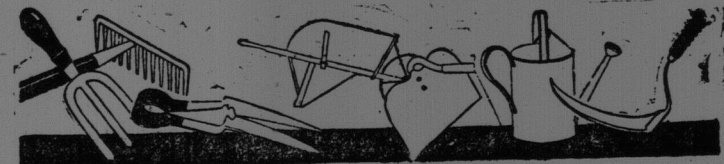
Much important work was accomplished at the quarterly meeting of the Provincial Board of Health, held in the government rooms on Saturday.

There were announced the establishing of depots throughout the province where anti-toxins, sera, vaccine and laboratory diagnostic outfits would be more readily available for the use of physicians and their patients in urgent cases. At these depots diphtheria antitoxine, both for the treatment and prevention of disease would be supplied free for the use of persons who cannot afford to pay.

In the reports of the district health officers and the discussions which followed many matters of interest were considered, such as general sanitary work, medical inspection of the schools, collection of vital statistics, water supplies and the collection of garbage in towns and cities. Though in force only four months, it was thought that the collection of vital statistics is proving a work of great value.

Dr. Abramson reported a great deal of outside work done in the laboratory and suggested that physicians from all parts of the province should make even greater use of the services provided here.

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At \$18.90 are some Beautiful All Wool Plaids, in a Peacock Blue shade. These have fancy pockets trimmed with Jersey Piping and Pearl Buttons; the very newest of the new.

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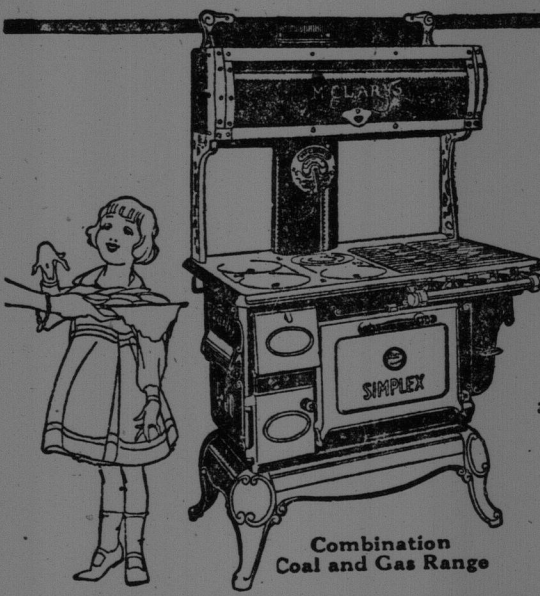
KITCHEN too cold to do without a coal or wood range in winter?

It is a mighty uncomfortable place in summer if the same range has to do the cooking and baking during the warm months—that is, unless the range is a McClary's Simplex Interchangeable.

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Flu Epidemic in Japan.

Tokio, May 10.—The influenza epidemic which raged in Japan during the winter caused 1,724,332 cases, of which 65,832 were fatal.

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