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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1913

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 23, 1913.

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MR. JARVIS' LETTER

Mr. W. M. Jarvis, in his letter which is published in today's Times, makes two remarkably strong arguments against the three-decker tenement house. One is that the development of the tenement system is bad for the health of the people, and bad for them in other respects. The other is that the three-decker increases the cost of insurance.
Mr. Jarvis has just visited the town of Amherst, where the three-decker is almost unknown, and where each workman aims to have his cottage home. Similar conditions exist in other provincial towns. Why should not the like be true of St. John? So long as the citizens are content with present conditions no improvement need be hoped for; but once it is decided that there shall be no more three-decker tenements, better accommodation will be provided as fast as it is demanded. The citizens should not take a reactionary step on Tuesday next and vote in favor of that which is condemned in other cities, and which unquestionably is opposed to the really best interests of the community; but should support the new by-law and keep St. John headed in the right direction in the matter of housing.

WHAT ST. JOHN NEEDS

It is a most gratifying evidence of the growth of the trade of the port of St. John that the harbor master should be compelled to say that he does not know where accommodation could be found for a steamer making weekly trips between this city and New York. With the sense of gratification, however, there comes the consciousness that if the trade of St. John is to grow, additional facilities must be provided at once. The citizens should take this matter up and lose no time in having plans prepared to meet new demands for terminal facilities on the water front. Apparently the Borden government does not propose to erect the needed grain conveyers at West St. John. What the Intercolonial Railway may be willing to do to meet the congestion at the south end of the city is another matter of great importance. Mayor Frink has very pointedly directed attention to the unsatisfactory conditions which exist today, and action must be taken to handle the part in a position to handle more traffic, and above all to meet the needs of industries which require traffic accommodation.

MARITIME CO-OPERATION

Two of the speakers at the press banquet on Thursday evening, President Robinson of the board of trade and Col. Baxter, referred to the importance of more and more co-operation between the maritime provinces, and Col. Baxter expressed the view that if the three provinces were actually united their position in the confederation would be improved. It is at all events true that co-operation is needed, in order that this section of Canada may be able to hold its own and receive its share of consideration from the government at Ottawa, no matter which political party may for the time being control the country's affairs. It is still true that in the opinion of too many people in Quebec, Ontario and farther west, the Dominion of Canada begins at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, while the lower provinces are of comparatively little importance. It may be hoped that the exertion of manufacturers to Halifax at an early date will enlighten many who are still ignorant of the greatness of our resources. Perhaps also their coming will suggest to the people of these provinces the importance of co-operation and united effort, when important results are to be accomplished.

ENGLAND'S PROSPERITY

Today's cable from London says that every day supplies fresh evidence of the amazing prosperity of England. Pauperism is declining and work houses are being closed. The number of outdoor paupers is decreasing. Wages continue to rise, and industrial concerns are making large profits, while some of them report difficulty in securing enough labor. This news is gall and wormwood to the Tory party, who have been predicting that Lloyd George and his policies would ruin the country. The government has gone steadily forward with its great programme of legislation to ameliorate the condition of the common people, and has met with unbounded success. That which has been done by the Liberal government in England is the aim of the Wilson Democrats for the United States, and the aim of the Liberal party in Canada. However differently the plans may be worked out, the underlying principles are the same, the purpose of legislation being to improve the conditions under which the great mass of the people live.
It is true that along with the great prosperity in England there is labor unrest, but this is a world-wide condition, and must be faced in every country. Naturally, the greater the prosperity the stronger will be the agitation in favor of improved conditions for every class of work-people. England has thus far come out of her labor troubles without

very serious disturbances, and it may fairly be assumed that the like will be true in relation to troubles which may now threaten. The abounding prosperity of the country will be one factor making a settlement less difficult.

THE BUILDING BY-LAW.

Calgary's building regulations (by-law No. 1364) contain the following:
"Every apartment house of over two stories in height shall be built of slow burning construction, and of over three stories in height shall be of fire-proof construction, and have all external windows and doors fire-proof, nor shall any building be altered for use as an apartment house unless same is made to conform to the above condition.
"No apartment house shall have living rooms in basement, except quarters for janitor, unless basement ceiling is at least six feet above grade level, in which case the basement shall be considered as a storey.
"No wooden apartment house shall hereafter be erected, nor shall any wooden building be hereafter altered or converted to such use, when such buildings exceed two stories in height, exclusive of basement; nor shall any wooden tenement house wider than thirty feet and deeper than sixty feet, or the equivalent in area be hereafter erected unless the interior be subdivided by fireproof walls to that size."

We will all be relieved when Thaw is sent back to the United States.

The three-decker wooden tenement does not cheapen rents. It does cheapen human lives.

Col. the Hon. Sam. Hughes wants to know how many horses can be mobilized in New Brunswick in the event of war. Where is the enemy?

If conditions are so serious at Nanaimo that a garrison must be established, there for at least a year it is very evident that Nanaimo contains a good many very undesirable citizens.

St. John needs more wharf and warehouse accommodation. Now that the hot season about over, the citizens should turn their attention seriously to this matter, and after determining what is immediately needed, go after it with a determination not to fail.

New Brunswick will probably have large quantities of potatoes to export this year. It is worthy of note that the price being paid to Maine producers at the present time is, as usual, considerably higher than is being paid on this side of the line.

It is contended that people should be permitted to go on building three-decker wooden tenements until so many one and two-family houses are built that there will be no need of the three-decker. If this course were pursued there would never be any improvement. The landlord would prefer the three-decker, because he would get a larger rent proportionately than from a two-story house. The tenant would be the one to suffer. The thing to do is to put the three-decker out of business, and nobody need be at all alarmed but that enough of a more desirable class of buildings will then be erected to meet the requirements.

"The bill met with an ominous reception," said former Mayor Bach of Cleveland, discussing a measure that had failed. "It's reception was, in fact, as ominous as that accorded to the Christmas melodrama in the two-night stage. 'A melodrama, 'Murdered at Christmastide,' for two nights in a small town. The first night there was a fair audience but when in act 3 the senior villain said to the junior, 'Hill! Are we alone?' a voice from the gallery growled: 'No, Hamlet, not to night; but you bet you'll be tomorrow night.'"

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BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23.

The Hon. Charles Langille, judge of the Sessions of the Peace, Quebec, and a brother of the lieutenant-governor, was born on August 23, 1851, at St. Rose, P. Q. He practised law for many years in Quebec City, and also had a lengthy political experience, which he has set forth in a book of reminiscences.
Major Charles Alfred Hodgetts, head of the Health Department, Royal Conservation Commission, Ottawa, was born in Toronto, on August 23, 1859. He was for many years medical inspector of the provincial board of health of Ontario and later its secretary.
George Ham, famous publicity man of the Canadian Pacific Railway, reaches his sixty-sixth birthday today. He was born in Trenton, Ont., and was long connected with the press. He entered the employ of the C. P. R. in 1891.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24.

That is the natal day of Baroness Macdonald of Earncliffe, widow of Sir John A. Macdonald. She was born in Jamaica on August 24, 1836, and married Sir John in 1867. She was granted the title of baroness after her husband's death.
Alfred Brunet, Montreal, celebrates his sixty-ninth birthday today. He was long engaged in business in Montreal and was for a time manager of the Banque Nationale there. Latterly his interests have been wider and he has been placed on the directorate of several companies, including the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

LIGHTER VEIN

"I had a dream the other night," said the joker at a luncheon table recently. "I dreamed I was in business with a rich man, selling potted flowers. But business was bad and we decided to discontinue business. I wanted the pots and flowers and took them."
"What did the rich man want?" asked one of the guests, innocently.
"He wanted the earth," replied the wit.

The amenities of political campaigning are amusingly illustrated by a story told by a southern congressman. It appears that during the course of a stump speech delivered five years ago by John Sharp Williams in Mississippi he was interrupted by sudden yell from a man in the audience.
"I have been robbed by pickpockets!" "I did not know that there were any Republicans present," promptly suggested Mr. Williams, in order to get a laugh. "O, there ain't no Republicans!" roared the unhappy man. "I'm the only one!"—Lippincott's.

CLOSING OF ALLISON MEMORIAL PLAYGROUNDS

At the closing of the Allison memorial playgrounds yesterday afternoon, an interesting programme was carried out. W. C. Allison, donor of the grounds, was present. Those in charge were: Mrs. Matthews, Miss Dorothy Matthews, Miss B. Turner, Miss M. Melick, and G. Howard. Miss Nabel Peters, president of the association, was also present.

The following programme was given: Folk games, including German klapp dance, Danish dance of greeting and "I See You".
Piano solo—Alice Powers.
Recitation—Florence Roberts.
Folk games, including Shoemaker dance and Swedish klapp dance.
Piano solo—Mollie McQuade.
Recitation—Edmund Lowe—Minute Man.
Piano solo—Lottie Heffer.
Kindergarten games, including Oats, Peas, Beans; Did You Ever See a Lassie; Three Deep Tags.
God Save the King.

Jet is formed, like coal, from wood and vegetable matter, but differs from coal in that it contains a much smaller quantity of earthly impurities.

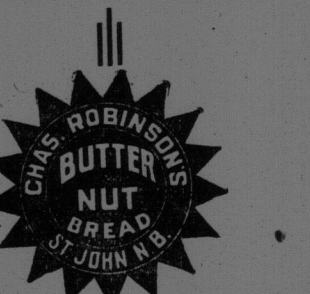
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Politicians Censured.
The convention of the Grand Lodge I. O. G. T. this week at the Narrows was a decided success. At the various sessions reports were received, including one from the political committee in which the members of the local house, who previous to their election had pledged their support to the prohibition movement, were censured for their inactivity. The report of the other committees showed that the organization had increased in membership 109 during the last year, and also that the financial condition of the body is good, being a balance of \$800.

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