

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1919

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UNREST AND PROGRESS.

Social unrest is not an unhealthy sign. Because man has never been content with his lot the race has progressed from one stage of civilization to another. The different branches of the race have not progressed evenly, and every stage from a mild savagery to the highest type of existing Christian culture is to be found upon the earth. The tendency, however, is upward. The conflicting forces of conservatism and radicalism operate continually, and there is now a movement toward one extreme and now a reaction toward the other. Those forces, however, which make for the advancement of human welfare if at times retarded are never overcome, and when a balance is struck at the close of an era it is found that conditions have improved for the masses of the people.

A period of unrest following the war was inevitable. People could not be brought face to face with the stark realities of that world-shaking struggle without a re-examination of the basis of human relations, not only as between nation and nation but between class and class. It was inevitable that such an examination would reveal social inequalities and industrial conditions which in the pitiless light of the new day were too glaring to be overlooked. But the moment a change was sought the old forces of conservatism and radicalism came into conflict, self-interest asserted itself, misunderstandings arose and the situation became fraught with ugly possibilities. This is not a new human experience. It is as old as the race, but, just as surely as out of past struggles have come improved conditions, so surely will the present social and industrial upheaval bring ultimate benefit to the masses of the people. Who can doubt, for example, that Russia, plunged from the tyranny of the czars into the chaos of Bolshevism, and now emerging into a brighter day, will eventually as a great democracy give her people a freer and fuller life? Canada today is in the throes of an upheaval, but it will not end in revolution, for her people are free and intelligent. The extremists cannot carry the great mass of the people off their feet. In the end conditions will be improved, for the nation is sound at heart and will not submit to oppression or bow the knee to any faction.

AND NOW TORONTO.

Discussing the situation in Winnipeg the Toronto Globe indulges in sharp criticism of the extremists on both sides. We quote: "In Winnipeg the obstinacy of three iron masters, heads of establishments employing men in the metal trades, in refusing to recognize the right of the men to collective bargaining, blocks a settlement of the labor troubles, and has been used as a strong argument by those who approve sympathetic strikes. The arrogant attitude of employers who deny the right of workmen to do what they themselves do in their various trade associations is an anachronism. It belongs to the day when the lord of the manor held power of life and death, and considered that all who engaged in manual labor must of necessity be inferior to himself and his class. Nor can anything good be said on the other hand for the extreme attitude of labor leaders in calling sympathetic strikes. The net result of this step in Winnipeg has been to antagonize a great body of people whose sympathies were largely with the original strikers, and especially so in their contention for the privilege of collective bargaining in the varied trades enjoyed by their masters. Women and children have been the chief sufferers by the shutting down of public utilities, and many men whose good-will has always been with the worker have been put to inconvenience, loss, and trouble that will not easily be forgotten. The whole course of the struggle has been marked by a series of broken agreements. The pledged word has been violated with an irresponsible freedom that is immoral, and the seeds of distrust and suspicion have been sown by labor unions which have allowed themselves to be led astray by the unselfish promises of men who cannot make their words come true." The Toronto Star offers the following remedy for the situation: "The eight-hour day should be proclaimed as law; the right of workers to organize unions and the obligation of employers to recognize and negotiate with them should be proclaimed as law; and the obligation of unions in every case to negotiate with employers and report to the state before going on strike should be proclaimed as law. If these measures were taken today there would be some chance of bringing matters to a settlement."

These comments of the Globe and Star were made some days ago. Now Toronto itself has a strike on its hands and the situation grows more interesting. Extremists and moderates are found in Toronto as well as in Winnipeg, and in both the moderates will win in the end. The people of Canada, who bore the strain of the great war, will not lose their heads in time of peace.

There is to be a special committee of the house of commons to study the high cost of living in Canada. There has never been a dearth of commissions on this subject, but when is the cost of living to be reduced? A public flogging for an occasional profiteer would do more than many commissions to stop the exploitation of the consumers of this country.

Toronto Globe: One of the greatest of the "inequalities and injustices" Sir Robert Borden speaks of as existing in Canada is that which enables profiteers to shelter behind a forty-two and a half per cent tariff on not a few of the necessities of life. Kind words will not lessen customs taxation.

The season thus far has been fairly favorable for the farmers, and seeding is well advanced. The outlook for fruit is said to be unusually bright. Agriculture appears to be promised a successful year in New Brunswick.

If not at Versailles, then at Berlin, says Mr. Lloyd George, referring to the signing of the treaty by Germany. That is plain talk, and it has behind it the iron hand of Marshal Foch.

Hawker, the birdman, says his recent remarks were misunderstood and he meant no unkind criticism of the Americans.

The strike situation in Winnipeg has improved. If the sympathetic strike there is called off the conditions in other cities will soon get back to normal.

A definition of collective bargaining is more needed than anything else in connection with the strike situation.

The Bolsheviks will sure have charge of Montreal after next week. The barbers are going out on strike.

FINE ENTERTAINMENT IN TRINITY SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The annual entertainment of the Wilmsted school was held last evening in the upper hall of Trinity church Sunday school and was an elaborate and ambitious one carried through with perfect success. Three little plays were given and the pupils thoroughly entered into the spirit of their parts. The costumes were specially artistic and must have cost much in time and thought. The production was under the direction of Miss Jessie Lawson who is much to be congratulated.

The programme was:

"When Liberty Calls."
A pageant of the Allies by Josephine Thorp.
Justice Mary Murray
Attendants B. Miles and E. Ellis
The Captive Nations Ethel Powell
The Irish Lullaby C. Starr, E. Jones
The Allied Nations—D. Paterson, R. Armstrong, L. Smith, C. Teed, M. Page, F. Frith, E. Armstrong, C. White, M. Stephenson, J. McAllister, C. Watson.

Part II.
1—Some Old-time Songs.
2—O Mistress Mine.
3—I have House and Land in Kent.
4—The Lark in the Morning.
5—Phyllis Barker and Isabel Christie.
6—The Irish Lullaby—Ethel Powell and Daphne Paterson.
7—The Fairies' Play.
8—Tilliana Elizabeth Armstrong
9—Puck Edith Ellis
10—Flower Fairy Rachel Armstrong
11—Forest Fairy Frances Frith
12—Meadow Fairy Phyllis Barker
Other Fairies—C. Starr, P. Jones, I. Christie, C. Teed, B. Miles, M. Stephenson, M. Page.

Time Mary Murray
Shakespeare Leonora Belyea
Part III.
"The Sun Goddess"—A Masque of Old Japan.
Ha Sa, an artisan Constance Murray
Ho, a cynic philosopher Helen Magee
The Sun Goddess Ruth Starr
Koto, a priestess Ruth Thompson
The Willow Maiden Viola McAvity
The Rice Maiden E. Armstrong, M. Tilley, C. Watson
The Soul of the Wisteria D. McAvity, D. Paterson, D. Evans
The Soul of Cherry Blossoms E. Ellis and C. Starr
The Soul of all the Butterflies Constance White
Usual Celestial Dancer Ethel Powell
O Ku Re, a poetess Leonora Belyea
Maidens R. Avery, S. Magee, N. Estabrooks, A. Rankine.
Children P. Jones, F. Frith, P. Baker, I. Christie, C. Teed, M. Stephenson.
Villagers B. Miles, M. Page, L. Smith, M. Murray, J. McAllister.

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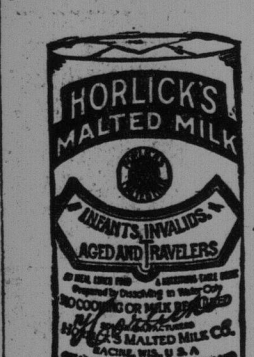
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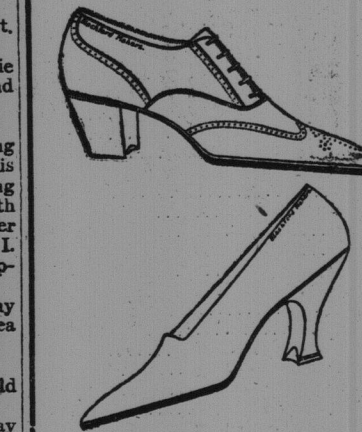
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COLONEL BROWN ADDRESSES WOMEN'S CANADIAN CLUB

Lieut.-Colonel Brown, D. S. O. with bar, recounted to the members of the Women's Canadian Club yesterday afternoon the experiences of his battalion, the 26th New Brunswick's Own. The club met in the Baptist Institute in German street and accorded Colonel Brown a hearty reception, listening with rapt attention to his splendid address, given in a straightforward and unvarnished manner. Mrs. G. A. Kuhring, the president, was in the chair. Some piano duets were excellently well rendered by Miss Minnie Poole and Miss Dorothy Hunt. Mrs. Brown was present and was made the recipient of a beautiful bouquet of red and white carnations tied with blue tulle, the presentation being made by Mrs. R. T. Hayes. The gift was accepted very gracefully. A delightful social hour with the serving of refreshments followed the address and gave opportunity for all to talk with the distinguished guest.

The business transacted before the arrival of Colonel Brown dealt with the future visit of General Macdonald of the 1st Division and the possibility of the club's having to limit its membership. It was announced that the memorial tablet for New Brunswick soldiers had arrived in the city and it was decided that the tablet should, if agreeable to the authorities, be placed temporarily in the post office. Arrangements were made for raising funds to defray the expenses of the tablet and it was unanimously agreed that should a sufficient sum be

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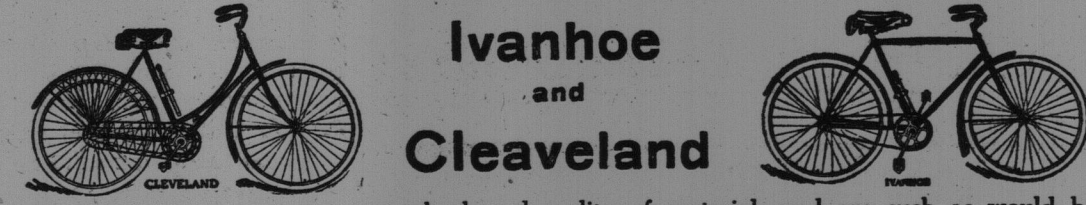
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who fell. A standing vote of thanks expressed over by Mrs. H. A. Powell and Mrs. R. T. Hayes and Mrs. W. H. Shaw and Mrs. Beattie assisted with the refreshments which were served by a number of young ladies.

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