

MC2035 POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1910

The Evening Times and Star

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The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury street every evening (Sunday excepted) by the St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

TELEPHONES—News and Editorial, 102; Advertising Dept., 31; Circulation, Dept., 15.

Subscription prices—Delivered by carrier, \$3.00 per year, by mail, \$2.00 per year in advance.

The Times has the largest afternoon circulation in the Maritime Provinces.

Special Representatives—Frank R. Northrup, Brunswick Building, New York; Tribune Building, Chicago.

British and European representatives—The Cougher Publicity Syndicate, Grand Trunk Building, Trafalgar Square, London, England, where copies of this journal may be seen and to which subscribers intending to visit England may have their mail addressed.

THE EVENING TIMES THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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These papers advocate: British connection; Honesty in public life; Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion.

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No deals!
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THE OUTLOOK

Dreams do not always come true, and expectations are not always fulfilled. Let us suppose, however, that during the next year St. John should witness extensive development work at Courtenay Bay, the construction of terminals at large cost by the C. P. R. at the head of the harbor, the beginning of further extension of facilities by the C. P. R. at West St. John, the construction of a sugar refinery at Ballast Wharf, a paper mill near Union Point, an armory on Sheffield street, yards of tenements by real estate companies, and the extension of its line by the street railway company toward Crouville or in some other direction.

All these projects, except perhaps the last one, have been so far advanced that there is reasonable certainty that enough of them will take practical shape to make 1911 a notable year in the history of St. John. Signs multiply that the city is to enjoy a period of substantial growth, and assume a more commanding position among the cities of Canada. Doubtless the new spirit of optimism, which is largely a development of the year 1910, accounts for the unusually joyous aspect of the present Christmas season.

BOARDS OF CONTROL

Reference has already been made in this paper to the trouble that has arisen in Montreal over the board-of-control system of civic government. There is constant friction between the board of control and the city council, and the former is seeking legislation to overcome the difficulty. The council is seeking to lead that legislation in such a way as to render it largely useless. The Star calls upon the electors of the city council to watch the small but active wing of the party which is more eager for patronage than good government. It says:—"It is only ten months since we have cleaned the city hall as it never had been before, the council chamber was not only washed down, but stuccoed out, the patronage plait was uprooted as far as could be done without overturning all the machinery of municipal administration and the gears of graft and corruption which infected practically every department were presumably destroyed by the wholesale application of enthusiasm for honest government and efficient administration. You may scotch but you cannot kill the determination to turn public trust to private profit, and there are excellent reasons for believing that the time to do a little more scotch is very close at hand. It is extremely suspicious, for example, that a little clause giving the aldermen authority to handle certain indefinite expenditures of money independent of the board of control should have been allowed to creep quietly and unostentatiously into the list of charter amendments the legislature will be asked to sanction next month. Even the abortive effort to have the present aldermen continued in office four years by legislative enactment, although only a few of the members of council were apparently active in its support, leaves a rather bad taste in the mouth. It is regrettable, from every standpoint, that such conditions exist. The only more regrettable thing would be to shut our eyes to them."

It is clear from these statements that the joint system of council and board of control does not work well. The Montreal Herald also takes the side of the board of control, and the Witness urges that the number of members of the city council be reduced to a small number. It says:—"We are told by the wise man that in the multitude of counselors there is wisdom. Our experience in Montreal has been that in the multitude of counselors there is obstruction, and the ward tickets are certain to prove a tremendous stronghold of partisanship, and partisanship has hitherto put us in the hands of bosses."

In Ottawa, also, the board of control system is threatened, and we find the Journal saying:—"Citizens who approve of civic conditions since the establishment of a board of control in Ottawa, will do well to unite if a point to see that their votes are recorded January 2nd next in favor of its continuance. For it begins to look as though this civic institution, in spite of the improvement it has wrought in civic affairs and the aid it has been in placing responsibility for both poor and good civic stewardship, will need all the votes of its friends to ensure its continued existence."

Race and religion play a part in civic politics, both in Ottawa and Montreal, and the existence of a city council as well as a board of control affords opportunity for trouble makers that would not exist under

THE TWO CHRISTMAS TREES

Kris Kringle walked the city alleys with festal light.

"I would see," said he, "how many mortals keep the Christ-Child's memory bright."

Within a stately mansion a giant Christmas tree

Blazed, loaded down with costly gifts, a goodly sight to see.

O'er it a white dove hovered; amid its branches shone

White taper flames, and globes whose hues mocked every precious stone.

But Kris Kringle's brow was troubled, for grieved on every side

Robbed the fair gifts of their blessing, and Love was lost in pride;

White sampered menials, jeering, drove the hungry from the door.

"He hath no share in Christmaside who thinks not on God's poor,"

Mused the loving spirit sadly as he plunged into the night.

'Tis the light of Love and Kindness keeps the Christ-Child's memory bright."

THE WESTERN FARMERS

The Winnipeg Tribune wants the country to understand that the western farmers are very much in earnest. It says:—"The party politicians cannot shut their eyes to the unparalleled agitation throughout western Canada at the present time against the legislation of the governing powers in our country. The great delegation to Ottawa is only an outcropping. The farmers, at scores of meetings, have been passing strong resolutions on the subject of the Hudson Bay Railway, the tariff and other questions."

To prove its assertion the Tribune quotes a column or more of resolutions adopted by farmers' associations in different sections of the west, all of which are very emphatic.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

It may please the Toronto News and the St. John Standard to endeavor to persuade their readers that the only demand for reciprocity comes from the United States, but they are pursuing a very foolish policy. It is the people of Canada they have to reckon with and not those of the United States.

CANADA'S RAILWAYS

Canada had 25,700 miles of railway in operation during the last year. Over 3,800 miles have been added in the past four years. Other interesting facts are those stated by the Toronto Globe:—"At the end of the fiscal year the capital liability of the whole of the railways amounted to over fourteen hundred million dollars, somewhat less than half of the amount in stocks and the remainder in bonds. Over a hundred millions of this total was added during the past year. The aggregate of cash subsidies paid by the Dominion to date is nearly a hundred and forty-seven millions; the amount paid by provinces is nearly sixty-six millions; and the amount paid by municipalities nearly eighteen millions."

"It is interesting to learn that the average passenger journey and the freight haul in Canada are the longest in the world, a pre-eminence due to the 'massive distances' traversed by the long western lines in regions where population is still sparse. The total number of passengers carried was nearly thirty-six millions, and the total freight transported amounted to nearly twenty-five million tons. In each case there was an increase of almost ten per cent. over the totals of the previous year. The net earnings amounted to more than thirty-two per cent. above those of last year. Some idea of the amount of business done by the railways may be obtained by reference to the number of employees engaged in operating the railways. There were nearly a hundred and twenty-four thousand, earning more than sixty-seven million dollars."

SELL TIPPING RIGHTS; MILLIONS IN IT

New York Hotel Proprietors Dispose of Privileges—As Much as \$50,000 in One House

Modern New York hotels, says the Herald of that city, now sell their tipping privileges at so much a month or year to trusted employees.

Cost room privileges in the larger hotels sell from \$500 to \$10,000 per annum, and one hotel is alleged to have received as high as \$50,000 for its combined privileges set to tip collectors. Notwithstanding the high prices paid the men owning tip stands gathered in more than \$100,000 from generous visitors.

The head door man in one hotel pays \$10,000 a year, while the lowest paid for the door privilege is \$900 a year.

Each of the door man's assistants turns over his receipts to his chief and it is the name with other departments, the boot waiter and coatroom man gets all his underrings taken in, and the bellboy privilege is fast becoming confined to one man.

Women pay the smallest tips and the privilege owner depends for his principal revenue upon the men who are striving to make a show of wealth. He does not depend in vain for the tips in big hotels, where a round sum which runs into millions, represents the annual incomes of syndicated tip takers in New York.

In addition to the hotel system the tip taking privileges of large opera houses and theatres are often sold outright to one man. In many apartment houses, too, one cannot get a carl taken up to a resident without first tipping the elevator man.

A man who gets a black eye generally cuts it.

THE WHITNEY GOVERNMENT

The Whitney government has discovered that the Ontario school law has been violated in a number of school districts. It did not make the discovery until practically forced to do so.

An Ohio man who took part in a lynching has been sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary. This should tend to discourage participants in that particular American pastime.

Now that the federal government has undertaken to take care of the sewer emptying into Courtenay Bay, the transfer of the foreshores will no doubt be concluded without delay. The early spring should see the beginning of development in that direction.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

WHEN LOVE RENEGES.

"Love will find a way,"
The poets often say,
But will it find three-meals a day,
And a frown that's
Nay, nay! Alas, nay, nay!"
—Chicago News.

GIVING HIM THE BENEFIT

"Have you investigated those charges against Biggun yet?" asked the intimate friend.

"Not yet," answered the distinguished statesman who was a member of the investigating committee. "All we have done is to hold an informal meeting and decide that he isn't guilty."—Chicago Tribune.

ABOUT DUE

Isn't it about time that somebody came across with a few 1912 calendars? What are we paying life insurance premiums and coal bills for these penitents who are to be denied us?—Detroit Free Press.

HIS PRESENT

"Are you sure that your husband will like what you're giving him?"
"I don't know. But what difference does that make? I've got him something for the house that I've wanted a long time."

A LONG TIME TO WAIT

When there are more suffragettes than griddle cake makers, shirt menders, sock darners and chicken raisers suffragettes will get those rights concerning which the militant are vocal.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A HORRIBLE BLOW

"I shall never forget her."
"What's the matter now?"
"She told me that she isn't going to give any presents outside of her immediate family for these penitents. I sent fifty cents for a belt buckle for her."

STARVATION THE ALTERNATIVE

Drink water and get typhoid fever. Drink milk and get tuberculosis. Drink whiskey and get jaundice. Drink soup and get fat. Eat meat and encourage cancer, angina and appendicitis. Eat oysters and absorb typhoid gastric poison germs. Eat vegetables and give the system Asiatic, thin-blooded, whines. Eat dessert and die with paresis or something else. Drink coffee and fall into insomnia and nervous prostration. Drink tea and get weak heart. Drink wine and get gout. You can take your choice.—The Utica Press.

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