

# The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 7, 1922.

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## THE HYDRO QUESTION

The New Brunswick Power Company has every reason to be gratified by the developments thus far at City Hall in relation to the hydro matter. Delay and failure to ascertain the approximate cost to the consumer of light and power through civic distribution, are just what the power company would desire. If no action at all were taken by the city it would of course be still more satisfactory, but so long as the city council acts as if it were convinced the current must be distributed through the power company, the latter may well maintain a cheerful aspect.

With the citizens the situation is quite different. They know that cheap light and power are soon to be within reach if the proper steps are taken to pass the bill on to them. They know that the city council, as soon as it received an offer from the Hydro Electric Commission, should have taken steps to learn the cost of a civic distribution plant, without any reference whatever to what the New Brunswick Power Company could do. The time to talk to the power company would come, if it came at all, when the council knew at what rate per kilowatt hour it could itself distribute the current.

The council, however, began by questioning the bona fides of the provincial government. Then the services of Mr. Ross of Montreal were engaged. The people do not know yet on whose recommendation he was engaged, nor have they seen a copy of the instructions given him. They have, however, seen his report, and they learned yesterday that the mayor is to hold a further conference with him in Montreal. His report, so far as it deals with the cost of civic distribution, has satisfied nobody but the New Brunswick Power Company and its friends.

But now another step has been taken. Instead of seeking a reliable estimate of the cost under civic distribution as the first essential, three gentlemen who do not include a single man deeply interested personally in the industrial growth of St. John, have been chosen to learn at what cost the power could be distributed by the New Brunswick Power Company.

Always the New Brunswick Power Company. To date, civic activity has begun and ended there, as if the council felt that civic distribution must not be considered except as a last resort and then to the city's possible injury.

The council may feel that way about it. The citizens do not. They are growing rather weary of the doctrine of despair, and the coy appeals of the power company for "co-operation" recall a long story of exploitation that does not increase their desire to mortgage the future of the city to any corporation.

The New Brunswick Power Company is an outsider in this affair. The real business is between the Hydro Electric Commission and the citizens of St. John. The city council represents the citizens and its duty is plain. If it does not perform that duty the remedy lies in the city charter, and if what one hears in the street is any indication, the remedy may be applied. It is up to the city council. Delay is injurious to the city's interests. Prompt and decisive action will save the situation.

## A FINE RECORD

Rev. Peter Bryce, director of child welfare for the Social Service Council of Canada, would not say that the New Brunswick health act should be scrapped or that less attention should be devoted to public health nursing and infant welfare. An address in London, Ontario, last week, by Rev. Mr. Bryce is thus reported:—

"Rev. Mr. Bryce produced records which showed that infant mortality in London had decreased from 104 per thousand in 1920 to 80.7 per thousand in 1921. He declared that the ceaseless efforts of child welfare nurses and of the various organizations in holding periodical baby clinics, had brought about this improvement. The work, he felt sure, would be carried to still further and greater success. In view of the shrinking birthrate since the war, the conservation of infant life is one of the world's most pressing problems. To prove his contention that the birthrate has been steadily lowering, Rev. Mr. Bryce stated that the number of widows with two children, who are now receiving pensions in Ontario exceeds the number of widows who have more than two. In conclusion he said that the payment of pensions to 8,000 widows in Ontario is resulting in improved health and living conditions, which are bound to have

their effect on the coming generation. Mr. Bryce drew attention to child welfare activities and results as the most sensitive index of the progress of a nation. New Zealand was cited as an advanced country where the general infant death rate had been reduced to 40 per thousand, and in certain sections as low as 32 has been reached."

A comparison of the infant death rate in St. John with that in London, Ontario, to say nothing of New Zealand shows how far behind we are in that respect. As to the birthrate it would probably be found to be lowering here as well as in Ontario, and that intensifies the need of preserving the lives of the infants who do come into the world. What Mr. Bryce says about mothers' allowances should also make a deep impression upon our minds.

## WORLD-CONSCIOUSNESS

In a recent speech Premier Drury of Ontario indicated a breadth of vision and a soundness of philosophy which whether he orders his public life in accordance therewith or not, is worthy of the highest commendation. He said:—"I think there are several stages in the development of man in the sense of his duty toward his fellows. We hear a good deal of what is called class-consciousness—of men who think in terms of their occupational or other classes. That is a good thing. The man who is class-conscious is far and away better than the man who is individual-conscious. But he has not gone all the length. The man who is nation-conscious is far better than the man who is class-conscious. I think the greatest need of the world today—when we are talking about the limitation of armaments, making the horrors of war impossible, and we must make the horrors of war impossible, because the next war means extinction—the need is not only for nation-consciousness, but for a bigger, better and wider thing still, and that thing is world-consciousness—the thought and consideration of the welfare of the whole human race, so that we think in terms not only of ourselves, not only of our class, not only of our nation, but of human well-being."

He must be more than a mere echo of other men's thoughts who can think his way through to this conclusion. He must be much more than a selfish individual seeking only his own advancement. He must be more than an advocate of a class or a creed. He must at some time have mounted to the heights and seen a vision of a new world state, from which most of the causes of human hickering and strife had been removed by the saving sense of human brotherhood.

The visit of Hon. W. S. Fielding to Washington was by no means a failure. While he makes it clear that the Fordney bill must be disposed of before any practical discussion of reciprocity takes place the atmosphere is more friendly because of his conversation with President Harding, Mr. Fordney and other leaders at Washington. As the finance minister remarks, the people of the United States recognize Canada as a valuable customer and are becoming more conscious of the fact that if they would sell they must also buy. Already the restrictions imposed have reduced the volume of trade with Canada. When the Fordney bill is out of the way it will be possible to enter into negotiations which may result beneficially to both countries.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Toronto Globe—Referring to figures compiled by the Chicago Crime Commission, The Springfield Republican remarks: "It looks as if prohibition were doing some good."

## HON. C. W. ROBINSON OPPOSES CHANGE IN PROHIBITION

Hon. C. W. Robinson was waited upon in the Y. M. C. A. board room on Saturday night by representatives of the W. C. T. U. and other local temperance organizations regarding the circulated report with reference to contemplated changes in the Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1916. Each of those present spoke briefly, strongly opposing the introduction of any system in the province for the purpose of raising revenue for the provincial treasury through relaxation of the prohibitory laws, or the adoption of a similar plan to the one followed in the provinces of Quebec and British Columbia. Mr. Robinson replied very favorably, saying that he would consider the matter carefully, and convey their wishes to the legislative assembly at Fredericton. He emphatically stated that he was very much opposed to this system of increasing the provincial revenue.

## GERMANS WANT U. S. AMBASSADOR, BUT IT'S COSTLY

Berlin, March 7.—Members of the Reichstag's main commission yesterday urged the desirability of the early appointment of an ambassador to Washington. The cabinet, on the other hand, is not showing an inclination to accelerate the search for a suitable envoy, while the mark is again declining in value. It is declared that a full-fledged embassy in Washington would require a budget of at least 100,000,000 marks under the present rate of exchange.

## THE FARMER FEEDS THEM ALL

The King may rule o'er land and sea,  
The Lord may live right royally,  
The Soldier ride in pomp and pride,  
The Sailor roam o'er the ocean wide;  
But this or that, whatever befall,  
The Farmer, he must feed them all.

The Writer thinks, the Poet sings,  
The Craftsman follows wondrous things,  
The Doctor heals, the Lawyer pleads,  
But this or that, whatever befall,  
The Farmer, he must feed them all.

The Farmer's trade is one of worth,  
His pasture with the sky and earth,  
His pasture with the sun and rain,  
And no man loses for his gain,  
And men may rise and men may fall,  
But the Farmer, he must feed them all.

God bless the man who sows the wheat,  
Who finds us all, and feeds us all,  
May his purse be heavy, his heart be light,  
His cattle, his corn, his all go right,  
God bless the seed his hands have sown,  
For the Farmer, he must feed us all.

## LOCAL NEWS

A false alarm was rung in from box 55, corner Queen and Germain streets, about 12:45 o'clock this morning. The fire department were on the scene within a few minutes but failed to locate any signs of fire and the apparatus returned to the stations. A large crowd gathered quickly.

Four or five tenders were received yesterday by the board of school trustees for the re-wiring of the Centennial school. It was necessary to call for tenders here for the work as the advice of the city electrician that it would be necessary to close the school if the present defective wiring system was not renewed. The tenders probably will be opened at the next regular meeting of the board.

A small fire broke out last evening at 7:15 o'clock in a small garage in a building at 20 Simonds street, but no damage was caused, due to the prompt response from the fire department nearby. Two automobiles, one owned by Dr. F. Stevenson and the other by T. E. Hunter, were stored in the garage but were untouched by the fire. The building is owned by M. J. Thorne, who lives above the garage. The alarm was rung in from box 143.

The special service in the Main street Baptist church last night was largely attended when the soldier preacher, Rev. Arthur K. Herman, delivered his inaugural address and the subject was the increase of God's army. The address was bristling with strong appeals and illustrations. The service was conducted by the pastor of the church, who introduced Rev. Louis Moore, Father Weirford, Nan Powers and Mildred Bustin, and Mrs. Cecil Mercereau. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Frank W. Merrill, of Portland street; vice-president, Harold Hopkins, of Exmouth street; secretary, Miss Pearl, of Exmouth street; treasurer, Fraser Fulton, of Centenary.

The annual meeting of the United Epworth Leagues of the city was held last night in the Queen Square Methodist church. F. Myles presided at the meeting. Superintendents were present from the Epworth Leagues of Exmouth, Fairville, Centenary, Portland, Carleton, Queen Square, and Carmichael churches. A banner for the highest attendance was won by the Portland Society with an average of ninety-eight per cent. A special address was delivered by Rev. H. E. Clarke on Epworth work. A musical programme was carried out, those taking part being the Misses Dorothy Brewster, Louise Moore, Esther Weirford, Nan Powers and Mildred Bustin, and Mrs. Cecil Mercereau. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Frank W. Merrill, of Portland street; vice-president, Harold Hopkins, of Exmouth street; secretary, Miss Pearl, of Exmouth street; treasurer, Fraser Fulton, of Centenary.

## OLD TIMER THAT IS NOT A FOSSIL

Report of Strange Mammoth Animal Seen by Englishman in Andes Country.

Buenos Aires, March 7.—Belief that a prehistoric monster, an amphibian, which the Mesozoic order generally believed to exist in fossil form, is still alive in Patagonia, was expressed yesterday by Prof. Onelli, director of the Buenos Aires Zoological Garden. He announced that he had received credible reports that such a monster was seen in a lake in the Territory of Chubut, in the Andes Mountains.

Prof. Onelli made public a letter from an English friend of his, named Sheffield, saying that while hunting in the Andes he discovered a trail of flattened out vegetation near the lake, indicating the track of an animal of enormous weight. Later, says the letter, Mr. Sheffield saw in the middle of the lake an animal with a colossal neck shaped like that of a swan, whose movements in the water indicated that the body was shaped like a crocodile. He said harpoons would be necessary to capture the monster. He also said an expedition from Argentina or some other country ought to be sent to capture the animal.

## PREVENT EVASION OF JUDGMENTS

Reciprocity Between Quebec and Great Britain and Ireland Proposed.

Quebec, March 7.—(Canadian Press)—A measure of reciprocity between the Province of Quebec and Great Britain and Ireland as regards the execution of judgments is provided for in a bill which was presented by Premier Taschereau in the legislature last night.

## BIG SOLDIER SHOW IS VERY AMUSING

Mademoiselle of Armentieres Played Before a Capacity House at Imperial—Realistic and Spectacular War Picture is Feature.

If the musical comedy "Mademoiselle of Armentieres" presented last evening in the Imperial, did nothing else, it gave those who had not the pleasure (?) of spending a few days in the front line a fairly realistic idea of just what it looks and feels like to be there. Captain Fisher and his band of returned soldiers actors have chopped a piece of the history of the Canadian Corps' exploits before Lens in the summer of 1917 and in a most spectacular and true-to-life manner have transplanted it on the stage. The scene shows a wiring party leaving Hickory trench and returning under a hostile bombardment that caused many a quake amongst the audience. The lighting effects added wonderfully to the reality of the representation. The house was filled to capacity.

Although "Mademoiselle" is labelled a musical comedy, it leans more towards the comedy-drama type of production. True there are a few solos—ones of which is an excellent rendition of "My Ain Folk" by Jack Slack, who poses a rich and sympathetic baritone—and the comic and sympathetic buffoonery of the choruses with which the troops regaled one another during their sojourn amidst sandbags, pill-boxes, trench-pots and varied degrees of plastic mud. There were songs about packing troubles in old kit-bags, of that mysterious lady from "Arm-in-terry" whose forty years of un-kissed lips have always been a source of amusement; of wanting to go home, etc., etc., etc. But they were incidental rather than complimentary.

However, what the show lacked in music it supplied in fullest measure in comedy. No. 16 platoon, D. company, of the Canadian "Die-Hards" was composed of such a collection of characters that, had the war office only realized it, they might have been turned loose against the Hun and made him laugh himself to death. Their inspection by their newly arrived and very much K. R. Oed and M. M. L-ed subaltern in the first scene was a scream. The acting of the two lady members of the company, Miss Doreen Thompson, as Mlle. Julie, and Miss Mildred Leahy, as Mlle. Suzanne, was good. Miss Thompson sang and danced prettily and received well-merited applause. Russell Young, as "Awkins"; W. T. Mitchell, as "Buck"; Claude Emory, as the old-timer, and Captain Fisher, as Major McKenzie, were the outstanding actors, giving finished performances of their parts. Others in the cast included W. Dunlop, as "The Duke"; E. G. Simon, as the ladies' man; Russell Levey, as Gustave Goddard, the innkeeper; C. W. Emerson, as Bill Walton, runner; W. W. Hamilton, as Sgt. Hall; H. F. Lawrence, as Lieut. E. B. Green; Fred Lynch, as Private Jack Simpson; Tom Mountford, as Pte. Olej Jensen, the German spy; Jack Slack, as Pte. Jack McTaggart; James Bruce, as Signaller Jack Drake; John Kaye, as Lieut. Pearson; W. A. Fewer, as Brig.-Gen. Wellington Montague-Smyth, and D. Ford, as Lieut. Perronne.

## TRAILED FOR 20 YEARS BY SLAIN MAN'S BROTHER

Guiseppa de Palma Placed on Trial for Harlem Murder of 1902.

New York, March 7.—Guiseppa de Palma, indicted twenty years ago for the murder of Crescenzio Panzillo, in Harlem, went to trial here yesterday.

## TASTE ON THE HIP NOT ILLEGAL, SAYS JUDGE

Cleveland Court Refuses to Fine Score of Men Who Had Pints or Halves.

Cleveland, March 7.—Police Judge Sawyer yesterday refused to fine any of a score of men who were arraigned before him arrested over the week-end when found carrying pints or half pints of whiskey in their hip pockets.

## SHOOT FATHER THRICE

Quarrel Follows Parent's Attempt to Husband Maimed Boy's Money.

Charles Wentz was taken from his home, 487 Palisade Avenue, Jersey City, to the City Hospital early this morning suffering from three bullet wounds received when his son Carl, 18, ended a dispute over money matters by emptying a revolver. The father's condition is not serious.

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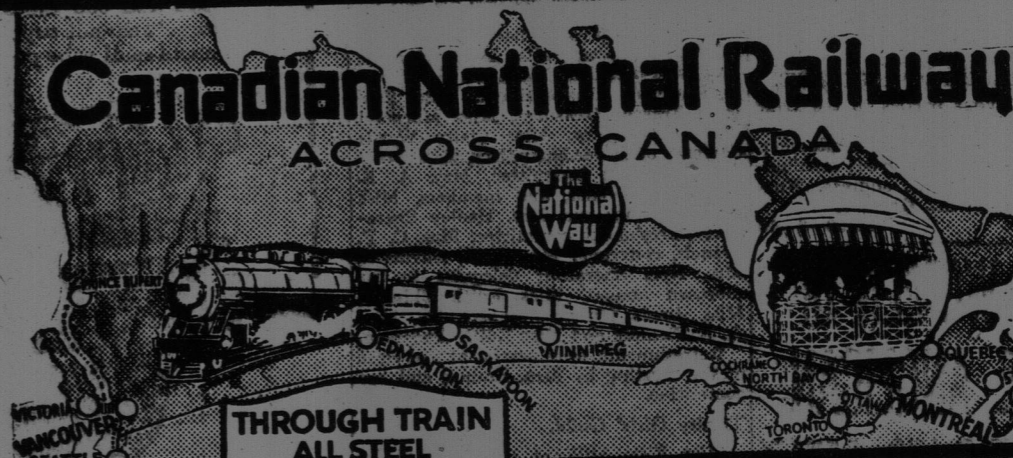
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REPORTS JAPAN READY TO NEGOTIATE FOR THE BENEFIT OF SERBIA

Copenhagen, March 7.—According to Moscow message to the Exchange Telegraph Co., Japan has expressed readiness to open direct negotiations with the government at Moscow relating to economic reconstruction of Serbia.

Sofia, March 7.—Having accomplished the disarmament of Bulgaria, the inter-Allied commission appointed for the purpose under terms of the treaty of Neuilly, left the capital today. Government authorities today revoked press censorship as a result of the repeated protests in many quarters.

Wentz escaped the first shot. The second struck him in the left shoulder. He was wounded again in the right cheek and in the leg. Carl was arrested and locked up on a charge of shooting with intent to kill.