

# The Evening Times and Star

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## THE DOOR IS CLOSED.

The New Brunswick Power Company still entertains the hope—perhaps the belief—that it will be able to sell out to the city at a price fixed by itself. The company never sleeps, even if its street car service is sometimes caught napping by angry patrons who shiver while they wait. Whether an occasional remark thrown out at City Hall has given it confidence, or it bases its expectations on a conviction that the people can be tired out and brought to terms, the company undoubtedly looks for a break in its favor. True, its efforts to get control of hydro or to discredit the Musquash development failed; as did the Bodell attempt to get the value of the company's property fixed at \$3,000,000; and there is the declared will of the people last month that not a cent above the supreme court award shall be paid. This ought to be conclusive, but it is not. The company still has hopes. And yet it cannot get any relief from the City Council unless that body utterly disregards the declared will of the people. Com. Frank has himself pointed out that the company cannot expect the people to pay \$100 for stock which was bought for \$30 or \$50. In any case the people have spoken in the most emphatic way. The Fisher platform stands. It is a fact that an offer was made, and set the limit. That settles the matter. Any departure from the policy laid down in the Fisher platform would be in disregard of the mandate given by the electors. There has even been a suggestion of a plebiscite. What—another plebiscite? There have been three of them already. Everybody at City Hall and elsewhere knows what the people want. It is the company and its friends who want something else. The business of the City Council is to back up the City Power Commission and get on with the hydro distribution system, so that at least some power may be distributed by the first of May. The New Brunswick Power Company may very properly be left to its own devices, and the conduct of its own affairs, without any assistance from the city. The company's sufferer because of the company's disregard for public welfare.

## CANADA'S IMPROVED OUT-LOOK.

A Montreal correspondent of the Boston Herald, after reviewing the marked improvement in Canada's trade and the better industrial outlook, says:—

"The success indicated in the above figures has proved a great stimulus to business men and special efforts are being made to increase exports of various commodities and new markets are being sought to that end. The high tariff wall of the United States shuts many things out which Canada might sell across the border, but fully realizing that the handy market is barred and bolted, overseas markets, principally in remote parts of the empire, are being cultivated. The West Indies and the northern portion of Central America are looked upon as sections and Canada's branch banking system has undergone considerable expansion in that direction with the hope of facilitating trade.

"The improved conditions in Cuba are looked upon as likely to be a helpful factor in creating a better demand for some lines of foodstuffs which this country can readily supply in exchange for products of a tropical nature.

"Business conditions are finding reflection in the reports of financial institutions, but the improvement did not come in time to have an important bearing on banking statements which are now coming out. It is known, however, from monthly statements that business in a banking way is steadily improving now after having shown a decided shrinkage for the greater part of the year. On the whole, Canada is closing the year in an optimistic vein."

## HIGH SCHOOLS.

It is rather odd that when the need of a new high school building for St. John is declared to be urgent some reference should not be made to the opportunity to get both federal and provincial assistance in building and maintaining a vocational high school, which would not only relieve the pressure on the present building but is needed much more than any additional accommodation for a classical high school. The latter serves the need of a mere fraction of the children who enter the schools. A vocational high school would not neglect the classical studies but would meet the other needs of the vast majority of the pupils. St. John must wake up. It needs a vocational high school and has needed it for years. There is now—until 1922—an opportunity to get substantial aid in building and maintaining it. Why talk of anything else in the line of school buildings until this need is met? Those who want St. John to turn out young people as well skilled as those of other cities must take up this question in earnest. The Board of Trade has here from the pinnacle of their own Rotary Club can lend a hand. The Re-

tail Merchants' Association can wield a powerful influence. All these organizations are agreed that the boy who wants to be a professional man should have no advantage over the one going out into industrial life, and the latter is ten to one of the school register. Hard-headed business men must see the advantage of seizing the opportunity to get federal and provincial aid while these are available. It would be economic folly and a crime against the children not to act, and to act without any further delay.

In the United States, as in other parts of Canada outside of St. John, great progress is being made in vocational training. There is in Canada federal aid is granted, and the Federal Board for Vocational Education is asking for still larger grants. The following letter from Washington tells the very interesting story:—

"An enrollment of 475,928 pupils in the 4844 vocational schools receiving Federal funds and operating under approved state plans for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1922, compared with 324,247 a year ago, will be shown in the annual report of the Federal Board for Vocational Education, it is announced by Harry L. Fidler, vice-chairman. The number of schools compared with 9,977 reported at the end of the 1921 year. Teachers in these schools numbered 12,280, compared with 10,066 reported last year, says the report. The fiscal year 1921-22 witnessed the greatest expansion in the state and Federal vocational education program of any year since the constitution of the board. Special attention was made during the past year in development of the part-time school. Accordingly, of the total enrollment, 228,655 pupils are in attendance at part-time schools, 133,833 at evening schools, and 119,838 at all-day schools, states the report. Classified by subjects, 130,978 are reported as studying the trade and industrial subjects; 60,288 in agricultural schools; 11,438 in home economics schools and 165,911 in attendance at general part-time continuation schools. Allotments available to the states last year totalled \$4,120,833.72 and for the current year, ending June 30, 1923, the allotments will total \$4,615,159.82, the report declares. "The states and local authorities spend more for vocational education that the amount of the Federal grant, making the total amount expended last year \$14,770,142.65, of which \$3,854,570.25 constituted Federal funds. Of the balance, \$4,514,148.04 was provided by the states and \$6,401,424.16 was provided by the local boards. The report will recommend to Congress additional support to enable the board to extend the work in the fields of home economics and commercial education."

## THE DIVINE ECSTASY.

The Times has always suspected that beneath the grim bachelorhood of Commodore Stewart of the Chatham World (which he has published for more than forty years) there lay a deep well of tender sentiment which would one day burst its bounds. Not that he has ever shunned the loveliest sex. Far, far from it—as thousands before Lady Astor and hundreds since would testify—but his armor remained proof against sentiment until scintilla seized him last week. Then he got a card, "with Nancy's love." What it said and what it did to him, lying there in his room in the Touraine in the Black North, is revealed in another column on this page. The next anthology of Canadian verse will not be complete without the Commodore's moving tribute to the fair Nancy, whom we may perhaps visualize as rushing, coming with furs and blouses to the chill region of the Miramichi. Whether there will be an outbreak of scintilla in editorial offices in general, and of poetry, appears to depend upon Nancy. Are there any more of her? It is a question that will be asked wherever a bachelor bends above a desk in an editorial sanctum and reads of the joy and the inspiration that came to the Commodore at Christmastide. Who says life can ever be devoid of sentiment? Not the Commodore. Not Nancy. Not anybody. But everybody will join in wishing the Bard of the Touraine a happy release from scintilla, and years and years of continued joy. As for Nancy, every editorial heart warms to her. Whether it be flight of fancy or flight by aeroplane, may the Commodore ever prove to be a pilot worthy of her deepest devotion. Carols, please.

The Campbellton Graphic has this to say regarding those who disregard the law of the county—"Banqueters and others—who profess to be respectable citizens and yet have been demonstrating their disregard for the county's laws by making free and public use of intoxicating liquor are not in the same class as bootleggers. They are decidedly beneath them. And only themselves, looking down on the rum-seller from the pinnacle of their own Rotary Club can lend a hand. The Re-

tail Merchants' Association can wield a powerful influence. All these organizations are agreed that the boy who wants to be a professional man should have no advantage over the one going out into industrial life, and the latter is ten to one of the school register. Hard-headed business men must see the advantage of seizing the opportunity to get federal and provincial aid while these are available. It would be economic folly and a crime against the children not to act, and to act without any further delay.

# England's Man Shortage Dissolves Social Bars; Peeress Wed to Clerk



London, Dec. 24.—A romance of the "She Stoops to Conquer" type that is intriguing the interest of romantics the world over is that recently culminated between a British peeress and a clerk in this union.

When the Hon. Alexandra, only daughter of the aged Lord Knollys, secretary to the King, married Richard Henry Checkley, until a few weeks ago assistant in a cigar merchant's shop, it is said it was with Lord Knollys's consent and approval.

The post-war shortage of men of marriageable age, which has broken down to a considerable extent the social barriers upheld so rigidly in England before the war, finds another result in this union.

Mrs. Checkley was the widow of Captain Mackenzie, killed during 1916. They have one son. Mr. Checkley's father is an usher in an Edinburgh court.

## THE COMMODORE IS CAPTURED AT LAST

A charming young lady of St. John sent Commodore Stewart of the Chatham World a Christmas card, endorsed, "With Nancy's Love," and he responded as follows:—

TO NANCY.  
If I thought you really meant it,  
And I were not so old,  
I'd fly to your side by aeroplane  
With a ring of virgin gold—

A ring with a diamond setting—  
A glittering solitaire—  
To place upon your finger—  
Your lover's finger fair.

For you're the loveliest I know,  
The sweetest of them all,  
O heart-enslaving little witch,  
You have my heart in thrall!

## LIGHTER VEIN.

Revenge is sweet. In fact, sometimes it is positively sickening.

Scientists, Take Notice.  
Wife—According to this paper, boiled cow's milk is not good for the babies.

Hubby—I can see that's right. I should think a raw milk would give better milk than a boiled cow.

A Tip From Franklin.  
"Good, better, best, never let it rest, till your 'good' is better and your 'better' is best."

Important Consideration.  
She—I trust, Jack, that our marriage will not be against your father's will.

He—I hope not. It would be tough for us if he should change it.

In a High Class.  
A Buffalo man stopped a newsboy in New York, saying: "See here, son, I want to find the Blank National Bank. I'll give you half a dollar for your trouble if you will direct me to it."

With a grin the boy replied, "All right, son, follow me." He led the man to a building a half-block away.

The man paid the promised fee, remarking, however, "That was a half-dollar easily earned."

"Sure," responded the lad, "but you mustn't forget that bank directors is paid high in New York."

Hope Springs Eternal.  
Outraged Proprietor: "What do you mean by coming into my place and ordering a dozen oysters with only three-pence in your pocket?"

Cheerful Opjulist: "Well, gov'nor, there is always a chance of finding a pearl in one of them—perhaps two."

So Warm!  
Little Peggy had been given a ring as a birthday present, but, much to her disappointment, not one of the guests at dinner noticed it.

Finally, unable to withstand their difference, she exclaimed: "Oh, dear, I'm so warm in my new ring!"

Not To Her Taste.  
"Sorry for poor Helen, but I know she's the girl to eat her heart out." "No, thank goodness! She's a vegetarian."

A CHRISTIAN CONCEPTION.  
(Guelph Herald).  
In defining his motto in life as that of "thinking, trying, toiling and trusting," John Wainwright displayed a beautiful conception, which few possess, of a Christian's earthly pilgrimage.

VALE'S RECORD YEAR.  
New Haven, Conn., Dec. 28.—Yale University has the largest enrollment in its history, the university directory just issued showing 4,262 students in attendance. This is an increase of 847 over a year ago, the largest previous enrollment.

# Prosperity for the New Year

In extending to you our Heartiest Greetings for the New Year, we take the opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks for your many favors of the past twelve-month, trusting to merit your continued patronage.

That your New Year may be Bright and Prosperous, is the wish of

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**Christmas Greetings**

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## SAY HE FIRED SHOTS INTO THE HOUSE OF PRIEST

Winnipeg, Dec. 26.—Louis Larivier, who lives near Sallet, Man., has been taken into custody by the provincial police to be examined as to his sanity. On the evening of Dec. 21 he is alleged to have fired several shots through a window of the residence of Rev. Father Moquin, parish priest, who was away at the time.

## LEAPING FROM BUILDING CALLED FATAL FASCINATION

London, Dec. 5.—(By Mail).—The fascination of jumping in front of a moving train or from a high building is explained from a physiological viewpoint in "The Westminster Gazette."

"Railway trains sometimes exercise a fatal fascination for a man, and this seems to be peculiarly the case with electric trains. It is the same fascination which sometimes leads a man to jump off a high building."

So spoke Dr. Edwin Sallis, the Hackney Corner, at an inquest yesterday of a man who jumped in front of a electric train at Dalston Junction on Friday. He appeared to have no motive for the act.

"These are not cases of suicide in the ordinary sense, but cases where a man, if he had a chance of revoking would undoubtedly revoke the act," declared the coroner.

Not liking the use of the word "suicide," the coroner said he would record as his verdict that "death was due to the injuries which followed a jump in front of the train, but that the deceased's mental state was such that he was not responsible at the time for his action."

## 1923 RATE OF WAGES LIKELY TO REMAIN UP

(Toronto Globe.)  
With very little discussion, the rate of wages of union bricklayers and stoneasons was fixed yesterday at a meeting between a Union Committee, composed of William Jenoves, John Sutherland, John Vick and Walter Thorne, and representatives of sections of the Builders' Exchange at \$1 an hour for 1923. The agreement, which expires on December 31, will be renewed on Saturday.

The rate and practically all of the conditions in the agreement decided upon are the same as those in the existing agreement.

## Full-Fruited Raisin Bread

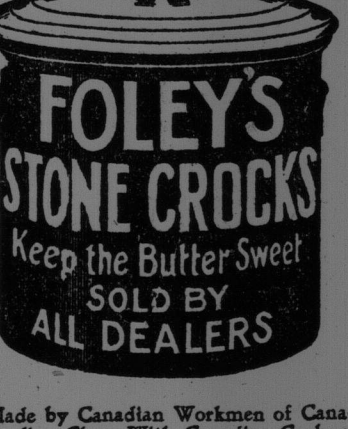
The real, "old-fashioned" kind that makes you like raisin bread is back again.

Bakers everywhere are making it fresh every week—some every day.

Ask your grocer or order from a neighborhood bake shop. Get it ready-baked. No need to bake at home. Order now.

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## THE ART OF GIVING

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In this connection you will find our display an inspiration. So many things can be had at such moderate prices that the wants of anyone may be satisfied.

FOR HIM  
CUFF LINKS  
SCARF PINS  
CIGARETTE CASES  
SIGNET RINGS  
WALDEMARS  
MILITARY BRUSHES,  
ETC., ETC.

FOR HER  
RINGS  
LAVALIERS  
BEAD NECKLACES  
WATCH BRACELETS  
STERLING AND IVORY  
TOLLETTWARE  
JEWEL BOXES,  
ETC., ETC.

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piring schedule. There are some minor exceptions, but these were not regarded as important changes by the Union Committee.

In closing with the Bricklayers and Stoneasons' Union without changing the wage rate, overtime conditions or other clauses which contribute to construction costs, contractors indicated that they anticipated another very active year. The policy of contractors has been to close with the Bricklayers' and Stoneasons' Union before entering into negotiations with any of the remaining unions of the industry. Wage rates are not likely to be altered to any serious extent, it would now appear.

WHERE IS IT?  
(Toronto Mail and Empire.)  
Dr. Nansen has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, but we are a loss to know what peace is referred to.

A united service of the Methodist churches of the city was held yesterday morning at 11 o'clock in Centenary Methodist church. Rev. R. G. Fulton conducted the service and was assisted

by Rev. Neil McLaughlin. There was a fairly large attendance. The pain in a sprained right knee may be stopped momentarily by pressing one right elbow.

Douglas and Mary Fairbanks maintain a moving picture outfit in their home for amusement.

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