

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1924

# The Evening Times-Star

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## COOLIDGE—AND ALL THAT.

The Coolidge landslide, resulting in a popular majority but once exceeded since the days of Ulysses S. Grant, means, first and foremost, a stinging rebuke to radicalism and a tremendous impetus toward conservatism if not "stand-pattism." In that it closely resembles the verdict of the British electors, so recently and so impressively recorded, but the parallel ends there.

With Mr. Coolidge again in the saddle by a majority so sweeping, the next thing in importance is control of Congress. For two years the regular Republicans have not had real control of the House of Representatives, but this morning, with some returns incomplete, the press reports indicate that the Coolidge party will have a clear working majority in both the Senate and the House, which will give the Coolidge policies the right of way. For the United States one effect will be to steady business conditions and probably to expedite the trade expansion which many excellent reviewers believe is soon due. To the foreign onlooker, in Canada particularly, the great Republican margin of strength presages a stand-pat tariff attitude, which will be adverse to Canadian natural products, as at present it not worse, and indicates also that official United States aloofness toward the League of Nations will be continued, although Mr. Coolidge must be regarded as committed at least to participation in next year's disarmament conference at Geneva. In a word, there are some reasons why both British and Canada might have preferred Mr. Davis to Mr. Coolidge, though it might seem ungracious to say so, and the people of the British countries most cheerfully accept the verdict as reflecting American popular sentiment in an unusual degree, just as they recognise most fully the right of the Americans to direct their own policies as they deem best.

The election has a score of angles of interest. A feature too remarkable to ignore, even in the most hurried review, is the performance of Governor "Al" Smith of New York. With Mr. Coolidge carrying the entire state by a majority exceeding 800,000, with both branches of the Legislature strongly Republican, Mr. Smith is re-elected by a margin of 100,000 or more. There are few such astonishing proofs of personal popularity in American political history.

The La Follette movement which seemed at one time to threaten a large complication, proves to be a large bugaboo. He polled a considerable vote—approximately that of Roosevelt in the Bull Moose year, but the eligible electorate was much smaller then. The candidate who sought to capitalise all the elements of discontent and danger in the Republic is repudiated in stinging fashion by the sound sense of the people at large.

Of Mr. Davis, an admirable candidate, the best in many a day in several respects, there is little to say beyond that he made a gallant personal fight against hopeless odds. With La Follette out, and with better campaign management, without the Bryan handicap, Mr. Davis would have been formidable indeed, and it would be a mistake, even in the face of the Coolidge landslide, to think the tide may not go Democratic under Mr. Davis' leadership on another occasion.

## THAT BONUS.

In discussing the soldiers' bonus question the Ottawa Citizen says that when the bonus bill was passed in the United States Congress many persons denounced the affair as a "grab," and the returned men as patriots who wanted their patriotism paid for. Events since the enactment of the bonus legislation show that the charge of mercenary motives against the ex-service men was, as it applied to a majority of them, a libel. The Citizen proceeds: "Figures recently made public show that out of a total of 4,233,607 persons entitled to the adjusted compensation fixed by law, only 1,300,000 have filed applications in the five months since the law was enacted. This does not seem to indicate that the returned men in the United States are over eager to capitalize their patriotism."

"Many factors might enter into the failure or refusal of veterans to apply for money due to them. Indifference, lack of information, migration, and other things may be the cause. But it is also a fair assumption that a very large number of returned men are not anxious for the bonus, and shrink from being bonused for their service."

"The situation also exposes the inaccuracy of politicians who, in advocating the bonus law, said they were voicing the instant demands of the ex-service men of the country. Any insistence apparently came from a minority. Incidentally, the facts outlined above prove clearly the wisdom and judgment of those leaders of returned men in Canada who from the beginning counselled veterans against taking part in any bonus agitation."

## TORONTO'S COMPLIMENTS TO MONTREAL.

Many Canadians who know both Toronto and Montreal well, or fairly well, and who have an opportunity to glance through the newspapers of Canada's great centres, are often both interested and amused in noting the exchange of compliments between the two cities. In one sense they represent differing types of civilisation. Reducing that to a more definite survey at the moment, Toronto is disposed to comment with sarcasm and severity upon Quebec's government control of liquor, and Montreal publicists are inclined to speak with a curl of the lip concerning "Toronto the Good," and to note that even Ontario virtue is not stern enough to refuse a very considerable revenue from race track betting.

Toronto counters with the assertion that Montreal's civic government is generally corrupt and often flagrantly so, whatever the truth may be, and that the great Quebec city is the home of organized vice on a shameful scale. The struggle over the location of the C. N. R. headquarters visibly increased the already hostile attitude of both cities, although the newspapers of both assert that there is no bitterness, but only friendly and hearty rivalry. The nature of the comments exchanged scarcely bears out this view. For example, The Toronto Star presents the compliments of Toronto to Montreal, and then charitably proceeds to say the following, editorially:—

"The shame of Montreal is not confined to the derelictions of its police force, astonishing as these may have been.  
"The shame of Montreal is its toleration for years past of one of the worst vice districts on the American continent, where thieves congregate, dope-dealers ply their trade, and white slavery exists. This district cannot be excused on the grounds of police corruption alone. The whole city has known about it. That knowledge should have been translated into drastic action long ago."

"The revelations which are now being made will doubtless be followed by action which will have the appearance of being drastic. But if that action consists only in punishing a few policemen or in closing temporarily a few resorts of vice it will not be enough. Montreal must put a permanent end to the whole horrible business, must clean up its whole commercialised vice district, and keep it closed, if it wishes to secure the respect of other Canadian cities and to divest itself of the unsavoury reputation it has gained."

Montreal, it may be depended upon, will not take this lying down. It is not our business to reform either Montreal or Toronto, nor do we have the knowledge upon which to base the conclusion that either of them is in need of reformation any more than other Canadian communities, having in mind the size of their populations and the various elements which make them up. Montreal, the recognized financial centre of this great country, has picturesque characteristics which are unmatched in Canada, and its scenery, the wonderful character of its port operations and its strategic location combine to give it a prestige and a driving force which are already most impressive and which will be of rapid growth, indeed astonishing growth, during the next decade or two.

Toronto, "Canada's great city of homes," a centre whose expansion has been a matter of pride throughout the Dominion, has merits and attractions which must be appreciated by fair-minded Canadians, even though some of them may be disposed to think at times that, when Toronto describes itself, it is a little inclined to wish to be painted without a wart on its nose, thereby departing from the excellent example credited to Cromwell. Whether or not there is a wart on Toronto's nose, or what the character of any disfigurement may be, it is not for an impartial outsider to say. In view of The Toronto Star's article we may safely—or perhaps reluctantly—leave any discussion of warts to the press and the public men of Montreal.

We hope the interchange of compliments will not become more acid in tone. Already the admiration and affection which should exist between great neighbors is all too effectively disguised.

Whatever be the result of the conference which has been arranged between City Hall and the Port Committee, those anxious for the port's welfare will think the Mayor and Commissioners and the members of the committee acted wisely in deciding to talk the matter over again in the light of the latest developments.

In reproducing to-day a striking article from the Toronto Globe on the port of St. John and grain shipments, The Times-Star publishes also some interesting comment upon the scheme.

## Life's Dividends.

Information upon the underlying cause of the continuance of child labor in spite of the strong arguments against it is presented in an editorial in the Manufacturers' Record of Baltimore. This spokesman for the industrial system opposes the idea of the abolition of child labor with the lament so often adopted by those who defend special privilege and who oppose change. The statement of the manufacturers' publication is to the effect that "the proposed amendment is fostered by socialists, communists, and bolsheviks." It further argues that this movement, to protect the youth of the land from exploitation for profit and to give the younger generation an opportunity for a fuller development before such exploitation, is an effort to "doom" the young people of all future generations to moral and physical decay under the domination of the devil himself.

Such language as this is of course intemperate and will hardly be convincing or succeed in achieving its object, which is to retain the present system of exploitation of child labor in the industrial system. The nature of the argument and its immoderate utterance do have a bearing, however, upon the basic principle of the present economic system. It will not be denied that this system is founded upon selfish ambition, material success; the object seeming to be, in the view of many, to seek the kingdom of God by the acquisition of personal wealth. While, happily, there are many exceptions to this general rule, the fact that such a basic policy exists to some extent in our industrial system is evidenced by the quotation cited from the Manufacturers' Record.

The average mortal seems to meet with unhappiness in one of two ways. The first is that he seems to fail to get what he desires. The second is that he seems to succeed in getting it. Some people are unhappy for the first reason. Others are unhappy for the second. Many, doubtless, are unhappy for both. But that mankind is more or less unhappy, whether it succeeds or whether it fails in achieving what it sets before itself to accomplish, is everywhere admitted.

This is so universal a teaching of experience that it forms the burden of one of the oldest books in the world, and of some others that have since been written. Cardinal Wolsey, referring to the desires for material success, said to Thomas Cromwell: "Cromwell, I charge thee, fling away ambition. By it the angels fell." The philosopher cited above who mentions the oldest book, quotes from the preacher in this book as follows: "Whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy. Then I looked upon all the works that my hands had wrought, and behold all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun."

Happy will that man be who, having finished his period of usefulness upon this sphere, will be able to point with joy to something more than physical or material achievement. Happy, indeed, that day will be whose sun will rise upon a world peopled by those who aspire to dividends from spiritual rather than material investments.

Mr. Pickwick and Elections.  
(Montreal Gazette.)

If Samuel Pickwick had been a participant in recent British electioneering meetings he might have been hit by a stray brick, but he would never have been a pre-determined mark for such. He was "a man of excellent penetration," as Rev. Dr. S. P. Rose, the Dicksen Fellowship at the Ritz-Carlton last evening. Ninety years ago, when elections made the great British public the collective head—at least on occasion—just as the present one has, Mr. Pickwick counselled one of his satellites thus:—

"When you go to a political meeting it is always best to do what the mob does."  
"But what if there are two mobs?" asked the counselled one.

"Shout with the loudest," answered Mr. Pickwick.

Dr. Rose, who was giving a review of "The Pickwick Papers" to stimulate the interest of the club members in the book they are to study this season, said that in electioneering and some other things the British mind has not varied far since the day when Mr. Pickwick and his friends rambled their delightful way through England. In that time of intense partyism the "Blues" and "Buffs" knew how to stir the feelings of the electorate just as their successors do today, and there were ecclesiastical climbers, just as intense in their ambitions as those who fight for place today, though their methods, perhaps, were different.

But in some other respects things have altered. "For instance," said Dr. Rose, "most people think of Pickwick as verging on old age. Yet he was only 47. A novelist contemporary with Dickens spoke of a man too old to love—he was 45—and men slightly over 55 were supposed to retire. If they had the where-withal, and prepare their mind, for the next world."

Dr. Rose briefly sketched the characters of Pickwick, Sam Weller, Winkle, Snodgrass and Tupman. Mr. Tupman alone had no serious emotional development, he said. That was how it came about that later he had to be left out of the "Book"—because he omitted love affairs. Dickens could not be bothered with him.

Dickens loved the characters he had created and therefore treated their weaknesses with tenderness. The book was rich in humor, but it had also tragic and pathetic characteristics. Altogether, as a delightful study of certain specimens of humanity, and as a picture of the times, it was well worth while.

## PETER MCARTHUR.

(By J. Lewis Milligan in Toronto Globe) (Ottawa Citizen.)  
The fields are reaped, the barns are filled again.  
The cows are stalled, the sparrow seeks the eaves.  
The maple bush is naked, and the leaves,  
Like whispering willows, are blown along the lane;  
The western fires of day are on the wane.  
And Night once more her primal reign retrieves—  
Yes, Nature in her every aspect grieves  
For one who served her like a faithful swain.  
No more he'll muse upon this orb of change,  
The pregnant soil, the seasons' magic round,  
And all the mindful matters of the farm;  
Yet, where'er our winter homes are warm,  
And o'er the furrowed and the falling snow,  
His genial spirit shall forever range.  
Toronto, Oct. 31, 1924.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Can Count On That.  
Cheer up! If you don't get what you so after, you are sure to get what's coming to you.  
Perfect.

The best illustration of mingled hope and fear is a lady man looking for work.

Prefers Knives to Axes.  
Kind Lady—"You poor hungry man! How would you like a nice chop?"  
Trump (cautiously)—"It depends, lady. Do yer mean lamb or woodshed?"


Another Girl.  
Bud—"Are you sure you were doing the talking?"  
Bud—"Yes."  
Jim—"Then it wasn't my girl."

Problem.  
"This, then, was the beginning of the Thirty Years' War."  
"But, professor?"  
"Yes."  
"How on earth did they get men to enlist for thirty years?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

For Doggy.  
The two ladies went into a tailor's shop together to procure a coat that one of them had ordered.  
"We haven't quite finished the coat," said the assistant in answer to an inquiry, "but it will be ready without fail tomorrow."  
"Are you sure the fit will be good?" asked the lady.  
"Quite sure, madam; we are very careful in our measurements."  
"And you think the cloth is in good taste, and fashionable?"  
"Yes, madam; the very newest material."  
"You are sure it will be warm enough?"  
"The cloth is very closely woven, madam."  
After further politeness he bowed the ladies out.  
"Bless me!" exclaimed the other lady as they left the shop. "Does your husband let you order his coats for him?"  
"Oh, I wouldn't bother about him! It's for my dear little dog," was the reply.

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11-12

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The comet is preceded by its tail when it is moving away from the sun.

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**FERGUSON & PAGE JEWELERS**

W. C. T. U. MEETING.

The W. C. T. U. at its meeting yesterday had a very interesting programme that had been arranged by Mrs. Mary Seymour, Evangelistic superintendent, who presided for the opening portion of the meeting. Rev. A. D. McLeod, Mrs. Hope Thomson, and Mrs. C. W. Dickinson led in prayer and Mrs. McLeod gave a very interesting address on the three foundation facts of the Christian religion, the birth, death and resurrection of Christ. Mrs. Dickinson read the excellent paper on "Scientific Temperance," which had been prepared by Mrs. Coleman, of Moncton, and was read at the provincial meeting recently held. For the short business session Mrs. Hope Thomson presided. A social half hour was enjoyed at the close of the meeting and refreshments were served.

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Are you interested in the future welfare of our city?  
If so, let us reason things out together.

The Hydro policy of the Provincial Government is "Hydro at Cost," and, where it has been found that the revenue was not sufficient to cover the cost, the Provincial Hydro Commission has advanced its rates. Witness Westfield, Fair Vale, etc.

"Hydro at Cost" is also announced as the City's policy. After a sufficient time has elapsed for the Civic Hydro Commission to

familiarize itself with the situation here, the fact has been established that, in St. John, Hydro is being sold at LESS THAN COST.

And the announced policy of the Civic Hydro Commission is to continue to sell at less than cost, with the expectation of, eventually, taking enough business from this company to recoup itself.

We were told that Hydro would bring industries to St. John and, thereby, increase the consumption of electricity; that Hydro rates would be maintained without incurring losses, etc.

The impotency of Hydro as an industry getter to this city must, by this time, be realized. And therefore the only field in St. John from which it can draw its business is the customers of this company.

Do you, as citizens, consider that this justifies the Civic Hydro Commission in continuing to sell Hydro at less than cost?

Do you consider it fair, either, to capital invested in St. John, or to the citizens? ....

Who is Going to Pay the Hydro Loss?

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