

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 18, 1926

THE CIVIC INVESTIGATION

Mayor White's motion that Dr. Horace L. Brittain, of the Citizens' Research Institute of Canada, be invited to come to Saint John to meet the Council in conference on or about October 15, with a view of having him make a survey of civic administration and civic affairs, was adopted unanimously at yesterday's City Hall meeting.

It may be that the city is paying too large a percentage of the county taxes. That point should be settled definitely by the coming investigation. Our interest charges must be met, and they should be reduced steadily, although the improvement in sinking fund conditions of late years justifies more compliance with respect to the civic debt than could be felt ten or fifteen years ago.

While it is true that the sovereign remedy for heavy taxation is an increase in industries and in population, it ought not to be taken for granted that we must merely submit to existing conditions and await some distant day when the load of taxation will be spread over a greater number of taxpayers. For one thing, increased population will necessarily mean more expenditures in some directions, more schools, more paved streets, extensions to water and fire protection services—in fact most of the expenses of a city when a family becomes larger.

As this newspaper has pointed out on several occasions, the coming investigation will probably render new legislation necessary in order to reform or modify the present assessment law. This law was adopted some 20 years ago, and conditions have greatly changed since that time.

What is to be done in the meantime? The Mayor and Commissioners themselves, without waiting for Doctor Brittain, should realize that they have ample authority without any new legislation to deal with most of the injustices flowing from the operation of the existing tax system.

Calling Up The Reserves



Summoning the "Ninth Hour" to Defend the Italian Line. (The working day in Italy has been extended by order of Premier Mussolini, from eight hours to nine).

Queer Quirks of Nature

SLENDER BODY AND POINTED JAWS



By AUSTIN H. CLARK. Scintillating institutions are a number of them. Most of them were found clinging to the netting with which their small but numerous teeth had become entangled.



PARIS—A recent vagabond among the un-touristed by-ways of Paris has commented on the twist which this city gives the old axiom about the grass being greener in far pastures. In America, he says, it is the usual, conventional thing to think that the actual heart of the matter is in the East.

LEQUIETO, France—Living here in a tiny villa is a handsome boy whose life is a delusion of grandeur compared to which that of Mussolini is a pitiable thing. He is little "King" Otto of Hungary.

"SIR—Your contributor's article on 'My Lady's Eyes' interested me considerably. When studying medieval poetry some years ago, I made notes of the numerous references to ladies' eyes, being struck by the fact that the medieval poet seemed to consider grey eyes as the most worthy of praise.

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POEMS I LOVE

GRAY'S "ELEGY." IN "HAMLET" and in this famous story one will find perhaps more well-known lines than in any other single play or poem.

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day, The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea, The ploughman homeward plods his weary way, And leaves the world to darkness, and to me.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene, The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear; Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

THE EPITAPH Here rests his head upon the lap of earth A youth, to Fortune and to Fame unknown; Air Science frowned not on his humble birth, And Melancholy marked him for her own.

Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere; Heaven did a recompense as largely send: He gave to Misery all he had, a tear; He gained from heaven, 'twas all he wished, a friend.

Along the cool sequestered vale of life They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

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No further seek his merits to disclose, Or draw his frailties from their dread abode, (There they alike in trembling hope repose, The bosom of his Father, and his God.)

DINNER STORIES

TWO Columbus business men were conversing about a business rival. They were pointing out the qualities that gave him the knack of making money.

"Few men show such keen business instinct," one remarked. "Is he so full of it?" the other asked. "Full of it," was the reply. "Why he even refers to his better-half as his 30 per cent preferred."

A SCOTSMAN told a good anjing story the other evening. One day a big man watched an angler casting in a stream for some time, and eventually inquired: "Had any luck?" "Yes," replied the fisher. "I took thirty-one trout out of here yesterday."

"That's interesting," said the inquirer. "By the way, do you know who I am? I am the senior magistrate in this district, and this stream happens to be on my estate." "Ah! Do you know who I am?" responded the angler. "I am the champion liar in the district."

A SHIPWRECKED mariner had just arrived on the cannibal island of Paboom, and was making some rather nervous inquiries. "Was the last missionary you had here a good man?" he asked. "Pretty good," replied the chief, picking his teeth reflectively, "but the last time I saw him, he was stewed."

JAPAN PROTECTS INDUSTRY (Reutsche Zeitung, Berlin) At the present moment, in the absence of any agreement, Japan is able to maintain a system of prohibitions against the German dye export trade, which she is unable to apply to other exporting countries.

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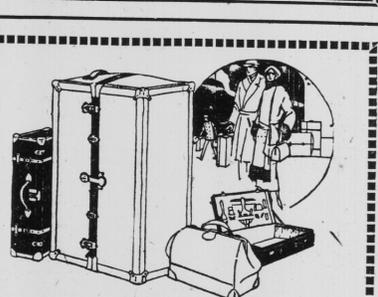
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