

# POOR DOCUMENT

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Editorial

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1926

Editorial

## The Evening Times-Star

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### FIXING THE RESPONSIBILITY

A REPORT published yesterday of a meeting of ward chairmen with local members of the Legislature is interesting in relation to the matter of enforcement of the prohibition law. The members of the Legislature are reported to have informed the ward chairmen "that all matters relating to the administration of the Intoxicating Liquors Act were left in the hands of the Chief Inspector, and that the responsibility for the enforcement of the law rested with him, and the members of the House did not interfere with him in any way."

This fixes the responsibility upon the Chief Inspector. If he is responsible for the enforcement of the law, then he must accept responsibility for its non-enforcement. It is not enforced. Since the members of the Legislature have spoken, it would seem to be the part of wisdom for the Chief Inspector to explain why the law is not adequately enforced, and why we have in this province a state of affairs with regard to the widespread distribution of liquor which is nothing short of a public scandal.

### CIVIC APPOINTMENTS

THE matter of appointment and dismissal in the department of public safety is at issue at City Hall, and as a result the call-men of the fire department are awaiting their annual payment of wages for 1926. According to the facts already apparent, the difficulty lies between the commissioner of safety and the chief engineer of the fire department, concerning the question of whether a certain call man's name should or should not appear on the payroll. The chief engineer is reported to have said that he appointed this man to the department but that his name has not appeared on the payroll prepared in the commissioner's office and that, therefore, he has refused to sign it.

Two sections of 2 George V—Cap. 42, An Act to Provide for the Government of the City of Saint John by an Executive Commission and Amending Acts, are of interest. Section 18 reads as follows:

"Each Commissioner is to have control of his department, with power to suspend for not more than 14 days any call man who is in charge of each service embraced within his department. Suspension or dismissal shall be forthwith reported to the Council and dismissal shall stand unless expressly disapproved by a majority of the Council."

Section 19 is as follows:

"The non-effective heads of departments shall have the sole power of appointment, suspension and dismissal of the subordinate employees in their departments."

### CRUISER STRENGTH

AT the next Disarmament Conference auxiliary naval strength will undoubtedly come under debate. The most important part of this discussion will doubtless centre in cruisers. The battleship is, in its primary role, a vessel of offence. Its main object is to smash the enemy's ships and—though rarely, and perhaps never in modern war—land forces. The cruiser, while far from lacking offensive possibilities, is more largely defensive, a screen to her battleship squadron and the patrol of ocean lanes. To Great Britain it is in the latter form of utility that the cruiser is of vital importance. The development of this is made by the New York Times which writes:

"The British Admiralty contends that the Empire's need of cruisers to protect trade routes is greater than any need of the United States for warships of the same type. The Mother Country would face starvation if transportation of food supplies were cut off during a great war. There is the additional reason that she has colonies all over the world that must be protected. In no other country is there such a combination of war with a great power, and with a combination of powers, could the people of the continental United States be starved into submission."

The cruiser for patrol and distant protection cannot be disregarded by the United States. She has the Philippines, Guam, Samoa, the Hawaiian Islands, the Isthmus of Panama, Porto Rico and Alaska. But this compared with Great Britain's utter dependence on the command of the sea is a trifle. None-the-less, while anticipating and virtually conceding the justice of Great Britain's claim to demand the right to maintain more cruisers than any other nation, the New York Times observes:

"The presumption is that the United States will begin by asking for a strength in cruisers equal to that of Great Britain. It has long been a plaint of all line officers that our fleet," says Commander H. S. Howard in Naval Institute Proceedings, "was in a most serious condition because of lack of light cruisers. We have been forced in the past to use destroyers, old cruisers or battleships as substitutes for scouts and light cruisers."

Why the United States should "begin by asking" for cruiser strength equal to that of Great Britain is not apparent, since it cannot be claimed that the former has the sea lanes to guard which are vital to a Maritime Empire. The suggestion savors of diplomatic bargaining to get the better of a rival rather than earnest endeavor to reduce the burden of armaments while guarding the rights of all. Of course, the question of cruisers and capital ships is one debated long and continuously by naval experts of divergent schools wherever such foregather, and that the cruiser is within limitations a tremendous offensive weapon cannot be gainsaid. None-the-less it is significant that the United States Congress has authorized the construction of eight 10,000-ton cruisers, the largest of this type of craft allowed under the Washington Treaty, and approaching most nearly the battleship; which suggests that that country plans its faith to the heavier ship, which implies heavier armaments. Therefore the cruiser for commerce protection or destruction retains her acknowledged role, and the relative requirements of the nations in this regard must be the chief factor in deciding what their legitimate requirements shall be in the future.

In twenty-five years the death rate from tuberculosis in Canada has been reduced by more than 100 per 100,000 of population. The death rate from this disease in Canada last year was lower than that of the United States, or of any country in Europe except Denmark. This information, given out by Dr. R. E. Wodehouse, General Secretary of the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, has a particular significance for the people of New Brunswick, where the death rate from this disease is far too high. A splendid work is being done, however, in the city of Saint John, and the result is seen in the notable reduction in the number of young children suffering from the disease. If the citizens will back up the work being done in connection with the County Hospital and clinics, there will be a steady reduction in the death rate, and in the number of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

In the published correspondence of a New York newspaper appears the following:

I see that the newspapers have already begun their annual attack on the name of poor old Santa Claus, and are again beginning to call him Santa, which, as every one knows, or should know, is simply his title as Saint, an honor which he shares with many others. To speak of the dear old gentleman simply as Santa is, of course, exactly like speaking of any American citizen as "Mister."

Of course this abbreviation must be condemned as grossly familiar, but democracy in general tends to disrespectful treatment of the eminent, presumably with the idea of flattering the proletariat into believing that the alleged universal equality at the instant of birth persists beyond that moment. Considering all things, Santa Claus is lucky to be accorded his rank—or is it a title?—instead of being merely paged by this Christian name.

It is estimated that the potato crop of New Brunswick this year is worth \$10,000,000. The news of the day also carries the item that the gross production of New Brunswick's manufacturing industries in 1924 was greater than that of Nova Scotia. This, however, does not mean so much a gain in New Brunswick as a loss in Nova Scotia. Moreover, the manufacturing industries of both provinces are described as poorly developed from the productive standpoint. This province has more to hope for in the near future from agricultural development than from manufacturing, although every effort must be made to increase the number of industrial establishments.

In securing the services as secretary of W. McL. Clark, Director of Commercial Intelligence Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce, the Canadian Board of Trade has added to its officials a man whose qualifications and experience will be a great asset to the new national organization. Incidentally, Mr. Clark is a native of Saint John.

An Ontario man, Col. R. W. Leonard, has made a gift of \$35,000 to Dalhousie University. There are many citizens of the Maritime who, without any great inconvenience to themselves, could give financial aid to our educational institutions, and this is one of the best ways of conferring a lasting benefit upon the community.

It is announced that the steamship contract to complete Canada's obligation under the West Indies Treaty will soon be awarded to the Canadian shipbuilders. The contract will be awarded to meet the wishes of those interested in trade between Canada and the islands.

There will be a general feeling of satisfaction that the by-election campaign in Saint John County is not to be long-drawn out, and that it will be well over with before Christmas.

It is stated that the Hamilton ladies intend to curl this winter. No wonder the waves are wild.

Christmas is only thirty days away; how about that early shopping resolution?

## Other Views

LET'S DO SOMETHING.

(Border Cities Star)

MAYOR FOSTER of Toronto estimates that Canada spends \$300,000,000 a year for American coal.

Think of it! Perhaps, the estimate is too high but even if it is only half the amount mentioned, think of it!

Two hundred millions of dollars that should be kept in Canada, paid to Canadian miners and mine owners, Canadian railways and railwaymen, Canadian merchants and manufacturers in a hundred different lines—Canadian business generally! Canadians should use Canadian coal. Who will give the necessary lead?

UNDER THE SOVIETS.

(Kingston Standard)

THE despatch in our columns that more than 200,000 children in Moscow are living like homeless dogs is a shocking commentary on the fact that the Soviets have sent over \$5,000,000 to the British miners' strike, and this cause difficulties for the British Government, which they hate.

COAL INDUSTRY'S RECORD.

(Winnipeg Tribune)

THE coal mining industry in Canada, as in the United States and Great Britain, is responsible directly and indirectly for more lost time to employers and workers than any other single industrial activity.

FIGURES EXAGGERATED.

(Brookville Recorder and Times)

OTTAWA bandits held up five persons but their aggregate haul was less than \$30. They complain that the figures showing "per capita wealth of the Capital are exaggerated."

MORE GOING ON.

(Toronto Globe)

CANADA'S coal production increased by 3,000,000 tons for the year ending August 31, and imports showed an increase of 100,000 tons—further evidence of increasing industrial activity.

CUTTING THE DEBT.

(Stratford Beacon-Herald)

THE national debt of Canada was reduced in October by some six million dollars. As a general thing we get this sort of information only around election time, while as a matter of fact we should be getting it right along.

SIGNS OF WINTER.

(Toronto Globe)

IF the family bulletin about the receding coil pile did not tell us, we would know winter is approaching by news of grain ships loading for storage at the head of the Lakes.

WE ARE LEARNING.

(Calgary Herald)

WE used to read in our text books on physical geography that Canada has no gold. For the last four years Canada has held third place in the world for gold production.

## The World's Best Dessert Apple

"THE apple is the leading fruit in the world; it is grown more largely and more widely than any other fruit," said Mr. T. G. Bunting, Professor of Horticulture at MacDonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, in a recent address. He estimated that Canada had some ten million apple trees bearing fruit and about 2,500,000 that would bear fruit in the near future. Canada, furthermore, produces apples of fine varieties and of excellent quality that are appreciated in the British market. Judges at a recent British fruit show demonstrated that fact when they proclaimed the Canadian McIntosh Red the world's finest dessert apple.

Yet, Mr. G. E. McIntosh, the Dominion Fruit Commission, gave the Quebec Pomological and Fruit Growing Association some figures concerning home consumption of apples that, in the light of Canada's position as an apple-growing country, are surprising. He said that in 1924-25 about 82 per cent of the apples consumed in Canada were imported into Canada from the United States. In 1925-26, he asserted, 28 per cent of the apples consumed in Montreal were from Nova Scotia, 48 per cent from Quebec orchards, 78 per cent from Ontario, and 82 per cent from British Columbia orchards. He added that in Toronto the consumption of foreign apples was proportionately larger than in Montreal. In Toronto, 47 per cent of the apples consumed in 1925-26, were imported from the United States. Mr. McIntosh noted that the growing area of land devoted to the cultivation of fruit in Canada had decreased by something like 90,000 acres since 1919, but he expressed the opinion that growers were getting better results now than in the past from their orchards. At the same time, he said, the total domestic consumption of apples had not been increasing. On the contrary, it has decreased, according to Mr. McIntosh. In the United States, Mr. McIntosh said, consumption of apples amounts to five per head of the population per week. In Canada it amounts to only three per person per week. An increase of one per person per week would not bring the average Canadian's consumption of the fruit up to the proverbial standard of a day that is alleged to keep the doctor away. On the other hand, an increase of one apple per person per week, Mr. McIntosh calculated, would save the Canadian apple grower from a quantity greater than the annual crop of British Columbia, or three times the crop of Quebec.

Market conditions that have raised the prices of high grade apples and made imported citrus fruits more easily procurable may have led Canadians to eat a greater variety of fruits than they used to eat in bygone years. Still, citrus fruits are not cheaper or more plentiful in Canada than they are in the United States. That being the case, persons and organizations interested in the Canadian apple-growing industry would do well to enquire why Canadians, in proportion to population, eat fewer apples than the people of the United States and why Canadians go to the United States for a considerable quantity of their key fruit. Is it possible for instance, that lower prices and more aggressive advertising methods might afford relief?

## Analyzing The Empire

(Ottawa Citizen)

MR. J. L. GARVIN, in an article in the London Observer, asks the reader to distinguish between "three quite different aspects of the Empire." These are (1) The white Dominions, (2) Indian, and (3) British India and the numerous range of territories and dependencies "for which the island is separately responsible." He adds:

It is hard, and sometimes seems hopeless, to make the self-governing Dominions understand that Great Britain, though never dreaming of keeping any kind of restriction upon them in its own interest, is a mighty nation on its own basis. It is a mighty nation, and it is a mighty nation that it is which Heaven forbid—every single self-governing Dominion were to secede tomorrow. Great Britain's remaining dependencies and protectorates would still cover millions of square miles, still constituting in protective areas, the largest and best and most valuable colonial system in the world.

It is hardly necessary to remind Canadians at least that Great Britain is a mighty nation on its own basis, or that it has large dependencies outside the self-governing Dominions, nor is it easy to perceive the usefulness of suggesting to these Dominions that the Empire could get along very well without them. It may not be so, but the fact is laid upon the point might be interpreted as an invitation to these Dominions to secede if they felt like it. Or it may be that the Dominions are afraid that the Dominions are becoming too contented and regarding themselves as indispensable to the rest of the Empire—check upon vanity which is hardly necessary in Canada.

Mr. Garvin's analysis of the Empire is accurate, and the true line between the more or less complicated nature of the structure, and the difficulty of framing rules that will be suitable for the rest of the Empire. The Empire is a system in order to give the provinces free play in regard to education and other matters coming under provincial jurisdiction. The more the area and scope of the union, the more elastic must the system be. The League of Nations, for instance, must be a more loosely organized affair than the British Empire.

## Will Rates Come Down?

(Edmonton Bulletin)

THE demand for ships to carry U. S. coal to England was widely advertised as the reason why rates on Canadian grain to Europe have been hoisted to an approximation of war-time levels; and why sufficient ships are not available to carry away grain, even at those rates, from Vancouver and Prince Rupert.

Now the British coal strike has petered out, the demand for U. S. coal in the old lands will naturally die, and ships formerly employed in that trade will be hunting for cargoes of other kinds. Alberta growers and dealers may therefore hope that the restrictions imposed upon the shipment of grain to the Pacific ports will be lifted at some reasonably early date, and that ocean freights will drop to normal.

That if the reason given for the increased rates and the scarcity of ships was the real reason, and not merely a blind to cover some rate-manipulating tactics indulged in by the ocean shipping lines.

## Germany and Sports

(Boston Post)

THE decision of the United States Lawn Tennis Association to favor the admission of Germany to competition for the Davis Cup seems eminently sensible. German music has come back to the concert hall and the opera stage. Financiers who see the country without pay during the war are floating German loans. There is no logical reason why sports should be more hostile to our former foe than the arts and finance. The war is over. German athletes should be admitted not only to tennis and golf competitions if they wish to enter but to the next Olympics as well.

## But They're Growing

(Toronto Globe)

THE Empire's timber resources are said to have yet the slaughter of the forests goes on without stopping.

## Queer Quirks of Nature

NECTAR LIES IN IT'S DAINTY PETALS.

By ARTHUR N. PACK.

WHO of us cannot remember the delight we used to feel when, as children, we found each year the dainty spurred blossoms of the columbine growing on the ledge or rocky hillside where we sought it?

What a wonderful thing it was to see again its beauty, and perhaps to taste



Columbine.

## Timely Views On World Topics

IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN FAIRIES, CONSULT DICTIONARY.

By Frank H. Vitzelty, Lexicographer, and managing editor of the New Standard Dictionary.

If you don't believe in fairies consult the dictionary and be convinced. You will find a great number of words which indicate that ever since lexicography was founded, the colors

language have believed in fairies, and the matter is well attested by hard-boiled facts. The dictionary has been hard-boiled by the fact that they have found and incorporated in their ponderous volumes, terms which, at least in the native idiom, connote their acquiescence in the universal feeling that the "little people" do exist.

We have "fairy arrows," the elf-bolts, darts, shot, or stones of folklore; "fairy hair," the beautiful, wavy, luscious or orange-yellow twining, thread-like herb that winds around the stems of the clover or the thyme; the "fairy's horse," another plant which in Europe they sometimes call the "fairy's horse," and the "fairy's gold," an ugly name of course, but one we've improved on for we call it the golden ragwort. It may be found in our woods and meadows in the spring when it blooms with golden-yellow flowers. Then there is the "fairy's foot," a plant which is the common mushroom, but which, common though it is, is like many of the most beautiful, very beautiful, in the fairyland it serves a double purpose and is used by the pixies sometimes as a tent and sometimes as a table.

In days gone by, when the girls

## Poems I Love

By CHAS. HANSON TOWNE.

"Whatever Gods There Are" By Grantland Rice.

By Charles Hanson Towne

Mr. Rice, known from one end of the continent to the other for his inimitable writings on sporting topics, very often prints verse of a high order. He is a sincere follower of the Muse, and his poems always have a rugged quality that makes a strong appeal. It is a sincere following of the Muse, and his poems always have a rugged quality that makes a strong appeal. It is a sincere following of the Muse, and his poems always have a rugged quality that makes a strong appeal.

Give me but room to fight my way. I ask no other gift from Fate. Though it should crowd on me at bay Where only ghosts and shadows wait.

Shadows of old dreams drawn from life's pit; Yet all I ask is room to try And prove Fate cannot make me quit.

No glint of glory from the height, No flame of fame to call me far; Merely the ground to make me fight Against whatever odds there are. (Copyright by D. Appleton & Co.)

## Just Fun

When first he went to see her, He showed a timid heart. And when the lights were lower They sat this far apart.

But when their love grew stronger, And time was full of bliss, They knocked out all the spaces And sat up close like this.

THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT—

"I NEVER had the beads out of the box and the string broke." "No, I haven't tried the underwear on, but it doesn't fit." "I haven't had the stockings out of the package, but there's a hole in the heel."

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Large Size FINE UNION BLANKETS \$7.95 and \$8.95

Single Bed Size Union Blankets ..... \$5.80

Plain Fawn Pure Wool Blankets, size 60x80 in. Special ..... \$4.95 ea.

Printed Cambric Cloth Comforters, Cotton filled, sizes 60x72 in. Very special on Friday ..... \$3.29 and \$5.95

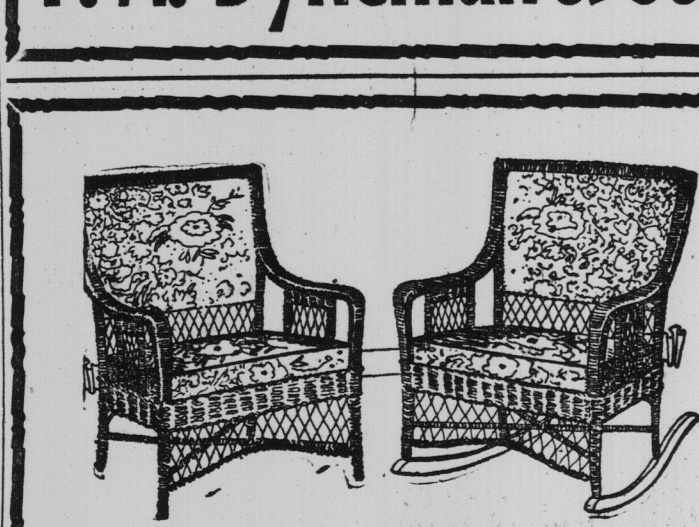
Finest grade Shaker Blankets in 12-4, 11-4 and 10-4 sizes at very attractive prices for Friday.

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SALE OF SAMPLE COATS—1-3 LESS Second Floor

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by a young lawyer, who was the law partner of the local politician called Colonel Davis. During the examination of Bones the young lawyer asked: "Jim, have you any fixed income?"

Bones was puzzled by the term. Counsel explained that the expression for dollars, an "a sack of flour on election days."

The sweet young thing gazed nervously at the peaceful rural scene. "Why are you running that steam-roller over the field?" she asked at last. "I'm raising mashed potatoes this year," replied the farmer.

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