

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 25, 1923.

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THE PARTY CONFERENCE.

There should be nothing to disturb the public mind in the fact that the leader of a Government calls his supporters together, prior to a session of the Legislature, to take counsel with them on the general situation and on matters of policy. Because of some things, however, Premier Foster is alleged, by certain persons who would like to see him retire, to have said, there is a very general feeling in the conference to be held this evening.

With regard to Hon. W. E. Foster, he is Premier because the people so will it. They endorsed his policies and gave him the opportunity to put those policies into effect. They approved of the course pursued by the Foster Government in relation to crown lands, agriculture, public health, education, hydro-electric development, the Valley Railway and other matters of importance. The people owe it to Mr. Foster that he, as Premier, endorsed and carried out those policies. He in turn owes it to them that he has been able to win the honor and prestige which go with the progressive and successful conduct of the affairs of a province. He owes it to them also, and to their representatives who are his supporters, to give them his confidence and discuss with them the problems of the hour. This no doubt is the purpose of tonight's meeting. Neither he nor they can be unmindful of the fact that certain interests have manifested a remarkable eagerness to discuss his retirement from the premiership, and one may almost hear them attacking their lips as they form a new slate that would make short work of it if it could be done. The policies for which the Government as now constituted has stood, these king-makers are not friends of Mr. Foster. At the moment he is in their way. The Premier is sufficiently astute to understand quite fully the purpose of this loudly professed interest in him and his political future. His term as Premier does not expire for several years. He has the people's mandate to carry out the policies which they approve. The safety of those policies will be foremost in the minds of the caucus, and of the Premier himself.

MURRAY AND ARMSTRONG

To have been Premier of a province for twenty-seven years is so remarkable an evidence of personal strength and popularity that the man who has achieved the distinction may well retire on his laurels with indifferent health prompts such a course of action. His friends and admirers—he has no enemies—will heartily wish for ex-Premier George H. Murray of Nova Scotia years of enjoyment, following his long and remarkably successful career as a leader of the people of his native Province. It was not of necessity that he confined himself to provincial politics, for his quality as a statesman was recognized and appreciated at Ottawa and throughout the Dominion. His understanding of the people of Nova Scotia was complete. He understood them and they trusted him. Nor was their trust ever betrayed. Mr. Murray retires from the leadership with a personal record above reproach. There were few things about the game of politics he did not know, but he played the game fairly, and retained the respect of his opponents as well as the support of the majority of the people. The Legislature two years ago, when he was ill and absent, paid him a tribute that was not only unanimous, but one which must have warmed his heart and compensated him for any and all criticism levelled against him during his whole political career. In giving up office he has not retired from the Legislature, and his wise counsel will still be at the service of his party. He has been associated with every forward movement in Nova Scotia for more than a quarter of a century, and his services during the war period were recognized by the Governments of France and Belgium. His high patriotism, his breadth of mind, his tolerance, his unflinching good-nature and kindness of heart have endeared him to all his fellow citizens.

Hon. E. H. Armstrong, the new Premier, has been for a dozen years the Minister of Public Works and Mines, and is therefore familiar with every detail of public administration. He was a practising barrister in Weymouth from 1889 to 1892, and at the same time editor of a weekly paper. Removing to Yarmouth he became a member of the Town Council and was Mayor for two years. In 1906 he was elected to the Legislature, and re-elected in 1911 and 1916. Defeated in Yarmouth in 1920 he was elected a member for Shelburne, which he now represents, and he has been a Minister since 1917. Premier Armstrong is a man of progressive views and has been a successful administrator of a very important department. He led the House during Premier Murray's absence through illness. There will be no general shuffling of portfolios, and the Government will go on with the prestige it has gained

under Premier Murray. His friends are confident Mr. Armstrong will prove to be an able and successful leader. He has everything in his favor.

A CASE FOR LIBERALITY.

The Natural History Society ought to receive generous treatment at the hands of the City Council. Any citizen who is at all in doubt on that point should regard it as a duty of a good citizen to visit the Museum and be shown through it by Curator McIntosh. It is doubtless true that the great mass of the citizens, who make it a point when they are in other cities to visit museums, have no real knowledge of the character and the value of the Museum in St. John. There are collections of the very highest value, and more would be available if the finances of the Society permitted. But aside from the exhibits themselves there is the value of the educational work done by Dr. McIntosh, not only among the young people of the city but throughout the province. It is not too much to assert that the place of Dr. McIntosh could not adequately be filled. He is himself an asset of the city of St. John, and he has been expected to live on a pittance and devote his great knowledge, his talents, and his eager ambition for work for the benefit of the institution and the people. This is not a fair arrangement. This is not creditable to St. John. Visitors who use superlatives when they speak of the great value of the Museum are amazed when they learn how it is starved by the city which should give it most liberal support. The City Council should remove the odium attaching to the city for its past and present indifference and neglect.

A "MORAL" SUCCESS.

The following is an extract from a report of a recent speech by Premier Macpherson of Quebec:

"The Government had sold liquor to the value of \$15,000,000 to residents of the province and to strangers, and the latter figured in about forty per cent. of the total purchases. The population of the province was about 2,600,000, so that each individual bought about \$6 worth of liquor a year, or about 50 cents a month, or one and a half cents a week. In Quebec city district the commission had sold last year 835,000 bottles of liquor, or about two-thirds of a bottle per capita. The law had undoubtedly been a success from the moral standpoint."

To have got out of every man woman and child in the province about six dollars for liquor, and to have had consumed by natives of the province sixty per cent. of \$15,000,000 worth in a year may have been a great moral victory, but if so why not have made it \$30,000,000 and glorified still further the liquor law of Quebec?

Montreal Gazette.

"If the French Government fails to make good by force of arms what negotiations did not accomplish then a mistake will have to be admitted, and the whole situation will perforce have to be re-examined. When the Ruhr mist clears away, and when France pockets her pride, Great Britain and the Allies will evolve a definite unified scheme that will have as its chief objective stabilization of trade and commerce in Europe. The threshold floor at Essen gives more promise of more than a grain, although it is too soon yet to be definite in this regard. It will be a pity if as a result of the Ruhr occupation by France a definite cleavage enters the Allied ranks. But the British Empire can take no lot or part in a policy it deems unwise. The backwash from the present Ruhr occupation may become a flood that will leave very serious consequences. France has taken the present step firmly in the belief of its righteousness, but time will tell, and that perhaps before so long, if such was entirely prudent."

CARGO HANDLING DEVICE

That British ports are keeping abreast, or even ahead of improvements for the speeding up of loading and unloading ships' cargoes, is seen in an announcement made as to a new invention in this direction now being tried out at Liverpool by the White Star Line. "Visiting the company's docks," says a correspondent, "I found that the handling of cargo is carried out by a system of platforms used with electric trucks; but the main feature lies in the speed with which these platforms are picked up and released by means of an ingenious device invented by Captain Llewellyn Davies, which overcomes the necessity of any additional mechanism on the truck itself. Experiments in the past in this direction have required some mechanical addition for the raising and lowering of the platforms, with a consequent loss in battery power. The special merit of the invention is that it is a means of speeding up the work and obtaining a much larger output, between 23 and 30 per cent. The White Star Line are thus enabled to turn their ships around quickly, and offer a regularity of service, which are factors appreciated by shippers."

LOCAL NEWS

Stop tramping and freezing around town for your shopping. Do it all for less money at Bassett's, 14-16-18 Charlotte St.

The "Vampire" is in town—See her at the Queen Square today.

A Woman with the face of a saint and the soul of a saint—See her at the Queen Square today.

Shaker Blankets, gray or white \$1.98 pr. on sale at Bassett's, cor. Union and Sydney Sts.

Love is love and business is business—but the Vampire makes love her business at the Queen Square today.

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A LITTLE BIT MORE

(Edmund Leamy, in Forbes Magazine, N.Y.)

He isn't the least little bit unlike me; Nor the least little bit unlike me; He hasn't more brains, or more talent, 'tis true, 'N' anything else we can see. Yet he really is different. There is something he's found, A secret that gives him high score, For he does all the work that he's paid to do, And—a little bit more!

Should you ask, he would say: "It is part of the game, And the games on the level, the square; Who follows the rules will win riches and fame, And all that is splendid and fair." Now, he may be quite right, and he may be quite wrong, but I think you may scoff, ribald laughter may roar, BUT He draws pay every week for the work he has done, And—a little bit more.

LIGHTER VEIN.

All Explained.

Farmer—"See here, young fellow, what are you doing up that tree?" Boy—"One of your apples fell down and I'm trying to put it back."

Taken for the Truth.

"Can you give me any evidence in regard to the character of the deceased?" "Yes, my dear," replied the witness, "he was a man without blame, beloved and respected by all men, pure in all his thoughts, and—"

"Where did you learn that?" asked the judge.

"I copied it from his tombstone, my lord."

The Row.

The couple were married and travelled to the lakes for their honeymoon. As soon as they arrived they took a boat out upon the lake.

The following morning the bride's mother got a post card, which read: "Arrived safely. Grand row before supper."

She read and sighed.

"My," she muttered, "I didn't think they'd begin to quarrel so soon."

Turn About.

Smith got married. The evening of his first day pay he gave his bride \$14 of his \$15 salary and kept only \$1 for himself.

But the second day Smith gave his wife \$1 and kept \$14 himself.

"Why, John," she cried, in injured tones, "how on earth do you think I can manage for a whole week on a paltry dollar?"

"I'll admit I don't know," he answered. "I had a rotten time myself last week. It's your turn now!"—Topsie State Journal.

So Careful of Him.

"Joe married a cool million, I understand."

"And his wife acts as if she was afraid to let him get his fingers chilled."—Boston Transcript.

A Nutty Fish.

Prof.—"What is an oyster?"

Student—"An oyster is a fish built like a nut."—Burr.

It Might Have Been Worse.

Clerk—"Can you let me off tomorrow afternoon, sir? My wife wants me to go shopping with her."

Employer—"Certainly not; we are much too busy on the job, sir; that'll suit me very nicely!"—The Passing Show (London).

PROHIBITION IN KINGSTON.

(Kingston Standard.)

Whatever one may think of the methods employed in the enforcement of the Ontario Temperance Act and however much or little there may be in the allegation that there is more secret alcohol drinking than ever before, the figures set out by Chief of Police Robinson of this city in his annual report for the year 1922 are of a startling nature.

Statistics of thinking distinct and conclusive evidence that the Temperance Act is producing the results which its friends expected and hoped. Not only has drunkenness declined very decidedly in this city since the act went into effect but crime also has decreased and, generally, there is a distinct improvement in the moral tone of the community. No better evidence of this can be offered than in the presentation of the figures themselves as follows:

1922 1921

Arrests for drunkenness . . . 93 178

Infractions of O. T. A. . . . 31 50

Theft 22 39

Infraction of Motor Law . . . 46 113

These figures are eloquent of a very decided change for the better in this city—so eloquent, indeed, that we believe they are trustworthy and will tend to solidify sentiment more than ever behind the Ontario Temperance Act.

HAMLET A LA MODE.

London Morning Post.—The Bolsheviks will not leave British goods alone. They are "nationalizing" not only timber, but "Hamlet." According to the Moscow newspapers, that masterpiece has been taken in hand by the State Institute of Theatrical Art, and "has been revised and adapted in accordance with the modern spirit of the times."

In the Bolshevik version, the unhappy Prince, as if he had not suffered enough, is to be converted into "a prominent Communist leader fighting against the bourgeoisie and capitalism," while his soliloquies and speeches are to be given a Marxist flavor. The play "Hamlet" has in its times passed through almost as many vicissitudes as its hero. It has been seized upon by the critics and the commentators, some of them twenty-one years ago. Irvin Cobb wrote me from Louisville, where he was working on the Post at \$18 a week, and asked me for a job in the old home town. I hired him at \$22 a week, already knowing his genius. Not a paper in Louisville, however, seemed to appreciate him."

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen held a much enjoyed and highly successful dance in the Oddfellows Hall in West St. John last night and realized a satisfactory sum for the Auxiliary funds. Mrs. Albert Cox, the vice-president, was the general convener and the members were efficient hostesses. Mrs. Harry McDonald had charge of the Musical Program. There were about 250 attending the dance and every one had a good time.

Irvin Cobb Fills In At Old Job

Famous Humorist Acts for Day As Managing Editor of Paducah News-Democrat, Where He Once Worked at \$22 a Week.

(Editor and Publisher.)

When Irvin S. Cobb, the humorist, visited his old home at Paducah, Ky. last week, he agreed to act as managing editor for one day and night of the Paducah News-Democrat, a position which he held on that paper from May, 1900 to July, 1904.

Cobb was then young and unknown outside of Kentucky. He was a native of Paducah, but had drifted away to Louisville and was reporter on the Louisville Post until he was called back to Paducah to act as managing editor by Urey Woodson, who established the Paducah Democrat in the spring of 1901.

The day fixed for Cobb to resume for one day his old job on the News-Democrat was December 30.

The News-Democrat of that date says:

"Cobb arrived at The News-Democrat office promptly at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon and assumed the reins of managing editor until the last form went to press early this morning."

"He supervised the actual work of getting out this issue of The News-Democrat from his old desk and chair, which are now preserved in the editorial rooms of the paper."

"Among other things he contributed a signed article to the Ku Klux Klan, wrote several editorials; supervised the make-up of the editorial page in the composing room; wrote heads for several stories and gave assignments to members of the staff of reporters."

The News-Democrat reprints from its files of July 22, 1904, an announcement written by Urey Woodson, as follows:

"Mr. Irvin S. Cobb, who for the past one year has been managing editor of the News-Democrat, has resigned, and, after a brief visit with Mrs. Cobb, at her old home at Savannah, will go to New York to pursue his profession in that city."

"Mr. Cobb is a brilliant newspaper writer, happy in his style, quick to see the essence of the news, a clear-headed, resourceful at all times and a prodigious and rapid worker. He can make himself serviceable in any capacity on a daily newspaper. The News-Democrat naturally parts with such a member of its staff with sincere regret, but with him a full measure of success in the larger fields he seeks."

When Cobb resumed his old desk hundreds of Paducah citizens called to see him and his family. The News-Democrat and others, contributed articles extolling him and his achievements, but his old boss telegraphed to Owensboro an awful roar as follows:

"Irvin S. Cobb, Managing Editor News-Democrat, Paducah, Ky."

"Well, so you are back on your job again. You certainly have shown your nerve, going off on a thirty-day vacation, in July, 1904, and just returning now. Maybe you got broke and had to walk home. Didn't I give you a round trip pass between Paducah and New York?"

"During your absence I put Louis Brownlow, Buford Goodwin and other highly capable men on your desk at express times, but they couldn't exactly fill the bill, for you know there are days when news just won't happen in Paducah, and then you were at your best."

"On a dull, foggy, misty day, or a sleety, snowy day, when nobody would venture out, not even a burglar, you were surely on the job, smoking up a half dozen corking first page local stories, with scare heads. You would not admit to needing for the most part of facts. We therefore sorely missed you, though Johnny Cobb was your constant reminder for lost time."

"I have advised George Goodman to put you back on the payroll at \$22 per week, and if you kick for more and threaten to go back to the Louisville Post, to call your bluff, for the Post in the old days never did pay anybody more than \$18 per. If Miss Quetch is working tonight opposite you at the big desk give her my compliments. That girl would work 365 days in the year, padding the streets in all sorts of weather, never asking for vacation, but she couldn't read proof. However, in this line nobody was ever rotter than you. If you go over to St. Gott's with John Melton tonight for lunch don't forget to come back until after the paper has gone to press. John usually did."

"My regards to Will Hughes, the janitor, to Page Pittman and to Mike Danaher. Don't fail to get out on time in the morning, if Tom Roberts and Harry Stiles have to make over a page because a theatrical cut was up to date. We must make the mails at all hazards."

"UREY WOODSON."

Those mentioned in Mr. Woodson's letter were employees of the News-Democrat twenty years ago. Most of them are now gone.

Mr. Cobb wrote several articles for the News-Democrat, but his leading editorial was very brief and modest. It was as follows:

"HAIL AND FAREWELL.

"The acting managing editor of this number of The News-Democrat has learned, as a result of his one day's work at his old job, these two things:—

"First—In the eighteen years since he went away they have learned a lot in this town about getting out a newspaper."

"Second—And he has forgotten a lot."

Urey Woodson, who is now editor and writer of the Owensboro (Ky.) Messenger, adds another little personal touch to the Paducah event in the following note to Editor and Publisher:

"You may remember that when I established the Paducah paper, more than twenty-one years ago, Irvin Cobb wrote me from Louisville, where he was working on the Post at \$18 a week, and asked me for a job in the old home town. I hired him at \$22 a week, already knowing his genius. Not a paper in Louisville, however, seemed to appreciate him."

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Runs Them Through Without a Tear

And Won't Break Buttons on Undies



What a comfort it is to have clothing, especially underclothes, come through the wash without a tear, and the buttons unbroken. It all depends on the wringer. The

E. & F. Special Wringer

is specially designed to save clothing. The cogs are placed on the outside of the frame to prevent tearing the roller pressure is adjustable, to save buttons. Ball bearings make the E. & F. Special Wringer easy to run, and the sturdy hardwood frame ensures durability. Comes in two widths.

TO SEE THE E. & F. SPECIAL WRINGER IS TO WANT IT.

EMERSON & FISHER, LIMITED

AWAY WITH A RUSH

Our Mid-Winter Clearance Sale started this morning at 9 a. m.—offering to the public of St. John the greatest shoe opportunity of the season.

Our full line of high-grade Footwear is on sale at prices which we, ourselves, did not dream were possible, a short time ago.

Why not plan to call here today or tomorrow while the styles are complete and the size range unbroken?

Watch the Papers for Further News of This Great Selling Event.

WEZEL BROS.
SUPERIOR FOOTWEAR

243
Union St.

WHY NOT TRY BETTER FARMING, TOO?

(Financial Post.)

Reports from the elevators indicate that the 1922 crop of Western Canada, the greatest in the history of the country, is also the dirtiest. It is conservative to estimate that the farmers will pay the railroads more than \$5,000,000 for the transportation of weed seeds and other comparatively useless products.

The dockage on cars is estimated by elevator men at Fort William at four per cent, which runs into a terrific figure and is that much deadweight on the producers' shoulders.

Of the 188,610,001 bushels of grain hauled to the twin ports during the fall rush, four per cent would mean seven and a half million bushels or 880,000,000 pounds, the equivalent of 4,000 cars annually at \$300 per car hauling average. It means the transportation companies had to provide 100 trains to haul worthless stuff from farm to market.

The Western farmers are crying out that excessive lake rates have robbed them of the benefits of the reduction in rail charges—and they have general sympathy on that point. They will have wide support in any demands which will give promise of reducing transportation costs, developing new outlets or improving marketing facilities to the end of increasing their margin of profit—so long as they do not expect to obtain advantages at the expense of other classes in the community who have to bear the last in taxes of rail charges—and there are experiments.

But while so many plans are being discussed to help the farmer increase his profits, it would not be a good thing for the farmer himself to improve his methods so that millions of dollars will not be lost in transportation charges on weeds and dirt?

On Tuesday evening the members of the Tuckatatchee Circle of St. Matthew's Presbyterian church held an enjoyable toboggan party at Lily Lake. On their return, the members were the guests of Mrs. Henry Klein, 200 Lockland road, where refreshments were served and a pleasant evening was spent in music and dancing.

No. 4 Bread Mixers \$2.29

No. 8 Bread Mixers \$2.80

Three piece Aluminum Sauce Pan Sets.

Best quality, 1, 1 1-2 and 2 quarts in each set. \$1.00 per set.

PHILIP GRANNAN, Limited

Phone Main 365 568 Main Street

FASHIONS BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT

(Pittsburg Dispatch.)

The example set by the Bradley Beach Protective League for Women in asking the Mayor and Town Commissioners to save them from long skirts suggests the harrowing possibility of feminine fashions becoming a political issue. If enfranchised women voters could by any possibility entertain the idea of decreeing modes by ordinance or act of the legislature or statute of Congress, France, resentful of our law, which has robbed the champagne districts of their best market, would have another grievance against America in the dethronement of Paris as queen of fashion. But it is not likely, Bradley Beach used to be famous for the austerity of its bathing costumes in the days of Founder Bradley. This ebullition in favor of short skirts in legal enactment may be just a reaction from the austere days of the past.

It is impossible to imagine women submitting to law-made modes. The rumper over prohibition would be as nothing to it when a fashion bootlegger came to town.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

(St. Catharines Standard.)

Some 15 men at Quebec preferred to go to jail for 30 days rather than go into the bush and work for \$20 a month. Are the jails being made too soft and comfortable, or is bush work too killing? The regime of most lumber camps in Ontario, it might be said, is sanitary, replete with wonderful appetites with lots to eat, high spirits, hard work, and good rest, and lumber camps make real men.

An echo which repeats seventeen times is to be found between Blingen and Coblenz on the banks of the river Nahe.

DON'T LET THE FIRE BURN THRU TO THE OVEN

What a pleasure it is to do things yourself and to know they are well done.

FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRE CLAY enables you to