

MC 2035 POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1911

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 26, 1911.

The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street every evening (Sunday excepted) by the St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

THE EVENING TIMES THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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These papers advocate:
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FOR BETTER ROADS

The Times prints today two interesting communications on the subject of road building, which were read at the International Good Roads Congress in Chicago. That which relates to road building and maintenance in France is especially interesting. France has an admirable system of roads, and road building in that country is a profession for which young men are especially trained. The writer of the letter expresses the view that the United States will not enjoy good roads until the state takes up the question seriously, provides the training schools or colleges, and makes road-building a profession offering permanent employment to the men trained for the work.

How many miles of road in the province of New Brunswick would be approved by a road engineer from France—or from any country where road-building is regarded as a matter of importance to the state? To ask this question and consider it is to realize how far behind the province is in this respect.

Public attention is being more generally centred upon this problem of good roads, and there seems a promise of good in the growing favor with which the policy of establishing at least a few great roads, between leading centres or across a province or state, is received. They want such a road through parts of Nova Scotia. We have talked a little about it in New Brunswick. In the eastern United States there are some excellent state roads, and Kansas, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and California are building or preparing to build sections of a great modern road through their territory which will be part of an ocean to ocean highway.

Mr. R. L. Borden has pledged himself to give aid to the advancement of the cause of good roads. Joint action by the federal and provincial governments may therefore be expected, to solve a problem that is of vital importance to rural communities, and the right solution of which means so much to the farming sections of the eastern provinces of Canada.

A CONSERVATIVE TRIBUTE

In contrast to the contemptuous references of some Conservative papers to members of the late government, it is worth while to quote a few sentences from the Ottawa Journal, which bitterly opposed the government on the reciprocity issue. It declares that it would be a good thing for Canada if the eight cabinet ministers who were defeated were still in parliament. It refers to the exceptional ability and great parliamentary experience of Mr. Fielding, Mr. Graham, and Mr. Fisher, as very valuable assets to Canadian public life. It declares that the absence of Mr. Fielding and Mr. Graham must be particularly deplored, as they were of the finest type of Canadian public men. We quote further:—

"Mr. Graham in office showed himself unspurred by power; he retained the confidence of the country in his honesty, fairness and ability, and he increased its liking for himself personally by his good temper and kindly humor. Mr. Fielding similarly leaves office with the absolute confidence in his integrity and personal cleanliness of the people of Canada. His political acumen was great; his first real mistake in fifteen years was the reciprocity proposition. To that we fancy he was predisposed by his long training in free trade ideas. We do not believe that prior to the opening of debate in parliament he ever dreamed that the reciprocity proposition could be supposed likely to seriously affect this country's political destiny. Mr. Fielding is a loyal Canadian."

There are some Conservatives who can see no good in any Liberal. It is unfortunate that political hatred can so blind a man, and to Conservatives of that type we commend these observations by a Conservative newspaper.

FACTORY SITES

It is announced that the long-sought-for map of city lands, showing property owned by the city that would be available for factory sites, has been completed; and that printed copies will soon be available. We must not lose sight of the fact that the mere possession of land by the city does not make that land suitable for factory sites. A man who is looking for a location for a factory wants railway connection and perhaps water connection. These facilities are not provided with all of the city lands. There is another consideration. The success of some factories depends upon getting help in the district vicinity of the plant. A factory

employing a large number of girls could not very well be located in Lunenburg. The Times is informed that one large factory looking for a site is debarred from a west side location for this very reason. In addition, therefore, to those lands which it has available, it will probably be found necessary for the city to expropriate others, in order to provide for successful industrial expansion.

MEN AND RELIGION

The Men and Religion Forward Movement will be conducted through the agency of existing institutions. It is a laymen's movement. Apparently it will work on broad lines. Rev. Dr. Symonds of Montreal says that "it is essentially a Bible movement, but will not antagonize the reverent and truth-loving critic." It is also a movement toward union, for it brings into harmonious effort members of different churches. Apparently social reform work will have an important place. There has been in the past too much emphasis upon the thought of personal salvation, and not enough upon the crying need of effort to save others—not through their acceptance of a certain view of dogmatic religion, but by changing their outlook on this life and its duties, improving their social surroundings, and enlisting their services in the cause of the world's betterment.

It is a curious fact in human nature that breadth of view is a plant of slow growth. The narrower the appeal the greater the zeal of the members of the sect. The voice of authority has always been very potent in religious matters, even when the voices were discordant and it was obvious to the calm observer that new generations would find new fighting ground, and old beliefs for which men died give place to new.

The Men and Religion movement appears to afford latitude for differences in belief, within certain limits, and to place emphasis upon personal conduct and social service. There is in every city a wide field for its activity, and since it works through existing organizations it is not open, Dr. Symonds points out, to the charge that it merely adds another to a list that is already a very long one.

It is satisfactory to note that the city has made a beginning in the disposal of its leased lands to persons who either now occupy them or desire to do so.

The French naval horror at Toulon is without a parallel in the naval history of the world. One of the finest of French battle-ships has been destroyed in harbor with great loss of life. The misfortune is the greater because at this time France feels the need of keeping her naval strength up to a high standard.

A cable from Belfast declares that if Home Rule is adopted it will be rejected by Ulster, and a provisional government established. This is probably not well founded. No Home Rule bill has yet been passed, and it is extremely unlikely, when one has been adopted satisfactory to the British parliament, that it will cause an open rebellion.

All reports from the west show that there will be an enormous grain crop. The whole country shares in the benefit derived from a big crop, for it enables the farmers to spend money freely for the products of eastern factories. We perhaps do not fully realize how much a bumper crop in the west means to the whole of Canada. That crop will grow from year to year, until it will tax the facilities of all our sea ports to handle the surplus for export.

Mr. F. B. Carvell has been declared elected in Carleton County, and, although a recount is demanded, it is not at all likely to deprive him of his seat. It is a source of much satisfaction to Liberals that Mr. Carvell will be again in the House. He is a fighting man, and will be of much service as one of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's lieutenants. Despite the fact that so many cabinet ministers went down in the late contest, the Liberals will have a strong fighting force, thoroughly familiar with public affairs, and competent to submit the acts and the policy of the Conservative government to a searching criticism, that will be good for the country.

If it be true, as one Conservative paper has said, that there are more than a score of Nationalists in the new Parliament, Mr. Borden's troubles will be greater than at first appeared. Mr. Bourassa and his lieutenants intimate that they have only got faintly started, which means that they have no intention of permitting Mr. Borden to carry out any imperial policy if it is in their power to prevent it. Whatever trouble may come to Canada as a result of the activity of these gentlemen, the responsibility will lie at the door of the Conservative leader, who not only did not denounce them and their works, but permitted some of his lieutenants to appear on their platform and make common cause with them against the government.

MISSIONARIES REPORTED SAFE

Toronto, Ont., Sept. 26.—Further encouraging news has come from West China. The Methodist mission secretary received yesterday morning a cable message from Chung King, announcing that telegrams had been received from Penhsien and Cheng Tu, stating that the missionaries are quite safe.

King George gave £1,000 to be distributed for the benefit of the poor of Dublin.



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IN CHARGE OF Y. M. C. A. BOYS



A. E. Clarke, the new boys' physical director at the Toronto Central Y. M. C. A., who is a Hamilton boy and a graduate of Dr. James Barton's school of physical training. He was for three years physical director at Brantford, and was called from the Soo, where he has been for the last two years.

TO LONDON OUT OF MOTLEY
O mother city, once again we greet your grave and reverend face. Late veiled from sight by workmen, who labored for a fevered space with hammer, adze and boring-drill To make you discolored gray— A weird and unfamiliar place Was London Town of yesterday.

Bemused, we tread your pavements when you tricked yourself in gauds and lace, And passed awhile beyond our ken, Leaving us doubtful how to trace The streets where we were wont to pace With surest footing on our way We only found it by the grace Of Robert That was yesterday.

But now, what rapture—by Big Ben I swear it, and the Civic Mace— Exalts me (so with oxygen) To see you, now the glittering race Of King and Queen, Jack, Ten and ace Is run; discard your grand display And to the realm of memory chase That London Town of yesterday.

Envoi.
Though fittingly in festal case, Mother, you decked your features gay, Right welcome is your ancient face, Dear London Town—
—Pall Mall Gazette.

IN LIGHTER VEIN



IMPOSSIBLE
Father—I don't believe that young man loves you as much as he says.
Daughter—Why, father, he writes such dear and sensible letters.
Father—That's just it. Who ever heard of a lover writing sensible letters?

IT DOES LOOK SO.
A woman's idea for dressing for wet weather is her worst hat and her best stockings.—New York Press.

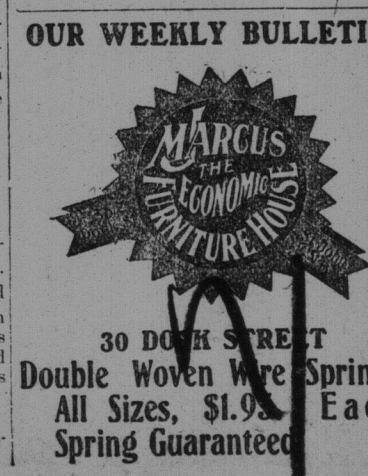
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