The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 20, 1926.

THE DEATH ROLL THE news in this morning's paper which most

readers in this city, was found in the obituary also passed to the great beyond.

valuable service to Saint John, first as the principal the Canadian House of Commons. What then is for some years of Victoria School, and later as to become of the rights of the provinces, as John's (Stone) Church, the Rev. John deSoyres. in those provinces?" Highly educated, possessed of a brilliant mind and a sympathetic nature, Mrs. deSoyres became an inces are particularly concerned. We do not know influence for great good in this city. In the full- what Mr. Woodsworth may propose, but the ness of time she has gone to her rest, and the | Maritime Provinces will certainly watch with deep sympathy of friends, not only in Saint John, but solicitude any attempt that may be made from in a far wider field, goes out to the bereaved any source to make any such change in the British pending readjustment, has advised interim in-

was a very promising career, until serious illness one of the irreducible terms of the Confederation fell upon her some years ago, has been brought to agreement. That agreement was made by the an end. As a member of the Daughters of the four original provinces. It must be binding upon Empire, and regent of one of its chapters, she the whole Dominion. It is quite conceivable that rendered splendid service during the years of the a group or party might arise which would have fair, then, to penalize the consumers and producers war. The citizens also mourn the passing of Miss little regard for the interests of minorities, as the of the Maritimes because of this extra length of Richey, also in King street, she had become well Provinces were unable to take their case before and favorably known to a younger generation than the Imperial Parliament, which passed the British

that which patronized the older store. of the Bank of Nova Scotia, was one of those brilliant young men the province of Prince Edward Island has sent forth to achieve success and fame in a wider field. He was more than a banker, for a yachtsman but as a designer of yachts. Behind or some of them, are able to furnish good reasons a somewhat dour exterior there dwelt a kindly heast, but Mr. McLeod was nothing if not a sturdy fighter for the causes he espoused. He was one of the earliest advocates of Government inspection of banks, and did not hesitate to chance the disfavor of his own directors in advocacy of what hebelieved to be in the interests of the people of Canada. A strong figure, he was for many years a power in the financial world of the Dominion.

AS IT WAS IN 1868

THAT there were many in New Brunswick who feared and prophesied what really happened te this province as a member of the Canadian Confederation is made clear by the perusal of an editorial which appeared in the Saint John Morning News of January 6, 1868. The News was itself a supporter of Confederation, and would therefore not be disposed to magnify the opposition. Hon. Albert J. Smith had delivered an address in the old Mechanics Institute. The News does not carry a report of his remarks, but deals with them in

an editorial in which it says: "We observe that Mr. Smith contends that we are shut up to a future of hopeless ruin, because, as he says, the interests of Ontario are hostile to the interests of the Maritime Provinces, and the latter will always be sacrificed to the former, especially as the Quebec representatives will always be found joining hands with those from Ontario when there is any oppression of the Lower Colonies going on. Mr. Anglin holds the same sagacious views. Hence they both declare a change of government would produce no difference in the policy to aggrandize Ontario. Quebec will stand by Ontario; Ontario will tyrannize over New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, because it will be for its advantage to spoil the Maritime Provinces. To deliver himself of such sentiments substantially as these seemed to be Mr. Smith's high and patriotic object in calling the good people of Saint John to sit at his feet during the last hours of 1667. Mr. Smith declares that our mournful destiny is to be robbed of all that makes life bright and pleasurable by all-powerful, all-devour-

ing Canada." The News argued at great length in opposition to the views expressed by Mr. Smith. We know today that while Mr. Smith may have painted too gloomy a picture of the future he was much nearer the truth than those who expected an even break with the Central Provinces in development of resources and industries, and in general progress in

We do learn from the News, however, that in tariff matters the Central Provinces were at the outset more regardful of Maritime interests, and of the spirit of the Confederation agreement, than

they have been for the last fifty years. The News "In assimilating the tariff a deference has been made by the larger and wealthier members of the Confederation to the smaller and weaker, the

duties on the former having been reduced to meet the views and wishes of the lower provinces." The News evidently did not foresee what would happen to the Maritimes under Confederation and a protective tariff, for its says: "If there ere any trades fostered by protection it is to our good, as it makes but littler difference whether the trades live on one side or the other of the province line. The more people and the more flourishing they are in Canada, the better for us." We have long since learned the fallacy of this argument. As industries and population have grown in the Central Provinces, the fewer industries we have been able to keep alive east of the

"the cost of union." It says: pregnant with profitable returns for any little outlay weemay be called upon to make as members of the provincial partnership? The period has not arrived when we were led to look for these good things. It will be time enough to complain when the time passes without a fulfilment in, the better it will be for good relations on this

Quebec border. But the News went on to urge

of the prophecies." We are still awaiting the fulfilment-and the Dominion is almost sixty years old. The Duncan Dominion is almost sixty to the start of the start of living.

Report makes it clear that Hon. Albert J. Smith, it is start makers are planning a percentage other circles of living.

MUSICAL instrument makers are planning a other circles of living.

THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT IN relation to the report on the Imperial Con-

ference and the impending debate thereon when Parliament reassembles, wherein without doubt both parties will have much to say, each from its own viewpoint, the Montreal Gazette asks: "Will the Government argue that the Parliaent of Canada is now at full liberty to drive coach and four through the Constitution of Canada if and when it so desires? Mr. Woodsworth, the active Labor member from Winnipeg, is already asking for a special committee of the House of Commons to consider the question of amendments to the British North America Act.

Mr. Woodsworth offers the soothing assurance that his amendments would preserve the principles of Confederation, but would also 'enable us more adequately to cope with the complicated problems which now confront Canada.' He has in deeply interested, while it also saddened mind, most likely, a change of legislative jurisdiction in regard to labor matters, such as the eightcolumn. Three ladies who, each in her own sphere, hour day. He may get his committee, or he may had made a worthful contribution to the city's not, but his resolution emphasizes the risk attendlife have passed away; while an ex-banker, who ing any attempt to remodel the charter of Conwas very well known and lighly esteemed in federation. Obviously, that risk will be materially business circles throughout these provinces, has enhanced if the Constitution is to be left at the mercy of any group of agitators who may be in Mrs. John deSoyres had rendered the most a position, at one time or another, to dominate the wife of that brilliant former rector of St. guaranteed by the B. N. A., and of the minorities

This is a matter in which the Maritime Prov-North America Act as would deprive them of In the death of Miss Gertrude H. Lawson, what their right of appeal to the Throne, which was Montreal Gazette clearly points out. Let us sup- line. Freight rates in Canada have gone up 55 old Colonial Book Store in King street. For that the present Parliament refused to take any eighteen years a member of the firm of Gray and action on the Duncan report, and the Maritime North America Act and made them members of Mr. H. C. McLeod, former General Manager a Union that brought disaster upon them and refused relief. Obviously, there would be no remedy except to accelerate the exodus and permit this area to become an unproductive waste. It will be quite time enough to amend the British he loved the sea, and achieved fame not only as North America Act when the original provinces,

> The Chatham World agrees with the view that party-politics should not enter into the discussion of the Duncan Report. It says:-"The report makes important recommendations which if promptly made effective by the Government will go far to re-establish prosperity in the Maritimes. We trust that our representatives from these provinces will prove big, broad and patriotic enough, whether Liberal or Conservative, to render all possible assistance in passing the necessary

The Toronto Star plaintively observes:-"Every year the editors of newspapers, when they go to do their Christmas shopping at the last minute, find that the people have not accepted their good advice to do their Christmas shopping early. It is rather discouraging. What's the good of good

Other Views

VITAL CONSIDERATIONS. (Halifax Herald)

HOTEL men of the Maritime Provinces held their annual meeting this week and elected their officers for the coming year. Simultaneously, Hon. J. A. Walker, Minister of Natural Resources, announced that between June first and October thirty-first of the current year, 144,615 tourists came into the province. Of these, 52,392 visited in motor cars. Cars to the number of 18,098 entered the province; the other tourists came in entered the province; the other tourists came in by steamer and train.

by steamer and train.

Good hotels go to the root of the tourist business. And good parking grounds are also essential.

We are glad to believe that since the Maritime Hotel Association was organised improvement has taken its place in the catering of Nova Scotia's hotels. As live business men, hotel managers hotels.

hotels. As live business men, hotel managers realise the important part they play in the development of tourist enterprise; and naturally the association will continue to work for the greater im-Other provinces are alive to the importance of these matters. In Quebec the Government provides experts who give their services to hotel managers for the purpose of instructing staffs in cooking and other branches of catering. This is practical action, and indicates what a high value the Government places on the tourist business.

the Government places on the tourist business. GOOD NEWS FOR CANADA.

(Calgary Albertan) ELECTRIC energy generated in Chicago lighted a section of Boston one evening recently, in the course of an experiment to determine how far it is practicable to transmit the fluid for com-

mercial purposes.

Canadians must be deeply interested in this and any other experiments directed to the same end. Northern Canada from the Rockies to the end. Northern Canada from the Rockies to the Atlantic is rich beyond computation in water power. How much of that energy can be developed and set to work depends upon how far wires can be made to carry the current without a loss in transit which would eat up the economic ad-

More water is pouring itself uselessly downhill our northern wilds and in the mountains than all the peoples of the earth have yet put into harness. Given means to transfer the energy from the place where it is created to the place where it is needed, every factory in Canada could be run

Canada is the richest country in the world in Only a trifling fraction of it is yet

NO DEMAND.

"TWO things stand in the way of Canadian annexation," says the Toledo Blade. "One the people not to allow their minds to ponder on is that Canada does not want to be annexed and the other that the United States does not want to annex her. The same situation has often kept "Why not rather dwell hopefully on the future pregnant with profitable returns for any little to annex her. The same attended," a man and woman from getting married."

It is certain that Canada has no such desir it is certain that Canada has no such desir We cannot be so sure of the correctness of the other part of the Blade's statement. But among our neighbors the dream of incorporating the Dominion is undoubtedly much less persistent than it was at one time. The less it is indulged

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING.

(Border Cities Star)

The Maritimes

THERE has been a good deal of sympathy throughout Canada with the plight in which the three Maritime provinces have found themselves of late, and it is altogether unlikely that there will be any disposition to cavil at the recommendations for relief which the royal commission has brought forward and which were tabled in the House of Commons on Friday. To some of these recommendations Parliament can give effect without much delay. Others will require detailed study and possibly experiments, while others still will entail international negotiations.

There is no doubt, as the commission has suggested, a good deal to be said in favor of readjustment of the financial arrangements between the provinces and the Dominion. The subsidies to the provinces are proportionately much smaller today than they were when Confederation was formed, while the demands on the provincial treasuries are relatively not any less. Indeed, it is probable they are larger. The Maritime Provinces, isolated geographically, cut off by tariff walls from the markets of the United States and by distance from the markets of the populous centres of Canada and restricted as to territory, have had few means of increasing their income They paid their share of the purchase price of the Northwest Territories which Canada bought from the Hudson's Bay Company, but in the division they, like British Columbia, got none of the new land. Ontario and Quebec, on the other hand, re-ceived enormous accessions of virgin ground, and from this ground, they are drawing revenues from timber and minerals that are increasing year by year. The condition is one that calls for examination. The commission has recognized this, and creases in the subsidies.

The question of freight rates is an important one. As was stated in this column yesterday, the Intercolonial was built principally for political and strategic reasons and not as a commercial railway. had it been economically constructed. It is hardly per cent. since 1918. In the Maritimes, they ha gone up 92 per cent. The commission has advised that the difference be ironed out, and that the cost be borne not by the railways but be paid out of the consolidated fund of Canada. This is a question for Parliament to decide, and though subsidies are not popular in Canada, just now, Parliament is scarcely likely to be unsympathetic. Other suggestions have been advanced by the commission with the object of aiding transportation and aiding industry. Additional car ferry service is advised for Prince Edward Island, and it is suggested that the Dominion might take over the Saint John and Quebec Railway and add it to the National system. Plans are also put for-ward for developing the harbors of Halifax and Saint John on systematic lines.

The largest steel industry in Canada is located in the Maritimes, and it has been in poor circumstances of late. There have been a number of tariff changes in the past few years, and each time the steel industry appears to have suffered. The commission advises a bonus on steel made with Canadian coal, and urges immediate attention the establishment of coking plants is advised.

More difficult to implement than any of these recommendations will be those which look to the free entry of Canadian fish into the American market, and the arrangement of a treaty with the United States allowing forest products, particu-United States allowing forest products, particularly pulp and all grades of paper to enter the United States without duty. The Americans have long been jealous of their fish market, and they are not likely to allow entry to it without a very substantial quid pro quo. With paper, there may also be difficulty. The Americans take enormous quantities of our newsprint, and admit it without duty. Other grades of paper they prefer to make for themselves, though they are quite willing to use our raw materials. The attitude of the American publishers before the Canadian tariff commission recently did not show much disposition can publishers before the Canadian tariff commission recently did not show much disposition to yield anything. When Canadian publishers complained of unfair competition, the Americans suggested that the competition would bear less heavily if Canada would only have the good sense to remove the tariff on American bookpaper and printing machinery. printing machinery.

Ranking British Writers

(Raymond Gram Swing in Philadelphia Public Ledger)
THE question of the rank of the great British writers of today has been revived by an onymous novelist in the Daily Mail. These are

Thomas Hardy Rudyard Kipling. John Galsworthy George Bernard Shaw.

'H. G. Wells.

John Masefield. W. B. Yeats. George Moore.

Anthony Hope Hawkins. G. K. Chesterton. 12. Arnold Bennett.

His runners-up are Hugh Walpole, Philip Gibbs, Arthur Conan Doyle, Sheila Kaye Smith, Gibbs, Arthur Conan Doyle, Sheila Kaye Smith,
Tennyson Jesse, Clemence Dane, A. Quiller Couch,
Eden Philipotts and Marjorie Bowen.

"We have had no recent writer," he says, "with
a reputation so widely admitted as Tolstoi, D'Annunzio, Maeterlinck, Ibsen. Hardy has never been widely read abroad."

St. John Ervine quarrels with the list and the
St. John Ervine quarrels with the lost and the less policemen of the night.

Insects alone are eaten.

Though much has been written about this diet, the fact remains that very little is positively known about the groups of insects most commonly taken. Many moths are secured and many believe that mosquitoes in large numbers fall prey to these tireless policemen of the night.

Though much has been written "No, but my brother is," explained the boy. "It's his wife and three children I have to support."

IN Louisiana during the grinding season the negro children eat sugar cane in abundance. One day an old

widely read abroad."
St. John Ervine quarrels with the list and the order of the names, and places Shaw before Galsworthy and Bennett and Barrie above Chesterton.

"I assert," he writes, "that Mr. Bernard Shaw is not only internationally read but that he is more widely read even than Dickens was It is free from some approximately free from some approximately read even than Dickens was It is free from the proximately read even than Dickens was It is free from the proximately read even than Dickens was It is a free from the proximately read even than Dickens was It is a free from the proximately read even the proxi is not only internationally read but that he is more widely read even than Dickens was. It is a bold assertion to make, but I think it is a true one, that no author in the history of the world has been more widely read that Mr. Shaw. I am using the word 'read' to include 'heard' for the dramatist. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Wells have reputations far more widely admitted than those of dramatist. Mr. Snaw and Mr. Wells have reputations far more widely admitted than those of D'Annunzio and Maeterlinek, and I am certain Mr. Shaw is more influentially known than Tolstoi or Ibsen is."

Mr. Ervine also pleads for W. J. Locke as belonging among the rupners up for being "shout the friendly bat joins the night shift."

able that man long ago would have succumbed to the attacks of his my-riad-breeding foes, the insects. All day long, from early day to dark, the birds wage ceaseless war; when darkness falls the friendly bat joins the night shift.

"Ah knowed it!"

Mr. Ervine also pleads for W. J. Locke as belonging among the runners-up for being "about the best story-teller we have," and rebukes the anonymous novelist for omitting Miss Sinclair. Sir Philip Gibbs he calls a descriptive journalist rather than a novelist, and mentions the claims of Frank Covinceton and most amphatically, those of James Swinnerton and most emphatically those of James

besides, asks Mr. Ervine, what is an English author? "Do we mean Englishmen who write or do we mean authors who write in English? Some of the finest novels in English are now being written in America."

ALL reading and no thinking makes Jack literary. of the finest novels in English are now being written in America."

The idea suggests an interesting experiment, classifying the greatest writers in English today, regardless of nationality. Just which Americans, if any, would take the places of Anthony Hope Hawkins, G. K. Chesterton and J. M. Barrie? Is there an American to push Arnold Bennett out of the first twelve?

The High'Cost of Living'

local taxes which force retailers to increase their percentages of profits, "stepping on the gas" and

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\$4.75, \$5.50, \$6.25 Silk Quilted Carriage Puffs... \$1.75 Child's White Toques.... 50c. to 65c. Crib Blankets of Beacon Velour, very special at 89c

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\$10.50 to \$14.00 WINDBREAKERS \$4.95 up to \$7.95 CHAPPIE COATS \$4.00, very special PRINCESS SLIPS \$1.19 up to \$3.25 BLOOMERS 79c. up to \$3.00 CHEMISE \$1.75 up to \$5.00 PYJAMAS..... \$2.15 up to \$7.95

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Queer Quirks of Nature

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BANE OF INSECTS WHEN the lengthening shadows darkness, the bat begins his day. ing place in some thick-leaved tree, behind the closed shutters of a deserted building, or from the dusty recesses of some little-frequented attic, he launches into the air, intent on satisfying his growing hunger.

water, and, dipping gracefully to the surface, sips his fill, for his has been a dry bed-chamber.

Then he starts his hunting for his winged prey, for with all of the



species of temperate climates, and with all except a few of the tropics, living married, my child," was the astonished the control of the con

Though not without their own peculiar species of vermin — for practically none of earth's creatures are

Just Fun

you the kind of presents you give

LIFE being pretty much one thing

spring millinery activities will begin about day after tomorrow.

WHAT will you give father? Why,

to wear while opening the bills.

give father some asbestos gloves

SOME writers about "cost of living" do not care a straw about solving the problem. All they a straw about solving the problem. All they have in mind is to try and delude the public into thinking that tariff, for instance, is wholly to blame for cost of living—and they blindly pursue the lead. It is of no concern to them that persenal habits, personal desires to keep pace with crowd. neighbors, middlemen's profits (often exorbitant), other circumstances are agencies that affect cost and thank his country cousin for those

Poems I Love

"Happy Insensibility," by John

FOR sheer beauty, one always goes back to Keats. He towers above a forlorn world. He is peerless in long have given away to gathering poems like "Endymion," and the "Grecian Urn" is my favorite of all litera-Slipping noiselessly from his hid- ture. This, too, seems to me as graceful and lovely as a morning-glory.

In a drear-nighted December, Their green felicity: The north cannot undo them
With a sleety whistle through them, Nor frozen thawings glue them From budding at the prime.

In a drear-nighted December, Too happy, happy brook, Thy bubblings ne'er remember Apollo's summer look; But with a sweet forgetting They stay their crystal fretting,

Ah. would 'twere so with many But were there ever any To know the change and feel it, Nor numb'd sense to steel it-

Stories

accosted a lady. 'Charity, if you please, kind lady,' he said. "I have a wife and three children to support."

plied.

"And would ye be asking your mither if I can have one before I woman's answer.

After Dinner

negro was heard reprimanding a negro boy whom he saw eating cane after "Boy," he said, "ain't I done tole you not to eat so much cane? Don't you know cane killed Abel?"

THE glib insurance agent had persuaded Rastus to undergo a physical examination. All went well until the doctor started to fill out the per-

> Open evenings until Xmas.



APPLIANCES are always welcome

happy with things

Electrical.

"Electrically at Your Service" The Webb Electric Co. OUR idea of the true Christmas spirit is the man who sits down to write



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exclaimed Rastus, jumping for the door, clutching his collar and tie. "Ah 'spected all de time you wuz prohibi-

AN Irishman lay dying when the odour of cooking assailed his nos trils. Summoning his weeping daughter to his bedside he said: "Nora, darlint, ain't it doughnuts LITTLE beggar of twelve years that I smell?"

that I smell?"

"Right for ye, faither," the girl re-

The daughter delivered the message to mother in the kitchen and brought "Mither says ye cannot have one of

YOUR OWN



Sweeten your own Christmas by the kindly thought that you have given a lift to folks down on their luck. Many families will shiver through Christmas Day with no coal in the house unless some good soul like yourself thinks of them in time. Order them a ton or a half ton of the hottest coal on the market—the Consolidation quality of Miller's Creek. Only \$12 a ton at wharf with cartage added by distance.



