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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1922

The Evening Times and Star

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TODAY'S POLITICS.

Events at Ottawa would appear to be moving steadily toward a definite working agreement between the Liberal and Progressive forces. This will not be a merger or an amalgamation, but an alliance which, if it matures, will consolidate ultimately under one leadership the forward-looking, open-minded, real Liberal forces of this Confederation. If, happily, the larger Liberal party thus emerges from the conditions created by the war period and the events following the war, Canada at large will reap large benefits, because its legislation, its administrative outlook, the functioning of its government, will be neither reactionary nor radical, but will be designed to establish and maintain in this country the sterling Liberal principles which are fundamental and which the old Liberals in the Liberal movement fought so nobly to set up as the sailing direction for this young and wonderful portion of the British Empire.

It has been said from time to time that the old party lines have disappeared. Strictly speaking, they never will disappear. It is a hackneyed statement to say that the Liberal party is essentially the party of progress, but the statement is true. The Liberal policy, truly measured, is ever founded upon principles that are eternal; and these Liberal principles are not mere dried results or formulae, for when the party is led by men of conviction, of inspiration, of broad vision, they apply constantly the fundamental principles of their party to the events and conditions of the day, having in mind not the party advantage at the moment but the higher conception that the party is of importance only in the event that it serves ever to promote and to safeguard the public good and the inalienable rights of all the people—not some of them.

Thus, fundamentally, there is in practice a great gulf fixed between the Liberal party and the old time Conservative party, inasmuch as the Conservative party (granting the greatness in leadership and in service of Sir John Macdonald and some other Conservative leaders) has been handicapped by an ever-recurring reactionary tendency. The smaller Conservatives of a later day, men of trifling stature as compared with Sir John, have emphasized this reactionary tendency because they lacked vision and foresight, and their hold upon public opinion has been continually weakened because they failed of the great qualities which in the public eye offered compensation for the party sins which Sir John committed or which he viewed with an all too tolerant eye. So great a man as Sir John could not be brought low at once even for great party offences, for his greater qualities and his magnanimity and charm, his political genius, his broad humanity, the very quality of his weakness, made him a giant in his time. Thus we see that the men who inherited the Macdonald mantle have generally had not too much in addition to that garment. The other fellow in the armor of Achilles is a formidable looking warrior—until steel tests steel.

A great deal of partisan nonsense is being hurled at Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King because he is suspected of having sought to bring about, or of now being concerned in trying to bring about, an alliance or consolidation of the real Liberal forces of Canada. His enemies naturally fear that he will do so, and they too readily resort to false and foolish accusations as to his motives, as to the concessions which they say he is willing to make, and as to the probable results of the successful issue of the negotiations which have long figured in The Times' Ottawa despatches. These political spines have well-grounded fears.

Hon. Mr. King is only now emerging from the period of spade work which was a necessity of the situation following the last general election. He and his friends know that while the new government has already accomplished much, and has given reason for confidence that it has much greater things in hand, most that has yet actually been done is but preliminary, and that full Liberal success such as will bring large in the political history of Canada and write the present Premier's name large across the records of the nation in years to come, must properly arise from a prudent but courageous carrying out of Liberal and progressive policies shaped to the situation of events today and tomorrow, policies of which we have seen the beginning, policies to the expansion and completion of which real Liberals in this country look forward with eager anticipation and no small measure of confidence.

The Evening Times gives real Liberal governments an independent support. It never has disguised the fact that there are many unimportant facts that there are many so-called Conservatives of Liberal thought who should be fighting today under the Liberal banner, and that,

also, there are in the Liberal party, nominally, many men who should be in Mr. Meighen's battalions and who are conspicuous a detriment rather than an asset from the Liberal standpoint.

We have heard much in the recent months concerning class movements and class government in this Dominion. No class government will ever be set up in this country. Class government, when Hon. Mr. King is accused of contemplating it, is one of the scarecrow set up by political opponents whose ammunition is running low. There is no more in that pretence of theirs than there is in the much older pretence that the patriotism and sound thinking and prudent outlook of this country is confined to the Conservative party.

Canada today is feeling a breeze of freedom of political thought and, with wise and prudent leadership at Ottawa, the Liberal party will be enlarged and strengthened to the great good of Canada—always provided that by courage, vision, and a stern adherence to the great principles which made the old Liberal leaders men whose memories are revered today.

The political crisis in Great Britain is approaching a climax. Mr. Lloyd George's speech in Manchester today is an appeal for fair play. No man can answer his critics with greater force than the Prime Minister.

♦ ♦ ♦

The condition of the Christian minority in Asia Minor is pitiable. Turkish cruelty has never ascended to greater heights.

RUBBER ROADS TO GET RID OF NOISES IN CITY OF LONDON

(Municipal Review)

London, England, is shortly to have rubber roads. Although this will be a distinct departure in road engineering, experiments have been conducted for many years with a view of discovering an entirely new type of surface which will be equally suitable for horse and for motor traffic. If the rubber road justifies all the claims made for it, it will not only solve the noise problem, which has been baffling experts for years, but will reduce the wear and tear of all forms of road transport vehicles to a minimum. It is also anticipated that the rubber road will last about 15 years, which is about double that of wood paving.

In their endeavor to find an ideal road surface, engineers have experimented with some novel materials which include such widely different substances as iron, glass, and cork. Castiron used in conjunction with concrete, forming what may be described as an armored road, has been used for some time past in France. A road of this type has been laid at Lyons and has proved quite satisfactory, having carried exceptionally heavy traffic with a minimum amount of wear, writes an engineer in the London Daily Mail.

French road-makers have also produced a glass road surface, which has been found to possess distinct advantages and has been used in some of the most important thoroughfares. The bricks are composed of a material consisting of waste glass, such as old broken bottles, crushed, and subjected to a heavy pressure in moulds. The bricks are thus rendered very tough and extremely durable, and owing to their gritty nature are not liable to become slippery through wear or in wet weather. They are, moreover, capable of resisting a crushing strain of four tons to the square inch. The cost at the time the first glass road was made was stated to be 18s. per square yard.

Continental engineers have also obtained good results with concrete blocks. They have been found to possess the advantage of being non-absorbent, noiseless, durable, not liable to expand and contract when laid, sanitary, and non-slippery when worn.

THEIR WORK WELL DONE.

Out of the heart of the Empire there has come a message of commendation and thanks to two men who had done much to save Great Britain from another war. From London Lord Curzon, foreign secretary, sent to Sir Horace Rumbold, British High Commissioner in Constantinople, and to Lord Curzon, commander of the British forces in the Near East, the "official thanks" of the British government for the skill and tact with which they handled the Mudania Conference.

And millions throughout the world will back up that "well done" telegram with their heartiest approbation. The difficulties of the task of these two men those outside the inner circles can not well measure, the patience they exercised under most trying and aggravating circumstances, the avoidance of anything like a false move, the careful treading of the path along which alone could they progress to accomplishment of the great task that was theirs. But a few days ago indications were that a clash of arms by British and Turkish troops, foreign secretary, sent to Sir Horace Rumbold, British High Commissioner in Constantinople, and to Lord Curzon, commander of the British forces in the Near East, the "official thanks" of the British government for the skill and tact with which they handled the Mudania Conference.

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FIFTEEN MINUTES OF RADIO EACH DAY

By Edward N. Davis

Formerly Technical Electrical Expert For U. S. Government

Lesson No. 129.

PROTECTIVE REGULATIONS FOR TRANSMITTING STATIONS.

In addition to the tentative regulations governing receiving stations issued by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, the following specifications constitute the proposed revision of Rule 86 of the "National Electric Code" in its application to transmitting stations. These specifications are intended to protect the station against the dangerous and destructive effects of lightning and in addition to safeguard the operator and apparatus from the hazard of high potential present in nearby power installations.

RULE 86 NATIONAL ELECTRIC CODE—RADIO EQUIPMENT.

(For Transmitting Stations.)

ANTENNA.

a. Antennas outside of buildings shall not cross over or under electric light or power wires of any circuit of more than six hundred (600) volts or railways trolley or feed air-grip shall be so located that a failure of either the antenna or the above mentioned electric light or power wires can result in a contact between the antenna and such electric light or power wires.

Antennas shall be constructed and installed in a strong and durable manner and shall be so located as to prevent accidental contact with light and power wires by sagging or swinging.

Splices and joints in the antenna span shall, unless made with approved clamps or splicing devices, be soldered.

LEAD-IN WIRES.

h. Lead-in wires shall be of copper, approved copper-clad steel or other metal which will not corrode excessively, and in no case shall they be smaller than No. 14 B. & S. gauge.

Antenna and counterpoise conductors and wires leading therefrom to ground switch, where attached to buildings, must be firmly mounted five (5) inches clear of the surface of the building, on non-absorptive insulating supports such as treated wood pins or brackets equipped with insulators having not less than five (5) inch clearance and air gap distance to inflammable or conducting material. Where desired approved suspension type insulators may be used.

i. Passing the antenna or counterpoise lead-in into the building a tube or bushing of non-absorptive insulating material shall be used and shall be installed so as to have a creepage and air-gap clearance of at least five (5) inches to any extraneous body. If porcelain or other fragile material is used it shall be installed so as to be protected from mechanical injury.

A drilled window pane may be used in place of bushing provided five (5) inch creepage and air-gap distance is maintained.

PROTECTIVE GROUNDING SWITCH.

j. A double-throw knife switch having a break distance of four (4) inches and a blade not less than one-eighth (1/8) inch by one-half (1/2) inch, shall be used to join the antenna and counterpoise lead-in to the ground conductor. The switch may be of non-absorptive insulating material. Slate base switches are not recommended. This switch must be so mounted that its current-carrying parts will be at least five (5) inches clear of the building wall or other conductors and located preferably in the most direct line between the lead-in conductors and the point where ground connection is made. The conductor from grounding switch to ground connection must be securely supported.

PROTECTIVE GROUND WIRE.

k. Antenna and counterpoise conductors must be effectively and permanently grounded at all times when station is not in actual operation (unattended) by a conductor at least as large as the lead-in and in no case shall it be smaller than No. 14 B. & S. gauge copper or approved copper-clad steel. The ground wire need not be insulated or mounted on insulating supports. The ground wire shall be run in as straight a line as possible to a good permanent ground. Preference shall be given to water piping. Gas piping shall not be used for the ground connection. Other permissible grounds are the grounded steel frames of buildings and other grounded metal work in buildings and artificial grounding devices such as driven pipes, plates, cones, etc. The ground wire shall be protected against mechanical injury. An approved ground clamp shall be used wherever the ground wire is connected to pipes or piping.

OPERATING GROUND WIRE.

l. The radio operating ground conductor shall be of copper strip not less than three-eighths (3/8) inch wide by one-sixty-fourth (1/64) inch thick of copper or approved copper-clad steel having a periphery of girth (around the outside) of at least three-quarters (3/4) inch (for example a No. 2 B. & S. gauge wire) and shall be firmly secured in place throughout its length. The radio operating ground conductor shall be protected and supported similar to the lead-in conductors.

OPERATING GROUND.

m. The operating ground conductor shall be connected to a good permanent ground. Preference shall be given to water piping. Gas piping shall not be used for ground connections. Other permissible grounds are the grounded steel frames of buildings and other grounded metal work in the building and artificial grounding devices such as driven pipes, plates, cones, etc.

POWER FROM STREET MAINS.

n. When current supply is obtained directly from street mains, the circuit shall be installed in approved metal conduit, armored cable or metal raceway.

If lead covered wire is used it shall be protected throughout its length in approved metal conduit or metal raceways.

PROTECTION FROM SURGES, ETC.

o. In order to protect the supply system from high-potential surges and lightning, each of the following shall be installed in the supply line as near as possible to the radio-transmitter, rotary spark gap, motor-generator sets and other auxiliary apparatus one of the following:

1. Two condensers (each of not less than one-half (1/2) microfarad capacity and capable of withstanding six hundred (600) volts test) in series across the line and mid-point between condensers grounded; across (in parallel with) each of these condensers shall be connected a shunting fused spark gap capable of not more than one-thirty-second (1/32) inch separation.

2. Two vacuum tube type protectors in series across the line with the mid-point grounded.

3. Non-inductively wound resistors connected across the line with mid-point grounded.

4. Electrolytic lightning arresters such as aluminum cell type.

In no case shall the ground wire of surge and kick-back protective devices be in parallel with the operating ground wire when within a distance of thirty (30) feet.

The ground wire of the surge and kick-back protective devices shall not be connected to the operating ground or ground wire.

SUITABLE DEVICES.

p. Transformers, voltage reducers, keys, and other devices employed shall be of types suitable for radio operation.

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LIGHTER VEIN.

Deep Stuff.

Kris—"What shall I take for a false appetite?"

Walter—"Try a little mock turtle soup."—New York Sun.

Light Worker.

Blink—"What kind of a fellow is Jones?"

Blank—"Well, he is one of those fellows who always grabs the stool when there's a piano to be moved."

But With a Difference.

Mrs. Crimmonbeak—"See how nicely that lot of horses go along. Why can't man and wife trot along pleasantly together like that?"

Mr. Crimmonbeak—"Well, you see, there is only one tension between those two horses."—Witness.

Peace and Quietness.

Tourist—"Is this a quiet place?"

Fishermen—"Well, it is, sir, but it's quiet here because there's no fishing."—London Punch.

Knows His Capacity.

A Scotsman had been invited to dinner party, and late in the evening was directed by the hostess in a room all by himself and looking the picture of misery.

On being asked what troubled him, he turned to the hostess and remarked solemnly: "Do you realize, woman, that I've lost thirty shillings at cards wif' some o' yer visitors?"

"Indeed, I am sorry to hear that," Mr. McGregor, but the loss is not deadly. Come into the buffet and have a drink. And we have some fine cold ham here."

"Na, na," said McGregor, despairingly. "I canna eat thirty shillins' worth o' cold ham!"—Edinburgh Scotsman.

THE STRANDING OF THE EMPRESS

To the Editor of The Evening Times-Star:

Sir—In your account of the inquiry into the Empress stranding, as given in tonight's paper, you report that the chief engineer in his evidence stated that "the ship struck Black Point at 5.22, and full astern was ordered at 5.30," which would be eight minutes after striking.

This is incorrect, as such evidence was not given, and in justice to Captain McDonald I wish to make a correction.

The ship struck Black Point at 5.22, as stated, but one engine was ordered full astern one minute before striking, and the other at the time of striking, and both kept running full astern until 5.30, as reference to my log will clearly show.

The third engineer was in charge of the engine room at the time, and was very prompt in handling the engines, assisted by the second engineer, who arrived just as the ship struck.

I am sure that the mistake was unintentional on your part, and that you will be glad to make the correction.

Thanking you, I remain, Yours truly,

C. R. KINNEY,

Chief Engineer, S. S. Empress.

St. John, Oct. 12, 1922.

FOR BORDER IRRIGATION.

Public Favor for This Method Growing, Says Reclamation Service.

The border method of irrigation, followed in many parts of the western states, is well adapted to a variety of soils and crops and is rapidly growing in public favor, says a statement issued by the United States Reclamation Service. The method consists essentially in the division of the land to be irrigated into series of strips, lands, or beds, as they are variously called, by low flat levees extending usually in the direction of the steepest slope. Surface water is turned into the upper end of each strip and allowed to move down the slope in a thin sheet, moistening the soil to a given depth as it advances toward the lower end.

The statement points out that it seldom pays to prepare a field for the border method for one crop only. The method is said to be well adapted to the irrigation of alfalfa, clover and other forage crops, as well as all grains, and the forage crops may be rotated with the grains without modifying the procedure. It is also possible to irrigate potatoes, sugar beets and other rowed and cultivated crops by making a slight change in the borders, so that the latitude as to rotation is rather wide.

The most favorable soil for borders is a free-working loam several feet deep underlain by a more or less impervious subsoil. As the sheet of water flows down each strip the previous top soil is readily moistened, and the heavier soil beneath prevents the waste of water by deep percolation. Borders are also generally used where the subsoil is well up to the surface, not because such formations are the most favorable, but because no other method will do as well.

FODDER FROM SAWDUST.

One of Many By-Products of Wood, Says Forestry College.

There is considerable justification for the prediction that the by-products of the sawmill outvalue finished lumber when the large number of uses and the increasing recoveries in utilization of wood are considered, says a statement recently issued by the New York State College of Forestry. Only forty per cent of our cut timber is utilized. The unused sixty per cent is in such shape that generally it does not pay to use it. The problem of utilizing waste wood consists in turning it into waste products. Alcohol, tanning extracts, turpentine, pine oil, fibre for rugs, carpets, bags and all sorts of fabrics; imitation leather, linoleum, insulating materials are a few of the products obtained from sawmill "waste," which was formerly actually waste, as it was thrown away. It has been predicted that the by-products of wood, such as wood and "grain" alcohol, may sometimes equal alcohol, which is identical from wood products. This might become a substitute for gasoline in the operation of automotive machinery. Formaldehyde, derived from wood alcohol (methanol, as it is now called), is used in medicine. Sawdust as a waste product is a thing of the past. It serves many purposes and has an ever-increasing commercial value. Mixed with clay, it makes good tiles and bricks, and combined with concrete, a good flooring material is obtained. It also finds a place in industry in the production of certain dye-stuffs. A gas excellent both for lighting and to become a thing of the past. Chemically treated sawdust has been used successfully for cattle fodder.

Tanning extracts are made from the bark of oak and hemlock. Turpentine comes from woods possessing necessary resinous content. In fact, virtually every wood possesses important by-product possibilities that may be greatly increased by research work of the utilization experts.

AN OPPOSITION REPORT.

(Halifax Herald.)

The very interesting news is leaking out that the Murray government is seriously considering the expediency of going to the country in the near future. With the general report comes the startling rumor, for which it is said there is a reliable foundation, that the government is intriguing for the practical support of the beer interests of the province. The rumor is stated in the "Herald" that the government has the assurance of a substantial campaign fund if it will "take the bull by the horns" and go to the country on a wine-and-beer policy. The interests that are prepared to put up the cash are being phrased by philanthropy—or even by love of Liberalism. They are desirous of taking Liberalism—as it is personified in the Murray government—into camp, and using it for their own purposes. The purposes include the establishment of breweries and the amassing of wealth by the manufacture and sale of beer.

It will be of great interest to the people of Nova Scotia to watch and see if the government sells out to the beer interests. If so, we may expect to witness an event of first-class importance to the electors of the province. We will have provincial election financed for the government on a beer basis.

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