

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1926

The Evening Times-Star

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WHERE ARE THEY?

"Where are the boys of the old brigade, Who fought with us side by side, Shoulder by shoulder and blade by blade, Fought till they fell and died?"

"Where are the lads we knew?"

To put it another way, where are all the candidates for civic honors? The men who know what should be done at City Hall, and how it should be done, the men who see what Saint John needs in civic administration? Why do some more of them not come forward as candidates, present their ideas to the public, and seek election to the Council?

Where, in short, are not only the boys of the old brigade, but the advocates of the old ward system, but the advocates of the Council-Manager plan? All of these systems have merit, and all of them are supported by brigades of citizens who have faith in their chosen system of civic government, and who are anxious to carry out their duty as citizens. At a time when there are many visible avenues of progress for the city and the port, we should have a more than a corporate guard of candidates representing the various schools of thought upon civic matters.

The dual election system has been abolished, and that simplifies matters somewhat for both electors and candidates, the single election plan involving less effort and less expense. It is now known that we shall not have a plebiscite this year on the question of abolishing the Council-Manager and replacing it with the city manager system, or some other, and so we have at least twelve months before us during which we shall be working under the Council-Manager plan, twelve months which should not be allowed to pass without any material improvement in civic outlook and in civic administration.

We have no word of criticism to offer concerning those who favor the Council-Manager, or the old ward system, or the Council-Manager system so far as their faith in any of these plans goes. Indeed all those who have been studying the question of civic administration have the good of the city at heart and desire the thanks of their fellow citizens for giving time and thought to these matters. But something more is required. We may change the system at a later date, but in the interval there is much important work to do, and it must be done at City Hall with the best style of machinery—a Mayor or Commissioners.

In two weeks we shall be electing a Mayor and two Commissioners. The majority of the Council. These three men, if united on any forward-looking platform, would have the power to carry their ideas into effect. The Mayor alone, if he had a definite programme commanding the support of a majority of the citizens, would be able to do most valuable work during the next twelve months.

It is often said that if certain changes were made in the system, leading citizens who are reluctant to offer for election under present conditions, would be forward as candidates and that they could have highly desirable results. That is as it may be, but I am considering today and tomorrow, if good men are available, representing any of the brigades to which I have referred, the most practical way they could render the public at the moment is to enter the contest and of the people definitely who they stand for. Such men, if elected, would have a chance to test out their theories, to prove to the electors during the coming year how practical and valuable their plans are with respect to civic progress.

April 5 is nomination day, and the single election comes on April 13, so there is no time to lose; and yet there is sufficient time for new candidates to get into the race. Should new men appear, making it known that they favor the ward system, or Commission, or the Council-Manager plan, the campaign would become a sort of plebiscite, giving the people an opportunity to show they stand with respect to these four forms of administration. Not that, but if each of the candidates entered a definite platform of his own with respect to port development, taxation, the securing of new industries, and other live issues of the day, the electors would not only feel a keener interest in the civic contest, but would be much easier to choose between the contestants.

Where are the boys of the old brigade, and of the new brigade, and of all the other brigades? Where are their standard-bearers?

TOLERANCE

Irvin Cobb has been telling an American audience that the nation needs more than anything else today "a wide, sincere, spirit of tolerance." He falls upon the Puritans and smites them hip and thigh, saying that the greatest calamity that ever happened to his country was the failure of the Mayflower to make a round trip with her

whole ship's company.

The need for tolerance is not confined to the United States; but that country is now going through a course of self-examination, and there are many witnesses who testify that the frequent outbreaks of bigotry and witch-hunting are a reproach and injury to a people whose national constitution and principles the sacred and vital quality of liberty.

A few days ago, after the members of a theatrical company had been arrested in Los Angeles because of the character of a play they had presented, the Boston Globe's famous editorial writer, "Uncle Dudley," published a penetrating editorial sermon on the whole issue of tolerance and liberty, asking what had become of that reliable and homely American recipe for dealing with an article of dubious worth, "Give it plenty of rope and it will hang itself." In the course of the article he said some things which not only because of the felicity of expression, but because also of the sanity of view, are well worth reproduction. For example:

"Among people of breeding there exists a general understanding that one is not to pick up one's soup plate in both hands and drink out of it. This understanding is known as 'table manners.' Among people of intelligence there exists a similar understanding that when a spokesman or an author voices opinions sharply antagonistic to your own, you do not make a spring for him and bury your teeth in his throat, you do not even call him a yellow dog and telephone the police; you listen respectfully until he has finished speaking, and then express your counter-opinion, presumably with courtesy. If you have been caught off your guard on your emotional side and angered by what he has said, you wait until you can cool down before you reply. Or, if his opinions are extravagant, you perhaps say to yourself, 'What all this fuss? What are we afraid of? Contamination of our morals? If so, since when have people of strong moral fiber preserved their purity by means of excessive seal investigations of the conduct of their neighbors? Do we dread a shattering of our institutions? Are our institutions, then, so flimsy that a breath of criticism may blow them down? Or is it the fact that the men who founded these institutions of ours were not so thin-skinned? Men who, in an age of monarchy, could wage a war of revolution and round a republic, are made of sterner stuff. These sturdy intellectual pioneers, who landed within a mile or two of Mr. O'Neill's stony at Provincetown, and who bore in their loins the seeds of a daring political experiment, were not men to cower from the rough winds of adverse opinion or to quail from gold adventures in the uncharted seas of political thought."

"Uncle Dudley" tells his fellow-Americans that of late the nation has developed a peculiar and regrettable timidity when brought into contact with new and strange ideas and this, he says, "is more than bad manners, it is bad sportsmanship. If I insist on the right to have my say but to refuse to listen to you, or even let you speak, what am I doing but demanding that I be adjudged winner of the game without even so much as being allowed you to play?" It was that spirit, he asserts, which led to the Civil War. Compromise and timidity over slavery and states' rights did not prevent the war, yet he thinks that the "evil heritage of that moral and intellectual timidity—not to call it by a harsher name—has lasted on into our own time, to harass us with repeated exhibitions of these bad table manners of the intelligence."

All of which is not only well worth reading, but well worth some serious thinking.

Odds and Ends

Just More Work

"All you have to do," said the film producer to the cinema star, "is to ride the woman in your arms, jump on top of a passing taxi, and jump from there to the fire-escape of the building in the corner."

He paused for breath.

Then you must climb up to the sixth floor, drag her to the parapet, and, bracing yourself against a chimney, hurl her out into space. She catches a window ledge in her fall and—

"Spoke I drop her?" hazarded the actor.

"Well, you'll have to pick her up and begin all over again."

The Meaner Gent

A newspaper editor's idea of a mean cuss is a fellow who will die in time to catch the mail edition.

Our idea of a meaner cuss is one who dies just as the last page is being closed and holds up the whole works.

It Used to Have That Effect.

(Ottawa Journal.)

Lady author declares that whipping a young boy makes him stupid. We were under the impression that it made him smart.

Just Fun

DIPLOMATIC language is nice. The Powers call it a conference instead of a clinic when they discuss China.

"CHECK your baggage, mister?"

"No, she's coming with me."

EVEN if you did start life as a baby you should outgrow it.

A tramp was sitting on a wooden fence. A step on the porch—he jumped from thence.

His trousers caught on a rusty nail. And they pulled loose a wooden rail. The mistress shambled down the stairs. "Don't take offence!" she screamed. "No, ma'am, but I don't like you gait!"

A PLEASANT lie is always more welcome than a disagreeable truth.

"HAVE you any after-dinner mints?" asked the hotel guest.

"Yes," snapped the waitress. "The only kinda pie we got is apple."

NOBODY kicks at the price of luxuries.

FAMOUS DAMS

Roosevelt . . .

sel . . .

Amster . . .

A . . .

Hot . . .

IF WOOLLEN make a hit at any time, then what is the cotton bating?

BUSINESS FIRST. ONLOOKER: Surely, Mose, you don't expect to catch fish in that stream?"

Mose: No sah, I don't expect to. I'm just showing my old woman I have no time to turn de winger—Good hardware.

WHEN President and Optimist meet. Optimist (accidentally stepping on President's foot): "Excuse me, sir."

President: "Excuse you, nothing. Optimist: 'That may cost me, my foot.'"

Optimist: "But, my dear sir, just think of the rest you'll get in the hospital."

WELL SAY SO! WITH our instructions, any man who is light on his feet can learn the Charleston and become a real dancer.—From Ad. in Dallas Tex. Dispatch.

WHY don't business men discover a place to hide? The "Conference gap" is being worn threadbare.

SILENT FISH. CUSTOMER: Do you really think sardines are healthy?

Grocer: Well, madam, I never heard one complain.—Progressive Grocer.

SHERIFF (to convicted negro on scaffold): Castles, have you any thing to say before you go to the gallows?

Rastus—Yes, boss, did an authority come to teach me a lesson.

Other Views

TOO MANY OFFICIALS

(London Sunday Express.) The taxpayer recognizes the need for a strong navy, while other nations decline to disarm. But, although he does not press for parsimony in construction, he suspects that there is ample room for saving in administration. Fifty-eight millions is a vast sum to spend on ships plus officials.

If we spent less on our naval bureaucracy we could, while keeping up the building activity, save more than a beggarly two and a half millions.

BRITISH AIR ESTIMATES

(London Observer.) The air is what the sea was in the national and imperial life. Without equality, at the least, in that element, the navy, however, enormous, on sea or land weapons can assure the safety of the realm. The navy's guarantee was once all-sufficient. We look for the same guarantee today, but not from the navy alone. It cannot give it any more that it can fly. In sheer recklessness the air fleet we had at the close of the war was scrapped. Now, after the slow progress of three years, the government is again throwing away such relative gains as have been made.

INDEPENDENTS IN PARLIAMENT (Winnipeg Tribune.) Real independence, red-blooded and solidly founded on conviction, would be of immense value in parliament. On many occasions the people have thought, at election times, that they have secured it. But almost invariably they have discovered in short order a tendency on the part of independents to gravitate to the government of the day.

It is so in connection with the so-called independents in the present parliament. Most of them are already out-and-out supporters of the government, and for the few exceptions it is only another step.

Timely Views On World Topics

By WILLIAM T. MANNING.

NEGLECT of the Bible and the absence of religious teaching from our schools are important contributors to the present lawlessness and irresponsibility, lowering of social and moral standards and increase of crime among the younger people of our land.

The reason more people today do not find more help in the Bible than they do is because they do not read it. No man or woman can be properly educated without a knowledge of the world's greatest spiritual classic. Morally and spiritually, the loss is still more serious.

The effect on the Bible of the results of modern scholarship and the higher criticism has been to make the spiritual message of the Bible, and the Divine Revelation which it contains, clearer and more real to us than ever before.

Biblical scholarship has established nothing which conflicts with full belief in the Deity of Christ, the Immaculate Conception, the Resurrection or Ascension into Heaven.

A person who accepts the scientific theory of evolution can also believe in the revelation contained in the Bible and its Divine inspiration.

The theory of evolution deals with the method of creation. It does not deny the Creator, or lessen the wonder of His Work. The Bible teaches religion. It does not undertake to teach science. It is the spiritual message of the Bible which is inspired, not its scientific allusions which naturally reflect the knowledge of the time.

Any one today who talks as though there were an irreconcilable conflict between science and religion is behind the times and gives evidence of that most dreaded of all maladies, a mid-Victorian mind.

Electro-Pleated



Premier Baldwin is supporting a big power development drive.

—From The News, London.

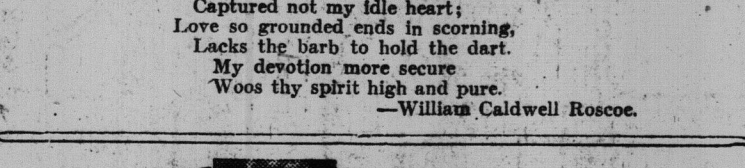


SPIRITUAL LOVE

What care I tho' beauty fading,
Die ere Time can turn his glass?
What tho' locks the graces braid,
Lacks the barb to hold the dart.
Though thy charms should all decay,
Think not my affections may!

For thy charms—tho' bright as morning—
Captured not my idle heart;
Love so grounded ends in scorn,
Lacks the barb to hold the dart.
My devotion more secure,
Woe thy spirit high and pure.

—William Caldwell Roscoe.



EVERY CHILD A DISCOVERER

HUMANITY has progressed solely by being pointed out, and wisely, for it is a statement that is being continually proven by the marked success of so-called "self-made" men.

To achieve the best results, each mind must make its OWN progress.

This is why Herbert Spencer preached that children should be led to make their own investigations, and to draw their own inferences.

He held that they should be TOLD as little as possible, and induced to DISCOVER as much as possible.

Those who have been brought up under the ordinary school-drill, and have their facts for too complex for it, find it hopeless, and foolish, to make children their own teachers.

If, however, as Spencer observes, they will call to mind that the all-important knowledge of surrounding objects which a child gets in its early years is "by thus denying the knowledge it acquires these facts, we thrust them into its mind by force of threats and punishment."

And when, as a result partly of the method of instruction, and partly of still continued untidiness, a child gets into a morbid state of its faculties, and a consequent disgust for knowledge in general, it is a tragedy.

Having by this method produced helplessness, we straightaway make helplessness a reason for our method."

The present Gaekwar has just completed 80 years of rule. His rise to the throne reads like a fairy story. As a lad of 18 he was brought to the palace along with his three brothers. Since the old Gaekwar had been deposed and had left no heir, the four poverty-stricken children, related distantly to the royal family, were considered eligible to the throne.

Each in turn was asked why he had been brought to the palace. Three of the young Gaekwars mumbled incoherent answers but the cowardly Gopal, with self-assurance said, "I want to become Maharajah of Baroda."

Government officials, pleased with his poise and self confidence placed him upon the throne.

Today he is one of the wealthiest men in the world and the richest of all Indian princes. He is an author having written several books on Indian subjects. During the late conflict he was active in raising millions for the British empire war fund.

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The Very Idea!

By Hal Cockburn

THE "DRIVER."

WELL, where are we going? Oh, nobody knows. Just out in the open where everyone goes. A drivin' the car full o' kids is the thing that always occurs with the comin' of spring.

There's something about it that gets in the blood. The air's full o' pep, and the road full o' mud. But, shucks, it's real fun to be drivin' with luck, and trust to the fates that the car won't get stuck.

You see little byways where traffic is thin, and chatter along in your bundle of tin. You're driving the family, an' oughts be glad-in spite of the fact that they're drivin' you mad.

The wife tells you this, and the kids tell you that. No wonder you never know just where you're at. They call you the driver—that's just a wise crack, 'cause really the driver is sittin' in back.

The man at the wheel has his sympathy, yea. He drives, but he has very little to say. It's fun to go touring. It's pleasant to rear. But, shucks, for the driver—it's fun to get home.

Now that marble season is on, even the kids are rolling their own.

The wise man will not suggest going to the movies, these days. Moving pictures suggest house cleaning.

The average man thinks that the davenport is just something to fall back on.

The two of us, friend hubby said, "Can live as cheap as one."

Wife—Sure I can—but get ahead and tell your story anyway.

Now I know what makes the wheels go 'round, said father, as he paid the gasoline bill.

When a man is too shy to get married—the only thing to do is step out and earn one.

FABLES IN FACT. MOTHER WAS TRYING TO TEACH SONNY—BOTH ETIQUETTE AND HONESTY PERIOD.

SOUNDS LIKE COMMA, BUT SOMETIMES THEY DO NOT GO WELL TOGETHER PERIOD FOR INSTANCE COMMA ONE DAY THEY WERE INVITED OUT TO DINNER COMMA AND WHEN DESERT WAS SERVED COMMA SONNY WAS FUZZLED THE FOOD WOULD'NT BE ETIQUETTE COMMA AND TO SAY COMMA QUOTATION MARK SURE QUOTATION MARK COMMA QUOTATION MARK COMMA WOULD'NT BE HONEST PERIOD.

SCOTCHMAN, wishing to know his fate at once, telegraphed a proposal of marriage to the lady of his choice. After spending the entire day at the telegraph office he was finally rewarded late in the evening by an affirmative answer.

If I were you, suggested the operator, when he delivered the message, "I'd think twice before I'd marry a girl that kept me waiting all day for my answer."

A NEW YORKER has spent \$10,000 for a dog. That is a lot of money to be kept tied up.

"Na, na," retorted the Scot. "The lass who waits for the night rates is the lass for me."

"GET away from here, or I'll call my husband!" threatened the hard-faced woman who had just refused the tramp some food.

"Oh, no, you won't," replied the tramp, "because he ain't home."

"How do you know?" asked the woman.

"Because," answered the man, as he sidled toward the gate, "a man who marries a woman like you is only home at meal times."

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