

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1924

# The Evening Times-Star

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## CABINET MAKING.

The new Prime Minister was expected to announce his cabinet appointments late today after the Kiug returned from the Giants-White Sox game.—So, entertainingly, begins a United Press special cable to The Times-Star this morning. We are left with a mental picture of Mr. Baldwin, "feeling after a very warm session with Marquis Curzon, standing first on one foot and then on the other, and waiting while His Majesty, whose technical knowledge of baseball is probably not profound, studies with amusement and curiosity the performance of the rival forces commanded by "Mugsy" McGraw and "Charlie" Cominsky.

We may fancy that the correspondent rather overdoes Mr. Baldwin's nervous tension, though we must admit that his introductory lines have a picturesque flavor. The cabinet forecast of the London Daily Telegraph is probably near the mark so far as it goes. It presents an incomplete cabinet slate, which must serve until the official list is given, which may be at any hour. The statement that the Prime Minister displayed some agitation when he met the newspaper correspondents after conference with Marquis Curzon has some color of probability if, as the London Telegraph reports, the Marquis is definitely placed, not in the Foreign Office, which he undoubtedly desired, but as Government Leader in the House of Lords. Mr. Austen Chamberlain is to be Foreign Secretary, according to The Telegraph, and Mr. Neville Chamberlain, his son, is to fill the great post of Chancellor of the Exchequer. Certainly, if the forecast is right, the Chamberlains bulk large in the Ministry.

As yet there is no mention of Winston Churchill—a significant omission in the circumstances. The banishment of Marquis Curzon from the Foreign Office, by the way, is attributed in today's cables to the Prime Minister's natural desire to maintain the good relations with France which were established by former Premier MacDonald.

Colonel Amery is to be Secretary of State for the Colonies—an able and ambitious man, but rather leaning toward ultra-imperialism. Birkenhead is to be Secretary of State for India, in which vital post his capacity will be tested as never before. Sir Samuel Hoare is to be Air Minister, and the appointment assuming The Telegraph's list to be correct—probably foreshadows a more progressive policy in relation to military aircraft. Rapid expansion in the air force is thought by many in Great Britain to be a pressing necessity.

It is intimated, again, that Mr. Baldwin's foreign policy will be firm toward Russia, that he will ask proof that the Russian Government is ready to proceed along civilized lines before embracing it. That would be prudent at least. There Mr. MacDonald fell by the wayside.

That the Baldwin Ministry will not be in a hurry to diminish Britain's sea power is repeated in today's news. That, fortunately, may safely be taken for granted; yet it will be expected with confidence that the new government will strongly serve the cause of world peace. British prestige under the new ministry will wax rather than wane.

## MEDICINE.

What becomes of all the liquor which Canada sends to the United States? A large portion of the population there used to take its "bitters" regularly, and with the introduction of prohibition, and the great advance in the price of both spirits and malt beverages, it was thought for a time that the market for whiskey and ale was killed for both American distillers and brewers and for their foreign competitors so far as the United States was concerned. Later, of course, it was found that the United States continued to receive a great quantity of liquor from both domestic and foreign sources.

There is a continuous dispute as to how much liquor the country absorbs, and as to what the effect of prohibition has been, and the opposing forces are miles apart in their conclusions. Liquor is abundant in the United States, both North and South, and in some states where sentiment is decidedly wet the difficulty of enforcement is naturally increased. However, aside altogether from the merits or demerits of prohibition, or near prohibition, as carried out in the Republic, certain facts do emerge. One, which is noticeable in Canada also, is that the high price is a great deterrent, for those with little money can drink but a limited quantity with whiskey at about five dollars a bottle, and the more prudent ones are afraid to resort to the cheaper concoctions of home manufacture, fearing wood alcohol, blindness or even death, or some less serious consequence.

As for Canada's contribution to American wetness, The Boston Post says editorially:—"Canada's newest statistics on liquor exports are such as give

considerable thought to the prohibition department of this country. They present the information that the amount of whiskey sent to the United States for the year ending last September was more than double that for the previous twelve months, the figures being 1,172,000 quarts and 409,138 quarts respectively.

"That is considerable of a jump into a country that is supposed to bar all alcoholic imports for beverage purposes." Can it be that this flood of liquor is being absorbed as medicine? If so, the bootlegger may well have a feeling of envy for the writers of prescriptions.

The Post's question about medicine is pertinent, and the answer is fairly well known. Before prohibition many people mistakenly thought they required some "medicine" made from corn, and if it was not easy to obtain, or if they were unwilling to have their neighbors know that they bought whiskey, they resorted to certain patent or proprietary medicinal preparations, some of which contained a very high percentage of alcohol. "Medicine" of this kind—and there were many kinds—was sold by the case, and even by the carload, and the matter became a national joke. It was a serious one. Then, pure food legislation cut down the alcoholic content or even removed it entirely, and not enough liquor remained in the medicine to satisfy the craving, or the imaginary need, felt by a vast army which had been accustomed to one or more doses of "bitters" during each twenty-four hours. Now, 1,172,000 quarts, Canada's contribution to the "medicinal supply" of the United States, amounts to very little among 115,000,000 of people, a considerable proportion of which population is supposed to take a nip. But, of course, in addition to our contribution, the United States still has an immense domestic supply which somehow or other gets out of bond, or which can be obtained on prescription, and both oceans and the Gulf are ploughed continually by fleets of swift vessels whose cargo is liquid.

What is to be the end of it? Prohibition was not introduced in the United States until two-thirds of the states signified their willingness to have the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution passed. The frequent predictions of a repeal of that amendment are met by reviewers with the statement that no constitutional amendment has been nullified since the formation of the Republic. The supply of liquor increases automatically with the demand. Dry territory adjoining the United States continues to export "medicine" to the suffering Americans. The wet West Indies contribute an unfailing supply. A considerable part of the traffic through the Panama Canal is made up of "medicine" on its way to the Pacific coast. Mexico is wet, and its distillers and dealers are busy manufacturing or importing more and more "medicine" for domestic consumption or for sale to the millions of folk to the north who feel that they must have their bitters.

The so-called dry countries are houses divided against themselves. The fight between the wets and the dries goes on continually, and is maintained with increasing vigor, and the enticing element of profit has called a great army of adventurers greatly outnumbering the pirates and buccaners of old, and even matching them in recklessness and in ruthlessness, in order to put their "medicine" across. The end is not yet, and speculation as to what conditions will be some years hence is interesting but not idle.

THE PREMIER'S SPEECH.  
Hon. Mr. Veniot, at yesterday's organization convention in the constituency created when the York parishes were separated from the city of Fredericton and the towns of Marysville and Devon, made his first public address since his recent indisposition, and in the course of it he referred to the development of power in New Brunswick.

He repeated a former declaration, that so soon as authority has been given and plans approved by the International Waterways Commission, the Government will begin construction on the great hydro plant at Grand Falls. The Premier on this occasion, it is to be noted, was very definite indeed on one important point. He said that never, so long as he was a member of the Government, would the natural resources of the province be allowed to fall into the hands of private corporations. They would, he said, be developed by the people and for the people.

Ever since the Grand Falls development came within the sphere of practical politics there has been a great deal of discussion as to whether the construction and administration of the plant and distribution system would be under public or private control. Hon. Mr. Veniot has frequently said that the work would be done by the Province and should be absolutely within the control of the people through their elected representatives. His Fredericton speech confirms his

former declarations, but is noteworthy as being the most specific of his utterances on this question.

Incidentally, he said again that there will be no general election in New Brunswick until after the next session of the Legislature, which, as usual, is to be opened toward the end of February or early in March. Without giving any indication as to the probable election date, he reminded his audience that polling must take place before next October, at which time the life of the present Legislature will come to an end. The people are thus reminded that they are within hailing distance of two general elections, the federal and the provincial, and that a period of lively preparation for both contests is at hand. This preparation will go on with increasing intensity after the Legislature and Parliament rise, and in both bodies a high percentage of the debating eloquence will be "aimed at the country." Will Hon. Mr. Veniot go to the country before Hon. Mr. Mackenzie King? Or will he wait until Canada has decided between the combined Liberals and Progressives and the Conservatives? Anybody can ask Mr. Veniot that, but—well, it's interesting anyhow.

A controversy has arisen, unfortunately, between Mayor Potts and some influential North End residents because of His Worship's careless reference to the Vocational High School site. Some of these residents have written and signed a letter which appears in today's issue. The Times-Star, in order to be fair, placed the letter before the Mayor and invited him to write a reply or comment which he deemed fitting under the circumstances, and what he has to say is published along with the letter referred to. His Worship explains that he was misquoted. The Vocational School matter, by the way, now bids fair to be settled, definitely, and at last night's meeting both the Mayor and the chairman of the School Board discussed it in a fair and reasonable spirit that is most commendable.

## Destiny Again

(Toronto Globe.)

Commenting on an article written by Mr. Frank Bohn, under the heading, "Canada Grotes for Destiny as a Nation," the Ottawa Journal says that no people in the world are better satisfied with their heritage than Canadians, and no people are less inclined to consider new political alliances. To do so, Mr. Bohn justifies, he confesses that Canadians are uninterested in the subject, and his attitude seems to be one of surprise that we are not more influenced by geography. He points out, in an extract quoted by the Journal, that Canada is divided into four sections:

The three Maritime Provinces and Southern Quebec are a continuation of the New England coastal region. And the people of the three easternmost provinces are one in every way with those of Massachusetts and Maine. Ontario is an integral part, geographically and racially, of Middle Western America. Again and again has the writer, in taking a train at New York city to lecture in some town of Southern Ontario, had a feeling of going home to his own people in the Middle West. The schools, the churches, the farmers' organizations, the Rotary clubs of Ontario are all a perfect replica of those in Western New York, Ohio and Michigan. There is a different flag waving from the public buildings—that is all.

He says that Canada is not a geographical entity, and never can be, yet he admits that Canadians are doing very well, in spite of this handicap. No doubt, we are influenced by geography, and also by American customs in business, industry, agriculture, merchandising and household economy, and by American magazines, movies and sports. But the things appear to have no effect upon our ideas as to national status and destiny. The opponents of reciprocity feared, or profess to fear, that an agreement as to trade would sweep us into annexation. After the agreement had been rejected by the people the Canadian American trade went on growing, but with no annexationist influence. Branches of American manufacturing concerns in Canada would seem to involve more danger of Americanization than the exchange of commodities across the border, but even these leave us politically unmoved. We keep our political and our other ideas separated as in water-tight compartments.

Vice-Presidents Who Became Presidents.  
(Toronto Star—Answers to Correspondents.)

Thesealonian: The following vice-presidents of the United States succeeded to the office of president: John Tyler, 1841, on death of Wm. Henry Harrison; Millard Fillmore, 1850, on death of Zachary Taylor; Andrew Johnson, 1865, on death of Abraham Lincoln; Chester A. Arthur, 1881, on death of James A. Garfield; Theodore Roosevelt, 1901, on death of Wm. McKinley; Calvin Coolidge, 1923, on death of Warren G. Harding.

## LAKE ATHABASKA.

(W. H. F. Tenny in Buffalo Express.)  
There's a lake called Athabaska, where there's marten, fox and mink; It's up there in Saskatchewan, and it's a sort of link

To couple up Alberta, where the Big Peace river flows, And wanders North into the wilds, where gleaming North-light glows. As fine a bunch of fellows as you'd ever care to meet; The factor was Big Bill MacGann, a man you love to greet. And Dan MacGraw, from Winnipeg; and Jim Drew, from the States; Beside a bunch from Klondike—not to mention Musher Gates.

And up the creeks there's beaver and wolves are wild and plenty; And now and then a bull moose—why, one season we got twenty. And bear, oh, boy! I tackled one with just a hunting knife. And I never knew exactly how I got off with my little rifle.

That lake is just a-teeming with the finest sort of fish; It seems that I can taste 'em yet, come hot right off the dish. And caribou—a chunk of that would make you jump for joy; 'Twould bring you back your youth again, you'd be just like a boy.

There isn't any place on earth the woods are half as green; And nowhere else in all the world the water has the sheen. It's hot on Athabaska; when you're out in a canoe And sun just setting in the west, and sinking out of view.

Well, yes, it's sort of chilly when the winter comes around; And plenty of snow, at least enough, to cover up the ground. But, when we'd gather 'round the stove in Athabaska's shack, We'd listen to the stories told by Mike, the lumberjack.

And French Pierre, from Montreal, would get his fiddle going, While, outside, just a gentle breeze was all the wind a-blowing. Of course, sometimes, it livened up and seemed to rare and tear. Until it roared and growled like a wounded grizzly bear.

But that lent animation, and it gave life to the scene; While, outside, you could watch it and could see the trees creak. It filled you with enjoyment just to watch the drifting snow. Then, turn and view the fireplace and gaze into its glow.

Why, yes, I'm going back there—it is home as life to me; I can hear it ever calling, and it croons a melody That makes the busy hum of streets sound like the wall of doom. So, I'm for Athabaska, where there's nature and there's room.

Chinese Faces Murder Charge; Is Identified

Vancouver, Nov. 6.—Chinese witnesses from Manitoba and Victoria today identified Ching Sing, recently arrested in Victoria as the slayer of David Lew, prominent Chinese business man of this city. Lew was shot to death as he was leaving a restaurant in Pender street on the evening of Sept. 24 last. A charge of murder has been laid against Ching Sing by the police.

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## IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Reported By J. C.  
"Send the bookcase by express, please."  
"Any particular express, madam?"  
"Well, particular enough to deliver without getting it all scratched up."

Overheard On The El.  
"My husband has bought me a beautiful automobile."  
"Can you drive?"  
"Well, I drove him into buying that."

Did He Take The Hint?  
Young Slowboy—"Do you think kissing is a sin?"  
The Girl (coolly)—"Well, it—it may be one of the sins of omission."

A Rare Pleasure.  
"So you enjoy showing your wife how to drive?"  
"Yes; it's the first time she ever admitted that I could tell her anything."

Pleasant Surprise.  
"Hello, old man!" exclaimed Dudley, at the Literary Circle reception. "It's a pleasant surprise to meet you here."  
"Good of you to say so, old chap," replied Brown.

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11-12

## POLICEMAN WHIPS MAN.

Boston, Nov. 6.—When Thomas J. O'Brien struck at Mrs. Margaret McHugh, one of Boston's policemen, she did not pull her club on him. Instead she moved aside to avoid the blow, then stepped in and with a right-hand swing sent him sprawling to the street, opening his left cheek.

At the police station a doctor's services were necessary for O'Brien. Police regulations require a detailed report in every case in which an officer has to use force in making an arrest.

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11-12

## SIX PROMISE AID.

The appeal made in St. Andrew's Presbyterian church last Sunday for a \$1,000 collection on next Sunday, is already well on the way to fulfillment, according to reports last night. Last Sunday one member of the church said that he would supply the tenth check of \$50, if nine others were forthcoming. Of these nine, six had been promised up till last night.

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See Halifax Herald and Mail.  
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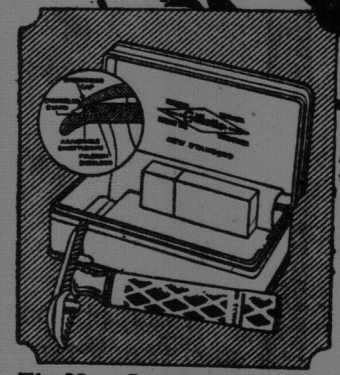
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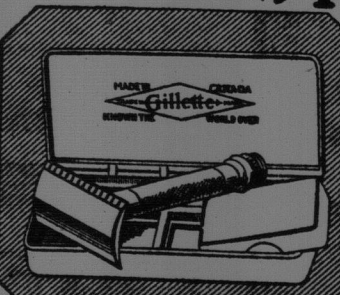
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