

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1925

## The Evening Times-Star

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### THE COUNTRY WAITS.

Not only the Maritime Provinces but the country at large which is backing the demands of the Maritimes for a chance to live on equality with the other provinces of Confederation, are waiting now—and they do not expect to wait too long—for parliamentary action which will satisfy the strong and convincing representations made at Ottawa yesterday by a delegation which evidently made a profound impression upon all those in whose hands the remedy lies.

The Maritime case was presented as never before. Its national character and the support it receives from the other provinces were forcibly shown. The whole movement, its scope and its purpose and the depth of the sentiment underlying it, were brought out with striking clarity and power.

The movement, begun by The Telegraph-Journal and The Times-Star and taken up so quickly and so strongly in other quarters, has in this way accomplished a work of wonderful value and is amply justified in the eyes of the great army which has given it support.

The delegation spoke not only to Parliament but to all Canada, and manifestly it was made clear that this is in every sense a Canadian question and that wrapped up in it there are grave possibilities concerning the future of the Dominion. It was made abundantly plain that the right action will give the country hope and confidence, whereas failure will surely result in increasing dissatisfaction from which grave consequences might flow.

The delegation went to Ottawa in no carping or threatening spirit, yet its more outspoken members did not hesitate to point out that while there is no actively organized movement for separation at this day, a continuation of present inequalities and injustices might well fan into a dangerous blaze currents of opinion which might multiply and check to the good of the whole country.

At the very time when the delegation was presenting its case, the Montreal Star pointed out editorially that if the Maritime Provinces, or any part of Canada, should be driven into serious consideration of separation from the Dominion, the result would be "to drive the trade of Canada into the north and south channels of transportation which are always open invitingly. It would mean either the disintegration or the absorption of a mutilated Canada. It would strike a blow at the heart of the Empire."

The Maritimes do not want to divide Canada. They are intensely anxious to unify it, and to add to its greatness and its prosperity. But they submit, firmly, that the provinces must march together, sharing equally the benefits of Confederation and of continued association, that there must be a well-rounded development, failing which there must arise a situation fraught with danger to the whole structure.

The Maritimes assert, and sincerely believe, that the policies through which they seek reasonable betterment, are national policies, good equally for these provinces by the sea and for the rest of Canada. They believe, moreover, that they have convinced the people in the other provinces, from the Quebec line to the Pacific Ocean, to this effect. There is no disguising the fact that this is a situation which cannot be cured by promises or by generalities merely. It is one that confronts all parties in Parliament with the manifest duty of early and resolute action, based on recognition of the fact that the national interests and the future of Canada alike demand such a course.

### FIVE THOUSAND.

If Dr. Charles E. Saunders, formerly Dominion cerealist, were to receive from the public treasury a sum of money, or a pension, fairly remunerating him for the immense addition to the material wealth of this country for which he is responsible, the sum would be staggering. Indeed, as the gain is constant and permanent, it is beyond all reckoning. The Dominion Government, somewhat late in the day, has in some sense recognized Dr. Saunders' wonderful services by giving him an annual pension of \$5,000, and as he is a man of modest life that will no doubt suffice.

Yet more and more Canadians should know definitely concerning what he did for Canada, and his work should continue to be an inspiration to others. Throughout the West for a long time past agricultural bodies have been passing resolutions calling upon the Government to reward the cerealist, and they have pointed out, rightly, that in many other lands a man who had done so much for his country would have received high distinction coupled with a large grant from the public treasury.

Dr. Saunders, after many years of

quiet and patient work, gave Canada a wheat meeting the two prime requirements of the West, a grain that ripens five or six days earlier than the famous Red Fife, and yet having the milling qualities which gave "Manitoba No. 1" a world-wide reputation. Not only does this new wheat have two priceless qualities, but the yield is heavier than that of any formerly grown. It is estimated that Dr. Saunders added at least two bushels an acre to the average crop in the West.

This is Marquis wheat. The Canadian West, which had some 20,000,000 acres in wheat in 1924, sowed Marquis almost exclusively. The Manitoba Free Press says that "if the value of one bushel for every acre of the wheat seeded, at the top price of the market, had been paid to Dr. Charles E. Saunders, it would have been none too high a reward for the services he rendered in developing this wheat, and Marquis wheat is only one of the many good things he developed for Canada during his tenure of the office of Dominion cerealist, though it is as the originator of Marquis that he is most widely known and will be longest remembered. Every true citizen of Canada will rejoice that at last a measure of justice has been done to this truly great Canadian."

### SIR JOHN'S LETTERS.

Sir Joseph Pope, who is retiring from the position of Under Secretary of State after nearly fifty years in the public service of Canada, is the subject of many pleasant references in the Canadian newspapers. Perhaps the most interesting period of his life was that between 1892 and 1891, when he was acting as private secretary to Sir John Macdonald. It is pointed out by the London Free Press that Sir John lived in the days when letter writing was a great art, that he wrote thousands of letters, and received thousands in return. It was his habit to keep everything of that sort, and it was found after his death that there were many boxes of letters and documents, many of them of the greatest public interest.

Sir Joseph Pope, during his leisure time, has been gradually examining this treasure house for a good many years. Only a year ago he published a new volume of the correspondence of Sir John, a work which was both valuable and interesting, and which threw a good deal of new light upon the life of the great statesman and upon Canadian history as well. In the opinion of the London Free Press these letters reveal Sir John as an even greater man and a broader statesman than Canadians had believed, high as he had already ranked him. The Free Press says, in speaking of Sir Joseph Pope's retirement: "Now that Sir Joseph is retiring from active work, he can do a service for students of Canadian political history if he can edit for publication further correspondence and documents on the life of the great Canadian statesman."

This is a line of work which would be bound to meet with public appreciation, and what he has already done clearly indicates that Sir Joseph is the man for the task, which with him will be in a very marked degree a labor of love.

Interest in local politics is stimulated somewhat by the announcement, or the prediction, that Hon. Dr. Baxter is to lead the Provincial opposition forces, and will take up that task when a provincial convention has been held, after the present session of parliament comes to an end.

This is Paardeberg Day. Twenty-five years ago the Canadians played their greatest part in the victory which ended with the surrender of Cronje and his Boer forces. Although that seems a long way back, and although the Boer war dwindles by comparison with the conflict which shook the world for four years, there are in Canada many still stalwart and active men who answered the call of duty when the trouble in South Africa arose, and who gave high proofs of courage and of patriotism. That was the first time in this military force raised in this country and commanded by Canadian officers fought alongside the veteran regulars of the British army in defence of the Empire. The service rendered by the Canadians in that campaign reflected high credit upon them and upon their country.

The Premier of New Brunswick has been taking up with the Dominion Government the question of the Valley Railway, once more urging that it be taken over and incorporated in the Canadian National Railways. In view of the absorption of the Western railways by the Dominion, the New Brunswick request is reasonable. In considering a larger use of the Valley line by the C. N. R., particularly the proper employment of the McGivney connection, it would be well for the Dominion Government to consider how the interests of the Valley road, and

of New Brunswick generally, would be affected by the proposed Kingsclear-Vancouver branch. New Brunswick, which paid its share of the cost of purchasing the Western railways, should be relieved of the bonds by which the Valley line was built, just as the other provinces were relieved of the bonds they guaranteed in connection with the lines taken over by the federal government.

### Odds and Ends

"You never know what you'll find among the odds and ends."—From "Notes by a Wayfarer."

#### Jacques Cartier.

(By Thomas D'Arcy McGee.)  
In the seaport of Saint Malo, 'twas a smiling morn in May,  
When the Commodore Jacques Cartier to the westward sailed away;  
In the crowded old cathedral all the town were on their knees,  
For the safe return of kinsmen from the undiscovered seas;  
And every autumn blast that swept o'er pinnacles and pier,  
Filled many hearts with sorrow and gentle hearts with fear.

A year passed o'er Saint Malo—again came round the day  
When Commodore Jacques Cartier to the westward sailed away;  
But no tidings from the absent had come, the way they went,  
And fearful were the vigils that many a maiden spent;  
And many hearts were filled with gloom, and gentle hearts with fear,  
But no tidings came from Cartier at the closing of the year.

But the earth is as the future, it hath its hidden side,  
And the Captain of Saint Malo was rejoicing in his pride;  
In the forests of the north—while his townsmen mourned his loss,  
He was rearing on Mount Royal the fleur-de-lis and cross;  
And when two months were over and added to the year,  
Saint Malo hailed him home again, cheer answering to cheer.

He told them of a region, hard, iron bound and cold,  
Nor seas of pearl abounded, nor mines of shining gold;  
Where the wind from Thule freezes the wind upon the lip,  
And the ice in spring comes sailing seaward the early ship;  
He told them of the frozen scene until they thrilled with fear,  
And piled fresh fuel on the hearth to make him better cheer.

But when he changed the strain—he told how soon he'd seen  
The young men of his crew, and how they'd won the early morn;  
In early spring the fetters that hold the waters fast,  
How the winter causeway, broken, is drifted out to sea;  
And the hills and rivers sing with pride the anthem of the free;  
How the magic wand of summer clad the landscape to his eyes.

Like the dry bones of the just, when they walk in Paradise.  
He told them of the Algonquin braves—the hunters of the wild,  
Of how the Indian mother in the forest rocks her child;  
Of how, by the fire, they fency, in a spirit good or evil, that claims their worshipping;  
Of how they brought their sick, and he ministered to their need,  
And of the wonders wrought for them through the Gospel of St. John.

He told them of the river whose mighty current gave  
Its freshness for a hundred leagues to ocean's briny wave;  
He told them of the glorious scene presented to his sight,  
What time he reared the cross and crown on Hochelaga's height,  
And of the fortress cliff that keeps of Canada the key,  
And they welcomed back Jacques Cartier from his perils o'er the sea.

Plain Teedle.  
There was a young man named Teedle, Who wouldn't accept his degree;  
He said, "It's enough to be Teedle, Without being Teedle D.D."

There's Hope Yet.  
(Shebena Economist.)  
There is hope for Ontario yet. We have not yet heard the clouds that spoiled the view of the eclipse blanned on the O. T. A. church union or bobbed hair.

They Run Together.  
(Winnipeg Free Press.)  
Farmers in Alberta are in doubt as to whether they should mix their economic organizations with politics. Of course, it would be much easier to prevent this if economics and politics could be locked into watertight compartments and kept from running into each other.

The Evolution of Slang.  
(Edmonton Journal.)

In John Galsworthy's latest novel, "The White Monkey," which has made a large sale in Canada as elsewhere, Somers Forsyte asks his son-in-law what is the meaning of the expression "to get one's goat." The young man replies that it was in use before his time, but he undertakes to explain it. How slang changes from generation to generation is the subject of a readable article in an American newspaper which furnishes a list of expressions which were familiar to present day grandparents in their youth and of those of a similar meaning used in turn by their children and grandchildren. We are informed, for instance, that what grandmother knew as "hot air" mother called "puffing," while the contemporary flapper speaks of "apple-sauce." A "wall-flower" of two generations ago has become in turn a "dead-one" and a "flat tire." The person who was successively a "heart-breaker" and a "lady-killer" is now a "sheik." The mid-Victorian youth spoke of giving a person "the laugh." Later it was the "merry hi-ho" that was given and now it is "rasberries." "Four-flusher" gave place to "sponge" and then to "lounge lizard." "Poor sport" evolved into "tight-wad" and "cheap skate."

A whole page is devoted to the subject and these are but a few of the examples taken at random. Many of us, on perusing the article, and noting the expressions which are said to be in common use nowadays and with which we are quite unfamiliar, must feel that we are hopelessly behind the times as was Mr. Forsyte.

The Little Fir-Tree.  
(Jan Struther in Westminster Gazette.)  
There are a thousand children on the hill  
Slender, green-limbed, in strength and beauty growing;  
They toss their heads and talk, as children will.

And many a night and day,  
When the wind's blowing,  
Their fathers died before they came to birth.

And many a night and day,  
Sleeping and curled and still, the children lay  
Within their mother, the brown and splendid earth.

One says: "My father was a gallant tree;  
He gave his life for Man  
When the Great War began.  
For then they slew the fir-trees one and all,  
And the whole air was thunderous with  
And the hills strewn with dead,  
Pit-props, they said . . . .  
"Now when I'm grown I hope that I  
Might and brave as he;  
I hope that I may die as my father died,  
Valiant and full of pride,  
Offering breath and bough and body and limb  
To Man, most willingly . . . .  
And, as he spoke, a man uprooted him  
And, as he spoke, a child a Christmas Tree.

#### IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Mouths and Bread.  
Clergyman—"My boy, learn to be contented. Mouths are never sent without the bread to feed them."  
Practical Boy—"Aw, but the mouths are sent to our house and the bread to yours."—London Pasting Show.

A Poor Financier.  
He—"We'll have to give up our intended Florida trip. My funds in the bank are too low."  
She—"Oh, John, why don't you keep your account in a bank that has plenty of money?"

Pat and Mick were trying their new door lock. Mick stayed inside the house and Pat outside.  
After a good rattling at the door Pat shouted, "Mick! Let me in."  
"Well, let me out," shouted Pat, "and I'll open it for you."

Not His Trade.  
Patient—"I'm rather hard up, doctor. Would you be willing to take out your bill in trade?"  
Doctor—"Yes, it might be arranged. What is your business?"  
Patient—"I'm a cornet player."—London Pasting Show.

"Who was the first man, Bobby?" asked the teacher.  
"George Washington," answered the young pupil promptly.  
"Why, no, Bobby. You ought to know better than that. It was Adam."  
"Oh, well," said Bobby, determined to prove himself right, "I wasn't counting foreigners."

Mr. Stocks (stumbling on the East Side): "Well, well, poor old guy, your father is dead. How did he die?"  
Urchin—"Aw, he strangled to death. He was stut in a lunch room eatin' some horse meat when some guy yelled 'Whoo,' and the stuff stopped in his throat."

Modern Service.  
"We get things done quicker these days," remarked the thoughtful guy.  
"Yes," replied the boob, "you don't even have to wait until the next morning to get your headache after drinking our up-to-date brand of liquor."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"The witness had been cautioned to give more precise answers.  
"We don't want your opinion of the question," the judge told him.

Roman laws forbid persons to approach within 30 feet of Rome's aqueducts.

And Mother said:  
"You may get a package of Wrigley's too"

Wise mother:—she rewards the little errand runner with something delicious, long-lasting and beneficial.

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## Mail Car Fire Gives Postal Officials Puzzles To Solve

Postmaster Alexander Thompson is having considerable difficulty in finding owners for the partially consumed mail matter burned en route from Montreal to St. John a few days ago. He is giving this matter his personal attention and little by little addresses of the charred envelopes are being deciphered. Owners are either being communicated with or furnished with the damaged mail matter.

#### Harder Than Crosswords.

Some of the letters are almost whole though bearing charred marks and water stains. Other pieces are more than half consumed and it is with these and their partial addresses the postal people are struggling. They believe the crossword puzzle idea all hollow, says the Postmaster.

Cheques for one of the Government departments had the ends burned off

but the bank has honored them just the same, under the circumstances. A family in Sussex received a remittance in American paper money more than half destroyed by fire but sufficient of the currency was left to make restitution possible. The address on the envelope was deciphered through personal acquaintanceship with the people who were to receive the matter. In fact the postmaster is using his own wide acquaintance to very good account in hitting upon clues to the names and addresses of people to whom the damaged mail was addressed.

#### Asking For Duplicates.

Local concerns who have been receiving letters, money conveyances and other mail matter from the burned bags, are wiring to the senders for duplicate copies.

ANGLO - AMERICAN ACTION IS URGED

Need For Joint Movement in China Imposed on U. S. Ambassador.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—It is understood here that Foreign Secretary Chamberlain, shortly before Ambassador Kellogg returned to the United States, impressed upon the Ambassador the advisability of joint Anglo-American action in China.

The Foreign Minister appears to have hinted that French, Japanese and Russian opposition makes it impossible to obtain results unless Britain and America act together. Ambassador Kellogg's replies are said to have been non-committal.

INDEPENDENT BILL READ SECOND TIME

Motion to Establish Equality of Sexes in Cases of Divorce Heard.

OTTAWA, Feb. 26.—The first recorded vote of the session came tonight when a bill sponsored by J. T. Shaw, Independent member for West Calgary, to establish equality between husband and wife insofar as grounds for divorce are concerned, received second reading by a majority of 49.

Members voting for the bill numbered 109; while 69 voted against it. The Prime Minister and leaders of the Opposition and the Progressive party united in support of the bill, which had the approval of the great majority of members of the conservative and Progressive parties. Opposition came chiefly from a portion of the Liberal party.

But Is It Kind of Expensive.

(From the Dundalk Herald.)  
Tells this one on your Valentine, fellows. You say: "I'll betcha a nickel I can kiss you without touching you." She'll likely reply: "Huh, I just bet you can't!" Kiss her. Recovering from the shock her reply might be: "Well, you touched me!" Then you exclaim: "No! Did I?" And hand her a nickel.

Roman laws forbid persons to approach within 30 feet of Rome's aqueducts.

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## \$21,319,300 FOR AIR ESTIMATES VOTED

Secretary Declares System Will Make Enemies Hesitate in Attacking.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The House of Commons tonight passed the air estimates presented by Sir Samuel Hoare, Air Secretary, and involving an expenditure of £21,319,300.

The secretary declared that a sys-

tem of air defense would probably be established so as to make the risk of attacking Great Britain a very serious consideration in the mind of any country.

Premier Baldwin, speaking later, said the Foreign Office estimates would come up for debate March 5, when, if the question of disarmament was raised, Mr. Chamberlain, the Foreign Secretary, would give all information possible.

Blue black ink turns black on drying due to the iron in it taking up oxygen.

The United Kingdom is the best honey market of the United States.

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