

# The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 29, 1918.

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## THE PROVINCIAL ROADS.

The fact that the provincial department of public works intends to continue its progressive roads policy this year is good news for the people. Less damage has been done to roads and bridges this spring than usual, because of the dry season, and there will be less temporary repair work necessary. With a good start and a well-defined programme, Hon. Mr. Veniot's department will be able to make a very substantial improvement in the roads, adding to last year's work a considerable mileage of what may be termed permanent roads, and which, with a proper patrol system may easily be kept in excellent condition. The province is fortunate in having at the head of the department a man who sees the roads for himself and therefore knows what is being done. He has been handicapped by the traditions of former governments, which regarded road expenditure as so much money to be planted where it would do the most good in a political sense, and doubtless it will be some time longer before the petty profiteers and political road-makers have been entirely eliminated; but Mr. Veniot may rest assured that in sending them about their business he will gain far more friends than he will lose. Despite opposition criticism, last year's work on the roads was a remarkably good beginning, and every mile of permanent road properly patrolled will be a valuable asset for the province, and a benefit to the farmers far greater than they now realize. You cannot set down in dollars and cents the value of a system of good roads, any more than you can the value of a public school system; but the value is there, and the better the roads the larger the return in useful service for the community.

## THE PARAMOUNT DUTY.

If there is a seeming scarcity of help for the farmers; if production cannot be speeded up in this province, it is because the province is not mobilized for war, and is not taking the war seriously. It is quite possible to spare all the men summoned for military service and yet have an abundance of labor for the farms. It may not be as well-skilled labor as could be desired, but there is a war on, and the man who desires to help in winning the war will gladly avail himself of what is to be had, and get results. There is such a thing as obstinate selfishness, but this is no time for his exercise. Nor can any man excuse himself by pointing to his neighbor, or putting his finger on an obvious injustice, or a failure on the part of somebody to perform a manifest duty. Our business now is to win the war, and the only man who has a license to offer criticism is he who is himself doing his utmost. The government of Canada has been very lenient. It has left a great deal to the people themselves, because it has been reluctant to adopt compulsion of any sort. England tried that course, France tried it, and it failed. Germany did not try it, and today we are all amazed and shocked at the terrific power of Germany after nearly four years of war. Germany forced us to use gas. Germany forced us to do many things that were not in our minds to do. She is forcing us now to adopt an approach at least to her methods of getting men, munitions and food. The people of New Brunswick can afford to do a great deal more than they have ever attempted to do. They have suffered no hardships. They have gone on making money and spending it. True, they have given money freely for patriotic purposes, and many have worked hard, but when we consider the iron sacrifice the English and French people are making daily there is no merit in our work, since the war is as much ours as theirs.

Consider the German method, as set forth by Prof. Moulton of the University of Chicago, in an appeal to the American people to eliminate non-essentials and get down to a real war basis. Of Germany he says:—

"As soon as it became apparent that the war would be long-continued, Germany set about the elimination of all non-essential industries. Factories which had been producing luxuries were converted into munitions or supply plants, where possible; and where this was not possible they were closed down. The war news transferred for war service in essential industries. Germany thus early got right down to brass tacks. Indeed in some instances Germany did not even wait to discover whether the drive on Paris would be successful. Secretary Baker tells us that he knows of one case where within twenty-four hours after the outbreak of the war one-half of the laborers in a non-essential industry were placed in the army and the remainder transferred for war service in essential industries. A selective draft for industry appears to have been a part of Germany's war preparedness. Germany recognized, in other words, that for every soldier at the front there must be several (industrial) soldiers at the rear; and the principles of military organization were made to apply to every aspect of national life. A certain percentage of the national energy was put on the battle-fronts; a certain percentage was devoted to the creation of submarines; a certain percentage to the manufacture of supplies and munitions;

and a certain percentage to the production of foodstuffs. All useless effort, all waste motion, as far as possible, was thus eliminated—everything was arranged with an eye single to military victory."

This Germany did more than three years ago. This we have not done yet. We are only beginning to do it. What we need more than anything else is a baptism of the spirit that strives for victory and disregards all non-essential things, for if we fail to achieve victory nothing else matters. The man or woman who assumes a detached position and denies any personal responsibility is, at least in a passive sense, a traitor. Not to dwell on past mistakes, not to encourage a present feeling of doubt or discouragement; not to express fear that Germany will win; but to bend every energy to the task of winning, each doing what he or she may be able to do in real work, or the personal sacrifice of non-essential things, breathing always the spirit of confident determination in the face of every discouragement, is the duty of this hour.

The Standard has convinced itself that the Foster government will spend more than its estimates for this year. That is of course possible, but what most concerns the people is the value they get for the money spent. The Foster government will at least endeavor to spend wisely, for the public welfare, and not for the special benefit of partisans and profiteers. The Standard is also worried lest the investigation into the charges against Hon. Mr. Currie and that into the Gloucester road charges should not be properly and thoroughly conducted. This is perhaps natural. The Standard's political friends never conducted a thorough investigation. The Foster government, however, has already established a record for thoroughness, and may be relied on to continue that policy. It may even consider the matter of that potato transaction and the \$82,000.

If it be true that it is easier to get boys for the farms than to persuade some farmers to have the boys, it is time to remind those farmers that a Prussian drill sergeant would be much less desirable than any effort they are asked to put forth to help win the war. There is not one brand of patriotism for the town and another for the country. The town must clean up its losses and those who do needless tasks, and the country must do its utmost to increase food production.

As spring advances interest in war gardens should grow. Every pound of vegetables raised and consumed will help to release other foods for export to France, where famine will prevail before the year is out if America fails to provide supplies of food. Even if the war ends this year there will be the same threat of famine.

If the Channel ports should be lost the war would still go on. Democracy must win this war or perish from the earth, only to come into its own again through long years of agony. The catastrophe must be averted now, whatever the cost. There can be no compromise with the Hun.

President Gompers says there can be no human brotherhood until Germany has been utterly defeated. The assertion is perfectly true. The German people must see their idols broken and learn the lesson of true democracy.

The getting together of the Rotarians, Knights of Columbus and other patriotic groups of the city to whom they have agreed to be Big Brothers is an event that should give a general impetus to the Big Brother movement in St. John.

Air-craft are becoming a more and more important factor in the war. When the Allies are able to blind the enemy and rain bombs upon him from great air fleets, they will have gained a great advantage.

The French premier still expresses confidence in the ability of the Allies to check the German drive. The war news is not of a cheering nature, but there is at least a good fighting chance to save the Channel ports.

The Soldiers of the Soil are being enrolled this week. Boys should be encouraged to go to the farms and by their labor help to win the war.

There is a rumor that a new government has been formed in Petrograd and that it has denounced the treaty with Germany.

It might be worth while to consider whether there is any remedy open to the city in regard to an inadequate street railway service.

Russia is paying the price of her folly in listening to the blandishments of Germany.

Holland and Germany appear to have come to terms for the present. Germany has the best of the bargain.

## THE REAL FOOD QUESTIONS



—Reynold's Newspaper, London.

## FOOD WASTAGE IN TORONTO

Between April 12 and 18 Large Amount Had to be Destroyed

According to information received by Street Commissioner George Wilson, 17,910 pounds of onions, turnips, apples, potatoes and fish had to be destroyed at the incinerator and destructor in Toronto between April 12 and 18, inclusive. During the same time 17,940 pounds of apples and oranges had to be destroyed.

Thus a total of 17,920 tons of foodstuffs was destroyed at the two plants between these dates.

"Why had all this foodstuffs to be destroyed?" Mr. Wilson was asked.

"Because it was kept in storage so long that it was unfit for human consumption," was his answer.

Mr. Wilson has prepared a report for the Canada Food Board, giving the names of the parties from whom this stuff was received, and a copy is being sent to Dr. Hastings, one of the honorary food controllers, so that he may take steps to prosecute where he deems it advisable.

## AS A CHILD SEES IT

(From Women's Section, Department of Public Information.)

It is a popular error to imagine that children are not able to realize the truth about this great war. The same thing might with justice be said of many adults and it is open to question whether any adult can state the doctrine of "Substitution, Support and Carry On" more clearly and forcibly than has been done by Josephine Tryon, a pupil of the Manitoba School for the Deaf. Her letter, which follows, deserves careful reading.

"Some people thought that deaf people were useless when war spread its dark wings over our country. It is true that deaf boys cannot become soldiers and deaf girls cannot become nurses however much they wish to, but helping our loved country to win a war does not lie totally in that quarter.

"To begin with, did we not give up our comfortable buildings in Tuxedo Park, to be turned into a convalescent home for returned soldiers and take very uncomfortable quarters instead?

"Most of our boys have spent all of their vacations during the last three years, working on farms, in order to let the hearing men join our country's forces.

"Our girls have spent most of their spare moments knitting socks, muffers, wristlets and other trench comforts. Some of the girls also spend their vacations in helping on farms so that our wounded soldiers can go to nurse our wounded soldiers.

"Since the war started our girls have made socks, sleeping-bags, scarfs and these things have been sent off. Why even our smallest girls are learning to knit scarfs while those of eleven, twelve and thirteen years of age are actually knitting socks as though they had had years of experience in that line.

"Our pupils have saved their pocket money in order to give relief to the poor widows and their children or to send cigarettes to the soldiers.

"Yes, although we have been deprived of our hearing and are therefore unable to take up active service to aid the Allies we do what we can, and we do it cheerfully, not with a fear that others will think we are selfish if we do not contribute.

"Many of us have lost our brothers or fathers, but we gave them up, duty at we loved them, for our country's sake.

"We also help to win the war by doing without the costly food we were used to. We save all we can in order to help the Allies to overthrow the enemy.

"Yet hearing people think that we do nothing to help win the war but if they were in our place for a few days they would change their minds to a considerable extent.

"In our household science class we are using rye flour and have already sent our former supply of white flour to our soldiers.

"This coming summer you need not be surprised if you hear that deaf girls from this school are raising war gardens in order to cut down the 'high cost of living.' I am one that is planning to help my country in this way, and I am determined to make my plan end in the right way.

"Now, dear reader, you will probably be tired of my dry little story but even if you have found out that the pupils of this school have set their hearts on having this war end in favor of the Allies.

"JOSEPHINE TRYON."

Robert Lansing, U. S. secretary of state, for a year this country has been engaged in war. The accomplishment of the year has been great and we ought to feel proud that the whole nation has so splendidly responded to the call of duty. Great as have been our achievements, however, we must not relax our efforts, for the road to success may be long and arduous."

A famous club gains a new and distinguished member when a Clemeniteau bluntly says, "Czerin lied."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Foley's Stove Linings THAT LAST TELEPHONE MAIN 1801

Don't Let The Fire Burn Thru To The Oven

## MUCH SILK IS BEING IMPORTED

Canada New Bringing In Large Quantities

United States Weavers do Big Trade With Canadian Dealers—Trade With Europe Has Divided During War Period, But Lines Hang On

(Toronto Globe.)

Canada is becoming an increasingly large buyer of silks. With the costs of other fabrics going up higher and higher, the average buyer finds it just as easy to purchase silk and silk fabrics as cotton and woolen fabrics. Today a far wider range and variety of types of people purchase silk goods than heretofore, and the silk industry is flourishing accordingly.

During the whole fiscal year ending March, 1918, Canadian imported silk and silk fabrics to the value of \$10,884,578. During the first eight months of the last fiscal year silks to the total value of \$9,000,000 were imported, and the total imports for the year are expected to overtop \$12,000,000.

Before the war Switzerland and France enjoyed a very profitable trade with Canada, but this, unfortunately for the European merchants and the Canadian buyers, has been very largely cut off. There are some lines, in which the French silk, is supposed to excel, which still come to Canada. The French government facilitates this, being naturally very much interested in the French silk trade's position after the war.

But since the war closed many markets for Canadian buyers, the United States has taken advantage of the situation and captured a great deal of Canadian trade. Being neutral, she has been able to import all kinds of German dyes and much needed in silks for ties and ribbons. There are no accessories means of providing this report, although some people declare it to be absolutely true.

Over 1,125,038 worth; the United States; \$1,475,735; practically all the \$569,701 worth of silk just received from the cocoons was brought into Canada from the United States. The other items of Canadian silk imports during this eight-month period are: Silk handkerchiefs, \$86,290; sewing and embroidery silks, \$106,450; and silk goods, \$893,774; and silks mixed with other fabrics, \$46,728.

Trade in the United States.

As Canada buys most of her silk from the United States it is interesting to discover where the United States weaver gets his supplies. It appears that raw silks at \$5 per pound has apparently no terrors for the people of the United States or the manufacturers who supply them the \$500,000,000 worth of silks goods which they consumed in 1917. A lecture recently delivered before a class in the educational department of the National City Bank of New York showed that the value of raw silk imported into the United States in the calendar year 1917 was double that of 1915 and her exceeded that of any earlier year.

Never before has so much raw silk been imported; never before has so high a price been paid for it, and never before has so great a value of silk manufactures been brought in from abroad. The quantity of raw silk imported in 1917 was 36,300,000 pounds against 32,450,000 pounds in 1916 and 30,979,000 in 1915 and the value, including 400,000 pounds of "waste," \$19,000,000 against \$15,000,000 in 1916 and \$98,000,000 in 1915. The average price of the raw silk imported in 1917 was over \$5 per pound against \$4.92 per pound in 1916, the former high record, and \$3.53 per pound in 1915. During the second half of the year 1917 the import price ranged as high as \$5.75 per pound in certain months.

Heavy Imports.

This importation of nearly \$200,000,000 worth of raw silk suggests that the value of the silk goods turned out by the manufacturers of the country in 1917 was probably about \$500,000,000, since a comparison of the census figures of the silk manufactures of the country in 1914 and 1909 is the stated value of silk imported in these respective years, shows that the factories turned out about \$2,500 worth of finished goods for each \$1 worth of raw silk imported. Should this relation of the value of output to the value of raw material imported hold

Oakland, Cal.—"I suffered from irregularities and congestion, so I could not stand on my feet for any long period of time and did not sleep well. The physician who treated me did not seem to help me any and a friend advised me to try Nuxated Iron Compound. I took it and before I realized it I was well. I shall recommend your valuable remedy to my friends."

My friend, "Mrs. L. H. De Weese, 608 Alcatraz Ave., Oakland, Cal.

"Every woman at some period or other in her life suffers from just such disturbances as did Mrs. De Weese, and if there is no interested friend to advise, let this be a reminder that this famous root and herb remedy has been over-splendidly responded to the call of duty. Great as have been our achievements, however, we must not relax our efforts, for the road to success may be long and arduous."

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## Springtime's Spirit

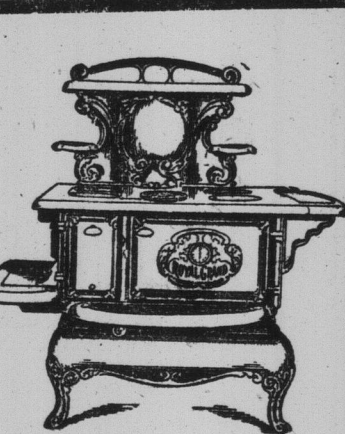


is catching and we do not want Mother Nature to outdo us in dressing up. Get started early with this spring's overhauling—and get your supplies from us. We have everything you need for painting, beautifying and preserving your property.

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## Where Does The Household Expense Go?

Nearly all the household expense goes through the kitchen. The largest items are fuel and food. It is easier to waste a penny in the kitchen than anywhere else.

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of the silk imported into Canada, comes to Canada from Japan by way of the United States.

Japanese Want Direct Trade.

In this connection, the Japanese are busily seeking direct commercial connections with Canadian houses. A prominent Japanese merchant recently informed The Globe that Japan intends adopting a very vigorous trade policy in Canada. Canada is declared to be the best biggest market to the United States for Japanese goods, and the Japanese merchant wants to get on the "ground floor while the getting is good."

While large quantities of raw silk spun and in the cloth, are imported into Canada, quite a lot of made-up materials are also brought in. During a set period of eight months, silk blouses and shirts worth \$70,086 were imported, also silk socks and stockings worth \$28,197. This amount \$239,399 worth came from the United States, the small remainder from the United Kingdom.

Over \$1,584 worth of silks not specially provided for under the captions set out in the department of commerce returns, were imported. Of this amount \$448,702 came from the United States, \$96,450 from Japan and \$70,894 from the United Kingdom. The figure for the United Kingdom is away below the average, while the return for the imports from the United States are unusually high.

Swiss Text Fabrics.

That the Canadian Beau Brummel still needs and gets his silk necktie and cravat is proven by the fact that during this eight-month period over \$487,680 worth of silk fabrics for neckties was imported from Germany. Being neutral, she has been able to import all kinds of German dyes and much needed in silks for ties and ribbons. There are no accessories means of providing this report, although some people declare it to be absolutely true.

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good for the calendar year 1917, the value of the silk product of the country for that year would approximate \$500,000,000 at factory prices against \$284,000,000 in 1914; \$107,000,000 in 1899; \$87,000,000 in 1890; \$41,000,000 in 1879 and \$12,000,000 in 1869. The value of silk manufactures imported in 1917 was \$397,118,000 and exceeded that of any earlier year.

None of the textile manufacturing industries of the country has shown as rapid an increase as has that of silk, which the entire raw material is imported. The value of the manufactures of silk as reported by the census grew from \$41,000,000 in 1879 to \$254,000,000 in 1914, the latest census; that of cotton goods from \$192,000,000 in 1879 to \$701,000,000 in 1914, and that of woollens from \$238,000,000 in 1879 to \$466,000,000 in 1914. Thus silk manufactures in 1914 were six times as much in value as in 1879; cotton goods three and one-half times as much, and woollens only twice as much as in 1879, these figures being in all cases factory valuations of output, supplied by the census reports.

GETTING POTATOES FROM THIS PROVINCE

(Toronto Globe.)

Further steps were taken by the department of agriculture last week to organize the fertile northern part of the province to grow unlimited quantities of seed potatoes this year. Mr. Justice Miller, Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture; A. H. McClellan, vegetable specialist; Dr. C. A. Zavitz, professor of food husbandry at the O. A. C., and W. O. Johnson, chief potato inspector for the province, have just returned from a week's tour through Muskoka, Thunder Bay, Parry Sound, Rainy River, and Nipissing Districts.

No attempt was made to organize the farmers into societies. Rather the idea was to show the farmers the advantages of such organization and allow them to do the rest. The chief desire of the moment was to interest the farmers sufficiently to have them co-operate in purchasing New Brunswick seed potatoes, which the government is bringing into the province in carload lots. As a result five carloads of this certified seed will be required for this district.

This summer inspectors of the department will visit the farms on which the potatoes are being grown. In the fall the potatoes, if they come up to standard, will be certified. Mr. Justice Miller is doing to encourage potato-growing, and Mr. McClellan spoke on the practical side of the subject.

DISLOYAL TALK BRINGS HIM FINE OF \$200.

Leo Snyder, an employee of a munitions firm in Toronto, was fined \$200 and costs or sixty days by Police Magistrate Kingsford for spreading false reports likely to interfere with recruiting or to prejudice His Majesty's forces. Snyder was born in Canada, his parents Alsacians. Snyder's utterances have been questioned by his fellow-employees, and in response to the allegations of cowardice and lack of patriotism Snyder offered to enlist, but was rejected. Snyder is alleged to have said that Canadians were foolish to enlist, and that the British would never recover from the German attacks.

Larry Gold, alias Kelly, a Russian, charged with a like offense, was sentenced to ninety days on the jail farm.

NORTHCLIFFE RESIGNS.

The Standard, London, says that Lord Northcliffe, chairman of the London headquarters of the British mission to the United States and director of propaganda in enemy countries, has tendered his resignation because of ill health. Sir William Weir has been appointed minister of air forces in succession to Lord Rothermere, brother of Lord Northcliffe, who resigned yesterday.

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TOWN PLANNING IN HALIFAX

The opportunity is not being lost at Halifax to prepare town planning schemes for the devastated and other parts of the city in which future development is likely to take place. The schemes are being prepared by the Town Planning Boards of the city and county under the advice of the Commission of Conservation. Thomas Adams, town planning advisor of the commission, has been appointed consultant to both boards for five large areas in co-operation with the local engineers. H. L. Seymour, D. L. S., of the surveyor general's staff has been loaned to the Commission of Conservation to assist with this work.

The opposition to town planning in Halifax that has been reported is not to the principle of town planning nor to the work being done by the town planning boards. What was objected to was the proposal that the Relief Commission should take over the town planning of the devastated area. As a result of this objection, the Relief Commission will leave the planning to be undertaken by the existing boards. The main idea behind the objection was that the work of street planning and building regulation should be undertaken by representative and elected bodies. T. S. Rogers, K. C., chairman of the Relief Commission, has indicated his desire to co-operate with the town planning boards. One scheme is being prepared for the city of Halifax for an area of about 825 acres and four schemes are being drafted for adjacent parts of the county of Halifax, comprising an aggregate area of about 20,000 acres. The first stage in the preparation of the city scheme has been completed and the planning of the devastated area is being pushed forward by Mr. Adams, in co-operation with Mr. W. Johnson, city engineer of Halifax.