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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1920

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 21, 1920.

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TRAFALGAR DAY.

Throughout the British Empire today the thoughts of the people will be turned to Nelson and Trafalgar. Naval supremacy has been the breath of life to the Empire both before and after Nelson. The Dominion of Canada, with a newly constructed merchant marine, seeking trade in all parts of the world, has a new and more vital interest in the navy that protects its commerce. Glancing back down the years to the beginning of British sea-power it is seen that there have always been naval heroes in times of great stress, whether they were hearts of oak or hearts of steel. The naval history of Britain is a proud possession, and it is all summed up in Nelson and Trafalgar, as typical of the heroism, the patriotic devotion and the fighting quality of her defenders on the deep.

It is fitting that the period of the anniversary of Trafalgar should be chosen as the time for an appeal in behalf of the Navy League of Canada. That League must become an organization of steadily growing importance. We have a Canadian Merchant Marine, and there are many new ventures of service for young men, and especially the young men of the sea-board provinces. The particular task of the Navy League is to arouse interest in this phase of national development, and to care for the men and their families who are associated with naval and marine service. It is a great and worthy task, and deserves the united support of the people.

WEST INDIA FREIGHT RATES.

There ought to be a very good reason for increasing freight rates between this port and the West Indies, as proposed by the Royal Mail Steamship Packet Line, before it is endorsed by provincial shippers. Ocean freights generally are not rising, but dropping, and tramp steamers are being laid up by various owners. The steamship line in question increased rates during the war, and shippers paid them. The line is subsidized. Has it been made very clear that the company should receive this special consideration not shared by steamship owners in general? The government itself owns steamers, and if there is a deficit in operation the people of the country must pay it. Would it be possible to place vessels of the line on the coastwise route? It is true they could not accommodate the passenger traffic as do the Royal Mail boats, but they might serve for a time. It is rather strange that this question of increased rates was not brought up made the subject of a resolution at the conference in Ottawa, when the whole question of steamer service was under consideration. The matter is not one to be lightly passed over, and the commercial interests of St. John should look into it very carefully before arriving at a decision which might have a rather serious effect. Comparisons with service via New York must be made with regard to the fact that the New York steamers get no subsidy. It may be possible that the company can show that failure to increase the rates would injure Canadian trade with the West Indies, but that should be done before its request for higher rates is endorsed.

TRADE IN U. S. QUIET.

Bradstreet's report on the state of trade in the United States says there has been a check to activity in many lines, due partially to warm weather, low prices for farm produce, and unwillingness of wholesalers and retailers to buy because of uncertainty as to prices in general. Apart from filling former orders, manufacturing is restricted, to harvest needs. The report says country buying is quieter and mail order houses doing less business. There is said to be a feeling, however, that prices have gone low enough, and that there should be no further reductions to induce buying. As for the direction in the wool and apparel trades and some other lines have not produced the desired result, the buyers still holding off. The financial situation is described as more cheerful, and one western banker is quoted as saying easier money is in reasonably near prospect. Coal is in better supply, as less of it is being used in industry. The lumber trade is very dull. Crop reports are good. There has been some increase in the number of failures. The weekly food index showed a decline for last week. The report says that to find a parallel to the present quiet state of trade it is necessary to go back to the period following the outbreak of the war.

The appointment of Hon. E. A. Smith as chairman of the Hydro-Electric Commission will be universally approved. He proved an exceptionally able administrator of the crown lands department, and may be relied on to give excellent service in this new capacity. The appointment will strengthen public confidence in the determination of the government to carry on vigorously and in the public interest its hydro-electric policy. Hon. Mr. Smith was a member of the government which developed the policy, and is therefore well qualified to take

OIL IN FAR NORTH.

The announcement regarding an oil well, which is said to yield a flow of 1,000 to 1,500 barrels per day, near Fort Norman, close to the Arctic Circle, is hailed as news of the first importance. Mr. H. B. McKinnon, a staff correspondent of the Toronto Globe, traveled from Edmonton to Fort Vermilion, on the Peace River, with the party credited with striking the new well, and left them when they embarked at Fort Chipewyan, on their voyage down the Mackenzie River. He says that when in Edmonton last month, and which he heard that the party had discovered oil, and heard it again on the Peace River in September. The strike has been made by the Imperial Oil Company. Captain J. Willis Croft, in a telegram from Fort McMurray, confirms the report and adds: "Believed big well beds not touched yet," and in this connection Mr. McKinnon says:

"A rather extraordinary sequel to the report from Fort McMurray is provided in news just received from Peace River. Crossing that a rush of gas sufficiently powerful to blow water above the derrick has been encountered at the 'Victory' well, near The Crossing. This is the well upon which I based a story sent from Edmonton last month, and which I labelled as a 'mystery well' because of certain characteristics that attached to its operations. The 'Victory' struck this powerful rush of gas approximately at 1,200 feet—it was 1,200 feet deep when I mailed the letter to the Globe—and at Peace River Crossing the oil bearing strata occur at a depth of some 1,500 feet. These same strata come very close to the surface at Fort Norman, according to geological experts, and it may be more than coincidental that a 'strike' has occurred almost simultaneously at The Crossing and Fort Norman."

Mr. McKinnon explains why news is slow in coming from Fort Norman when he says: "The only means of travel from Peace River Crossing to Fort Norman is by boat, by way of the Peace River, Lake Athabasca, Slave River, Great Slave Lake and the Mackenzie—a trip approximately of a thousand miles. Navigation on the Peace was suspended when I left The Crossing last month, and progress might almost be impossible until sufficient snow falls to render feasible the use of dog sleighs."

All explorers and missionaries who have come to us from the far north have unanimously declared that great region to be rich in other resources than furs and fish, and if oil has really been found in quantity near Fort Norman it means the beginning of a most important development, and will help to solve the problem of Canada's oil supply.

It does not make any difference to the C. P. R., so far as navigation is concerned, whether the new railway bridge at the reversing falls is high or low. The bridge would not suffer by being low. It would be the vessels that would suffer injury and loss. To leave the matter entirely at the discretion of the railway authorities would therefore mean that the present plans would be carried out, and the railway bridge would be lower than the other. It is up to the city authorities to act in the matter, and they should not allow themselves to be put off by any colorless excuses.

A protracted coal strike in Great Britain would not only diminish to an enormous extent the earnings of the people, but would increase the cost of living. These combined results would be disastrous to an extent that should give the strikers pause. The whole nation would suffer, and it does not at present appear that any good end could be served.

The council of the Ottawa Board of Trade has endorsed proportional representation. The system has been successfully tested in Winnipeg and elsewhere in the west, and is receiving more general attention in the country at large.

If last night's report is confirmed by the final figures, prohibition appears to have received a temporary set-back in British Columbia.

The sugar refiners are not to have their way, and, as the Toronto Globe remarks, the sugar outlook is sweetening.

With a record wheat crop the price of flour in Canada is still held at a high figure. It ought to come down.

PARIS PUTS LID DOWN

TIGHT ON GAMBLING. Paris, Oct. 21.—The "fig" has been shut down tight on gambling in Paris. Until a few days ago nearly every block in some districts held a gambling house, more or less open. Paribank was one of the most popular games, and poker, baccarat, black jack and dice games flourished. Without warning, the police started their campaign by swooping down on several palatial billiard parlors on the Grand Boulevards. It was found that thousands of people bet millions of francs in these places daily on the results of the games played by professionals. One of the billiard rooms was the most famous in Europe. It has been closed for an indefinite period.

FROM ROYAL TRAINER

TO STREET HAWKER. London, Oct. 21.—Charles Solloway, who used to train the racemasters of the Russian Emperor is now selling matches and chocolates in the street here.



(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

MAN AND HIS JOB.

From Massachusetts comes the news, "The labor market's glutted," and many workers have the blues who lately paved and strutted. Then toilers were in such demand that they could name their wages; there never was a snap so grand in all the bygone ages. A dicken shirt that cost much less adorned the haughty toiler, and in a diamond studded pair he picked his princely dinner. The blacksmith's wife, in royal furs, went gadding here and yonder; a stately limousine was hers, which made the banker ponder. It couldn't last, this sort of thing, it jarred all sense and reason; a janitor may be a king—but only for a season. And now the earnest student sees the signs of sense again; he's getting the boys' work content, and we can see employers on their knees, beseeching and imploring, that we would help them put up their briny teardrops pouring. And now they're standing on their feet, and if we'd earn their money, we have to seek them, looking sweet, and cut out trousers funny. To enter, wiser thingumbobs we go, by easy stages; soon men will learn to guard their jobs, and prize their weekly wages.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

IN 1812.

The week of October 21, 1812, found a critical state of affairs existing in Lower Canada, England, and the United States had declared war against each other a few months before and on September 22 General Hampton had entered Canada from the United States at Odelltown with more than 5,000 troops. Finding that his advance was opposed by the outposts of De Salaberry, he retraced his steps and made a fresh advance by the route leading to the Chateaugay.

De Salaberry with a small force of 800 Voltigeurs advanced to meet him at Chateaugay, where he fortified his position with a block-house and an abatis. Here he was unexpectedly reinforced by the heroic McDonnell, who had made a wonderful march in rapid style from Kingston, Ont. On October 26 two lines of the enemy, not knowing of the arrival of the Kingston soldiers, advanced to crush the gallant De Salaberry. At first the one column succeeded in driving the Canadians from their lines with the single exception of the lean and small drummer boy who stuck with him. But McDonnell was ready in ambush with his fighters and by a clever arrangement of his buglers in the forest he made the foe think that a great force was preparing to strike a deadly blow at his army. Terrifying yells by the Canadian Indians added to the discomfort of the invaders and suddenly they broke and fled. The second column of the invaders met with a red hot reception when they tried to advance and were mowed down by a volley of shot at a river crossing. It soon gave up the attempt to crush the Canadians and retreated as fast as possible to safety territory. This brilliant action and victory with that at Chateaugay, the two victories, terminated the American invasion of Lower Canada for that year, while the morale of the French-Canadians, who were almost entirely responsible for the successes, was raised to a wonderful strength. Another result of the two victories was the abandonment of all thought of attacking Montreal that fall.

ADMIRALS ALL.

(Today, Oct. 21, is Nelson Day.) Birmingham, Grenville, Raleigh, Drake, Here's to the bold and free, Benbow, Collingwood, Byron, Blake, Hall to the Kings of the Sea, Admirals all, for you have made, Honor be yours and fame, And honor, as long as waves shall break, To Nelson's press name.

Essex was fighting in Cadiz Bay. With the galleons fair in sight; Howard at last must give him his way. And the word was passed to fight. Never was schooner gayer than he. Since holidays first began; He tossed his bonnet to wind and sea. And under the guns he ran.

Drake no devil nor Spaniard feared, Their cities he took to sack; He snatched his Catholic Majesty's beard And harried his ships to wreck. He was playing a Plymouth a rubber of bowls. When the great armada came; But he said, "They must wait their turn, good souls."

And he stooped—and finished the game. Fifteen sails were the Dutchman bold, Duncan he had but two; But he encircled them fast where the Texel shoaled.

And his colors at the flew. "I've taken the depth to a fathom," he cried, "And I'll sink with a right good will. For I know when we're all of us under the tide. My flag will be fluttering still."

Splinters were flying above, below, When Nelson said the word: "Mark you, I wouldn't be elsewhere now." Said he, "for a thousand pound, The Admiral's signal had him fly. But he wickedly wagged his head, He clapped the glass to his sightless eye. And—"You damned if I see it!" he said.

Admirals all, they said their say "The others are ringing still!" Admirals all, they went their way To the haven under the hill. But they left us a kingdom none can take.

The realm of the circling sea, To be ruled by the rightful sons of Blake. And the Rodneys yet to be.

Admirals all for England's sake, Honor be yours and fame, And honor, as long as waves shall break, To Nelson's peerless name.—Newbolt.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

He was being demolished, and didn't care what happened. "Now, my men," sneered the sergeant-major haughtily, "answer my questions smartly. What did you do for a living before you joined the army?" "I was a clerk in an office," replied the private happily. "What did you do for a living before you joined the army?" "I was a clerk in an office," replied the private happily. "What did you do for a living before you joined the army?" "I was a clerk in an office," replied the private happily.

Precision.

An American sugar planter in Hawaii entertaining a friend, took him to the side of a historic volcano and said:

LOCAL NEWS

Rev. W. C. Machum, field secretary of the Baptist Sunday school board, is in the city to attend the boys' work conference and the St. John County Sunday School Teachers' Association.

At the fifth annual convention of the Moving Picture Exhibitors' League of the Maritime Provinces, held in Halifax yesterday, P. G. Spencer of this city was elected president, and W. C. McKay secretary-treasurer.

An alarm of fire was rung in from Box 16 in Brussels street last evening at 7:40, for a fire on the window sill of a house owned by Louis Brager, 254 Brussels street. The chemical from No. 3 Engine House responded and extinguished the blaze before much damage was done.

John Gill, 13 Johnston street, elevator boy at the Victoria Hotel, suffered injury to his foot yesterday afternoon by having it caught in the elevator. He was taken to the General Public Hospital where an X-ray was taken of the injury, showing four broken bones. The lad was reported last evening as resting comfortably.

There was a good attendance of members at the regular meeting of the Shipbuilders' Local 1089 in their hall in Carleton last evening. The time of the meeting was taken up in the discussion of plans for the winter, the wage question and the matter of working hours. D. B. Webster, president, presided over the meeting.

The Martello Band fair closed last night after a most successful run and its sponsors are greatly satisfied with the results. There was a big crowd of people and the games had good patronage. In the afternoon the time of the meeting was taken up in the discussion of plans for the winter, the wage question and the matter of working hours. D. B. Webster, president, presided over the meeting.

At a meeting of the newly elected council of the St. John County Club held yesterday, W. F. Hatheway was in the chair, and regret was expressed that Dr. J. A. Esbey, who was elected president, was unable to accept the office. P. N. Woodley accepted the office of recording secretary, and the following members were selected for the council: Archdeacon Crowfoot, Miss Alice Lockhart, Mrs. A. Esbey and Mrs. R. O'Brien. The junior club also made a good start yesterday afternoon. A special session of the club will be called to elect a new president.

A social and dance was held last evening under the auspices of the local Jewish charities in the assembly hall of the synagogue in Wellington row. Mrs. B. Jacobson and Mrs. J. Goldman were the joint conveners. An electric reading lamp was drawn for and won by F. J. Hollis, of 60 W. street. A silver first prize was won by Miss Ray Gilbert. The reception committee was as follows: Mrs. S. Levine, Mrs. S. Miller and Mrs. N. Rudovich. Mrs. Groswelder and Mrs. Levine were in charge of the drawings. A large crowd attended the affair and a very satisfactory sum was realized toward the city charities.

HOSPITAL COMMISSIONERS MEET.

At a meeting of the board of commissioners of the General Public Hospital last night, Hon. Dr. J. W. Daniel, the chairman, presided. The doctors approved of the programme laid down by the College of Surgeons for standardized hospitals, but it was stated that a larger staff and more intensive study would be required for a higher class of work. It was decided to call for tenders for the connecting of the epidemic hospital with the heating plant of the main hospital, the plans of the consulting engineer having been approved. Among the reasons given by Miss Maud Retzlaff, superintendent of nurses, for tendering her resignation was the smallness of the remuneration given. Dr. H. Hedden, superintendent of the hospital, said last night that the St. John hospital was giving about an average salary. Dr. Hedden read a report of the meeting of the American Hospital Association, which he attended in Montreal recently.

"That crater, Joe, is just 70,000 years old." "But why the four?" asked his guest. "Oh, I've been here four years," was the reply. "It was 70,000 when I came."—Boston Transcript.

Never Recaptured. "Aren't you going to invite Mrs. Black to your dinner party?" asked Mrs. Black. "I shan't," answered the old lady. "I entertained her once and she never recaptured."—Boston Transcript.

Taking a Sporting Chance. "Have you anything to say to me, say before we spring the trap?" asked the sympathetic sheriff. "No, sir, I fall through this trap door and I legally executed?" asked the condemned man. "Congratulations!"

"And I couldn't be hanged again?" "Of course not." "Then all I have to say is that I hope the rope breaks."—Los Angeles Times.

Does it Pay?

To Paint or Repair



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WELLAND MERCHANT HEAVILY FINED

Failed to Supply Reports to Industrial Statistics Bureau.

Welland, Oct. 21.—C. B. Kabin, son-in-law of the mayor of the city, and one of Welland's prominent merchants, was fined \$100 and costs or three months in jail in the Police Court here for failure to supply reports of his dairy business to the Industrial Statistics Bureau at Ottawa. Assistant Chief Shryburt, who came from Ottawa to lay the charges, stated that more than a dozen communications had been addressed to Mr. Kabin requesting the information, all of which had been without response. As a consequence the annual dairy reports for the Province of Ontario had been held up for this one report. In his defence Mr. Kabin said that he had not had time to make the reports. In imposing the maximum fine the magistrate remarked that the defendant's attitude toward the law of the country appeared to be one of contempt, and that his attitude would some day get him into serious trouble.

FAVOR ELECTRICAL CO-OPERATIVE BODY.

Montreal, Oct. 21.—The "Electrical Co-operative Association of the Province of Quebec" was formally ushered into existence yesterday afternoon. It plans to unite for mutual advancement the work of the contractor-dealer, the manufacturer, the jobber and the central station together with other lines of electrical trade energy.

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