

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 1923

### The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 7, 1923.

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#### A DARKER OUTLOOK.

Mr. Lloyd George a few days ago drew a most pessimistic picture of conditions in Europe, with national jealousies fanning the war spirit, and tending toward strife and disaster rather than peace and prosperity. It was altogether a gloomy and disheartening picture, which becomes more impressive because of the confirmatory statement made last week by Lord Robert Cecil, in his first speech since he joined the Baldwin Cabinet. In an address before the English Speaking Union, Lord Robert declared that in many parts of the world warlike symptoms were developing, which he characterized as profoundly disquieting. There are, he said, more armed men in Europe today than before the war, and the tendency of the larger countries is toward military equipment. The conviction seems to have grown in the last few months, he went on, that force, violence and bloodshed again are coming into power as instruments for settling international disputes.

Taken by itself, the fact that there are more men under arms now than before the war would not be a cause of serious apprehension. The new nations which have risen since the war would naturally provide themselves with armies for defence, and nations like Britain and France with mandates to administer or territories to protect must have armies for the purpose. In a period of readjustment the mere maintenance of armies is not necessarily significant. The real source of apprehension is the sabre-rattling for which France, Greece and Turkey must be held more or less responsible, and the threatening attitude of Soviet Russia. But there is also responsibility in another direction, and Lord Robert Cecil located it when he declared the United States should join the League of Nations. If, when the war ended, the United States had thrown the full weight of its prestige and influence into the scale in behalf of a prompt settlement of European and East disputes, there would have been a very different situation today. It is more the fault of the selfish politicians than of the people that this course was not pursued, and Lord Robert is right in a hand to prevent the spread of warlike sentiment in the States in favor of the League of Nations. To refuse to lend a hand to prevent its spread of warlike sentiment is not much less culpable than to promote the bitterness which leads to strife. The American people still have a great opportunity.

#### THE COUNTY JUDGESHIP.

The name of Mr. John A. Barry has of late been so generally associated with the appointment of a successor to Hon. J. R. Armstrong, when the latter should retire from the bench, that the announcement of his appointment as county court judge comes as a matter of course. Mr. Barry has risen early to a judgeship, and will be heartily congratulated. Political campaigns will lose some of their flavor, for Mr. Barry took a very lively interest in political affairs, and possesses gifts as a public speaker which always brought him into the thick of the fray. He brings to the bench a good knowledge of law and will have the hearty good-will of the members of the legal profession.

Judge Armstrong in retirement will leave a record of most worthy service. He has been an impartial judge, who had a full sense of the grave responsibility of his office, and was industrious as well as eminently fair. We are reminded by the fact of his retirement that he is getting on in life, but all his fellow citizens will hope that he may yet have years of leisure to give attention to those matters which appeal to his sense of public duty and good citizenship. He has long taken a deep interest in whatever he regarded as pertaining to the public welfare, and his counsel has been valued in many things. His immediate predecessor in office, Hon. J. G. Forbes, is still active, and Judge Armstrong's friends will hope that he, too, may enjoy for long the sweets of an honorable retirement from public service.

#### THE WORLD COURT.

The agitation to have the United States participate in a World Court, as urged by President Harding, is steadily gaining force in the country, despite the opposition of Senator Borah and some other die-hards who see in it a menacing entanglement that should be avoided. Among other arguments against such a court is the assertion that it would be political, and each judge the tool of his own government. The New York Times makes short work of this contention. It says: "This is an aspiration upon the character of the judges, sworn as they are to impartial justice, and it is happily refuted by one of the decisions which the International Court has al-

ready made. It was in the case between France and Great Britain having to do with the claims of certain British subjects resident in the French zone of Morocco. The French Government maintained that the matter was one of domestic jurisdiction, but agreed to submit the question to the World Court. The Court heard the argument and decided that the matter was not one of internal government. This decision went against the French contention, but it is instructive to note that it was a unanimous decision, the French judge agreeing with his colleagues against his own Government. So much for the assumed dread that the World Court will be subject to 'political' control."

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America has called upon its 125,000 congregations to support President Harding's proposal. So formidable an influence must have a pronounced effect in favor of the World Court.

#### ONLY ONE MINISTER.

When Noah Webster laid the cornerstone of Amherst College, in Massachusetts, in 1821, he said it was founded "for educating for the gospel ministry young men in indigent circumstances, but of hopeful piety and promising talents." Times have changed. Of eighty-four men in the graduating class this year only one intends to enter the ministry. Thirty-eight are going into business, ten or more will study law, and others will go to medical and business colleges. One, who has literary gifts, announces that he will turn "author," presumably in search of material for authorship. It is not surprising that business and the professions other than the ministry make a strong appeal to young men. The ministry as a rule is very poorly paid. There are comparatively few churches whose pastors receive large salaries. A vigorous young man may perhaps be pardoned if he asks why he should choose a profession whose members the general public completely assume should be willing to make a sacrifice and ask no questions. Undoubtedly the man who engages in the work of the ministry is taught not to have undue regard for earthly things, and it is his duty to preach that doctrine to his fellows; but the laborer in that vineyard is worthy of his hire, and should be placed in such a financial position as would enable him not merely to live in comfort, free from dread as to the future of his family, but to meet without straining his own resources the innumerable demands upon his sympathy and help. It is a curious fact that in theory ministers and teachers are regarded as among the most useful members of society, upon whose shoulders great burdens of responsibility are laid, and yet they are not as a rule properly paid for their great services. They deserve far more generous treatment.

#### THE KILLERS.

An unobtrusive news item in the Boston Herald says: "Forty-six persons were killed in Massachusetts by motor vehicles during May, an increase of six over the 1922 record. The entire increase was in little children, 18 of whom were killed during the month, as compared with 12 last year." It is added as one explanation of the increase in fatalities that up to June 1, 51,492 more motor vehicles had been registered than at the same time last year. This merely means that the number of killers has been increased. When one thinks of those forty-six deaths, eighteen of them the deaths of children, in one month, it is difficult to restrain a feeling that the death penalty ought to be meted out to some of the killers, as a warning not to be disregarded by other reckless motorists. Of course a child or an adult may get in the way of a moving car, and a reckless motorist may by accident kill himself along with others, but the number of deaths is too large to be accounted for in that way. There is also to be taken into account the far greater number who are injured, perhaps in some cases maimed for life. Henry Ford says the world is on wheels, and in a sense that is true; and the faster the number of motor cars in use increases the more stringent should be the regulations as to who may operate one, and the more severe the penalties for those who recklessly maim and kill. A motor car is not a harmless toy. When improperly used it becomes a public menace.

Halifax Chronicle.—The report of the delivery of a cargo of steel rails by steamer from Sydney at the head of the Great Lakes to be carried forward to North Battleford, in Saskatchewan, by rail, indicates the value of water transportation to Nova Scotia's steel industry. It is the only relief from excessive freight rates which bear particularly hard on heavy freight, such as Nova Scotia mostly provides.



President Cosgrave of the Irish Republic, centre, made his first public appearance since his recent election at the Spring Novelty Show in Dublin.

#### PICNICS.

(London Punch.) If you go a-picnicking and throw your scraps about You'll never see the little folk go running in and out, And if you leave your orange peel all littered on the grass You'll never go to Fairy Land or see the fairies pass, For empty tins and tangled strings And paper bags are not the things To scatter where a linnet sings.

So if you go a-picnicking remember Of all the tiny people, and you'll really find it best To leave their ball-room tidy and to clear away the mess, And perhaps you'll see a fairy in her newest dancing dress. But paper bags and broken combs Will really wreck the picnic homes And frighten all the tiny gnomes.

But if you go a-picnicking and you are a elfin wise You'll maybe hear with fairy ears and see with goblin eyes; The little folk will welcome you, and they will open wide The hidden doors of Fairy Land, and you will pass inside, And maybe see a baby fay White cradled in a cherry spray, Although it is Bank Holiday.

#### IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Wondering Where He Got It. "Do you believe in the notion that if a man's ears are red somebody is talking about him?" "No, it's far more likely somebody is talking about him if his nose is red."

Honest About It. "Found, automobile casing and rim. Does not fit my car, therefore owner can have it by calling on me, A. L."

Getting Practice. Jack — "Why did they kick that medical student out of the library?" Tom — "They caught him trying to remove the appendix from a book he was reading."

Getting at the Truth. Little Willie came running into the house, stuttering in his excitement. "Mother," he panted, "do you know Archie Sloan's necktie?" "Do I know what?" asked his mother. "Do you know Archie Sloan's necktie?" repeated Willie. "No, I suppose I must know his neck. Why?" "He's just fell into the water up to it."

#### CITY SCHOOLS.

TO CLOSE JUNE 29 Estimated That 500 Pupils Will Write Entrance Examinations to High School

The city schools will close this year on June 29 and it is anticipated that examinations will begin about the middle of the month. High School entrance examinations probably will begin on June 15 and it is believed that there will be approximately 500 pupils writing them. Matriculation examinations will begin on July 5 and about eighty candidates will sit for them. The number taking the High School entrance examinations this year constitutes a record for the city. The matter of a place for holding the closing exercises of the High School has not been settled as yet. The High School auditorium is too small and the Imperial theatre has been suggested as a substitute.

#### RADIO TONIGHT.

WJY—THE DETROIT NEWS. Eastern Standard Time. (360 Kilocycles) Thursday, June 7. 4.00 p.m.—Official weather forecast. 4.05 p.m.—Market reports. 5.00 p.m.—Markets and baseball scores. 8.30 p.m.—The Detroit News Orchestra; The Town Crier; vocal selections furnished by pupils of Clyde A. Nichols. 11.00 p.m.—The Detroit News Orchestra; vocal selections furnished by pupils of Clyde A. Nichols.

Final arrangements for the entertainment of the members of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association on June 16 will be made next week by the committee which has the matter in hand. The party will arrive at Paradise followed by an automobile drive in the afternoon. The form of entertainment for the evening has not yet been decided upon. The visitors will leave on Sunday morning for Digby on the steamer Empress enroute to Halifax where the convention will be held.

#### THE LATE MICHAEL DWYER.

(Halifax Chronicle.) The death of Michael Dwyer, in the very prime of life, and in the midst of a successful business career, will be widely regretted as a great loss to the mercantile community and to the business life of Halifax. Bearing an honored name, long associated with the commercial history of this city, Mr. Dwyer inherited the qualities which destined him to become a leader in business activity. Succeeding his father, Michael Dwyer, in the direction of the firm of John Tobin and Company, when only twenty-four years of age, he quickly acquired a mastery of a great mercantile organization, and, at a very early age, established himself as one of the foremost business men in the province. He was essentially a business man, but following the example of his father, he took a keen interest in the commercial expansion of the port, he identified himself actively with the work of the Board of Trade, and during the years he served on its council and the two years as its president, was loyal in supporting its efforts and energetic in promoting its enterprises. Michael Dwyer, Sr., was one of the strangest and most influential leaders of the Liberal party in Halifax, in the days when historic political battles were fought in this constituency. The son maintained the Liberal tradition, but he was independent in his views and uncompromising in his attitude on public issues. He was a close student, was well read, well informed, and spoke and wrote with a vigor and a directness which arrested attention. Of commanding stature, Mr. Dwyer was a man of forceful and dominating personality and dynamic energy, with a great capacity for efficiency in business affairs. His strong and imperious will did not encourage dissidents, and only those who were closely associated with him knew the range of his sympathies and the extent of his generosity to the needy.

#### AN APPEAL TO REASON.

La Patrie is in unison with its local correspondents in commending the efforts of Mgr. Gauthier to halt the exodus of French-Canadians from Quebec to the United States. "Why," it asked, "do they welcome eastbound liners to the English Channel and at the same time give grim warning of the nearby labyrinth of dangers. It stands guard over waters where rest the skeletons of more shipwrecks than in any other marine graveyard of the world."

#### HEROIC GUARDIANS KEEP CHANNEL LIGHT BURNING.

London, May 18.—(Associated Press by Mail)—Bishop's Light, rising from a foundation of jagged rock near the Pictish ruins, has been burning steadily for centuries. The light is a small structure, but it is a marvel of engineering. It is a circular tower of masonry, balanced so delicately a child may turn it by the touch of the finger. On this heavy base so much of the masonry was spilled over the concrete floor of the light. The three guards fell on their knees, scooped up the mercury in their hands and poured it back into the trough. Pursuing the puddles of quicksilver around a rough cement floor was not easy nor rapid work, and they finished finally with torn and bleeding hands.

If the tower of Bishop's Light ever crumbles the keepers there will not have the faintest chance for their lives. There is not even a foothold on the rough, slippy rock below them.

The regular monthly meeting of Ship Liners' Union, local 1638, was held last evening in Temperance Hall on the west side. The meeting was fairly well attended and D. B. Webster, president of the local, occupied the chair.

#### A CYNIC UNMASKED.

(London Chronicle.) In our little circle he was known as a cynic beyond all hope and help.

When one spoke of ideals he snifted, at every mention of men who tried to do good in the world he was ready with an explanation of their altruism which left them with only shreds of character to go home in a cold night. When politicians were discussed he became unprintable in a cold manner that froze the conversation solid.

His most cheerful moment for years was when—I will not mention names, but it was one of the several men who saved England single-handed in the late war—retired to prison as a change from his public-spirited endeavors.

None of us knew why he was always engaged on Tuesdays and Thursdays; none of us knew why he gave up cigars and took to a pipe with great suddenness; none of us knew why he abruptly ceased to indulge a pretty and well-cultivated taste in wine and drank, if he drank at all, the humble and less expensive glass of beer.

Quite by accident, and for reasons that are no one's business but my own, I had to go to an east end parish one day to see an old school fellow who is now a vicar.

We dined, if I remember the menu aright, on a cup of tea and some bread and cheese, and afterward the pipes burned smokily as we talked of old days before either of us knew much of slush. Then the vicar said:—

"Come and have a look at our Children's Club. A awfully good fellow runs it. Comes down every Tuesday and Thursday to organize games for the little ones, and spends more than a chap in his position ought to spend on toys and games and outings for the kiddies. Sort of chap that restores one's faith in human nature. When I see him I lift my hat and regain a little hope."

We went along to the hall, down a dirty little by-street, and in the centre of a big room, filled with children and noisy fun, I saw my cynical friend. I think he was a bear, at the moment—I cannot account otherwise for a grumpy city man being on hands and knees with a cradle on his back, and being over there was a wild feast of buns and lemonade that must have swayed over the rest of the week.

"You're a bit of an old fraud," I said to him afterward, when he had pressed himself on me as the vicar made the quite unnecessary introductions.

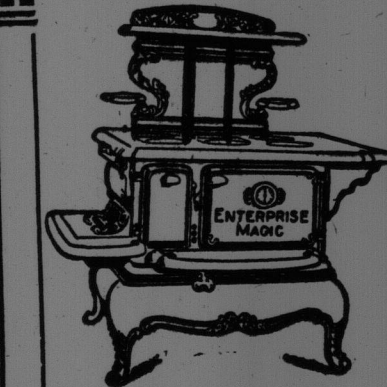
#### NOTED WRITER DEAD.

Charles F. Pidgin, author, inventor and long connected with the Massachusetts bureau of statistics of labor, of which he was chief for four years, died Sunday at his home in Melrose Highlands.

He was born in Roxbury seventy-seven years ago, the son of Benjamin Pidgin. For seven years following his graduation from the English high school in 1888, he did newspaper work. In 1893 he became secretary of the state bureau and in 1903 was made its chief. While thus employed he invented several machines which are now used by the bureau and in 1917 he invented an "invisible speech" system for motion pictures.

His first and most famous novel, "Quincy Adams Sawyer," was published in 1909. He wrote other novels, a biography, books on statistics, poems and stories for newspapers, librettos of cantatas, operas, musical comedies and dramas, the words for some 300 popular songs. He is survived by his widow, who was Frances Fern Douglas, and a daughter, Mrs. Margaret Pidgin.

WHY CONTINUE TO EXCLUDE WOMEN? (Le Matin) "A young woman who just passed the final examinations in pharmacy at McGill University, beating five young men and coming at the head of the list. That she received hearty congratulations on her success goes without saying, but the newspaper reports went on to state that under the charter law she would not be able to practice the profession for which she qualified. Surely, it is nothing short of a crime for our alleged Liberal legislators to have sanctioned such a law. In this exclusion of women—after proving their qualifications—from practicing law and pharmacy, we can see manifest on the part of the authors of the interdiction a fear of the women's success. It is an almost open admission of the mental blindness of men in general and legislators in particular. Certainly it is an act of cowardice. The so-called



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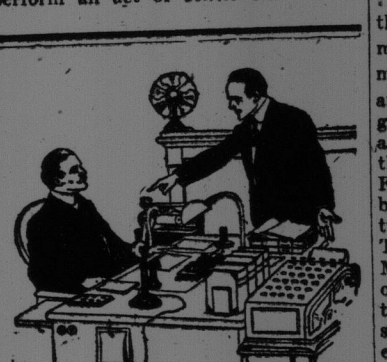


At the Convocation of McGill University, Montreal, 480 graduates took part in the ceremonies and among the distinguished men granted honorary degrees was Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who was made an LL.D. He is here seen in his robes, with the Principal of McGill, Sir Arthur Currie.

Liberal party in the legislature owes it to itself to pluck up courage, reconsider its absurd action, and forthwith perform an act of contrition."

#### FIDDLERS OF PARIS.

(N. Y. Times.) From pioneer days the fiddle has been the favorite American musical instrument. In Kentucky and Tennessee, in many parts of the South, in Oklahoma and Missouri, from the melodious call of the old times yet. There was a state fiddling championship contest at the Missouri State fair the other day. Friends of American institutions will be glad to know that "the event attracted more attention than a circus. The best county champions were there. Mrs. Lem Waterman, twice champion of Laclede County, traveled two days to reach Paris, which justly "prides itself on being a centre of culture and education," but, to its honor, still loves the "shoe-down." A blind Homer of seventy-four was among the entrants.



#### YOU'RE A BUSY MAN!

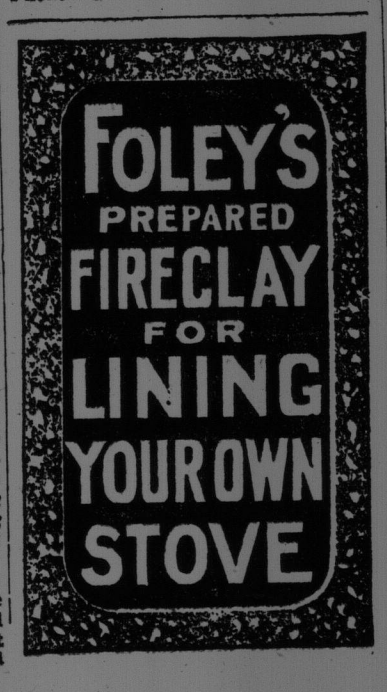
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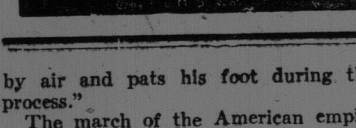
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by air and pats his foot during the process." The march of the American empire southward and westward from the Alleghenies was made to the sound of the fiddle. From the first musical backwoodsman to "Tom" Taylor of Tennessee, the highest tradition has been maintained. It is pleasant to see that there are eminent fiddle-masters in Missouri still, and connoisseurs who prefer jig to jazz.

#### THE TREND OF PRICES.

(Bank of Commerce Circular.) Our index number of wholesale prices in Canada shows a temporary recovery from the downward trend which began a month ago. Among the imports which have risen in price are corn, sugar and iron, common bar iron having regained the level of two years ago. The chief exportable commodities that have risen in price are cattle, beef, hogs, barley, oats, potatoes, copper, silver, pine and spruce, but the rise in the case of the two last-named is a reflection of an improvement in the market of some northern standing. The fall that has taken place in the case of exports is almost entirely seasonal, the chief commodities affected being wheat, flour, bacon, butter, cheese and apples. The fall in import prices is much more significant, including as it does such items as cotton, wool, rubber, linseed oil, tin, coke and coal oil, articles which are basic materials of industry in the United States, where most of our foreign purchases are made.

Our number for imports has risen from 167.92 in May, and that for exports from 122.77 to 128.88. The number for exports and imports combined has risen from 159.81 to 160.87 or about the level of May, 1921, when marked deflation was still in progress.



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