

# The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 11, 1921.

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## MR. MEIGHEN'S PROBLEM

One result of the West Peterboro election has been that rumors of immediate reorganization of the cabinet are afloat. The Standard's Ottawa correspondent says:—"The decision to re-organise the cabinet meets with almost unanimous approval in the government ranks. There is no doubt the re-organization will be rapid and thorough, and the result in West Peterboro may not have been such a disaster if this is accomplished. It certainly has strengthened the prime minister's hands, and he can now act with confidence. It is difficult to reconstruct an administration at any time, but more so during a session, yet the situation is acute and action cannot be delayed. There is one cabinet vacancy now, the department of state; three of the present ministers will retire and a new department of soldiers' welfare will be created. To the administration will be added seven ministers and a solicitor-general. Of the new ministers, five will have portfolios and two will enter the government without portfolio. Three of the new ministers will be from the west, two from Quebec and two from the solicitor-general from Ontario. The maritime provinces representation will remain unchanged."

This correspondent does not tell us who the new ministers will be, or whose heads will fall into the basket to make room for them, but makes this reference to the matter:—"The prospective members of the administration are all men of youth and vigor, experienced in most cases in political affairs. They will greatly add to the government's efficiency and prestige. Two of those mentioned are not now in parliament, but have national reputations for ability and probity. If the re-organization now in progress is accomplished, Canada will have the youngest cabinet and the youngest prime minister in its history."

It is suggested from other sources that the three ministers slated to retire may be Sir George Foster, Hon. J. D. Reid and Sir Edward Kemp, and that among the men of youth and vigor to whom the Standard correspondent refers are H. H. Stevens, M. P., Centre Vancouver; Dr. Manion, M. P., Port Williams; J. A. Stewart, M. P., Lanark; and T. M. Tweedie, M. P. for West Calgary, and possibly Lloyd Harris. News of the re-organization may be expected at any time. One of Mr. Meighen's troubles is that of getting a representative from Quebec.

There is still the question of an appeal to the country in a general election and opinion among Conservatives is still divided on this point. The Standard writer says the majority favor holding on, revising the tariff, consolidating the railway system, and making an electoral redistribution, but that much will depend on the attitude of the Liberals and Farmers. As parliament is to assemble immediately the country will not have long to wait for interesting news from the capital, whether it be concerning cabinet reconstruction, the general elections, or both.

## WHY NOT CHANGE IT?

The Standard wants the Meighen government retained in power, and yet, speaking of the proposed cabinet re-organization, it says:—"As usual the maritime provinces get the small end of the deal; their representation in the government remains unchanged. They have one representative each. Some people talk about maritime union; maritime separation would seem to be more in order in view of the very cavalier treatment that these provinces of ours always get from the Ottawa authorities."

How would it do to try a new group of Ottawa authorities? Even the Standard would admit that it could hardly do worse than the present one in power.

The appeal of the ladies who journeyed to Fredericton to protest against vocational training as it is carried out in St. John might have been more impressive if one had not been constrained to admit she was quite unaware that the very thing she pleads for is already a part of this year's plan of the vocational board, and was a part of its plan from the first. The more the people learn about those plans and what is being accomplished, the more they will wonder why any progressive citizen should object.

The Newfoundland Society in this city makes its contribution to civic welfare by bringing together the men and women from the Ancient Colony who have made this city their home, and while keeping alive the associations and traditions of the home-land, instilling into all minds the principles of good citizenship in St. John, and the loyalty to the Empire which is so marked a characteristic of Newfoundland people.

The federal government employment service has done a valuable work in dealing with unemployment in these provinces, and it is a matter for regret that St. John did not have a branch established early in the winter. During January 568 workers were placed in positions through the offices in Moncton and Nova Scotia towns.

## ROADS AND MOTOR TRUCKS.

In an article on the importance and value of good roads, published in Canadian Finance, Mr. James W. Davidson of Calgary gives some striking facts regarding the use of motor trucks made possible by well-constructed roads. Mr. Davidson pleads for a national highway across Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and in the course of his article refers to what has been accomplished in the United States. We quote:—"To explain the possibilities, it is interesting to note an Akron, Ohio, firm maintains a regular freight service between Akron and Boston, a round trip of 1,480 miles. The 740 mile run is made one way in four days against ten to fourteen days by rail. So important is this now considered that a cross country highway from Detroit to New York is kept free of snow all winter. A truck from Akron made the 633 mile run to New York in January in 49 hours actual running time, crossing the Allegheny Mountains in a snowstorm, and with a temperature of thirteen degrees below zero. This year, plans have been concluded to keep a number of other Eastern highways free of snow. So you realize that the short haul freight business is destined to be handled everywhere by motor trucks, and is today so handled in many sections in the United States. In southern California, for instance, nearly all the short haul light freight is hauled by trucks. In the Imperial Valley, the truck transport companies advertise delivery at all points in the valley in 24 hours after receipt of goods at the warehouse door in San Diego—a hundred miles or more distant. On the great system of paved roads there, one frequently sees an ordinary truck with one driver hauling three trailers. This makes very cheap transportation. Trucks handling wholesale shipments take delivery at a Los Angeles warehouse and deliver at the door of the retailer. It is also illuminating and impressive to note the extensive use of trucks in farming communities apparent from the statistics of the city of Indianapolis, Indiana. There are large packing houses in this city and stock yards from which shipment is made to Chicago packing houses. The daily average of hog receipts for the month of December, 1919, reached 6,800, and of these 4,800 approximately were brought in by truck against some 2,000 by steam railway. Hog receipts by truck for the entire year averaged 2,800 daily as against 400 daily by truck in 1918. In addition to hogs, there were brought in by truck during 1919 to Indianapolis, 48,000 cattle, 63,000 calves and 69,000 sheep. Between 1918 and 1919 there was an increase of 37.5 per cent. in the stock hauled by truck."

With the increase in rates on the railroads the question of using truck highways for the transfer of freight by motor trucks becomes one of ever-increasing interest, and the question of good roads is invested with far greater importance for the people. The time is not far distant when the motor truck will play a much larger part in the business of these provinces, and to that end a constant policy of road improvement is essential. It will benefit all classes in the community.

Hon. E. A. Smith sees a great future for hydro-electric development in New Brunswick. He believes there is a number of streams which afford opportunity for water storage, in addition to those already listed, and that when the whole system throughout the province is developed the province will be an attractive field for manufacturers. The Premier government, in beginning this development, has conferred an incalculable benefit upon the province at large.

Premier Drury expresses the hope that the referendum in April will strangle the liquor traffic in Ontario by prohibiting importation. A similar referendum must soon be held in New Brunswick. When importation is prohibited, and Quebec prohibits export the conditions in all the provinces will show a marked change for the better.

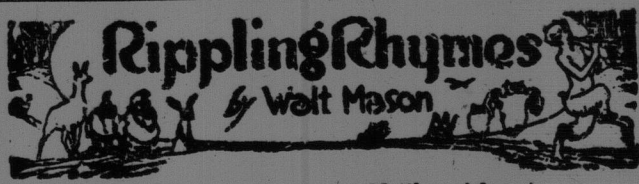
Charles Gorman, the St. John skater, was able to enter yesterday's race at Lake Placid, after all, and only failed by an inch or so to win the 220 yards event. Indeed he believes he has good grounds for protesting the decision against him. The citizens will give him a royal welcome on his home-coming.

The United States senate committee on immigration has reported favorably on a drastic bill to restrict the entrance of aliens into the country until June 30, 1922. The house had already passed a bill, but one less severe in its terms.

The majority of Premier Smuts in the new South African house is now twenty-two over all other parties. In view of fears that were expressed it is a remarkable triumph for the loyalists in the Commonwealth.

## TRIPLETS NOT HER OWN

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 11.—Mrs. F. E. A. South, who last month startled Atlanta with the announcement that at the age of 22 she had given birth to triplets, has acknowledged in a statement that the three children, together with six others in the South home were obtained from founding institutions.



(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

## GROUNDHOG DAY

The Day of Groundhogs closer grows—let nothing you deflect! The groundhog then will break his doze, the climate to correct, and all the banks in town will close, in token of respect. Throughout the months of snow and rime, the lusty groundhog snores, but soon, with motives most sublime, he'll quit such drowsy chores; in every state, in every clime, the banks will close their doors. The groundhog, from sleep's shackles loose, comes from his hole, kerflop, and if no shadow he'll produce, he'll bid the winter stop; and, having such a good excuse, the banks will shut the shop. And if the good old groundhog sees no shadow, he will say, "The folks will simply have to freeze till winter fades away"; and, noting all such facts as these, the banks will close all day. The groundhog is a wise old beast, he does not rank with bores; he gazes west, he gazes east, and then resumes his snores; and bankers say, "By Judah's priests! We'll have to close our doors." The holidays are thick and fast, and workdays are but few; 'twas different in the gaudy past, before my nose was blue; then bankers didn't close, do! gads, whenever a cow cried "moo!"

## ONE WAY TRAFFIC.

There is only one road to the town of "Success."

The name of the road is "Work." It is a road for only honest guests. Traffic's blocked to those that shirk.

The road is open all hours of today, It heeds neither time nor date, And now is the time to start on your way,

For tomorrow will be too late. Nearly all of the way is an uphill road; It will seem like a tough old fight, But once on your way just bear up your load

And keep going with all your might. You will pass through many towns each day, Such as Failure, Gloom and Despair; At each of these stations just keep on your way, For "Work" does not tarry there.

After you have entered the town of "Success,"

Tho' your load may have been hard to bear, Once inside you will find both comfort and rest.

Just be thankful you started for there. —Dale Newell Carty, in Forbes Magazine (N. Y.)

## IN LIGHTER VEIN.

She was a pretty and ambitious girl and had studied the matrimonial problem to a nicety.

"Yes, I suppose I shall wed eventually," she said, "but the only kind of masculine nuisance that will suit me must be tall and dark, with classical features. He must be brave yet gentle. Withal he must be strong—a lion among men, but a knight among ladies."

That evening a bowlegged, lath-framed youth, wearing check trousers and smoking a cigarette that smelt worse than a burning rot, rattled on the back door and the girl knickered four tumbler and a cut-glass vase off the sideboard as he hasted to get to him.

A woman went to her doctor, complaining to him of her husband breaking out into violent tempers and asked if he could recommend a cure.

"The remedy," replied the doctor, "is simple. I have here an excellent water which I give to most of my patients who suffer from nervous depression. Should your husband become violent again, you need only take half a cupful of the water in your morning tea."

"The water," replied the doctor, "is the more visible sign of your husband's wrath. Repeat the dose in very severe cases."

The water was ordinary well water. The result was domestic happiness.

"No, sir," stormed the pure-blood parent. "I will never, never consent to your marriage, my daughter!"

"But, sir—" "But me no buts," thundered the irate father. "I've spoken."

A look of defiance lighted up the young man's somewhat crestfallen countenance. "Very good, sir," he said. "If you will not agree, then I must enforce my demand. I am considered a hard-working, good-looking young fellow, and yet you turn me away!"

"I do," said the rich man.

"Then, sir, I will go away and make love to your cook, propose to her—in a week we will be married."

The rich man turned purple, then paled.

"Have mercy!" he gasped, in trembling accents. "Such conduct is inhuman. My cook is a Jew, and you can have my daughter, young man, but my cook—never!"

The origin of the baptsme was being discussed, representing disclaiming responsibility. Finally an Irishman said: "Well, I'll tell you the truth about it. The Irish invented it and sold it to the Scotch as a joke; and the Scotch ain't seen the joke yet!"

## GOULD CASE SETTLED.

Counsel Did Not Appear in Supreme Court.

New York, Feb. 11.—When the case of Estie Ept Lefkovich Blum against Kingdon Gould, son of George J. Gould, for \$50,000 for an alleged breach of promise to marry, was called for trial on the calendar in the Supreme Court before Justice Hotchkiss, counsel for neither litigant responded.

Failed by their side to answer the call of the calendar was interpreted to mean that later in the day the formal order of discontinuance of the case would be presented to Justice Ford in the ex parte branch of the court so that the case would be officially closed.

Although neither side would disclose the amount of the settlement, rumor had it that it was more than \$50,000. Counsel for the plaintiff stated in chambers before Justice Finch that Mr. Gould's attorneys had offered \$10,000 to give the case discontinuance, while expressing the conviction that the young woman did not have the slightest legal grounds for pressing her suit.

The plaintiff obtained her divorce from Dr. R. Blum on June 6, 1917. She asserted that it was young Mr. Gould who advised her to get the divorce and that he promised to marry her. Instead of marrying her, Kingdon Gould, within less than a month after she was free to marry, married Miss Luedi, an artist. It was said that one of the reasons why Mrs. Blum's counsel consented to a settlement of the case out of court was the aversion ladies have to granting damages to any woman who promises to marry another before she is divorced.

## "TRAGEDY" ENDS IN MERE FARCE

Detroit Man Stages "Suicide" and Ends Up in Chicago Jail—Wife Will Prosecute.

Detroit, Feb. 11.—Clark W. Himes, "suicide," has gone on the boards. He staged what he thought at the time was a first-class mystery, "slaying" himself as the victim, and leaving his automobile beside the bank of the Detroit River and some of his clothes nearby sprinkled with rabbit's blood as indicating the "tragedy." He also left his wife and three small children.

Himes was captured this week in Chicago, and will be brought back here to stand trial on charges of destruction and for attempting to defraud an insurance company out of a \$5,000 policy.

Himes "murdered" himself last September. A card and some letters left beside the blood-stained clothing furnished a clue to his identity. His wife declared he had left home the day previous. She stoutly refused to give the slightest credence to the murder theory, and the day after Himes left she swore out a warrant for his arrest on charge of desertion.

"I want him brought here so I can prosecute him," said the wife. "I never thought for one minute he had been killed. That rabbit-blood thing is a stunt just typical of him. He is the only man I know who would think up such a silly thing to do."

CONCERNING THE SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir:—While I fully concur with "Experience" and "Parent" in their opinions as to the question of "schooled children" for not getting set lessons, I would like to add further that it seems to me that the question of corporal punishment (at least) for children either in school or at home, and especially in lessons that are usually given for home study. Why hold the scholar responsible for the results of an antiquated school system? It appears that we lack progress in our methods of instruction to an almost equal extent as in our pre-arranged lessons in the school system. While new schools of a progressive type are springing up in other countries, especially in that of our nearest neighbor, we seem to be satisfied to "sit tight" and ponder over such deep and momentous questions as the one asked, which in any one of the new type are absolutely unnecessary and never occur.

All forms of progressive education today, in fact, have as their chief object the freedom of the school child, freedom of thought as well as movement—freedom, not license. Our present system seems rather to inhibit than to develop our children's initiative in thinking and in acting; inhibits imagination and proper self-expression, creates diffidence and general backwardness, with the natural result of lack of interest and even distaste for lessons at school. Then why think or hope to punish a love for study into the child? It would seem almost human reasoning to suppose that the question of punishment in the dark past and progress to the point of asking how best to create a desire to learn and advance in the young forming minds, which are so susceptible to proper well meant suggestion from both teacher and parent.

Much the nervousness of our school-children at the present day is attributable to the unrelenting almost brutal custom, long unbroken hours in school—sometimes without regard to even physical necessities; "set" lessons, and fear of some sort of punishment for failure or intellectual adaptability; the "yearly" grading instead of essential intellectual grading; long hours of home study plus the lack of proper time for physical exercise and mental recreation.

Many of the children in our public schools are unable and unfit to learn these set home lessons because of being "graded"—pulled over into the next grade as it were, along with other scholars who have found it no difficulty to make high marks on all subjects all through the year. The stupidity of the "just graded" child is judged in the light of the high standing graded child. The almost senseless ambition and endeavor of the first child "to grade," also, soon brings results detrimental to the physical and mental health.

A "FELLER'S" FRIEND.

Note:—This correspondent is in error in assuming that pupils in St. John schools are pushed ahead in the grades. The percentage of those not graded because of failure to make the marks is quite large enough.—Editor, Times.

PRESIDENT BETTER.

Admiral Grayson Surprised at Wilson's Improvement.

Washington, Feb. 11.—Admiral Grayson, President Wilson's physician, who has himself been ill for three weeks, was surprised to find how much his distinguished patient had improved when he saw him the other day for the first time in more than a fortnight.

While Dr. Grayson was ill President Wilson went to the theatre for the first time since he was stricken a year ago, ventured out riding for the first time unaccompanied, and undertook to supervise some of the work on his new home.

"I found the president so much im-

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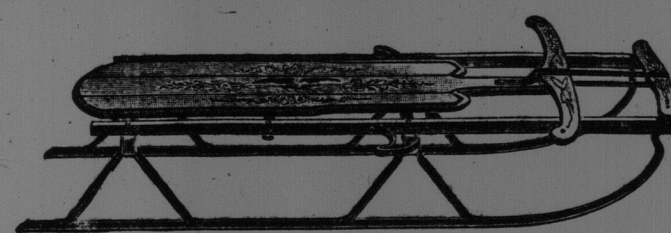
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CORSET COVERS—Trimmed with Hamburg and lace edging ..... Sale Price 58c

CORSET COVERS—Better quality cotton, fancy lace trimmed ..... Sale Price 70c and 85c

CORSET COVERS—Pretty styles made out of one-piece Swiss embroidery... Sale Price 98c

DRAWERS—Good white cotton, pin tucked flairs..... Sale Price 60c

DRAWERS—Better quality with fancy lace edging ..... Sale Price 72c

NIGHTGOWNS—Plain cotton, lace and Hamburg insertion ..... Sale Price \$1.35

Empire sleeveless style, filet lace front ..... Sale Price \$1.39

Finer cotton, trimmed lace and embroidery ..... Sale Price \$1.60

Nice fine cotton gown, allover lace yoke ..... Sale Price \$1.95

UNDERSKIRT—Plain cotton, wide flounce of lace and insertion..... Sale Price \$1.69

Out size skirts, fine cotton, finished with fine tucks and Hamburg edging. Sale Price \$1.70

ENVELOPES—Three different styles, nice fine cotton, lace and embroidery trimmed. Sale Price \$1.80

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proved during my absence," said Dr. Grayson to a friend, "that I told him I'd better stay away a month longer, and I would then expect to find him completely cured."

## EMPLOYS 1,000 MORE

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 10.—Coincident with announcement of the regular quarterly dividend to preferred stockholders today, the Packard Motor Car Company announced re-employment of an additional 1,000 men effective immediately. The company has been operating with a force of about 3,000 men for several weeks.

## MANITOBA POPULATION.

The population of Manitoba is 541,406, and of this number 62,848 are farmers according to figures given out by the municipal commissioner.

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