

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1918

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 9, 1918.

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STREET CAR FARES.

St. John people will be especially interested in the article on another page of this issue of the Times, telling of street railway affairs in Toronto. It is proposed to increase the fare on city-owned cars, but only to three cents, or nine tickets for twenty-five cents, and it is estimated that this will pay handsomely.

But the city of Toronto does not own the railway system which traverses the main portions of the city. That is owned by a company, and pays part of its profits into the city treasury. Last year it paid in the enormous sum of \$970,512. And yet, because the service is so unsatisfactory, the citizens of Toronto have voted, by an almost unanimous vote, to have over the company's franchise when it expires in 1921, and endeavor to get as good and relatively as cheap a service as is now provided by the smaller city owned lines.

All this is of particular interest to the people of St. John at a time when the New Brunswick Power Company is asking for a sharp increase in rates for an unsatisfactory service.

STARTLING FIGURES.

The establishment of a health department for the province is one of the needs of New Brunswick, and one that is fully recognized by all who have given thought to the subject and taken note of what is done in other communities. In this regard it is gratifying to observe that attention is being more and more directed to the conservation of infant life. This is especially true in England and the United States, although there is still far too high a rate of infant mortality. This fact is forcibly presented by Mr. G. E. Earnshaw of Chicago, who shows that a soldier in the trenches has more chances of living than a child in the cradle. What he says is so interesting, and has so direct a bearing upon the question of public interest in public health and the conditions surrounding infant life, that it is worth quoting in full, for the consideration of Times readers. We quote:

"Let us compare the losses. In a statement recently made public, Newton D. Baker, secretary of war, says: 'Up to June 1 the losses of the British expeditionary forces from deaths in action and deaths from wounds were about 7 per cent. of the total of all the men sent to France since the beginning of the war.' The war began three years ago, and this total loss of 7 per cent. since the beginning of the war means a yearly loss of but little more than 2 per cent."

"The accuracy of this statement is strikingly confirmed by the published statement of an English insurance company—the London Prudential—which shows that out of a total of two million British soldiers insured, the losses during the present war have amounted to 30 per 1,000 per annum; but since the death in times of peace among men of the same age amount to 10 per 1,000 per annum, we must deduct the normal mortality (10 per 1,000) from the war-losses (30 per 1,000), leaving war responsible for only twenty deaths a year in each group of 1,000 men in service. Twenty deaths per 1,000 is two deaths per 100, or 2 per cent, as stated by Secretary Baker. This is the toll of war."

"Let us see now what happens in the nurseries. Out of every seven babies born out of doors before it is a year old. One in seven is more than 14 in the hundred. So the soldier braving disease and death in the camp and on the battle-field has a seven times better chance of life than the new-born babe."

"Out of 2,900,000 babies born every year in the United States more than 380,000 die before they are a year old. Of the same number of soldiers only 40,000 will die in a year as a result of their exposure to the risk of war."

"Terrible as is the toll of life exacted by war the losses suffered by our infant population through improper foods and clothing, the ignorance of midwives, and—alas!—of mothers also, is yet more terrible. To our shame be it said that our soldiers on the field of battle are safer than our infants in their cradles."

"It is not possible, of course, to save the life of every little one that is born; but infant-welfare experts estimate that at least 50 per cent. of the deaths are preventable. This is proved by the fact that in other countries the death-rate in the first year of life has been reduced to less than half the death-rate in the United States. Also, by the fact that in certain cities in the United States infant mortality has been reduced to a point that is less than half the average for the whole country."

National registration and compulsory services in whatever capacity is most needed necessarily follows the Military Service Act. If men of military age and it must go overseas, other men and women should be made to serve at home, in such manner as will ensure the most effective mobilization of the country for war purposes. All that was lacking a year or two years ago was leadership. Now that we have it, let us hope there will be neither hesitation nor delay.

ALLIED WAR AIMS.

President Wilson has followed the British prime minister with a clear declaration of the war aims of the Allies—so clear that Germany cannot pretend she does not understand the terms. Democracy is to triumph, and there is to be no more Prussianism. Wrongs are to be righted and peace-loving peoples are to be guaranteed against war and oppression. There is in the declarations of the British premier and the American president no note of conquest, except the conquest of evil forces that threaten the welfare of the world. If the people of the Central Powers are permitted to read these declarations they will realize that their own future welfare is pledged by them, by nations whose honor is unsullied and who are in this war for humanity's sake. It is said that Russia does not approve of the speech of Mr. Lloyd-George, but that must be due to a misunderstanding. The Russian democracy has no enemies among the Allies. They are its best friends. It is clear from his remarks that Foreign Minister Trotsky understands both the spirit and the letter of the declarations of the British premier. When convinced of the good faith of the Allies his attitude toward them will change. It is very evident that he does not expect much from Germany. What he says about conditions in the German army is very interesting if true.

Controller Hanna says food control in Canada is not a problem of fixing prices in Canada. How about that potato surplus and the surplus eggs and butter, Mr. Hanna? They would take the place of some of the wheat and meat needed for export. Why should they be held to rot or to provide profit for speculators great and small? Why not get down to real business and make those fellows do some of the protesting?

Sir Douglas Haig says that the ultimate destruction of the enemy's field forces has been brought appreciably nearer during the past year. This does not mean an early end of the war. It only means that the war will end with the destruction of the enemy's forces, and the complete overthrow of Prussian militarism. That may take a long time, despite the current rumors about a growing unrest in Germany.

The Standard English refuses to name its candidates for seats in a union cabinet at Fredericton. This modesty is perhaps due to a knowledge of what has been revealed before royal commissions, and some fear that the evidence is not all that is to be expected. The Foster government is doing very well.

President Wilson's last declaration has forged another link in the chain of British-American unity. It is the speech of a world statesman, who feels and cheerfully accepts his responsibility as the leader of a great nation committed to the task of helping to free the world from bondage.

If Germany believed the Allies were ready to quit, she has been disillusioned by the addresses of the British premier and American president. The Allies are more determined than ever to fight on to victory.

In last year's fighting the British captured 781 guns and 118,000 prisoners. Of these 531 guns and 74,000 prisoners were taken on the western front. The French were equally successful on that front.

The delegates of Russia and the Central Powers are again in conference at Brest-Litovsk. If Germany's attitude is not greatly modified there will be no practical result.

The old Borden government's national registration scheme was expensive and useless. The new government must do it over again and do it right.

The Germans are reported to have sunk another hospital ship. The announcement will cause no surprise.

The Germans are converting the bell of Cologne Cathedral into war material. Nothing is sacred to the Hun.

BRUNSWICK CHAPTER. Brunswick Chapter, I. O. O. F., met on Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Wetmore, Lancaster Heights. Capt. Hope of the 28th extended greetings and thanked the chapter for the \$80 sent to the battalion for Christmas cheer. Mrs. Dennis, Halifax, acknowledged nine barrels of clothing and a box of home cooking. A letter from Mrs. Murray MacLaren was full of interest, containing news of the N. B. ward of No. 1 Canadian hospital and the three new beds ready for equipment. Mrs. Mesereau gave an interesting five minutes talk of the work being done by the Christmas stockings for the chapter's ward in Military Hospital, and Miss Tilton reported on socks being furnished to the men on guard duty. The sum of \$80 was voted the Soldiers' Comfort. To the regret of the members Mrs. Travers, who has been recent since the chapter's inception, declined nomination this year.

THE SINGING WOOD.

(By Margaret Widdemer.)

I followed far from the roadway
After my golden ball
(How could I tell the way it went,
How it might stand or fall)
And coaxing vines from the Singing
Wood
Came twining around my feet,
And sent of flowers from the Singing
Wood
Oh, it was sweet, was sweet!

Once I met a satyr,
Once I came by a woman o' doom
Spinning from dusk to dawn,
Once I followed a will-o'-the-wisp
Dancing about the fen—
In these days, let them wear old boots
Never a bird-loud gleam!

All the trees were sighing,
All of the brooks were tears,
All of the flowers were bleeding hearts,
Scarlet with hopes and fears.
All of the vines were hands that clung
Twisting about my heart—
Oh, the thorns of the Singing Wood,
Sharp they can tear and smart!

I might have won to the rainbow's end,
But never for all of me
Should I seek again in the Singing Wood
For any fair thing might be
Here on the earth are the day and night,
Human women and men,
And oh, it's good to be out of the wood,
Into the world again!

LIGHTER VEIN

Explained.
Shop-walkers: "Do you realize that you were two hours selling those two women a yard of ribbon?"

Saleswomen: "I know, sir. But just as they got to the counter they discovered that they each had a baby just learning to talk."

Overheard in a Car.
First Lady Passenger—"It's a terrible trouble to get good boots."

Second Lady Passenger—"People shouldn't make such a fuss about things in these days. Let them wear old boots and be patriotic."

First Lady Passenger—"And what rubbish they mend them with. By the way, how do you manage about boots?"

Second Lady Passenger—"Oh, I'm all right. I've two pairs I haven't touched yet."

A Rapid Flier.
Mrs. Peck—I always think twice before I speak once.

Peck—Exactly, my dear—but then you are such a quick thinker.

NEWS OF OUR SOLDIERS.

In Nova Scotia the rounding up of the men liable under the military service act who did not report has commenced. Why not get down to real business and make those fellows do some of the protesting?

B. F. McCutcheon, a former St. John man, now living in Springfield, Kings county, received word from Ottawa on Monday that his son, Private Alfred W. McCutcheon, had died of gas poisoning on Dec. 13.

Our captures on the Flanders front since the end of July amount to 24,000 prisoners, seventy-four guns and 941 machine guns. It is certain that the enemy losses exceeded ours.

"The most important of all is that our new and hastily trained armies again have shown that they are capable of meeting and beating the enemy's best troops under conditions which favored his defense."

"In this respect I desire to emphasize the supreme importance of adequate training prior to placing troops in the line of battle. It is essential if sacrifice is to be avoided and success assured that troops going into battle should first be given the opportunity for special training under officers who are to lead them in the task which they are to be called upon to perform."

"The general conditions of the struggle this year have been very different from those contemplated at the conference in November, 1916. The great general and simultaneous offensive then agreed upon did not materialize. Russia, although some of her leaders made a great deal of noise about it, did not expect the enemy from transferring forty-eight divisions from her front in exchange for the ones used up in the west."

Make Your Own Cough Syrup and Save Money
Better than the ready-made kind. Easily prepared at home.

The finest cough syrup that money can buy—containing only about one-cent as much as ready-made preparations—can easily be made up at home. The way it takes hold and conquers distressing coughs, throat and chest colds will really make you enthusiastic about it. Any drugstore can supply you with 2½ ounces of Pinx (10 cents worth). Pour this into a 16-oz. bottle and fill the bottle with plain granulated sugar syrup. Shake thoroughly and it is ready for use. The total cost is about 50 cents and gives you 16 ounces—a family supply—a most effective preparation—tasting lovely. It keeps perfectly. It's truly astonishing how quickly it gets penetrating through every air passage of the throat and lungs—loosens and raises the phlegm, soothes and heals the inflamed or swollen throat membranes, and gradually but surely the annoying throat tickle and dreaded cough will disappear entirely. Nothing better for bronchitis, spasmodic croup, whooping cough or bronchial asthma.

Pinx is a highly concentrated compound of Norway pine extract and is known the world over for its prompt healing effect on the throat membranes. Avoid disappointment by asking your druggist for "2½ ounces of Pinx" with full directions and don't accept anything else. A guarantee of absolute satisfaction or money promptly refunded goes with this preparation. The Pinx Co., Toronto, Ont.

Foley's Stove Linings
THAT LAST
TELEPHONE MAIN 1601
Don't Let The Fire Burn Thru To The Gas

DAUGHTER GAVE AGED MOTHER VINOL

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We wish every feeble, aged man and woman in this vicinity would last try this constitutional food liver and iron tonic on our guarantee to return their money if it fails to benefit. Formula is on every bottle. Wasson Drug Store, The Ross Drug Co., Ltd., St. John. Vinol is sold in Fairville by T. H. Wilson and in Hampton by Donald's Drug Store.

Also at the best druggists in all New Brunswick towns.

HAIG'S REVIEW OF THE 1917 FIGHTING

Natural Difficulties, Not Enemy, Prevented Full Success in West

TRAINING INCISED ON

Troops Must Have Course With Officers Who are to Lead Them in Battle—Russia's Failure—British and French Task Heavier Than Was Anticipated

London, Jan. 8.—In his review of operations on the British front in Flanders and France for 1917, Field Marshal Haig says:

"Despite the magnitude of his efforts, it was the immediate tactical situation presented by the enemy's resistance, which limited our progress. The complete capture of the ridge. What was actually accomplished under such adverse conditions was the most conclusive proof that, given a normally fine August, the capture of the whole ridge in a few weeks was well within the power of our men."

"They advanced every fine with absolute confidence in their power to overcome the enemy's position. Through some times they had to struggle through mud and deep to reach him. So long as they could reach him they overcame him, but physical exhaustion placed narrow limits on the depth which they could advance could be pushed and compelled long pauses between advances. The full fruits of each success consequently were not always obtained."

"Time after time the practically beaten enemy was enabled to re-organize and bring up reinforcements behind the sea of mud which constituted his main protection. Notwithstanding many difficulties much was achieved."

"Our captures on the Flanders front since the end of July amount to 24,000 prisoners, seventy-four guns and 941 machine guns. It is certain that the enemy losses exceeded ours."

"The most important of all is that our new and hastily trained armies again have shown that they are capable of meeting and beating the enemy's best troops under conditions which favored his defense."

"In this respect I desire to emphasize the supreme importance of adequate training prior to placing troops in the line of battle. It is essential if sacrifice is to be avoided and success assured that troops going into battle should first be given the opportunity for special training under officers who are to lead them in the task which they are to be called upon to perform."

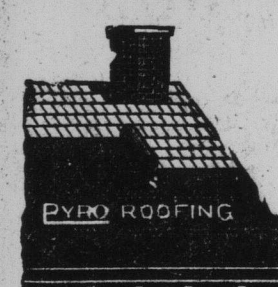
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As Absorbine, Jr., is a powerful germicide as well as a liniment, it is effective for prophylactic and aseptic uses; it destroys the germs in cuts and sores; it may be diluted and used successfully as an antiseptic and germicide for the mouth and throat.

Athletes will find it efficient for limbering sore, stiff muscles. A good formula for a rub-down is one ounce of Absorbine, Jr., to a quart of water, or witch hazel.

It is composed of vegetable extracts and essential oils and is positively harmless. Get a bottle today and keep it in your desk, in your traveling bag, in your medicine cabinet or in the side pocket of your automobile. It is health insurance of a high type.

At most druggists or sent postpaid on receipt of \$1.00. Trial bottle for 10c in stamps.

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317 Lyman Bldg., Montreal, Can.

USE THE WANT AD. WAY

RECENT DEATHS

Mrs. Lucy Olsen, widow of Capt. N. A. Olsen, died in Halifax on Monday, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. D. Barnes. Mrs. H. C. Phalen, Montreal, is a daughter and Charles Edmond of the Home Guards at Halifax, and Horatio G. Enlow, in the hardware business here, are sons. A sister is Mrs. Michael Shea and a brother, Richard Sullivan, both of St. John.

At Mapleton, Me., Mrs. Hannah Ann Belyea, widow of F. H. Belyea, died, aged seventy-eight years. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Cook of Cold Stream, N. B.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Parker will learn with regret of the death of their youngest child, which took place on January 8 at Cheyne Settlement, after a short illness, age one year and eight months.

"The Auto Man and the War."

Le... Dec. 26—(Correspondence)—Some motor cars in this city are being converted into gas-driven vehicles. So many men are engaged on this work that it is probable the government will take steps to forbid the use of gas as a propellant where petrol licenses have been refused.

THE GOVERNMENT CONTEMPLATES A NEW

The government contemplates a new and really thorough "national registration" scheme with a view of determining the labor resources of Canada. This means compulsion for farm labor if necessary.