

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 12, 1912.

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## HELPING THEIR FRIENDS

Some interesting facts were brought out by the Public Accounts Committee at Fredericton yesterday. It was shown that in Restigouche county the tender system was entirely ignored in connection with the purchase of lumber, and also that the secretary of the highway board acted as foreman at road work at \$2 per day. This latter fact was commented upon by Hon. Mr. Robinson, who declared that the highway board in many cases was merely a farce, the funds being distributed by the secretary. The accounts show that on one bridge in Restigouche county \$23 was paid for housing a job, for which the workmen only got \$215, and also that the lumber for repair of one of the bridges was taken from one end of the county to the other, the province paying the freight. It is somewhat difficult, because of the manner in which the accounts are entered up in the auditor-general's report, to get at details of expenditure, but the members of the opposition have brought out facts enough to show extreme partisanship and a disregard for the public interest in the expenditure of the public funds. What is shown to have been true in regard to Restigouche county is true of all the counties, and the public service suffers because of the grossly partisan methods which prevail in the various departments.

## THE UNHAPPY GLOBE

The Globe is not yet fully reconciled to the fact that the commission form of government has been adopted in St. John. Therefore it publishes with exceptional relish some paragraphs from the New York Sun, which appear to indicate that the commission at present in power in the city of Des Moines is not composed of the best elements in the city. The Globe goes further and states that a gentleman from Des Moines was brought to St. John to tell the people here of the benefits of the new system. The Times is not in a position to say whether the New York Sun's criticism of the Des Moines commission is justified or not, but it was not a gentleman from Des Moines who came to St. John. It was Mr. E. A. Sherman, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who addressed the citizens of St. John on the commission plan of government. It may have escaped the Globe's memory, but the opponents of commission sent a representative to Cedar Rapids and also, we believe, to Des Moines, to investigate on the spot; and his conclusions were more favorable to commission than otherwise.

## THE POPE'S HEALTH

All thoughts were turned to Rome yesterday when a rumor was flashed across the cable to the effect that the Pope had passed away. Later cables showed that the rumor was without foundation. Though in poor health for some time, the condition of His Holiness has not at any time been regarded as critical.

In a reference to the Pope the Montreal Witness of Wednesday says: "Although his diplomacy has been more assertive than that of his predecessors he is personally known as a simple, kindly, very human man of the people." There was something very human and very pathetic in the statement made in a cable on Monday last to the effect that the Pope's physician declined to permit him to hear by telephone the sound of the bells of Venice, fearing that the emotion would affect his heart in a dangerous manner, for of late he had pined in the Vatican, homesick for his beloved Venice. Whether the story about the telephone be true or not, the thought of the earthly head of a great church longing for the scenes of his quieter life in former years is one that appeals very strongly to the mind.

## UNDER A DICTATORSHIP

A remarkable condition of affairs politically has come to pass in British Columbia. There is not a Liberal member in the legislature. The province is practically under autocratic rule. The cabinet can do about as it pleases, and that will be what pleases Premier McBride and the Hon. Mr. Bower. The province will have a kind of dictatorship throughout the legislative term. It is hardly worth while to undergo the expense of legislative sessions. For all the difference it would make the members might as well stay at home and let Mr. McBride and his colleagues distribute their favors at their pleasure. That is what they will do in any case, for the Liberal party is without a spokesman in the legislative hall. There is no danger that the Conservative members of the house will manifest any degree of independence, for enormous sums of money are to be expended by the government, and every constituency will want its share and the member for each constituency will play into the hands of the government.

Mr. O. S. Crockett, M.P., was invited to attend the Hazen banquet, but appears to have declined the honor. Mr. Crockett has not forgotten that his chances for a place in the Hazen cabinet were destroyed when Mr. Hazen went to Ottawa. Evidently he has not yet recovered from the blow to his political hopes.

A new provincial jail for part of British Columbia is to be established on Vancouver Island. It is stated that several offenders and persons convicted of minor offences will be kept apart from older convicts, and those imprisoned on more serious charges. There will be a farm in connection with the jail, and out of door work will be provided for the prisoners.

It is believed that by adopting this system some at least of the less hardened offenders will be reformed.

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The exports from St. John to the United States in the first quarter of this year showed an increase in value of \$108,490.83 over those for the like period in 1911. The bank clearings at St. John for the same period show a very substantial increase. The freight and passenger traffic of the winter port steamers is making a new record. The year 1912 has opened very auspiciously for St. John, and the outlook is still more cheering.

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Mr. Armand Lavergne has gone to Manitoba to thank Premier Roblin for what has been done in the matter of separate schools in that province. Mr. Lavergne says that while the settlement does not theoretically establish separate schools its operation will necessarily tend to their restoration in fact. One would expect that Manitoba legislation to create some state in the province of Ontario, but as yet peace reigns and the Borden government still lives.

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There does not appear to be anything dangerous to British interests in the Irish Home Rule bill. Mr. Aquith says it is the first step in a large scheme of devolution, which will hand over the separate interests of the different parts of the United Kingdom to their special representatives. In this bill the special authority is simply safeguarded. Ireland is given autonomy in purely Irish affairs. It appears to be a reasonable proposition.

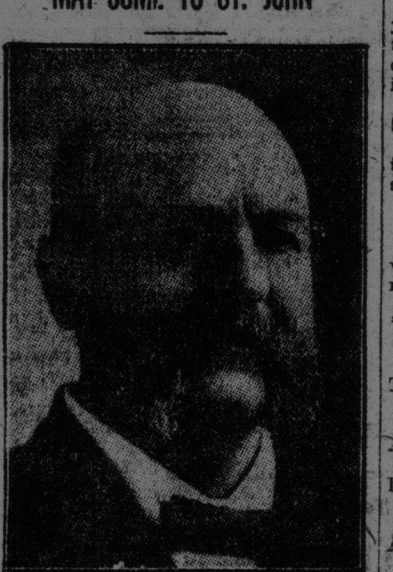
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The adoption by the Liberals of Ontario of a policy which would abolish the bar in that province is giving Sir James Whitney a great deal of trouble. He has suggested that the treating habit might be abolished, and has brought in a bill providing that hereafter liquor cannot be stored in local option municipalities. This is a great gain for local option. In view of the trend of public sentiment it will probably not be many years before Ontario adopts prohibition.

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The people of this province are weary of the tactics pursued by the Fleming government. Mr. Copp yesterday moved an amendment expressing disapproval of the partisan course of the government, its extravagance and its increase of the public debt. Hon. Mr. Morrisey at once rose and began an attack upon the old government, which was defeated in 1908. Is that the best Mr. Morrisey can do in reply to the charges made against the government of which he is a member? The people dealt with the old government in 1908. They are now awaiting the opportunity to deal with the Fleming government. Mr. Copp, in his exhaustive speech on the budget has mercilessly exposed the weakness and ineptitude of the government, and its members and supporters can do nothing better in reply than to assail a former administration. It is time for a change.

## MAY COME TO ST. JOHN



Anthony Comstock, a prominent New York social purist, who is touring Canadian cities, advocating greater advances towards social purity.

## STEEL TRUST IS RAPED

Washington, April 11—Labor conditions in plants of the United States Steel Corporation were denounced as "a brutal system of industrial slavery" in the senate labor and education committee report on the proposed eight-hour law for government contract labor, submitted today.

"This government is bound, in its own defence, for its citizenship, its life, to interpose between the strong and the weak," the report declares. "No man can meet the obligations and discharge the duties of citizenship in a free government who is broken in spirit and weakened in body through such industrial peonage. And before he has reached the prime of life under such conditions, evidence in mind and broken in health, he is cast off as a useless hulk—a burden and a curse in society and a menace to the government. It is just as much the government's duty to protect citizens from our outrageous treatment as from the burglar and the highway man."

The report, made by Senator Borah, of Idaho, chairman of the committee, said the proposed law would mean better work, better citizens, and was constitutional.

The citizens of Montevideo, Uruguay, lay claim to the strongest searchlight in the world. The light has recently been placed on the roof of a high bank building in one of the city's squares. The candle power is 90,000,000, and the light can be seen for eleven miles.

## KING COLE TEA

You'll like the flavor

IN LIGHTER VEIN

WHAT DOWNTRODDEN FARMER CAN DO.

Spent a day off at the seaside; send his wife to Europe now; Send his children off to college; let the servants box and plough. Nay, the farmer is not sleeping; is not crazy working now. But a man of means and muscle, well developed at the plough. Who in mental calculation rules the world and market now.

—Wisconsin Equity News.

CLEANING A VACUUM.

Algy (having a vibro-shampoo for the first time): "Like a baby vacuum cleaner. Eh, what?"

Harber (absent minded): "Yes; sir, it's a Tattler."

COULD HAVE HAD HIM.

Algy (to his wife): "You always said you'd enjoy riding my dog but my husband is never suited with it."

Trump: "Ah, my dear, isn't it a pity you didn't meet me first?" —Boston Transcript.

SAME OLD STORY.

Gabe: "Johnson is always broke. What's the matter with him?"

"Steve: "He's always trying to get rich quick." —Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE DIFFERENCE.

"Ever try to borrow money from an optimist?"

"No."

"An optimist always feels sure your luck will change and doesn't let you have it."

"How about a pessimist?"

"A pessimist feels sure you'll never return the money, and to prove his point lets you have it." —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

KIND-HEARTED.

Victor: "Your daughter, er—doesn't seem quite sure which note to strike."

Mrs. Bluffem: "Oh, my no. She plays with a great deal of feeling." —Philadelphia Record.

As a party of ladies and gentlemen were climbing to the top of a high church tower one day a gentleman remarked:

"This is rather a spiritual kind of step."

To which a lady rejoined:

"Yes; perspicacious."

And she wiped her brow as she spoke.

AIMING TOO HIGH.

Raymond said to Jones and Miss Martz: "I've got a new idea for a long process, but Jones and Miss Martz had made it a long time ago."

They stayed just inside the front door, and murmured softly, saying nothing, but talking a lot.

"Then came the dead moment. He really must go."

When they returned tonight, pleaded the young man, who was in deeply earnest, but rather slow, "do you think it would be proper of me to place one reverent kiss of love and devotion on your white brow?"

The young lady took the lead then. It was time she did. Placing her head quietly on his shoulder, she looked into his eyes and murmured:

"Well, Jimmy, I think it would be rather out of place. What's the matter with my life?"

HIS 'GREATEST SCHEME'.

He was a genius. There was no doubt about it. His hair was long, and there was a dreamy, faraway look in his eyes, and he had a certain air of mystery about him—rich—rich beyond the dreams of avarice.

"What is your scheme?" asked a friend of his as he sat in the corner of a room.

"Come to a quiet corner, and I will tell you," said the long-haired one. "It is this: I have been estimating that the common female house-fly lays 20,000 eggs in a season."

"Well," answered his friend, "what of that?"

"I propose," continued the other, in a triumphant voice, "to graft the house-fly onto the hen!"

SEASONABLE LITERATURE.

According to a technical magazine for writers this is the time to send Christmas stories to the magazines.

'Twas Christmas eve and through the town (Just hear that meadow-lark a-singing!) The silent snow was coming down; (Say, wife, that bonfire smoke is killing!)

A little orphan, lonely maid, (That orphan man, again, doggone it!) Looked at some Christmas gifts displayed. (This thing about buy your Easter bonnet!)

A chaplain snatched down the street: (One catch these first gifts days are setting!) He gazed upon the maid so sweet. (These Christmas yarns are always trifling!)

He clasped her to his heaving breast; (What's that, the lady, will not need seeding!) Adoption, joy and all the rest. (There! mail it now for Christmas reading!)

BLOOD TELLS

Good blood tells, they say and bad blood certainly does. Poor or disordered blood tells its own story in lowered vitality, loss of energy, in skin eruptions in rheumatic pains and in a pallid or sallow appearance of the complexion.

This is the season of the year when the blood is most apt to be disordered. Take

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### BEAD NECKLETS

Received by this morning's mail. These are all goods and the price is most reasonable.

**Allan Gundry - - - 79 King Street**

### Exhibition Tenders

Individual tenders will be received up to noon, Monday, April 15th, for the various concessions in connection with the 1912 Exhibition, such as the Pile privileges, Amusement Hall, Confectionery, Cigars, Mineral Water, Dining Rooms, etc.

Particulars may be obtained on application to Horace A. Porter, Secretary. A deposit of 10 per cent should accompany each tender.

### NOT IN THE CABINET.

The striking personal appearance of President Taft will save any visitor such an experience as fell to the lot of a certain General Brown of Missouri, who once went to the White House to give a newly elected president some pointers about his cabinet. While he was waiting in the ante-room he accented a man who was glancing over a paper.

"I suppose that you are here on the same errand as I am?" he remarked.

"I don't know," replied the stranger pleasantly. "What errand are you on?"

"I'm going to tell that old chump in there how to fix his cabinet."

"No," returned the stranger, politely. "I can't say that I am on that errand."

"Maybe you ain't a politician?"

"No," returned the stranger, politely. "I'm the old chump."

General Brown was not in the cabinet.

### NEW BRUNSWICKER BOXED POTATOES

Every One Hand Picked and Packed

If your grocer does not handle them ask your friend's grocer.

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Genuine bears Number 1286 on label—Look for it.

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Low Heels, Toe Cap - - - 3.00  
Moles, sizes 11 to 2 - - - 2.50  
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Infants, sizes 5 to 7 1/2 - - 1.50

These are beautiful fitting, splendid wearing shoes at a very moderate price.

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