

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19, 1907.

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THE EVENING TIMES, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH. New Brunswick's Independent newspapers. These newspapers advocate: British connection. Honesty in public life. Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion. No graft! No deals! "The Thistle, Shamrock, Rose entwined, The Maple Leaf forever."

A PROTEST

A local paragraph in a morning paper calls attention to the disgraceful condition of a portion of Charlotte street sidewalks in the evenings, as a result of utter failure to enforce the law against expectoration on the sidewalks and in public places. The largest sign in one place frequented by men in this city is a wall card which says: "Don't spit on the floor." No one who enters can fail to see it, and yet it is disregarded. It is really disheartening to observe the number of persons whose personal habits in this respect can only be described as filthy. In front of the nickel shows and at other places of public resort the presence of men and boys is marked by evidence of an utter disregard of public decency in this respect. Yet we never hear of a man or boy being arrested and fined for the offense. Why?

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The interviews with St. John manufacturers which the Times prints today are typical of what is said by the manufacturers in Canadian cities generally. They show that as yet there has been no lessening of activity in the factories of this country. In some lines of production no slowing down is expected. In others, as the wood and metal trades, it is expected that there will be a gradual lessening of operations. In wood goods prices are already low and markets dull, and metals may follow suit to some extent. But for the present the conditions are satisfactory and the wage-earners are busy. Of course the financial situation has become strained in Canada, but not at all in comparison with that in the United States. The Canadian banks have met the demands made upon them, but are pursuing a very conservative policy as a check upon speculative tendencies in a somewhat critical period in the world's finance. The government of the United States has been compelled to resort to extraordinary measures to relieve the monetary situation in that country, and has not met with remarkable success, even in this course; but there can be no doubt that with a slackening of industry and speculation there will come ease in the money market.

The situation in Canada is not without its anxieties, and the people do well to provide against a period of quieter times. The trade statement for the seven months ending with October is not as satisfactory as could be wished, since with a very large gain in imports it shows an actual loss in exports, as compared with the like period last year. Nevertheless the general state of industry and trade in Canada, in comparison with that elsewhere, must be regarded with satisfaction, showing, as it does, the sustaining power of our institutions and the strength of our resources.

COST OF LIVING

The article which the Times reprints from the Halifax Mail, on the subject of the increased cost of living, may present an extreme view of the case, but it is nevertheless a striking statement. The householder who is compelled to live today on the same income as he received ten years ago knows the difference, and the difficulty in making ends meet. The class upon whom the changed conditions press most heavily are those wage-earners, like clerks in stores and offices, whose salaries have not increased nearly in proportion to those of organized labor. One of the undoubted benefits of organization, however unsatisfactory some phases of the disputes between organized labor and capitalists may be, has been an increase in wages, and in some cases this increase has been greater than that in the cost of living.

On this point the Ottawa Journal has a very interesting article from which we quote: "During the past few years the prices of necessities have gone up. Labor, food, clothes, all cost more than they did. How has the average wage-earner fared? Has he gained or lost by reason of the high prices? The United States Bulletin of Labor of recent issue publishes returns of present wages, hours of labor, etc., together with comparisons, in over 4,000 of the leading industrial establishments of the United States; also details of the cost of food now as compared with cost in years past. "It appears that in the four thousand

industrial establishments under review the average weekly earnings were 3.9 per cent. greater in 1906 than in 1905, while the retail cost of the food purchased by the wage-earners had increased by only 2.9 per cent. in the same period. In other words the increase in wage exceeded the increase in cost of living by one per cent. And moreover in spite of the increased wage there was an average reduction of a half per cent. in the hours of labor each week. So that the workman in the United States was better off, so to say, last year, than he was the year before. "Carried farther back the showing is even more favorable. The average weekly wage in these 4,000 representative establishments last year was 18.1-2 per cent. in excess of the average weekly earnings from 1890 to 1899. On the other hand, the retail price of food shows an increase in the interval of only 15.7 per cent. Thus the earning power increased in the ten year period nearly three per cent. more than did the cost of food. "It is possible that a similar showing would be made in respect of wages and living cost in Canada if the figures were available. It is fair to assume at any rate that the increases in the states have been fairly duplicated in Canada. But the figures quoted from the United States Bulletin of Labor take no count of 1907 and it is quite certain that the cost of food alone has increased in both the United States and Canada much more rapidly than wages have increased. And the item of rents—which is not mentioned in the present calculation has to be figured. "As stated at the outset, the unorganized class of clerks, which is really a very large class, has not shared in proportion to the increase in wages, and their hope lies in the fact that a slowing down of the industrial pace must result in lower prices of the commodities that make up the actual necessities of life.

The Montreal Star, in an article on the inefficiency of the police force of that city, makes a striking statement which is general in its application:—"The foundations of our society rest on the enforcement of law and order. It is a perilous thing to permit the criminally inclined to arrive at the conclusion that they can outwit the police and not be made answerable for their crimes."

MILITIA AND THE MCGILL COURSE (Ottawa Citizen) A course in military science has been opened at McGill university in imitation of the system in vogue in England. Some time ago inquiries were made whether militia officers in Montreal and the surrounding district could take advantage of this course, but apparently it is to be restricted to the education of permanent corps officers or those desiring commissions in the British army. Why this restriction should be made is difficult to see. Any opportunities for higher education in the Canadian militia should be taken advantage of, because that force constitutes the main reliance of Canada, and the officers of it should be afforded every facility to make themselves more valuable to the country. If they are prepared to make sacrifices to attain a higher equipment of scientific knowledge, it seems strange that they should not be encouraged in every possible manner. They are barred by the age limit from taking advantage of the Royal Military college, and while that excellent institution is supported at a large expense to the public, there has not been a period in its history when it has been of the slightest use to the military rather than to educate graduates for commissions in the permanent corps or the British army. Why this restriction should exist is one of those things that no practical person can understand. There are numbers of militia officers who would be willing to take advantage of higher education in tactics, strategy, and staff duties if the opportunity were afforded, but so far as the Royal Military college is concerned, the interests of the militia of the Dominion of Canada are ignored. The same attitude apparently is to be assumed in connection with the higher military education at McGill. As the military force of Canada is a purely militia organization, why should it dictate that forces should receive the chief benefit from any public money expended on military education. Instead of that, the policy seems to be to educate professional officers chiefly for the British army. Why this should be the case is one of those things no fellow can understand.

POVERTY AND SCHOOLS (Butler's Journal.)

There are some poor families in this city who are not able to properly clothe and shoe their children fit to send them to school at the prices at which commodities now range. As there are no ragged "schools" and school attendance is now compulsory, it is up to the board to fit them out to appear decently, or stop its belittling about truancy an occasional lunch thrown might have a stimulating effect and brighten up the ideas of those who have not too much to eat.

The schooner Venita, before reported as sinking at sea off Eastern Point on Thursday last, was on the passage from New York to St. John with a load of sulphur for the Miramichi pulp mill. The crew had a terrible experience. William Plant, of New Brunswick, had his feet so badly frozen that they will have to be amputated. The crew are: Captain Giesman Randall, cook, John McGill and Fred Norwick, most of whom belong to St. John. They were for fifty hours in a small boat and all are in a serious condition from exposure. They have been taken to one of the Boston city hospitals.

Barry, Nov. 12—Steamer Usher (Br.), from Rotterdam, arrived here today with stem damaged, having been in collision with a Norwegian steamer (before reported). The Norwegian was considerably damaged and put into Dover.

Big Sale of Water Damaged Clothing Now On at HARVEY'S, Opera House Block.

The Secret of Health and comfort during the cold weather lies in keeping the feet warm and dry. You can get Insoles that will do it. Cork Insoles For Women and Men, 10c a pair. Hair Insoles For Women and Men, 10c. a pair. WE HAVE THEM.

Christmas Goods. DOLLS OF EVERY KIND from 1c. Each up. TOYS ALL KINDS. Tin, Iron, Wood, Mechanical, Steam, Etc. DOLLS' CARRIAGES all sizes, Dolls' Sleighs, Frames, Sleds, Carts, Barrows. IN STAPLE and every day goods on Stock of Cheap Crockery and Granite-ware is always complete. LOTS OF GAMES, Dominoes, Checkers, Cards, Etc. almost everything you want. Can be had at WATSON & CO.'S, Cor. Charlotte and Union Sts. 1877. 1907.

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Over-Supply Of Men's Black and Blue Stripe Working Shirts we are offering at 38 Cents. CHAS. McCONNELL, 577 Main Street.

For Under Rubbers. We have secured a large lot of Ladies' Donagola Laced Boots, some with patent tips, some with dull kid tops. There is quite a variety—all sizes, including half numbers. PRICE \$1.50. PERCY J. STEEL, Foot Furnisher. 519-521 MAIN STREET SUCCESSOR TO WM. YOUNG

We are busy cutting Oilcloths now. Floor Oilcloths, 1 yd., 1 1-2 and 2 yds. wide. Oilcloth Squares for under stoves. Oilcloth Braided Mats, 35c and 45c. each. WETMORE'S TABLE OILCLOTHS. 59 Garden St.

DADDY'S HOME COMING is 'round 'bout six o'clock. And I skin through the old back gate, And half way down the block, To meet my dad, who's coming home— Coming home for tea. Mother and I just hug him tight— He's our 'big man' you see. He washes up, slick and clean And puts his arms around me. The mother is poaching eggs. How sweet she smells so nice. And Daddy says, "I'm glad I'm here! How sweet you are to me!" Mother and I just love him so— He's our 'big man' you see. He tells us stuff to make us laugh. Like two big stars and all the time. Seem saying, "He's all mine!" And oh, we love him awful well, Over did we love him for tea. I don't think we could help it, He's our 'big man' you see. A. E. C.

IN LIGHTER VEIN SAYING TIME. Atlanta Constitution. "Judge," said the colored prisoner, "I expected ter tell the truth?" "Why, of course you are." "Well then, de go ahead an' sentence me fust!" THE CHANGE. Philadelphia Press. "You don't love me no more, do you?" declared the terminally wife. "Before we were married you considered me absolutely perfect." "I interrupted the downtrodden husband, "but now you're perfectly absolute." A WALKING SHOP. London Mail. In the pockets of a boy, who met with an accident, and who was taken to St. Bartholomew's hospital yesterday, were found a diamond ring, numerous buttons, four yards of string, three pen-knives, a metal watch, several lead pencils, foreign stamps, two fish hooks, and a Japanese cracker.

BEST DOG STORY YET. London Mail. A Mitcham dog named Wilkinson who noticed a collie dog hiding something in a ditch at Figg's Marsh, and carefully covering it with mud, was taken to thirty-three pennies hidden at the spot. The dog had been taught to take pennies to a shop and buy himself a bun. Evidently when he was not hungry he put the money away for a rainy day. I KNEW IT! (Lippincott's Magazine.) I knew your watch could not keep time— I told you so! I said that was a worthless dime— I told you so! I warned you not to touch that meat, I said that peck was no granite, About that candidate's defeat— I told you so!

A TROUBLESOME NAME (Saturday Herald) Tudor Jenks, the author of many bits of humorous verse and prose, has always had difficulty on first meeting people in getting them to accept his name as his own. They instead of regarding it as a rather odd pseudonym. Recently the matter has grown worse, and he has experienced difficulty in establishing his right in articulate speech. The other day, in front of the Fifth Avenue Hotel, Mr. Jenks was an involuntary witness to a fight between two cab-drivers. The men were promptly arrested and Mr. Jenks was held to court with them to tell what he had seen. The police magistrate, an elderly, gruff and short-tempered. "What is your name?" asked the lawyer. "Tudor Jenks." "Once more, please." "Tudor Jenks." A sharp rap from the court, and this explosion: "Witness will stop making a funny noise, and give his name!"

PEOPLE OF NOTE

Hon. Joseph Forney Johnston recently sent to the United States senate from Alabama, was born in 1842 in Lincoln County, North Carolina. He was at school at the outbreak of the Civil War and at once drew himself into the ranks of the Confederate army as a private, serving from 1861 to 1865 and rising from private to captain. He was wounded four times. He began the practice of law in Selma, Ala., where he built up a lucrative practice which he held until 1884 when he became president of the Alabama National Bank. He retained this position for a decade and shortly afterwards was chosen as governor of his state serving from 1896 until 1900. His home is in Birmingham, Ala. A hairbreadth escape from being hurled to death by a giant waterpout in the Gulf Stream, half a vessel's length away, was the story brought into port yesterday by Capt. Hoel and crew of the Norwegian bark Formica from Plymouth (Eng.). The waterpout, reaching almost to the clouds, seemed headed for the bark. Its speed exceeded that of an express train. The tremendous mass of water swept by half a mile from the bark, when it burst with a loud report.

D. BOYANER, Scientific Optician, 38 Dock St. The interior of the eye has no secrets for the modern optician. By the aid of proper instruments, all details of sight are discovered, and proper glasses may then be fitted. Consult D. Boyaner, 38 Dock street, about your eyes. Gloves, etc. Just received, 50 dozen Men's, Boys and Girls' Fancy Knit Gloves. Samples, 5c. to 6c. pair. 10 dozen Handkerchiefs—50 dozen are samples—30 to 50c. each. Wholesale prices very low. Embroidered Handkerchiefs in Lawn and Linen, Lace and Embroidered. 100 Plain Linen and Lawn. Special values in Hosiery and Underwear.

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