

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1913

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOV. 18, 1913.

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## GOVERNMENT IN CHINA

China as a republic has not shown itself well suited to democratic government. This was to be expected. China has been under despotic rule so long that only through much turmoil and trouble will her people be made familiar with modern methods of government, such as prevail for example in Canada. And yet a good deal of progress appears to have been made in China, and although of late there has been a distinct reaction, there is no apparent reason to believe that a return to the conditions which existed before the revolution would now be acceptable to the people. It rather would they patiently work out their destiny under the new order of things.

The news came last week from Peking that parliament was suspended by the voluntary act of what was left of the members of the two houses. Some three hundred members of the Democratic party, followers of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, had been expelled from Peking, and after their departure neither house could obtain a quorum. We are informed that President Yuan Shi Kai will probably substitute an administrative council of seventy-one members for the parliament which has passed out of existence, and that the members of this council will be appointed by himself and the various provincial governors. This of course will give the president practically autocratic power, but perhaps a benevolent autocracy for a time would not be a bad thing for China, at this stage of the evolution of its governmental system.

It is worthy of note that Yuan Shi Kai has gained for himself a great deal of credit for the manner in which he has conducted himself and controlled the affairs of China through so critical a period as that following the downfall of the Imperial system. We find, for example, that the British minister at Peking, addressing the China Association in London not long ago, paid a very warm tribute to the president. A report of the British minister's address says: "The election of Yuan Shi Kai as president had placed supreme power in the hands of an eminent statesman, who for two years, had directed the affairs of the country with a clearness of vision and an unswerving steadiness of purpose which had evoked universal admiration and respect. Only those who knew the difficulties which he had to confront at every turn, and the mastery manner in which he had met them, could fully realize the almost unparalleled services which that great man had rendered to his country. The task before him was one of gigantic proportions. First and foremost was the question of finance, which was really the pivot of the whole situation. The Chinese themselves realized that the country which lived on foreign money had a very precarious existence, and it was his own personal opinion that until the provinces recognized in a practical way their obligations to the central government, there was very little prospect of seeing a strong and united China, which was the main object of British policy. Those of them who had lived the best years of their lives in China, and had learned to like the people and to admire them for their many good qualities rejoiced to believe that the Chinese were destined to play a great part in the history of the world."

The closing remark of the British minister is undoubtedly well founded. The people of China are clever, and they are destined to play a great part in the world's history. When the industries of that country are developed, and come into contact with the industries of the western world, the latter will find it necessary to use much greater skill to compete with the cost of manufacture than has been used in the past, or the Oriental goods will command the market. But, apart from material considerations, the Oriental mind, brought into closer contact with that of Europe and America, will not only be itself affected, but will produce a noteworthy effect upon the thought of those continents. China and Japan together within the next century will very materially alter the complexion of the world's affairs.

Which is more fit for democratic government—Mexico or China?

British Columbia leads all the provinces in the value of its fisheries. The like is true of minerals, while its forests are also of enormous value. In recent years it has developed a great orchard industry. The population of the province has more than doubled in ten years.

There is a bill after the recent winter port storm, but the citizens of St. John must keep the main issue well to the front. There must be such an increase in terminal facilities at West St. John for the winter of 1914-15 as will make it impossible for any steamship corporation to plead the lack of them as an excuse for seeking another port. Also the provision of facilities at Courtenay Bay by the time they are needed by the Grand Trunk Pacific and St. John Valley Railway must be pressed steadily and firmly upon the government, not merely in the interest of St. John development but of the trade of Canada. St. John is the Canadian seaport nearest

to the heart of Canada during the winter season.

The cost of living in Canada continues to go up. The tariff must soon begin to come down.

Hon. Mr. Hasen would not be surprised to see Prince Rupert become the greatest centre of the fresh fish trade in the world. Prince Rupert is a creation of the Laurier government, which had the courage to undertake the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

Out of their meagre supply of cattle the maritime provinces are exporting many carloads to the western provinces, and there is also a demand from the United States. The farmer's opportunity is obvious. There should be a revival of cattle raising on a large scale, for the demand will increase.

It is not too soon to remind the people that the Christmas season draws nigh, and that Christmas purchases are made to the greatest satisfaction of the purchaser when there is no hurry in making the choice. After a busy year the citizens of St. John should have a very enjoyable Christmas season.

Hon. Mr. Hasen made it clear to his auditors last evening that in the interest of the Pacific coast salmon fisheries the United States should follow Canada's example and adopt and carry out the terms of the treaty respecting the coast fisheries in boundary waters. President Taft failed to secure ratification by Congress, but President Wilson hopes to do better.

Hon. J. D. Hasen last evening pointed out to the Canadian Club that a much larger proportion than the members had perhaps realized of the tonnage of Canadian vessels is found on the great lakes. The recent war of destruction of vessels and loss of life on the lakes further reminds us of the extent and the importance of the traffic on our inland waters. There is a feeling that the requirements with regard to the strength and seaworthiness of lake vessels have not been rigid enough, and this is a matter which should be looked into without delay. Seldom does a storm on the Atlantic coast take anything like the dreadful toll of human life that marked the recent storm on the lakes. All Canada mourns with those who have been bereaved, and the response to the appeal for aid will be Dominion-wide.

It was not without reason that the countenance of President Kurling of the Canadian Club was radiant at the club luncheon last week and this week. Though coming so close together the members were out in force on both occasions, and at each the names of some new members were posted. Not only so, but Mr. Kurling was able to announce the coming of two more speakers in the near future whose message will be awaited with keen and universal interest. For some time the club, through no fault of the executive, had been taking a holiday. Several speakers who were booked had at the last moment to cancel their engagements, and the list of available speakers seemed to be limited. Now the conditions have changed, and there is reason to anticipate a series of very interesting addresses during the winter months.

**EARTH GROWING SLOWLY**  
Days Becoming Longer, But Change Is Imperceptible.

If any one has ever worried over the claims that have been made that our days will become longer they should cease their worrying right now, unless they have drunk the fountain of eternal youth, because the greatest astronomers and mathematicians have agreed that while it is true that the day will become longer, the rate of their increase will be about 46,000 years for the first additional second.

It has been pointed out that a weight on a string revolved around the finger will increase its revolutions as the string winds up. In the same way, claims have been made, will the earth increase its velocity on its axis as material is added to it.

There seems to be no question but what slight additions to the earth result as it constantly attracts and holds meteoric bodies. Only rarely do large meteorites fall, but tiny particles are constantly added to it. Of course, this would take thousands of years to make the slightest difference in the revolutions of the earth, and would be largely offset by a slight shrinkage as the earth cools.

Astronomical observations extending over a period of more than 2000 years have failed to show any sensible changes in the day, but the influences of the tides must become evident after a lapse of a great many years. One authority has declared that the day may lengthen until it is at least fifty times as long as it is now, and that would be the period of the revolution of the moon around the earth. However, from all reckoning, such a day of 1250 hours will not come for millions and millions of years.

—Rohoboth Sunday Herald.

One of the new universities in Alberta, in the Canadian Northwest, has adopted the Harvard crimson as its color and has written to the university in Cambridge asking for samples of the cloth in order that the exact shade may be secured. The compliment was accepted and the samples sent.

## BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18.

Hon. Frank Cochrane, minister of railways and canals, is sixty-one years of age today, having been born at Clarenceville, Que., on Nov. 18, 1852. He was for some years a hardware merchant in Sudbury, Ont., and in 1905 entered the Ontario government as minister of lands, forests and mines. He went to Ottawa in 1911.

W. S. Allward, a noted Toronto sculptor, is thirty-eight years old today. He was born in Toronto, of Newfoundland parentage, and has been devoted to his art all his life. He has many important commissions to handle and was recently awarded the commission for making the King Edward memorial in Ottawa.

Hon. A. C. Chadwick, of Guelph, county court judge for Wellington County, Ont., was born on Nov. 18, 1842, in Ancaster, Ont.

## LIGHTER VEIN

**Cetterton**  
Johnny—Is the Mississippi a very long river, Jimmie?  
Jimmie—Gee, yes. It's so long I can't even spell it.

**Booze Up Day**  
A Boston man has a son who has just entered school. He was supposed to be enjoying it, but one morning this week he walked into the dining room where his father was having breakfast and remarked:

"I'm tired of going to school, pa. I think I'll stop."  
"Why?" asked the father, "what is your objection to going to school?"  
"Oh," answered the boy, "it breaks up the day so."

**Clinging Gowns**  
The two women were discussing the choice. After a busy year the citizens of St. John should have a very enjoyable Christmas season.

**Other Conditions**  
"Bliss is a terribly obstinate man."  
"You once said he had great moral courage."  
"Yes, but that was when he was doing something I approved of."

**How the Squirrels Must Love Him!**  
"That chap has a kind heart. He has a chestnut tree on his place and every day the children come and find nuts on the ground."  
"But that tree no longer bears."  
"I know. He buys the nuts in town,"—*Baltimore Courier-Journal.*

**Just So**  
Waller—What is your idea of ridiculousness?  
Wilder—Smoking a 25-cent cigar after a 10-cent lunch.

**Which the Best Man Doesn't**  
"A bride is above all ordinary considerations."  
"In what way?"  
"She considers the bridegroom better than the best man."—*Baltimore American.*

**The Modest Enthusiast**  
"How did you enjoy my sermon?"  
"Fine. I know a lot of fellows you were hitting hard."

**The Worst**  
"Doctor, tell me the worst. I will bear up bravely."  
"Well, I think it will be necessary for me to come to see you every day for at least two weeks yet."

**A Beautiful Love**  
"Is she very much in love with him?"  
"Very. She still believes it is the other fellow's fault when he stays out late at night."

**What Pa Does**  
Mary Jane takes fiddle lessons; Marguerite goes in for vocal; She may have a "voice" some day. Any takes on the piano; She can play "The Maiden's Prayer." Hulla has gone in for painting. Some day she'll paint pictures rare.

Brother John is learning polo; No one seems to know just why Pa takes acrobatic lessons; Maybe some day he will fly. Ma's a suffragette. Her name is on each contribution list.

And she's taking up the study of the game they call bridge whist. Father? Oh, he's not ambitious. Doesn't care for high-toned frills; With a family of such talent, All he does is to pay the bills.

—*London Daily Mail.*

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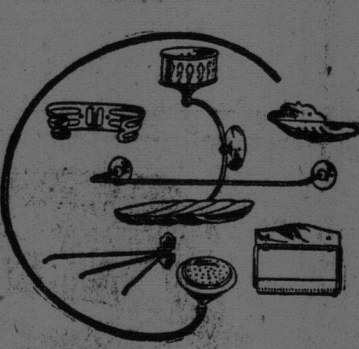
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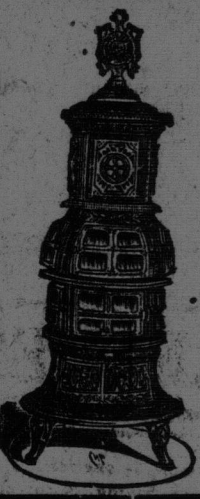
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