

# POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1921

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ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 30, 1921.

The St. John Evening Times is printed at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by The St. John Times Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., a company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. Telephone—Private exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417. Subscription Prices—Delivered by carrier, \$4.00 per year; by mail, \$5.00 per year in Canada. By mail to United States \$5.00 per year. The Times has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces. Special Advertising Representatives—NEW YORK, Frank R. Northrup, 350 Madison Ave.—CHICAGO, E. J. Power, Manager, Association Bldg. The Audit Bureau of Circulation audits the circulation of The Evening Times.

#### THE RETAIL MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION.

The Retail Merchants' Association of Canada, which opened its convention in Winnipeg last week, is an important organization in the life of the community, and its meeting this year should be followed by results of great benefit to all concerned. In welcoming the merchants the Manitoba Free Press said: "The delegates, in the main, are substantial business men from various parts of the Dominion who, quite properly, are interested in the welfare of their own business and also in the general subject of merchandising. If one were to study the business careers of the delegates attending this convention it would be found that in a great many cases they are men who have begun business in a small way and who have achieved success by hard work and fair dealing with the public. The latter is highly important; in fact, it is one of the fundamentals of successful business. And there is a pretty sure test in this connection. In the long run it will be found that the business which prospers in a community is giving the public a square deal and rendering efficient service to those who buy. Otherwise there is no permanency.

"Canada needs plenty of men like those enrolled in the Retail Merchants Association of Canada. The country will approve all policies tended to add to the efficiency of methods of doing business, to eliminate waste, to raise the standard of the goods handled, and to put business on a sounder basis."

It was for this reason, the Free Press pointed out, that the city of Winnipeg, one of the great marketing centres of Canada, desired to extend its cordial welcome to the visitors.

#### "TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL DAYS."

Some days ago a Fredericton despatch to the Times carried the information that "Tom Brown's School Days" had been approved by the Board of Education as a text book in English literature in Grade IX of the public schools. If this is followed by introduction of that superb story into the routine of school life, what a wealth of enjoyment there is ahead for the boy who will thus be making the acquaintance of and developing friendship with the sturdy lad, Doctor Arnold, days in good old Rugby. One must dip deep into the well of memory to recall anything more appealing to the normal boy than is Hughes' recital of the experiences of Tom and his confederates at the old English boarding school. At mention of the title of the book the years fall away and one lives again the school life of rugby, Tom and East and Martin and gentle Arthur; of the unfortunate Tadpole; the calls at old Sally's are made again for sausage and other dainties to satisfy the demands of a lusty boy's appetite for more than the school table provides. Again one roams the woods and climbs the trees in search of bird's eggs; once more is heard the panting of the runners at "hare and hounds," or the boyish shouts as a good play is made on the cricket field or in a football match. There comes to mind a picture of the fine principled sixth form young man soon to make his way into the great world, and one sees him coaching and encouraging the juniors in study or at play. A shout rends the air, "A fight, a fight!" and all else is forgotten, for Tom Brown and Slogger Williams are at battle in an encounter that is never to be forgotten.

And who that recalls can do other than revere the name of Arnold, under whose influence all that was best was developed in those under his charge—the scholarly gentleman held in awe by the juniors until they came to know that they had no better friend in study or in sports than "The Doctor."

It is common experience that men often wish themselves back in the days of youth; the care-free happy times before they knew what it was to buffet against the world. There is a way to get there, for a time at least. The printed word that thrilled them still exists and after the lapse of years such books as "Tom Brown's School Days" will be found equally alluring to the mature mind as they were in the time of the boy's eager fancy.

#### HELIGOLAND.

It has been plain for some time that the separatist movements in Germany are gaining strength. Whether anything will come of them or not remains to be seen. In Bavaria a powerful group is desirous of breaking away from Prussia and other groups in the Rhine provinces are carrying on a similar campaign.

The latest separatist cry has been raised in Heligoland where the 2,500 inhabitants declare that they can no longer afford the abuses of "the bureaucratic German-Prussian regime." They have chosen a commission of sixty-two to draw up a memorial protesting against what they call the blunders of Prussian rule and demanding "an independent administration to see that there is no further misunderstanding and misinterpretation at the hands of a regime which perpetuates the old Prussian principles of government." Much ado seems to

know what Berlin will do after it receives the memorial of the Heligoland-ers, but it is doubtful if it will do very much, for it no doubt realizes that the comparatively small group of people on the famous little island could hardly afford in self-defence to break the ties that bind them to Prussia.

Heligoland was a British possession from 1807 to 1890, when Salisbury handed it to Germany. It rises from the North Sea between the mouths of the Elbe and Weser and, during the war, it was invaluable to Germany. It was really a North Sea Gibraltar and afforded an impregnable base for the German fleet of submarines which infested the waters for hundreds of miles around. Today it has no guns and no fortifications, and no fleet to protect. Germany's fleet is practically wiped out and her land defences stand all but dismantled. Heligoland itself is not much more than a resort for summer tourists and a haven for the wild birds of the North Sea. Once a mighty bulwark in Prussia's protective armor, it has fallen sadly. All things considered, it is not surprising that its 2,500 inhabitants are restless and critical of Prussian rule.

A somewhat tense situation exists in Germany where the pan-Germans have been rather outspoken and demonstrative of late. The despatches do not give much detail, but there is sufficient to indicate that matters are rather serious. The Majority and Independent Socialists, and the strong Labor body are with the government. Something near to martial law has been put into effect under decree of President Ebert.

A tablet was unveiled in Toronto yesterday in memory of members of the Commercial Travelers' Association who went overseas in the war, some never to return. It is recalled with pride how well the men of that organization "carried on" during the war both at home and at the front.

The people of East St. John well deserve the compliments paid them yesterday at the opening of their new school building. They have shown commendable enterprise along community lines in more ways than one. That makes for prosperity and contentment.

And now Austrians and Hungarians are in armed conflict. The trouble in Burgenland, a border province between the two countries, is giving concern to the Allies.

#### EDMUND BRISTOL, K. C. M. P.



He has been appointed chairman of the Central Ontario organization committee of the National Liberal and Conservative party.

#### TOWER FOR PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS



This is an exact model of the tower to be erected on the new Parliament Buildings at Ottawa.

#### LIGHTER VEIN.

The office boy and his grandmother's funeral always were subject for jest. But when the test match is brought into the affair to make a jocular trio, it gets rather unamusing. Anyway, this particular strippling, having filled the "in" tray and emptied the "out," said to the chief clerk: "Sir, I would like to go to a funeral this afternoon." The chief replied heartily: "Oh, you would, would you? Well, you won't." The boy, with all hopes gone of seeing the test, resignedly murmured: "No, sir, I know I won't, but I would like to, all the same." There was something so tragic and appealing in the lad's voice that the chief couldn't resist asking: "Whose funeral?" Said the boy: "Yours, sir." Exit—Sketch (London.)

Leave No Stone Unturned. Jurymen after jurymen had been challenged by the prisoner's counsel. However, all things come to an end, and at last the jury was completed. But the prisoner, leaning over the dock, sought the ear of his counsel. "The jury's all right now, I think," he whispered. "But ye must challenge the judge. I've been convicted under him several times already, and maybe he's beginning to have a prejudice."—Fort Mason Market Pot.

An Up-to-Date Method. A man of benevolent tendencies met a friend who had been in "hard luck." As the man looked insufficiently nourished, the first, tactically referring to other matters, said: "Oh, by the way, I'd like to have you dine with us tonight."

"I would be delighted," said the seedy-looking man, "but wouldn't tomorrow night do as well?" "Yes, certainly. But where are you dining tonight?" "At your house. You see, your good wife was kind enough to give me tonight's invitation."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Enjoyed Woo. Flora—How very sympathetic Mrs. Brooks is! Don—Yes; she is never happy unless she is feeling sorry for someone.—Stray Stories.

Fashion Found Wanting. Policeman—Lose yer mammas, 'ave yer? Why didn't yer keep 'old of her skirts? Little Alfred—I cou-cou-couldn't reach it.—London Opinion.

Just as Good. The wife of the profligate was having great difficulty over the furnishing of the large house. She did not know the names of ordinary articles of furniture, and the more ornamental things completely puzzled her.

One day a woman said to her, "Have you read Lamb's 'Tales'?"

She thought for a while and then answered, nervously, "No, but I've got a gray sheepskin rug."—Washington Star.

#### GREENLAND HAD VERDURE ONCE

Largest Island in World Ice Covered—Population of Its 800,000 Square Miles Only 15,000.

The largest island in the world (if Australia be classed as a continent), the land reaching closest to the North Pole, the country harboring the northernmost civilized community, and the one land mass where conditions of the great ice age are now dominant—such is Greenland, says a bulletin issued by the National Geographic Society in connection with a visit now being made by the King of Denmark to this bleak American territory.

Mercator of map fame has unwittingly confused the mind of the world in regard to Greenland, and the bulletin, which is a bulletin in connection with a visit now being made by the King of Denmark to this bleak American territory.

But, viewed properly, the great northern island bulks large enough to command respect. If its northernmost point were placed at the Canadian border in North Dakota, its southernmost point would reach to the mouth of the Rio Grande, the southern extremity of Texas. Its greatest width is approximately equal to the distance from New York to Chicago.

But though the island is almost continental in size, having an area of about 800,000 square miles, it has only 15,000 inhabitants, the daily population of a single huge office building in New York city. The reason for this sparse population is not alone the far northern position of the country, for the lower half of the island is in approximately the same latitude as the Scandinavian peninsula with its 8,000,000 souls. But while Scandinavia is bathed by the warm Gulf Stream, and Iceland, too, is benefited by it, Greenland lies far from its influence and is washed only by icy Arctic currents.

Exposed to the full effects of the frosts of the Arctic, the great island which at one time in geologic history had the climate and verdure of California, has been changed into a frozen desert. The once green hills and valleys and even mountains have been literally buried under a sheet of snow and ice varying from hundreds to thousands of feet in thickness. All but a few mountain peaks have been submerged, and the entire vast interior of the country is a nearly level plateau of ice.

Only a narrow fringe along a part of the coast is free from the ice cap, and even this ground is frozen in winter and covered with snow. It is along the fringes of these narrow ice-free sections that the coast that the few thousand Eskimos and the handful of Danes that make up the population of Greenland find a precarious livelihood.

During the short summer the interior of Greenland presents phenomena to be found nowhere else in the world; but the frozen wastes are inaccessible and only a few eyes have beheld the changes that take place there when the sun shines to the north. Great lakes are formed; mighty rivers flow between the crystal banks, their waters never touching a stone nor a fragment of soil until they finally plunge down some canyon in the ice. Glaciers push out of the countless folds, some discharging ice into the sea at the rate of fifty to 100 feet a day.

Mosses and lichens and a few flowers and shrubs spring to stolon life in the summer along the ice-free fringes of the coast, but few vegetables besides radishes, turnips, and lettuce can be grown. The people of Greenland are almost entirely dependent for food on the sea and on supplies brought from outside.

Greenland was discovered and settled by Eric the Red from Iceland nearly 1,000 years ago; the same Eric who soon after discovered America. The settlement thrived for 400 years, but mysteriously disappeared before Columbus' discovery. The early settlers were Norwegians. Later Norway was combined for a time with Denmark and the Danes became the heirs to the bleak island. A Danish missionary who reached the southwest shores of Greenland in 1721 was the first to renew Scandinavian settlement of the country. Other settlers followed and Denmark established a paternal government over the Eskimo of the south.

Newest Greenland was discovered.

#### LLOYD GEORGE IN ACTION.



An unusual picture of the Prime Minister of Great Britain. The picture was taken while he was making a speech at the National Bistadford.

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