

## THE WEEKLY SUN

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1920

## EDISON'S START

Thomas A. Edison was so stranded financially when he first landed in New York in 1869 that he had to go to a job food, for which he was starving. Seeing a tea-taster at work, Edison begged him for some tea, and this formed his first breakfast in New York.

Three days later Edison was sitting in the offices of the Gold & Stock Telegraph Company watching the gold ticker at work—speculation in gold was then at fever pitch. Suddenly scores of boys rushed into the place excitedly explaining that the ticker in their employer's offices had stopped working. Dr. Laws, head of the concern, also arrived breathless. The apparatus had broken down.

Edison calmly told Laws that he thought he could fix it and proceeded to do so.

The grateful and astonished doctor asked the stranger his name and next day, after a searching quizzing-bee, put him in charge of the whole business at a salary of \$300 a month. When the hungry, penniless, out-of-work operator heard the amount he was to receive he nearly fainted.

## A BEGINNING

The army maintained by Holland has been kept up for purely defensive purposes, and during the war it became a very powerful force for a small country. Though it was a great burden in the matter of expense its maintenance was vital. It is one of the good signs of the times that the Dutch Government has now proposed to reduce the army by nearly one-half and that parliament is expected to adopt the proposal. The plan of the acting Minister of War is to cut down the standing army by 200,000 men, reducing it from 460,000 to 260,000. Instead of having twenty yearly classes of 15,000 men each, it is proposed to have the same number of yearly classes of 1,300 men each, and to reduce the service period from eight and one-half months to six months.

Months to twelve for the hospital and artillery units and from two years to eighteen months for the cavalry. Holland evidently believes that no danger is to be apprehended from Germany, at least for a long time to come, and it is convinced that the French policy in maintaining a large army and in forming an alliance with Belgium is a purely defensive measure, a scheme of insurance to be reduced in scope as Europe settles down. As a sign of the times Holland's proposal is both interesting and welcome. Its situation is more fortunate than that of some other countries which would gladly follow its example now if circumstances permitted. Disarmament proceeds slowly, largely because of the waver of confusion and anarchy in Russia and a few other countries whose disorder is still a source of grave uneasiness, but the outlook has been better of late, and the time is coming when even Russia must get to work again, market its products in other countries, and attain a position marked by decent order and reasonable security of life.

## NO REAL DEMAND

People have become so accustomed to having things presented them on a silver platter, as it were, that they are loath to accept an equally good article, unless so delivered. One of Brandon's leading importers, a man who is in complete sympathy with the movement for lower prices, and who has tried and is still trying to make them possible, makes the statement. He declares that people want an attractive picture, and unless the article to be disposed of presents that, it is harder to sell, though it may be of superior merit. A great deal has been said during the past few months about cheaper fruit. Some of the fruit dealers have done their utmost to provide it. What has been their experience? They have been forced to the conclusion that, at present, the public is not sincere in the demand. Take apples, for instance. A splendid quality of apples packed in wooden hampers has been placed on the market at a low figure, but because the apples are not of a color that makes an attractive picture, the sale is slow. The apples are good, for some purposes they are the best on the market, but the public does not purchase. Dealers report that they have little demand to these apples, people who complain about prices pass them over in favor of apples packed in boxes and wrapped in paper. They

make the selection even while coming plain.

Is it any wonder that dealers do not attempt to push the sale of the apples in bulk or in any other form save the one that yields them the greatest profit?

Undoubtedly the time is coming when there will be a strong demand for fruit at lower prices, and when this demand does arise, people will purchase an equally good article for a lower price, even though it does not present so attractive a picture as the specially selected, individually wrapped article in an expensive outer coating of wood. In the meantime, many dealers will not attempt to force the cheaper fruit on an unwilling market, because they have found that it is not profitable to do so.

## THREE CHOICES

The Farmers' Sun, the official organ of the U.F.O., is not pleased with the campaign tactics of William Lyon Mackenzie King, Liberal leader. It objects to what it terms his ambiguous and twisting statements on the big issue of the day, the fiscal question. The Farmers' Sun, after stating that the Liberal press need not flatter itself that the United Farmers of Ontario will support Mr. King any more than Mr. Meighen, adds:

"The Premier by his outspokenness in regard to tariff matters is far more to be recommended than the pussy-footing which Mackenzie King has indulged in. The latter will not make clear-cut pronouncements on the tariff, but hedges and sidesteps, makes vague utterances, and in the end leaves the impression that he is neither hot nor cold, wet nor dry, high tariff nor low tariff, but is willing to 'be all things to all men' in order that he may gain a few votes. The Farmers' party is not afraid to say where it stands in regard to tariff matters, in regard to prohibition, or in connection with the various other problems pressing for a solution. That is more than can be said for the leader of the Liberal party. In this respect one must admire the courage of Premier Meighen, who nails his colors to the mast and comes out openly as an advocate of high tariff. People at least know where to find him. They do not know where to find Mackenzie King."

The balloting in East Elgin will be in the nature of a test. The electors have three choices. They can support a Government candidate who favors a continuance of the policy which Canada has adhered to for forty-one years; or vote for a U.F.O. candidate who advocates the wiping out of protection; or they can mark their ballots for a Liberal candidate whose leader has made various statements regarding his stand on the tariff question.

The result of the voting in East Elgin is being eagerly awaited by politicians. Each hopes for gain for his particular party, and all hope to learn something from an analysis of the voting.

## AN EASTERN VIEW

People who are surprised at the support given the Drury Government of Ontario by the Toronto Mail and Empire, find no occasion for perplexity over its attitude towards the party led by Hon. J. T. A. Crerar in the Dominion House. Regarding Mr. Crerar and the tariff proposals he espouses, a recent issue of the Mail and Empire contains the following article:

In his Prince Albert speech on Thursday Hon. J. T. A. Crerar said, "we want our opponents to come out and discuss the matter in the open." The "matter" he refers to is the tariff question. Open discussion of that question is the one thing to be dreaded, not invited, by the Farmers' party of which Mr. Crerar is the Federal Leader. The United Farmers' policy has already had too much publicity for its own good, and if we are to judge from the long case Mr. Crerar intermitted in the course of his own "stumping" on the question we should think that he had come to the conclusion that the less said the better. But the Tariff Commission has been abroad since the middle of September. It has had hearings at all important points in Western Canada, and is now carrying on its inquiries in Eastern Canada. It has therefore been necessary for the United Farmers' organization to bring their case under the Commission's scrutiny at many of the points visited. They could not well fail to file an appearance. Sir Henry Drayton's questioning directed to the one object of getting at the facts, was embarrassing to them. Declamation, lamentation, confident and vehement assertion could not be of much service to Commissioners in quest of cold facts. Hence the necessity of careful sifting of the prepared statements and the passionate declarations. It was a case of much cry and little wool as the man said who was trying to shear a squealing pig. In Prince Edward Island the members of the United Farmers' Association have brought forward the same stereotyped case as was presented by the United Farmers' representatives who appeared before the Tariff Commission at vari-

ous hearings in the West. There is no body, no substance to their case, and it has now become so familiar, and so threadbare that the public have grown tired of it. If the United Farmers' argument against the tariff would hold water, its influence on the public mind would increase with frequency of presentation. But there is "nothing to it." No body of citizens were ever asked to put their dependence in a weaker piece of constructive work than the thing called the platform of the Canadian Agricultural Council.

After his long lapse into silence Mr. Crerar delivered an address in Prince Albert on Thursday. He had singularly little to say about what he still calls his New National policy. He used again the sophistical argument Dr. Michael Clark presented to the House to show that the United States tariff is lower than the Canadian tariff. Taking the trade returns of the fiscal year ending March 31, 1918, he pointed out that the ratio of total duties collected on all imports into the United States in that year was lower than the ratio of the total duties collected on all imports into Canada in the same year, and then said that proved the United States tariff to be lower than the Canadian tariff. Mr. Crerar should blush to be caught trying that trick on the intelligence of his hearers. It is worse than his oft-repeated statement about the "absurdity" of diamonds in the rough being left free and polished diamonds being made dutiable at a high rate. He told his Prince Albert hearers that Britain was the only free trade country, and that she had recovered from the war more quickly than any other country. He then asked where did the other protected countries stand. Well, where does the United States stand? That protected country's currency is now quoted at a premium in nearly every other country. As for Britain being a free trade nation, what other country has resorted to so many protectionist shifts to shield her industries from outside competition as Britain has resorted to since the war? Then, too, is not the discount at which the pound sterling stands in the United States and in this country a very material protection to her? We are bound to say that Mr. Crerar did not obtrude his tariff platform on his Prince Albert hearers. He has apparently lost faith in that economic credo. He cannot but recognize that it has suffered from the exposure it has had before the Tariff Commission and from the discussion of it by Mr. Meighen on platforms from one end of the country to the other.

## BEAUTIFUL BERMUDAS

The people of the Bermudas have been celebrating the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of their House of Assembly, which they say is the "oldest representative political body in the British Empire after the Mother of Parliaments herself." Little has been said in the dispatches about this celebration, but it has been watched with keen interest by visitors to the islands and by British statesmen who are in close touch with public affairs in that lovely section of the globe. And in connection with it the Bermudians have not been slow to direct attention to their wonderful climate and some of their still more wonderful products.

Who has not heard of Bermuda potatoes, Bermuda onions, Bermuda tobacco and Bermuda lilies? Not many. But it is doubtful if the average Canadian is aware that the castor oil plant, grows without cultivation on the islands, or that the Bermudians have no reptiles to annoy them. Birds they have in great numbers and, as one writer has said, the inhabitants "would not starve to death, even should the importation of meat cease." The castor oil production is of the greatest importance, for not only is castor oil used extensively in medicine, but it is almost essential to the airplane industry, being a lubricant of high utility in aircraft.

It was early in the sixteenth century when Juan Bermudez, a Spaniard whose ship had a cargo of hogs for Cuba, discovered the islands. He was trying to avoid them, or at least he was trying to avoid all obstacles in his course to Cuba, for he didn't know there were such islands until his vessel struck one of them with force enough to wreck the craft. Henry May and Sir George Somers, of England, were also shipwrecked there, the former in 1593, and the latter in 1609. Somers later established the first settlement on the islands, and it was not long before tobacco was grown there in large quantities. History tells us that St. George was the first capital of the Bermudas, and that Sir James Cockburn changed the seat of government to Hamilton. The New York Sun points out that although a Spaniard's name distinguishes the group of islands, "England speaks from most of the units composing the Bermudas; the Main Island, St. George, Paget, Smith, St. David, Cooper, Nonsuch, Watford, Ireland and Somerset being typical.

The population shows steady growth. The people wear with pride the distinction of being the oldest self-governing colony in the Empire."

## FARMERS PLAN TO HANDLE GRAIN NOT COMPLETED

This Year's Crop Is Not To Be Touched—Plans To Be Submitted

Winnipeg, Nov. 15.—Details in connection with the completion of a plan for co-operative marketing of grain or a farmers' "pool," will not be completed in time for the handling of this year's crop, members of the Canadian Council of Agriculture special committee declare.

The committee expects to be able to announce details of the plan before the middle of December. The farmer organizations will then be asked to give approval. A conference of United Farmers of the Dominion will likely be called to ratify the plan. Members of the committee declined to confirm reports that the scheme favored is similar to that used by the California Fruit Exchange Association.

## MISSIONARIES TO TAKE COURSE AT BRANDON COLLEGE

Graduates Want to Study at Alma Mater During Furlough

Rev. Archie Gordon and Mrs. Gordon, who are both graduates of Brandon College, are expected to return to Canada next Spring on eighteen months furlough from India where they have spent seven years in the mission field. Rev. Mr. Gordon is a member of the First Baptist Church and is the representative of the local church at Vuyuru, India, one of the largest of the mission fields. There are 2,200 baptized communicants in this mission and during the past year 175 people were baptized, this breaking all records in the history of the mission. There is a good sized girls and boys boarding school in connection with the mission of which Mrs. Gordon is in charge. Mr. Gordon has applied to the Baptist Board of Missions, Toronto, for permission to reside in Brandon during his furlough and possibly take some special work at Brandon College.

## WEATHER CONDITIONS CAUSE SHORTAGE OF CARS AT MINES IN THE WEST

Ottawa, Nov. 15.—The Canadian National Railway, which was pressed Friday by the Railway Commission to supply the deficiency in cars in the coal districts of Alberta, has wired the Commission that weather conditions have interfered with the movement of cars to the West, but that sufficient are in transit to meet all requirements. The Commission, the assistant chief said, is pressing the road to increase its car equipment.

## HALIFAX ELECTRICAL PLANT CUTS WAGES OF ITS EMPLOYEES

Halifax, N.S., Nov. 15.—The wages of unskilled labor at the Nova Scotia Power commission's electrical plant at Northeast River, near here, have been cut by D. C. Loomis & Sons, contractors, who are building the works, from 50 to 40 cents an hour, and the working day has been reduced from ten to nine hours. More than 100 men are affected by the reduction.

## MILDRED HARRIS CHAPLIN IS GRANTED A DIVORCE—GETS BIG SETTLEMENT

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 15.—Mildred Harris Chaplin has been granted a divorce from Charlie Chaplin. She changed him with cruelty. It was stated that a property settlement involving about \$200,000 had been made out of court and that Mrs. Chaplin agreed not to use the name of Chaplin professionally.

## UNITED STATES AND JAPS SAID TO HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE

Tokio, Nov. 15.—Newspapers of the city report the Japanese and United States Governments have reached an agreement in principle relative to the exclusion of Japanese laborers from the United States. It is asserted, however, that there is a disagreement regarding the methods to be employed.

The United States is understood to desire provisions for exclusion embodied in a treaty, but Japan, it is said, regards this procedure humiliating and as forming a precedent forced to be followed in treaties in the future.

## BRITISH NAVY NEUTRAL IN THE BLACK SEA

London, Nov. 15.—The announcement is made that the British navy will continue to observe strict neutrality in the Black Sea. Reports from Constantinople that the British navy would assist in the blockade of the Black Sea ports were denied by the Admiralty.

## SEBASTOPOL FALLS TO BOLSHEVIKI: WRANGLER LEAVES

On Board French Warship For Constantinople—Soviets Masters of Crimea

20 RED DIVISIONS

Dispose of Three White Divisions on the Isthmus of Perekop

Paris, Nov. 15.—Sebastopol has fallen, the Russian Bolsheviks having occupied the city last night, according to unofficial information. The Bolsheviks are reported to be masters of the whole Crimean Peninsula. General Wrangel, the members of his staff, and M. Martel, French High Commissioner, were taken on board the French warship Waldeck Rousseau, and are expected to arrive at Constantinople tonight or tomorrow.

Reds Break Through. Constantinople, Nov. 15.—The Reds broke through the defence of General Wrangel on the Isthmus Perekop by concentrating twenty divisions against three divisions of the White army. Wrangel's men withstood twenty-two assaults before Perekop. The commanders of most of Wrangel's units were killed and the losses in men also were very large. The success of the Bolsheviks is attributed largely to the excellence of its high command, which is said to be directed by a foreigner.

## SIX TOTS KILLED 12 INJURED IN PANIC AT THEATRE

Smoke From Paper Clogged Furnace Causes Alarm—Many Children in Building

New York, Nov. 15.—A paper-clogged furnace fire, which caused smoke to fill the Catharine Theatre, a motion picture house in the East Side Italian quarter, raised a cry of "fire" late Saturday and in the ensuing panic six little tots, between the ages of two to ten years, were trampled to death. Twelve others were seriously injured.

The theatre was crowded to capacity. Children filled most of the 300 seats, for the hero of the picture was an Italian lad who rose from humble surroundings like theirs to riches and fame. The youngsters were absorbed in the progress of the screen hero, when smoke began to sweep through the cracks of the theatre floor.

"My God! It's a fire." This shout came from an elderly woman, who gathered a little one under her arm and ran for the nearest exit. Immediately loud wails arose, children began to cry. They jumped from their seats, jammed the aisles and fought for passage. The lights flickered out. Youthful cries attracted many residents of the Italian neighborhood. Camille Brullo, who sells bananas from a push cart on the Bowery, carried more than fifteen little tots to safety, then collapsed, overcome by smoke.

One one sounded a fire alarm. Many then were carried from the theatre, overcome by smoke. They were soon revived. Frantic women and men, learning of the disaster, crowded before the little theatre, at this time guarded by a cordon of police, and sought news of their children who had attended the show.

The bodies of the victims soon were identified, but the excitement attending the panic kept children from returning to their homes and many women fought for admittance to the theatre, believing their missing ones might still be there.

Bernard Weinberg and Max Schwartz, proprietors of the theatre, were held by the police pending investigation of charges that one of the front exits of the theatre was locked.

## NO COAL DEPOSIT AT SHELBORNE, ONT. SAYS UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 15.—There is no coal deposit in Shelburne, Ont., according to Prof. A. P. Coleman, Professor of Geology in the University of Toronto, in an interview in a Toronto paper. "If the substance found is real coal the ground has been salted, consciously or unconsciously," he is quoted as saying.

## UNVEIL TABLET IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO FELL

Impressive Ceremony at St. Matthew's Church—Mrs. Thos. Lee Unveiled Shield

AN AGE OF EASE Makes Man Who Was Hero in 1914, Man About Town in 1920

An impressive ceremony took place at St. Matthew's Church during the morning service on Sunday when the shield was unveiled, in memory of the young men of the Church School who fell in the Great War. The shield, which was placed on the wall to the left of the South door of the church, was of oak and had upon it as many maple leaves, in silver, as there were soldiers commemorated. The service was conducted throughout by the rector, Rev. E. A. Anderson. As is the custom the choir proceeded to the West end of the church for the special ceremony and as they returned to the chancel sang, "The Hymn of Sacrifice." Mrs. Thomas Lee unveiled the shield which had upon it, among other names, those of her son and grandson. A solo "Christ in Flanders," sung by Mr. Douglas McDonald, was much appreciated.

In a sermon particularly appropriate to the occasion, Rev. Mr. Anderson urged all to work in unity for the betterment of mankind so that "those whom we commemorate this morning will not have died in vain." The Rector stated that the shield had been unveiled on Sunday for two reasons, first, because it was the Sunday after the anniversary of the day when the Armistice was signed, and second, because this Sunday had been set apart by the Bishops as a day on which to speak of the League of Nations.

"We do well to be anxious at this time," said the Rector. "Not for those whose memories we commemorate today, they are in God's hands, but for those who came back from the war and for those who did not go." This is an age of ease. I think it is one of the greatest tragedies of the war that those who were raised to the highest should be falling. That the man who was a hero in 1914 should be a man about town in 1920."

Stating that God's idea of a nation was that all men work together as brothers, Mr. Anderson said that this was what was being attempted in the establishment of a League of Nations. He read a message from the Bishops, commending the League of Nations and urging all Christian people to aid in its establishment.

## VENIZELLOS CLAIMS VICTORY IN THE GREEK ELECTIONS

If Venizelos Wins He Will Have Deciding Voice in Appointment of Sovereign

Athens, Nov. 15.—Victory in the Greek elections held yesterday was claimed early this morning by Premier Venizelos. Actual returns are as yet meagre. Throughout the campaign, which was conducted with unparalleled bitterness, the Premier was the storm centre and his assertion that his followers were successful, if confirmed by the actual count of votes, means for him a personal as well as a political triumph.

The issue of the campaign was the return of former King Constantine to his throne. Venizelos led the forces opposing the return of Constantine and if he has succeeded in the elections it is conceded that he will have a deciding voice in the selection of the next sovereign.

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## WEATHER PERILS

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## PEPS FOR COUGHS, COLDS &amp; BRONCHITIS

## MEETING OF IRISH LEAGUE BREAKS UP IN DISORDER

Returned Soldiers Object to Criticism England at Self-Determination For Ireland Meeting

Amherst, Nov. 15.—In a scene of much disorder a Self-Determination for Ireland League meeting here, addressed by Lindsay Crawford, broke up last night. Returned soldiers were there in great numbers and there was tense feeling throughout. The chairman was hissed when he became emphatic in criticisms of the Mother Country. Crawford also met with a noisy reception when he ventured criticism of England as an autocracy in spite of the war.

## IMMIGRANTS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY SELECTED IN THEIR OWN NATIVE LAND

Toronto, Nov. 15.—"The first care in the selection of the immigrant should be exercised in his native land and when he embarks upon the voyage," states Prof. W. G. Smith, who has made an intense study of the subject of immigration at the request of the Canadian National Commission for Mental Hygiene. Prof. Smith advocates the erection of a large immigration station, suitably staffed by officials competent to examine immigrants, along the lines of the building at Ellis Island, New York.

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