

POOR DOCUMENT

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1920

The Evening Times and Star

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CLEAN UP THE CITY.

It is possible that in urging the citizens to make St. John more presentable by a good spring cleaning, and the application of a little paint, one might be charged with inviting them to get ready to have their taxes increased; for it is alleged that the citizen who improves the appearance of his property is subjected to a severe penalty. And if there is one infliction to be dreaded in St. John it is taxes, for the people have been educated to regard a tax-bill as a personal affront, not upon them but upon the city.

These are the worst things that taxes, and dirt is one of them. Why not a concerted clean-up week in St. John this spring? It would be good for the public health, and make the city more presentable. "And this is St. John," said a venerable citizen as he pointed to a scrap of paper in large number all along the curb at a street corner. There is paper and other rubbish everywhere. Civic pride is dead, or such a quidnunc would not exist. Why not develop the community spirit? It should be developed in the homes, the schools, the churches, the organizations of all kinds. It would mean a cleaner and healthier city—a better city, in which to live.

THE OLD TORYISM.

Hon. Robert Rogers is again in Ottawa, and has given out an interview in which he announces that a Dominion Conservative convention will be held in Toronto early next month to rally the party forces to the defence of the old N.P. He says:

"During the last few months Liberal-Conservative organizations in different provinces have been discussing the advisability of a Dominion-wide organization such as we had in 1911. This discussion has borne fruit. It has been decided to hold a round table conference in Toronto on or about the tenth of May next. The delegates to this conference will be selected from the duly organized ranks of the Liberal-Conservative party in all the provinces of Canada. It will be a national conference. It will be the Liberal-Conservative party, and it will have the advantage of compactness and may be expected to transact business with dispatch."

Mr. Rogers does not go into particulars as to policy, but in a general way intimates that the purpose of the convention will be to bring the old National Policy up to date. He says not a word about Union government, but no Liberals are wanted at the Toronto convention unless they are prepared to adopt a Tory policy and support a Tory leader.

There are rumors in Ottawa that an election may be sprung by the government next fall. This, of course, assumes that an effort would be made to continue the Unionist party, but that will not suit Mr. Rogers. He wants a fight on the old party lines. Sir Robert Borden must choose between Unionism and Rogers before there is an appeal to the people. Whatever his choice, the future belongs not to the Conservatives but to the Liberals and the farmers. The country has had enough of high protection, and of a Unionism in which the Tory element predominates.

BLOCKED ONCE MORE.

If there is one thing more than another the people of St. John are agreed upon is that desirable and entirely feasible it is the establishment of a recreation field. The question has been discussed over and over again by representative organizations, and not a single influential voice has been raised in opposition. Nor can there be any reasonable opposition, since even the citizen who has no children can remember his or her own childhood and love of play. The Playgrounds Association, representing all classes and every organization interested in healthy physical development, through outdoor sports and exercises, has presented over and over again at City Hall the appeal for the development of the Rockwood recreation field. The annual report of the Association for the year 1912 contained the following paragraph:

"The most notable playground event of the year was the turning of the first sod of the great athletic field and recreation ground at the entrance to Rockwood Park by H. B. H. the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General, on August 19, in presence of one of the largest assemblages of citizens ever gathered together on a public occasion in St. John. A great procession of school children with banners was one of the features of the occasion, a special grandstand being erected for them and a speakers' stand for the Duke, the civic officials and representatives of this Association. This great field is the gift of Mr. Joseph Allison to the children of St. John. The city council has granted \$2,000 for preliminary work, and has been asked by this Association to add this year another \$2,000; and the Association hopes to be entrusted with the task of converting the area into a recreation ground

in accordance with a comprehensive plan to be designed by an expert. In recognition of his beneficent gift the Association elected Mr. Joseph Allison as its first honorary member."

That was in 1912. This is 1920, and all that has ever been done was to extend a sewer to carry off the outflow from Lily Lake past the grounds, and have a small amount of ashes dumped on the area. Some grants were made but not expended. On Wednesday four members of the city council wanted to issue a bond for \$10,000 to go on with the work, but Com. Jones blocked the measure by refusing his support.

We may assume that the Commercial Club, the Board of Trade, the Rotary Club, the Trades and Labor Council and all the organizations represented in the Playgrounds Association will not let the matter rest here. From the economic standpoint, if we did not consider our children at all, St. John should have facilities for recreation. We hope to get new industries, but one of the questions the promoters would be asked by investors would be: "What facilities have you for recreation for workers and their families?" And what would the answer be?

And what are the arguments now presented by two or three persons against the Rockwood proposition? Com. Jones is reported to have said there are playgrounds all over the city. What are the facts? The people of the south end have themselves, with a little help from the council, made a small playground, part of it on private property. The people of the east end have done the same, wholly on private property that may be taken for other uses at any time. The people of the west end have done the same thing with a portion of Queen square. The north end has no playground at all. The city council made a substantial grant for playgrounds this year, but there is still no playground.

As to the matter of the money, the other area would bring devoted back of the Public Gardens and the money the other area would bring devoted back of the Public Gardens, it is about large enough to make a good neighborhood playground, but would cost as much foot by foot for proper preparation as the other—and there would be no room for expansion. If only a neighborhood playground is to be made let it be placed in the north end, where it is needed.

As to the matter of the railway taking over the area at the entrance to the park, that is merely an assumption, and if it should ever be taken over the government would have to pay for the improvements. Meanwhile the city has no recreation field.

One is led to wonder where those persons who are now so earnest about this matter have been all these years when efforts were being made by others to get playgrounds for the children; and why the will of the people should be floated at the very moment the long desired action was about to be taken by the council. Must the citizens be forever organizing delegations and beating a path to City Hall? The situation is intolerable.

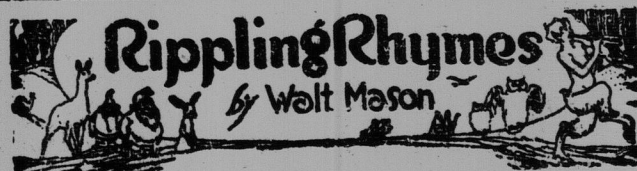
The Standard was so deeply impressed by Hon. Mr. Baxter's speech in the legislature yesterday that it printed two long reports, lest one would not do justice to the speaker—or might be missed by some unobservant reader. After a careful reading of both reports one is not convinced, however, that we should return to the methods of government which prevailed when Mr. Baxter was a member of the cabinet. Indeed he was very moderate in his criticism of the present administration.

The Ontario government has decided that if race-tracks are to exist they must pay. The tax is to be \$5,000 per day on half-mile and \$10,000 on mile tracks. The racing fraternity are highly indignant, but if as is stated the receipts are enormous they will probably continue to gather them in.

In New York city in 1909, of every thousand deaths 246 were due to tuberculosis. In 1919 the number was 128 per thousand. That is a good record for ten years and emphasizes the importance of preventive measures and a campaign of general education.

So acute is the housing problem in Toronto that the mayor is looking for sites on which tents may be placed for the summer.

The tax on hucksters in Montreal should have been a year with a new and attractive interest for young men.



(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

DEAFNESS.

My ears don't work the way they should; my hearing isn't extra good; and agents come most every morn to sell some patent audiotone, some strange contraption, painted blue, to make me hear as well as you. I shoo said agents from my door and tell them to come back no more. To buy such traps I'd be a loon; my deafness is my greatest boon. The fellow with a weary tale with fungus on it, it's so stale, will pass me by before he'll tell his story when he has to yell. I miss so many tales of woe, so many chestnuts all men know, so much of gossip mean men who brought me news back again. And when I seek my couch all awake my gentle slumbers cannot break. I do not hear the rouser yell, I do not hear the milkman's bells, the intruding motors screeching by can't make your uncle bat an eye. I'm satisfied, the way I am; you see me merry as a clam, and if I heard as well as you, no doubt you'd find me grim and blue.

CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Dominion Happenings of Other Days

BATTLE OF STE FOY.

On April 17, 1760, the French made a desperate attempt to regain Quebec which they had lost by the defeat at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham in the previous fall. Lewis, the French commander, had spent the winter in an endeavor to gather a force large enough for such a contest with a hope of success. On April 17 he set out with 7,200 men and marched directly towards the city of Quebec. He was assisted by several French vessels with stores for the army. All along the way to the attack he received reinforcements of Canadian so that when he reached Quebec he must have had an attacking force of about 10,000 troops of whom 5,500 were regulars. General Murray, the British commander, although greatly outnumbered, felt he must fight and so on the 28th of the month he met the French at Ste. Foy, not far from the Plains, and a furious battle resulted. The fight lasted for one hour and three-quarters and ended in the British being driven from the field. They retreated within the walls of Quebec and prepared to stand a siege.

Lewis was wild with delight as he imagined that once more the place was going to fall into the hands of the French. But on May 9 a ship appeared in the port. He thought it was a French vessel bringing him assistance but when the British colors were displayed he was amazed. He had later three other warships of the British fleet anchor off the place. Lewis raised the siege and night and started back towards Montreal but the French ships in the port were attacked at once by the new vessels in the fleet and cleared the St. Lawrence of every craft flying the flag of the French monarch. So the attempt to regain the place for France ended in failure.

ABOUT THE TOWN.

Above the town a monstrous wheel is turning. With glowing spokes of red, Low in the west its fiery burning; And, lost amid the spaces overhead, A vague white moth the moon is fluttering.

Above the town an azure sea is flowing, Mid the best of the day's shining; From opal unto pearl the moon is growing, Dropped like a shell upon the changing strand. —Richard Le Gallienne.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Long, Long Ago. Staylate—Didn't hear the clock strike 10? Miss Knox (sawing)—You've got a good memory, all right.—Boston Transcript.

He Swore On Again. Wife (reading letter)—Mamma says she's delighted to hear that you've left off smoking. Hub—Oh, indeed? Wife—She always detested the smell of tobacco, but now she will come and make us a good long visit.—Boston Transcript.

Things That Swell.

Wife—John, I saw in the paper that a nautical mile is nearly a seventh more than a land mile. Why is that, I wonder? Husband—Well, er—you know, my dear, that things swell in the water.—Pearson's Weekly.

A Loud Watch.

Ship's Officer—Oh, there goes eight bells, excuse me, it's my watch below. Old Lady—Gracious, fancy your watch striking as loud as that!—Pearson's Weekly.

Obedient Boy. "Did you deliver my message to Mr. Smith, Tommy?" asked the manager of the new office boy. "No, sir," replied Tommy. "He was out, and his office was locked up." "Why didn't you wait for him as I told you to?" "There was a notice on the door, sir, saying, 'Return immediately,' so I came back here as quickly as I could, sir."—Pearson's Weekly.

The teacher was quoting wise saws to the class and getting their opinion about them. She said: "A discreet silence is better than the truth spoken without charity." Can any boy give a practical interpretation of that maxim? Some what to her content, a freckle-faced lad made this homely application: "If you see a cockroach on the table, do say anything about it."—The Outlook.

EMBARGO IS CAUSE OF DROP IN POTATOES

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Houlton, Maine, April 15.—Distribution of potatoes from Anroostok county to points outside New England has been stopped by the railroad strikes and resultant embargoes, causing an almost precipitate drop in price here from \$10 to \$4.50 a barrel. The price today was \$6.

Train to Sydney Wrecked. Sydney, N. S., April 16.—Passenger train No. 6, here at 8 o'clock last night, was wrecked near Trout Brook, near Antigonish. Several coaches left the rails and were up the roadbed. No one was hurt.

LETTER CARRIERS AND SALARIES

Ottawa, April 15.—The salaries of letter carriers have been increased. The new scale is as follows: Heads of households receiving present maximum of \$839 plus bonus, will receive a salary of \$1,140, plus a bonus of \$420, total \$1,560. Head of household receiving present maximum of \$889, for more than five years, will receive a salary of \$1,260, plus a bonus of \$396, total \$1,656. Single men receiving present maximum of \$889, will receive a salary of \$1,140 plus a bonus of \$192, total \$1,332. Single men receiving present maximum of \$839, for more than five years, will receive a salary of \$1,260 plus a bonus of \$192, total \$1,452.

MORNING NEWS

OVER THE WIRES

The special house committee on pensions and soldiers' re-establishment held a sitting yesterday afternoon at Ottawa. Colonel John Thompson told of the working of the pension act, and said that some amendments were suggested in the interest of pensioners. He said there was not any heavy increase of liability to the country, neither was there any practical reduction. H. G. Clark, said to be from Vancouver, was found drowned in the river Thames, England, this week. He had crossed recently on the Grampian. Charles Kneller, aged ten years, was badly burned near his home in Lancaster, Ohio, yesterday by five older boys who tied him to a stake and then lighted a fire about him.

Arthur Stewart and Harold Guthrie, convicted of burglary in Berwick and sentenced to three years in the penitentiary. The suggestion of changing the name of the Church of England of Canada came up at the annual meeting in Montreal yesterday afternoon and was opposed successfully. At a meeting of the missionary and church corporations committees of the N. B. and P. E. I. Methodist conference in Moncton yesterday afternoon it was recommended for the building of a new church at Drummond.

THIEVES MAKE QUITE A HAUL

(Boston Globe.) Thieves who ransacked the apartment of Nathan Fish, 26 Wabeno street, Elm Hill district, Roxbury, early last night must have been happily surprised when their overhauling of the place disclosed eight quarts of choice liquors and two quarts of alcohol. They took if all every drop in the house; also a fur cape valued at \$800, a woman's watch, much jewelry and silverware. And the family gave the police another surprise at the extremely modest value of the contents on the lost wet goods. Mr. Fish inventorying it to Sgt. Horton and Special Officer Gills as two quarts of champagne, \$1; two quarts of gin, \$4; one quart of wine, \$2; one quart of cocktails, \$2; two quarts of whiskey, \$10, and two quarts of alcohol, \$10; all of well known high-class brands. The family was not at home during the early evening, but upon returning about 11:30 found the entire apartment overhauled and everything strewn about. The thieves must have made a long stay to do as complete a job as they did. They worked so quietly that the family did not know of the members of which were at home all the evening, heard no suspicious sounds in the rooms over which. Entrance was gained by forcing a second-story back window.

BIG DIVIDEND OF ARLINGTON MILLS

Boston, April 16.—The Arlington mills of Lawrence makers of sorbets, yesterday declared a stock dividend of 50 per cent.

The Arlington corporation is controlled by William Whitman, a native of Nova Scotia. They employ 5,500 operators.

SUGAR TAKES A JUMP IN MONTREAL

Montreal, April 16.—Advanced prices on sugar became effective yesterday when the Canadian Sugar refinery increased their charge by \$2 a 100 lbs., making their price now \$18.50 a 100 lbs. and the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Sugar refineries each advanced \$2.50 a 100 lbs., bringing their sale prices to \$19. These are prices at the factory. Retail merchants here say that their prices will now range from a minimum of twenty cents to a maximum of twenty-three cents a pound.

FIRE FOLLOWS IN WAKE OF YEGGS

Levenet, Mass., April 16.—Yeggs dynamited the post office safe here last night, the building was destroyed by the fire that followed, causing loss of about \$6,000. The burglars obtained about \$115 in registered mail and a small quantity of stamps.

The post office was in the general store of E. B. Hayward, who is postmaster. The store stock was valued at \$35,000. Residents awakened by the explosion found the two-story wooden building in flames.

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LARGE FUND FOR ORANGE ORDER PROPAGANDA

Legislation at Ottawa to Be Closely Watched, Is Decision.

Orillia, Ont., April 16.—The Orange Grand Lodge of Ontario West, at its annual meeting here yesterday, decided to raise \$90,000 for propaganda work. Organizers will be appointed in all the provinces of the dominion, and legislation at Ottawa will be closely watched in the interests of the order.

FLOOD OF LETTERS TO M.P.'S AT OTTAWA ON SOLDIER MATTERS

Ottawa, April 16.—Refusal of a further cash bonus to returned men has brought a flood of letters to members of the government. Requests are piling in for almost everything. One letter asks for assistance in a divorce case; a second wants a motor korp, a third requests help to get mourning for a relative.

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