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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1921

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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. Subscriptions—Private exchange connecting all departments, Main 2417. 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 NEW HOUSE.

There will be many new faces in the new House of Commons at Ottawa, and many members unfamiliar with parliamentary procedure. It will not take them long, however, to grow accustomed to the work, and the house will be the better for the infusion of new life. So many of the old leaders on the Conservative side have gone to the senate or suffered defeat at the polls that the aspect of the party is wholly changed. Moreover, it is the smallest of the three groups, and its spokesmen will have to suffer the handicap imposed by an overwhelming popular verdict. It may be assumed that a seat will be found for Hon. Mr. Meighen, and that he will not be deprived of his admittedly great debating talent; but he is no longer "the man of the hour." It is well for the country that the new prime minister, Hon. Mackenzie King, will not have to look either to Progressives or Conservatives in order to retain power. He has a clear majority, and it is quite certain that in any test of strength he would get enough independent support, or support from moderate members of other parties to ensure the stability of his government. In the matter of tariff revision, so great a majority of the members of the house are in sympathy with a downward revision that no difficulty on that score need be anticipated. Nor is there any danger that the revision will destroy any legitimate industry.

No parliament at Ottawa has ever faced so serious a situation as that with which the new government and house must deal. The colossal debt presents a very grave financial problem. The railways and merchant marine present another. The need of an enlightened immigration policy is obvious. The tariff must be revised, and questions affecting industry, trade and commerce dealt with by helpful legislation. If any who go to Ottawa as members of parliament regard themselves as champions of a class, they will soon discover that breadth of view is essential to a right solution of the country's problems. The new government will not be called upon to devote any time to defence or explanation of past acts. It has a clean sheet, the confidence of the country and a great opportunity to strengthen that confidence by a wise administration of public affairs. There will naturally be some speculation as to the attitude of the senate toward Liberal legislation, but the senators will hardly care to run counter to the known wishes of the people. To do so would be to provoke an agitation not good for the health of the senate.

THAT BOMB SHELL.

It is worth while to put on the record the Ottawa correspondence to the Montreal Star which caused so much consternation in the Tory camp and called down upon the Star the vials of Tory wrath. Here it is:

"I hear on authority that would be recognized as unimpeachable that the Railway Board contemplated making immediate and important changes in the staffs of the government railways. The report is that Montreal, if these plans are put through, is to be deprived of many of its best railwaymen; and it is suspected that Sir Joseph Flavelle may be behind the new policy. The purpose of any such changes is plain. But that they should be rushed through on the eve of polling, when the Canadian people are about to review the whole railway position, is regarded here as an automatic use of power. Such changes would facilitate the carrying out of certain dubious plans, and make more difficult, if not impossible, a deliberate and weighed consideration of the whole railway question. If these drastic changes are consummated, the public will have reason to feel alarmed."

The truth or falsity of this charge no doubt can be established without serious difficulty. However, there is a new turn of affairs, and the whole railway situation will receive the attention it demands.

The Sentinel, which is the organ of the Orange order, will not regard the result of the elections with unmixed satisfaction. It urged all members of the order to vote for government candidates, and described Mr. Meighen as "one of the greatest men Canada has produced." The most enthusiastic party organ could not go farther than the Sentinel in extolling his genius and his virtues. In a forecast of the election it gave Meighen fifty seats in Ontario, the Liberals eleven and the Progressives twenty-one. It was nearly right about the influence of the Sentinel therefore did not produce the expected results.

The more the political situation is surveyed the less reason New Brunswick finds for self-congratulation in sending Baxter, MacLaren, Jones, Grimmer and Hanson to Ottawa. And St. John is largely responsible.

The British press comment on the Canadian elections indicates that the writers are somewhat at sea over the face of the popular mind in Canada.

RECIPROCITY.

The Financial Post, in its last issue, had this interesting despatch from its Washington correspondent: "The interview with Mr. Fordney, author of the Emergency Tariff, published in the Financial Post, has aroused a good deal of interest in administration circles. This is particularly the case with the implied suggestion that reciprocity arrangements with Canada may be taken up at any time. The Canadian elections, coinciding with this attitude, bring the possibility of reciprocity negotiations right to the front. It is known that the Republican administration is finding it difficult to secure the passage by Congress of the higher, or Young tariff bill and would be disposed to welcome overtures from Canada such as came in 1911 to President Taft, also a Republican. On this account it is felt here that the success of King or Cregar would open the way to reciprocity negotiations between the two countries."

Whatever the motive of the Financial Post in giving prominence to this correspondence, it is at least interesting in view of the results of the Canadian elections. There is no doubt about the difficulty in securing the passage of a permanent high tariff in the United States, and that should suggest to the new Canadian government the wisdom of friendly overtures to the government at Washington, to discover if possible a means of stimulating trade without doing injury to the interests of either country. The maritime provinces would be especially interested in any such development, and we may be sure that Hon. W. S. Fielding would be disposed to enter into a discussion looking toward more friendly trade relations. In view of the wonderful impetus given to international good will by the conference at Washington and the prospective settlement of the Irish question, and the pointed references at Washington to the example set by the United States and Canada, it would clearly be to the advantage of both countries to discuss mutual trade relations in a friendly way around a conference table. Hon. Mackenzie King is well known in Washington, and so is Hon. Mr. Fielding. Both may be relied on not to sacrifice Canadian interests, and this country has much to gain from such an agreement as would give Canadian products freer admission to their nearest market. What Canada with a chip on her shoulder could not do, she may be able to accomplish by mutual discussion in a friendly spirit. The matter is one that should not be lost sight of when the Liberal trade policy is being developed.

CHILDREN'S AID.

The Local Council of Women is making an appeal to the citizens on behalf of the Children's Aid Society. It so happens that this very week the agent of the Society, Rev. George Scott, is taking legal proceedings involving the welfare of nearly a dozen children of different families. The work of the society is not revealed, however, by the number of children placed in its home or in other institutions, since that is a last resort. The work of the agent is constant, and the aim is to keep the children in their own home if conditions can be improved to save them from ill-treatment and neglect. The society gets a yearly grant from the municipal council, but it only pays a little more than half of the actual expenditures. For the rest, reliance must be placed upon the generosity of the citizens, which thus far has never failed. At present the funds are exhausted, and hence the appeal of the Council of Women, which has always been a warm friend and most effective supporter of the work in behalf of neglected and dependent children. The society can look back upon a record of most valuable work accomplished, and is now, in common with other institutions, facing the problem of an unusually difficult winter.

The universal satisfaction expressed at home and abroad over the prospective establishment of the Irish Free State in Ireland, should have a profound influence upon the minds of the negotiators in Dublin, Belfast and London.

The British parliament is called for next Wednesday to take up the Irish agreement. Mr. Lloyd George does not let the grass grow under his feet when prompt action is desirable.

The Standard is still somewhat daunted, but may be expected to get its bearings in a few days. Moreover, it still has Col. Baker for recompense.

SENTENCED TO GET LASH

Five Years in Penitentiary and Twenty Strokes for Robbery in West.

Winnipeg, Dec. 8.—Magistrate Sir Hugh Macdonald yesterday made good his promise to suppress violent crime in Winnipeg with the lash when he sentenced John Hirdi to five years in the penitentiary and twenty lashes for robbery.

THE CRY OF THE CHILDREN.

(Rev. George Scott.)
Ye have builded halls of pleasure,
Where the dancers swing and sway
To a scintillating measure
Till the dawn comes creeping up,
And the archlight turns to gray.

And your dances are all a-shimmer
With the spout of India's looms,
All their jewelled clasps a-glimmer
In the cloud of soft perfume
That so dreamily ascends
From the glory of the room.

Ye are filled upon reflection,
Ye have gotten goodly gain,
And your strivings find completion
Ye think with calm disdain
Of this sad world's bitter failures,
And their days of grinding pain.

Oh, your daughter's smiling graces,
Oh, your sister's happy glow
Oh, ye tender-hearted mothers
Pass ye not so careless by
For the souls of children
See your Father's face on high!

Is it meet that ye should leave us,
Where the bitter tide controls,
Mid the discords that divide us,
As ye think with calm disdain
Of this sad world's bitter failures,
And their days of grinding pain.

Ye have builded halls of pleasure,
With an artist's perfect taste,
Where the light from crystal domes
Flashed the master's self-revelings,
Where the Jaded idler comes.

In the smile of childish faces,
In their specious happy glow
Lies the quintessence of graces,
That your hearts can ever know—
Lies the sunniest of pictures
God had left us here below.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.
Insufficient Directions.
Miss Oldface (telephoning excitedly):
Oh, doctor! I forgot to ask you about that eye medicine.

Doctor: Yes, what is it?
Miss Oldface: Shall I drop it into the eye before or after eating?

A New Jazz.
Man:—Will you dance with me this fortnight the orchestra has just started.
Maid:—They're not going to have a fortnight. It was the waiter who dropped a stack of dishes.

Not as Advertised.
"Si Willow, who married the widow they said had a sweet temper and lots of money, is going to sue for a divorce."

"On what grounds?"
"Mistaken identity."

Alarm.
His wife (fondly)—Look, John, I have a lot of your old love letters.
John:—Himself—For goodness sake lock them up so the clerk can't see them. I have never too much respect for me as it is.

Lady (at fruit stand)—Yes, but aren't these cherries rather dirty?
Merchant (sarcastically): Dirty? Think a bloke could wash an orange! I found these 'ard times—Sydney Bulletin.

He was a famous hypnotist and a usual he was urged to accompany his wife to a party given by the power he had at his command.

Moreover, he was very absent-minded. "I remember once during my stay in New York I had the pleasure of saving a workman's life."

Both may be relied on not to sacrifice Canadian interests, and this country has much to gain from such an agreement as would give Canadian products freer admission to their nearest market. What Canada with a chip on her shoulder could not do, she may be able to accomplish by mutual discussion in a friendly spirit. The matter is one that should not be lost sight of when the Liberal trade policy is being developed.

First Tourist: "There's a notice-board warning people not to walk on the railway track."
Second Tourist: "Oh, the railroad people are more particular than motorists."

"Why?"
"Well, motorists allow pedestrians to cross the roads if they take their own risks."

GET MONEY AND LIQUOR BY FRAUD
One Works on Mother's Feelings, Others Impersonate Revenue Officials.

Montreal, Dec. 8.—Two clever ruses for robbers were successfully accomplished here yesterday. A well-dressed stranger called on Mrs. Jos. Hebert of 185 Plessis street last evening, and informed her that her son, Traffic Corbett, had been arrested and was in immediate need of \$25. Mrs. Hebert handed over the sum and later discovered that she had been victimized, her son not having figured in any accident.

V. Fortier, 4081 Berri street, reported last night that four men, representing themselves as revenue officers, called at his home, loaded on a truck \$1,500 worth of liquor which he had stored in his cellar, and drove away. They showed him some kind of badge, which he did not closely examine. Later investigation revealed that he had been the victim of a ruse.

COMPENSATION IN ONTARIO LARGER
Benefits Under Workmen's Act Exceeded Three Millions and Three-Quarters.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—Total benefits of \$7,760,145 were awarded by the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board in the year ended December 31, 1920, according to the sixth annual report of the board. The total in 1919 was \$4,192,859. The increase last year was largely for increased benefits provided for under the amendments of 1920, especially increase in death pensions for accidents happening in previous years, which amounted to \$2,568,546.

CHICAGO LETTER TO TIMES-STAR

Canada's Wonderful Showing at the International Stock and Grain Exhibition.

A Chicago correspondent writes to the Times under date of Dec. 5, expressing the hope that the Liberals might win in the elections, and that St. John would prosper under the new regime. He writes further:—

On Tuesday last I visited the International Stock show. It was grand, so immense that I cannot begin to describe it. I will just give you a few little items that came to my notice. The first place I visited was the Canadian exhibits, grain, etc. The government officials were kind and gentlemanly. From my conversation with Mr. White of Ottawa (Emigration Department) and George A. Hall of Milwaukee, Wis., government emigration representative, I learned that Western Canada has again been awarded many of the first prizes at this show, in both hay and grain classes as well as the live stock classes. For example, Canada carried off 22 first prizes out of a possible 25. One sample from Alberta weighing 48 lbs. to the bushel was the heaviest sample in the show.

J. W. Lucas of Calgary, Alberta, for the third time has won the sweepstakes for oats.

In the wheat classes Canada came very near making a clean sweep of all the 28 first prizes by winning 25 of them. It was overjoyed at that good news. Is it any wonder that I love and admire Canada?

Percheron entries from Canada were good. Marquisat, 105,474, owned by Brian Blanchfield, of Birch Hill, Saskatchewan, winning the reserve senior championship. The grand champion, Monarch, owned by Roberts & Sons, of Winnipeg, became lame and could not be shown, thereby disappointing many Canadians, particularly Manitobans.

In the 4-year old class (20 entries) Manitoba Prince, owned by Dr. Head, of Regina, Sask., was first, and also awarded championship for Canadian bred stallions.

The Clydesdales from Western Canada had it nearly all their own way, as they won places in every class entered. Indian Head Belle, owned by Experimental Farm at Indian Head, Saskatchewan, won first prize for mares under 2 years old; fourth prize going to Deaton Dora, owned by W. H. Bree, St. Charles, Manitoba.

In the 2-year old stallion classes, 4th and 5th places were taken by Baron of Thornhill, owned by Hector Black, of Belle Plaine, Sask., and Adventure, owned by Lindsay Bros. of Strone, Alberta. The details of the showing of sheep and hogs was not available when I was there but I do know that they captured quite a few prizes.

"The above should be choice and gratifying reading for Canadians, particularly when we consider the difficulties the uphill fight against many odds. Away they rode from home."

I took great interest in the grain department and I must say that the American oats looked more like screenings, and dirty screenings at that, when compared to the beautiful Canadian full-blown ones. The Canadian oats, on this side we have science, machinery, money to make the mare go, but with all that we are not in it on the oats deal with the Canadians. Without doubt the Canadian exhibits were the direct hit of that magnificent show.

Mr. White and Mr. Hall deserves great credit. Mr. Hall filled my pockets with Alberta barley. I will plant it somewhere near St. John next spring.

The approach of winter and the disturbed condition of labor are two things that give many a poor fellow the blues. The building industry is not half as good as it might be. There seems to be no way to settle the terms with carpenters and the other trades are about to side with the carpenters.

The election committee for the King's ward Liberals held an enjoyable smoker in the G. W. V. A. last evening in honor of Alexander Corbett and in recognition of the able manner in which he organized his ward in the recent federal campaign. Speeches and songs were on the programme. J. Dryden also spoke. Mr. Corbett expressed his appreciation in a short speech.

"There is a revolution going on in Chicago, a revolution of the masses, which the students call the renaissance. The people are disgusted with their politicians and tired of religion. I believe that the Christian church had most to do with this upheaval, but even Christianity itself is going into the crucible and we must take a pretty virile gospel to China and her millions," said Arthur Lockley, of Trenton, North China, at the annual foreign work banquet of the Y. M. C. A. last evening in a compelling interest on work of the Y. M. C. A. in China. J. Hunter White was in the chair and after the banquet, served by the Ladies Auxiliary, introduced the speaker. Mr. Lockley went on to tell why he had been brought from China and told of the history of the Y. M. C. A. in that country. He also spoke about Confucianism, the leading religion. He then told about his own work in that country.

SON OF MILLIONAIRE MISSING FOR 10 YEARS
Young South African Found in Southern State.

Lake Charles, La., Dec. 8.—After an absence from home of more than ten years, during which time he was mourning the death of his father, T. R. O'Meara, multi-millionaire, of Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa, has been located here. The finding of O'Meara ends a search of four months, covering South Africa, Canada and parts of the United States. Since his disappearance O'Meara has travelled over the greater part of the world. He was found by a lawyer, who had been retained to aid in the search.

USE The Want Ad Way

Gifts for the Motorist

Any man who owns an automobile would be glad to receive a gift that would be useful about his car. Here are a few good suggestions:—

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In a splendid variety for cold, wintry days or ordinary weather—
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S. SOLOMAN KEPT FOR FIVE MONTHS PARTLY DRUGGED

Wife Arrives in Ottawa in Mourning to Return With Husband to New York.

(Ottawa Journal.)
To be drugged, kept in a state of semi-consciousness, and dragged from one place to another for five months, it is believed was the experience of Sol Solomon, merchant, of New York, who was taken up in Ottawa last Thursday under most dramatic circumstances. Only Saturday, for the first time since June 23 last, did he come to himself, and was identified by his wife, who made the trip to Ottawa when informed by the local police, and was taken home again, his normal self once more. Hitherto he had been mourned as lost, and his household goods and effects sold.

Mr. Solomon was first discovered in a state of unconsciousness early Thursday morning at Victoria and Kent streets. He was taken by the police to St. Luke's hospital, where he lay for more than a day without moving or regaining consciousness. In the meantime, from documents in his pocket, the police were led to believe of his true condition, his family in New York communicated with, and the relatives here were once more, when identified by his wife, and by a friend of the family, S. H. Gell of New York, who accompanied her to Ottawa Saturday morning, memory gradually dawned on Mr. Solomon. Slowly, bit by bit, the months of vague, floating ideas put together and a whole chain of thought led to the story formed.

While what happened after June 23, 1921, to the day when he discovered himself lying in St. Luke's hospital was a mystery as far as Mr. Solomon is concerned, he remembers now what happened prior to that fateful day. He had with him then about \$1,000 in cash, floating ideas put together and a whole chain of thought led to the story formed.

Previous to that he had again and again received threatening letters from some unknown sources telling him that he must hand over some money, or dire results would follow, and his wife since his disappearance has been receiving messages of the same kind. The originators of these letters have not yet been discovered.

He was in business at the time, in the manufacture of ladies' clothing. He was in comfortable circumstances, being rated at close to the \$100,000 mark. He was in his home city, a fact to which Mr. Gell, who brought letters from the New York police, has been singled out for these "attacks" is unknown. Feeling as near his old-time self as was possible to feel after the many months of hardships he had experienced, Mr. Solomon stated he was going back to New York to celebrate his return.

The untold couple left Saturday afternoon on the New York train. The wife, who came here in mourning clothes, was only too happy to discard the widow's weeds, and the couple went to the home of a friend in the city to change clothes, and shortly after left on the 3.45 train. Of the \$1,000 he had when he went in bathing, Mr. Solomon when discovered had only \$10.

WHY YOUNG DANES REMAIN ON FARM
Gymnastics and Other Forms of Culture Keep Them Satisfied.

London, Dec. 8.—Denmark has kept its people on the land, writes W. Keith in the Daily News, not by making them like cabbage as much as possible, but by cultivating their interest in life. The fact should appeal to us now, for the movement began after the war with Germany over fifty years ago. Just as France today is going mad on "le sport" and pushing gymnastics for both boys and girls, the Danes set out to improve their standards. Life down on the farm in Denmark is interesting because it is lived by people capable of being interested.

In the gallery of modern painting in Brussels recently I saw a picture of a farmyard. A pig snuffed after another pig. Two Jodels lounged over the fence rail, and his empty sabot on the ground. The picture was painted in stark realism, but at the side was a delicately-painted head of a virgin, suggesting all that the pig gazers were missing. The picture was called "Sunday Afternoon," but the Danish peasant knows better than that. For two or three winter months each year 6,000 of them go to the folk schools, the women go later in the spring.

Singing, natural history and literature are the principal subjects, but the young farmer, accustomed to hard exercise, has always kept himself in trim by drill and gymnastics on Swedish lines. When he got back to his village he carried on his training in his village club. These exist all over the country, equipped with coffee rooms, smoking rooms and gymnasiums, which would be a revelation to most English villages. The best pupils of the "folk schools" became voluntary teachers in their village clubs. Gymnastics is as popular in Denmark as cycling in Belgium, tennis in France or football in England.

The hero of the movement now is Nels Bukh, and its cathedral is a large simple building standing on an island in the heart of rural Denmark.

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