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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1922

The Evening Times and Star

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THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS.

St. John today extends a cordial welcome to Hon. W. C. Kennedy, minister of railways. He comes with the reputation of a very able and successful business man, and that counts for much more than mere political experience. He has been in parliament since 1917, and the fact that he was chosen to take the important railway portfolio at this critical time in railway history in Canada is sufficient evidence of the confidence reposed in him by Premier King. He has begun his arduous duties by studying national railway problems from the standpoint of widely separated sections of the country, and that is a wise course to pursue at the very outset of his career as minister.

Mr. Kennedy finds that St. John is a terminus of two C. N. R. lines, which here meet, in winter at least, the steamers of the Canadian Merchant Marine. He must see at once that the aim should be to have here such terminals as would ensure the quickest and cheapest transfer of cargo from train to steamship and from steamship to train. The most casual survey of the present wharves cannot but convince him that such terminals do not today exist to the extent that is required. There are ample terminals at West St. John to handle all the traffic the Canadian Pacific can bring from Montreal over one pair of rails, but the eastern side of the harbor to which the C. N. R. must look for terminals is not so fortunate. There is ample room to provide additional facilities to meet immediate needs. All that is required is a plan and the work of construction. The former government had some plans regarding new wharves which Mr. Kennedy may already have seen.

It is desirable from the national as well as the local standpoint that the C. N. R. should have a definite policy regarding the use of this national port, and the minister's visit will put him in possession of a knowledge of local conditions which he could not otherwise secure. The question of port development and the movement of Canadian trade through Canadian channels is vital to St. John. It has been vital since the time of confederation. Water-borne trade is the life of these provinces, and if their ports are neglected and the traffic promised them continues to pass through American channels, the very spirit of the confederation agreement will be violated. There are two great needs which will no doubt be impressed upon the mind of the minister. One is that our industries, shut out of other markets, may be able to get their products on the Canadian market on fair competitive terms, based on such relative railway rates as prevailed before the Railway Commission began to function and the C. N. R. authorities applied its rulings to the Intercolonial Railway. The other is the development of our ports and the through traffic which as national ports they should enjoy.

We shall get better acquainted with Mr. Kennedy as time passes, for he will come this way again. He may be assured that the people of the Maritime Provinces appreciate the gigantic nature of the task he has in hand as the head of the Canadian National Railways in this transition period. They will not seek to burden him with demands that are unreasonable, but they do hope that he in turn will appreciate their position and the menace to their future and to the unity of Canada which lies in the present intolerable conditions relating to freight rates, port development, and the movement of Canadian export and import trade.

Referring to a matter that is now attracting a good deal of attention in New Brunswick, the Montreal Gazette says:—"In dealing with infectious diseases the complaint is made in the Quebec Board of Health report that the requirements of the law as to notifying the health officials are not observed. It is added that the inspectors are often obstructed in doing their work. The opinion is expressed, however, that better control of such diseases is being obtained. This, perhaps, is as interesting a statement as the report contains. The public health officer, from the nature of his work, is liable to be regarded as a meddlesome and inquisitive individual presenting himself generally when he is least desired. It takes education to win him a welcome and secure an appreciation of his work. There is that in the report to suggest that in Quebec he is establishing his usefulness."

MR. JOHN T. HAWKE.

Canadian journalism, the province of New Brunswick and the city of Moncton have suffered a serious loss in the passing of Mr. John T. Hawke, publisher and editor of the Moncton Transcript. A native of Plymouth, England, he came to Canada, engaged in journalism in Ontario, and thirty years ago purchased the Moncton Transcript and became a citizen of the railway town. In those days a good deal of bitterness marked political controversies in Westmorland county and Mr. Hawke was in the thick of every fight, upholding the Liberal banner against odds at the outset, but with increasing success as the years went on. He was so pronounced an advocate of plain speech that on one occasion he came under the displeasure of the courts, but would not yield an inch; and for the term of his imprisonment for what the court regarded as an offence against its dignity, the Moncton Transcript each day printed in bold lines:—"This is Mr. Hawke's day in jail." The years, however, mellowed his fiery nature, and also revealed to the people among whom he lived the pure gold in his character. It was not easy going for a Liberal newspaper in Moncton when Mr. Hawke took over the Transcript. The late Mr. H. T. Stevens was editor of the Times, and one of the most trenchant writers of his day. The complaints the rival newspapers paid to each other and the respective leaders of parties in those days find no parallel in the political discussions of the present time. The Transcript won its way steadily, and its owner became a substantial citizen of Moncton. The value of his newspaper and printing plant increased, and he found leisure to take an active interest in town affairs. He saw Moncton grow from a small railway town to the prosperous and rapidly growing city of today. He had, moreover, the great satisfaction of contributing to that growth, and by the power of his voice and pen advancing every good cause. Mr. Hawke was a pronounced advocate of prohibition, of woman suffrage, and of many other reforms which were much ridiculed in former years but are now accomplished. He was a constant friend of education, and as a member and later the chairman of the school board did much to secure for Moncton the splendid school buildings which are the pride of the citizens. That his way was not always smooth was a fault of his temperament rather than of his heart. He was impulsive, inclined to be aggressive in his views, and not easily prevailed upon to change them; but he liked the scent of battle, and the people always knew that underneath his outward forms lay a great sincerity, and a heart that was never selfish. In political campaigns Mr. Hawke was a very clever speaker as well as writer. During the war period he took the platform to arouse the patriotic enthusiasm of the people and rendered noble service. On one occasion when he came to St. John to speak, he told the writer of these lines that his physician had warned him of a very severe illness, that even momentary over-excitement might have fatal results. Yet he went on doing his duty as he saw it, until overcome by the long illness which has now terminated a career of so great usefulness to the country of his adoption. Once when a friend going to England asked what he might bring Mr. Hawke on his return, the answer was a primrose. Many a friend will lay upon his bier the primrose of remembrance.

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NEW "OVER-SEAS" CLUB HEADQUARTERS



Vernon House, which is the new headquarters of the famous Over-Seas Club. It was opened recently by the Duke of York.

THE VAMPIRE

(By Rudyard Kipling.)
"A fool there was and he made his prayer
(Even as you and I)
To a rag and a bone and a bank of hair
(We called her the woman who did not care)
But the fool he called her his lady fair—
(Even as you and I)"

Oh, the years we waste and the tears we waste,
And the work of our head and hand
Belong to the woman who did not know
(And now we know that she never knew)
And did not understand!

A Fool there was and his goods he spent,
Honour and faith and a sure intent
(And it isn't the least what the lady meant)
But a fool must follow his natural bent
(Even as you and I)

Oh, the toll we lost and the spoil we lost
And the excellent things we planned
Belong to the woman who did not know
why
(And now we know that she never knew
And did not understand!)

The Fool was stripped to his foolish hide
(Even as you and I)
Which she had seen when she
threw him aside—
(But it isn't the least what the lady tried)
So some of him lived but the most of him died—
(Even as you and I)

And it isn't the shame and it isn't the blame
That stings like a white hot brand—
It's coming to know that she never knew
why
(Seeing at last, she could never know
And never could understand!)

THE END OF A PERFECT JAY

There was a little man
And he had a little match,
And the fire was still glowing
In its lead, head, head;
He dropped it in the wood,
Among the leaves just where he stood
To light his pipe before he camped
And made his bed, bed, bed.
(You must admit he didn't
Use his head, head, head.)

Soon this careless little man—
Defend him if you can—
Found the forest all about him
Blazing red, red, red;
He ran to the brook;
But he wasn't any duck,
And he floated to the bottom
Quick as lead, lead, lead.

"When the forest ranger got him
He was dead, VERY DEAD!"
—F. H. Bysshe, Dominion Forest Service.

LIGHTER VEIN

"James, how you whispered today
without permission!"
"Only wunt!"
"Larry, should James have said
wunt?"
"No'm; he should have said twit."

In Russia
(Wayside Tales).
"What is the national song of the
Russia bolsheviks?"
"I'm forever blowing troubles!"

Out of Season
Patron—What's that? This watch will
not be repaired until next May?
Jeweller—Sorry, sir, but you see, a
spring cleaning is necessary.

Shocks Inevitable
"There will have to be some new rules
made here or else I shall give notice,"
said the girl in the telephone office to
the clerk.

"Why, what's the matter?"
"Well, some of the things said over
the wire are no fit for me to hear."
"Oh, that's all right," was the sup-
porting answer. "You can't expect to
work round church and not get shocked."

At a certain church it is the custom
of the clergyman to kiss the bride after
the ceremony. A young woman who
was about to be married did not relish
the prospect, and instructed her prospective
husband to tell the clergyman that she
did not wish him to kiss her. The
bridegroom obeyed.

"Well, Harry," said the young woman,
when he appeared, "did you tell the min-
ister that I did not wish him to kiss
me?"
"Yes."
"And what did he say?"
"He said that in that case he would
charge only half the usual fee."

Often Looks That Way.

A capable housewife was trying to im-
press upon her maid the need of system
in her work.
After carefully explaining her own
methods in her work, she asked: "Now,
Olga, just what do I mean by system?"
Do you understand what system means?"
"Ja, ja," giggled Olga. "System means
doing things the hardest way."—Pitts-
burg Chronicle-Telegraph.

CELESTIAL WORTHY OF ALL RESPECT

Immigration Regulations are
Too Drastic, Rev. A. W.
Lochead Declares.

(Mail and Empire.)
Speaking before a representative meet-
ing of St. Andrew's Society last night
at the Queen's Hotel, Rev. A. W.
Lochead, a Presbyterian missionary in
China, who is in Toronto on furlough,
described in an interesting way some
present-day conditions in the Far East.

Rev. Mr. Lochead particularly called at-
tention to the very able manner in which
the situation had been dealt with at the
Washington Conference, the result of
these deliberations having effectively
prevented, for a time at least, any prob-
able outbreak of hostilities between the
Oriental races and other English-speak-
ing nations. Rev. Mr. Lochead said that
despite the fact that the great popula-
tion of Japan lives within a very small
area, their intelligence and capabilities
in dealing with matters affecting their
interests had been underestimated by the
people of Canada and the United States.

He believed that as a result of
the able efforts of the Hon. Mr. Balfour
at Washington in handling the Japanese
situation, the way had been paved for
peace between that country and other
nations.

Rev. Mr. Lochead briefly referred to
the numerous revolutions which had oc-
curred in China and stressed the fact
that despite the many setbacks suffered
by China in the past, she had always
risen to the occasion with renewed energy
and strength. "There is a great need in
China for a more adequate expression of
brotherhood of man," emphasized Mr.
Lochead. "At present the country is
overrun with brigands, and the nation is
facing financial disaster, due in a great
measure to the introduction of western
ideas in preference to old established
methods, more adaptable to the condi-
tions of that country."

The speaker emphasized the appalling
ignorance of Chinese affairs in the Cana-
dian and American newspapers. He be-
lieved Canada should have in China a
representative thoroughly familiar with
the events and affairs of that country,
because much of the information which
he had noticed in the newspapers was en-
tirely misleading. Rev. Mr. Lochead
also disapproved of the methods enforced
by the Dominion Immigration authorities
in Vancouver, some of which he consid-
ered quite unnecessary in permitting the
Celestial Immigrants to enter Canada. He
believed such drastic measures should be
modified, because, after all is said and
done, the Celestial is human, the same as
the rest of us."

TELLS OF HER BENCH JOB.
Judge Florence E. Allen Finds Men
"Good Sports"

(New York Times).
Judge Florence E. Allen of the Court
of Common Pleas, Cleveland, told an in-
terested audience the other day at the
Tower Hall, where she talked and an-
swered questions of the League for Political
Education, how much she appreciated
the way both women and men had stood
by her in her professional life. It was
a waitress in one of a certain well known
chain of dairy restaurants who was one
of her first well-wishers after she became
Judge.

Used to frequent that restaurant
very often after I first put out my
shingles," said Judge Allen, "but I had
no idea that the waitress knew anything
about me personally, so I was much sur-
prised when one of them came up to
greet me enthusiastically immediately after
I had received my new honor and to
give me good advice.

"Good morning, Judge," she said.
"Now, Judge, you've got this job and you
watch your step. Don't you do nothing
to make 'em mad or they'll bump you
off."

"It is not very easy for a Judge not
to make 'em mad," and it was a woman
who said she had been a strong supporter
of mine whom I made very mad indeed.
She was a very fat woman and she came
hurrying up to me breathless one morn-
ing.

"Judge," she said, "I worked for you
and I voted for you. Now I am indicted
for perjury and if you will make the
bench \$300 I shall be able to get through
all right."