

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 20, 1919.

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MINISTERS' SALARIES.

A letter from Rev. J. E. Gosline, printed in The Telegraph a day or two ago, on the cost of living and the salaries of clergymen, has caused much quiet and earnest discussion, because it went deeply into a situation of general interest and dealt with it by means of some striking comparisons. The falling value of the dollar in purchasing power, which is another way of referring to the inflated price of necessities, has hit hardest men and women whose salaries have risen slowly during the last ten years, and particularly during the last five. A small-salaried clergyman, if he has been fortunate enough to secure an advance of \$800 or even \$500 in annual income, may well be, probably is, poorer today than he was with the lower salary under the living conditions which prevailed a few years ago. Contributions to the church have increased, of course, but they have by no means increased in a way to keep pace with the rising cost of food, of clothing, of shoes, of the absolute necessities of existence. Some few, who may not be themselves affected by these conditions, are disposed to ignore the plight of the clergymen and of others who are in like fix, or to say that in these troubled days the ministers ought to set a good example by keeping quiet. That sort of argument will not serve. It is at once shortsighted and unjust. The injustice put upon clergymen of meagre income is a misfortune to them, but a far greater misfortune to those who are responsible for it—the general public to whose moral and religious needs they minister. There are, doubtless, some mercenary clergymen, for there are black sheep in nearly every flock; but to deny justice on the plea that clergymen who discuss these matters—who are forced by cruel circumstances to discuss them—is blind and wicked folly. The country which has a stunted spiritual development is in peril. It is inviting disaster. And to starve the natural and legitimate demands of the church is to worship at the shrine of that materialism which has been a most formidable evil ever, but never so menacing and so destructive as in our day and generation.

The clergymen of inadequate, not to say miserable, salaries, must have more. They should be fairly paid. That accomplished, it will be time to demand a higher standard of education and efficiency, and of spiritual force, in the ministry. More young men, under proper conditions, will become clergymen. It will follow, as of course, that the bodies which license clergymen will be able gradually to demand higher standards. The generally high merit of the clergy is not in question here; but their high office demands even better things. The laymen must do their share. They have not yet frankly faced the fact that the wretched financial condition of too many ministers constitutes a grave reproach to the whole population. The benefit of justice and fair play will go to the general public far more than to the clergymen who are given a living wage. The materialism or the narrowness which has oppressed the poor ministers has been a grave affliction to them, but its effect upon the people generally has been a much worse thing. In denying justice to the clergy they have struck at themselves.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Canadian Official Record warns the people of Canada that an insidious effort is being made "in the name of religion" to frustrate health regulations and retard the work of health authorities and others to improve conditions generally. This propaganda is not only being carried on in Canada but in other countries as well, and those behind it are declared to be pursuing their "nefarious and deadly" work with energy and determination. The most recent manifestation of this "cult," says the Record, was the introduction into the State Legislature of Minnesota of a Bill the purpose of which was to prohibit compulsory medical examination and treatment, except in certain cases, without the consent of the persons involved, or, in the case of minors, without the consent of parents or guardians. This bill was defeated, but it was startling in the provisions it proposed. Therefore the public is cautioned, says the Record, against "a movement of this kind by which the physical examination of cases of communicable disease, even in epidemic form, or the powerful agent of quarantine itself, would be prohibited and penalized. Under the sacred name of religion many prejudices have taken shelter and questionable things have been done in the past. This attempt to frustrate the safe-guarding of public health is the most modern form of this hypocrisy."

In the current issue of Conservation of Life, an official publication of the Commission of Conservation, a similar warning is given. The public should do well to be on its guard against such propaganda and members of Parliament and of the Legislatures will no doubt refuse to be influenced by it. Health laws are being enacted now which should prove of great benefit to the people, and

they must be rigidly enforced. Good health is an asset which cannot be measured in dollars and cents, and any attempt, malicious or otherwise, to break down the safeguards thrown around it should be stamped out by bold and determined action.

Readers of The Times are reminded that this newspaper does not publish anonymous letters. All communications intended for publication should contain the name and address of the writer, given in such a way that verification is quickly possible. Those who have private interests to promote, or who desire to "get even" with others, are only wasting their time in sending letters to the newspapers. Letters on matters of real public interest, properly signed, are welcome.

That is a good record made by the civil service employees of Canada in the war as disclosed in enlistment figures and compilation of decorations won, sent out from Ottawa. The casualty record shows that they were in the thick of battle.

KNIGHTS SEND GREETINGS TO PRINCE OF WALES

Amherst, N. S., Aug. 19.—At the annual session of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias held here today, an address of welcome in behalf of the town was given by Mayor Rogers and in behalf of the local knights by John Strachan, C. C. A tribute was paid to the work of James Moulson, grand keeper of records and seals, for his work during the last fifteen years. A telegram of welcome was sent to the Prince of Wales expressing fidelity and loyalty.

The Pythian Sisters' Grand Lodge is also in session here. They gave a reception tonight for the members of the brother grand lodge.

G. W. V. A. Fair Closed. The G. W. V. A. fair closing in St. Andrew's Rink last night was attended by a large crowd. The fair has been a distinct success. The purpose of extending it for two extra nights was to get rid of surplus stock and almost all was disposed of. The door prize last night was won by ticket No. 7,242. J. G. Henderson of Peters street won \$10 offered by Waterbury & Rising for guessing the weight of a large rubber boot at the nurses' booth. With the Veterans' band playing a good programme, many present indulged in dancing until well toward midnight.

Mrs. Arthur Murphy, known in literary circles as "Jenny Canuck," will be a speaker at the women's institute convention which will be held in St. John in October.



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MID-AUGUST.

Spiders are spinning their webs, I hear pears falling, Birds are still, yesterday They were singing and calling.

Grapes are swelling now, Globes of silver green, Their leaves lie close, but the sun Slips in between.

There's a blue haze in the air, A butter fly's questing flight Leads where petunias bloom, Crimson and mauve and white.

Goose-necked poppies are dead— They have had their flaming hour, Marigold buds are green— We wait for the yellow flower.

The goldfinch sits like a jewel By dried hollyhock, The wayside is adorned With vivid weeds.

The fields are dappled brown, The barns are filled, And sweet with hay that spills Clover, distilled.

August's a quiet time, Do you hear pears fall? Cicada sings all day And at nightfall

The katydid's sharp cry, Prophetic, calls the hour Of bins for the fruit, And death for the flower.

—Louise Driscoll in N. Y. Times.

LIGHTER VEIN.

"This letter is marked 'Dictated but not read.'"

"And that last part is a prophecy. In to the waste basket with it."

"Figures won't lie!" declared the statistician.

"Maybe you're right," answered the mid-mannered citizen. "And yet, somehow, I can't put implicit faith in the numbers that go up on a taxicab register."

Always With Him.

"Come out with us tonight, old chap, and we'll give you a howling time of it."

"Thanks, boys, but the baby attends to that!"—Baltimore American.

A Hopeless Case.

A doctor came up to a patient in a lunatic asylum, slapped him on the back and said: "Well, old man, you're all right. You can run along and write your folk that you'll be back home in two weeks as good as new."

The patient went off gallily to write his letter. He had it finished and sealed, but as he was about to fix the stamp the latter slipped through his fingers to the floor, alighted on the back of a cockroach that was passing, and stuck. The patient hadn't seen the cockroach. What he did see was his escaped postage-stamp signifying aimlessly across the floor, and following a crooked trail up the wall and across the ceiling.

In depressed silence he tore up the letter that he had just written and dropped the pieces on the floor.

"Two weeks!" he said, "I won't be out of here in three years."

Corns? Have You Any?

If so, you want to try Putnam's Corn Extractor; it is not a cheap acid salve, but a genuine 50c cure that does remove corns in twenty-four hours. Be sure and get "Putnam's Extractor," 25c. at all dealers.

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Could Not Sleep Eruption Itched and Burned So.

"I noticed a little pimple on my baby's face. I thought it was from the sun but it kept getting worse and the skin was red and very hot. He could not sleep or rest the eruption itched and burned so, and it caused him to scratch. I was quite discouraged."

"I saw an advertisement for Cuticura Soap and Ointment and sent for a free sample. I bought more and after using two cakes of Cuticura Soap and two and a half boxes of Cuticura Ointment he was healed." (Signed) Mrs. S. D. McGuire, Clarksburg, Ont., Dec. 18, 1918.

Use Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum for every-day toilet purposes. For free sample send to Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, Dept. A, Boston, U. S. A. Sold everywhere.

Matthew Mitchell, of Mascarene, Charlotte county, has been missing from his home since Sunday when he went out in his motor boat. His relatives, knowing no reason for his absence, are seeking information concerning his whereabouts. A notice to this effect and describing the missing man appears in another part of this paper.



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We advise everyone in this condition to take a good medicine at once and try to get well while yet there is time.

Probably no better advice can be given than to use Dr. Hamilton's Pills, which have become famous in restoring the sick to good health. A general toning up of the system at once takes place. The whole body is vitalized by richer and purer blood. The appetite is increased, food is digested and naturally strength rapidly increases. Headaches go because the bowels are regulated and all wastes are carried off.

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Aluminum Sink Strainers.....	\$0.69	Aluminum Strainers.....	\$0.69 and \$0.89

SEE WINDOWS FOR OTHER BARGAINS

Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

URGES BRITAIN TO STAND BY RUSSIA

British Banking Institution Sends Significant Circular to Shareholders

New York, Aug. 20.—In view of a further decline in Russian external bonds in the local security market the following statement by the management of the British Bank for Foreign Trade to its stockholders on the Russian situation is of interest as expressing the views of English financiers:

"The shareholders will recognize the inadvisability of realizing our Russian holdings at prevailing quotations and they will also see that dividends cannot be distributed until the capital value of such securities is re-established. Newspaper accounts of Russian affairs lay stress upon the terrible civil conflict, which affects the people. Nevertheless, the fighting appears to be confined to forces numbering hundreds of thousands at most, and returning travelers speak of millions of peaceful industrial workers who are pursuing their normal activities.

"Opinion in this country is divided as to whether intervention or non-intervention is desirable. Many merchants and traders lately arrived here tell us that Lenin and Trotsky are ready to acknowledge Russia's external indebtedness and to discuss plans for the resumption of payment of interest. Admiral Kolchak has given formal undertakings which are entirely satisfactory to British bondholders. If British statesmen are to influence the course of events in a foreign state so distraught as Russia is today, we imagine that British interests would be best served by endeavoring to stand by Russia, when the fighting ceases."

The statement bears out other advice from London indicating that British opinion regarding Russia is more optimistic than that apparently held in Washington, where Admiral Kolchak's position was recently described as "critical" in contrast with this pessimistic comment a London cablegram last week said that in that centre the Kolchak government had not been materially weakened by the Bolshevik advance.

An important development bearing on the Russian situation was the announcement by the Federal Reserve Board that a general license had been issued permitting the exportation of Russian rubles to those parts of Russia which are not under the control of the Bolsheviks. This ruling was interpreted as another step on the part of the United States designed to aid the Kolchak government.

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CONFERENCE WITH WILSON FAILS TO CHANGE THOSE OPPOSED TO LEAGUE TERMS

Washington, Aug. 20.—Opponents of the League of Nations covenant left the White House, after a conference with the president yesterday, unchanged in their attitude, they declared with emphasis. This massed opposition, which includes the entire Republican membership of the foreign relations committee, with the probable exception of Senator McCumber, took the stand that its members could not accept, in lieu of specific reservations, the "interpretative reservations" which they asserted the president offered them.

CONDITION OF UNION STREET.

To the Editor of The Times:—
Sir—The condition of Union Street block between Waterloo and Brussels is simply a disgrace to the city as well as a very serious menace to automobiles and the people who have to ride in them. No springs or engines could possibly stand the bumps and jolts that they get in going through this block, and on account of the difficulty in steering automobiles over the high street car rails deep ruts and little hills you meet with in passing through this street, collisions are likely to occur at any time as teams and motor cars pass one another. It is time someone should wake up if we are to avoid serious accidents.

Yours, etc.,
UNION STREET TAXPAYER,
St. John, N. B., August 19.

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRE:

The longshoremen along the Miram chi have gone on strike for a nine day and an increase wage to fifty-five and sixty-five cents an hour.

After having been missing for nine days from her home in Bathurst, the little ten-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Grant was found yesterday in the woods. She is now under doctor's care. The child had wandered too far into the woods and become lost with the demands of the clerks of the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. at Sydney, N. S., have awarded an increase of 25 per cent to them, which will be considered by the clerks.

A dozen bottles of liquor were seized by the Halifax police yesterday in a house of an Italian in the North End there.

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