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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1918

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A NEEDED REFORM.

The government bill providing for a public health department for this province will doubtless receive the most sympathetic consideration from the members of the legislature. In a circular recently issued the following appears:

"This department would occupy a position similar to that occupied by other departments, such as public works, lands and mines, agriculture, etc. Among the many matters receiving attention and over which this department would have control are found the following: Vital statistics, medical inspection of public schools, tuberculosis, venereal disease control—(the latter has become a gigantic problem and one which all governments are concentrating every effort to combat, and if not taken in hand immediately in this province will possibly have disseminated itself among hundreds of innocent families throughout the province)—child welfare, prevention of epidemics, examination of milk, examination of water supply, etc."

The proposed legislation is based upon the Hall report, recently issued, in which the sanitary expert, Mr. John Hall, said:

"An investigation of health conditions in New Brunswick shows that, except in the three largest communities, very little so-called public health work is done. Vital statistics and other records are in a deplorable state, and few actual facts relating to the health of the people can now be obtained. There is evidence, however, that epidemics of communicable diseases of children are relatively common and cause many deaths. Tuberculosis is prevalent but poorly cared for, and the infant mortality rate, at least in some places, is high. The provincial government, while having the legal power, has done almost nothing to remedy conditions. The registration of vital statistics has been discouraged, the board of health has had no money, information, or interest to work with, and has done little aside from trying to control smallpox epidemics. The Jordan Memorial Sanatorium for treatment of early cases of tuberculosis is almost the only constructive work now under way. A plan for the establishment of a provincial department of health on modern lines will require new laws, capable officials and money, and must be unhampered by politics. The greatest need is for a propaganda of popular education, and the means of carrying this on are many. Provision for laboratory facilities, medical school, adequate control of communicable diseases, and supervision over sanitary engineering should be made at once."

Mr. Hall says that in going through the province he found a lively interest in the subject and a consciousness of the fact that in the matter of health promotion and disease control New Brunswick is far behind the times. He adds that no more suitable time for action ever came to a government than now, during the period of the great war and its demands for conservation.

In this connection it is worthy of note that the Public Health Journal, in its February number, calls for the establishment of a federal department of public health to co-operate with the provincial departments. We quote one paragraph: "Canada is big enough to establish and maintain a federal department of health which will command respect and consideration; and in which politics will play no part; and finally one which would make certain that every Canadian, present and future, enjoyed a maximum of good health, reasonable hours of labor, health insurance, and other benefits which as citizens of a country of great natural wealth we are entitled to. Let us for one thing cease manufacturing railway millionaires and in place thereof develop a federal department of public health."

These remarks apply to New Brunswick as well as to Canada as a whole. This province must have a modern health department for its own sake, and such a department could bring still greater benefits to the people by co-operation with the federal department whose establishment is only a question of a short time. The bill to be introduced by Hon. Dr. Roberts is the first great step, and should be hailed with universal satisfaction.

TWO OPINIONS.

"The speech with which the government opened the legislative session today is one of the most important placed in the mouth of a New Brunswick governor for many years. Practically every paragraph has an interest of its own, and there are paragraphs which suggest legislation of far-reaching importance."

In these words the St. John Globe begins an article expressing appreciation of the speech from the throne, read by Lieut.-Gov. Pugsley in the legislature yesterday. But note what the Standard says:

"On the whole the speech is a disappointment. No deliverance in recent years has been more disposed to take credit for the work of others or has been more meagre in real constructive legislation than that delivered by Governor Pugsley yesterday. As we have previously remarked, there is no disposition in the times, to be unduly critical, but

in all truth, it is difficult to see where the Foster government's second official announcement gives any promise of a useful legislative session."

The Globe highly approves of the paragraph in the speech referring to proposed action to recover certain moneys wrongfully obtained by persons connected with the Valley Railway finance. On this the Standard discreetly reserves comment.

As a matter of fact this is the fly in the ointment, so far as the Standard is concerned. No speech from the throne or anywhere else that hinted at action to recover Valley Railway loot could be regarded with any degree of favor by the Standard.

THE BIG BROTHERS.

The Rotary Club did a fine thing when it took up the Big Brother movement. The Knights of Columbus did a fine thing when they agreed to co-operate. It is an example to other organizations and to the church brotherhoods. To give a boy a broader vision, to give him sympathy and friendship, to make him feel that a good citizen is taking a personal interest in him, is something that makes for healthy development and better citizenship. And if the Big Brother finds his lad in a very poor flat, where the family live under great disadvantages the revelation will give him a wider sympathy for those who are handicapped by the struggle of life. We may be sure the soldiers overseas will be gladdened by the knowledge that earnest men at home are interested in the welfare of their boys.

Last evening was a notable one in the history of the local Y. M. C. A. President Barbour was able to announce that more than the \$16,000 needed had been secured, and there were added to the membership of the boys' department more than seventy sons of soldiers overseas. Moreover, a large number of busy men were there with the boys, and got a clearer knowledge of what the Y. M. C. A. may be made to mean in boy life. And the Big Brother movement is to spread. The Halifax Rotary Club, which took the initiative, has asked the St. John club for full particulars of how the plan is worked out here. Mr. L. A. Buckley, the Maritime Boys' Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., has been asked to address the Charlottetown Rotary Club on the same subject, and get full information at the local Y. M. C. A. last evening. The Big Brother movement is capable of infinite variations, and now that a good start has been made it is certain to take a strong hold upon the interest of men, to their own benefit as well as the benefit of the boys.

Hon. Mr. Carvell says the government railways must be rebuilt and made safe for trains. They have been allowed to run down, and a large expenditure is necessary. The government at Ottawa is confronted with great home problems as well as those arising out of the war.

There will be many more boys from the cities, towns and villages at work here this summer on the farms. It will be good for the boys and will aid materially in the campaign for greater food production.

The British casualties for the first week in March were the smallest for several months, but heavy fighting may come at any time, now that weather conditions are more favorable.

Germany continues to lighten her grip on the east, and to lay her plans for future operations in the farther east. These plans must be rendered impossible of fulfillment when the peace terms are dictated by the Allies.

Dr. Hetherington and Mr. Michaud made interesting and excellent speeches in the legislature yesterday. They bring strength to the debating talent of the house.

The Retail Merchants' Association also demands that outside counsel be secured to aid in fighting the city's battle with the power company.

The Retail Merchants' Association wants daylight saving for all Canada. That is the best method of action. Make it nation-wide.

The iron heel is on the neck of Roumania. Russia helped to place it there. The Allies must take it off, when they also relieve Serbia and Belgium.

Another air raid on London was in progress early this morning. Ruthless retaliation is the only cure.

The Kaiser still boasts about the German sword, which drips with the blood of women and children.

One of the great tasks of the Allies is to save Russia from herself as well as from the Germans.

The shortage of fertilizer will be a handicap to farmers this year, but it is unavoidable.

Unwrapped bread is not sanitary bread. Why turn the clock back?

LA TOUR FLOUR

Best Manitoba, Government Standard, Spring Wheat



PRICES:

\$12.00 Per bbl.
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DISTRIBUTION OF SEED GRAIN - 1918

Good seed is scarce. Place your order now with your County Councillor.

The Department of Agriculture has ordered 56,000 bushels of oats and 18,000 bushels of wheat.

Oats will be sold for \$1.82 per bushel, in bulk, car lots, or \$1.45 in bags in car lots, laid down.

Wheat will be sold for \$3.00 per bushel in bags, car lots, or f. o. b., distributing point for smaller orders.

Local freights will be paid by purchaser.

County Councillors and Agricultural Societies should place car lot orders immediately stating destination for cars.

Delivery not guaranteed unless orders placed within three weeks, because of transportation difficulties.

New Brunswick is expected to breed herself for the duration of the war. EVERY farmer should grow some wheat.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FREDERICTON, N. B. 8-18.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Know His Place.

(From the Ladies' Home Journal.) Sister Smith was called upon for testimony in a revival meeting. She humbly declined in these words:

"I have been a transgressor and a black sheep for a good many years, and have only recently seen the light. I believe that my place is in a dark corner behind the door."

Brother Jones was next called upon.

Following Sister Smith's neck example, he said:

"I, too, have been a sinner for more than forty years, and I do not think I ought to stand before you as a model. I think my place is behind the door, in a dark corner, with Sister Smith."

Aunt and Niece.

Little Girl (to aunt who is staying in the house on a visit)—Are you going out, auntie? You've got a hole in your veil.

Aunt—Have I? I'm afraid I haven't time to change it now.

Little Girl—Oh, well, it's not a very big one—and, after all, I don't suppose anyone will know you're my aunt—Punch.

Miss Madge Andrus of Washington in a war saving stamp talk before the women guests of the Martha Washington Hotel, told the following story:

"I have a brother in a camp in Texas.

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is indeed a phenomenal record of success, and the only article of its kind that has this proud record

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Ladies' \$5.00 Dull Calf, High Cut Laced Boot, Black Cravenette Top, Half Louis Heel, all sizes, \$3.75 Per Pair

We guarantee the tops of these boots to outwear any leather. They are certainly a bargain.

Ladies' \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00 Bon Boots and a few Laced, sizes only 11-2, 2 1/2 and 3 at \$1.75, \$2.85 and \$3.00 Per Pair.

Ladies' Special Rubbers, medium toe and heel, all sizes, 65c. Per Pair

Men's Special Rubbers, all sizes, 90c. Per Pair

Special Reduced Prices on all stock shoes during Sale. Men's, Women's, Boys', Girls' and Children's. Our Men's and Boys' Waterproof Boots cannot be duplicated at regular prices. They are Bargains at Sale Prices.

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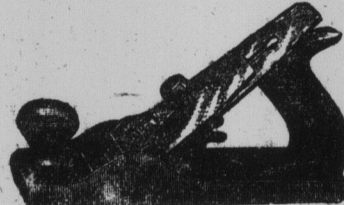
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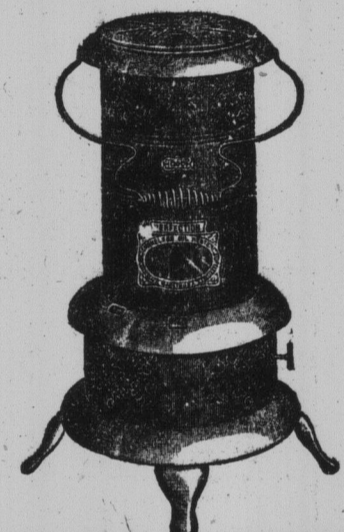


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Soft Cotton Wicks, suitable for these stoves, supplied at all times.

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HEBREW UNIVERSITY ON MOUNT OF OLIVES

New York, Mar. 8.—The establishment of a Hebrew University in Jerusalem before the end of the war will be the first duty of the Jewish commission which will leave soon for Palestine. A site on the Mount of Olives already has been obtained. An appeal will soon be made to the Jews of the world for an endowment fund.

Orange Officer.

Chatham, Ont., March 7.—Major J. I. Hart, M.P.P., was tonight elected grand master of the Orange-Grand Lodge of Ontario West, succeeding H. C. Hocken, M.P. Colonel Sam Sharp, M. P., was elected deputy grand master.

If you want to suit the boy with clothing, you want to see Alex Lesser's Cash and Credit Store, 558-556 Main street. See adv. on page 7. He sells on the \$1 system.

How The United States Is "Making Good" in Aviation

Hindenburg is not uneasy about the coming American offensive in the air, for we hear that the German military authorities have been telling their newspaper correspondents "that this American peril does not exist." Even some of the newspaper writers in the United States seem to have shared Teuton contempt for our aerial preparations. Secretary of War Baker's statement that American-made battle-planes have already gone to France five months ahead of schedule, however, has gone far to re-establish confidence at home.

The leading article in THE LITERARY DIGEST for March 9th is a comprehensive and detailed summary of facts from all available sources and shows what America has accomplished in carrying out its aviation programme up to the present time, and what it may be expected to do in the near future. Many angles of the subject are dwelt upon in this article, but careful reading of it will justify the confident assertion of the Syracuse Post Standard that "if the airplane is to be the means by which the Hohenzollerns, Hindenburg, Ludendorff, and the whole murderous outfit are to be brought to the bar of justice, our fliers can be trusted to do the business."

Some of the other striking topics treated in this particularly interesting number of "The Digest" are:—

The Hypocrisy Of German Peace Talk

While Count von Hertling in the Reichstag Does Lip-Service to President Wilson's Four Principles of Peace, German Forces in Russia Trample All These Principles Underfoot.

"German-American Alliance" Under Fire
Lucid Intervals in the Russian Delirium
Hungarian Fury at Austria
How German U-Boats Talk a Thousand Miles
A Defense of Shoddy Fabric
The Well-Balanced Died
(Prepared by U. S. Food Administration)
Frederick the Great—"Head Devil"
What the First Draft Has Taught
The Church Gains Falling Off

Our Shrinking Dinner Pail
No Plebiscite for Alsace
A "Slam" for Our Exporters
Diving Shells to Hit U-Boats
Snow a Boon to the Farmer
Teaching Posterity of the War
Collooni Rides Away with His Horse
Combining Three Famous New York Churches
Ministers, Don't Swear!
News of Finance and Commerce

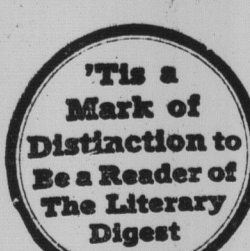
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