

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 16, 1910.

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THE EVENING TIMES THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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No Deals

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CIVIC MATTERS

Now that the exhibition is over, the citizens will have more time to devote to the consideration of civic affairs. Apart from the pavement laid on a portion of Main and Water streets and to be laid on Smythe street, the work done on the streets during the summer has not differed in character or results from that of former years. Everywhere the streets are in poor condition and the reason given is that there is not enough money available to put them in a better state. This, however, does not justify an unwise expenditure of the appropriation that is available. It does not justify the use of bad methods of street repair. Unless the street department adopts better methods, it will not get better results.

Then there is the water department. The citizens cannot but have observed that when the streets are opened up, either to lay a new water pipe or to make repairs, they are kept open awfully long. A piece of work that should be done in a night, and would be so done in almost any other city, remains unfinished in St. John for days and sometimes weeks, while the workmen go about from one job to another, having several unfinished at the same time. There is great need of the adoption of better methods in the water department.

Then there is the ferry. It was stated at the last meeting of the city council that a new ferry boat would be required. It is said that the ferry boat Western Extension will not meet the requirements as an auxiliary to the Ludlow. If a new boat is necessary to handle the increasing traffic, will the history of the Ludlow be repeated? How much money will the new boat cost? On what capital expenditure for a bridge would the cost of the enlarged ferry system pay interest?

There are various other questions of great interest to the taxpayers which ought to be given serious consideration during the next few months. The action of the council on the report of the paving committee has been a very keen disappointment to the people. If the aldermen could but know what the average citizen is saying about the report, and the whole course of the council in regard to Mr. James Carleton, they would regard their action with much less complacency. This matter is not settled. The people have yet to settle with the aldermen.

THE MANUFACTURERS

An admirable spirit appears to have prevailed at the meeting of members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and representatives of western farming interests at Moosejaw yesterday. The manufacturers were assured that the west was willing to make some sacrifice in order to aid in building up a strong and united Canada, and that the west did not prefer American goods. The American shippers had an advantage in freight rates, and this was one fact to which the manufacturers were invited to give their attention. Mr. Martin, M. P., stated that the Grand Trunk Pacific was helping to solve this question of high freight rates, and was already doing the west a great service. Naturally, the spokesman of the manufacturers was opposed to tariff reduction, but his views were moderately expressed. There was a general disposition to emphasize the importance of a broad view, that had regard for the interests of east and west alike. Mr. Haultain's remark that the true Canadian must be broader than any provincial or sectional interests expresses the right view. It is one that cannot be got to prevail universally except in times of extreme crisis, but even in such matters as the tariff it may exert an immense influence when set forth clearly by sincere advocates of national welfare.

A BROAD STATEMENT

"Why am I not a dissenter?" cried Bishop Ingram. "Because there is nothing from which I dissent. Why am I not a Roman Catholic? Because, thank God, I am an English Catholic." The above extract from a speech in Montreal by the Bishop of London, which

is said to have aroused an unparalleled outburst of Protestant enthusiasm, is chiefly significant because of his answer to his first question. "I am not a dissenter," he said, "because there is nothing from which I dissent." His lordship did not say it was wrong to dissent, but by the very form of his words asserted his right to dissent, if that which was presented for his acceptance did not commend itself to his personal judgment and conscience. This is the essence of Protestantism, and it is also the standpoint of the higher critics. Possibly some of those who cheered the bishop did not realize how broad is the application of his words. They were thinking rather of recent happenings in Montreal.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

The Toronto World cites the case of Birmingham, as a city where municipal ownership yields benefit to the citizens. It quotes the Birmingham Post on the subject of the electric supply department of the city, and says:—"A favorite objection to public ownership is that it lacks the enterprise of private management, but this is certainly not borne out by the record of British cities. Birmingham took over its electric service in 1900, the capital expenditure then amounting to \$2,400,000. In ten years it has increased to \$7,000,000, or nearly treble. But the surplus profits have also continuously advanced, although the average price received per unit of electricity supplied has fallen from a fraction of eight cents to two and a half cents. The rates have been reduced several times, being rendered possible by reductions in the working cost per unit, these having fallen from four and a half cents to slightly over one cent. Last year, the surplus profit was over \$100,000, half of which was contributed in rate relief. The reserve fund stands at \$360,000, and \$80,000 have been put to a renewal fund account. Municipal ownership and operation of public services has the great advantage of enabling the citizens to get their proper share of the benefits accruing from the success of the undertakings."

St. John ought to be in a position to offer a satisfactory site for the expansion of an existing industry, as well as for the establishment of a new one.

The work of the St. John Ambulance Association should commend itself to St. John people. To be able to give first aid to the injured, and to do other things which the association teaches is to be of greater service in any community.

The Boy Scout movement is likely to become popular in this province. There is already a patrol in Antigonish, and the work has been begun in this city. What is now needed is a central and representative organization, to give direction to the general movement.

In refusing to grant a license for the demolishing Jeffries-Johnson prize fight pictures, Mayor Prink has expressed the sentiment of the better element of society in this city. The Moral and Social Reform Council are also endorsed in their action by public sentiment.

This is the way the Roosevelt movement in the United States stands. The Victoria Colonist:—"Things are beginning to look as if Mr. Roosevelt will be the next president of the United States. He stands before the people as no other man has ever stood in that country. He is adroit in his public utterances, seemingly being for the common people first, last and all the time. This is a foundation upon which before today, absolutism has built itself firmly. When a people find that they have not been able to rule themselves, they are apt to ask some one else to rule them. The people of the United States are going to come very near asking that of Mr. Roosevelt."

The Carleton Sentinel says of the highway bridges in that county:—"In a long article recently the Standard has a list of work which it claims has been done on the bridges of Carleton county. But a close inspection of the list and the wording of the article shows that seven-tenths of this work is yet to be done. Work done and work to be done ought surely to be placed under different headings. The casual reader would be led to think that about all the bridges in the county were in excellent condition; but those driving the roads know differently. It is interesting to know that a bridge which our Mr. Munro promised to have repaired two years ago is one of those yet to be done."

Thirty years ago the number of sheep in the British empire was, roughly, 120 millions, of which Australia contributed just under fifty millions. A recent compilation gives the flocks of the empire as about 200 millions, of which the Australian Commonwealth provides close upon half. This calculation includes Australia, Canada, Cape Colony, Ceylon, India, Natal, Orange River Colony, Transvaal, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The total number of sheep in the world is about 480 millions, so that the British Empire contains about 42 per cent. of the world's sheep, as against about 25 per cent. three decades ago.

Many plants which were once used as vegetables have been allowed to drop out of modern bills of fare. For instance our forefathers sometimes dined on eldertop and burdock root, and the early shoots of the hop were considered a great delicacy, being cooked and eaten as asparagus.

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THE UNFAILING TEST

If you're wiser, you are kinder. That's the test you may apply. To the progress you are making. As the breathless days go by. If your wisdom is increasing, You will better understand All the other fellow's failings. And forgive, with outstretched hand.

If you're wiser, you are kinder. As the ripe years frost your hair, You will see with clearer vision. What is just and right and fair; But you'll also know the motive. And the tempting that forewent— If you're wiser, you'll be kinder. More and more to mercy bent.

If you're wiser, you are kinder. Have you ever known a sin that, had you been likewise tempted, On your soul might not have been? Tolerance is wisdom's handmaid; Wise hearts move with pity bleed— If you're wiser, you are kinder. This motto we must heed. —G. S. in Baltimore Sun.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

LIFE. From home to the office And back again, On nickel cigs, then To bed at ten.

A WARNING

We feel it our duty to announce that people who put on their flannels now soon have cause to regret it.—Detroit Free Press.

A BARGAIN.

Jinks—"I saw something cheap at a bargain counter today." Binks—"What was it?" Jinks—"A man waiting for his wife." —New York Press.

COMMON.

"They're very commonplace." "So?" "Yes, they have their milk delivered at the front door."

FOILED.

He was very vain and she tried to make it easy for him. They were driving along the seashore and she became silent for a time.

"What's the matter?" he asked. "Oh, I feel blue," she replied. "No body loves me and my hands are cold." "You should not say that," was his word of consolation. "For God loves you, and your mother loves you, and you can sit on your hands!"—Success Magazine.

THE VOICE TEST.

A well-dressed man entered a florist's shop, threw down a bill, and said he wanted some flowers to take home. He was very untidy, and had evidently been looking on the wine when it was red. The flowers apparently were intended as a domestic peace-offering.

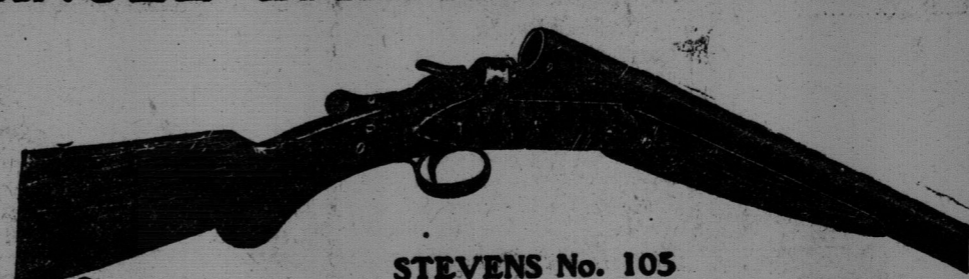
The florist picked out a dozen chrysanthemums, and the customer started to leave. "At the door he hesitated. "I shay," he said, thickly, "watch these flowers called?" "Chrysanthemums." The customer shook his head. "Got to have something easier than that," he said. "Gimme a dozen pinks."

ADVICE.

Advice is what Fools give away To other people. Every day. It's telling how To save a dime Or make a clock Keep perfect time. To cure a cold, How to get rich, And not grow old. How children should Be reared today, And just what games They ought to play; It's telling people What to wear, And just what is Their proper fare, Just how their Business should be run, But when at last All this you've done, Beneath in mind And can't it over, You've simply made Yourself a bore.

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SOME SUICIDE STATISTICS

Nearly Every Case Declared Due to Pronounced Insanity

London, Sept. 14.—Suicides in many cases leave notes in which they protest their sanity; nevertheless present day coroners' inquests in many instances declare insanity; only between 70 and 80 it is lower than during the previous decade. May and June are the months during which the impulse to suicide is strongest.

In Europe between 60,000 and 70,000 persons end their lives voluntarily every year according to official returns but this figure Prof. Gaupp considers far below the actual number of suicides.

The writer holds that by far the majority of cases are due either to pronounced insanity or to psychopathic degeneracy, all other causes being relatively insignificant. The suicide rate shows a continuous increase in all civilized countries with the exception of Norway, where the legal suppression of the drink traffic is mainly responsible for the decrease. In Germany the northern provinces and Saxony have the highest suicide rates; Posen the lowest.

Economic crises, business failure, higher cost of living and religious mania all tend to send the suicide rate up, while revolutions and wars have the contrary effect. The Germanic races produce more suicides or attempts at self-destruction than the

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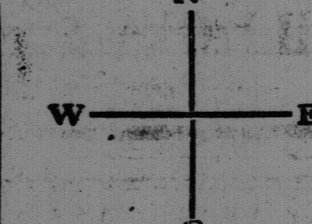
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