

# POOR DOCUMENT MARCH 20 1920

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B. TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1920

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 30, 1920.

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### THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

Dr. George G. Melvin had proved his quality as a medical health officer in St. John before he was promoted to the wider field as medical health officer for the province. Hon. Dr. Roberts, the minister of health, was fortunate in his selection of the man who was to be his chief helper in getting the new public health act into working order.

Dr. Melvin's second annual report, just issued, and from which there were extensive quotations in yesterday's Times, is a record of laborious work and of notable achievements. Much must yet be done along educational lines, to remove prejudice and misunderstanding, and to bring about the hearty cooperation of all municipal authorities and the people at large. It is a matter of regret that in three counties, Restigouche, Northumberland and Queens, the municipal councils did not vote funds for carrying on the work of their health officers for the year, and that Kent county is still unorganized. Every county ought to be eager to have the provisions of the act fully carried out, since there is no knowing when and where an epidemic will appear, and in every locality the public health should be a first consideration.

Dr. Melvin points out that as the act was only proclaimed in October, 1918, and the epidemic of influenza was soon after at its height, the new department could do little more for many months than fight this disease. As rapidly as possible, however, a general organization was effected, and it would have been much more rapidly accomplished if prejudice and in some instances political antagonism had not been aroused. Now that the greater part of the province is well organized and the benefits of such organization are made clear, it is fair to assume that all the municipal councils will heartily co-operate, not only in the work of the district boards but in the campaign of education so essential to the spread of knowledge regarding the conservation of the public health.

It is very gratifying to learn that medical inspection of the schools has been generally introduced, and is being extended to even the most remote districts of the province. Eventually it will no doubt be supplemented by an efficient nursing service, such as they have in the province of Manitoba.

The fact that, apart from influenza, by far the greatest mortality from what are termed notifiable diseases was due to tuberculosis, and that a universal desire to fight harder against this malady. It is satisfactory to learn that in St. John the number of deaths from tuberculosis, which not many years ago exceeded one hundred per year, was reduced last year to seventy-four, but this is still far too high. The medical health officer expresses regret that in country districts notification by physicians of cases of tuberculosis is still very incomplete, and he points out how essential it is that full information should be given. The report shows that infant mortality is far too great. Of course the statistics from the province generally are far from complete, but the records from the cities show much to be desired, and as Dr. Melvin points out "no part of the service of public health administration can complete in importance with the conservation of infant life."

The whole report is full of valuable information which commends it to the public. During recent months we have heard much from authoritative sources in other provinces and the United States regarding the leading position New Brunswick has taken in regard to public health legislation. We should not ourselves undervalue what is valued so highly by outsiders who are looking on at what is being accomplished here and elsewhere. Dr. Melvin's next annual report should be a record of a great awakening of interest and co-operative effort in public health promotion all over the province.

### COAL AND WATER POWER.

The bituminous coal miners of the United States have been awarded an increase in wages which it is estimated will total \$200,000,000. This will encourage the Nova Scotia miners to press their demands. The increase will be passed on to the consumers, and there is therefore no prospect of cheaper coal. The sooner our water powers are developed the better it will be for the country. On this point the Galt Report says:

"In the face of the Pennsylvania coal situation, Ontario has been described as anything but lucky in the possession of her Hydro-electric system? What would her people do without it? And what would the state of Pennsylvania not give to control her coal mines—fixing rates to consumers, etc.—this province is controlling her water powers? A few Becks in the state across Lake Erie early last century and a people educated to ownership of their own natural resources would have saved Canada from the private operation of the mines. We are suffering today from the mistakes of the past, and there is no saying where the coal situation will finally lead us to. Probably one long Hydro-electric operation and oil as fuel in general use will together solve the problem for Canada."

### SURGERY AND HOSPITALS.

Entertaining as well as very instructive was the address delivered before the Rotary Club and its guests last evening by Dr. W. W. White. From the rude beginnings of surgery to modern methods, with the use of anaesthetics and antiseptics, and a thorough knowledge of anatomy, is a very long step, and yet it has been taken within the memory of men now living. At the same time the surgeon has encroached upon the field of the old-time physician, and achieves results which never could be achieved by medicine alone. Dr. White gave some very illuminating illustrations of the marvels of modern surgery.

All this led up to a consideration of hospitals. Obviously surgery cannot achieve its best results without properly equipped hospitals and a thoroughly competent staff. They are a necessity in every city, and Dr. White very properly insists that the people should tax themselves to provide institutions which mean so much to the welfare of the community. What has been accomplished along the line of safe and painless surgery is but the beginning, and the next century will doubtless record a further great advance. Surgery is not merely an art, but a science; and earnest investigators are constantly seeking to make it more effective in relieving human suffering. The city of St. John has skilled surgeons, and it should have such hospital service and equipment as would increase their efficiency. The citizens who listened last evening to Dr. White will need no further argument to make them advocates of a generous policy by the municipality in relation to the general public hospital in this city.

### PROFIT IN PRODUCTION.

Of the need and the importance to Canada of increased food production Dr. James W. Robertson says:

"It will likely take at least two years, 1920 and 1921, for the production of breadstuffs to meet the world's requirements and leave over a moderate reserve as security against scarcity the following year; and it will be many years before the world's production of milk, butter and cheese can adequately meet the demand, and that several years must pass before the supplies of cattle and hog products can be sufficient to provide nutritious rations of an invigorating sort for the millions of people who require them for the hard labor to which they must apply themselves—and that with bodies which, in many cases, have been weakened by the incomplete diet and other stresses of war. Any extra quantity produced in Canada as the result of extra effort cannot of itself be an appreciable factor in reducing world prices. The more we produce the more money our farmers will receive, the more quickly our nation will recover from the losses of war, and the more we will be helping to bring good cheer to a world still reeling and scarcely yet conscious of the extent of the appalling losses and wastes of four years of destruction."

Guide Henry Braithwaite hopes he will never experience another such winter as last winter in the woods. Mr. Braithwaite is in his eightieth year, and still looks forward to winter spent alone in the woods with his traps. The race of strong men is not yet extinct, although most men at Mr. Braithwaite's age would prefer the ingle-nook in January weather. Life in the open is a great preserver of health and vigor. Long life to Guide Henry Braithwaite and the example he sets us all.

Dr. W. W. White told the Rotarians last night that a well-equipped hospital is a community insurance policy. This is a striking way of putting it, and it is true. The citizen who may at any moment need the most skillful surgical aid would feel much safer if assured that such aid were quickly available. Urgent cases cannot wait or take long journeys. The hospital is a very real form of insurance whose benefits are community-wide.

An Ottawa despatch forebodes the provision of more railway yard facilities at St. John. With steamers waiting for berths there is obvious need of much more than railway facilities.

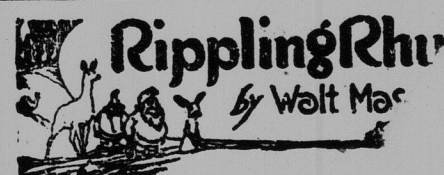
The Irish question occupies the centre of the stage in the British parliament and the debate will be followed with the keenest interest.

There appears to be a prospect of a coalition of parties in Germany looking to the establishment of a more stable government.

### WILSON TO SPEND THE SUMMER AT WOOD'S HOLE

Washington, March 30.—President Wilson will spend the summer at Wood's Hole, a village on the southern coast of Massachusetts, where the summer White House will be established on the estate of Charles B. Crane, recently appointed minister to China.

Clergymen's Salaries. New York, March 30.—The New York conference of the Methodist Episcopal church yesterday recommended a minimum salary of \$2,000 for married and \$1,500 for unmarried clergymen.



(Copyright by George Math.)

### EVER HIGHER.

We all are after higher wages, the old and even clergymen and sages rear up and say: The price is multiplied by seven, though it is worth; it costs us more to go to heaven, it costs us more to go to hell. Today I met a sad-eyed father, whose wife had died, and he was just coming and skipped away; the nurse, a dame of three times twenty, demands five dollars a day; how shall I feed that little kiddie, when he is old enough to eat? And then I met the village sexton; he said he'd dug a grave for Jones; "it was a bargain, but the next 'un will cost the buyer two more bones." The price of everything is humming, each day it makes a record new; the blained thing gets us when we're coming, it gets us when we're going, too.

### CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Domestic Happenings of Other Days

### THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

Anyone at all familiar with the geography of the Dominion of Canada knows that a large grant of the land of Montreal is spoken of usually as the "Eastern Townships." This part of the province is much exclusively English-speaking, although in the more recent years many French-Canadian families have purchased farms in the very fertile area. Very soon after the division of the two provinces into Upper and Lower Canada, proclamations were issued in the two provinces inviting settlers from the United States to take up their abode in Canada. Those who accepted the invitation of the lower province settled in what they called the Eastern Townships. From 1790 it was the practice of the government to reward military service by a grant of land in the Eastern Townships. One man came into the possession of one farm—a thing that in later years made the settlement of the district and its development more difficult.

After the war of 1812 when Sir Gordon Drummond desired to reward military service by a grant of land in the Eastern Townships. One man came into the possession of one farm—a thing that in later years made the settlement of the district and its development more difficult.

### SPRING MADRIGAL.

(Rev. George Scott.)  
I thought to weave a madrigal  
In honor of the birth of flowers,  
Soft as the Pheasant's far-off call,  
And cheering as the vernal showers.

And I had hoped to catch some beams  
Of gladness from the shining sun,  
Some laughter from the laughing streams,  
Brimming with joyance while they run.

And I had planned in wanton mood  
To drink the daisy's golden wine,  
With fragrance from the garden, when  
Of sweet arbutus pearly pink.

Some hint of azure from the skies,  
The rustling of the leafy trees,  
The dancings of the butterflies,  
The droning of the honey bees.

And I would take the lilac hue  
Hepatica and blood root fair,  
And therewith I would weave a nood  
To bind the yellow cat-o'-nail's hair.

And I would link the thrush's song  
With jangled trillings, virgin's bowers,  
What time the summer days are long,  
And gladness waits on every hour.

But when my fancy strove to reach  
The domain of the poet's art,  
To render music into speech,  
I found my language all too faint.

### LIGHTER VEIN.

She—"George, dear, the upholsterer has come about the settee—what are we to do about it?"  
He (very busy)—"Oh, anything you like—say and onions—I don't care."

### A Safe Bet.

She's clumsy and she's sloppy, and she's a little bit of a fool, and these reasons we would like to bet her name is "Grace."

### A Poet.

"My wife can't be fooled!"  
"Then how on earth did you ever induce her to marry you?"

### "Going, Going—"

Freshman—"I woke up last night with a terrible sensation that my watch was gone. The impression was so strong that I got up and looked."  
Sophomore—"Well, was it gone?"  
Freshman—"No, it was going."—The Campus.

### FACILITIES FOR DANCING.

Brandon Sun: The majority of mature men and women can easily recall the time when howling or playing pool was looked upon as reprehensible. To-day, these games have a recognized place. They are games of skill, and those who would show proficiency in them must live clean, wholesome lives, for they require steady hand, clear vision, and sound judgment. How was this recognition brought about? By taking these games out of the atmosphere which then surrounded them. Not until the Y. M. C. A. and better class clubs made provision for playing them was their worth generally perceived. What has been done once can be done again. To-day the Y. M. C. A. and the churches provide facilities for the dance. The Y. M. C. A. in this fashion the full benefits could be derived and suggestive and unwholesome tendencies checked.

So far no one has been able to explain why the check to check dancers go to the expense of hiring halls and paying an orchestra.

The people who set out to overturn the government haven't overturned much yet except the park benches on which they usually sleep.

### I NEVER CARED FOR DOGS.

(Emmett Campbell Hall, in Everybody's Magazine.)

I never cared for dogs; they seemed to me a useless trouble and expense; as when Tom brought a clumsy puppy home and begged me to be allowed to keep it for his own; And I, reluctant, gave consent, but charged that it should stay outdoors. Well, right it found and chewed up rubber shoes, and walked across the still-wet paint upon the porch. Then dug a hole to hide a bone, and for that the centre of my parsony bed. And day by day the yelping thing would come. Something of like annoyances, wasteful kind. But Tom wept when I said that it must go. He loved the little beast, and so it stayed.

Then puppy grew into the dog you've seen. Down at the gate to welcome Tom from school. And from his work, as flying years went by.

Then came The Call, and Tom first answered, "Here!" He seemed familiar in his uniform. And with his rifle—little different from His khaki hunting clothes, so that the dog could not quite understand, though he turned back.

When Tom said, "You can't go this time, old boy!" And then—perhaps you know? Of all the leads From our little town, my Tom alone— They sent me ideas—two crosses. Friends were kind.

With words, but somehow, none could understand. Or so it seemed to me; but presently That dog, that never had before, understood me.

Now came and put his head upon my knee. And looked into my eyes, his own so grave. And wistful, while to me they seemed to say, "A little while, and we may go to him. Since he may not come home to us again."

So that old dog and I, who too an old, Now sit together in the garden, when The nights are warm and still, and I gain strength.

And now, clearer faith, and comfort from The patient, steadfast soul of him. Dogs have no souls, you say? So long thought I, Before my own was shaken—now I know.

He dug a hole to hide a bone today, laboriously, for he grows feeble fast. And doing so my choicest pansies spoiled.

But I did not scold, for soon he came. And thrust his head under my hand, so that I could know.

It seemed to me the most strange that for long years I should have said I did not care for dogs.

### MEN OF FINE TYPE WANT TO COME TO CANADA

Reports From London About Imperial Ex-Service Men Desirous of Coming Out.

(Soldiers' Settlement Board, Ottawa.) The Canadian Gazette of London, England, describes a meeting of the selection committee of the Soldiers' Settlement Board of Canada, now operating in the old land, when imperial ex-service men, who are anxious to come to Canada and settle under the Soldier Settlement Act, were examined.

The correspondent comments on the excellent type of man passed by the committee, and the almost feebly treated applicant. The first applicants were two excellent types of Englishmen, friends, who wished to come out together. "A" had many years of farming experience in the old country and one year in Canada. He had been gassed, but was completely recovered and desired to settle in Alberta, where he had friends. "B" had lived on a farm until the age of fourteen; he, obviously would require a year or two of training. In other respects he was satisfactory as a settler. Both applicants were able and willing to put down the necessary \$1,000 as a deposit to guarantee their ability to pay the 20 per cent to purchase farm and

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equipment. "A" was graded No. 1 and "B" was graded No. 2. A third man who had \$1,250 in cash was not prepared to put down \$1,000 to be deposited to his credit in the trust fund. He wanted to take the \$1,250 with him to help his brother, who was farming in Alberta, to buy stock, and he argued that he could get his transportation paid by the imperial government to Canada. He was set aside.

### Settlers With Capital.

Next came a father and one of his sons. He had four sons, and his idea was that the two elder boys should go out as settlers to British Columbia, and that he and the rest of the family should follow. He, himself, came from a farming fam-

ily and he had capital of a few thousand pounds. The young men were without experience in farming and so would have to spend a couple of years learning. This they were quite prepared to do. The father was strongly advised not to use his capital at first, but to look around and get acquainted with conditions before he bought land. There was no over statement of advantages of life in Canada. The winter was freely described and no candidate could say I've been there, or other fact of life in Canada. The correspondent says that he could not help feeling that while he admired the obvious ability of the examiners, he was still more strongly struck by their wonderful patience and kindness. He added that he felt sure that Canada will continue to gratulate herself on her new settlers and on the work of the committee."

### Anglo-Saxon the Right Type.

Interviewed by "Canada," another London publication, Russell Wilson, one of the selection committee, said, "We as Canadians feel that our country has the resources and all we want is to get good citizens. The opportunities are there for

any man who desires to work. Our aim is to establish greater production, and, in order to accomplish this, Canada must secure more settlers—and, let me say, the right type of people—to develop her immense agricultural resources. The right type of settler is the Anglo-Saxon. It has been abundantly proven to us born in Canada that there is no greater race of settlers and colonizers than the Anglo-Saxons. The proof is furnished by our ancestors, who well and truly laid the foundations for Canadian institutions and Canadian agriculture. They have been tried out and have proved to be the best of all nations. As representatives of the Soldier Settlement Board we are here to select from the British agricultural classes such men as will, from our experience best fit into the agricultural life of the dominion."

### AIR MAIL ROUTE, NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO.

Washington, March 30.—An amendment to the post office appropriation bill which provides for an air mail route between New York and San Francisco via Chicago, was adopted by the Senate yesterday.

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