

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1926

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., JULY 28, 1926.

TAXES

It is good to hear from the President of the Retail Merchants' Association that that body of interested and representative citizens—interested in their prosperity is intimately bound up with that of Saint John and representative in the same sense that under the comprehensive title of retail merchant is included the entire range from president of a multi-department corporation to the man who owns a little corner store—that this body is determined to press for settlement of that phase of the civic taxation question which is its most intimate concern, the installment plan. The firm, yet unaggressive, tenor of Mr. David Magee's conversation yesterday with a representative of The Times-Star must have impressed all with the purpose and determination underlying the actual words.

Mr. Magee is not directing an agitation against the civic assessment Act as a legal instrument, nor against City Hall as the seat of municipal government. He abhors the nostrums of the radical reformer. He and his associates are ready to co-operate and to aid any real effort to put the whole matter of taxation on a basis more acceptable to the taxpayers who are the city. As Mr. Magee rightly says there is no hard and fast rule in these matters and again he is correct when he says: "Cities must keep pace with the times, especially with the money conditions that dominate commerce and the private purse. It is sheer stubbornness and short-sightedness to argue otherwise."

The idea of enlisting the co-operation of the Board of Trade should be fruitful of good. All citizen bodies, as suggested, join in the movement which is growing daily in popularity. Nobody wishes to embarrass the man at the helm; nobody imputes ill will to any concerned with civic administration, or executive duties. Yet none is satisfied. All are convinced that things are susceptible of betterment and demand that steps be taken according to the usual practice in modern business to discover what is wrong and to examine plans devised to put things right. Enquiry by experts, complete overhaul of all systems and methods are the urgent duties of those who pay the taxes and cling to the privilege of calling the tune.

But, lest it be inferred that City Hall is behindhand in giving effect to popular desires, let us turn to the activities of His Worship the Mayor. We know that he is deep in investigation and intends to issue a manifesto shortly. Various forecasts have been made, but it is necessary to await His Worship's pronouncement before attempting comment. One line of enquiry is, however, apparent from the fact that next Monday is fixed for a joint conference of City Council, School Trustees and Vocational Committee.

The terms in which announcement of this conference was made will be taxpayers to a very large number of taxpayers. In a previous article on the subject of taxes, this newspaper showed by actual figures by what a small proportion of the whole the decision to proceed with the Vocational School was effected. Whatever was the true sentiment in 1924 there is now beyond question a strong feeling of opposition to the expensive scale on which the vocational enterprise is being carried on. This may be the result of fuller realization of the cost or possibly of a new conception widely apparent and recently voiced in Chicago where the inordinate extension of technical training has been roundly denounced.

The expenses of the Vocational School as such have only just commenced and there is yet time to divert the use of the building on Douglas Avenue, or a portion of it, to other ends. Ten and one-half cents per \$100 was added to our taxes for the Vocational School this year and it is unlikely—nay, impossible—that it will end there. Very rightly the Mayor scouts entire abandonment of the principle of vocational education, but there are means whereby it can be conducted in less ambitious fashion and yet supply all reasonable needs, while part of the building can be used for other purposes and in this manner future constructional outlay for other school buildings may be obviated at an expense which in the nature of things would have had to be faced when existing school accommodation became restricted. As Mr. Magee says, we must keep pace with the times.

WHY NOT SPEED UP?

Hon. Mr. Dunning's facetious (?) remark to the effect that birth, marriage, free rides on the Government Railway and death are the high spots in the lives of the people of the Maritimes is especially appreciated by the patrons of the Valley Railway.

What is now known as the "funeral train," to distinguish it from what is called "the bug," (which is electrically driven down one day and up the next), arrives in Saint John every Monday morning at one o'clock that may happen to strike when it gets here.

This Monday morning train is supposed to serve the need of people who go along the Reach for the week-end, and is due in the city shortly after eight o'clock. Last Monday morning it arrived at half-past nine. The passengers ample time at Westfield to pick daisies, buttercups, clover blossoms and ferns and prepare a large funeral wreath which they hung on the end of the last car. It was taken aboard by a train-man at Westfield—but there is an abundance of wild-flowers all along the line, and the Monday morning passengers have a profound reverence for the dead. If the next wreath is removed they say they will prefer a charge of vandalism against the trainman who lays sacrilegious hands upon their tribute of esteem.

One patron of the line said today that hereafter the Monday morning passengers would buy tickets to Westfield, and if rigor mortis assailed the train they would hop on the C. P. R. suburban and reach town in time for business.

DOGS THAT KILL

The Victoria Daily Colonist records the killing by two dogs in one night of 600 pullets valued at two dollars each. Twelve hundred dollars' worth of damage is a pretty serious matter and draws attention to the presence of numbers of ill-trained dogs in all cities and all parts of the country.

There is no more devoted dumb friend, no more perfect companion than a dog. The average man will feel more genuine grief over the death of a dog than over that of any other animal. There is no less obtrusive beast than a well-trained dog, but the badly brought-up dog is a nuisance to all. The ordinary training of a dog is not difficult although it demands time and patience during puppyhood. If a dog owner be not prepared to give this to his dog, he is not fit to be entrusted with one.

It must be granted that a dog, ordinarily well trained, may suddenly develop traits of ill-behavior along unexpounded lines and this is especially true if a dog find himself in strange surroundings. But a little forethought and common sense on the part of the dog's master should eliminate most chances of occurrences such as the Colonist records and, in the majority of cases, the sins of dogs that kill sheep and poultry may be laid at the door of the man who has failed to discipline his dog.

Just Fun

WE SOMETIMES wonder whether anyone is to be really trusted; at times, you can't even trust yourself.

PERSONAL LIBERTY! The right to endanger the lives and limbs of others.

THE man is always the fool in a love affair.

A GOOD way to keep a stiff upper lip is to raise a moustache and keep it well waxed!

MORE ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF SUICIDE. To me life's most vexatious thing, That obfuscates my ease, Is an answer tingling And hear, "Excuse-me-please."

NO MATTER what you think about it, the bald-headed man is coming out on top.

ANY modern girl is willing to marry provided the young man can support her the manner to which she has not been accustomed.

CUSTOMER: This seven-dollar fountain pen you sold me for ninety-eight cents looks like a pen.

Salesman: Ah, yes, you need one of our patented rubber writing gloves. Thirty-five cents, please.

"IN WHAT theatre is she playing?" When I said she was in the show business I was merely referring to her clothes.

SOME of it should be spelled "poor-try."

FIRST DIVORCEE: How is it you've kept the same husband for five years?

Second Divorcee: His complexion matches my furniture.

"YOU haven't a cent?" asked the postmaster.

"Not today," replied the flapper, "the druggist was out of the kind I usually use."

HE (lighting last tag)—I'd like to offer you a cigarette, but—

She—Don't bother. I never smoke cigarette butts.

WHEN a girl looks sweet enough to eat don't give her the opportunity.

JOHNNY has just eaten eleven plums!

"Good heavens!" Call the plumber.

A FABLE: Once there was a little snake that got all rattled.

Timely Views On World Topics

MODERN METHODS BRING PROSPERITY TO MEXICAN FARMERS

By GENERAL JOSE FIGUEROA
Chief of the Department of Animal Industry, in an interview.

THE most important agricultural problem that Mexico has to solve is about to come to a satisfactory solution. With the division of the great estates the land problem was solved, but there remain the problems of modern agricultural instruction and of agrarian credits. In order to handle the question of credit, the Ministry of Agriculture in particular there will be benefited a great number of small farmers who thus far have been entirely dependent for their harvest upon the rains, which frequently were rare.

In the field of agricultural instruction the government is giving preference to those who have received land, and is teaching them the most modern methods of cultivation, the use of agricultural machinery, the selection of seeds, and control of the pests that attack all kinds of crops and animal life.

Regarding the question of agrarian credits, this year there was founded the Agricultural Financing Bank, which fills a gap in the agricultural industry and which has begun to do business with a great number of farmers. In this way Mexico will establish its own colonies and will give work to a great number of laborers who formerly emigrated to work in the southern part of the United States, especially on the cotton plantations.

Importation of agricultural products is diminishing year by year and the exportation of other agricultural products is increasing. The country is an excellent field for the sale of agricultural machinery, trucks, seeds, birds and animals of the various domestic species. This was proved by the sale of an entire lot of registered cattle sent to Mexico by the Republic of Argentina which, according to my information, will soon send a better and larger number of cattle to the coming livestock exposition, which will be held in December. This sale brought in more than 50,000 pesos.

Other articles the importation of which is increasing in Mexico are fruits, and also insecticides, fungicides, serums and vaccines.

Other Views

AMERICAN MAGAZINES IN CANADA.

(La Minerva.)
French-Canadians and Catholics, we have more to fear from the American magazine than our English Protestant fellow-citizens. It offends us ten times for every single time it offends them. It is ten times more dangerous to us. Our sixty red sheep of members, drunk with power, born enemies of protection in its every aspect, have not enough sense to understand this fundamental fact. But how expect a man to understand more than he can? And, thanks to our fierce anti-protectionist Liberals, we shall continue to receive among us, for the development of our minds no doubt, and to broaden the horizons of our limited intelligence, the stupidities and coarseness of America, in the form of bulky magazines. Vote red again, therefore, since Phenix M. 2152. Res. Phenix M. 4094.

Scientific Government



—From the Louisville Times.

Queer Quirks of Nature



GENTLEMEN BUTTERFLIES PREFER BLONDES
These female butterflies, although of different markings, are sisters.

By **AUSTIN H. CLARK**
A CHOICE of blondes or brunets as wives is open to the males of quite a number of different butterflies.

One of our very common butterflies almost everywhere is the black and yellow swallow-tail. The males are always black and yellow, and in the north the females, too, are always black and yellow.

But in the south there are two quite different kinds of females, one black and yellow like the male, the other sooty black with a border of small yellow spots and a blue dusting on the hind wings.

The eggs from a single one of either of these two types of females will produce both kinds.

Several of our swallow-tails are in both sexes always black; but in the south many of the black swallow-tails that you see are really black females of the black and yellow kind.

POEMS I LOVE

"To One Who Would Make a Confession," by **WILLIAM S. BLUNT**.

A SONNET right out of the heart and mind is this by an English poet of distinction, whose work is scarcely known in the United States. Its directness is like the aim of an expert archer. Its scorn of the conventional is beautiful and expressive, and every lover will care for it.

Oh! leave the past to bury its own dead! The past is naught to us, the present all! What need of last year's leaves to strew love's bed? What need of ghosts to grace a festival?

These gentle have so shrewd an understanding of our material and moral interests.

CANADA HOUSE.

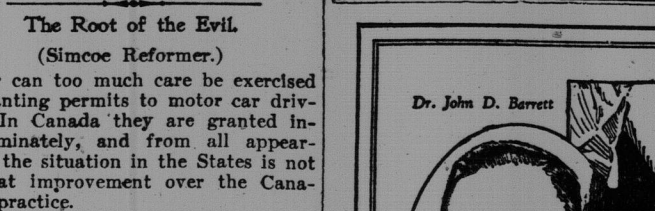
(Country Life, London.)
In the Canadian House of Commons complaints were made recently of the expenses incurred over Canada house, in Trafalgar square. The furnishings were stated to be extravagant, and the site to have cost too much, when other cheaper sites were available. We feel sure that the protests were only tactical. All Canadians who have seen the charming and dignified building into which Mr. Septimus Warwick converted the old Union Club premises must surely feel that it is only worthy their great Dominion. Even if the leasehold did cost a million dollars and the furnishings \$500,000, the money could not have been better spent, or a more suitable site in the national "place" have been found. We Londoners are grateful for this noble addition to our city, and heartily think of Canada more often and as a greater nation whenever we pass it.

The Root of the Evil.

(Simcoe Reformer.)
Nor can too much care be exercised in granting permits to motor car drivers. In Canada they are granted indiscriminately, and from all appearances the situation in the States is not a great improvement over the Canadian practice.

Kindness.
(Guelph Mercury.)
Humane societies are performing a real service in educating the little children in the schools to be kind to animals.

Close Friday 10 p.m. Sat. 1 p.m.



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DINNER STORIES

THE judge looked sternly at the lady witness.

"Do you know the nature of an oath, madam?" he asked.

"Well, I ought to, sir. We just moved, and my husband put down the carpet."

THE man from New Jersey was telling the Utah man that the mosquitoes in Utah were as nothing compared with the ones back east. In the end he had made a bet that he could take off his shirt and let the Utah pests bite him for ten minutes without even taking a nap at them.

At the end of nine minutes the Utah men saw a good chance to lose the bet, for, although the New Jersey man was covered with mosquitoes he hadn't even quivered. Something must be done. Picking up a burning glass, the Utah man threw its rays on the New Jersey man's back. The man from the east gave a yell and smacked his back with his hand.

"There's one from home," he yelled, as he held the bet.

AN ENGLISHMAN, an Irishman and a Scotchman were lunching together.

"By the way, did either of you go to Johnson's wedding?" inquired the Englishman.

"I wasn't able to, but I sent him a coffee service for 12 people."

"I wasn't there, either," said the Irishman, "but I sent him a tea-set for 24 people. Were you there, Sandy?"

"No, I couldn't get there, but I sent Johnson a pair of sugar-tongs for 100 people."

THE RIM OF THE LIME LIGHT

WHERE ARE WE?
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Beginning October 1 a score of the leading nations of the world will conduct co-operative tests to determine if they really occupy the exact positions on the globe the map makers have given them. The test is the result of affirmations by sundry

scientists that the earth is not a fixed and rigid body but actually is constantly undergoing surface flexes. If this theory is proven, New York—or London or what have you—may find itself occupying a position hitherto designated on the map by deep blue water. Really, one can't be too careful these days.

BORED.

CHICAGO—Strenuous, depressing and tiresome is the lot of Judge John R. Caverly, who, since the Loch-Leon-pold trial, has been on the bench in Chicago's divorce court. He has heard, on an average, 75 pleas a day for divorce. With every plea came much of domestic wrangling, petty trouble, disillusionment and selfishness. And when, the other day, Judge Caverly listened to 224 pleas during one crowded day's work, he entered a plea of his own.

pleas for transfer to another court. While there is no one bench in Chicago jurisprudence the promises sweetness and light in large quantities, there are some that appeal more to Judge Caverly in his present divorce-saturated state of mind.

You think we waste your money, A? Not so. Our spending is O. K. To buy things cheap no man's content, but we're in our L.M.-ent.

—WIFE.

Foley's Prepared Fireclay

FOR LINING YOUR OWN STOVE
Sold by Hardware Dealers

Any doctor will tell you: "A corn razor is dangerous in unskilled hands"

"It takes a mighty skilled hand to pare a corn," writes Dr. John D. Barrett, well-known foot specialist of Springfield, Mass. "The least slip an the toe is cut, and a cut toe may mean infection."

So, for safety's sake, when a corn needs paring, see a chiropodist. His knife doesn't slip. He is a skilled specialist.

To remove your corns at home use Blue-jay. It is the safe, sure and gentle way to end a corn at home. The cool, velvety pad relieves the pressure and pain at once. One or two players will end the most obstinate corn.

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Black Embossed Leatherette Hat Box, bound edges; brass plated lock and two catches; cretonne lined; small gathered pocket; removable hat form.....

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Beautifully hand painted parchment shades with frilled or plain edges; also rich fringed silk shades.

Wonderfully Low Prices
See Our Window

A. O. Skinner - 58 King St.

And No Laces in Neckties (Texas Utility News.)
Kid gloves are made of lamb skin. Turkish baths are unknown in Turkey.

Irish stew does not exist in Ireland. Calcutta is really sheegput.

There is no lead in lead pencils. Camel's hair brushes are made of squirrel hair.

Java coffee comes from South Africa. Egyptian cigars contain Turkish tobacco.

Brussels carpets never come from Brussels. There is no wax in sealing wax.

Use the Want Ad. way

A Pq-lar Controversy (Toronto Star.)
Oh, woman, in your hours of Es You spend an awful lot of V's Poor man must mind his P's and Q's To earn the X's that you U's.

—Boston Transcript.

Yet, men, however sure U B That women folks are all at C When handling money earned by U, Take it from me, you're unY's 2.

You waste your breath by saying D's When something happens to dispE's, You watch us with suspicious P's, Yet we than you are far more Y's.