

SHAKESPEARE 'ALARM CLOCK' STILL RINGS IN STRATFORD IT CANNOT BE SUPPRESSED

Stratford-on-Avon, Feb. 4.—The bell that summoned Shakespeare from the land of dreams each morning continues to call citizens of this old township up for the day's work.

Those who have no occasion to get up at 6 a. m. would quell it if they could, but they cannot. Tradition must be maintained. Apprentices, or the ghosts of apprentices, must be summoned to their labors.

For centuries things have happened this way in Stratford.

The bell goes back to the Middle Ages, when the apprenticeship of children to trades was rendered compulsory by the action of trade guilds. Stratford employers, seeking a scheme to get their youngsters to work on time each morning, arranged for the great 5,000 pound tenor bell hung in the Guild Chapel of the Holy Cross to be tolled regularly at a given hour.

The bell thus became known as the "Prentices' Bell." It roused the whole township long before the cocks started to crow. Oversleeping became impossible. With the passing years the apprenticeship system has lapsed, but still Stratford clings affectionately to its "Prentices' Bell." If you ask any resident for its story he will tell you vaguely that it is just the "Prentices' Bell," and suggest that you "go and have a talk with old man Prist. He will tell you all about it."

The Bell Ringer

"Old man Prist" is the bell ringer. During the day he works in a brickfield on the Birmingham road. He takes a great pride in the ringing of the "Prentices' Bell" at 6 every morning.

"I have been on the job for 35 years without a break," says he, "and have never once been late. In the morning I ring the 'Prentices' Bell' and every night at 8 I ring the curfew."

This is another time-honored custom to which Stratford pays homage, but it has long since lost its significance.

Prist holds the key of the bell-tower. It is old-fashioned, measuring probably 12 inches in length and weighing approximately two pounds. The oaken door of the tower which

BROADWAY, NEW YORK'S GREAT THOROUGHFARE JUST GOES ON AND KEEPS GOING RIGHT ON

(New York Sun)

Broadway—it starts down where Manhattan meets the sea. And there's a "down to the sea in ships" suggestion about the buildings clustered along the street where it begins its celebrated journey inland.

In that lower region it is the avenue of parades, ticket tape boulevard, and at noon the island's most congested area. Wall Street clerks often lean from their high windows to heap glory on the heads of the great. Fulton and Hamilton sleep in Trinity churchyard, at the side of this Romany Road.

Then on past the Woolworth Tower, once the monarch of the heavens, but just one of the big buildings now. City Hall and Park Row. The stamping grounds for politicians and newspapermen. Long rows of benches where vagabonds sleep beneath the summer moon. Newspaper lights in the dawn. Ever so many shoe-shine stands. Street urchins bathe in the shadow of the statue of Civic Virtue when the days are warm. Shoes and stockings and balls and bats are piled at the statue's feet.

On past The Sun. Now it is the street of small shops, crouching between old buildings as if ashamed. Small wholesale houses. Hands that clothe the bodies of the nation for a pittance. Tenth street brings a change for the better. And a monument to Christendom, scarce noticed in the city's haste.

Union Square, home of rabid radicals and the tent of Tammany Hall. All quiet again, and suddenly Madison Square. O. Henry's drawing room. Salesmen stop to munch fruit between calls. The Metropolitan tower, silhouetted against a blue gray sky, points to planes far overhead. Fifth avenue

with green buses, bows and jaywalks across.

Broadway pushes on. The first of the theaters. A Yiddish playhouse. More small shops. Then Greeley Square—once the heart of the Great White Way. Now the department store center. The Hudson tubes that lead to Jersey. Broadway loses its identity in the crossroads roar.

The Knickerbocker, Casino and Empire theaters and the first touches of Broadway of the books. Lips are a little redder—the street is coming into its own. Sightseeing buses and eyes that lure. Three hundred thousands wise girls. Knees, now you see them now you don't. Joe Leblang's, savior of the theater. Eugene O'Neill's birth place; the Times building, the news of the world on a signboard. Manhattan's pyramid, the Paramount Building.

Broadway opens its mouth—the playground of Walter Winchell, ex-hoover, whose brains went to his head. Seventh avenue crosses, stealing Broadway's fire. Dancing dolls that never dance. A watch that won't run, for 25 cents. Seats for any show. Little doors that lead to rehearsal halls and to fame, or to nothing at all. Spats and blue shirts in the shop windows. Tall "barkers" on the sidewalk.

The Manhattan Melody, a song that's heard around the world. The glorified midway where some drink orange juice and others eat steaks. Laughter for many belies the tears. Everybody on the make. Then there are men and women who have gained the entire world. And now the lights aren't quite so bright.

Automobile Row. Columbus Circle, the gateway to Central Park. Hampden's the last of the theaters. On past

EARNSCLIFFE SIR JOHN A.'S OLD HOME SOLD

Ottawa, Feb. 3—"Earncliffe," the historic residence of Sir John A. MacDonald, Canada's first prime minister, has been purchased by the British Government as a permanent official Ottawa residence for its High Commissioner to the Dominion, the Ottawa Citizen announced today. It adds:

"Following negotiations extending over several months, the purchase from the executors of the Dr. Charles A. E. Harriss Estate has been concluded at a price of approximately \$90,000, it is understood.

"Sir William Clark, present High Commissioner will move to 'Earncliffe' about Oct. 1 next, after extensive interior alterations and redecoration have been completed."

N. S. HOUSE TO ASSEMBLE ON MARCH 5TH

Halifax, Feb. 3.—The Nova Scotia Legislature will open this year on Wednesday, March 5, it was stated at the office of Premier E. N. Rhodes tonight.

Premier Rhodes left tonight for Saint John, N. B., where he will confer with Premier J. B. M. Baxter and R. G. Fulton head of the N. B. Liquor Control Board. A government control act will be introduced at the forthcoming session of the local house.

Michigan professor is of the opinion that "Polers" in college devote themselves so assiduously to their studies because they are unpopular socially. If that be the case they move in a vicious circle; they are unpopular socially because they devote so much time to their studies.

Campbell's where many celebrities have lain in state. Seventy-second street, where the buses turn off for Riverside. Small movies and vaudeville's last stand. Apartment houses. Bits of turf here and there. Columbia University at 116th street. A cynic remarks that a college degree and 10 cents will buy coffee anywhere.

The subway comes up for air and finds itself at 125th street and in Harlem. Darkness and Broadway leads on to Yonkers and then to obscurity.

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SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Repairs and Extensions to Pier and Warehouse, Digby, N. S.," will be received until 12 o'clock noon, Tuesday, February 25, 1930, for the repairs and extensions to Public Pier and Warehouse, at Digby, Digby County, N. S.

Plans and form of contract can be seen and specification and forms of tender obtained at this Department, at the offices of the District Engineers, Cunard Building, Halifax, N. S.; Old Post Office Building, St. John, N. B.; Building Trades Association Limited, 452 George Street, Sydney, N. S.; and Canadian Construction Association, 111 Princess Street, St. John N. B., also at the Post Offices, Yarmouth, N. S., and Digby, N. S.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on printed forms supplied by the Department and in accordance with conditions contained therein.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to 10 per cent of the amount of the tender.

Bonds of the Dominion of Canada or bonds of the Canadian National Railway Company will also be accepted as security, or bonds and a cheque if required to make up an odd amount.

NOTE—Blue prints can be obtained at this Department by depositing an accepted cheque for the sum of \$25.00, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, which will be returned if the intending bidder submit a regular bid.

By order,
N. DESJARDINS,
Secretary,
Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, February 1, 1930.



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