

The Daily Mail

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TELEPHONE 67.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1925.

CALENDAR REFORM.

The League of Nations is not having much success with its plans for calendar reform. The New York Merchants' Association at its meeting the other day found 1337 different schemes on its hands with no agreement among its Calendar Committee as to which were good and which were bad.

The average man does not know what a problem the calendar is or how it is drifting a little farther out of true all the time. Recent investigation has shown that Caesar and Pope Gregory and their astronomical helpers were mathematical giants to be able to work out the reforms which still go by their names.

Our present calendar is really a jumble. The days go tumbling through the year without rhyme or reason. If Monday is January 1 one year, it hops back into December or further along into January in other years and never rests anywhere. Some months are thirty days, some thirty-one, and there is February, which "has twenty-eight in fine and leap year gives it twenty-nine."

And there is Easter—it roams around in March and April and requires no end of mathematics as well as astronomy to keep track of it. And with all that has been done to snip a little time off here and wedge in a little there, the fact remains that the year simply will not fit any calendar so far invented. Among reforms suggested are the ten-month year, with six weeks to the month and a five-day week; and a thirteen-month year, with an extra month put in between July and August made up of a couple of days shaved off of each of the present twelve months.

Our 335-day year would be all right but for that five hours and forty-six seconds of runover. No calendar can accurately measure the days so long as that quarter-day tail-end of left-over time straggles along behind; and neither Caesar nor the Pope nor any other authority has been able to figure around that so far.

KIPLING'S ILLNESS.

For the second time in his life Rudyard Kipling seems to be winning a stubborn fight with an insidious disease. In 1899 while the poet was in the United States he fought his way back to health almost from the brink of the grave. In the minds of many, literary genius has been associated with velvet coats, perfumed manners and an Oscar Wilde languor. Kipling however, has been an out of door man all his life and a gallant fighter, a true sportsman.

Since his serious illness 26 years ago Kipling has produced some of his masterpieces, notably "Kim," a story of India life, famed for its originality and romantic charm. His brilliant, didactic poem "If" also belongs to this period. Kipling is just 60 years old and if he wins this battle, as seems probable, he should have a decade or more of productivity.

An expert, speaking for the American Railway association, says the cost of stopping and starting a train is from 70 cents to two dollars for coal, depending on speed and tonnage. Motorists know it takes more gasoline to stop and start and wind awkwardly through traffic than it does to run on a straight road. So with people. We use up our nervous energy in stopping and starting. We use up our nervous energy in doing our work awkwardly. Eliminate false starts and unnecessary stops and we should get a great deal more done with a great deal less effort.

The saddest delusion a man can suffer from is the delusion of old age. Old men who remain active produce the best work. Remaining active in old age, except when there is definite ill-health, is a matter of the spirit. Handel composed some of his greatest works when he was 72. Bismarck and Gladstone were busy at 80. Clemenceau is writing a book at 84. John Quince Adams was in the heat of politics when he was an old man. Irving, Bryant and Browning did beautiful work in old age.

News of the death of Mr. Charles T. Harrison of the law firm of Hawkins

& Harrison, will be received with very great regret by all classes of citizens. He was an exceptionally bright young man, energetic and ambitious, and was just at the threshold of a career which gave promise of being a most successful one. The heartfelt sympathy of the community will be extended to the respected father who is called upon to mourn the death of his only son.

Brantford Exporter: Great Britain's drink bill last year was \$1,500,000,000. This is a tremendous sum for a country burdened with a huge war debt, and suffering from unemployment and trade depression. One wonders how long even this mighty nation can stand such a gigantic strain and compete for the trade of the world. Mr. Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, says prohibition is one of the four chief reasons for the prosperity of the United States.

The agitation to protest the black bear by a close season has been renewed, but it is scarcely likely that it will get far. The bear besides being an outlaw is looked upon by those who know it best as vermin, and why protect vermin. So long as bears persist in killing sheep, how could the farmers be expected to respect any law that designed to protect them?

Prof. J. C. McClellan, of the University of Toronto, sees the day when the heat from the atom may be liberated and utilized by man, but the declaration is not expected to have any immediate effect on the anthracite coal strike.

An item tells us that an expedition in Asia found the bones of a mammal that became buried in quicksand 3,000,000 years ago. The item doesn't say, but it is inferred that the expedition got there a little too late to render it any assistance.

Mary Garden wants somebody to write an opera with a jazz motif so that she may wear snappy clothes. That's the delightful thing about Mary. She dives down into the heart of her and finds a real reason.

Wahabi tribesmen, having captured the prophet city of Hedjaz, may be said to be raising Njed; though for all most of us know to the contrary Hedjaz may be nothing but a ringing in the ears.

Out in Wyoming a man hanged himself because his wife was better than he was at checkers. One report has it that in all the playing she did with him, this was the only man she ever lost.

"I am convinced," said the college boy's parent as he glanced over the latest urgent plea for funds, "that whatever Willy intends to do in life, he has not yet turned professional."

The Good Old Days were those in which a man could carry a grip down the street without having some loud-mouthed acquaintance bawl, "Hey, Bud, your bag's leaking!"

Who are the 'fashion authorities' who say plumpness hereafter is to be the thing, and have they personal reasons?

THROUGH OUR SIEVE

There are early shoppers and surly shoppers.

Too much publicity soon makes the public pretty sick of a so-called hero.

There is no prosperity to the man who can't make three aces win.

Of course, as has been said often, money isn't everything. But it comes in handy for a down payment.

Though fewer minds are being upset by them, crossword puzzles are still popular with many people.

Maybe it was a good thing Rome fell. Otherwise the publicists and politicians wouldn't have anything to use as a scare.

Another queer person, whose mind is unfathomable, is the one who cuts across the corner of the lawn when he is out walking for exercise.

It's getting so that a poor criminal, and without influential friends, has to be satisfied with justice.

It is suspected there is an ambition among many persons who can't sing very well to get on the air.

On the theory, which some hold, that there is no such thing as an accident—that everything is foredoomed, why the expense of traffic signals and safety-first signs?

PUBLIC OPINION

HELPING THE POOR.

Editor Daily Mail,

Dear Sir:—I desire to sincerely thank you for making room in the Daily Mail for that appeal for the poor, and it will be pleasing to you to know there has been a splendid response to the same, Saturday the two pots that were out yielded \$69.46 and there was a donation of \$10.00 given beside, we are hoping by the time the effort is finished we will have a nice little fund to help us with worthy cases of need during the months of the winter. Again thanking you for your kindness, I am

Yours sincerely
E. HISCOCK.

WORDS IN SEASON

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 21, 1925. The Editor, "The Mail".

Dear Sir:—Just a kindly suggestion to those who "like a drink". Is not Christmas one day in the year when total abstinence should be easily and voluntarily enforced?

Sincerely,
STERLING BRANNEN.

STATUS OF DOGS.

Editor of the Mail,

Dear Sir—There seems to have been a cessation—temporary or otherwise—of prose and verse upon subjects connected with politics. It occurred to me that it might be well to remind the voters that during the year by an amendment of a city bylaw dogs were placed practically beyond control of the police. It is an amazing thing but in the latter part of the summer a father whose little daughter had been badly mangled by a dog that medical attendance had been required, was turned down flatly by the Police Magistrate when he sought redress. The Magistrate told him that as the result of the amendment passed by the City Council, nothing could be done in the police court about the matter. It is said that all the father could have done was to bring civil action and he was not in position to do that.

The amendment passed in Council was for the satisfaction of a few score of people who objected to the police carrying out the bylaw relating to dogs. Voters might remember that dogs are considered more worthy of consideration than human beings.

Yours truly
CARLETON WARD.
Fredericton, Dec. 22, 1925.

Utopia is a place where the fellow who heads off the war gets the biggest medal.

DIED.

HARRISON—At the home of his father, 331 University Avenue, on the 21st inst., Charles T. Harrison, son of H. E. Harrison, aged 26 years. Funeral, Thursday, December 24th. Service by Rev. Mr. McCullough assisted by Rev. Dr. Sutherland and Rev. G. C. Warren. Interment in the Rural Cemetery.

SALVATION ARMY NOTICE

A very special program is prepared for Christmas night, a young people's concert, consisting of drills, recitations, dialogues, singing, and the introduction of the kitchen band. Concert will start at 8 p. m. Be sure to be on time. A full house expected. Admission Adults 15c, Children 10c.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

ON CHRISTMAS DAY

THE QUEEN HOTEL

will serve a Special Christmas Dinner
NOONDAY from 12.30 to 2.00
EVENING from 5.30 to 7.30
The above arrangement has been made at the request of a large number of citizens.

On NEW YEAR'S EVE we will hold a DINNER and DANCE with the Usual Features.
DINNER from 6.00 to 8.00
DANCING at 8.30.

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 21, 1925.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF FREDERICTON.

Having been handed a very largely signed requisition, I have consented to accept nomination for the office of Mayor for the next year.

I do this, not with spirit of opposition to, or criticism of, anyone, but simply at the call of the citizens.

If elected I would give the same earnest attention to civic business that I did when at the Council years ago but with, I hope, riper judgment.

W. G. CLARK.

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Tenders For Gravel

Tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned up to twelve o'clock noon on Wednesday, the 23rd instant, for supplying 1500 cubic yards of clean sharp gravel to be delivered on or before February 15th next as follows:

250 cubic yards on the Lincoln Roadway between Wilsey road and the Canadian National Railway.

250 cubic yards on the Lincoln Roadway between the Experimental Station and Peters Creek.

1000 cubic yards on the City Wharf in the rear of the City Hall.

The quality to be subject to the approval of the City Engineer.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

C. FRED CHESTNUT,
City Clerk.
City Hall, December 19, 1925.

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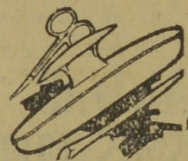
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