

THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., DEC. 15, 1905.

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A. M. BELDING, Editor.

ST. JOHN LAGS BEHIND

Mr. T. B. Kidner, superintendent of manual training, states that it is making rapid progress in the province. Mrs. Skinner, a member of the school board, who has just returned from the west, says that in Winnipeg and Vancouver the schools are thoroughly equipped, not only for manual training, but for physical and military drill.

Addressing the Canadian Club in Toronto this week, Mr. Alfred Mosley, C. M. G., a gentleman who has figured largely in social problems in the United Kingdom, expressed the view that education of the masses should not be confined to the three "R's," but that a fourth "R," representing "reason," be added to the public school curriculum. "He pleaded that owing to the changed conditions under which the old system of apprenticeship was crowded out of existence the place which it filled in fitting the youth for earning his livelihood be taken by the public school, in which he should have a thorough course in manual training."

The St. John school board should be stimulated by knowledge of what is being done elsewhere to make manual training a part of the school course.

TOURISTS AND GAME

The annual report of the New Brunswick Tourist Association shows that this organization continues to do excellent work, which unquestionably bears fruit in attracting tourists to this city and province. In connection with the new movement to procure new industries for St. John it would be an excellent plan for the Tourist Association to summarize on a page or two pages of its future booklet the salient advantages of St. John as a site for manufacturing industries, with an invitation to possible investors to come and look over the situation or correspond with the board of trade. This would not add materially to the cost of the booklet, nor in any way interfere with its special purpose, which is to attract tourists and health-seekers. It not infrequently happens in the history of such movements that motored tourists take advantage of a good opportunity for investment, when the opportunity is effectively presented to them.

With regard to the license fee for hunters of big game, the testimony last evening appeared to be largely in favor of reduction, but there is another side to the question. It is absolutely necessary to preserve the big game, as an asset of the province, and the fee must be regulated with that end in view. If with a lower fee the game will not be in a few years exterminated, the question is worthy of consideration, but the time is coming when the man who wants a moose and is determined to have one will be very glad to pay a fifty dollar fee for the hunting privilege.

PRISON AND PAROLE

"But for those we set free from prison we ask the help of all citizens. No matter how low a man has fallen, if while with us he has won golden opinions by his industry, and if he is earnestly trying to become a true man, we desire that he be received as a man and not that the finger of scorn be pointed at him as a jail-bird. The day is coming when there will be some of this, and the fallen man or fallen woman will be given every chance to lead a new life."

In these sentences, spoken by Mr. W. P. Archibald, dominion parole officer, before a St. John audience last evening, we have the essence of the new theory of treatment of those who have strayed from the paths of rectitude and honor. And yet it is not new. Nineteen hundred years ago it was taught in Galilee. But the message then delivered has not been half so attractive to many minds in the centuries since as their own fierce disputations over questions concerning man's status in the next world; and their beliefs in that regard have largely determined their attitude toward their fellow men. But old controversies are losing their power over men, because they do not satisfy modern needs, and with the breaking down of denominational boundaries, and a truer conception of the relations of this world to the next, comes a higher appreciation of man's duty to his fellow man. He is no longer God's avenger, to destroy in this world those whom God Himself will torment in the next; but an enlightened spirit, recognizing human brotherhood and frailty, and seeking to save rather than punish the erring ones.

The parole system is a result of this better conception of man's relation to his fellow man. It does not break down the safeguards necessary to the protection of the public, but it gives the erring one a chance. It is a square deal. In some cases it does not produce the desired results. The St. John police court furnishes examples of unhappy wretches so apparently dominated by appetite or so incorrigibly shiftless that they are scarcely given their freedom until they make themselves again liable to arrest and imprisonment.

In Montreal this week a clergyman pleaded as he had pleaded several times before in behalf of a woman whose betting sin was drunkenness, but who had at last been given up as hopeless by charity organizations which for three years had labored to save her. The authorities had given her chance after chance, but now, despite the plea of the clergyman, they have sent her, with her own approval, to jail for two months.

What might have been the history of such lives under different conditions in

early life we can only conjecture, but they very forcibly emphasize another remark made by Parole Officer Archibald:—

"The preventive work is going to be the great work of the future. We in our department will look after the curative work, but we want the people to do the preventive work."

Are the people doing it? Last night a tale was told of a man accosted by a child and asked for the price of something to eat. On enquiry and investigation the child's parents were both found at home in a state of intoxication, and other children in need of food. These are conditions that lead up to the jail, the penitentiary and the parole officer. There are also groups of youths in whom nobody takes much interest, until some of them are arrested for theft or other crime planned at their meetings together without any guidance or control but their own inclinations and perhaps the strong mind of an evil associate. Society pays for prisons and parole officers largely because it leaves its own duty unperformed.

The strike by a few members of the Longshoremen's Association at Sand Point appears to show that there are still some whose advice it is not wise to follow. With plenty of ships, and plenty of work, and Christmas at hand, the time is not opportune for such a movement. A gentleman who a few days ago was quoted as declaring that enough men could not be got to work the steamers is now apparently protesting that one too many is employed. The difficulty will no doubt be adjusted in accordance with the principles of fair play, and the spirit of the season of peace and good will.

The announcement that Turkey has yielded to the demands of the powers in regard to reforms in Macedonia removes one cause of anxiety in Europe. While it was generally believed that the Sultan would yield, there was the possibility of trouble, and the attitude of the German Emperor gave some concern. If now peace may prevail in Russia the condition of the world's affairs will have vastly improved, and the Hague conference may meet again without fear of its peaceful deliberations being disturbed by the boom of cannon.

A curious result of the proceedings against combines in Ontario has developed in Ottawa. A firm of hardware merchants have sued a merchant in Hull for the sum of thirty-five dollars. The latter refuses to pay on the ground that the hardware firm is a member of a hardware combine, and that if it had not been for the combine he would never have been called upon to pay such prices as demanded.

CHRISTMAS COUNSEL

Don't scold the youngsters if they take a much longer time to do an errand than you think is required. Being human, you can't expect them to resist the temptation of the shop windows offer. You can't resist it yourself, and you realize, possibly, that you are a little nearer perfect than most of your friends. You are late these days at every appointment, even in leaving one with the dentist, because of the hold-ups the windows prove. Before one you hover weakly promising yourself to be good at the next temptation and pass it with averted eyes. But you break your promise; at the very next attraction you stop and admire, and your journey up or down town is a continuous performance of promises broken. Then you keep the other party to the appointment waiting, greatly to his inconvenience probably. Of course you apologize, but that doesn't really mend matters. You have been guilty of something which has your own distinguished disapproval. So don't you think you could for the next week or so be a bit more tolerant to those lower than you in the scale of righteousness?

DECLINE OF IRELAND

(Buffalo Commercial.) If it is an ill wind that blows good to no one the converse of the axiom is equally true: "Tis a good wind indeed that blows nobody ill. This reflection comes to one in noting the official reports of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland, which show that the chief industry of that country, farming, is in a steady decline, owing, it is assumed, to the growing competition of other producers in the world's markets.

The hard facts are that, in spite of the liberal land-purchase bill, a small acreage is put under cultivation in Ireland each year; that the number of cattle and sheep raised is declining; and that the dairy industry shows a discouraging downward tendency. The main grievance of the Irish farmers is that they cannot obtain labor sufficient to work their land properly even at a comparatively high rate of wages—a complaint that comes up from all sections of America as well, in the harvest season, each year. Under these depressing circumstances it is not surprising to learn that in spite of the systematic efforts made by the Gaelic League and the priests to repress the tendency, the tide of emigration from Ireland is steadily rising again.

Several puddings may be made at once by this recipe and put aside to reheat at Christmas time. When putting the butter in the mould or kettle leave room for the pudding to swell.

ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING

Shred a quarter of pound of candied orange peel and the same amount of citron. Mix them with a pound of currants and dust with six table spoonfuls of flour. Chop half a pound of suet, add to it half a pound of fine stale bread crumbs, a nutmeg, grated, the yellow rind of an orange, grated, and the fruit. Mix well. Beat three eggs without separating; add a quarter of a cupful of brown sugar and half a cupful of grape juice. Mix all the ingredients together, and pack them down in a round mould or bottle. Cover and boil or steam continuously for six hours.

Open till 8 tonight.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 15, 1905.

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UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS AGAIN

The Interesting Mr. Hyde, of New York, is Still Entertaining Actresses.

The New York Herald of Wednesday has the following paragraph which will be of interest to those who have followed the sensational disclosures arising out of the investigation of the Equitable Life's affairs:—

"James Hazen Hyde will give a dinner in compliment to Mme. Sarah Bernhardt next Sunday night at his house, No. 9 East Fortieth street.

Mr. Hyde said last night that the entertainment will be very small and informal, as he has only invited about a dozen of his friends to meet the French actress. Mr. Hyde was in the audience at the Lyric Theatre last night to see Mme. Bernhardt in Camille."

PRISON REFORM

W. P. Archibald's Lecture Last Night --- Police Magistrate Tells of Parole System in Local Jail.

The lecture on prison reform given last night in St. Andrew's church by W. P. Archibald, dominion parole officer, was listened to by a large and interested audience.

The lecture was given under the auspices of the local Council of Women. Hon. J. G. Forbes acted as chairman. Mr. Archibald told of the working of the parole system in Canada and the care of a prisoner immediately upon his discharge by seeking to assist him in regaining his social standing, and becoming a law-abiding citizen. The lecture was very instructive, and much appreciated by those present.

In moving a vote of thanks after the lecture Judge Ritchie made an interesting speech on the inside workings of the police court, and pointed out to Mr. Archibald that a parole system was in existence here, and had been for a number of years.

On assuming the office of magistrate he found that his predecessor, Judge Peters, had conducted a parole system; and that prisoners, when sentenced or sent into jail, were not finally disposed of, but this lower court constituted itself into a court of appeal, and after the passing of sentence the case of each prisoner was taken into consideration. Knowing of no authority he consulted the attorney-general, who replied: "You know as much about it as I do, and some of these days when the minister of justice brings you up with a sharp turn you only want to be able to say that I had been consulted about it. Just go ahead and do what others have done, and when anyone objects, then stop it."

So he had done so. There had been complaints about drunks being sentenced to eight dollars or two months in jail, and it was alleged that both themselves and their families had felt the loss of wages that might have been earned. "I solemnly declare," said the magistrate, "that in all the years I have been on the bench, not a woman or child in this city has suffered from the loss of one cent taken by the court from the husband or father. Nor has a workman lost one hour more time than is absolutely necessary."

On Monday morning the fine imposed on a man who was drunk on Sunday is eight dollars or two months, which is heavier than for week days. But it is really the people who furnish liquor that we want to get at and very few of these Sunday drunks ever remain long in jail. "Whenever they have been sent in we find out where they work and call up the employer. We tell him so and so, and if your men is in jail, do you want him back to work? Yes, Then out he goes. He pays no fine, he remains in jail only long enough to sober up, and does not lose an hour more time than is necessary."

"This, of course, applies only to men who can work and do work. We would not keep mechanics or millmen away from their jobs; for it costs something to support them in jail, and the unfortunate who occasionally gets drunk might through his thoughtlessness cause a lot of hardship.

On the other hand there were chronic no-goods, habitual drunkards to be dealt with as well as boys. He did not believe in punishing occasional offenders but favored removing the tendency to crime, but he did advocate the severe punishment of habitual criminals. "We have," he said, "a custom in the police court which the newspapers do not make much of, and that is the Saturday jail delivery. Every Saturday afternoon I go quietly to the jail and go over the list of those who have been committed earlier in the week and not previously released. Every week a number are set free on parole—I promise to avoid certain things, and I can state that this system works splendidly. I know of one man who was released by me on the promise that he would not take a drink or go near a place where others were drinking. He kept that promise most faithfully for five years. I ask which was the better for this city, five years' sobriety of a weak citizen or his incarceration for two or three weeks?"

"Our local parole system is not authorized by any statutes that I know of but it is a success, and I will continue the custom until I am ordered to desist."

A SIMPLE FRUIT CAKE

Seed and chop a quarter of a pound of dates; mix with them one cupful of seeded raisins, and dust them with half a cupful of flour. Dissolve a level teaspoonful of baking soda in two tablespoonfuls of warm water; add it to half a pint of very thick sour cream; stir a moment and add one cupful of brown sugar, half a tablespoonful of currant or blackberry jelly, a tablespoonful of cinnamon, a teaspoonful of allspice, and two cupfuls and a half of flour; beat thoroughly; add the fruit; mix well, and turn into a greased square bread pan. Bake in a very slow oven for 1 hour and a half. Keep in a cake box one week before cutting. If the cream is thick and sour this cake will be quite equal to plain fruit cake.

Miss Jessie Howie, of the Japanese missionary staff of the W. M. S. of the Methodist church, is in the city. She is the daughter of Rev. I. Howie, of Port-Cadice, and is some on furlough.

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