THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOV. 29, 1905.

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A. M. BELDING, Editor.

SOME REFLECTIONS

The strike is over. St. John men are once more doing the work that should be done by St. John men. The agitators could no longer prevail upon the members of the 'Longshoremen's Association to continue a hopeless struggle against the welfare of their wives and children. These men deserve the highest praise for their patience, and their good behavior under the most trying circumstances.

They were deluded by their leaders, who kept telling them from day to day that they would win, and that the newspapers which were really telling the truth were printing falsehoods. The men know today who gave them good advice, and who had the better knowledge of the situation. They know that if they had taken the advice of their best friends they would now have over a week's pay in their pockets, and would be in a stronger position as a united organization.

If the Times had believed for a moment that the men could have gained their point without sending business and money away from the port, it would have supported them with every influence in its power. It knew they could not win this fight, begun as it was, against the forces opposed to them, and it frankly told them so, at the risk of being denounced by agitators and misunderstood by the men themselves.

Now the struggle is over and the men are able to look back and see just where and by whom they were deceived. The newspapers did not settle the strike. Once started, it could not be settled until the men were convinced that they had lost. But two of the papers at least told the truth without fear or favor.

Now let peace reign. The men are at work, and have the promise of the busiest winter in the history of the port. Let the 'longshoremen consult with the shipping men and find out what there is in the contention that there are too many men for the work, and that if only enough men were in the union to do the work there would be fair pay for all. If it be true that men who are not 'longshoremen get work at the expense of the men who should be given steady employment, a remedy can surely be applied. Perhaps a thorough reorganization of the association, which would thrust the agitators back where they belong, and leave the affairs of the union in the hands of better men, would result in great good. If it should do so, the strike would not have been altogether in vain.

Despite the vaporings of irresponsible and well-fed persons who think taffy is the best diet for workingmen, the latter have the fullest sympathy of the citizens at large.

CONCERNING MR. KELLY

We sometimes derive profit from what others say of us, and it was therefore with due humility that the editor of this paper stood in Berryman's Hall last evening and heard what Mr. M. J. Kelly thinks of him. Mr. Kelly said that the editor was well paid for what he wrote in yesterday's Times. It is quite true that the editors of newspapers are paid, just like the secretaries of 'longshoremen's associations. Moreover, it is true that they are paid to conduct those papers—at least the editors of independent papers like the Times are—in what they and the owners believe to be the best interests of the city in which they are published.

Now the Times believed that Mr. Kelly and some others were pursuing a course which was not only against the best interests of the 'longshoremen but of the city at large. It said so. Mr. Likely, Mr. Schofield and Mr. Hamm said precisely the same thing at last night's meeting. Does Mr. Kelly say that those gentlemen said it because they were paid for it? Or did they express their honest thought—as the Times has done?

Mr. Kelly is hard up against the facts. He may as well confess that this strike should never have occurred. He may as well abandon the pretence that the Times is opposed to the workingman. The Times is only opposed to agitators who encourage workingmen to strike hopelessly and injure their own cause.

RABBI RABINOWITZ

Rabbi Rabinowitz was understood to make the extraordinary misstatement last evening that the press of this city was crushing the workingman. The friends of the learned Rabbi should suggest to him that he keep within the bounds of reason and common sense. He perhaps does not realize that in his speech last evening he did a gross injustice to the press of St. John.

He further counselled the workingmen to learn a lesson from Russia and prepare for a general strike. This is rank folly. A man who pretends to be a leader of the people should not attempt to sow discord in a community like St. John. There are none so oppressed that they cannot right their wrongs at the ballot box. This is a free country. There are evils, there are trusts and corporations and combines that may very properly be made the subject of attack in the British—not in the Russian—fashion. Rabbi Rabinowitz enjoys a freedom here which he should not abuse by sowing the seed of class prejudice. There are men of his own race in this city who are employers of labor, and who are on the most friendly terms with their employes. They will not thank the Rabbi for the suggestion that Russian methods should be applied to breed distrust and enmity among friends and neighbors in a free commonwealth.

THE UP-STREET FAKIR

Occasionally the Times finds it necessary, in the interests of peace and good neighborhood, to turn aside from matters of real importance, and take across its knee that untruthful and somewhat pernicious meddler, the St. John Star. The necessity appears to have arrived once more. The Star, which has not of late been issuing any circulation statements, fancied that it saw in the present strike an opportunity to improve its failing fortunes by insinuating that the Times was under corporation influence, and was the enemy of the working man. The Star did not care a fig for the working man, and was quite willing that he should lose over a week's wages if it could only persuade him to believe that he ought to stop reading the Times. Thus, only last evening we find the Star making the following foolish insinuation and utterly false statement:

"It is difficult to understand why the Telegraph and Times, if they are financially disinterested, persist in declaring that the strike should only and can only be ended by an absolute and unconditional surrender of the 'longshoremen."

The insinuation that the Times is financially interested in the success of the steamship people is as false as the assertion that this paper has ever declared that the strike "should" only be ended by an absolute surrender of the 'longshoremen. What the Times said was that it "could" only be ended in that way, and that the sooner the men accepted the situation the less they and the port would lose. The Times knew that the strike could not succeed, and it said so; the Star also knew that it could not succeed, but went on encouraging the men to continue a hopeless struggle.

The Star further falsely asserts that the Times enthusiastically endorsed the refusal of the steamship people to compromise or arbitrate. The Times did nothing of the sort. It merely pointed out that because the steamship people would not compromise or arbitrate, and could not be compelled to do so, the men should lose no time in going to work.

The Star has been an evil influence in this affair, doing daily injury to the cause of the men, whom it professed to regard with friendship.

If the Star knew what the working men and the business men of St. John think of it today, it would know that its usefulness as a counsellor has been destroyed, and that its attacks upon the Times are a losing venture. Its course in this affair would be called silly, but for the fact that it deserves a harsher name. Men who have read the Star and believed what they read during the past week have now got their eyes opened, and they see that they have been misled, to the injury of themselves and their families.

IT MADE THEM TOUGH

It was really painful last evening to see so fine and able a body of men as the St. John 'longshoremen compelled to endure at a critical time in their affairs the mental vagaries of Messrs. Sears, Potts, Rabinowitz, and Kelly. The Times begins to believe that the men could have won out in this strike. Men who have patience enough to listen to these orators could do almost anything to which they might set their hand.

But perhaps the meeting served a useful purpose. When the tension and pressure are intense, a hearty laugh is sometimes the best safety valve. Perhaps it is just as well that the grim seriousness of an unbearable situation should be borne out on a wave of derisive laughter. For in spite of their troubles the men laughed. Many of them belong to the wittiest of races, and they could not but appreciate the appeal to their sense of humor. Rev. Mr. Mathers and Rev. Fr. Chapman meant well, but they did not reckon with the blatherskites of the average St. John mass meeting.

THE COLD-CATCHING SEASON

(Boston Globe.)

We have been so accustomed to the notion that we catch cold that it is not so easy to realize that it is really the cold which catches us. That is to say, the microbes which enter into the human system and produce the unpleasant and often dangerous symptoms known as a "cold" have caught us unawares, and have broken and entered into a place from which normally they are debarred.

In this, the cold-catching season, colds are attributed to drafts when the drafts are only the secondary agencies of the disorder. The primary cold-producing agency is one's own physical condition, and is due more often to what one has eaten or to some indiscretion of regimen than to the decreased temperature of the air. The watchful microbes are looking for the occasion when the man's guard is down, so to speak, to land on him with teeth and claws.

It is true that colds can be warded off if one is careful to keep warm. But keeping warm consists less in wearing heavy clothes and remaining in a heated atmosphere than in supplying the furnace of the system with that fuel which produces inward heat, of which the visible sign is outward radiance of healthful activity.

To this end the very best warmers that we can use are fresh air, pure water, and exercise, and plenty of each. And, curiously enough, instead of keeping warm we should endeavor at all times to keep cool, or to remain at least as much as possible in an atmosphere that is cool and to rely on our inward warmth for whatever heat is necessary.

OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT

The Shaw Comedy Company will present "At Hell's Gate" in the Opera House tonight. The play is of the sensational order, and abounds in thrilling climaxes. The manager of the company promises a very pleasing bill. The company is a well balanced one, and to-night's play will be cast to full strength.

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SUSSEX NEWS

SUSSEX, Nov. 29—Mrs. McGinn, widow of the late James McGinn, died at her home, Mill Brook, about four miles from Sussex, yesterday. Deceased was over 90 years of age. A son at home, two sons in the United States, and a daughter at Belleisle survive. The funeral will take place Thursday morning at St. Francis church, Sussex.

The parsonage of the Church Avenue Baptist church was the scene of a very pleasant pound party last evening. The members of the church, who largely attended, donated their pastor, Rev. W. Camp, many useful gifts.

Ora P. King, M.P.P., left last evening for Campbellton, where he will attend the Boom convention.



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LAST NIGHT'S MEETING

A meeting was held last evening in Berryman's Hall.

Rev. R. Mathers made an interesting, discursive address, which had no special reference to the strike, except that he expressed a hope to see it speedily settled.

Rev. Fr. Chapmen complimented and congratulated the men on their fine behaviour during the strike, paid an eloquent tribute to the worth of the working classes, sharply criticised the city council, the press, the corporations and trusts, counselled the men to stand together in their organization, urged them to think of their wives and children, and expressed a hope that the strike would be settled within twenty-four hours.

Mr. F. L. Potts wanted the city council to charge outside laborers $100 each; denounced aldermen, boodlers, grafters and the like, and expressed great sympathy with working men.

Ald. McGoldrick told of breaking down the barricades at Sand Point, and proclaimed himself the friend of the workingman.

Mr. Edward Sears showed that the Telegraph two years ago stood up for the interests of St. John, denounced the corporations, and expressed his sympathy with the workingman. He wanted the strike continued and believed the citizens would support the men.

Rabbi Rabinowitz expressed full sympathy with the men, said the press was crushing the working men, and drew lessons from Russia to the effect that the St. John workingmen should all organize and grasp the weapon of a general strike.

Mr. J. A. Likely advised the men to accept the thirty cent rate and go to work.

President Moore of the 'Longshoremen's Association made a temperate and admirable address from his standpoint, setting forth the case of the men and telling what had been done to date.

Mr. M. J. Kelly read the leading article in last night's Times, said the editor was well paid for writing it, and made a somewhat fierce speech that was in marked contrast to Mr. Moore's quiet words. He moved that the mayor be asked to summon the city council to arrange a settlement of the strike. This motion was adopted by a small show of hands.

Mr. Sears then moved that the mayor be asked to hold a public meeting. He knew of a man who would lead a strike fund with $25.

After some discussion the original motion of Mr. Kelly was reconsidered and rejected. Before Mr. Sears' motion could be put Mr. Likely again urged the men to settle the strike. Mr. W. L. Hamm had previously urged the same course, but was greeted with cries of dissent. Mr. E. A. Schofield supported Mr. Likely. The voice of Mr. James Brennan was for war on the city council. Another man down in the body of the hall wanted to know the price of red ribbon. Finally, Mr. Moore having whispered something to Mr. Likely, the latter moved that the meeting adjourn and that the 'longshoremen present remain and try to settle the strike at once. This course was adopted. Mr. Kelly and Mr. Sears were headed off.

Up to the time, therefore, that Mr. Moore whispered to Mr. Likely, the meeting was utterly barren of result and was about to adopt a motion by Mr. Sears that would have had the effect of prolonging the strike.

It was known about town early in the evening that unless some wild course were recommended by this meeting in Berryman's Hall the strike would at once be called off. The meeting was therefore regarded with some apprehension, which was fully justified by the determined effort of Mr. Sears and Mr. Kelly to get resolutions passed that would have caused further delay and trouble. Fortunately, though the meeting did no good, it was prevented by a few wise heads from doing any harm. It did not prevent the settlement which the men had already decided should be made last night.

THE MARKET CONDITIONS

(Watson & Alpers, New York.)

It is seldom in a stock market so obviously governed by the facts of prosperity as this year's that so many important interests and operators who sold out holdings in fear of tight money and Russian calamities can be found complaining against every advance and talking of the wisdom of "permitting" a substantial reaction. Those men, of both large and small financial calibre, who had the patience and the courage to hold through the November money squeeze and through all the alarms over the Russian troubles are not, now that many clouds are passing away, to be robbed of their reward in sunshine. The plea that "the public will come in on a good reaction" appeared to us to be ill founded. The public, if distrustful of the present level, will not be persuaded to buy if it should seem that the engines of progress were reversed. They will participate in the market only as they gradually come to recognize that it is increased value which is at the base of increased prices, and that prices are far from having overtaken value.

It is to be expected and welcomed when the pace of the advance is checked from excess by natural profit-taking, and one who tries to catch frequent fluctuations will not fare as well as he who holds his position through temporary phases, convinced that legitimate conditions are working out the final trend of the market. Speculative doubters will complain with poor grace if reactions do not go far enough to please them. Such profits as there are belong to those who, with patience and grit, through passing cloud and tests, have carried the market to where it is, and who are able, backed by natural influences, to carry it higher.

DRANK CARBOLIC WHILE AT PRAYER

Montreal Girl, Despondent, Took Deadly Acid While Kneeling in Church.

MONTREAL, Nov 29 (Special)—Anastasie Bouvier, 19 years of age, drank carbolic acid while at prayer in St. James church, St. Denis street, yesterday afternoon. She was taken to Notre Dame Hospital, where little hope is entertained for her recovery. Despondency, owing to ill health, is said by her parents to have been the cause.

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