THE EVENING TIMES.

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A. M. BELDING, Editor.

MARKS AN EPOCH.

Mukden has fallen. The coveted prize for which he fought with such wonderful skill and splendid courage has fallen into the hands of Oyama, who takes today his place among the foremost military commanders of all time. The despatches indicate that the Russian defeat is a rout, and that it will be impossible for Kuropatkin to make a successful stand anywhere against the victorious armies of Japan.

Whatever may have been the feeling in St. Petersburg with regard to continuance of the war, today's tidings must convince the czar and his advisers that nothing remains for them but to make peace now on such terms as they may, or submit to still greater loss and humiliation.

Tokio is wild with joy today, realizing the fruition of the dream of years. The Japanese have fairly won the right to the opportunity for national expansion which has long been the ambition of their statesmen.

Russia, on the other hand, stands before the world unmasked, a beaten braggart whose game was called in the most unexpected quarter, and whose prestige has suffered immeasurably in the estimation of the world. The fall of Mukden marks an epoch.

HANDS OFF THE WEST.

The Toronto newspapers have been devoting a great deal of space to the autonomy bill, and the provision which would fix separate schools upon the new provinces of the west for all time. Every one of these papers opposes the original clause, and insists that the new provinces should be left free to frame their own educational policy.

Not only the newspapers, but various ministerial organizations in Ontario cities, have taken very strong ground against in any way fettering the new provinces in their relation to the education of their citizenship. "Hands off the west" is the watchword, and in this relation it is a good one. So rapidly has the agitation spread that he would be a very poor interpreter of public sentiment who could not see that the government, in the original separate schools clause, proposed something which the country as a whole will never endorse. The feeling in Ontario is especially strong, though it is pronounced even there than in the farther west. The argument that the new provinces should control their own educational system is unassailable, and the sooner the government recognises the fact the sooner the present tension will be relieved.

CARE OF THE INSANE.

Drs. Anglin, Addy and Emery, who were appointed a commission for the purpose, have submitted an exhaustive report on the provincial hospital for nervous diseases. They divide the 541 patients into four classes, as follows—we quote from the report:—

Class A includes the apparently harmless insane, imbecile, or epileptic cases, and some whose insanity is doubtful.

Class B includes patients whose further detention for treatment is recommended, as they yet may be restored.

Class C includes patients not apparently dangerous to themselves or others, but so deranged as to seem unsuitable for care outside a hospital of this nature.

Class D includes patients with tendencies to violence or self-destruction, and therefore proper subjects for hospital confinements.

The result of our investigation shows that the 541 inmates are divided according to the foregoing classes as follows: 293 belong to Class A; 50 to Class B; 125 to Class C, and 73 to Class D.

In other words, 54.1 per cent. could be taken care of elsewhere than in an insane hospital; 9.2 per cent. are recommended for further treatment; 23.1 per cent. are unsuitable for discharge, though probably harmless; while 13.5 per cent. may be classed as dangerous.

If dangerous tendencies are alone considered, and if one half of the curable ones be added to those having such tendencies, which is above the real proportion, then 443 patients, or about 82 per cent., are excluded from Class D.

The various provinces are represented in the total as follows:—Albert, 11; Carleton, 26; Charlotte, 42; Gloucester, 37; Kent, 34; Kings, 40; Madawaska, 6; Northumberland, 37; Queens, 15; Restigouche, 19; St. John city and county, 131; Sunbury, 4; Victoria, 5; Westmorland, 82; York, 48; outside of province, 4.

Of the total of 541, no less than 461 are supported by the province, 23 by municipalities, 40 partly by friends, and 17 wholly by friends, those last paying three dollars or more weekly.

But while the commission find that at least half of the patients could be taken care of at their homes or in almshouses, they "doubt if it would be in the interests of the community and themselves to discharge most of the harmless class and entrust their welfare to other hands." Some they say should be ejected because they have simply been unloaded upon the province by municipalities to get rid of them. But in all cases of insanity, even if harmless, the commission hold that because of better care the patients should be sent to the provincial institution, and the municipalities compelled to contribute toward their support a sufficient sum to prevent imposition, or the sending of persons not really demented or in need of special treatment. A considerable portion of the report is devoted to setting forth arguments in support of this contention. It is pointed out that the county system of caring for the harmless insane in Nova Scotia is not satisfactory. But the St. John institution is not large enough, and the commission say:

The best suggestion that occurs to us for obtaining the requisite additional room is by increasing the accommodation at the annex property, where plain but suitable structures could be added, and a large number of the harmless patients now housed in the main building be looked after by comparatively few attendants. The plan would necessitate no new administrative buildings, or officers, and with least expense would give the most advantages.

In brief, the report recommends sending back to the municipalities any patients who cannot be classed as in need of the care of this hospital; compelling the municipalities to send all insane persons to the provincial hospital; enlarging the annex for the housing of the harmless patients; and making municipalities contribute for their support, except in such cases as the patients have property of their own sufficient to pay, or are paid for by friends. At the provincial hospital they can be properly classified and cared for, and have whatever opportunity their mental state will permit, under the most favorable medical care and supervision, to recover their reason.

The following very pointed statement appears in the report:—

Some undoubtedly should be ejected, for from our examination of its population we conclude that the hospital has been imposed on to a certain extent, and that some families and some municipalities have unloaded on the province burdens they themselves should have borne. This institution would seem to be regarded by some as a haven for those who for any reason can not support themselves.

There can be little doubt that the presentation of this valuable report will be followed by measures which will result in more systematic and beneficial care of the insane in this province.

In the words of the report:—"It is said, in truth, that the degree of civilization of a country is measured by the manner with which it deals with the dependent classes."

THE CORRECT SOLUTION.

The demands which are made by some people at the east that the new provinces shall be built on the lines which they approve do not appear to be demands of the new provinces themselves, and perhaps these have some right to say what shall be done.—St. John Globe.

Without intending to do so, the Globe has offered the correct solution of the difficulty. Leave the people of the west free "to say what shall be done." But do not fasten on them, as Sir Wilfrid Laurier at first proposed, for all time a system to which they are at present opposed and might never be reconciled.

Coroner Berryman of St. John has had troubles of his own in a vain effort to secure a decent room in which to hold inquests. But he evidently has sympathisers in the coroners of Toronto. The Globe of that city says:—

"It is little short of scandalous that in a wealthy and populous city like Toronto there is no permanent court room for the holding of Coroner's inquests. Judging from their callousness in this matter, the members of the city council seem to regard the holding of inquests as of little importance. This view is a mistaken one, if it is entertained. Great service has been rendered to the administration of criminal justice, and may continue to be rendered to it, by this venerable and far from inefficient institution."

A Boston paper makes this caustic comment.:—

"The Americans are a people of gigantic projects. The projects for the improvement of New York are enough to make one's head swim, they are so colossal, so expensive, so prodigious. But in the meantime we seem to be utterly without the talent for keeping what we have got in decent order. We build railroad stations that make St. Peter's at Rome look small, but we wade through morasses of filth to get to them. Among all the arts, of which we talk so enthusiastically, we do not seem to have mastered the elementary art of keeping clean."

In parliament yesterday, according to the Telegraph's report, "Hon. Mr. Emmerson said that he had already pointed out that several railway companies were interested in decrying the government system because they wanted to acquire it." If railway companies are eager to get the I. C. R. they must think they can make it pay expenses.

Eleven hundred Ontario people left Toronto on Monday, most of them for points west of Winnipeg. It is stated that there will be an exceptionally heavy migration from Ontario to the west during March and April.

SIDELIGHTS ON CITY LIFE.

Considerable comment has been heard, about the city during the last few days as to what the good and lawabiding citizens of St. John may expect when the warm rains of approaching spring melt the immense snowpiles on the city streets and produce a condition of "mushyness" that will be hailed with anything but satisfaction.

The spring season in this part of Canada is uncertain. It may be late or it may be early, but at any rate from what can be seen the city public works department will be better pleased if it is late this year as they will be better prepared for it.

"What will happen when the thaw comes?" is a question of moment to every citizen whose house has a cellar below the street level. With the snow piled in heaps on the edge of the street and the gutters blocked as they now are with a coating of snow and ice which it would require several days to remove, some of the city fathers have been casually asked how they propose to cope with the possibility of flooded cellars, and sidewalks six inches deep in slush and water, and their replies have shown their implicit and childlike faith in the future. "The snow has fallen in other winters and has melted and run away in other winters without causing any damage and it will probably do the same this year."

What a beautiful confession of faith. The city in this matter seems to be following the advice of a famous general when he said "Trust in God and keep your powder dry." They are fulfilling the first part of the injunction admirably, but if keeping the powder dry means a state of being prepared, then they are sadly neglecting the second and equally important part.

THE ROUNDER.

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

There Were 34,000 Deaths Last Week and Disease is Spreading.

Calcutta, India, March 9:—The deaths from the plague last week numbered 34,000.

Statistics show that the deaths from bubonic plague in India within a few years reached nearly three millions. In 1903 the mortality in India from the plague alone was 850,000. The number of deaths recorded last week while extraordinary is not unprecedented.

The infection recently spread to Burmah where it is making rapid strides. This season of the year always favors a spread.

The Indian Government is making every effort to eradicate it, burning whole sections of towns and segregating the inhabitants. The deaths are said to be ninety percent of those infected. As a result of the plague the labor supply for the manufacturing centres has seriously depreciated.

SPOKE ON HAY FEVER.

Berlin, Mar. 10.—Wm. Dunbar, director of the Hamburg Hygienical Institute, born in America, but naturalized as a German, delivered a lecture before one of the Berlin scientific societies last night on Hay Fever. He has for many years made the affliction the subject of special investigations.

Prof. Dunbar succeeded in finding the germ of the disease in the pollen of rye, maize and certain grasses. He treated horses with those germs and secured a serum called pollatin, which has been used with good effect, entirely curing many cases.

WINTER PORT NOTES.

Furness steamship St. John City, Captain Bovey, arrived today from London with a general cargo.

Steamship Manchester Trader, Captain Fisher, cleared today for Manchester and will sail tomorrow.

Steamship Dunmore Head, Captain McFerran, cleared today for Belfast, and will go to sea tomorrow.

The west India steamship Dahome, Captain Leukten, arrived this morning from Bermuda, Windward Islands and Demerara, with a general cargo and a number of passengers.

A COALITION MINISTRY.

Copenhagen, Mar. 10.—The cabinet crisis in Norway has been settled by the selection of a coalition ministry of which M. Nicholson is the premier.

TALKING ABOUT IT.

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SACKVILLE WELCOME

To Rev. B. N. and Mrs. Nobles on Wednesday Evening.

Interesting Mt. Allison News ---Opening the N. B. & P. E. I. Railway --- Excellent Course of Lectures.

Sackville, March 9.—The members of Main St. Baptist church, and congregation, met at the church Wednesday evening, and publicly received Rev. B. N. Nobles, and his wife. Deacon Walter Fowler, was chosen chairman; Rev. Dr. Pisley led in devotional exercises. Rev. Geo. Steel, and Rev. Dr. Andrews, of the Methodist church, made appropriate remarks, and welcomed Mr. Nobles on behalf of the Methodist people. President Allison, spoke in a humorous strain, and was listened to with pleasure, Rev. E. L. Steeves, pastor of Bethel church, extended a warm welcome to the pastor and his wife, in behalf of the Baptist people. The speeches were interspersed with music from the Baptist choir. After the benediction was pronounced, by Rev. Geo. Steel, the people repaired to the vestry, where they were received by Mrs. Walter Fowler, and Mrs. Walter Cahill, after, which an elaborate repast was partaken of and a very pleasant hour was spent.

The university students received word recently, that Principal Soloan of the Normal school at Truro, has been appointed judge of the debate which is to take place at Antigonish, on the 14th of March.

Prof. Watson is to give a lecture in Beethoven Hall, next Monday evening. The subject, Oxford and Oxford life, is a most interesting one, and the instrument used in illustrations is the new reflectoscope just imported by Dr. Borden.

There are gangs of men now at work, on the N. B. and P. E. I. railways clearing the track. They will open up the entire road as soon as possible, but the work will be very difficult.

The W. M. S. held their annual meeting on Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Steel, president of the society, occupied the chair. The meeting was opened with devotional exercises, led by Mrs. Bulmer and Miss Archibald, after which reports and papers were read on the different missions. A very nice programme was prepared, including a duet by Mrs. Ayer and Miss Fowler, while solos were given by Mrs. Cochrane and Mrs. Chas. Stewart. During the meeting, Mrs. Andrews seconded by Mrs. McCready, moved that a vote of thanks on behalf of the members of the reading circle, be tendered Dr. Baker of the Ladies' College for his faithful services as president of that organization. The closing address was given by Miss Hattie Stewart, after which refreshments were served.

Isabella, the youngest daughter of Mrs. John Sweeney, died Sunday night, after an illness of two weeks with gastric fever. The funeral took place Tuesday afternoon, interment taking place in Melrose cemetery.

The school house, at Port Elgin, was burned to the ground on Tuesday night. Fire was discovered in the basement of the building, when the alarm was given, A big crowd gathered, and succeeded, as was supposed, in staying the progress of the flames. About 10.30 the fire broke out again, and all attempt to save the building was fruitless. There was $1,000 insurance on the building.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Copp, entertained a large number of their friends at their home, on Bridge St., on Tuesday evening. Whist and dancing was the order of the evening.

A course of four lectures, for the benefit of the University Library Fund, has been arranged as follows:—Prof. W. G. Watson, subject, Oxford and Oxford Life, with reflectoscope views; March 24th, Dr. Hannah, President of King's College, Windsor, subject, Some Results of the Russo-Japanese war, with reflectoscope illustrations; April 7th— Prof. W. M. Tweedie, subject, Robert Browning; April 14th—Geo. Patterson, M.P. P., subject, Samuel Pepys and his Diary.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Dobson, and little son, and Mr. Austin Barnes, left yesterday for the west. Mr. and Mrs. Dobson go to Bladsworth, N. W. T., while Mr. Barnes, intends locating in Regina.

The Misses Alice and Helen Roberts, of St. John, who for the past six weeks have been the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Stewart, left yesterday for Moncton, where they will be the guests of Mrs. I. F. Avard.

The Fiske Stock Co., will appear in Music Hall, for three nights, beginning March 20th.

GRAND FALLS TO PLASTER ROCK.

A New Road to be Opened--- Moose Leave Their Yards--- Personals.

Grand Falls, March 9:—The Government has asked for tenders for the opening of a road from Grand Falls to Plaster Rock. This need of a road has been urged for years, but has always been opposed by the lower part of the County. The distance from Andover to Plaster Rock is upwards of twenty-nine miles, while the distance from here is only thirteen miles. The opening of the road will result in making Grand Falls the market for Plaster Rock and the upper Tobique, instead of Perth and Andover, as at present. Besides, sportsmen visiting the upper Tobique will henceforth outfit at Grand Falls and proceed by the shorter route from here. Much credit is due Jas. Burgess, M. P. P., for his successful efforts in inducing the executive to complete the project.

A few days ago, a large bull moose was seen crossing the highway in front of the residence of Henry Price a few miles from Town. Yesterday three moose were seen browsing in the clearings near the same locality. Owing to the absence of crust in the woods, moose can readily travel anywhere, and it is probable that browse having become scarce in one of the yards, the moose were migrating to another locality where moosewood, twigs, and edible bark were abundant. People say that never before have moose been seen outside their yards at this time of the year.

Dr. B. A. Puddington and Misses Stella Curless, May Howard, and Helen Hallet, returned on Wednesday from Presque Isle, where they had gone to attend the Chapman Musical Feast.

James Burgess, M. P. P., is having the interior of his new residence painted and decorated.

The Basket Sociable held recently in aid of the family of Joseph Nadeau netted $55.

Henry Ketchum, who has been in the west for over a year, returned home a few days ago to visit his mother, Mrs. John Day. Miss Eva Day, Preque Isle, Me., is visiting relatives in town. Mrs. Louise Lyons has returned home after a pleasant trip to Woodstock. Mrs. W. M. G. Debrisay is quite ill, being confined to her residence with a severe cold. C. O. Foss district engineer on the Grand Trunk Pacific survey was in Town several days during the week.

ALL ST. JOHN VS. SACKVILLE.

The game in Queen's rink tonight should be one of the best of the season and as it also marks the close of hockey playing for the year a large crowd should be in attendance. An all-St. John team will be arrayed against the champion Sackville aggregation, and the line-up will be Carlyle, goal; Wm. Inches, point; Ken Inches, cover; Blizzard, right wing; Mooney, left wing; McNeil, centre; Collins, rover. This is a very strong team and should give the Sackville boys a hard fight, and in fact, the chances are good for beating them.

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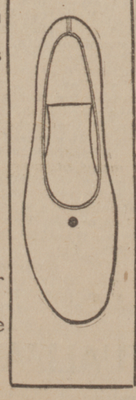
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