THE EVENING TIMES.

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A. M. BELDING, Editor.

THE WATERWORKS

The new elements cropping up in the waterworks affair, and the sudden silence that has fallen upon the aldermen, make it difficult to foresee what the end of the negotiations will be. Still more useless is it to attempt to predict with any degree of accuracy the actual cost to the city of having the various contracts completed. But there is the same urgency now as at the beginning to have the work completed this year, and it is therefore important that either the contractors or the city should provide men and plant sufficient to accomplish this end.

WAITING

Today has been looked forward to as a critical one in the negotiations at Portsmouth. The world waits with deep interest the next move in the great game of nations. President Roosevelt appears to have acted with great discretion in his relations with the parties to the controversy. But they can scarcely need any urging to approach each other with a sincere desire to terminate the war. Each will have great problems to deal with, after peace is declared. Russia's great task will be to effect such reforms at home as will prevent a revolution, and Japan's will be to adjust herself to the vastly greater responsibilities that have come to her as a result of her victories. Should the peace negotiations be broken off, the world will see another long struggle, liable at any time to produce complications threatening the peace of other nations. Therefore the world hopes to hear the news that terms mutually satisfactory have been agreed upon at Portsmouth.

AFTER THE VACATION

The summer is drawing to a close, and soon the outing days will be but a memory. Schools will re-open and families that have spent the summer at suburban resorts are one after another returning to their city homes. Doubtless all will return refreshed and vigorous, to take up the old routine. Those who are disposed to concern themselves with the social and material welfare of less happy and fortunate people around them will find that the old problems remain, and a wide field for their activities. Perhaps in the new enthusiasm born of contact with nature in her cheerful mood, social workers and organizations will strive to get closer to the people whose lot they would make less hard and lonely. The hardest social problem in a city like St. John is not that of giving aid to those in actual want, but that of encouraging those having a means of subsistence to habits of sobriety and thrift. It may be a young man who is wasting his substance to his own ultimate undoing, or an older man whose family suffers through his spendthrift habits, or a boy who is growing up in idleness and mischief to be a menace to the welfare of the community, or a girl whose leisure hours are not wisely spent. The great problem is to help people help themselves, and this can only be done by a sympathetic contact which does not appear in the guise of either charity or implied superiority. There is a weak point in our system of social service. Is it not that the pursuit of personal gain or pleasure develops a kind of selfishness, which cheerfully relegates to organizations labelled benevolent the work which should be individual, as well as that which can best be accomplished by organized effort?

HELPING THE BOYS

"Reclaim one lawless, incorrigible boy and you have saved ten others. Every boy who is sufficiently reckless, fearless and ingenious to annoy and defy parents, teachers and officers of the law is bound to have at least ten quieter followers to whom he is a hero and bad example. Trade schools are expensive, very much more so than ordinary schools, but they are not nearly so expensive as reformatories."

These statements, made by Supt. Grosvenor of the Children's Aid Society schools of New York, present the boy problem in a very striking and impressive manner. They were made in connection with the projected installation of trade classes in connection with the Newsboys' Lodging House in that city. This house was founded thirty years ago, as a refuge for homeless boys, and friends have now raised $62,000 to provide for and establish trade classes. These, says a New York paper, will open Oct. 1, and it is likely that over a hundred boys will be promptly enrolled. Plumbing, electric wiring, carpentry, elementary cabinet work and elementary forging will be taught. A forge is to be installed in the top of the house, and it is expected that the boys will progress far enough to shoe a horse and make the ironwork for a wagon. For practical experience in plumbing, electric wiring and forge work the pupils will be sent out under the auspices of some regular firm. The boys will also get all the book instruction necessary to enable them to make use of their practical experience. They will have plenty of mathematics and drawing, and will work out problems in plumbing in class.

The argument which Supt. Grosvenor presents in support of such an institution is equally strong in favor of manual training in its initial stages in the common schools. He says:—

"From what class will our pupils be drawn? Largely from the truant class. It seems like a contradiction to speak of a voluntary truant class. But that's what our trade classes have amounted to. The boys are those who have given the truant officers constant trouble. They have been transferred from school to school, until teachers have nearly lost hope of making anything of them. Finally many of them have drifted out of school and have reached the point where they are almost incorrigible. That is, their parents can barely manage them. They are candidates for the Juvenile Court, and if left alone are almost bound to turn up there sooner or later. The beginning of the trouble was in every case that they would not stay in the ordinary school and do regular class work. It did not appeal to them. The diversity and manual activity of our class work interest them. It appeals to the boy nature. They will come to our classes when they won't go to any other kind.

"Many of these boys sell papers, black boots, or are helpers on the newspaper delivery wagons. In the first two occupations there is very little hope of an adult occupation. These are juvenile employments usually, and the longer a boy stays in them, as a rule, the worse it is for him. Of course, once in a great while there is a boy bootblack who gets a stand of his own and makes a regular business of it as an adult. But for every one who does this there are a hundred who are living on the ragged edge of nothing. In giving them a trade school education we are starting them in something that has a future in it. The prison records show that there are mighty few men in prison who know skilled trades, unless they learn them after they get there. You can find all sorts of religions among prisoners, but very few trades. It is extremely rare to find a painter, plumber, electrician or member of any other skilled trade in any prison. Therefore the very best guarantee we can give these boys that they will never get in jail is to put them in the way of learning a skilled trade."

The following despatch from Toledo, Ohio, will be read with interest:—

"Municipal ownership is the all-absorbing topic at this convention of the League of American Municipalities. The convention is not at all evenly divided on the issue. The sentiment is overwhelmingly in favor of the municipal ownership of a part or the whole of the public utilities. So strong was the feeling that only a sense of courtesy restrained the delegates to a patient attention to Mayor Woodward of Atlanta, Ga., when he attacked the municipal ownership idea and championed private ownership properly controlled. So evident was the trend of the convention that the officers yesterday afternoon and last night were casting about for some local speaker who would consent to enter the lists in behalf of private ownership, in order that the discussion might not be too one-sided."

The city of Baltimore has made great public improvements since the great fire. The corporation has spent or authorized to be spent $23,600,000 on municipal docks, street widening and extension, and other works. Altogether about $35,000,000 will be spent in civic betterments as a result of the great fire.

The Equitable directors admit that its affairs have been improperly and in some cases illegally conducted. The admission was hardly necessary at this stage, but would have been of great value if made some years ago. This is a forced admission some years ago. This is a forced admission.

Bradstreet's notes that so far this year the value of Winnipeg building permits has reached $8,400,000, a very great increase over those of previous years, and that it seems reasonable to expect that the total for 1905 will be well over the $10,000,000 mark.

The policy of secrecy now being pursued with regard to waterworks affairs naturally raises the question:—What is there to conceal from the taxpayers?

Wall street is getting ready for the fall shearing of the faithful lambs which always go up about this time of year.

The city appears to have $15,000 to give away. Who wants it?

ANGLICAN SYNOD

Many New Brunswickers Will Attend General Synod in Quebec Next Month.

Great interest is being displayed by the members of the Episcopal church and others in the centennial services to be held in the city of Quebec next month in commemoration of the erection of the cathedral in that ancient city. This is by far the oldest cathedral church in the British colonies, the next in order of time being the cathedral church at Fredericton, in this province, the corner stone of which was laid by Sir William M. Colebrooke on Oct. 15, 1845.

In honor of the centenary of the erection of the Quebec cathedral, the triennial meeting of the General Synod of the Church of England in Canada will be held there on Wednesday, Sept. 6, extending over the next ten days.

The general synod includes twenty-two bishops, and nearly 100 clerical and an equal number of lay delegates. The clergymen who will go as delegates from New Brunswick are Canon Richardson, Rev. A. G. H. Dicker and Rev. Dr. Raymond, of this city; Dean Partridge, of Fredericton; Archdeacon Neales, of Woodstock, and Rev. J. R. de W. Cowie, of Hampton. The lay delegates are F. J. G. Knowlton, W. M. Jarvis, G. O. D. Otty, A. C. Fairweather, Judge Hanington and H. B. Schofield.

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YACHTING AT HALIFAX

Gloria Won Yesterday's Race---Prince of Wales Cup Will Be Competed for Today.

The yacht Gloria, sailed by G. H. Duggan, won the silver cup presented by Commodore Minot, of the Eastern Yacht Club, for a race among Canadian yachts, at Halifax yesterday. The Hermes of Yarmouth finished second, but loses on time allowance. The Nim came in fifth, but is second on time allowance.

The Gloria won the cup by 19 min. and 17 sec. corrected time. The Princess finished third, seven minutes behind the Hermes, and the Yale fourth, two minutes after the Princess. The Youla secures third place on corrected time. The Dione was sixth, Minotah and Lady Betty following.

The race for the Prince of Wales' cup will be sailed today, commencing at 11 o'clock.

The entries include the Corona, Elmina II., Black Hawk, Hope Leslie, Sanquoit and Cossack of New York, and Boston; Gloria and St. Lawrence, of Sydney; Zephyr, of Souris (P.E.I.); Hermes, of Yarmouth, and Princess, of Halifax.

For the Prince of Wales' cup race there will be the usual time allowance. There will also be prizes for three classes within the same race. First class will be between Elmina and Corona, second class will probably include Hope Leslie, Black Hawk, Gloria and Hermes, third class will likely include Cossack, Picua, Princess, Zephyr and others.

FOREST FIRES

Quebec Villages Threatened and Much Damage Done to Timber Lands.

Quebec, Aug. 25—(Special)—A serious forest fire is raging near St. Albert and St. Valerie on the south side of the river. The fire was started through imprudence of farmers and the whole range of St. Albert was completely destroyed, and the loss will amount to many thousands of dollars.

The forest fires of two years ago are being repeated, and rain is earnestly looked for. Reports from the lower Chaudiere valley are of considerable damage being done by fires. Everything is very dry north of Chaudiere. Very little rain has fallen this summer, crops suffered much, and neither hay nor grain is an average yield. The ground is parched and the dropping of a lighted match will start a blaze.

MORNING NEWS IN BRIEF.

Local

Thorne Lodge No. 259 I. O. G. T. will hold an outing this afternoon to Anthony's Cove. Members are requested to meet at the rooms at 1.45 p. m.

A teamster named Lobb has been reported for trotting his horse over the Suspension bridge.

Jennie Watson, the Sheriff street child, who was so badly burned Thursday afternoon, died yesterday in the hospital. There will be no inquest.

Sterling Barker, proprietor of the Ben Lomond House, is having difficulty with certain of the workmen employed on the water extension, for they help themselves to his boats, and row on the lake, totally disregarding Mr. Barker's views of the matter. He hid the oars, but the men secured boards and went a cruising all the same.

The city schools will re-open on Monday next, and yesterday 600 permits had been issued. It is requested that all the pupils who passed the High school examinations from Alexandra, Albert, Dufferin, Winter street, Victoria, St. Peter's (boys'), and St. Malichi's Hall schools meet in the High school exhibition hall at 9 o'clock on Monday. The pupils from St. Joseph's and St. Peter's (girls') schools are asked to assemble in St. Vincent's school at the same hour.

Mrs. Elisha Cosman, of King street east, was severely injured yesterday at Midlands, near Norton, and was brought to the city by the Halifax train in the afternoon. She was driving with her son, Dr. E. O. Cosman, when the horse started. Mrs. Cosman was thrown out, and for a time was unconscious. She was carried into Mr. Whitenect's residence, and from there was taken to the train. The ambulance was on hand when the express arrived here, and the injured woman was taken to her home.

Provincial

On Wednesday last the Catholics of Petersville assembled in the parish hall, and presented their late pastor, Rev. Joseph McDermott, with a purse of $90 and an accompanying address.

It was reported yesterday that Mrs. Michael J. Finnigan, formerly Miss Louise O'Regan, of this city, was fatally injured in a laundry in Calgary on Tuesday last. Her relatives stated last night that they had heard indirectly of the accident, but could not confirm it. She was about twenty-two years old.

F. Wayland Porter, of Fredericton, Miss Edna L. Austin, of St. John, and Misses Elsie and Margery Strong, of Greenwich (Conn.), had a narrow escape from serious injury while driving in a double-seated carriage in College Road Fredericton last evening while descending College hill, a trace broke, causing the horses to take fright and run away. They had not proceeded far when the pole dropped and the animals broke away from the carriage, which was thrown into a gutter and overturned. The four occupants were pinned beneath the vehicle, but fortunately escaped without a scratch.

BACK FROM ENGLAND

Andrew Dysart, of Cocagne, Kent county, who has been for the past year studying higher law at Oxford University, England, returned to the city yesterday. He sailed from Glasgow to Quebec and, after a few days spent in Montreal, came here. He will go home for a short time, and in November he expects to be sworn in a barrister and to leave for the west, where he will settle.

Mr. Dysart is enthusiastic over university life in England. He thinks that England is all right to live in if a man is possessed of a settled income, but for one starting out in life, he says, Canada is far ahead of the old land.

Rev. Christopher Burnett, pastor of Leinster street Baptist church, will spend the next three weeks in Ontario.

Mrs. Irving Todd and Mrs. William Todd, of St. Stephen, are at the Royal.

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