THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 25, 1905.

The St. John Evening Times is published at 19 and 21 Canterbury Street, every evening, (Sunday excepted), by the St. John Times Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd. A company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.

A. M. BELDING, Editor.

THE CIVIC SITUATION.

The interval between the announcement of the names of the Citizens' League candidates and the date of the civic elections is so short that the campaign to be effective must be waged with vigor. There appears to be a feeling that when all the candidates who may offer are fairly in the field there will be a disposition, even on the part of some members of the League, to pick and choose among them all, perhaps rejecting some League candidates in favor of their opponents. The result of such a course might be the return to power of practically the whole of the present city council, omitting the three or four who will not be in the field. Obviously this would defeat the whole purpose of the organization of the League. It therefore, appears to be necessary for the League to stand by its ticket, and work earnestly for victory. It must be remembered that if the League ticket is not as strong as it might have been made, the fault does not lie with the executive, which made the most earnest efforts to prevail on the strongest men to enter the lists, and thus to present a complete ticket. They were unable to get as many leading men as they desired, but they have presented a ticket, which has or should have behind it the influence of leading men, who desire to see the principles set forth in the platform of the League adopted. Unless a majority of the League candidates are elected the result may be a continuance of present methods, which the citizens certainly do not desire.

Of course, if when all the candidates are in the field it is believed that some of the independent ones would make better representatives than some of the League men, it will be difficult to persuade the electors to vote the straight ticket. But on the whole, the result of the contest should be to give the League principles a preponderating influence in the new council.

THE AUTONOMY BILL.

On the ground that the amended clause ensures national schools in the new province, Hon. Clifford Sifton yesterday announced in parliament that he would support the autonomy bill. He did so, he said, with some reluctance, but believed that "under the educational clause in its amended form the principles of thorough national schools were not impaired; and the taint of ecclesiasticism which, in his judgment, always resulted in inefficiency, would not be found in the Northwest school system under this legislation."

The majority of the western liberal members will no doubt follow the example of Mr. Sifton, and despite the strenuous agitation and opposition in Ontario the bill will be adopted. If the liberals are divided on the question, so are the conservatives, and Mr. Borden has declined to crack the party whip. Although he has moved an amendment to the bill, he leaves his followers free to exercise their own judgment on the question. Some of them, notably Mr. Monk, have done so by supporting the government's position.

With a practical certainty that the measure will be adopted, public interest will hereafter be much less pronounced. Those who speak may be able to score an occasional party advantage or arouse a prejudice, but will not add much to what the leaders have already set forth on the constitutional and other aspects of the question. The sooner it is removed from the realm of controversy the better for the country.

BANKING AFFAIRS.

An important bank merger is reported today from Halifax. In this connection the following from this week's issue of the Maritime Merchant, on the subject of small and large banks, is of interest:—

Still another fact, and a very important one brought home by the failure of the Bank of Yarmouth, is the inadequacy of the small bank. With the exception of two others the Yarmouth was the smallest chartered bank in Canada. Its failure demonstratos the fact that it is necessary to be big and strong in order to do a banking business successfully in these days. The mere fact of its relationship with the Reddings, whose situation was commencing to be understood by the Yarmouth people, led to the withdrawal of deposits, so that latterly the Bank's earning power was reduced to such an extent that last year it showed a loss on its business and had to withdraw $35,000 from the reserve fund to meet deficiencies and pay a dividend. A large bank, having ample resources and a widely distributed business, would not have suffered the same lack of confidence and could have weathered the gale with comparative ease. The large bank is the only really feasible proposition. It is the fate of the small institution either to disappear altogether or to be absorbed by a stronger. The thing that is saving to Halifax her pre-eminence in banking is the fact that her banks are expanding and reaching out so as to be national, and even international, in character. The spirit that carps at their making such wide outside connections, and sending deposits away for investment is very parochial. In the long run our interests are best served by this very movement. Speaking of this, one of the difficulties which the Bank of Yarmouth experienced in its palmy days, we understand, was the securing of suitable local outlets for the investment of its deposits, and we have been told of it sending large sums away to the West in order that its funds might not remain idle.

The reason given for the protest of Congregatianal ministers, representing Boston and various sections of New England, forwarded to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, against the acceptance by the board of a gift of $100,000 from Mr. John D. Rockefeller, was that the Standard Oil Company, of which Mr. Rockefeller is the head, "Stands before the public under repeated and recent formidable indictments in specific terms for methods which are morally iniquitous and socially destructive." The protest was not effective, as the gift has been accepted.

The increasing pressure on the advertising columns of the Times, due to its growing circulation and value as an advertising medium, presents to the writing staff a problem in connection with a proper display of the news of the day. Present indications point to an early enlargement of the Saturday Times in order to do justice to advertisers and the reading patrons of the paper.

While there is a great deal of talk in St. Petersburg and elsewhere about the necessity of making peace, the Japanese continue their relentless pursuit of the Russians toward Harbin, and we may presently hear of another disaster to the Russian arms.

The condition of affairs revealed by the visit of the police to a house in an alley off Charlotte street last night throws an interesting sidelight on the darker side of city life, that may well attract the attention of thoughtful citizens.

INTERESTING LETTERS.

Eben Perkins has been warned to drop the role of a reformer, or trouble awaits him.

He has recently received a number of letters, several of which contained warnings for him to desist, but the majority have been from women who have been troubled by the conduct of their husbands and sons.

Mr. Perkins has received two letters; one of which warns him that he is travelling on slippery ground, and, unless he stops his nonesense, "Jesse James" will make it hot for him. The latter part of the communication reads as follows:

"It would be a different thing if it were a temperate man who was making this trouble, but your private little bottle on a certain barroom shelf on the Main street, makes your argument very thin.

Yours truly,
JESSE JAMES."

The second is from a woman who complains that her son has learned to drink and gamble, and imploring him to make an effort to close up three places which her boy has been in the habit of frequenting.

One, she says is situated on Church street, another on Princess, just above Canterbury street, and the third near Ryan's, on Charlotte street. She says also that her son has abused her.

TREES IN WIRELESS.

(Harper's Weekly.)

One of the most interesting suggestions made recently in connection with wireless telegraphy is that of Major G. O. Squier, of the United States' Army Signal Corps, who believes that for short-distance transmission trees can be used as substitutes for the aerial wires usually employed. Major Squier's plan is to connect the apparatus by wires to iron nails driven in the base of the tree from which the radiations would be emitted. While the tree would hardly be as satisfactory as a more permanent arrangement of wires, yet in a military campaign it might answer for many purposes where the distances were comparatively short. This, of course, involves a difficulty where the army is operating in a country barren of trees, but here a return may be made to the older method of employing jointed poles or kites or balloons to raise the wires. In connection with Major Squier's suggestion the point has been made that the difficulties of wirefess telegraphy in transmitting messages overland would be increased by the presence of an intervening forest, and should this be the case the operation of wireless telegraphy may be restricted greatly. The subject opened up is one of considerable importance, and further tests from Major Squier will be awaited with interest.

San Francisco, March 25.—Chief of Police, Wittman, a sergeant, and two patrolmen, have been dismissed from the police force by the police commissioners, on account of their failure to suppress gambling in Chinatown.

SIDELIGHTS ON CITY LIFE.

St John is wont to boast of its 20th Century civilization with its churches, its guilds, its Browning and Ibsen clubs, its art organizations and all the other cults, fads, and follies popularly supposed to follow in the train of that so-called, culture which has been described by a cynic, as the ability to wear evening clothes becomingly. Yet, in spite of all this culture, and refinement and civilization there are within the city boundaries many people living under conditions abhorrent even to the "savages of Barbary." This statement will I know be pooh poohed and perhaps contradicted by people who think they know but who do not, and furthermore seldom take the trouble to find out. What a fund of information, practical information too, they could have gleaned at first hand had they been with me on Charlotte street before midnight last night when the police were called into Myers' Alley to investigate an assault case.

A man, hatless, coatless, bleeding, bruised, rushed out of the alley about 11.30, shouting police, and crying that he had been assaulted with an axe, by another man. The police responded to the call, and followed the man to the apartments in the alley where he claimed the assault took place.

The apartments pointed out to the police, consisted of three small rooms, two of which were bedrooms, while the third was a general-purpose room in the widest sense of the word. Judging from appearances when the police entered, it had been used as a dispensary for fire water, during the early evening, for, scattered about, was one of the finest collections of gin and ginger beef bottles I have ever seen. In one of the bedrooms, was a woman, well known to the police, who was in a delicate condition of health, and accompanying her, were two men, both of whom were in a drunken stupor.

Three other men and another woman, were in the outer apartment all more or less intoxicated, while playing around on the dirt-encrusted floor was a pretty little five year old child, the daughter of one of the women.

It was the old story, frequent drinks, then a grand drunk, then profanity and a row, in the course of which one of the men was considerably used up. All the inmates were arrested save the two women, and the case will be disposed of under the heading of "a disorderly house." Then the place will no longer be a matter of public interest. But what will be the future of that bright-eyed, five year old child? What can reasonably be her future in such surroundings? She will go from bad to worse, become a social pariah, a creature of the gutter, an outcast and then—Ah what then!

And the strange part of it all is that this house this slum rather, far worse than many to be found in the notorious east end of London, is but a stone's throw from the Y. M. C. A. building. Why has it existed so long? What excuse is there for its continuing to exist now?

Let the citizens answer.

THE ROUNDER.

HOW TO CATCH A TIGER.

When staring at a tiger or a rhino or what not in a menagerie, did you ever wonder how he got there? who first suggested to him, in his native jungle or swamp, that he step into a cage and take a long sea journey for your edification?

A. W. Rolker, in the February McClure's, tells of the who and how of "Wild Animal Trapping"—a tale of daring ingenuity and exciting sport. How a full-grown tiger is made to tie himself up in a knot; how a charging rhino mother is hamstrung, that her calf may be captured; how a mighty herd of wild elephants is shooed" for miles through the forests, with horns and tom-toms, like so many chickens; this and much more is well described. There are also dashing drawings by George Varian.

DO YOU READ THE TIMES AND LIKE IT? TELL YOUR FRIENDS IT IS YOUR FAVORITE PAPER.

EXCHANGING IDEAS ABOUT CLOTHES.

Well Dressed People

seldom discuss Clothes in public, but whenever a well dressed man is seen his Clothes are an argument for

Tailor Made Garments.

OUR PATRONS ARE pleased with the perfect fit and splendid appearance which artistic tailoring affords—correct ideas worked into clothes.

That's what we always give.

A. R. CAMPBELL & SON,
High Class Tailoring,
64 Germain St.

LEARNING TYPEWRITING.

To be Really Expert Requires Long Practice

In a recently-published book on "earning a living" typewriting was dismissed with an airy remark that a few weeks' practice would bring a proficiency which would start a girl as a copyist. This same assertion is being constantly repeated in regard to typewriting, and it has publicly done more in bringing about the present glut of incompetents than any other cause.

On this point John A. Howland of Chicago says: Recently I received a letter from a girl in the country asking for particulars as to the time required to learn typewriting with a view to earning a living. She says in her letter: "I see it mentioned in the handbook describing the—typewriter that after three months' practice of a couple of hours a day a girl can earn $6 a week. If I thought this were really so, I should make an effort to learn at some school." All I can say in answer is that I have spoken to many friends with expert knowledge, and they are all agreed that even in the case of particular adaptability a year of constant eight hours a day practice is the least time in which a girl can attain the degree of accuracy and speed that would give her a prospect of earning even $6 a week. One girl assured me that she had two years of constant practice in a copying office before she really felt the command of a machine that means thorough proficiency.

A girl from the country with a three months' or even a six months' experience of typewriting, so far as earning a living is concerned, can even, if she have luck, only swell the ranks of "the sweated." and she has often to grope along a path miserable and sordid beyond words.

Should you, my friend from the country, think I take too pessimistic a view, then make the experiment of getting a typewriter on hire at your home. Practice constantly for three months, and at the end of that time measure your strength with some "$6 a week" girl. Your faith in typewriters' circulars will, I believe, be destroyed for all time.

THE HOUR SUPREME.

On Nature's round
Which sweetness is, stillness or sound?
Which is most musical,
Song or the interval,
When the silence stirs, to be
A voice, a melody?

On Nature's way,
Which fairest is, dawning or day,
Which would the nice eye choose,
The noon gold or the hues,
When the shadow of the night
Wakes, smiling into light?

Beauty is bride
In midsummer or at springtide?
In June her solstice
Or when the pale mists be,
When the clod feels some warm power
At work, and lo, a flower!

Ay, when is bliss
The sweetest that it ever is?
When the loved one is at rest
Upon the lover's breast.
Or when he first may dare
To dream he feels her there?

(John Vance Cheney, in the Century.

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ALTRUISM.

A Signal Example of Cleverness and Self-Sacrifice Combined.

(Harper's Weekly.)

Alfred H. Love of Philadelphia, president of the University of Peace Union, was talking on the topic, peculiarly congenial to him, of kindness. Said he:

"I once knew a remarkable kind boy. He was a great angler. There was a trout stream in his neighborhood that ran through a rich man's estate. Permits to fish the stream could now and then be obtained, and the boy was lucky enough to have a permit.

"One day he was fishing with another boy when a gamekeeper suddenly darted forth from a thicket. The lad with the permit uttered a cry of fright, dropped his rod, and ran off at top speed. The game-keeper pursued.

"For about a half-mile the game keeper was led a swift and difficult chase. Then, worn out, the boy halted. The man seized him by the arm and said between pants:

"'Have you a permit to fish on this estate?"

"'Yes, to be sure,' said the boy, quietly.

"'You have? Then show it to me.'

"The boy drew the permit from his pocket. The man examined it and frowned in perplexeity and anger.

"'Why did you run when you had this permit?' he asked.

"'To let the other boy get away,' was the reply. 'He didn't have none!'"

A CAUSE OF HEADACHE.

One Very Common Cause, Generally Over-Looked.

Headache is a symptom, an indication of derangement or disease in some organ, and the cause of the headache is difficult to locate because so many diseases have headaches as a prominent symptom; derangement of the stomach and liver, heart trouble, kidney disease, lung trouble, eye strain, or ill-fitting glasses, all produce headaches, and if we could always locate the organ which is at fault, the cure of obstinate headaches would be a much simpler matter.

However, for that form of headache called frontal headache, pain back of the eyes, and in forehead, the cause is now known to be catarrh of the head, and throat: when the headache is located in back of head, and neck, it is often caused from catarrh of the stomach or liver.

At any rate, catarrh is the most common cause of such headaches, and the cure of the catarrh causes a prompt disappearance of the headaches.

There is at present, no treatment for catarrh so convenient and effective as Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, a new internal remedy in tablet form, composed of antiseptics like red gum, blood root, which act upon the blood, and cause the elimination of the catarrhal poison from the system through the natural channels.

Miss Cora Ainsley, a prominent school teacher in one of our normal schools, speaks of her experience with catarrhal headaches, and eulogizes Stuart's Catarrh Tablets as a cure for them. She says: "I suffered daily from severe frontal headache, and pain in and back of the eyes, at times, so intensely as to incapacitate me in my daily duties. I had suffered from catarrh, more or less for years, but never thought it was the cause of my headaches, but finally became convinced that such was the case, because the headaches were always worse, whenever I had a cold or fresh attack of catarrh.

"Stuart's Catarrh Tablets were highly recommended to me, as a safe, and pleasant catarrh cure, and after using a few fifty-cent boxes, which I procured from my druggist's I was surprised and delighted to find that both the catarrh and headaches, had gone for good."

Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are sold by druggists at fifty cents a package, under the guarantee of the proprietors that they contain absolutely no cocaine (found in so many catarrh cures) no opium (so common in cheap cough cures), nor any harmful drug. They contain simply the wholesome antiseptics necessary to destroy and drive from the system, the germs of catarrhal disease.

BISHOP ON DANCING.

(London Telegraph.)

The Bishop of St. Asaph, presiding at a school concert in the cathedral town, said a respected Nonconformist minister had expressed horror at acting and dancing being included in the programme. While the Church endeavored to impress upon the minds of children the Christian standard of conduct, it was essential to observe proportion. Our Lord came to save body, mind and soul, and there must be a proportionate development of the whole nature of man. There was just now a tendency to proscribe innocent amusements. There was nothing wrong in dancing, or in games such as football, cricket, and billiards, in themselves, and his experience taught him that there was no greater danger in the bringing up of children than to allow confusion to grow up in their minds as to what was really right and what really wrong. Impurity, injustice, untruthfulness, and cruelty could never be right, but disastrous results followed the condemnation of innocent recreation equally with sins such as these.

A SERVANT GIRL'S STORY.

(New York Tribune.)

After being without a girl for a week, the mistress of a Harlem apartment was showing an applicant over the flat. She had been liberal in her promises of privileges in the way of afternoons and nights off. She had even gone so far as to extend the hour of the girl's return on those nights and to agree to her using the sewing machine after her work was done.

The new girl seemed pleased, and the mistress was beginning to hope. They walked back into the dining-room, and the girl had actually moved one pin from her hat. Then her smile faded and a question mark appeared.

"Do you do your own stretchin'?" she demands.

"Do we do our own what?" asked the puzzled mistress.

"Stretchin'," repeated the new girl.

"I don't understand."

"Stretchin'," repeated the girl for a second time. "Do you put all the stuff on the table at meal time and stretch for it, or do I have to shuffle it around?"

The family are "stretchin" in earnest now, and will until they get a girl who is willing to wait on the table as well as cook the meal. The matron's household vocabulary contains a new word.

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