

THE EVENING TIMES.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JUNE 3, 1905.

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THE HALF HOLIDAY

It is perhaps trite to remark that the value of a holiday depends upon the use that is made of it. The school text books used to tell us that:—

Absence of occupation is not rest;
A mind quite vacant is a mind distressed.

And yet there are some of us who would welcome a measure of mental vacancy for a brief period, as a relief from the strain of days and weeks of constant mental activity.

Just to be able to lie at ease on the greenward, in the sunshine, gazing idly at the landscape and the sky, conscious of the whisper of the wind in the treetops, the scent of the wild-flowers, the song of birds, the ripple of a brook—conscious of all, and yet taking no serious heed of any—and to ask no more. Close to Nature, conscious of her charms, realizing her beauty, but asking no questions, making no effort—simply accepting the gifts of a bountiful mother.

But unless a holiday brings refreshing it is worse than a waste of time. It is no holiday merely to drift about the streets of the city, receiving no impression except to feel that time hangs heavily on one's hands. Work would be preferable to such an experience.

So, whether it be in the city or in the park, or by the shore, or on the river, or in the country, they plan most wisely who seek to get away from what the rest of the week brings to them; and, whether they merely rest, or exercise their faculties, are satisfied at the outset that there lies the secret of enjoyment for the day. To rush here or there because someone else does so is not to make the best of a holiday opportunity. But to look forward to the day, and to have a definite idea of what will make for contentment when it has come, is to pave the way for personal enjoyment of hours that will all too swiftly pass.

People should plan their holidays with quite as much care as they give to their business affairs, since a happy and well-spent holiday brings refreshing, and a greater capacity for one's labors when the work-day dawns. If the memory of the day carry with it recollection of acts of kindness done, or pleasure heartily shared with others, it will be all the sweeter on that account.

The Saturday half-holiday season has not opened auspiciously in St. John, but doubtless everyone who is freed from labor for the afternoon will be able to discover some means of healthy enjoyment.

A GOOD EXAMPLE

One of the hopeful signs of the times in the United States is the awakening of public interest in municipal affairs. In no other country has the grater flourished so generally or the corporations gained such power. The people have been so busy accumulating wealth that they have apparently been willing to be robbed so long as they were let alone. But the limit of endurance has been pretty nearly reached, and public opinion is making its influence felt.

The conditions that prevail in the United States threaten this country as well. It will be surprising if the land grabber does not fatten in some parts of the Canadian west, and the experience of the larger cities shows that the grip of the corporations is becoming irksome to the people. This country has perhaps imitated the United States in some undesirable ways, but it will make no mistake if it profits by the example of that country in its present effort to secure better municipal conditions. An American paper thus summarizes the movement that is now making itself felt in municipal affairs across the border.

"There are now four great national organizations in this country devoted to the improvement of municipal government and the conditions of city life. The oldest of them is scarcely more than ten years old. The multiplication of this kind of organization during the last decade is a striking sign of the widespread interest in municipal problems. The first society to be formed was the National Municipal League, organized in 1894. This body works in a comprehensive way for the betterment of city government. A few months after its formation a second organization made its appearance, the American Society of Municipal Improvements, which aims 'to promote the best methods to be employed in the management of municipal departments and in the construction of municipal works.' In 1895 the League of American Municipalities came into existence. The objects were at first mainly social, but later the gatherings took on a more serious character. Then in 1897 the American Park and Outdoor Air Association, and in 1899 the American League for Civic Improvement appeared. These organizations had the same underlying object, namely, the aesthetic improvement of city life, and about two years ago they were merged into one body, the American Civic Association. The aim of this association is to cultivate the 'higher ideals of civic life and beauty in America, the promotion of city, town and neighborhood improvement, the preservation and development of landscape and the advancement of outdoor art.' The last step

in the growth of these national municipal organizations was the recent formation of an Alliance of Civic Associations. The purpose of this new organization is to co-ordinate the work of the various societies in such a way as to increase the effectiveness of each and prevent duplication of effort."

A HOME THRUST

The Maritime Merchant in this week's issue makes some plain statements about the effect upon Nova Scotia of the manipulation of Dominion Iron and Coal, and the resultant speculation. After stating that business conditions in the province are somewhat trying, largely due to the fact that the failure of the hay crop last year entailed a loss estimated at a million dollars, the Merchant declares that the province is also suffering from the effects of speculation, even if the most of those who lost money had it to lose. Their losses reduced their income, and also their spending capacity. Dealing directly with the subject of speculation the Merchant then says:

"Speculation in Dominion Coal and Dominion Iron started the fever, which grew until it embraced every issue in New York and Montreal which was popular at the time. Had people not been speculating in the Dominion securities, it would probably not have become popular here for people to speculate."

"The crime of Amalgamation' comes to our mind as we write this, and we wonder if a local Lawson might not find as much argument for a story in 'the crime of Dominion Iron.' We do not profess to be able to put our finger on the person or persons, who were responsible for the manipulation of the Dominion securities, and who performed unscrupulous acts in so doing. But we feel pretty certain that someone or some group of people is just as deserving of censure as the Standard Oil clique whom Mr. Lawson is bending every energy to show up in a bad light along with himself. Looking back over the history of the coal and steel companies, there were movements made that looked wise and well then that seem wrong now. For instance, the foisting of Dominion Coal on to Dominion Iron under an 8 per cent. guarantee. People were so excited in those days that it did not occur to many of them that there was something incongruous about making a concern that was down to hard pan responsible for the dividends of one which was already prospering. Now that we have a chance to think, it will occur to most of us that the whole scheme was a stock-jobbing plot. We do not mean to accuse the directors of the two companies of bad faith. As a body, each directorate probably acted 'in the interests of both companies.' But we suspect that someone knew (we do not know who) that there was a more selfish design than the interests of shareholders in this shuffle. No doubt there were other 'crimes' than this, and these 'crimes' were a part of the whole scheme which inflamed our people with the speculation mania and finally depleted our limited provincial resources so much."

"Our blessings are dangerous at times. For instance, Dominion Coal and Dominion Iron, which were hailed as an industrial blessing, have been turned into something of a financial curse. Of course, our people are themselves to blame. They had no business to allow themselves to be carried away by the speculation fever. It would be foolish to assert or even suggest that we would be far better off if the Dominion Coal Co. and the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. had never been heard of. But the fact remains that indirectly we have suffered much because of them. What we need to learn is how to make proper use of our blessings."

THE I. C. R. TIMETABLE

The More It is Studied the Worse It Appears.

It would appear that the objections to the new I. C. R. time-table are numberless. The more it is considered the more there seems in it that is unfair to the travelling public of this section.

It is now asked what chance a man living in Carleton has of catching the early train unless he resigns himself to a four or five-mile tramp round by the bridge, and the loss of half a night's sleep in the bargain. The ferry does not make its first trip until the time the train would be steaming out of the depot, and the street cars could not be expected to keep uselessly hours to meet the vagaries of the I. C. R.

It is being said that 7.45 a. m. way-freight train will carry one passenger car, but this would be no advantage to the mails or express parcels, and the timetable indicates that one hour and forty-five minutes would be expended in getting as far as Hampton by this means provided the train was on time, while Moncton would be reached late in the afternoon.

The most that can be urged in favor of the 6 a. m. innovation is that it would land the traveller in Sydney (C. B.), at midnight the same day. If it is an advantage to arrive at the end of a journey in the middle of the night this end is attained, but most people of a business turn of mind would prefer to avail themselves of the night train from St. John which affords them an opportunity for sleep, and lands them at Cape Breton at an hour when they can transact their business.

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TOMORROW IN THE CHURCHES

St. David's Presbyterian church, Sydney street—Minister, Rev. A. A. Graham, M. A., B. D. Sabbath services, 11 a. m., 7 p. m. Sabbath school and Bible class 2.30 p. m. Mid-week service, Wednesday 8 p. m. Strangers are cordially welcomed.

St. James Church, Broad street—Rev. A. D. Dewdney rector. Services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Holy Communion at the morning service. Sunday school and Bible class at 3 p. m. All seats free.

Rev. A. J. Prosser will address the temperance mass meeting at Millford Sunday afternoon at 4.

Waterloo Street Free Baptist Church—Preaching by the pastor, morning and evening. Rev. A. J. Prosser, pastor.

Douglas Avenue Christian Church—J. Chas. B. Appel, minister. Sunday school, 9.45 a. m. Morning service 11 o'clock. The series of special summer sermons will be given at the evening service, the topic being "Desires of Another Chance." Hearty congregational singing. All seats free and unappropriated. Everybody cordially welcome. Prayer and praise service Wednesday, 8 p. m. Subject, Revelation 1.

Leinster Street Baptist Church—Pastor Christopher Burnett will conduct the morning and evening services. Men's Baraca Bible class at 2 p. m.

Seamen's Institute, Chipman House—All interested are cordially invited. Song service, 8 p. m. Preaching service, 8.30 p. m. Rev. Joseph Smith will have charge of the 8.30 service.

St. Stephens Presbyterian Church—Rev. Edward A. Wicher, M. A., B. D., minister. Divine service will be held tomorrow at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. The preacher for the morning will be the minister and the preacher for the evening the Rev. A. M. Hill, B. D., of Fairville.

Unitarian Church, Hazen avenue—Minister, Rev. A. M. Walker. Services at 7 p. m. Subject of sermon, "Where is Thy God?—the Answer of the Present Age."

Carmarthen Street Methodist Church—Pastor, Rev. T. Marshall. 11 a. m., Rev. T. Marshall. 7 p. m., Sunday school anniversary service. All seats free. Sunday school 2.30 p. m.

St. John's Church, Carleton street—June 4. Sunday after Ascension. 11 a. m., M. P. with Holy Communion; 7 p. m., E. P. All seats free. The Rev. Canon Brook will take the services. Subject of evening sermon: "The Loyalty of the Larger Hope to the Teaching of the Eastern and Anglican branches of the Catholic Church."

Brussels Street Baptist Church—The Rev. H. Y. Corey, returned missionary from India, will preach in the morning, and the pastor, Rev. Albert B. Cohoe, in the evening.

Queen Square Methodist Church—Sunday services, 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., Rev. C. Comben. Sunday school, 2.30 p. m. Epworth League Monday, 8 p. m. Prayer meeting Friday, 8 p. m.

The Tabernacle, Haymarket square—Minister, Rev. P. J. Stackhouse, B. D. Services conducted by the pastor at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. All seats free.

People's Mission, Waterloo street—Sunday school at 11 a. m. Special invitation to Bible class, teacher, Mr. Kingston. Song and social service at 3 p. m., led by Rev. I. N. Smith. Preaching at 7 p. m. by Rev. I. N. Smith, of Portland, Me.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Germain street—Rev. David Lang, M.A., B.D., pastor. Sunday services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school at 2.30 p. m. All are cordially welcomed.

"LOIS" IS COMING

But She Will Be Seen This Time in Delightful Comedy.

"There is a belief among theatrical people," says Manager Schafer of the Sweet Clover Co., "that lines which produce laughter among the actors during the rehearsal of a new play are sure to fail the first time the play is produced. This is erroneous, and I think I will prove it in the production of 'The Post Commander,' which I am introducing to a St. John audience on Monday, June 12th. I attended a rehearsal of this piece several weeks ago and not only myself



but several others who were present and some of the actors were convulsed with laughter during the comedy scene. "Miss Davis, who played 'Lois' here in Sweet Clover, has an eccentric soubrette role that is absolutely perfect in its humor, and as she plays the part with a dash of comedy that is all her own, it is impossible to retain your composure. I am confident that no audience can hear the comical lines of this piece and see the humorous situations without laughing heartily. I have little faith in the superstitions that pervade the profession and I believe that I now have an opportunity of proving the fallacy of one that has haunted the actor, since the days of the traveling minstrel."

EDITOR'S EXPERIENCE

The Cow Was a Perfect Lady But He Went Back to His Desk.

A shoemaker should stick to his last and a printer to his types. By the same token, an editor should not attempt to run a newspaper and a dairy at the same time. People accept the dictum concerning the shoemaker without question; the editor of the Evening Review of Ocean Park, Cal., is prepared to demonstrate the truth of the second proposition. In announcing the sale of the thoroughbred Jersey cow Alexandria Augusta and her vivacious offspring Maud Irene to Clay Berryman, the editor explains: "The Review man has only run a dairy in connection with the newspaper for six short weeks, but six weeks of some things is enough. The cow was all right. She was a perfect lady, and did everything she agreed to when we bought her. It was not her fault that things didn't run smoothly in the unfortunate attempt to make job printing and butter making go hand in hand. We take the blame for the whole miserable experience. As for Maud Irene, ah, who can describe that calf? Born on railroad property she had all the carefree desire to knock people

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down possessed by a new motorman, to which she added many new wrinkles picked up in watching the many automobiles that sneak up and down Second street in search of victims. It was Maud's great ambition and she was no slouch when it came to ambition—to arise early, break out of her new-furnished, modern corral and save us the trouble of milking Alexandria Augusta. Put Maud Irene and a full grown flea in the same pen and the little darling could go through a crack that would turn the flea black in blank despair. The editor is glad to get back to his desk.

He gladly contributes space in his paper to advertise the fact that he has for sale a "regular milk pail, in good repair, and three milk pans, practically new." It is a homely example, perhaps, but the restless calf Maud is a significant type, worthy to be studied.

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Now is the time to have your blankets washed. The Globe Laundry does it at class of work.