

THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 20, 1905.

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THE WATERWORKS.

That local firms have been awarded the contract for the extension of the waterworks system is in itself a pleasing fact, and the reputation of those firms is a guarantee that the work will be pushed with vigor. The engineer has stated that it should be completed by December, so that the new water supply may be made available for next winter. But of course the responsibility of the council does not end when a contract is awarded and a resident engineer appointed. It will be a great surprise to the people, and perhaps establish a precedent, if these contracts are carried out without misunderstandings, disputes, delays, bills for extras, and troubles of that sort. The city council has been uniformly unfortunate with its large contracts, and if the one just concluded should prove an exception it will go far to prove that a new spirit of caution and alertness has been developed at City Hall.

It appears that the cost of the work will be something over \$200,000, apart from any bills for extras, and allowing nothing for damages or for renewal of mains in the city, that may burst when the higher pressure is turned on. The total cost, when all is done and the city in possession of a completed and satisfactory working high pressure system will be far more than \$200,000. But even if the cost should be nearer \$400,000 the city will be the gainer in the end. It is true that the work could have been done thirty years ago for a smaller sum than \$200,000, but the estimate of that day frightened the citizens and the idea was abandoned.

JUST LIKE ST. JOHN.

In Montreal one company supplies light, heat and power, and another operates the street railway. When a paper that is usually as mild as the Witness makes the following bitter attack upon these companies it may be taken for granted that in Montreal as well as in St. John the people have reason to favor municipal ownership of public utilities. The witness says:—

"We have seen the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company very active in spreading broadcast warnings against municipal ownership, its socialistic tendency, liability to failure, and all that sort of thing. It was particularly active in that way when Westmount decided to throw off some of its shackles. The M. L. H. & P. Co., may be assured, however, that what it says 'batters no parapets.' It is by its deeds that it is judged. Its past intolerance and extortion has made it hated. We know of a case where it charged a man \$90 per horse power to drive a small motor. The man only used a half of the potential of his motor, but the company insisted upon charging him up to its full capacity. In consequence, electric power was found to be costing more than hand power, the company was peremptorily ordered off the premises, the wires were cut and handwork reinstated. Thus brought to time, the company offered to supply power at less than half of the former rate. It would be strange if this were an isolated instance. The Montreal Street Railway, on the contrary, is a company that has always sought to please the public and has very well succeeded in doing so. Its service has been admirable and, as street railways go, remarkably moderate in cost to the public. But everybody knows its enormous profitableness at the public expense, and it is doing much to popularize the idea of public ownership by its efforts to fasten its claws in perpetuity on all our suburban municipalities. For this contriving against the city's future freedom it is not, and never will be, forgiven. Such tactics on its part are anything but wise."

A FLOUR MARKET.

The despatches have already told of the rush of flour from Canada and the United States to Japan, to escape the war tax which will be imposed after July 1st. Fuller information is given in the Victoria Colonist of April 9. It is evident that there will be no lack of flour in Japan on the date when the new duty goes into effect. The Colonist says:—

In an endeavor to get their product to Japan before the new war duty goes into effect on July 1, flour exporters are flooding the coast ports with their wares and clamoring for cargo space on steamers, whose space is usually claimed by advance booking. Tramp steamers are, of necessity, being chartered to carry the surplus. It is estimated by flour shippers that the new war tax will amount to about 33 cents a barrel, which will bring the duty to no small amount of a steamer's cargo. The Kanagawa Maru took 10,000 barrels of flour, and heavy advance shipments have been booked on the Japanese line for as late as June 1.

The C. P. R. steamers are fully booked. The Minnesota, when she sails on her return voyage—she is now on her way from Yokohama—will carry between 65,000 and 70,000 barrels of flour and will leave about 30,000 barrels behind. The Boston Steamship Co., have booked nearly all their available and the Portland and Asiatic line, sailing from the Columbia, has been forced to charter tramps to carry the overflow.

In order to get the heavy flour shipments into Japan before the war tax goes into effect, they must leave this coast by June—mid June at the latest. For although the usual freighters maintain a schedule of from fifteen to eighteen days between this side and Yokohama, delay in entering or discharging at Yokohama might entail a heavy loss to shippers in such a shipment as that carried by the Kanagawa Maru—10,000 barrels—a day late would mean a loss of at least \$4,000 to shippers.

The Centennial mills of Seattle, in conjunction with Portland mills, have chartered a steamer to carry 6,000 tons of flour to Japan in May. It is estimated that over two million barrels will be sent from this coast to Japan before the war tax goes into effect.

CONCERNING INVESTMENTS.

Discussing the question of home and foreign investment, to which reference was made in the Times last evening, a gentleman who has had some experience in both directions observed this morning that to advocate home investment was right, but it was not always certain that one would make a right home investment. In this connection he referred to the experience of investors in several provincial towns, including Yarmouth, which is just now very much in the public mind. He referred also to some St. John enterprises that have not yielded satisfactory results, and remarked in a general way that the path of local investment is marked by the graves of ill-starred enterprises. In some cases the failure was due to bad management, and in others to downright dishonesty and a determination to fleece the investor. There are, he pointed out, self-seeking promoters here as elsewhere, and the man with money to invest must run the gauntlet of a crowd who are after his dollars.

All this may be admitted, but it only enforces the argument that wherever a man invests in a new enterprise there is an element of speculation; and his chances of making a mistake are at least no greater at home than abroad, while a home enterprise may be looked into more closely and carefully, and if successful benefits the community in which the investor makes his home. It is to be feared that the desire to reap large dividends has something to do with the development of enterprises which a cautious person would regard with suspicion.

RIGHT TO THE POINT.

The following extracts from a speech by Booker T. Washington, the famous leader and philosopher of the colored race in the United States are very much to the point.

To the white people he said: "We are not here of our own accord. The negro race is not preparing to go to Africa. We shall remain here. The negro race is the only one which ever had a pressing or special invitation to come to America. My race was sent for. Not only were we sent for, but we had our passages prepaid."

To the colored people he said: "Get a bank account. Get a home of your own. Get some property. Get a start in the world. Eschew cheap jewels. Quit taking \$5 buggy rides, on a \$6-a-week salary. Don't put a \$5 hat on a 5-cent head."

THEOSOPHY NOT A CREED.

Henry Hetcher of New York, who has just returned to the East after a seven months' tour in the Middle West, gave his first public lecture under the auspices of the Boston Theosophical Society, last Saturday night. He spoke on "Theosophy," and said in part: "Theosophy is not opposed to any religion; in fact, one of the objects of the Theosophical Society is to encourage the study of religion, so that people all over the world may learn more of the deeper side of their own religion and of those of their fellow-men, and may thereby better understand the great mass of humanity who may differ from them in the less important matters of mere ceremonial and outer form. Theosophy is a common-sense philosophy that satisfactorily answers the problems of life, that tells us what we are, why we are here, whither we shall go after death, and how we can live happily in accordance with the laws of nature. Theosophy is not a creed and it has no dogmas. Its truths are to be accepted only if they conform to reason and intelligence. Theosophy emphasizes the great principle of evolution, and it tells us that everything and everyone in the world is steadily moving forward and upward toward better things under the guiding influence of a loving and all-wise Power."

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EASTER SHIRTS AND NECKWEAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., April 20, 1905.

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Soft Bosom Shirts at 50c, 60c, 75c, 85c and \$1.00
Stiff Bosom Shirts at 75c, 85c, \$1.00 and \$1.25
 New Easter Ties received yesterday by express. The very newest out.
Prices 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c.
 A beautiful Easter Rose will be given on Saturday with each sale of \$1.00 and over.

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We can sell you just that kind of a shoe.

ASK FOR THE "WALK-OVER."

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CANADIAN TRADE.

(Boston Herald.)

The preliminary report of the department of trade and commerce of Canada, covering the last six months of the past year, indicates a decline in the exports of the Dominion, as compared with those of the last six months of the previous year. The exports of merchandise of home production—that is, excluding coal and bullion—had a value in the last half of the year 1904 of \$113,229,000, against \$122,983,000 for the last six months of 1903, and \$125,301,000 for the last six months of 1902. This decline seems to have been chiefly due to the falling off in Canadian sales in the United Kingdom. In round numbers, the value of this trade for the last six months of the past year was \$63,000,000 against \$72,000,000 for the previous year, and \$77,000,000 in the year prior to that. Canadian sales in the United States have been fairly constant during the half-years of these last three years.

In each case the value is given at \$38,000,000, with variations in the hundreds of thousands. The import trade of Canada shows a slight increase, its total was \$123,000,000 for the last half of 1904, against \$121,000,000 in the year previous. Here again trade with England, both in free and dutiable goods, indicates a decline of about \$3,000,000 as compared with the year previous. Trade with the United States shows an advance of \$500,000 in dutiable commodities, and more than \$5,000,000 advance in articles upon the free list. The total trade of Canada for the calendar year 1904, was \$453,365,000, a decline of \$23,000,000 when compared with the total of the year previous; but the revenue collected by the duties in 1904 was \$41,530,000, or nearly \$2,000,000 more in duties than was ever before collected in one year by the Dominion of Canada.

Pipe-Smokers Should Know.
 That a big package of Rainbow cut plug smoking tobacco costs only 10c., and the quality is wonderfully good.

ICE BRIDGE BROKEN.

Quebec, April 20.—(Special)—The Cap-Rouge ice bridge has started down river. The ice-breaker Montcalm, which has been imprisoned by the ice jam is now reported to be out of danger.

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Order Flowers now for Easter. Cut flowers and plants. Floral designs a specialty. Telephone calls receive prompt attention. Phone No. 1578.

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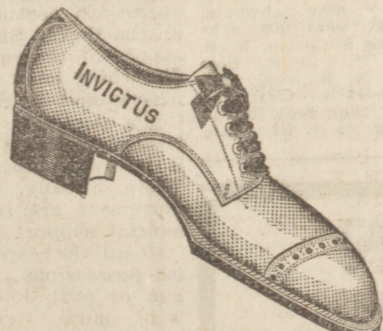
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KILLED HIM IN SELF DEFENCE.

Chicago Jury Acquits George Gould of the Charge of Murder.

Chicago, April 20.—Convinced that George Gould acted in self defence when he shot and killed Alonzo R. Hammond, a jury in Judge Tutthill's court has returned a verdict of not guilty, and Gould was given his freedom. Gould shot and killed Hammond, whom he accused of having alienated the affections of Mrs. Gould. He pleaded self-defence and said that Hammond attempted to draw a revolver. The defence showed that Hammond, who was a conductor on the Metropolitan Elevated Railroad, had made the threat that he would kill Gould on sight. Gould boarded the elevated train, he said, to seek information from Hammond as to the whereabouts of Mrs. Gould and the shooting that followed was in the presence of numerous passengers.

LATENESS OF EASTER

Due to an Ancient Astronomer's Faulty Cycle of Moons—The Actual Date April 23.

(London Express.)

Several interesting letters on the date for Easter, have been received from readers and most of them refer to the difference that exists between the astronomical full moon and the ecclesiastical full moon, by which the date of the festival is determined.

Archdeacon Sinclair of London, has made the following lucid statement on the subject:

"The question is a very complicated one, and it is, therefore, impossible to go into it at full length. I will, however, give it in outline. There was in early time, a difficulty about the correct way of reckoning Easter. The churches of the East kept it on the same day on which the Jews celebrated Passover—the fourteenth day of the month Nisan, which month began at the new moon next to the vernal equinox. The Western churches kept it on the Sunday after the Passover.

"The Council of Nicea (25 A. D.) ordered that it should be invariably kept on the same day, with these rules:

"1. That the twenty-first day of March should be accounted the vernal equinox.
 "2. That the full moon happening upon or next after March 21 should be taken for the full moon of Nisan—that is, the ecclesiastical moon.
 "3. That the Sunday next following should be Easter Day.
 "4. If the full moon happen on a Sunday, Easter Day should be the Sunday afterward.

"These full moons were determined by a cycle of the moon of nineteen years, invented by Melon, the Athenian, 432 years before Christ. The years in the cycle received the name of the Golden Number.

"This system was erroneous, because the nineteen-years cycle was too long, and also the Julian year, by which they reckoned, exceeds the true solar year by eleven minutes. The calendar was, therefore, corrected about two hundred years after by Dionysius Exiguus, a Roman, which correction lasted from 534 A. D. to 1582. Then Pope Gregory XIII, again reformed the calendar, and brought back the vernal equinox to March 21. This reform was introduced into England in 1752, in which year Sept. 3 was called the 14th, and 11 days were suppressed.
 "The ecclesiastical full moon still depends on March 21 being considered the vernal equinox, which, as has been shown, is liable to variation, so that the ecclesiastical moon and the astronomical moon are not always identical.
 "This year the actual full moon after which Easter comes is on April 20, and the previous full moon is on March 21, which is the supposed vernal equinox. This year, therefore, by the calculation of the ecclesiastical moon, Easter comes a month after the vernal equinox, or actually April 23."

A FATAL COLLISION.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 20.—A naphtha launch, containing eight young men, was struck by a schooner in the Delaware River, near Fort Mifflin late Tuesday night, and two of the occupants of the boat are still missing. The missing men are Ellis Worth Mason, aged 19 years, and Howard Spangler, also 19 years old, both of this city.
 The other occupants of the launch were rescued by the crew of the schooner. The name of the schooner is not known.

HE GETS \$40,000.

Vancouver, B. C., April 20.—(Special)—(Jack) Regan, bar-keeper at an up-country hotel, has left for Liverpool, England, to make good his claim to \$40,000 left by a relative who died in Liverpool recently. Regan lost his parents early in life, and being sent to Canada by his English relatives was adopted by a western Ontario family. He came west a few years ago.

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