THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JAN. 23, 1906.

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JOHN RUSSELL, JR., President. A. M. BELDING, Editor.

YESTERDAY'S TRAGEDY

The tragedy at Lily Lake yesterday will surely lead to such action as will prevent persons, young or old, from risking their lives in the place where ice has been cut from the lake surface. Members of the Ice Company say they have urged that such action be taken, and it is now only too plain that somebody should have insisted upon proper precautions to prevent loss of life.

The heart stops when the mind grasps the picture of those bright boys, full of lusty life and seeking only its enjoyment, battling in despair against their fate, and going down to death in the chill waters.

Hereafter such accidents at Lily Lake should not be possible, at least from a similar cause.

THE COTTON MILLS

It is a gratifying announcement that the cotton mills in this city have had a very successful year. When leading citizens some years ago took over the property, at a time when there seemed a possibility of the mills being closed, their action was greatly to the benefit of the city, since the mills employed many people. It has since been necessary to make many improvements in the mills and the investors cheerfully endorsed whatever expenditure was necessary. Their enterprise is bringing its reward. The last year was the most successful in the history of the mills under the new ownership, and the outlook is bright. These mills pay out a large amount in wages, and the money goes into a great many homes. The citizens at large will be glad to learn that the industry is in a prosperous condition.

COMPARATIVE JUSTICE

The outcome of the recent inquiry into the plumbers' combine in Toronto has attracted no little attention in the United States. It has led to comparisons between Canadian and United States methods of dealing out justice, rather to the disadvantage of the latter. For example, the Wall Street Journal says:—

"They have a way of doing some things in Canada better than in the United States. For instance, the courts there often move with more vigor than in this country. Over one hundred plumbers have, within a few days, been arraigned in a court in Toronto charged with conspiracy in agreeing upon unjust charges for their services. Thirty-eight of these plumbers were fined by the chancellor to an amount aggregating $10,250. The fines ranged from $200 to $500 each, five being imposed of the latter figure. Even these fines were considered by the court as erring on the side of leniency. The plumbers had affected a combination by which they absolutely monopolized the trade in their section of the country. They forced the manufacturers to sell supplies to no one who was outside of their combination, and all competition was absolutely removed. They then proceeded to make such charges as they pleased.

"Chancellor Boyd in his comments on this case said some things calculated to make people think. He charged the plumbers with criminal misconduct and declared that their punishment ought to be a salutary lesson. Then he went on to say that lawful combinations may easily become unlawful conspiracy. A company of respectable people get together to control a trade and that object becomes so important to them that they no longer consider the morality of the means taken to effect it. The result of monopoly is justified to them by its profits, but to others it becomes baneful. Lawful regulation results in a cheating monopoly."

The Wall Street Journal also has a word to say about lawyers and their moral obligations, as set forth by the Toronto judge. It says:—

"Of special interest, however, is the chancellor's discussion of the duty of attorneys in giving advice to business men engaged in such enterprises as these. The chancellor says that the lawyer may advise the people entering into a combination as to the area of legal safety and the area of that which is forbidden by law, but if he is a worthy member of his profession he will warn them of the danger they run, and strenuously dissuade them from engaging in any undertaking likely to be morally reprehensible, although it may be legally permissible. In other words he will enforce Whatley's maxim that people may have the right to do a thing which it is not right to do. Having given this advice he has at least squared himself, whatever course his clients may take.

"How many lawyers are there who adopt this rule of conduct in their advice to financiers and corporation managers? How many lawyers advise a corporation that while it may legally do this or that, yet it is not morally right for it to do so? One of the evils which have attended the commercialization of the legal profession has been that, tempted by magnificent retainers, it has pointed out the way of what President Roosevelt has called 'legal honesty.'"

PRACTICAL EDUCATION

In a recent address that has aroused much comment, Mr. James J. Hill, the great railway man, made the following strong plea for a practical education, including manual training:—

"I am not going to find fault with education; it never hurt anybody. But if in place of spending so much time and so much money on languages and higher studies, we fitted them for the life that they are going to follow, for the sphere in which they are going to move, we would do more for them.

"I know that in two or three, more or less, railroads in which I am interested, the payrolls cover 80,000 to 90,000 people. We have tried all manner of young men, college men, high-school men, and everything else, and I will take a boy at fifteen years old who has to make a living—his chances will be better if he has to contribute to the support of a widowed mother—I will take him and make a man of him, and get him in the first place, before you would get most of the others to enter the race with him; simply because he has the spur of necessity; he must work.

"For that reason I would like to see in St. Paul a school where these young people who want to learn to use their hands as well as their heads, boys and girls, might be taught and fitted where they could step out and get to the head in half the time they would if they have got to get their learning by being knocked up against every stock, stone and pillar that might come in their lives."

The action of the Star last evening in issuing a second edition proclaiming in big type the drowning of two boys who were not drowned, but safe at home, was a remarkable illustration of reckless journalism. Not only were the friends of these boys needlessly distressed, but the public were deceived at a time when the identification of the real victims of the drowning was a question of supreme importance.

The city has selected an expert to estimate the cost of a plant to light the streets and public buildings. If, as is alleged by some, the amount now paid for lights can be reduced one half, the question becomes one of much interest.

The Liberal triumph in the British elections grows greater as the returns received from the various constituencies come in.

OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY

(Wall Street Journal).

One of Gaboriau's stories was entitled "Other People's Money," and its theme was the rascality which prevailed in Paris a generation ago in financial institutions having care of other people's money.

The title is very suggestive. Taking into account the enormous deposits in the banks and trust companies, the still more tremendous investments in the stock companies, and the magnitude of the trust estates and insurance funds, it is no exaggeration to say that the vast bulk of the wealth of the United States is not directly administered by the people who own that wealth, but by others in whose hands it is trusteed. The great fact of modern finance is this trusteeship of wealth, this care of other people's money by a few persons in control of the banks and corporations.

The financial world has made a notable advance in the past thirty years in its administration of other people's money, but still there is much ground which needs to be travelled before the ideal will be reached. Nearly all of the evils of which complaint is made are traceable to the fact that the trustees of other people's money do not perform their duty. They are either neglectful or dishonest. Unless these trustees shall grow in fidelity and honor, unless they shall develop a habit of looking after other people's money with the same faithfulness with which they would guard their own, it would seem as if the corporation system would be checked in its development. Business is now conducted upon the co-operative principle, and this involves confidence in each other. The whole structure of credit is based upon mutual confidence, and fidelity in the care and administration of other people's money is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of confidence.

NOTORIOUS CROOKS

According to a Portland (Me.), despatch, John Ashton, the negro arrested here with William Philps, by Sergeant Baxter and Policeman White some days ago on suspicion of the burglary and attempted shooting at Red Beach (Me.), turns out to be a more important capture than first thought.

The despatch says Ashton has been identified through a photograph as Minot St. Clair Francis, the negro desperado, who escaped from the state farm at Bridgewater (Mass.), last September, and who subsequently terrorized southeastern Massachusetts.

Philps, they say, may be "Frank R. Wiley," who escaped with Francis from Bridgewater.

Mrs. John Collins, wife of the assistant engineer at Point Lepreaux lighthouse and fog station, is very ill there. On Monday last she came to the city and while crossing on the ferry fell between the boat and the floats and the shock has apparently had a serious effect upon her general health. She remained here Tuesday, but then returned home and on Saturday Dr. T. H. Lunney was called to Point Lepreaux because of her condition. Monday she was not improved. Rev. D. S. O'Keefe went to minister to her Monday, going by train and returning by steamer. This is the case referred to in the recent ferry investigation, the logbook containing the entry that "on the 15th a lady fell between the boat and the floats; not hurt."

Yesterday Mr. Justice Barker on application of A. H. Hanington on behalf of the Cushing Sulphite Co., made an order extending the time of settling the case on appeal from the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. This case is distinct from the appeal from the winding up order. It is an appeal from the judgment given in the case against Geo. Cushing for improper management of the company. The action was brought for some $48,000 and the plaintiffs recovered some $2300.

"Who are you anyway?" said the peach turning up its nose at the apple.

"I want you to understand," retorted the apple, "that I came from a branch of the first family."

"What is your position in the choir?" asked the new church member.

"Absolutely neutral," replied the mild-mannered tenor, "I don't side with either faction."

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SCOTCH NIGHT

St. Andrew's church guild is famous for the quality of the entertainments it provides and every available seat in the large lecture hall was taken last night at the Scottish night. The programme was excellent throughout. Every number was heartily applauded and it would be hard where all did so well to make special mention of anyone.

The Boys' Brigade, however, came in for the heartiest applause. They deserved it, too. All the movements in the physical drill were executed with precision and steadiness, reflecting credit on the boys and their officers as well.

The programme was opened by Judge Forbes, who read a sketch of Burns, which showed a deep and sympathetic acquaintance with the poet's works. The others who took part were: Mr. Hope, S. J. McGowan, Miss Lindsay, and Mr. White, songs; Rev. W. W. Rainnie, reading; Mr. Goudie, violin solo; and Mr. Law, reading; H. S. Cruikshank and Roy Willet gave selections on the pipes. Alexander Wilson, president of the guild, was in the chair.

Gray's Syrup of Red Spruce Gum
For Coughs and Colds.

S. S. WORKERS AT HAMPTON

Yesterday's Convention was Not Largely Attended, but There Was Deep Interest.

Hampton, Kings county, Jan. 22.—The annual convention of the Rothesay, Hampton and Norton District of the N. B. Sunday School Association opened this afternoon in the Methodist church, Hampton Station, at 2.30 o'clock, with a devotional service led by the Rev. Allen Spidell, pastor of the Hampton village Baptist church, who, after the singing of hymns and prayer by James W. Smith, read a scripture lesson and commented upon it.

The president, Rev. R. G. Fulton, (Methodist) then took charge and welcomed the delegates, expressing the hope that they would all enter freely into the discussions and gather many ideas which will prove helpful in their work through the present year.

The attendance, though not very large, was quite representative of the schools included in the organization. A roll of these schools was called.

The following committee was appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year: J. W. Smith, Leonard Hill, Mrs. Floyd, Miss Helen Thomson and Mrs. John March.

The field secretary, Rev. Mr. Ganong, laid down a series of standards for organization, the Rev. B. H. Nobles, of Sussex, spoke on The Wriiten Question and Review; the Rev. B. Glover, Hampton, on the Home Department, with a Round Table Talk, and the afternoon session closed with an able presentation of the financial and statistical conditions of the association by the Rev. F. Baird.

The nominating committee reported at the evening session the following list of officers:

President, Rev. B. Glover, Hampton Village.

Vice-president, Rev. Mr. Perry, Norton Station.

Secretary—Miss Helen Thomson, Rothesay.

Director of home department, Rev. A. Spidell, Hamptos Village.

Teacher of normal class—Rev. R. G. Fulton.

Director of temperance work, Mrs. John March.

FIREMEN OVERBOARD

James Crossian Missed From Concordia During Voyage Across.

A fireman named James Croassin was lost overboard from the steamer Concordia, Captain Black, which arrived here yesterday from Glasgow. An extremely rough passage was experienced. According to the officers, Croassin belonged in Glasgow, but beyond this, little of him is known. The Concordia sailed on Saturday, January 6, and it was about 7.30 o'clock on the following Wednesday morning that Croassin was missed. He had been firing through the night, and went up on deck, as far as anyone on the steamer knows. While it was rough that morning the seas were hardly sweeping the decks, so it was thought hardly possible that he was washed overboard. For an hour or so his work in the stoke hole was performed by companions, but as the hours went by and he did not return, the matter was reported to Captain Black. The ship was searched, but Croassin could not be found.

The daily runs were unusually short, owing to the violent seas. One day the progress made was only sixty miles. There were no passengers. So rough was the weather, that part of the deck work was smashed.

A large general cargo was brought, and yesterday afternoon was being discharged at the McLeod wharf.

CITY AND MOWRY CO.

Agreement Gone Over With H. R. McLellen--The Question of Sewerage.

The sub-committee appointed to draw up an agreement with the Mowry Safety Nut Company held a further meeting yesterday afternoon. H. R. McLellan, representing the company, was present. It is reported that good progress towards an understanding is being made. Mr. McLellan said last evening that there was every indication that a settlement would be arrived at, and that at the next meeting an agreement would be drafted satisfactory to both parties.

It is understood that the agreement will make provision for the city to extend Crown street to Sheffield street and that it is the intention to carry the main sewer through the extension and make the outlet in deep water opposite Sheffield street. The company have undertaken to expend $50,000 on their works during their first year of occupation, and a further sum of $100,000 within five years.

The agreement is a very complicated document and much care is being taken in its preparation to protect the city at all points and yet give the company every reasonable concession.

A further meeting will be held this evening and it is expected Superintendent Murdoch will be present to give some details with regard to the sewerage question.

At York Theatre

There was a good attendance at the York Theatre last night, when the Stoddart Stock Company opened their engagement with "A Friend in Need." The vehicle through which the company made its bow to a St. John audience is a three act comedy, in which there is merriment from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Miss Leal Stoddart and W. L. Stewart in the leading roles looked after their parts in an efficient manner, and they were ably supported by the balance of the company.

The specialties which were introduced between the acts were all good and were generously applauded. Those who contributed specialties were: Burdi Bartram, Jack West, Edyth La Nora, Jimmy Fairbanks and Ralph Wordley.

This afternoon "A Friend in Need" is being repeated, and this evening the company will present "The Christian," when they will no doubt be greeted by large audiences.

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