# THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY, 20, 1906.

The St. John Evening Times is published at 27 and 29 Canterbury Street, every evening (Sunday excepted) by the St. John Times Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd. A company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act.
JOHN RUSSELL, JR., President. A. M. BELDING, Editor.


## THE SCHOOL SYSTEM

The letter of Rev. W. H. Sampson on the subject of compulsory education and a change in the school curriculum is timely and interesting. With regard to a compulsory attendance act, it is the logical outcome of the system which taxes the people to provide children with the means of education. If the state recognizes the right of the child to an education it should see to it that the indifference of parents does not deprive him of the benefit.

With regard to the curriculum, the Board of Education might well take into serious consideration the question whether it meets modern needs as fully as might be done, with special reference to the 70 per cent of boys who leave school at or before the age of thirteen years. A complacent satisfaction with existing conditions was never the precursor of progress.

## HAS CROSSED THE BAR

Mr. Jeremiah Drake, for a quarter of a century signaller for the marine department at this port, has for the last time swept with his glass the seaward horizon. All his life he was familiar with ships, and in the old days made fittings for many a craft launched from St. John yards to sail the seas in distant climes. He saw the industry of building wooden ships decline, and his own trade dwindle into nothingness, but in his later employment he could still see from his signal tower the stately ships come in to their haven, or pass out to sea, and also the huge steamers in growing numbers trailing smoke along the horizon as they passed. He was not severed in later years from that which he loved in youth. Mr. Drake had many friends, who will retain pleasant memories of old associations, now that he has "crossed the bar."

## NO OPPOSITION

Large majorities appear to be somewhat the fashion in legislative assemblies at the present time. The Montreal Star thus humorously sets forth the situation in Quebec:—

"It must be confessed that the Quebec legislature is putting up a pretty good "show" when we consider that it is compelled to do business without an active opposition. It is in the sad position of a highly moral drama without a villain, or a "problem play" bereft of a lady with a "past." If there were no opposition at Ottawa, who imagines that the fine old "stock company" performing there could manage to keep up its audiences?

"But the Quebec House succeeds in putting something lively on the boards every day. When an opposition is lacking, they improvise one; and the product of the last moment is often a capital imitation. Mr. Goldwin Smith has been telling us all along that we could run our parliaments and legislatures quite as well without the bi-partizan system and, so far as entertainment goes, he should be able, after this session, to quote the legislature of Quebec."

## BRITISH POLITICS

The Times observed when the result of the British elections was announced that the House would miss that entertaining free-lance, Mr. Gibson-Bowles. It now transpires that he will oppose Mr. Balfour, and will be supported by the Liberals, who hope that he will also secure the votes of free-trade Unionists. Mr. Gibson-Bowles did not take his defeat in his former constituency at all gracefully, but lost his temper and made a virulent personal attack upon Mr. Balfour. Now the two will meet in a battle royal, and at this distance it would seem natural to expect that Mr. Gibson-Bowles would go down before the Conservative leader—in Conservative London. Yet even London furnished some surprises in the recent contest, and Mr. Balfour may not develop the strength one would expect him to be able to rally to his support. One Conservative member of the Commons is reported to have said that the Liberal wave has swept into parliament the greatest number of faddists and fanatics ever seen there. The same wave may again defeat Mr. Balfour.

In the meantime the government has given promise of legislation relating to Ireland and South Africa, as well as domestic affairs, which will cause very lively debates. Mr. Redmond has again informed the government that his platform is Home Rule, and no half measure. Mr. Chamberlain apparently was never in better fighting form, and the cable states that his brilliant speech was the feature of the first day in the House. The session promises to be one of very great interest.

## TORONTO GIVES $50,000

In view of the discussion in Fredericton on the question of a sanitarium for consumptives, it is interesting to note that the city of Toronto has granted $50,000 for such an institution. It has not yet been decided how this money shall be spent. Two deputations waited on the Board of Control last week. One wanted the board to appoint civic representatives on a board which would manage a municipal consumptive hospital along with the representatives of the private donors to the same. Another appeared on behalf of the Toronto Free Consumptive Hospital at Weston. The Toronto News gives this report of the discussion:—

Dr. Noble contended that a municipal hospital would be cheaper than the present rate of .86 per week paid to the Weston institution for city patients, and at the same time it would provide for all patients. Fifty are now provided for, whereas there are many times that number in Toronto. He also stated that the rates at Muskoka were excessive, instancing a case where a family really unable to do it were paying $19 per week for one member of the family. He said the object of the National Sanitarium Association was to have a monopoly in dealing with consumption. Dr Noble described the Weston institution as badly overcrowded, there being ten beds in a room where five ought to be.

Mr. W. J. Gage said the highest rates at the Muskoka paying hospital were from $10 to $15 per week, any charge above that must be for special nursing. There was also the free hospital at Muskoka which had cared for 245 Toronto patients since it was opened and the free hospital at Weston, which had cared for 192, a total of 437 from Toronto. They took in every patient offering from Toronto, whether certified by the medical health officer or not. They would welcome every institution that would fight this disease.

Mr. W. A. Charlton said that the Toronto Free Hospital at Weston thought they had earned the $50,000 voted by the citizens, as it was doing the work of taking in free patients from Toronto. He denied that it was overcrowded.

In view of the conflicting statements, the Board of Control decided to look further into the whole matter, but the discussion shows that the people of Toronto are alive to the importance of fighting the white plague.

## EDUCATION IN WINNIPEG

It is a singular fact that while the city of Winnipeg claims to have a population of about one hundred thousand, or more than double that of St. John, there are not many more children in attendance at Winnipeg schools than in those of St. John. There were enrolled in the schools of the former city in January 9283 pupils. For the first half of the last school year in St. John there were enrolled 8,935 pupils and in the last half 8,836. Doubtless there is a much larger proportion of adults in Winnipeg than in St. John, and a larger number of foreigners whose children have not yet entered the schools. It is interesting to note, however, that the Manitoba legislature, like that of New Brunswick, is to consider a compulsory education bill, for which the Winnipeg school board is largely responsible. The people in the west realize the importance of educating the children of the new citizens pouring in from Europe, as well as those of Canadian parentage.

Premier Tweedie's statement in his budget speech dealing with the financial transactions of the government shows that care and skill have been displayed in placing loans and selling bonds. He removed some misconceptions on this point. His remarks concerning the N. B. Railway and Coal Co's line show a much better outlook than that of a year ago, so far as the relation of receipts and expenditures is concerned. Confidence is expressed that the line must derive profits from its connection with the Grand Trunk Pacific, and in any case Mr. Tweedie is satisfied that the development of the coal fields will provide the road with a paying traffic. No doubt there will be a general and interesting discussion on this topic by members of the house.

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Frank A. Munsey presents The Scrap Book to the magazine reading public.

It is a new ten-cent magazine, that is certain to prove a success. The first number has just been issued. No better description of The Scrap Book can be given than the publisher gives when he says:—

"There isn't anything in the world just like The Scrap Book. It is an idea on which we have been working for several years, and for which we have been gathering materials. We have bought hundreds and hundreds of scrap books from all over the country, some of them a century old, and are still buying them. From these books we are gathering and classifying an enormous number of gems, and facts and figures, and historical and personal bits that are of rare value. Furthermore, we have a corps of people ransacking libraries, reading all the current publications, the leading daily papers, and digging out curious and quaint facts and useful facts and figures from reference book, cyclopedia, etc, etc. It is something new in magazine making."

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It is usually caused by constipation, which permits virulent matter to collect in the system. To have your breath sweet, keep the bowels regular. Let Dr. Hamilton's Pills assist you. They stimulate the bowels promptly and cure constipation in one night. Take Dr. Hamilton's Pills before retiring and your breath will be all right next morning. Used by thousands in preference to any other medicine because mild, yet sure to do the work thoroughly. Impossible to improve on Dr. Hamilton's Pills for headache, biliousness, sick stomach and bad breath. Use Dr. Hamilton's Pills whether sick or well. 25c. per box, or four for $1, at all dealers, or Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.


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have been permanently cured. Let us send you the names of some of these persons so that you can investigate this truly wonderful treatment. Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont.


Senator and Mrs. King, of Chipman, are at the Royal, accompanied by their son, M. B. King, who will leave tomorrow on his return to Cranbrook (B. C.)


Close evenings at 6 o'clock. St. John, N. B., Feb. 19, 1906

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**At Reasonable Prices.**

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## Many Men Wear Size . . . . . Nine!

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We are showing several styles of these boots all size 9 in our window, and it will pay you to inspect them, as the prices were formerly $3.75 to $5.00. Nine is the size.

**$2.35 IS THE PRICE.**

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REMEMBER this is the only store offering NEW STOCK at SALE PRICES. Call and see us before placing your order.

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Set consisting of three irons, stand and a handle, price.. .. .. .. .. .. ..$2.00
Set of Mrs. Potts' Sadirons, polished, price .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..80c.
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**FRESH FISH DAILY.** You can get fresh fish here every day. Salt and smoked fish too; all kinds. Fresh vegetables in abundance.

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## We Have Felt for You!

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Men's regular $3.00 Felt Boots, sale price .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..$1.75
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Felt Slippers reduced to 50c. to . ..$1.00

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**Nice Black Sateen Waists at 85c., Good Black Cloth Skirts at $1.40, Very Pretty White Goods for Waists, at**

**A. B. WETMORE'S, -- 59 Garden Street.**


## LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

### The Wife Beater Bill Was Laughed Out of Congress

### After The Soft Coal Combine ----The President's Naval Hobby----Japan May Intervene in China.

(From our regular correspondent).

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17.—The president in his message to congress urged the establishment of the whipping-post for wife beaters in the District of Columbia. A bill to that effect was introduced in the lower house by Representative Adams, and met defeat by an overwhelming vote early this week. It was taken up in a spirit of levity in the house and not withstanding the fact that statistics were brought to show that 508 cases of wife beating had been tried in the district courts last year, the bill was actually laughed out of existence. In the past it has been the custom of the courts to send to jail the wife beaters and to furnish them in this way comfortable quarters and food and a vacation, during which their wives were permitted to forage for themselves and their children. There is no doubt that this method decreased the number of wife beating cases brought into court, for the reason that the wife frequently preferred to be beaten rather than face starvation for herself and her children, by having her husband arrested, but there is nothing to show that there was any less wife beating. In these cases of wife beating tried in the courts it has generally been the woman who received the punishment, since it was upon her that privation as well as the beating fell and this method will continue. The president, though, and so many influential men, are convinced of the necessity of a punishment for the husband in these cases that the bill will be introduced again in another session and it is likely that patience and persistence will accomplish a wholesome result.

The president's success in having won in the house on almost everything of importance he has recommended to congress, and has a prospect of like success in the senate, has revived the question as to what is likely to become of one of his most earnest recommendations, that of supplying more ships for the navy. It is well known that he regards this of great importance to the country, but it is also well known that Speaker Cannon is strongly opposed to increased appropriations for any purpose. There is objection to the building of even one vessel, while the president is convinced that the country can less afford now than at any time since the war to let the navy decline. It is possible that congress may be induced to appropriate for one in view of the unsettled conditions in the east, but it is only with some such stimulus that it will come round to the president's view of the necessity of increasing our naval strength.

Sereno Payne, republican, of New York, and representative in congress of the coal and railroad combines, in a contest with Oscar W. Gillespie, of Texas, yesterday, seriously endangered his position as party leader on the floor. Mr. Gillespie, who has become well known as the Nemesis of the coal carrying roads, tried to spread on the record the grievances of the bituminous coal companies against the Pennsylvania Railroad, as shown by a letter from the bituminous coal league of Philadelphia. Mr. Payne, chairman of the committee on ways and means, was so arbitrary in his refusal to allow this letter to go in the Congressional Record that he incensed the democratic side of the house. The letter was a strong one, and makes many accusations of discrimination and injustice on the part of the Pennsylvania Railroad. It asserts that five bituminous coal companies form a gigantic combine with the Pennsylvania railroad, which makes it impossible for independent companies to keep their mines in operation. They allege every form of oppression by this coal and railroad combine in order to force out of the business independent competitors and to prevent the reduction of the price of soft coal. It is the object of the independent operators to force a provision of the new interstate commerce law that will make the Interstate Commerce Commission the final court with power to disclose all discrimination not only with regard to rates, but also to hear and relieve the complaints of shippers against the transportation companies.

President Roosevelt has issued an appeal for contributions in aid of the famine sufferers of North Japan. It is estimated that there are 600,000 sufferers in the famine district and the president in his letter says that the famine is worse than at first thought. He appeals to the American people "to help from their abundance their suffering fellow men from the great and friendly nation of Japan" and recommends that contributions for that purpose should be sent to the Red Cross treasurer in care of the United States treasury department, Washington, D. C. In connection with this letter sent out by the president, it is interesting to note the growing conviction that in the event of any uprising against Americans in China the Japanese will interfere for the benefit of this country. It is stated on good authority here that the president has been informed of Japan's willingness to crush any disturbances or uprisings against Americans. The situation in China is admittedly critical and if a general outbreak should occur the most valuable ally the nation could have is Japan. Preparations to meet an uprising have been quietly but steadly going on in both war and navy departments and the news that Japan has signified a willingness to interfere is the best that could well be conveyed to the government. The effect that this will have on other nations in their respect for Japan has doubtless been taken into consideration by that government, but that it is really an act of friendship and gratitude for the position of this country in the Russo-Japanese proceedings is apparent.

The battleship Oregon is lingering near Hong Kong, to be present in case of actual trouble in China, and the Brooklyn, Tacoma, Chatanooga and Galveston were yesterday ordered to leave the ports of Greece and to proceed through the Suez, in order to be in readiness to be rushed to Chinese waters if they shall be needed.


## WALL PAPER.

50 PATTERNS.

We have just received 9,000 ROLLS WALL PAPER, bought at a big discount. Before moving we will sell at the following prices, 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c. roll. Less than wholesale.

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**New Furniture To Select From.**

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We are now opening our new stock of cloths for Spring Wear consisting of

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in the newest and best makes and patterns. An early inspection is invited.

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**Large and Small Shapes.**
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