THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 9, 1907.

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WHAT NEXT?

Since it has been deemed inexpedient by the directors of the exhibition association to hold an exhibition this year, after the necessary funds had been guaranteed, no time should be lost in deciding whether there is to be an event of any sort to break the year's monotony. The decision of last evening leads one to wonder what would have happened had the government agreed to grant the $3,000. A delegation asked for it, and it was declared that if it were made available there would be an exhibition. Within a couple of weeks after the appeal and the reply, with ample funds in sight, it is decided not to hold the fair. Will not this have a tendency to create an impression in government circles that the gentlemen of the association do not know their own minds?

If there is to be a carnival or celebration of any sort, now is the time to decide. Affairs of this kind require time in the preparation, and should be well and widely advertised.

THE CONFERENCE

A London cable states that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues agree with Mr. Balfour, that the preference is bound to win. It is also pointed out that some apprehension exists in England as a result of Canada's intention to negotiate with foreign powers on the basis of the intermediate tariff, since the conclusion of agreements might interfere later with the United Kingdom getting the full benefit of the preference now enjoyed. Obviously, the conference and the utterances of the premiers has set the people thinking. All this must be intensely satisfactory to Mr. Chamberlain, whose prescience as a statesman is amply vindicated by the present trend of events. Were the Conservative party in power in England today the preference would be much more to the front, and the conference might have had, from the Canadian and colonial standpoint, a more satisfactory result. But even as the case stands, the effect of the conference on public sentiment will be very strong. The cable says that most Englishmen are writing the word "failure" across the conference, but from the standpoint of Greater Britain this does not appear. Because the result has not been a radical change in relations, it does not follow that little has been accomplished..

It is intimated that one important result of the conference may be better steamship services and lower cable rates between Great and Greater Britain. This would be an important forward step, and coupled with cheaper postage could not but tend to strengthen the bonds of sympathy and mutual interest. The proposition to strengthen and extend inter-imperial commercial agencies is also one of much promise.

There is, therefore, no reason for a pessimistic attitude in summing up the results of the conference. There was no serious friction, but a universal desire, consonant with due regard for local interests, to strengthen the bonds of unity.

BOYS AND CIGARETTES

In Arkansas a bill has been made law prohibiting the sale, manufacture or giving away of cigarettes or cigarette papers in that state.

So sweeping a measure would not meet with favor in any part of Canada, but that the cigarette habit is growing, especially among boys, and proving very injurious to them, is apparent to all who go about the streets and observe what is going on around them.

In St. John the extent to which boys are allowed to smoke cigarettes on the streets, without any protest whatever, is a disheartening evidence of the utter public indifference to the welfare of these lads. Cheap shows of a demoralizing character, cheap stories of the "blood and thunder" sort, idleness, beer and cigarettes, are too great a handicap for the town bred boy whose parents are indifferent to his movements so long as he gives them as little trouble as possible; and it is not surprising that he, in so many cases, learns evil lessons and takes to evil practices.

But, to confine attention to the one habit of cigarette smoking, it is surely time some definite, practical and general effort was put forth by the citizens to overcome the evil. It is perfectly clear to all who keep their eyes open that the law relating to the sale of cigarettes to boys is flagrantly violated. Action taken in influential quarters to discourage the boys from a habit which is not only bad but injurious to their health would be very timely. Whatever may be thought of the arguments presented by anti-tobacco associations in general, there is no escape from the conclusion that an effective association of this sort to prevent smoking by boys would be a most valuable institution.

DOES NOT ALWAYS WORK

Arbitration as a method of settling disputes between employers and employes in New Zealand and Australia appears to have fallen upon evil times. The plan is popular with the men so long as the result of the arbitration is increased wages, but several instances have occurred where they defied the court when it decided against them. A review of the situation published in the New York Journal of Commerce is of special interest. We quote:

"So much is heard of the efficacy of arbitration as a means of settling wars between capital and labor that it will be pertinent to direct attention to a phase of the subject that has not received due consideration. The industrial situation here suggests that the necessity for settling difficulties between employers and employes may extend before another year passes, and it is questionable if labor will peaceably accept the readjustment that may become inevitable; not immediately, but after the reaction has gone a certain length. New Zealand is, of course, the pioneer in this field; while prosperity smiled and wages were invariably advanced on appeal to the arbitration courts the men were enthusiastic supporters of the principle. But a change has overtaken the position.

"'The arbitration courts appear to be losing the power to command the allegiance of employes,' writes the Melbourne correspondent of the London Economist. 'In New Zealand the slaughtermen in several places struck for higher rates than had been allowed them by the arbitration court. The court was indignant at the disregard shown to its award, and fined a number of the men. But the strike was persisted in until the employers agreed to give the rates demanded. The fines were then paid, doubtless out of the funds of the union, and the men resumed work. The point of the matter is that an important settlement has been made practically in defiance of the arbitration court. In Western Australia a dispute has been long protracted between the saw mill owners and employes. The arbitration court has adjudicated, and decided on the terms to be accepted. But the employes have decided not to agree and 2,500 are now on strike, "not against the employers but against the arbitration award," so the general secretary of the Amalgamated Saw Millers' Union states. Several months ago the dispute between the colliery proprietors and the miners north of Sydney threatened to end in a strike, involving many thousand men. The union decided not to have recourse to the arbitration court, but to disregard its previous award. After a tension lasting for some weeks, a settlement was arrived at between employers and employes.'"

The latest phase of the dispute among British doctors on the subject of alchohol and its uses is the following published statement, expressing the view of Sir Frederick Treves and about a dozen other men of great prominence in the medical profession. "We strongly believe," says Sir Frederick Treves and his associates, "that alcohol is unnecessary as an article of consumption for healthy men, and that its general use could be discontinued without detriment to the world's welfare. Further, believing that alcohol is one of the most fruitful sources of poverty, disease and crime, we are pleased to add that it is now sparingly employed as a remedy by the majority of medical men."

The Ottawa Citizen says: "The Anti-Tuberculosis association of this city has engaged to erect a suitable sanatorium, if the site selected is supplied by the city, to cost not less than $20,000. Knowing the men who are backing this philanthropy the Citizen is convinced that they will not stop short of a much larger sum, should it be required, to provide an institution which will be equal to the needs of the case and such as will minister to the self respect and pride of the citizens. The association desires that the sanatorium may be ready for use this fall."

The officials of the Church Army in England deny Mr. Bourassa's charge that they are sending other than respectable immigrants to Canada. Mr. Bourassa was quoting from literature of some sort. This matter is worth looking into a little further. Mr. Bourassa would have no desire to be unjust. Is the Church Army the victime of some other agency?

Moncton is making a very tempting bid for a car-making industry. Works that would employ a thousand hands or more would certainly be a vast benefit to the town.

If Canada's peat bogs can be successfully developed as a source of fuel supply, there are sections of New Brunswick to which the news will be of local interest.

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON'S POLICE COURT SESSION

At yesterday afternoon's sitting of the police court, Gilbert Lauckner, charged with assaulting Minnie Nairn, recently, was fined eight dollars or two months in jail. He formerly lived with the woman as her husband and several of their children are in the alms house.

A sailor named Emanuel, charged with refusing duty, was allowed to go.

Wm. McArthur, charged with interfering with the police in the arrest of Lauckner, was let out on suspended sentence of $8 or two months.

Phoebe Dukeshire and Margaret Mansfield, colored, charged with soliciting men, denied the charge. The Mansfield woman was allowed to go on condition that she leave for Boston, where her husband is, and Phoebe Dukeshire was told to remove from Sheffield street or pay the penalty.

Piles get quick and certain relief from Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment. Please note it is made alone for Piles, and its action is positive and certain. Itching, painful, protruding or blind piles disappear like magic by its use. Large nickel-capped glass jars 50 cents. Sold by all druggists.

Maintain as good an opinion of yourself as the facts in the case allow.

Character is no more than an inwrought ideal with more or less perfection.

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FLOOR OILCLOTHS, 25c yd. TABLE OILCLOTH, 22c yd SHELF OILCLOTH, 8c yd. BRAIDED OILCLOTH MATS 30 WOOL RUGS, New Patterns, 75c and $1.00 each.

A. B. WETMORE, SEE OUR WALL PAPER 59 Garden St.

More Coming

Up to the present date, as vouched for by "our own correspondent," the following charges have been made against the Panama Canal:

That it was simply to be a ditch for the President's gondola.

That more than $20,000,000 would be stolen during its construction.

That it would be lost or stolen before completion.

That there would be too much water.

That there wouldn't be enough water.

That the President wanted it for a duck pond.

That Ryan wanted it for a frog pond.

That Rockefeller wanted it to mix with his water oil.

That Speaker Cannon was sure that it would bring war and give him a chance to fire himself off.

That a great big hole would suddenly appear in the bottom and all the water run out and flood China.

That it would take a force of 10,000 locksmiths to keep the locks in order.

That there would be so many bullheads and catfish in the big ditch that ships couldn't pass through.

That there never was the slightest intention to build the canal, but that John Smith would get away with at least $200,000,000 of the money.



The Editor of the Jimtown Banner.

That England and Germany encouraged it so as to spread the yellow fever among us.

And on top of all this comes the news that the Jimtown Banner, whose editor has made canals a study for a lifetime, is going to come out next week and charge the government with cruelty to animals by killing off over 100 bullfrogs per day in deepening the big ditch.

JOE KERR.

PASSING

A spice jar in an empty room;
A fountain in the wilderness;
A spark of flame in the forest gloom;
A jewel in a mourning dress—

So seem her bravely dancing feet,
Her blowing hair and gypsy face,
At gray noon, on my dripping street—
A dreary, rattling paved place.

And all my day was faintly sweet,
And not so darkened as before,
Because she passed along the street;
Her light, swift shadow charmed my door

F. DAVIS, in Lippincott's

IN LIGHTER VEIN

SURE THING.

A lot of folks who think of faith only as a ferry to heaven are going to get their feet wet.

* * *

AS IT IS IN WALES.

A certayn fayr mayd named Llewellyn,
For her mother began loudly yyellin,
When a young man placed
Hys arm 'round her wayst—
Say, ayn't thys unreformed ssellyn?

* * *

HE WAS A PROUD MAN.

"No man named Bepoo shall marry the daughter of Patrick Mulrooney."

"Well, father, what do you want?"

"Let him change his name to O'Beep an' I'll talk wid him."

* * *

NATURAL INFERENCE.

"I always pitied Adam and Eve for being driven out of Eden in such insufficient clothing, just as winter was beginning."

"How do you know it was winter?"

"Why, it was just after the fall, wasn't it?"—Cleveland Leader.

* * *

OLD JOKE REVAMPED.

Doctor—You have been overworking yourself, my dear madam; all you need is rest.

Patient—But look at my tongue.

Doctor (examining tongue)—Just what I said, only rest.

* * *

HORRIBLE MISTAKE.

"Poor Miss Sere! She spent 50 cents yesterday for a dry old scientific book called 'Best Methods of Filtration.'"

"The idea! What did she want with that?"

"She thought it was 'Flirtation.'"

* * *

THE BACHELOR'S VIEW.

Oldbach—I see by the paper that an Ohio man married four women merely for a joke.

Wedderly—He evidently had no sense of humor.

Oldbach—Huh! He evidently had no sense of any kind.

* * *

Tommy—Say, pa—

Pa—Now, I told you not to ask me any more questions.

Tommy—I know, but my Sunday school teacher says I'm made o' dust. Am I?

Pa—No; if you were you'd dry up occasionally.

* * *

SHE SAVED HIM.

Mayme—One evening last week Jack Huggins calmly informed me that he would kiss me or die in the attempt.

Edyth—My goodness! And did he kiss you?

Mayme—Well, you haven't heard of his demise, have you?

PUTTING IT UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL

(Kalamazoo Gazette.)

Are you a reformer? Are you one of the hundreds of scores of people in this great country of ours, who are attacking the dishonest rich? Are you in this move to make better the moral conditions of the nation? It is indeed nice to expose graft and the shortcomings of the manipulators of corporation stock and to put an end to dishonesty.

But in doing this, making a fight against municipal graft and corporate abuse—while in a period of hot indignation at the great and far away—are you looking to yourself to see that you are not lawless. Are you keeping a level head and seeing things in due proportion?

Are you a violator of the law in a small way? Do you spit on the sidewalk in direct violation to one of the best ordinances on the city statutes, and do you do it when you think no one is looking at you? Do you run your automobile just a little faster than the law allows and not quite fast enough for an officer to make a case against you? Do you throw your trash in the alley? Do you tempt a friend to slip into a Sunday bar for a drink in violation of the state law? Do you conform with the law in returning your personal property for taxation? Or do you perjure yourself every year? If the street car conductor overlooks you in collecting fares, do you voluntarily go to him with your nickel? Do you cheat merchants by failing to pay your debts? Do you spend any time or effort toward getting the best men for office, looking toward a good government? In fact, do you go to the polls regularly? In this country every man is an officeholder—he is an elector. When you fail to vote, you make yourself a party to an indifferent government and you give your consent to grafting.

You do not want to forget yourself. It is really fine to expose and do all you can to raise the morals of the United States by downing public graft and bringing to an end the dishonesty of the rich men. But to uplift the morals of the country, you must begin at home, look to your own shortcomings. They may be small, but in a way as great as the graft which involves millions. Don't forget yourself. How deceiving, lawless and dishonest are you?

MR. BOWMAN'S COMPLAINT

Wm. E. Bowman, of Bowman & Cole, had an unpleasant experience on Tuesday night, which caused him some delay. He was driving from St. John to Belyea's Point, and when he reached the Nerepis bridge, found that the draw was open and he was compelled to wait until after midnight and then thought it best to spend the night at Westfield.

The annoyance was caused by James Kennedy, who earlier in the evening had taken some scows up stream to load, and opening the draw, took the key (or crank) with him, so that nobody else should come and close the draw before he returned with the scows.

When a messenger went to get the key Kennedy refused to give it up.

Existence is one great drama; but you have the choice to see what you will.

Inherited millions sometime rob one of his native right to make a living.

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Window Shades, 15c. to 60c. each.
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