

THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 29, 1907.

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A NATIONAL NEED

The subject of technical education is receiving a good deal of attention in Montreal. Last Thursday evening, at a public meeting at which leading educationalists and members of the Manufacturers Association were present, it was decided to endeavor to raise a guarantee fund of \$10,000, to provide for evening classes in technical work in the commercial and technical high school building on Sherbrooke street. The use of the school building has been offered by the school commissioners, and leading manufacturers will raise the guarantee fund. One of the latter suggested that twenty of the leading firms of manufacturers contribute five hundred dollars each, and three such subscriptions were contributed on the spot. Rev. Dr. Barclay, Hon. W. A. Weir, Rev. Dr. Shaw, Hon. J. D. Boland, Mr. G. W. Stephens, Col. Gardner, Mr. C. C. Ballantyne and others strongly endorsed the plan to open evening classes for the benefit of young artisans and mechanics. President McFee of the Montreal Technical Institute, who was in the chair, put the case clearly, as follows:—

"I am going to lay before you the pertinent questions—Do you want more skilled help? Do you want it at home where you can lay your hands upon it? Do you want to help your present employees to a better theoretical and practical knowledge of their trades? Man works today as much with the strength and skill of his hands. Do you wish to provide facilities for the installation of that knowledge? Do you at the same time wish to increase the earning power of your employees? Do you as an employer of labor wish to assist the ambitious boy or girl in your employ to a realization of his or her dreams? And, lastly, do you wish to stop the outflow of nearly one hundred thousand dollars a year to foreign correspondence schools, whose work can be done at home, whenever facilities are provided? The financial plan will be laid before you to show how lightly the burden can be borne. In conclusion, let me assure you that any classes conducted by the Montreal Technical Institute will be absolutely non-sectarian in character, and open to pupils of any creed."

After remarks made by the gentlemen already named, and others, it was unanimously decided to support the plan to open evening classes. A notable address was that of the Hon. Mr. Weir, who said that excellent work was now being done in the day classes in the technical high school, but that much more was needed. It was a fact greatly to be regretted that whenever skilled labor was required in the city it had to be supplied either by the United States or Europe. The proposed night classes would tend to educate the youth of the province, and enable them to compete with the skilled labor from other countries.

"I do not hesitate to declare," said Mr. Weir, "that the people of the province of Quebec have not done their duty in the matter of assisting technical education. The future of our country lies largely in manufacturing pursuits. We have a system of water power; we have raw material in abundance; we have the richest iron deposits in the world; and with all these advantages and with such a destiny, tell me—is it not our duty to prepare the youth of Canada for the magnificent future which lies before the Dominion?"

Mr. Stephens went a step further than the other speakers. He wanted to see in Montreal a technical school second to none in the world, and was ready to subscribe five thousand dollars toward a fund of \$200,000 for that purpose. The Mechanics Institute could, he believed, sell its present property for \$125,000, and it should not be difficult to raise the balance.

The Times has in former issues noted the fact that the question of technical training is receiving much attention in Toronto and Hamilton, as well as in Montreal. The question has also, it is true, been forced upon the attention of legislatures and parliament, through the persistence of boards of trade and other associations, but so little has been accomplished in a practical way that private effort must still be depended on for immediate results; while constant discussion and agitation are needed to arouse that public sentiment which will ultimately result in action by the legislatures and the federal parliament.

DR. FALCONER

The fact that Dr. Falconer has decided to return from Italy immediately is taken to mean that he will accept the presidency of Toronto University. It is a very important post for so young a man. A sketch of the career of Dr. Falconer, which appeared in the Toronto Globe, appears elsewhere in today's Times. There may here be added the statement of Mr. Byron E. Walker, chairman of the committee of the university board appointed to choose a president. Mr. Walker says: "Professor Falconer has certainly many distinct things in his favor. He is a Canadian, with an adequate knowledge of the country as a whole, and with a large conception of the duty of Canadians toward the future of the country. He is the right age—about 40—and will, I think, be very conscious that he has ten years of hard work ahead of him. He is spoken of by every correspondent I have heard from as the leading man in university and college life in the maritime provinces; and if he comes to Toronto there will be very deep regret at his loss to Nova Scotia. He is certainly a highly-cultivated gentleman on the classical side, while on the other hand, he does not

lack sympathy with science and the technical departments of the university. I believe he will grow into his very important work rapidly, and I hope he will have the intelligent sympathy and support of every good friend of the university."

ABOUT IMMIGRANTS

Mr. Bourassa does not always strike a popular chord when he rises to speak, but there is much to be said in favor of his point of view regarding immigration from the United Kingdom. In an address to Laval students and their friends in Montreal last week, he discussed the need of greater discrimination in the selection of immigrants. We quote from the Witness' report:—

"The lecturer remarked that of all the elements of immigration to Canada, the most important was that which came from the British Isles. He considered that English and Scotch immigrants were perhaps the most desirable of any coming to Canada. But there were two classes of English immigrants; there was the skilled farm laborer class, and opposed to it was the indolent class to be found in congested centres. Australia had closed its doors to the latter class; the United States had done the same. The only country which had not done so was Canada. Quoting from a printed circular distributed by the Church League, he read a list of poor people sent to Canada whom the league had divided according to the following classes: Ex-convicts, loafers, unfortunates, tramps, drunkards and hooligans. The speaker did not consider it a good policy for the government to pay from two to five dollars a head for such immigrants. He largely blamed the transatlantic steamship companies and Canadian railway corporations for the lack of discrimination shown in transporting settlers for the Northwest. There would be little change for the better as long as the financial interest of corporations and land speculators depended on nothing but the number of settlers brought over."

It has been found necessary during the past winter to deport a number of undesirable who came out from the old country, and there is no doubt whatever that many escaped proper scrutiny, and remain in Canada, who will not prove to be good or desirable citizens. It is, of course, difficult to prevent such a result in all cases, but Mr. Bourassa's note of warning as to the effect of pouring indiscriminately into the northwest the indolent class from old world cities should not be disregarded. Other careful observers have made similar statements, and the government cannot be too careful in the selection of the people who are to control the destinies of the west, and to so large an extent control in the future the destinies of Canada.

At the annual banquet of the Canadian Society in Philadelphia last Wednesday evening, Mr. J. A. Macdonald, editor of the Toronto Globe, delivered an eloquent address, from which we quote:—

"It was," he said, "matter not for regret, but for congratulation, that on this American continent there would stand two virile nations with many things in common, a common root, a common language, a common faith, but each with its distinctive institutions in politics, in education, in jurisprudence, in commerce, in industry, and in social life. Civilization would be the richer for these two types. The world would be the better for the contributions each would make to knowledge and progress and peace. We both must stand against a materialism and give scope and space to the things of the mind. We both must drive out mammon-worship as the great profaner of modern life. And against militarism, that scourge of the older nations of the world, every true American and every true Canadian must keep sleepless watch as against a thief in the night."

Archbishop Bruchesi of Montreal has given another evidence of his belief that it is the duty of the church to take cognizance of secular movements and affairs. Reference was made a few days ago to his request to be permitted to pass judgment on the class of books to be selected for a new public library in Montreal. Yesterday he publicly protested against the proposed May-day demonstration by Montreal Socialists, denounced the teachings of these people and warned the faithful against them and their doctrines.

Every citizen of St. John should take an interest in the September exhibition, and those in a position to do so should lend the directors of the association all possible aid in making the fair the best ever seen in this city.

The steamship companies should have sent a few more vessels to St. John this spring. The late opening of navigation on the St. Lawrence means considerable loss on account of steamers delayed en route to Montreal.

Henry Clews says that the drift of affairs in Wall street is apparently toward betterment. But this is the season of crop scares, and the public is still very cautious in the matter of speculation.

May-day this year promises to be marked by a smaller number of labor demonstrations than usual.

Battle liner Sellaia sailed yesterday from Stettin for Tyne. Steamer Pandosia, same line, arrived at Naples yesterday, and the Etruria, Captain Mulcahy, left Naples on last Saturday bound for Cartagena and Baltimore. St. John bark Nellie Troop, Captain Owen, was in port at Newcastle (N. S. W.) March 28, to sail for Valparaiso.

Stores open evenings till 8 o'clock.

St. John, April 29, 1907

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THE OPTIMIST

A steamboat on a recent trip
Had on a load of dynamite,
And when she struck another ship,
All things went skyward the night,
A poor old dog lay on the deck
With not a leg left with which to jump.
An optimist was in the wreck—
He had no legs left—scarce a stump.

As sad friends came to see him die
A smile lit up his features fair,
And with a faint and feeble cry
He thus addressed the mourners there:

"Cheer up! My plight is not so bad;
I'm dying, yet I'll not feel blue;
I might have been a quadruped
And lost four legs, instead of two!"
—Chicago Record-Herald.

IN LIGHTER VEIN
EXPENSIVE.

"Our time is money," grumbled the collector.
"Then," replied the debtor, "how can you afford to waste so much of it in chasing me?"—Philadelphia Ledger.

QUITE SO.

April showers bring May flowers
From the bud,
And, by jing, also bring
Lots of mud!
—Washington Herald.

HAD NONE TO AFFECT.

Chapleigh—I don't think I shall ever have a bwairstorm.
Miss Smarte—No; I imagine you are immune from anything that could affect the brain.

SO LIKE.

Mrs. Meeker (at the play)—I do wish you'd pay more attention to this play, George; it's as good as a sermon.
Mr. Meeker (dozing).—"It certainly is my dear, but the darn orchestra wakes me up between acts."—Exchange.

IT BROKE.

"Freddie, you shouldn't laugh out loud in the school room," exclaimed the teacher.

"I didn't mean to do it," apologized Freddie. "I was smiling, when all of a sudden the smile busted."—Harper's Weekly.

MIGHT DO AFTER ALL.

Miss Pechis—I'm in a quandary. He declares if I refuse him he'll go to the dogs.

Miss Wise—Well, you certainly can't sacrifice yourself for a worthless fellow like him. You must consider your own welfare.

Miss Pechis—Of course, but then, on the other hand, I'm very fond of dogs—Catholic Standard.

LAUGHTER AND TEARS

In its February issue Putnam's printed an old poem in memory of "Artemus Ward," supposing it to be the work of Swinburne. Now James Rhodes, of Monkswood, Haslemere, Surrey, writes to the magazine that he, and not Swinburne, wrote the stanzas some forty years ago. He sends also the correct text of the poem, which we may here reproduce:

Is he gone to a land of no laughter—
This man that made mirth for us all?
Proves death but a silence hereafter,
Where the echoes of earth cannot fall?
Once closed, have the lips no more duty,
No more pleasure the exquisite tears?
Has the heart done o'erflowing with beauty,
As the eyes have with tears?

Nay, it might be sure, what can be surer
Than that earth's good decays not with earth?
And of all the heart's springs none are purer
Than the springs of the fountains of mirth.
He that sounds them has pierced the heart's hollows,
The place where tears are and sleep;
For the foam-fakes that dance in life's shallows
Are wrung from life's deep.

He came with a heart full of gladness
From the glad-hearted world of the West,
Went our laughter, but not with mere madness,
Spoke and joked with us, not in mere jest;
For the man in our heart lingered after,
When the merriment died from our ears,
And those who were loudest in laughter
Are silent in tears.

ATTRACTIONS FOR
ROCKWOOD PARK

As announced in Saturday's issue of the Times, Frank White has returned from a three weeks' trip to Atlantic City and other amusement resorts where he was securing attractions for Rockwood Park. Judging from the plans being made by Mr. White the park will be a very attractive place for visitors during the summer. Work will be commenced at once on the erection of a large rustic pavilion 70 feet long and two stories high, with a verandah 70 by 20 feet. This will be used as a restaurant and will be adapted for both summer and winter use. A large boat house of rustic design with a good sized landing wharf will replace the present structure and some two dozen boats and canoes will be available for the pleasure seekers. A shoot-the-chutes will be installed, also a Ferris wheel, that will accommodate thirty-six people. A large merry-go-round that will seat fifty-six people, has been secured and a number of automatic swings will be set up. It is planned to have the buildings and certain portions of the grounds lighted by electricity. A buckboard service will be run from the head of King street, at a fare of five cents.

5,000 FACTS ABOUT CANADA

A remarkable little booklet has been compiled under the above self-explanatory title by Frank Yeich, of Toronto, the well-known writer and lecturer on themes Canadian. Perhaps no one in the Dominion is better qualified to make such a compilation. Its value is, as claimed, "worth its weight in Yukon gold or Cobalt silver." The idea is a clever one, viz.: a fact in a sentence, giving a wonderful mass of information in the smallest compass on every phase of our commercial and industrial life and our natural resources. The booklet is sold for 25c. and may be had from newsdealers or from the Canadian Facts Publishing Co., 667 Spadina Avenue, Toronto.

The Empress of Ireland landed her passengers at Liverpool at 1 p. m. Saturday.

Dominion dredge Galveston is now on her way to the St. Lawrence via Port Mulgrave. Pilot Thomas Traynor went around with her as pilot.

Brigantine James Daley, Captain Comeau, was at Turks Island April 7, from Porto Rico, to sail about April 13 for Yarmouth.

Teddy Bears.

Just received new lot of Teddy Bears. Photographs—We are now taking orders for Edison Talking Machines at \$3.00 and \$4.00 each.

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"Well, boss, senin' it's you, an' of you'll
promise to keep 'em to yerself an' not breathe
a word to anybody, I'll tell you. I see fishin'
in 'em."