

The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPT. 12, 1907.

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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

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Rose entwined, The Maple
Leaf forever."

REFORM NEEDED

It is stated that there are a number of cases of diphtheria in the city, in houses not connected with the sewerage system. A lady told the Times that during the past summer she visited a yard close to Winter street school and found water oozing up between planks, and was told it came from a leaky sewer. The place was in a very unsanitary condition, and she reported it to the board of health. In many parts of the city there are houses in a very unsanitary condition.

The board of health is, perhaps, reluctant to issue orders that might involve financial loss for a landlord, and doubtless there are cases where improvements should be made of which the board is not informed. Whoever is familiar with the conditions of life in some tenements knows that in the interests of the public health some action should be taken. One epidemic of diphtheria, fever, or other disease due to unsanitary conditions involves heavy expense and perhaps bereavement for many families. Are not their interests as great as those of a grinding and careless landlord? Too little public interest is manifested in this important subject.

Another matter that deserves more attention is the cleanliness of the streets. On Germain street, yesterday afternoon a woman was observed sweeping dirt out of the house upon the sidewalk. In all directions one sees loose paper and other rubbish, much of it from stores and houses, scattered about the streets and sidewalks. The vile habit of spitting on the sidewalks is not restricted, and their condition is frequently nauseating. The city needs a committee or league to take up the whole subject of civic sanitation and cleanliness, and in addition to enforcement of existing laws, endeavor to create a spirit among the people that would not tolerate such conditions as exist at present.

THE BANKS CRITICISED

Ottawa has secured in England a loan of three-quarters of a million. It is only, however, for six months, and is at the rate of six per cent per annum. The Citizen says:—

"The loan is for a period of six months with the right to renew for an additional six months, and was only effected under agreement that the debentures which were to be issued will be hypothecated as security. The city also agrees not to enter into any large, unusual expenditure pending the repayment of the loan. The loaning bank moreover makes the stipulation that when the hypothecated debentures are sold it will have the preference in their purchase, all things being equal."

Thus its financial needs, in the present state of stringency in the money market, has compelled the city council to pledge itself to a period of economy. Certain works, including the purchase of a water power, must be abandoned for the present. The city council of St. John will be able to appreciate the position, for although it is not attempting to float a large loan has been constrained to curtail expenditure in the departments.

The Ottawa Citizen regards it as a remarkable evidence of financial stringency in Canada that the city should be unable to market its debentures except at a sacrifice and in England. But the Citizen goes further and makes these observations concerning the Canadian banks:—

"It will be a matter for later consideration whether the policy which appears to be dominating the chartered banks of Canada at the present time is such as the people of Canada who charter these institutions have a right to expect. Whether the chief duty of our banks is to earn dividends for their stockholders or whether the granting of charters does not carry with it some further responsibility to the country. The people of Canada have a right to expect a sense of responsibility in relation to the financial needs of the country, which, if necessary, must take precedence over the very natural desire to pay large dividends and pile up big reserves. This is a phase which is being brought out by the present money stringency, and a growing spirit of criticism is apparent regarding the manner in which Canadian banks have met the present situation. If conditions do not improve this criticism may be undesirably emphasized. But in any case some parliamentary recognition of the prevailing

state of affairs would be in the interests of the general public."

ANTI-ASIATIC RIOTS

It appears that agitators from the United States had a hand in the instigation of the anti-Asiatic riots in Vancouver. Any such trouble makers should be summarily sent across the border. Canadians ought to be quite competent to settle this question of Asiatic immigration.

It is pointed out that the protest is not merely against Japanese immigrants, but against Chinese and Hindus as well. A little reflection will show how unreasonable is the present attitude of the British Columbia agitators. Ever since the early settlement of that province until quite recently oriental labor was welcomed, because there was not enough white labor to be had. The present influx is simply too much of what not many years ago was considered a good thing. It is now necessary to check the influx of Asiatics, in the interests of the white citizens. But a movement that has been in progress for years cannot be stopped at once. Leaving the Chinese out of the question, the Hindus are British subjects, and have certain rights under the British flag. With regard to the Japanese, their country is an ally of Great Britain, and has treaty rights which cannot be ignored. Moreover that country is no weakling and would not be disposed to disregard ill-treatment of any of her people. It must be said to the credit of the Japanese government that the news of the Vancouver outrages has been received with calmness quite in contrast to the excited conduct of certain British Columbians. It is a pity that any person in a representative position in Canada should appear to encourage riotous attacks upon the Asiatics, whether Japanese, Chinese or Hindus, for if necessary the whole power of the country must be invoked for the protection of persons illegally assailed, and for the maintenance of the national honor. It has not yet been shown that diplomatic negotiations will not settle the whole matter, and until these have failed there is absolutely no excuse for such conduct as that of the Vancouver mob.

Right on the heels of the report that the Lusitania is breaking ocean records comes the story that the White Star line has plans in preparation for a steamer of greater dimensions, one report says of 40,000 tons register. The tendency of the times is in the direction of larger steamers, of deeper draught. The obvious lesson is that harbors must be dredged to a greater depth. A depth of thirty feet will soon be useful only for second-rate ocean steamers.

A farmer can make more money selling milk at four cents per quart than in making butter, even at present high prices. If near-by farmers, delivering milk to city customers, are to get eight cents, they should soon be able to establish an automobile service.

Whatever the price of milk may be, all necessary precautions should be taken to keep the supply pure. An article entering so universally into the diet of the people must be regarded with the closest scrutiny by the health authorities.

The reports now coming in from the west indicate that the wheat crop will turn out much better than some statements issued a few days ago seemed to indicate.

POLITICAL NOTES

(Moncton Times.)

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto News, who writes from an independent standpoint, speculates on the probability of Mr. Borden following Sir Wilfrid Laurier's example and calling upon Premier McBride, of British Columbia, Premier Roblin, of Manitoba, Premier Whitney of Ontario, and ex-Premier Haultain of Saskatchewan, to assist him in the next election. It also names Sir Hibbert Tupper, who by the way, has already stated that he intends to re-enter politics and assist Mr. Borden in the next campaign. Should Mr. Borden call upon leading Conservatives now in provincial politics to take part in the next election, he will scarcely be following the example of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Sir Wilfrid formed an alliance with the various provincial Liberal governments, which gave him every assistance and when he succeeded he rewarded Mowatt, Blair, Fielding and Sifton by taking them into his cabinet. The Times does not believe that Mr. Borden will do this. Some prominent and influential Conservatives are, however, likely to leave the provincial arena and join forces with Mr. Borden in the next campaign. Borden, Foster and colleagues, with the Quebec contingent again enthusiastic and full of fight, reinforced by Sir Hibbert Tupper, McBride, Roblin and possibly Haultain, Whitney and Sir Alexander Lacoste, would make the Laurier contingent look small, and would sweep the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

At present all Canadian coins are minted in London, but after November they will be turned out at the Ottawa mint. The profit, which is now nearly half a million dollars, will accrue to the dominion government.

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St. John, Sept. 12, 1907.

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SUN IS ALWAYS SHININ'

(The Young Catholic Messenger.)

When you go to gettin' troubled, an' the world seems upside down,
When misfortune stares upon you with an awful lookin' frown,
There's a cheerfulness in knowin', when its dark for me an' you,
That the sun is always shinin', an' the sky is always blue.

When the clouds appear the thickest, an' the daylight seems withdrawn,
An' the hopeful joy o' livin' seems to be entirely gone,
Just remember, when the darkest, just a little distance through,
That the sun is always shinin', an' the sky is always blue.

So there ain't no use in frettin' at the hardships that we meet,
For the birds are a-singin', an' the flowers are just as sweet,
An' behind the deepest shadow there's a heap o' promise, too,
For the sun is always shinin', an' the sky is always blue.

WILLIAM EBEN SCHULTZ.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

VERY LITTLE HOPE.

Jones—That young man who plays the cornet is ill.

Green—Do you think he will recover?

Jones—I am afraid not. The doctor who is attending him lives next door.

GOING TO HIS FATE.

Hook—There goes Sweet. He is bent on a summer vacation.

Cook—And what happens to a man who is bent on a summer vacation?

Hook—Why, it isn't long after he is bent before he is broke.

SCRIPTURAL.

A young man was teasing his sweetheart's little sister. "Lily," he said, "I don't love you at all."

"Ah, but you've got to!" was the child's reply.

"And why?" asked her tormentor.

"You must love them that hate you, and I'm sure I hate you!"

DESERVED SOMETHING.

Tramp—Please, ma'am, if you'll gimme sumthin' t' eat I'll shovel the snow off your walk.

Lady—Why, there hasn't been any snow on the walk for some months!

Tramp—Well, that ain't no fault o' mine, lady. Won't you gimme a sandwich for bein' willing t' shovel it off if they was any?

DIDN'T KNOW THE DISH.

The Rev. Mr. Freuder of Philadelphia tells this story of himself.

Some time ago he was invited to dine at the house of a friend, whose wife went into her kitchen to give some final orders. Incidentally, she added to the servant, "We are to have a Jewish rabbit for dinner today."

For a moment the maid surveyed her mistress in grim silence. Then she spoke with decision. "All I have to say is," she announced, "if you have a Jewish rabbit for dinner, you'll cook it yourself."

ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION.

That names of places in England frequently are not pronounced as spelled is proved by the experience of two cyclists who were going from Clacton to the old village of St. Osyth. "Are we right for St. Osyth?" they asked of a laborer. But a blank look met the question; he had never heard of no such place. A second wayfarer interrogated, was equally ignorant. Then came a third. A scratched head, a puzzled look and then the dawn of intelligence. "Aye, to be sure, I have it now. It's Snosey you mean!"

MR. PERKS STILL FAVORABLE

British M. P. Thinks Georgian Bay Canal Will Be Built--Will Benefit Toronto Because it Will Aid Canada's Prosperity.

(Toronto News.)

R. W. Perks, M. P. of London, Eng., is at present in town, and is still deeply interested in the project of the Georgian Bay Canal via the French River and the Ottawa Valley. He is of the opinion that the prospects for the carrying out of the project are very bright, and in order to ascertain the proper depth necessary for such a canal Mr. Perks visited Port William, Port Arthur, Duluth and Chicago to interview the principal shippers and steamship interests with regard to both freight and passenger traffic. The depth will not be less than 22 feet.

"The building of the canal would undoubtedly benefit Toronto," said Mr. Perks. "This city, in my opinion, is now, and will be in the future, the financial centre of the Dominion, and although its shipping does not equal that of Montreal, owing to its not being a seaport, still anything which tends to the prosperity of the Dominion will help Toronto as Canada's banking centre. Even if some of its trade were diverted, it would still gain in many indirect ways."

"In England we have several times had a similar instance of one city being afraid that the building of a canal would divert its trade, notably in the case of the Manchester Ship Canal. Liverpool was strongly opposed to its construction, as it was feared that Manchester would steal a great deal of its trade and shipping, but as a matter of fact the reverse has been the case, and it has benefited both places."

J. MACDONALD OXLEY

(Mail and Empire)

Much to be deplored is the death of J. Macdonald Oxley, which took place yesterday. Mr. Oxley was originally devoted to the public service. But he broke away from his Ottawa office to apply himself exclusively to authorship. He wrote, voluminously and ably, stories for boys, which appeared for the most part in the "Boy's Own." His fiction dealt largely with Canadian life, and was full of history and adventure. It was in an especial degree a medium through which manliness, frankness and honor were preached to the boys as virtues that ought to be practised. Mr. Oxley was a star in the literary firmament, and his work did honor to Canada, his native land.

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