

# The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 13, 1908

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## THE EVENING TIMES, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

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### THE BRUSH FIRES

Man's helplessness in presence of the great elemental forces of nature is illustrated very forcibly just now by the sweep of the forest fires. Once they are permitted to assume large proportions, in a time of drought like the present, the destruction wrought is only limited by their opportunity.

The state of Maine has forest protection laws which last year were described as very effective. From heights of observation wardens look out across the wilderness, detect smoke when it appears, and hasten to endeavor to put out the fire.

The air of St. John today is very oppressive from the smoke of forest fires, which hangs like a pall around and over the city. It is said that the fire sweeping toward South Bay was discovered days ago, but no steps taken to meet the danger.

### THE COST OF THE G. T. P.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier estimated, in 1903 that the Grand Trunk Pacific Ry. would cost Canada about \$20,000,000, but that the total actual expense would only be about \$10,000,000.

It will be found that the statement made by the Premier is literally correct, and that we shall not require to spend on this road more than an interest payment of about \$2,000,000 a year for a period of seven years.

The Ottawa Citizen says: "With the current expenditure of the present government ranging up to the hundred-and-fifty million dollar mark; the assurance that the eastern section of the G. T. P. will cost \$250,000,000, with an increasing public debt of \$300,000,000, and the prospect of government entering upon the construction of a railway to Hudson Bay, the deepening of the Welland canal, and the construction of the Georgian Bay canal, the financial prospects of this country in the hands of the present extravagant administration may well cause the taxpayers of the Dominion to consider how long they can afford to entrust the revenues to the hands of such an appallingly extravagant administration."

The river which affords so much pleasure to so many people throughout the summer on Saturday claimed its toll in the life of a promising young man. The tragedy casts a gloom over the cruise of the yachtsmen who set out with such high anticipations of enjoyment.

It will be generally conceded that the late provincial government and its friends are welcome to all comfort they are able to extract from the review of the business methods practiced on the Central Railway from the beginning.

it down to \$114,000,000. Assuming Mr. Borden's estimate of \$114,000,000 capital outlay on construction to be approximately correct, the cost to Canada at 3 1/2 per cent, simple interest for ten years will be over \$50,000,000. This may not be more than Canada could stand. But it would be a curious commentary on Sir Wilfrid Laurier's original assurance of not more than \$13,000,000."

In parliament on Saturday, Hon. Mr. Graham admitted that the interest cost would be \$40,000,000. If he admits that much—what will the real cost be? What will be thought now of the original estimate by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Fielding and Sir Richard Cartwright? If they were so far wrong in 1903 who can trust Mr. Graham's present estimate?

### THE MARSH CREEK

The Times has already referred to the plan set forth in the letter of W. Frank Hatheway, M.P.P., in this issue of the Times, by which the now unsightly and unwholesome Marsh Creek could be made a lovely little stream, for swimming, canoeing and fishing. The plan is perfectly feasible, and could be carried out at small cost. The proposed dam could be built for less than a thousand dollars.

Mr. Hatheway conveys the interesting information that trout from Lily Lake have come over the dam into the Marsh creek, and have been caught there. Many persons have been wondering where the trout came from that have been caught in the creek, near the One Mile House, this season. Some good sized fish have been taken there. The fact suggests large possibilities. If the proposed dam were built the upper reaches of the creek, extending more than three miles from the city, could be made good fishing water.

In the old country, where there are no large rivers, a stream as large as the Marsh Creek, when running bank-full, is prized as a great boon to the people, and is made of great service for bathing and boating purposes. Anyone who has seen the river Dee at Chester, or traversed the Thames on a summer Sunday afternoon from Hampton Court to London knows how even a small stream can be made to minister to the health and pleasure of the people.

Mr. Hatheway gives good sanitary reasons for the construction of the proposed dam at the bend of the creek above the Marsh Bridge. He also states on the authority of an engineer that the expense would be small—a mere trifle compared with the benefit conferred. There would be no danger of flooding the marshes, since the dam could be left low enough to give an abundant overflow. In winter the frozen stream would afford good skating.

The members of the city council should give this matter their attention. If there are any serious objections to the proposed scheme they would very quickly be discovered when it became known that the council had the matter under consideration. If there are no such objections the Marsh Creek should be made available for bathing and canoeing next year.

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The government at Ottawa has shut off the enquiry into Mr. Wallberg's Montreal contract made without tender.

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## THE SPOONERS (Bohemian Magazine.)

Together we sat in a tete-a-tete, The prettiest girl and I. The light was out and the hour was late, For time, you know, will fly! By Jove, How rapidly time will fly!

Together we sat in the welcome gloom, Alone, unheard unseen, Though her mother was in the other room With a thin portiere between.

I knew that the mother in ambush lay— As mothers do, it seems— To carry the prettiest girl away, Away to the land of dreams. By Jove! To the wonderful land of dreams.

But the cherry-like lips of the pretty miss, As mothers do, it seems— And I ventured to bid for a tiny kiss— Just one, before "Good night."

I caught the coquette in my arms—Alack, For such is the way of men!— And gruffly demanded of her a smack, And then—and then—and then—

Her mother came cruelly in with a light And—what do you think she said? "Oh, come little lady, kiss daddy good night."

And carried her off to bed, by Jove! And carried the babe off to bed!

### IN LIGHTER VEIN

THE EXPLANATION OF IT. Knicker—The school of experience holds no reprobates. Bocker—Because it has no graduates.

LETS THE OTHER MAN WORRY. "Seems to me you look younger than ever." "Why not? As I grow older I become more and more expert in avoiding trouble."

ONE RAY OF HOPE. "Do you think Bliggins would make a good husband?" asked the conscientious youth.

"Because if you think such a fool as Bliggins could manage to give a good thing to take a chance myself."

MARK NEEDED TIME. (Harper's Weekly.) Just before Mark Twain's daughter, Miss Clara Clemens, sailed for Europe she attended a reception at which she met one of the friends of her Hartford childhood who had been a very small boy, but who had grown to be an unusually tall man.

"I remember part of it," replied Mark, peering up at Jones, "but it seems to me it would take a week to remember all of him."

A SIMPLE PLAN. (Christian Register.) A lawyer once asked a man who had at various times sat on several juries, "Who influenced you most—the lawyers, witnesses or the judge?" He expected to get some useful and interesting information from an experienced jurymen.

"I'll tell you, sir, 'ow I makes up my mind. I'm a plain man, and a reasonable man, and I ain't influenced by anything the lawyers say, nor by what the witnesses say, nor by what the judge says. I just looks at the man in the docks and I says, 'If he ain't doo nothing, why's he there?' And I brings 'em all in guilty."

LATE FOR A TRACE. (Argonaut.) A Mormon's wife, coming downstairs one morning met the physician who was attending her husband. "Is he very ill?" she asked anxiously.

"He is," replied the physician. "I fear that the end is not far off."

"Do you think," she asked hesitatingly, "do you think I should be at his bedside during his last moments?"

"But I advise you to hurry, madam. The best places are already being taken."

A CHRISTMAS MYSTERY. (Atlanta Journal.) Ezekiel, a Florida dandy, had no stockings, so the night before Christmas he hung his trousers in the chimney of the tumble-down shack that he calls home.

"Mah pants is gone," said Ezekiel.

WEDDINGS Tongue-Milne

View's End Gardens, Red Head, the summer residence of John Tongue, was the scene of a pretty wedding on the afternoon of the 11th inst., when his eldest son, Thomas Henry, was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Milne of 27 Peters street.

The bride, who looked charming in a pale blue gown of organdie, with white veil and orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet of white roses, was given away by Mr. Gridley. She was attended by her sister Agnes as bridesmaid, who also looked very nice in a dress of the same material and a white picture hat.

The house was tastefully decorated with evergreens for the occasion. Rev. L. A. Maclean performed the ceremony.

Moseley-Smith The marriage took place on Monday at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Smith, of Dartmouth, of Miss Estella Marie Smith to Ross Tilton Moseley, now of the Union Bank at Sydney, but formerly of Dartmouth.

Both the contracting parties were unattended. The bride was dressed in white silk with lace covering and she wore the conventional bridal veil. She carried a bouquet of roses and carnations, and was given away by her father. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. F. P. Greatorex. Only the immediate friends and relatives of the contracting parties were present. After the ceremony the happy couple left for Sydney, where they will reside. A large number of beautiful presents were received.

Spencer-Hall A very pretty wedding took place at the home of Mrs. S. Hall, Truro, on Thursday afternoon at 6 o'clock, when her daughter, Miss Winifred S. Hall, was united in marriage to Clarence D. Spencer.

The house was prettily decorated for the occasion. In the dining-room four streamers of emilax and carnations were suspended from the ceiling and caught at each corner of the table which made a very pretty effect.

The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. B. McLeod, of the First Presbyterian Church, and the wedding march was rendered by E. R. Stuart.

Cairns-Moody A very pretty but quiet house wedding took place on Wednesday, July 8, at the residence of James E. Moody, Musquash, when their youngest daughter, Ethel, was united in marriage to John Cairns, Jr.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. John Martin, pastor of St. Ann's church, Musquash, in the presence of the immediate relatives and friends.

The parlor in which the wedding took place was tastefully trimmed with roses and potted plants. Promptly at 8.30 p.m., the happy couple entered the parlor to the strains of the wedding march, played by Miss Balcom. The bride was dressed in cream cashmere trimmed with lace and ribbon.

After the ceremony, all repaired to the dining room, where a dainty luncheon was served. The bride was the recipient of many costly and useful presents. The groom's present to the bride was a brooch set with pearls and rubies.

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