

The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 17, 1908.

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"The Thistle, Shamrock,
Rose entwined, The Maple
Leaf forever."

DISMISSING OFFICIALS

In the absence of a statement of the reasons for it, the resolution adopted by the Liberal Conservative Association of Albert county appears to be of an unnecessarily sweeping nature. It describes the association as "unanimously in favor of a complete change of office holders under the present administration,"—meaning the administration of Mr. Hazen. So bald a statement suggests that the Conservatives of Albert regard office as the most important consideration in political affairs. No doubt such an assumption would not do them justice. No doubt also they feel keenly the gross abuse of power by office holders in political campaigns, for one of the features of the recent election was the pernicious activity of office holders. Nevertheless the public mind will recoil from the blunt suggestion of this resolution, which goes too far. The spoils belong to the victor, but the victor should not lay too much emphasis upon this phase of the controversy between the parties. Where good reason may be offered for dismissing an official, he certainly ought to go; but a general sweep would not be justified, and would lay the people of Albert county open to the charge of entertaining over-much of the vindictive spirit of party politics. It surely cannot be that every official in Albert county is an offensive partisan or incompetent, and no man should be dismissed except for cause. It may be necessary to make many changes in the official life of the province, but each case should be considered by itself and on its own merits.

GOOD SETTLERS COMING

The movement of American farmers into the Canadian northwest continues on a large scale. A recent Winnipeg letter says:—

"Despite the fact that the American newspapers have done everything in their power to stem the tide of emigration from that country to the Canadian prairies, the influx for the season has already begun, and promises to be the greatest on record. It has already been announced that a colony of sixty American farmers is locating at Roblin, a town in the extreme northwest of the province. These settlers are all experienced prairie farmers from Iowa and adjoining states, and have the capital to launch out into extensive farming. It is said that steam plows will be an important part of their agricultural outfit, and they will speedily have a large area of land under cultivation. From the Middle country in Saskatchewan come reports of American immigration as already in full blast. This district has been largely settled by Americans, and the experiences of those already there seem to be of a character to induce their friends to come along and try their fortunes also."

TYPES OF CONTENT

A London cable tells of a man in Switzerland who describes himself as "the happiest man on earth."

"I have never worked," he said; "never married, never been ill, and have never been anxious for the future. I eat well, drink well and sleep well. What more would you have?"

It is explained that this man has a plot of land, a cottage, and five dollars per week income. He has all he desires, and reckons himself the happiest of men.

"Thou fool," is the verdict of the ages upon this man and his kind; and yet it is to be feared the type is not confined to the Swiss village. Even in St. John are to be found persons who see no reason why they should not rejoice in the fact that their material wants are well supplied, without giving a thought to anything more troublesome than mere personal gratification. It is true that church edifices stand in everlasting protest against the philosophy of selfishness and the merely animal interpretation of the meaning and purpose of life; but a good many people see only in the churches the assurance that in the next world as well as this they will have a cushioned pew, at exactly the right distance from the celestial choir. And in the meantime drunken men fall in the streets, or are dragged to the police court; little children go hungry and ill-clad to school; other children

toil in factories; vice haunts itself in handsome raiment; wise laws are disregarded or openly violated; and the world wages on. But the voice of the spirit is not silent nor all unheeded. Happily the type represented by the Swiss peasant is not and never will be dominant in human life. The larger content, which is the reward of the striving soul, and which Paul found in the midst of toil and persecution, is that which alone meets the demands of the highest manhood and womanhood.

Says the Toronto News:—"The mortality statistics of the United States show a gratifying decrease in the death rate from tuberculosis. In the 'registration area' covered by the reports the rate fell from 168.2 per hundred thousand in 1905 to 159.4 in 1906. The registration area comprises sixteen states, the District of Columbia, and seventy-seven registration cities in states not otherwise included. The total number of deaths in 1906 was 65,341. Michigan and South Dakota cent in the most favorable returns, while the highest mortality was from Colorado and California. The two last-named states have many climatic advantages for consumptives, and the extreme death rate is due probably to the fact that many sufferers from tuberculosis take refuge there. The general decline in mortality from this disease may be taken as indicating that the fight against the plague is making headway."

Here is a suggestion for Mr. Hazen, which we clip from the Toronto World: "Canada needs her best men for her public service. The government that appoints only such men strengthens itself with the electorate. The government that selects the inefficient weakens public confidence in every way and misses its mark every time it goes out of its course to meet the people."

"Church pull."
"Joiner's pull."
"Consolation pull."

The Times yesterday quoted from an exchange an interesting review of the career of Mr. Asquith, who stands next in line for the leadership of the English Liberals. Last night's cables stated that there is great anxiety over the state of the health of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and it is stated that even should he partially recover he cannot resume the leadership of his party.

"New Brunswick sounds the warning," says a private circular, issued by the Montreal Herald, and it recommends a good bunch of Heralds as an adequate broom to sweep back the rising tide of public sentiment.—Ottawa Citizen.

One hears many rumors of a determination on the part of citizens to secure a better city council, but a review of the list of names suggested as those of possible new aldermen is not very impressive. If strong and capable business men cannot be induced to offer there is little choice.

The outbreak of smallpox in Restigouche, following those in Albert and Westmorland, suggests that the provincial health authorities should take strong measures to prevent the further spread of the disease.

There is a cry for farm laborers in Pennsylvania. And yet there are thousands idle in the streets of large cities of the state. How to get the men back to the land is one of the great problems of modern statesmanship.

The amount placed in the supplementary estimates for work in St. John harbor must be followed by many more such votes before this national port is properly equipped.

The defeat of the provincial government in New Brunswick has caused some worry in Quebec. The government of that province is none too secure, and must soon appeal to the people.

CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN'S CONDITION IS SERIOUS

London, March 16.—The bulletin issued today concerning the condition of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the premier, which makes special reference to the "considerable weakness" of the patient has caused a renewal of the anxiety concerning his health. The heart trouble of the premier is so pronounced that his physicians up to the present have not been able to restore this organ to its normal activity. There are still great hopes that Sir Henry will recover his health, but it is recognized by his friends that the premier never again will be a strong man and all idea that he might resume active leadership in the house of commons now has been abandoned.

London, March 16.—It is reported that the controlling capital of the Times company has been provided by Lord Northcliffe. The capital of the new company is \$3,750,000.

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THE ROAD TO YESTERDAY

If I could journey back a little way Along the road that leads to yesterday, There are so many things that I would do— So many moments I would live anew That I might speak a slower kinder word: My tongue I'd bind with Patience's golden cord. I'd guide a young child by my older hand; I'd give my strength to help a weaker stand. And with a tear I would share my bread: Upon my breast I'd soothe some weary head; I'd wipe the tears that I saw fall like rain. And with my kiss I'd heal another's pain. I'd ask of God to make my heart content In striving that each hour be worthily spent. Today I'd smile when yesterday I frowned, And count myself a woman richly crowned. By that true love so humble offered me I'd give my service, oh, so full and free. Could I but journey back a little way Along the road that leads to yesterday!

—Ruth Bissell Elbright, in National Magazine.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

IN NEW YORK. First New Yorker—"I'm thinking of opening a bank account."

Second New Yorker—"Can you afford it?"—Life.

SAME OLD WAY.

"What position does the alderman of your ward take in regard to Sunday sauntings?"

"Usually at the side entrance."—Chicago Tribune.

MUST PAY FOR IT.

Brown—"Yes, sir, Doctor Jones cured me."

Minister—"No, my friend; Providence cured you, not the doctor."

Brown—"Well, maybe he did, but the doctor will charge for it."—Judge.

SENSIBLE COOK.

Mistress (astounded)—"You can't read, Norah? Good gracious! How did you ever learn to cook so well?"

New Cook—"Sure, mum. Oй lay it 'tween bein' able to read 'tween cook books."—Town and Country.

IN DUE FORM.

"Come in, William," said the legislator's daughter, as her timid suitor halted outside her father's study door.

"Father, I wish to introduce my Bill in the house with hope that you will give due consideration to the same."—Baltimore American.

WHERE HE LOST IT.

Subbute—"No, he's not living in Swamp-hurst now. He's been down in Florida in search of his health all winter and now he's in California."

Citizian—"I should think he'd go back to Swamphurst for it."

Subbute—"Why?"

Citizian—"Because that's where he lost it."—Philadelphia Press.

THE DIFFERENCE.

Green—"On the strength of your assertion that you would trust Windig with your life, I loaned him \$10 and now I can't get it back."

Brown—"No, and you never will."

Green—"Then why did you say you would trust him with your life?"

Brown—"Oh, that's different. Windig's a deadbeat all right, but he is not an ass, sassin."—Chicago Daily News.

MATTER OF SPELLING.

"This is an age of steel," said the after-dinner speaker.

"Permit me to suggest," interrupted the chairman courteously, "that for the benefit of the reporters present you spell the last word."—Philadelphia Ledger.

THE INGLENOOK PHILOSOPHER — OF — KENNEBECASIS BAY

Aaron tumbled into my door, rubbing his ears with a new woolen mitten of exactly the same style that my grandmother knit in the days of the loyalists.

"If you are cold," said I, "why don't you put another stick on the fire?"

Aaron looked in the closet, whistled softly and without a word, went down stairs, out into the yard, and sawed an armful of wood, which he brought up and deposited in the close. Then he raked down the fire, replenished it and seated himself in front of it with his feet on the fender.

I was rather proud of the strategy by which I secured a supply of fuel for the evening without leaving my chair or asking a favor from Aaron or anybody else.

"Now," said I, as Aaron laid his mittens on the hearth, "is there another dispute between you and Mrs. Pollard to settle by arbitration? If so the arbitrator will be happy to arbitrate."

"We are our own arbitrators since that last case we had before you," answered Aaron, "and we shall continue to settle all differences that may arise between us without intervention."

"This is an unwise decision, Aaron," said I, "but you will think better of it. Without lawyers, doctors and arbitrators there would be no fun living and no sorrow in dying."

"You mean," said Aaron, "there would be no sorrow in living and no fun in dying?"

"Tut," I answered, "is disrespectful to the members of the two honorable professions and to the court and I will have to fine you."

"But the court is not in session," said Aaron.

"No matter for that," said I. "The court can fine everybody he meets for contempt, and would if he did his duty; but we'll let the subject drop. How is Mrs. Pollard?"

"She bears up well."

"Bears up well? What's the matter?"

"We don't make so much butter as we expected to, and the wood pile behind the barn grows smaller a good deal faster than the pile in the wood shed grows bigger, and—"

"And," said I, "your garden won't produce as many vegetables as you expected it to, and your hay crop will be lighter than you expected it to be, and by and bye you'll be laid up with a sore thumb, and Mrs. Pollard—"

In her despair Will tear her hair

and wish she'd never been born.

"That's poetry, Aaron, and, of course, the picture is somewhat overdrawn. I remember how, something less than a century ago, I was as happy as a bubble bee in a clover patch, but I didn't know what life had in store for me. Life, however, is short. Looking backward it seems to extend over only a few restless days. Looking forward it seems just as brief. So tell Mrs. Pollard that it don't matter much about her butter, or eggs or garden or woodpile. There are 1,000,000 people in the world, and a century hence we will be as rich and as full of content as any of them.

The high and low are equals made, By the poor crooked scythe and spade!

"The ills of life are like last winter's snows, its joys are like last summer's blossoms; they soon melt, soon fade, and it is wise to forget them for what can we do with snow that has disappeared or

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