# The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 16, 1908.

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## THE HARBOR

The city council has decided that, pending the taking over of the harbor by the federal government, all its energies should be devoted to the extension of harbor facilities, where they are most needed—on the west side.

There is much to be said in favor of this view, although in connection with the G. T. P. it may also be argued that the city should be in a position to state just what facilities it has to offer. There is something to be said in favor of the city knowing exactly what it has in harbor value, before it transfers that harbor to the federal government.

Opinions differ concerning Courtenay Bay, and if for a reasonable expenditure the question could be settled it might be well for the city to agree to bear some portion of the necessary expense. But there is no question of the importance of pressing forward along the line of further development on the west side of the harbor. There for years to come the city must do its chief export business, and ample provision must be made to handle it without delay.

## THE FORESTERS

The Hon. W. S. Fielding, finance minister of Canada, stands behind an insurance bill which, based on the report and recommendations of the Royal Commission, proposes more drastic changes in regard to the I. O. F. rates than those suggested by Supreme Chief Ranger Stevenson. The New Brunswick high court has very sharply criticised the supreme chief ranger, but has apparently overlooked the statement which he made on Thursday evening that when in Ottawa recently Mr. Fielding told him he still stood behind the insurance bill. It is true that Mr. Fielding said he would be glad to consider all representations made on behalf of the fraternal insurance organizations, but it must not be forgotten that behind Mr. Fielding is the report of the Royal Commission. Action on the insurance bill has been postponed, but sooner or later the question must be taken up by parliament, and its action will be based very largely on the report of the Royal Commission. Therefore, says Mr. Stevenson, something must be done. He makes one suggestion and invites others. He points out that the order should be in a position to offer something as a basis of parliamentary action as far as the order is concerned. The High Court of New Brunswick has declared that no action whatever should be taken by the order for at least five years, no matter what parliament may do. But if parliament acts the order will be bound by its action. There is on escape from this fact. Every Forester would be very glad if it could be shown that no change is necessary, but the Royal Commission calls for a change, and the government has taken the preliminary steps to that end. Neither the government nor parliament will wait five years. The supreme chief ranger was stating a simple and obvious fact when he said that something must be done and that the I. O. F. should face the whole question and be prepared to deal with the conditions as they are now presented. He had no difficulty yesterday in making it clear that the late Dr. Oronhyatekha recognized and declared that an adjustment of rates must come. Mr. Stevenson says that something must be done. Behind his statement are the report of the Royal Commision, the insurance bill and the statement made recently by the finance minister of Canada. When the supreme court of the order meets in Toronto the delegates from New Brunswick, favoring a do-nothing policy, will probably find themselves in a very small minority. The problem confronting fraternal insurance societies undoubtedly has its sentimental aspect in connection with the effect of any change upon the older members, but this must be offset by consideration of the future interests of the whole membership. It is one thing to sway the feelings of a group of men and women; it is quite another thing to solves a grave financial question involving the safety of insurance investment.

## THE BUDGET

Hon. Mr. Flemming is to be congratulated upon the clearness and fulness of the statement contained in his first budget speech, although the province cannot congratulate itself upon the state of affairs so forcibly revealed. Mr. Flemming was compelled to make disagreeable revelations concerning the loose methods and the incompetent and reckless methods of administration pursued by the late government. When in opposition he had time and again made charges against the government of the day, and now the facts show that these charges, grave as they were, fell short of the actual state of affairs.

But Mr. Flemming has shown that he is competent to deal with the situation, and the manner and matter of his retort to the remarks of uneasy gentlemen opposite indicate that he is quite able to pursue his course without being at all worried by them. This paper, prior to the elections, remarked upon the singular clearness of Mr. Flemming's statements from the public platform, and as provincial secretary he has more than fulfilled the expectations of his friends, in the ability with which he has mastered the situation and placed the facts before the house.

But it is not a pleasant task to stand in his place in the house and tell of conditions which reflect so much discredit upon former administrations. The affairs of this province have been grossly mismanaged. The present government is compelled to face conditions which never should have existed. It must rectify past blunders and provide for the payment of obligations which should have been met long ago or should never have been incurred. The policy of concealment which Mr. Flemming denounced when in opposition has heaped unfair burdens upon him now that he is in office. His grim joke yesterday, when he observed that the house would be glad to learn that no more old claims had been presented for payment since he spoke on the previous day, was suggested by a situation unparalleled in the political history of the province. It is said that nearly every mail brings in some new item of floating indebtedness, and it will be necessary to issue more bonds to cover the whole of this debt, when all of it has been discovered. In all the departments the most reckless methods have prevailed, and there was no attempt to apply business principles. The task of the new government is a very serious one, and the province has reason to rejoice that capable men, who are determined to inaugurate a better system, are now at the head of its affairs. No New Brunswick leader of the opposition in the legislature ever had a more thankless task than falls to the lot of ex-Premier Robinson.

## UNIVERSAL RELIGION

Even in Victoria they play golf. While the ardent devotee in St. John is worshipping behind Fort Howe, he may reflect that on the Oak Bay links at Victoria other worshippers are doing the like with equal zeal. On the occasion of a recent tournament on the Pacific coast the Victoria Colonist, with due humility, but some degree of enthusiasm, made these discriminating observations:—

"Only fear of being regarded as sacrilegious restrains the Colonist from venturing some remarks about golf. Golf we have been assured is not a game. It is a cult, a mystery, a religion—at least there are some people who go out to the links at the time when they are presumed to go to church. There was once a preacher of whom it was said that he went into the profession so as to be at liberty to indulge his passion for strong language. Perish the thought that this can be true, or that any man ever played golf for that reason, but the insinuation shows another reason for regarding golf as a serious thing. If we may judge from a somewhat limited experience, golf has a language of its own. Its devotees 'speak with tongues,' that is they say things that are untinetligible to the uninitiated, and it is told of a certain gentleman of the cloth, who shall be nameless, that there are times when his silence on the links is more eloquent than he can ever hope to be in the pulpit. In view of these things we forbear making the observations which otherwise would seem appropriate. Instead of doing so we bid the golfers welcome. They cannot all go home champions, but they ought to all go home happy. They are participating in an excellent pastime. It takes people out of doors. It affords wholesome exercise. It is a million times better than the card table. It ought to develop sound manhood and womanhood, for it calls for the exercise of good judgment and much skill. It helps comradeship, and, if the truth must be told, it has on a very few occasions, and in foreign lands of course, been understood that a little god with bow and arrows has followed a youth and maiden round the course and made the best score of the day."


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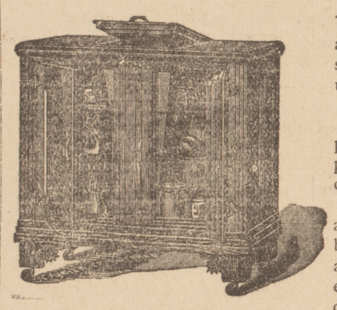
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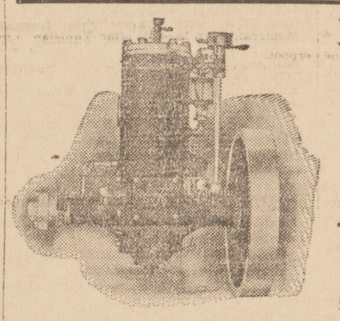
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## ENOUGH

(Toronto News.)

I have had enough of women, and enough of love,
But the land waits, and the sea waits, and day and night is enough;
Give me a long white road, and the grey wide path of the sea,
And the wind's will and the birr's will, and the heartache still in me.

Why should I seek out sorrow, and give gold for strife?
I have loved much and wept much, but tears and love are not life;
The grass calls to my heart, and the foam to my blood cries up,
And the sun shines and the road shines, and the wine's in the cup.

I have had enough of wisdom and enough of mirth,
For the way's one and the end's one, and it's soon to the ends of the earth,
And it's then good-night and to bed, and if heels or heart ache,
Well—it's sound sleep and long sleep, and sleep too deep to wake.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN

LIGHTER VEIN.

"You did say Atlas held up the world?"
"I did."
"Carried it on his shoulders?"
"Yes, sir."
"He must have been a remarkably strong man. No man could do that nowadays."
"But things are different now."
"In what way?"
"Well, you see, there was but a small part of the world discovered when he held it up."

QUEER.

The Man of Ease—"When I compare the one or two creditors I have with the millions and millions of people to whom I owe nothing, I wonder why in the world those fellows make such a confounded fuss about it."—Fliegende Blaetter.

WASTED A CAUTION.

Church—"What's that piece of cord tied around your finger for?"
Chapell—"My wife put it there to remind me to post her letter."
"And did you post it?"
"No; she forgot to give it to me!"—London Opinion.

SHAKESPEARE AND THE EASTER HAT.

"Shakespeare wrote for all time."
"For instance?"
"Take his expression: 'Tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a barn-door, yet 'twill serve.' How well that describes a 1908 spring hat!"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

IMPROVING.

"But how about political reform?" asked the man who had been living abroad for a good many years. "Are you making any headway?"
"I should say we were," replied the solid citizen. "It is no longer a disgrace to be mentioned as a candidate for alderman."—Chicago Record-Herald.

WORK NO PLACE FOR HIM.

Pastor—"Why are you not at work, John?"
John (with a pot of beer in his hand)—"The doctor has ordered me to do something that will make me sweat."—Fliegende Blaetter.

THE SCOTSMAN'S ANSWER.

A gentleman prominent in the local harbor offices is responsible for the following: When recently in Glasgow, he was telling a venerable Scot of the magnitude of the St. Lawrence River in comparison with the Clyde.
"Why, the Clyde is only a ditch compared to the St. Lawrence," said the Montrealer.
The Scot answered, "God made the St. Lawrence River, but we made the Clyde."

CUPID AMONG THE DISHES.

"What became of that pretty waitress I used to ring for every lunch hour?" asked the regular patron.
"She don't answer rings any more," replied the cashier, with an amused smile.
"And why not?"
"Because the last man's ring was an engagement."—Chicago News.

## COURTENAY BAY BORING PLAN REJECTED

### City Council Decides Against the Report of the Special Committee.

The common council, at a special meeting yesterday, struck out the first section of the report of the special committee recommending that borings should be made in Courtenay Bay. The opinion was expressed that there was no pressing need for the work, that the expense of providing facilities in that section would be very large and that it was more in the interests of the city to develop the west side. Sections in the report recommending that negotiations be opened with the C. P. R. to obtain the land to the south of Sand Point, that the minister of public works be asked to extend the dredging there, and that the Negro Head breakwater be extended to Partridge Island were adopted with slight discussion. Ald. Sculley gave notice of motion to appoint a committee to take up with the Dominion government the C. P. R. and the St. John Railway Company the matter of building a bridge across the harbor. The issue of $63,000 debentures was ordered and other business was transacted.

The report of the ferry committee recommending that the tender of the Union Foundry for repairs to the Western Extension be accepted, that authority be given for calling for tenders to paint the Western Extension and that the committee should be authorized to purchase uniform coats for the captains and mates was adopted.

On motion of Ald. Willet the attention of the I. C. R. will be called to the condition of the Mill street crossing and a reminder of promises made by Hon. H. R. Emmerson, Deputy Minister Butler and the present minister of railways sent in.

It was decided that the common clerk should inform the board of trade of the action taken on the special committee's report.

Several communications were referred to the boards.



"The baby ate a box of tooth-picks.
Then remarked his brother Abe.
'I've read about babes in the wood.'
But here's where the wood's in the babe."

ROMANCE AND REALITY.

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love;
In the spring the snows and torrents quickly tumble from above;
In the spring the maiden's vision many joyous pictures sees;
In the spring we soak and shiver, splash and spatter, sneeze and freeze.


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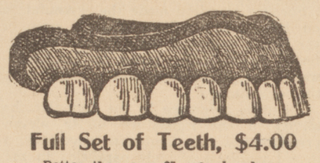
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