The Daily Journal

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1922.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

A Workmen's Compensation Law is regarded as essential to industrial organization. It is an excellent law, if properly administered, and should be a protection both to employer and employe. It should insure the injured employe justice in all cases and at the same time it should safeguard the employer against excessive damage verdicts except in exceptional cases. It is valuable to the workingman because of the feeling of safety and security it gives him.

New Brunswick has such an Act but the charge has been made that the Act is not properly administered. The Journal is heartily in accord with the principle of compensation embodied in the Act but there are several matters in connection with its administration which seem to call for investigation. Such an investigation has been requested by a strong delegaton from the New Brunswick Lumbermen's (Association, which appeared before the Provincial Government at Fredericton last week. Some of the most important changes they suggested were that the board be judicial in character; that all decisions and findings of the board and all payments made, be published in the Royal Gazette; and that a contribution be made by employes to cover first aid, medical and hospital expenses.

A resolution along similar lines was passed at the last annual meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. It is held that those who pay compensation should have some representation on the board, and an equitable arrangement would seem to be the nomination of one member by the employers, another by the employes and the chairman to be appointed by the government. Those who are called upon to pay out the compensation should have representation and those who receive compensation should contribute a portion of the total cost in order that they may have a personal interest in the economical administration of the funds. This does not mean that employes should be called upon to bear a heavy burden, but as they are the beneficiaries they should contribute something towards the administration. This principle is fundamentally necessary if the proper cooperation between employers and employes in the working of the Act is to be secured.

As an instance of mal-administration, it was charged by the delegation representing the lumbermen that the board had passed a claim for $6,500 for a miner who was alleged to have lost his eyesight and that the beneficiary had afterwards been proven not to be blind.

The government has promised to give the suggestions of the Lumbermen's Association consideration and it is understood that if action is decided on, legislation will be enacted at the next session of the legislature, embodying whatever changes are thought advisable.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

The British Press is practically unanimous in assuming that the Conservative Party led by Bonar Law will have the largest parliamentary group after today's election, and indications seem to be that he will have a majority over all. Lloyd George has been making a characteristically brilliant campaign but his organization has naturally suffered by the disruption of his support. As a matter of political record, when it is generally admitted that a leader or a party has lost popularity to some extent the vote generally shows the loss to have been heavier than was expected.

The situation in England by and large is much the same as that in the United States at the last presidential election. After eight years of Wilson the people wanted a period of quiet and steadiness under an ordinary man more of the common calibre. Lloyd George has held office long after Wilson and Clemenceau fell, by virtue partly of local circumstances and partly of a greater political genius. But while people will cheer for genius when it is needed in an emergency, they get wearied after a long spell of it and prefer a man whose actions they can figure upon rather than one whose brilliancy keeps them guessing.

No man has done England greater service than Lloyd George and he will be a strong political factor so long as he chooses to remain in public life. It is quite possible that he may come back to the premiership before long, but political auguries seem to read that his role for the next parliament will be that of a battling leader of an active central group, midway between radicalism and reaction—and possibly a group strong enough to keep the government pretty well under control. To a man of Lloyd George's political instincts and fighting spirit such a role would be even more interesting than that of government leader.

A FICTITIOUS EXODUS.

There has been considerable discussion of late concerning a reported exodus of some two millions of Canadians from Canada during the last ten years. It has been said that these Canadians found their way to the United States but the population of the United States did not increase as much in the last decade, proportionately, as did the population of Canada. The Vancouver Province points out that the number of Canadians in the United States has decreased instead of increasing during the last ten years and gives the following figures:

In 1910 there were in the United States 1,204,000 persons of Canadian birth. In 1920 the number was 1,117,000, a decrease of 87,000, showing that the people who immigrated from Canada were not as many as the deaths, which at the regular rate would be about 165,000.

Judging from these figures there is little foundation for the statement that two million Canadians have taken up their residence across the border. Apparently the conclusion has been jumped at, because the population of Canada has not increased as rapidly as the natural birth-rate and proper immigration facilities would warrant, that this country is losing the great majority of its immigrants and a great many of its natural increase to the United States. It has been stated that practically every immigrant who came into the country during the last ten years went out of it again and that 300,000 of the natural increase joined them in this exodus. During the ten years from 1911 to 1921, the returns in the department of immigration show that Canada received 1,957,393 immigrants. It has been said that a number equal to all of these and 300,000 Canadian born in addition have emigrated from this country.

It would seem that, in compiling these figures and drawing conclusions from them, the fact is lost sight of that 400,000 Canadians were absent from Canada during the best part of four and one-half years; that a great many were killed; and that the natural increase to Canada during practically one-half of the last decade, must of necessity have been cut to a minimum because the great majority of her physically fit men were fighting the battles of the Empire.

CANADA'S FORMER GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Mr. Somerville, a Canadian journalist in London, thinks that the Duke of Devonshire is one of the most influential Conservatives in Great Britain. He suggests that the former Governor-General of Canada might have become Premier had Mr. Bonar Law refused duty and he considers that Devonshire had a good deal to do with the destruction of the Lloyd George coalition. According to Mr. Somerville, the Duke of Devonshire had his choice of departments and took the colonial office which Colonel Amery desired. This portfolio is one of the most difficult and important in the cabinet and although the overseas Dominions have now little to do with that office, the minister is charged with administration of mandates. The successor to Mr. Churchill can be relied upon to approach his responsibilities with the stolid determination which belongs to his type. Among his colleagues are a former Governor-General of Australia and a former Viceroy of India.

CANCER.

One woman in eight and one man in 14 dies of cancer. So the public should gladly give deep thought to the medical warnings and advice circulated during the present week which is Cancer Week.

Here are the important facts you should know about this dread disease:

FIRST—Cancer usually is caused by chronic irritation, particularly of the stomach. Thirty per cent of cancers in men and 21 per cent in women are in the stomach.

SECOND—Cancer is not contagious . It is not a germ disease.

THIRD—Cancer is not hereditary, though a person may inherit a "tendency" or physical weakness which, not safe-guarded, may enable cancer to develop easily.

FOURTH—Cancer, taken in the early stages, often is curable in the hands of medical experts. Radium is working wonders in this line. So is surgery.

Dr. Francis Carter Wood, director of the Columbia University Institute of Cancer Research, learned this: Between the ages of 15 and 19, only one person in 150,000 dies of cancer. Between 20 and 24, only one person in 200,000. Between 25 and 34, one man in 10,000 and one woman in 5000 dies of cancer. And so the rate rises until, between the ages of 65 and 75, one man in 200 and one woman in 150 dies of cancer.

Thus cancer is especially dangerous in middle-age and after. But the irritation or other cause of cancer often starts much earlier, so no one is immune, and all should be on their guard.

As with other diseases, a periodical physical examination by a skilled physician is the best safeguard against cancer.

A speaker addressing the Rotary Club a day or two ago remarked that a pessimist was the man who got out of bed on the wrong side, came down to the breakfast table and growled to his neighbor, "I don't suppose there's any milk in that pitcher," while the optimist got out of bed on the right side, breezed in to the breakfast room, and in a cheery voice, requested his neighbor "to please pass the cream." Another noted gentleman who delivered an address here recently remarked that he was an optimist and gave as his reason that "things were in such a devil of a mess that they couldn't get any worse." Optimism is a splendid thing for the optimist and it serves to properly balance the pessimist. Between the two extremes can be charted a fairly safe course. Let us hope that the local optimists may not find that the milk in the pitcher has turned sour, while the pessimists may console themselves with the thought that "things are now in such a devil of a mess that they can't get any worse."

It looks as if army pilots would be out of a job in the next war. The pilotless army airplane has been developed to a point where it has made flights up to ninety miles, according to advices received from Washington. These machines are controlled by an automatic device, which is claimed to be more accurate than any human pilot. Such a device would seem to have more value as a war-time than as a peace-time instrument. Some ingenious inventor must now discover a means of transporting passengers through the air without it being necessary for them to travel in airplanes.

Sir Basil Thomson, former head of Scotland Yard, who is lecturing in the United States, adds a few more pages to the "inside history" of the World War, already contributed to so heavily by William Hohenzollern, Lloyd George, Franklin K. Lane and others. The "inside stuff" is coming out on the very heels of the war. That is contrary to custom, for diplomats usually leave their memoirs to be published after death. We are fortunate. It is rarely that a generation that fights a war lives to learn what took place behind the scenes.

CHESLEY STREET BRIDGE PAYMENT AGAIN HELD UP

Council Votes to Refer Issue to City Solicitor—Mayor's Secretary's Resignation Accepted — Government to Pay for Employment Bureau Furniture.

The matter of moving back the west abutment of the Chesley street bridge of the C. P. R. to conform to the street line was again before the council yesterday and Commissioner Frink moved that the city pay one-third of the cost, $700, as suggested by the Board of Railway Commissioners, but this did not mee with the approval of the council, which decided to ask the opinion of the city solicitor before taking further action. Commissioner Bullock was given authority to dispose of the R. G. Andrew house to the best advantage.

Mayor McLellan presided and Commissioners Wigmore, Thornton, Frink and Bullock were also present.

The resignation of Miss Dorothy K Lowe, secretary to the mayor, was received and accepted.

Major L. D. Howard wrote that he had been given to understand that furniture for the employment bureau would be supplied by the provincial government at no cost to the city and in his negotiations with the government there had been no talk of the city paying any portion of this. Commissioner Thornton said that since the matter was before the council last he had seen Premier Foster and had been informed by that gentleman that if the statement had been made that the government would pay for the furniture and the city had entered into the arrangement on those terms the government would pay the bill. The communication was ordered filed.

Applications for permission to erect electric signs in front of the Dufferin Hotel Annex and at Short's Pharmacy, Garden street, were referred to the commissioner of public works.

Chesley Street Bridge

Commissioner Frink reported on the letter of Hon. F. B. Carvell, chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, in connection with the Chesley street bridge of the C. P. R., which had been referred to him, in which it was pointed out that unless the city agreed to pay the amount of $700 toward the cost of setting back the western abutment of the bridge to the street line, the Board would make an order for the restoration of the abutment on the old site, and he moved that notwithstanding any previous motion of the council touching on this matter, the council accept the terms proposed by the Board of Railway Commissioners, the money to be provided in the public works appropriation of 1923.

Commissioner Thornton said he thought it was not fair to ask the city to pay any portion of this cost and moved the matter be referred to the city solicitor for an opinion as to whether the Railway Commissioners had power to order the city to pay this amount. This was seconded by Commissioner Wigmore. Commissioner Frink said he had not seen the city solicitor this time as on a previous occasion that official had expressed the opinion that a decision of the Railway Board was law, from which there was no appeal. The motion of Commissioner Thornton carried, the mover and seconder and mayor voting for it and Commissioners Frink and Bullock against.

Commissioner Bullock reported that the pontoon at the Eastern Steamship Lines, Inc., wharf needed repairs, which would cost $950. He had an unexpended balance in the Reed's Point wharf appropriation and on his motion he was given authority to make the repairs and charge to this balance.

Commissioner Bullock reported that he had been in communication with Simmons Ltd., in connection with a lease which they had of three lots in Dukes ward, at an annual rental of $50 in consideration of the fact that they carried on a manufacturing business there. They had not been carrying on the manufacturing and he proposed a new lease at $150 per year. He submitted correspondence with the firm and was given authority to submit the proposed new lease to them for consideration.

RECTOR GOES TO KINGS CO.

Rev. H. T. Buckland, who has resigned as rector of Gagetown and Hampstead, left yesterday for Springfield, Kings County, to become rector of the Anglican Church there. He has been in charge of Gagetown and Hampstead since 1918.

Pale and Thin

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SAMUEL SEWELL IS SENTENCED

Former Superintendent of Water and Sewerage to Serve One Year and Six Months in Jail—W. J. Simmons Freed.

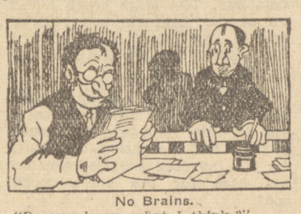
Samuel Sewell formerly superintendent of the city water and sewerage department, was yesterday sentenced by Judge Armstrong to serve one year and six months with hard labor in jail, on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses.

In the first trial the jury disagreed. In the second trial, which was concluded on last Wednesday, the jury found him guilty with recommendation of mercy. H. A. Powell, K. C., his counsel, applied for leave to appeal for a reserved case and argument was heard last Thursday, the judge announcing that he would give his decision yesterday. The grounds taken by Mr. Powell were alleged wrongful admission of evidence and faults in the judge's charge to the jury. A reserve case was refused by His Honor and sentence imposed at the jail.

William Ryan represented the crown in this case.

In the case of the King against William J. Simonds, charged with theft. Judge Armstrong allowed the prisoner to go, he having been in jail for fifty-seven days, on the condition that he leave the city at once. He has departed.

THE LAUGH LINE



No Brains.

"Do you know what I think?"

"No, but I have two minutes to spare. Tell me all."

A Lucky Man.

Hubby—I'm afraid you're a vain little wife. You look into your mirror so much.

Wifey—Don't blame me, dear. I haven't your advantage.

Hubby—What is that?

Wifey—You can see my face without looking into a mirror.

Very True.

Samaritan—Aren't you hurt, my friend?

Victim—Well, it ain't done me no good.

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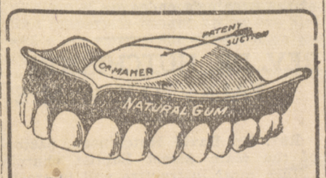

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