

The Maritime Broadcaster

The Maritime Broadcaster is published each week in Saint John, N. B., by the Broadcaster Publishing Company, Limited, with offices at 22 Canterbury Street.

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Wholesale Distributors for The Maritime Broadcaster
NEW BRUNSWICK—C. A. Munro, Ltd., 16 Canterbury St., Saint John.
NOVA SCOTIA—H. H. Marshall, Ltd., 96 Granville St., Halifax, and 409 Charlotte St., Sydney.
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—H. H. Marshall, Ltd., Charlottetown.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., MARCH 13, 1936

THE LEGISLATURE

THE NEW Brunswick Legislature is settling down to business in an orderly manner and already much progress has been made in the consideration of legislation. Just at present the debate on the reply to the Speech from the Throne is in progress and speakers on both sides of the House are showing marked ability in their efforts. While the Liberal members are upholding the stand of the Government, they are freely offering suggestions for the improvement of conditions in the Province.

Opposition members are taking an attitude of criticism which evidences a desire to get something done that will be of real benefit. There seems a willingness on the part of the Opposition to give the Government support in those matters which appear for the common good.

If this spirit is continued throughout the session no doubt much progress will be made and at least some of the serious problems will have a fair chance of being solved. Every member of the Legislature should consider all measures from a provincial rather than a party standpoint. Party politics have been a detriment to the progress of New Brunswick but a new day appears to be dawning when New Brunswick and her people will be the first consideration of the legislators.

FAIR WAGES AND TAXES

THE SUGGESTION of Rev. Dr. H. E. Thomas before the bills committee of the Saint John Municipal Council this week that fair wages be one of the terms on which concessions in taxation are made for industries, seems to be an idea that might be given serious consideration.

Dr. Thomas pointed out that the municipality had gained little by granting fixed valuation because the wages paid did not permit employees to pay taxes. In one case in the city a firm for years had been placed upon a fixed valuation which was hardly ten per cent. of the actual value and yet the wages paid by this concern were so low that not fifty per cent. of the workmen were in a position to pay their taxes. Where was there any great gain to the city in that?

To give a fixed valuation to any firm was a special privilege and when special privileges were given the rights of ordinary citizens ought to be guarded by a special provision in a bill assuring that fair wages would be paid.

Dr. Thomas paid a tribute to firms who had no special privileges and despite the troubled times had done the fair thing toward employees. He said that all governments were giving attention more and more to social legislation and the municipal government might consider the step he proposed.

EASY STREET

HOW OFTEN do we hear some one remark or even have we thought ourselves: "If I could do so and so, put over this deal or that, I would be on Easy Street?"

It seems to be the desire of the majority to live on Easy Street. Yet it generally will be found that the rents are usually mighty high on Easy Street. If the only thing a man gets out of life is ease and comfort he gets very little. The greatest joy of life is the rapture of victory in a hard fight. But few men are found who have struggled against odds from their youth even after they have amassed wealth, with a desire to retire and live a life of ease. They are made of the stuff which says, let me be a help and inspiration to my fellows.

There have been men who refused to live on Easy Street even after they have passed the three score years and ten mark. The easy chair life has no appeal to that sort of man. He has a desire to share and help in all community work. He would keep in step as long as he can and at an advanced age would find himself younger in mind and spirit than a man a score of years his junior. This is particularly true when these juniors are living on wealth which has been inherited or accumulated in Easy Street. Those who get wealth easily usually live lives of uselessness.

Every man has a duty to perform to society and to the community in which he lives. The duty of the man of wealth was well expressed by the late Andrew Carnegie, whose memory is respected because of his benefactions. He said: "This, then, is held to be the duty of the man of wealth: To set an example of modest, unostentatious living shunning display or extravagance; to provide moderately for the legitimate wants of those dependent upon him; and after doing so, to consider all surplus revenues which come to him simply as trust funds, which he is called upon to administer in the manner which, in his judgment, is best calculated to provide the most beneficial results for the community—the man of wealth thus becoming the mere trustee and agent for his poorer brethren."

POEMS THAT LIVE

IN SLUMBER

She is very lovely now,
Lying in her silken bed,
Sleep's deep peace upon her brow;
Dreaming, wholly comforted.

Long brocades of moonlight swing
Palely on her chamber walls,
Scent of clover blossoming
Enters, and a night bird calls.

Sounds are muted, perfumes fade
And the fresh wind softly stirs
Over shoulders white as jade
And that cloudy hair of hers.

Breath but faintly lifts her breast,
Tryst with joy her glad dreams
Keep;

She is loveliest at rest,
Wholly comforted in sleep!

Haytassel Says . . .



"Wall I gess them fellers up to Fredric-ton intend to do sum-thing in this sesshun uv the L'gylature. They hev got a gud start ennyway and if they keep along on thair program they will hev sumthin dun befour the end uv the sesshun." This wuz the opinion expressed by Mr. Josh Haytassel when he visited the office of "The Maritime Broadcaster" this week. He expresed himself further: "The cerrimonies et the openin wuz in keeplin with the times end due respect wuz exprest regard-in the death uv His Late Majesty King George V.

"They wuz no soshal func-shuns this year end the assem-bly chamber wuz somber in appearance compared to other years, but the black and purpel dresses uv the wimmen end the uniforms uv the governor end military officers made pretty gud picshures end the openin wuz ez impressive ez in other years.

"The openin wuz smooth. Mister Keefe hed to take the job uv clark et short notis, but his experience uv other years gided him end they wuz no hitches that cud be notised by the spectators.

"Wall, the house is in ses-shun end awl the peepul uv Neu Brunswick air lookin fer sumthin reel to kum out uv the meetins. They is hi hopes fer doin away with unemployment. More wurk is needed end it is hoped that the peepul will be given confidence to go ahead with busyness that will help awl the peepul. Mister Doone end Mister Foster in thair speeches seamed to think that they wuz to be a lot dun end they spok freely uv wot cud be 'dun. Help fer farmers wuz in thair minds end they showed that sumthin must be dun in that line. Canning factories wuz menshuned end no doubt sumthin will be dun in this line.



MR. B. WISE

B. WISE says:

We have two kinds of satisfied people. Those who are satisfied with themselves, and those we are satisfied with. One of the two make very satisfied companions and friends.

'Uv coarse a nashunal park wuz menshuned end now almost every part uv the province will want one. Wall they may git them, too, but they is a lot to be dun end let us giv the legylatirs a chanct. S'long."

CLIPPINGS

WHILE CANADIAN WHEAT PILES UP

(Chicago Tribune)

Germany now grows nearly all the wheat it eats. This result has been achieved by eating less bread and growing more wheat at home. In 1929 Germany imported nearly 40 per cent. of the wheat it consumed. In 1934 the imports had been reduced to ten per cent. German soil and climate are not particularly well adapted to wheat culture. In order to bring about the very substantial increase in domestic production which has taken place the Government has been obliged to grant large subsidies to wheat farmers and at the same time to restrict imports. In consequence bread is more costly than it need be.

THE INEVITABLE RESULT

(London Free Press)

There is no problem more difficult to handle, either in this city, or all over the country, than relief. It is becoming one of the most serious question which faces Canada. No one wants to see any man, woman or child suffering through no fault of their own. Yet there is a growing impression that to many people relief is a racket. They are beginning to think the State owes them a living. The burden upon the municipalities is becoming unbearable. It has fairly bankrupted many cities in Canada and every large city is finding yearly the problem more complex and more intricate.

THE DOMINIONS AND IMMIGRATION

(Buffalo Evening News)

In the good old days England and Europe saw millions of people cross the Atlantic to both North and South America. Now that the depression has taken its toll, the situation is completely changed. Canada has 12 per cent. of its population dependent on public charity. The United States has a quota system for immigration. Both nations are trying hard to provide their citizens with em-

ployment in private industry. Theoretically, the British who would send their sons overseas to lands where there is always room or more are taking the correct attitude. Canada and Australia never would have achieved their present economic status if the Anglo-Saxon had not pioneered into the prairies of the Dominion and across the Australian bush. Nevertheless, the "mother country" now finds it hard to get rid of its surplus population, mainly because of the fact that unemployed coal miners and textile workers would be public charges the moment they landed at Halifax or Sydney. That is the factor which keeps these poor but willing would-be emigrants from "nailing the rivets of an empire down." There simply are not enough rivets to go around and the average Canadian or Australian laborer is no more willing to compete with newcomers of his own race than he is with Japanese or Hindus.

SHE'S STILL WHAT SHE USED TO BE

(Regina Leader-Post)

How much smarter are our legislators than many of the old women whose names and deeds may spring to the mind of the reader? Some of these old women may be much smarter than our legislators. Many a woman of 75 can look after a house, do the cooking, scare the old man from his place in front of the stove and send him off to the chores, out-talk a couple of insurance salesmen or bill collectors, bake the finest bread and apple pie in Canada, quilt a couple of well-patterned comforters, kick the cat into the woodshed, and still have enough energy left to grab the broom and bash in the head of any legislator who might refer to her slightly as an old woman. The Leader-Post would like to warn our legislators against getting too flippant with the old women. The old women, after all, may really be the backbone of the country—not the jawbone.

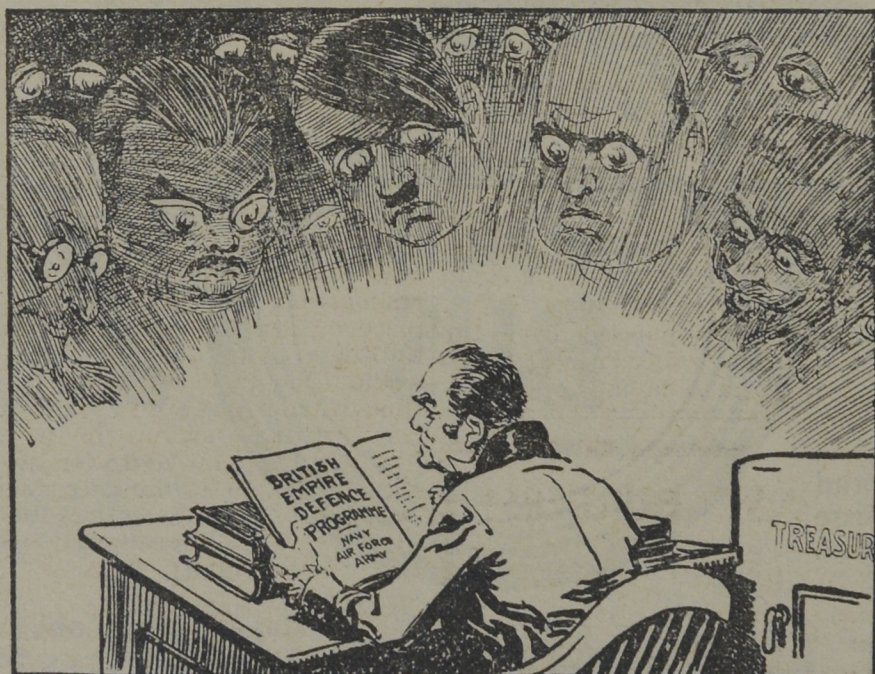
CHAINED AND SHACKLED

(Windsor Star)

Business is chained and shackled. Business doesn't know where it stands. Governments here and Governments there are taking so much money out in the way of taxes of all descriptions, that the margin of reasonable safety has been cut away and there is little or nothing left, in countless cases, for those who have risked their capital and put in, as well, their special ability and their hard work. "Why," business men ask themselves, "should we sweat and toil and plan and risk our capital when so little is left for us even if we do have a fair measure of ordinary success?" There you have the thing that is holding up recovery, that constitutes the reason why business is not expanding as it normally should. And keep in mind that this failure to expand, this failure of capital to open up new enterprises and invade new fields, means the failure of countless workmen to secure employment. It proves, of course, that excessive and continually rising taxation is a double-edged blow. It hits both Capital and Labor. It injures the nation as a whole.

ON THE SPOT

"I am looking for a dentist," said Harry Rogers, a burglar, when he stumbled on a burglar alarm in an American dental surgery. The dentist strapped him in the chair, and extracted six teeth without an anæsthetic.



THE EYES OF THE WORLD UPON HIM!

—News of the World.