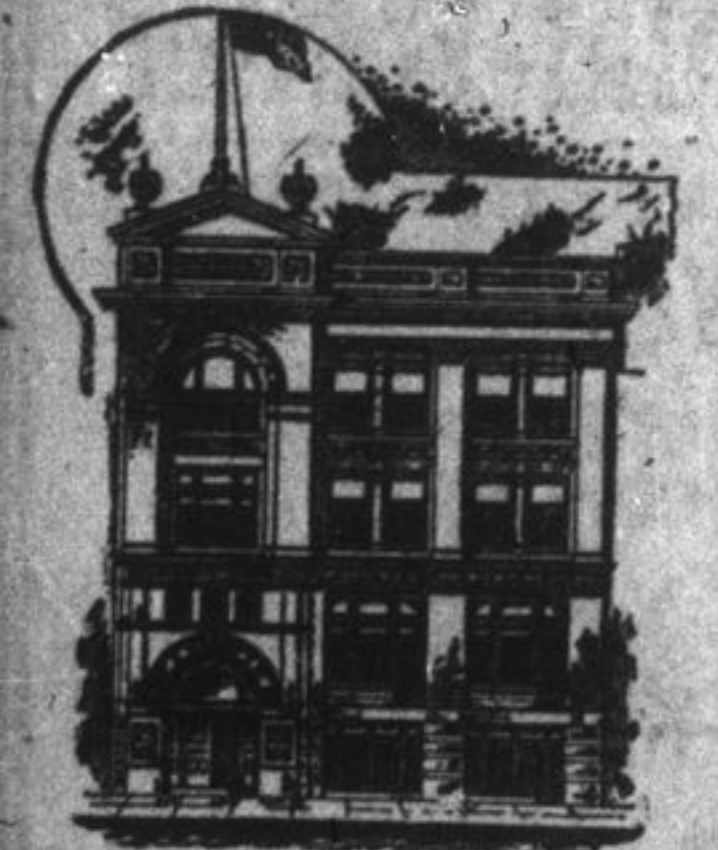


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UNIQUE CHARACTER PASSES.

An interesting character has just passed away in Montreal in the person of John Horn, aged eighty-nine years. He was a telegraph operator who saw wide service. During the civil war he handled the wire in the Western Union office in New York. S. F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, was a personal friend of Horn and he treasured original letters from him. Horn heard Lincoln speak from the balcony of the old Astor House, now being torn down in New York, and was fond of describing his mannerisms. Lincoln crossed his hands in front of him when he spoke and emphasized his points by inclining his gaunt frame, as though he was making a bow.

After the war Mr. Horn returned to Montreal and became interested in journalism. He joined the staff of Canada First, a weekly publication. He wrote much regarding the history of Montreal and Quebec and later collaborated with Gerald E. Hart in writing the "Fall of New France." During the Riel rebellion in the Canadian northwest he served with the field telegraph.

A unique feature in Canadian journalistic history is attributed to Mr. Horn, this being an issue of "Canada First" printed in white ink on black paper. This was in 1883 and copies are now rare. Horn also conducted the Canadian Electrical News for a short time.

WORK IMPORTANT, BUT NOT ALL.

William M. Wood, says a writer in the New York Evening World, killed himself because he could not stand it to be idle. According to this writer, the wealthy founder of the American Woolen Company could have borne the grief and disappointment which accompanied his declining years if he had been able to plunge into work as he used to do. Deprived of this solace, the writer thinks, Wood found life too great a burden to be carried any longer and sent a bullet through his brain.

Wood was active throughout his life—tremendously so. He was the very epitome of the American tradition of a bustling, hurrying business executive. Born a poor boy, he developed a tremendous company, piled up a huge fortune—and then found at the very last that it was hardly worth it, somehow.

Whether the writer who discussed his suicide in the New York paper gauged his motives correctly it is impossible to say, of course. But whether he was right or wrong, the whole story serves to point out once more the tragedy that is bound to come, some time, if we make our daily work an end rather than a means to an end.

It is good to be able to find work in which one can lose oneself, giving all the energy and force one has without stopping to think where it is leading. But it has its dangers. Sooner or later, unless one dies in middle age, comes the day when the human machine cannot stand up under the strain. Then the old job, no matter how much one enjoyed it, has to be given up. And if one has not some inner resources—something to make life sweet wholly apart from work—there is tragedy.

Work hard and earnestly, yes. But never forget that there is a little bit more to life than eating.

BIBLE THOUGHT
PLEASANT WORDS ARE AS A HONEYCOMB, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.—Proverbs 16:24.

and sleeping and toiling. There are so many things to enjoy, to make life happy and full; don't fail to find out about them while there is time.

What are they? Little things—but big things, nevertheless. The treasures of literature and art, the fine joys of human friendships and relationships, the feeling of harmony with a world that, despite its woes, is still a good, kindly world—these things can make up for idleness when one has quit the harness. If your life has no interest for you outside of your work—look out. You are heading toward a very unhappy old age.

WOMEN'S FANCIES.

In the course of some praiseworthy felicitations on its hundredth anniversary, one of the big metropolitan stores is philosophizing instructively about the growth of merchandising in the last century, says the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The enormous increase of buying and selling which are now institutionalized in great buildings which are more like palaces than stores, is usually regarded merely as something that has happened without any effort to explain why it has happened.

As a matter of fact, the growth of manufacturing and retailing are deserving of some more biographic or biologic notice than they have received from those scientists and philosophers whose business it is to look into grindstones. Such terms as quantity production and volume sales have acquired an immense vogue without any one taking the trouble to inquire why people want so much more than people wanted in the old times and how it is that they can afford to buy things so steadily and in such increasing quantities.

The metropolitan store attributes the great increase of buying, calling for an ever-increasing manufacture of goods, to "women's fancies." It further explains that where in former times the women bought what the merchant had, now they demand what they want, and it is up to the merchant to get it. In other words, this merchandising expert says that the enormous mercantile structure is built upon the butterfly-like in a woman's head.

But for the real philosopher, of course, the main task is to explain what produces a woman's fancy. Why does the woman of to-day want and demand so many things that her grandmother never thought of? And how is it that she is able to afford such a continually expanding budget? The mere fact that prosperity has increased so rapidly within a hundred years and that the tastes of the people have changed and their wants multiplied gives no clue to the why and wherefore of these momentous changes. To know just why the old store has been suddenly transfigured into the merchandising palaces that are rising everywhere along city thoroughfares would be to know one of the great secrets of human progress.

A GRANT IS A TAX.

Every "grant" made by the provincial government to the people involves a "tax" collected directly or indirectly, by that same government from the people. And all these taxes in the aggregate, added to municipal and Dominion taxes, mean a levy of not less than \$70 per head, on the average, upon every man, woman and child in Ontario. That burden must be lessened if productive industries, and more particularly the agricultural industry, are to survive.

The Farmers' Sun hopes the paragraph above will not only be read a second time, but that it will be pasted up somewhere to serve as a constant reminder of the fact, too often forgotten, that all the money spent by the government comes out of taxes collected from the people. The Ontario Government collected in taxes nearly five and a half million dollars in 1924 from banks, life and fire insurance companies, loan and trust companies, railway and other corporations. But these corporations charged every dollar of these taxes back on the people they served in the form of higher charges for services rendered. The corporations were simply tax collecting agents for the government, and they collected not only the five and a half million dollars first levied upon them, but they added on their own charge for the service rendered in collecting.

HUGE CAPITAL EXPENDITURES.

Between Lake St. John and Winnipeg, adjacent to the National Railways, there are capital expenditures being made of \$250,000,000 in pulp and paper, power, mining and aluminum manufacture, and it is these huge industries, not only creating adequate tonnage for two great railway systems, but particularly developing traffic along the newer lines of the National Railways built in advance of these developments; that, more than anything else, is Eastern Canada's signpost-pointing the road to prosperity.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Vienna doctors are now vaccinating for rheumatism. Wonders never cease.

When are we going to see the last of the 1925 auto licenses on the streets?

For the first time in 500 years, Turkish actresses have displaced Armenian actresses on the Turkish stage.

Bobbed hair, and the small featherless hats, now being worn by women, are gradually sealing the fate of the ostrich.

The Bowmanville Statesman thinks that learning should be acquired by "austere self-denial." The scholar must "scorn delights and live laborious days. We are always sorry," says the Statesman, "when we hear of complaints of parents against teachers for assigning homework to their children."

Toronto council is negotiating to take over the Ferry company and run the boats between the city and Hanlan's Point. It is said much money is involved.

A New York syndicate has offered Suzanne Lenglen \$20,000 to turn professional and play a half dozen games for speculative purposes. It is to the everlasting honor of the French girl that she turned the offer down flat.

Twenty young men contracted smallpox after dancing with a fair young maiden in an English town. The Charleston appears to be contagious enough without bringing other "diseases" into the modern dance halls.

Men are being hanged in Turkey for refusing to shed the fez in favor of the western hat but the women are stoutly resisting official efforts to reform their headwear and in the language of the street "are getting away with it."

If it is true that British unemployed are averse to emigrating to Canada because if they did they would lose their dole, then the British dole system is a good thing for Canada. That sort of immigrant is not the sort of immigrant this country wants, remarks the Hamilton Herald.

A despatch from London informs us that donkeys are shortly to wear silk stockings. This does not refer to the dumb but beautiful flappers who have been wearing them for some time; the donkeys in question being located in Algeria where they are said to suffer from fly bites—hence the proposed hosiery.

Our extremely favorable position in respect to trade and commerce is due to western activity and western energy, hence it may be quite properly argued, suggests the Peterboro Examiner, that the west is entitled to the added influence which it has gained and to the greater measure of attention which it now receives on the part of the legislators.

The question has arisen at Ottawa as to when a member is insulted. The ruling of Speaker Lemieux that it is unparliamentary to call a member a "rubber stamp" but that much may depend upon the tone and manner of the speaker using the expression, recalls the admonition of a western bad man to the stranger with whom words had been exchanged: "When you call me a lynx-hoss thief, smile pleasant."

SUNDAY THOUGHTS.

A Nation's Strength,
What builds a nation's pillars high
And its foundations strong?
What makes it mighty to defy
The foes that round it throng?

It is not gold, its kingdoms grand
Go down in battle's shock;
Its gates are laid on sinking sand,
Not on abiding rock.

Is it the sword? Ask the red dust,
Of empires passed away
The blood has turned their stones to rust,
Their glory to decay.

And is it pride? Ah, that bright crown
Has seemed to nations sweet!
But God has struck its lustre down
In ashes at His feet.

Not gold, but only man can make
A people great and strong;
Men who for truth and honor's sake
Stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men, who work while others sleep,
Who dare while others fly—
They build a nation's pillars deep,
And lift them to the sky.

—Emerson.

THE TOWN WATCHMAN

Bobbed hair has seen its day. So say the "authorities." But they will find out that they are away out in their reckoning. So far as the average man can see, bobbed hair will continue as the style for the women for a long time to come. It will remain because the women wish it. Before they accept any other style they will have to be shown one better than the bobbed.

And there also appears to be as much chance of Queen's Theological College location being changed as there is of bobbed hair going out of fashion. It has been made quite clear that to remove Queen's from its present location would not be in the interests of education; and you can depend upon it that the theological college will remain here.

The women bless the twenty-five cent taxi fare on stormy days when it is essential for them to get to their bridge clubs and to afternoon teas Thursday was a day for the taxi, above all other days.

One does not blame the good folks at Queen's for taking offence at an article that appeared in a Toronto weekly paper, written by a former professor. Satire is all right in its way, but in this case those ridiculed do not deserve the raw things said of them by one who was regarded as one of themselves.

Again the Watchman hears about Sunday afternoon dances. So the hostesses do not mind dancing in their homes on the Sabbath afternoon or evening, while others strenuously object. They do not mind Sunday afternoon teas, but draw the line at fox trots, two steps and waltzes. Those who keep the Sabbath religiously will have no entertaining, preferring to keep the day in the strict way in which they were brought up in their youth.

"Is it more wrongful to have a dance on Sunday night than to go for an automobile pleasure jaunt on that day?" asks one who says she has no objection to young folks having a dance at her Sunday afternoon teas, under her eye. She thinks not, and remarks that some of the dance objectors will break the Sabbath by pleasure jaunts. The Watchman was taught to leave dancing and card playing for other days than the Sabbath, and he thinks it well to follow out that teaching. Others are at liberty to their opinions, however, but if social affairs keep on the increase, the Sunday evening church services will continue to suffer.

The size of Kingston's General Hospital may be judged from the fact that there are 110 nurses on the training staff and next autumn this number will have to be increased to 120. The hospital is getting to be a big institution to maintain, and one can readily see that it requires every dollar its management board can lay hands on to make ends meet.

It must be admitted that pasteurized milk does not appeal to a large number of people. While half the population of Kingston uses this kind of milk, there are many who declare they will never drink it. One lady intimates that she will keep her own cow in order to supply herself with the real article should compulsory pasteurization come in her day. But similar conditions existed long ago when the Board of Health decided that wells must be closed in Kingston. The drinkers of well water thought they could never use the water from the harbor, and claimed that the water from their well was purer than the city's waterworks' supply. And perhaps they were right, considering the fact that our sewage to-day is dumped into the harbor and we are drinking from a contaminated source of supply.

There have been nine false alarms of fire during the past eight weeks. It is claimed that the alarms were deliberately rung, and suspicion rests upon several parties. The punishment for the offence is a term in penitentiary, and when an offender is caught it is hardly likely that there will be any sympathy for him or that a petition will be passed around asking for leniency.

Quebec Viewpoint

Le Soleil welcomes the advent of the Premier of Saskatchewan into federal politics.

"The entry of Hon. Charles Dunning into the federal Cabinet was an event expected and, to some extent, foreseen. It surprises no one. It is also natural that it should appear to conform with the wishes of the great majority of the Canadian people."

"Mr. Dunning is a remarkable politician. As Prime Minister of Saskatchewan he had in his hands the destinies of his province for a number of years which, at the last election, he held renewed his mandate almost unanimously. He has the vision of a statesman for it extends to all the problems which interest the country as a whole. He has made a success of the provincial administration for which his constituents are grateful to him. By his breadth of view and his talents he is made of the stuff of the greatest politicians. He represents in marvellous fashion all that is best in western thought. He has a sane, liberal comprehension of the general needs of the nation. In entering the King's Cabinet he will be a strength, both to the West and to Canada as a whole."

New York state grew nearly 47,000,000 bushels of potatoes in 1924.

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New York state grew nearly 47,000,000 bushels of potatoes in 1924.

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