

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited 23 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada. H. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1919.

THAT \$200,000 GRAB.

Some time ago The Standard asked for an explanation of why, when the alleged outstanding liability at the close of the Murray Government's term of administration was \$372,000.00, the bond issue covering that amount was made \$789,000.00. That question has not yet been answered. The Telegraph, in attempting an explanation, cites a number of items, which, taken together, make up \$789,000.00, but this is no explanation. This paper never questioned the fact that the amount of \$789,000.00 had been issued. That is easily seen in the recent financial statement, but that statement fails to indicate why the increase of more than \$200,000.00 was made. In preparing any statement of receipts and expenditures there is usually a balance one way or the other to be carried forward. When the Murray Government went out of office and accounts were adjusted, it was found that the outstanding liability covering everything amounted to \$572,000.00, against which should be credited prospective revenue. A larger amount than this, namely \$663,000.00, was claimed by the incoming Foster administration to be the actual liability then existing. This was not the case, but assuming for the time being that it was, this amount which included the deficit created by the present Government previous to Oct. 1st, 1917, appeared in the 1917 financial statement, as, of course, it should. Now before this time the Price-Waterhouse firm of accountants had been in charge of the Provincial books, and according to statements since made had reached the conclusion that the outstanding liability was more than \$663,000.00. If this is the case, why did that firm of accountants permit the Auditor-General to publish at the end of December, 1917, a statement covering the year ending Oct. 31st, showing the outstanding liability of \$663,000.00? Now that balance of \$663,000.00, which appeared in the 1917 report, also appears, as it should, carried forward in the 1918 statement, but on one side of the account only. On the other is found a bond issue of \$789,000.00. The people of New Brunswick are not particularly concerned as to how that \$789,000.00 is made up, but they want to know why it was necessary to bond for this amount to cover a liability of \$663,000.00. And this explanation has not yet been given. It will, of course, be found in the fact that the Foster Government over-expanded in every direction, and had to bond for their own deficit as well as for the existing liability, but in accordance with their usual custom they endeavored to throw the blame for this entire issue on the previous administration.

WELCOMING THE MEN.

Something is lacking in the welcome which St. John is giving our returning soldiers. On Sunday week, on the arrival of the train from Halifax, bringing a couple of hundred men from the Aquitania, we had the first real turnout there has been since the war ended. On other occasions the soldiers coming to this port have received nothing more than the reception by committee men selected for the purpose. It would appear from all that the men themselves have to say, and from comments heard outside, that the reception committees which meet the steamers at Sand Point are doing splendidly. Nothing appears to be lacking in the welcome which the men receive from them, but there is no evidence any sign of a public demonstration. When these soldiers sail away from St. John the harbor and the city were decorated. As each ship passed out into the Bay it was given a send-off by the whistles of guns, steamers and factories. People were enthusiastic. All will remember how the wharves were lined by thousands of cheering men and women. There was some life to the thing and the boys enjoyed it.

Nowadays it is different. A few score ancient workers meet on the West Side, sometimes spending hours waiting for the vessels, and when the men arrive, extend the heartiest possible welcome. But the streets are bare, there are no decorations, the harbor is bleak and gloomy, and the whistles which so loudly sped the departing soldiers are silent in the presence of the returning men. This is not as it should be. True there is often difficulty in learning just when each steamer is due to arrive. There is inconvenience in getting across the harbor to the West Side docks. But these things could readily be overcome. The different steamship offices can tell approximately when the ships are due to come up the harbor, and it would be an easy matter for the various tugboats and other steamers lying at the wharves to announce by blowing their whistles that transports are arriving. This, if arranged a little ahead, would give the people opportunity to gather on the wharves and tender these returning men the sort of reception they deserve. Why not try it?

THE DISCHARGE SYSTEM.

It is gratifying to announce that, effective yesterday, all returning soldiers destined for points in Charlotte, St. John, Kings, Queens, Albert, Westmorland, Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche Counties will be discharged from service immediately upon arrival in St. John, this work being done here under the Dispersal Area System now established. Men whose homes are in York, Sunbury, Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska Counties will for the present at least be required to report as formerly at Fredericton in order to obtain their discharges, but it is anticipated that before very long the Discharge Depot which will remain at Fredericton for the time being, will be brought back here, and all the soldiers be handled from St. John offices. Instructions at Military Headquarters were received Saturday night to this effect, and yesterday the first of the soldiers to be discharged in this manner were put through. The work here is controlled through the Dispersal Area established in the definite scheme of demobilization. Of this Dispersal Area, Major McArthur is the officer commanding, but during his temporary illness his duties are assumed by Capt. R. A. Major.

It has thus, after a long delay been realized by the Ottawa authorities that the policy of sending soldiers to their homes, then bringing them back to Fredericton to submit to tedious delays previous to discharge, has been an unwise policy. The unfairness of that course toward business houses in St. John, which naturally anticipate from these men a certain amount of business, is also admitted. The change now ordered should, of course, have been made some time ago, and even though these latest orders do not involve the immediate transfer of the Discharge Depot to St. John, still that office loses much of its value, for it will hereafter be permitted to deal with not more than twenty per cent. of the total number of returning soldiers, while eighty per cent. of them will pass through St. John offices, being directed to the Dispersal Area by the Clearing Service Command immediately on arrival. And hereafter these returning soldiers will not be granted the two weeks' leave previous to discharge, which has been compulsory in the past.

THE HEALTH FIZZLE.

It would be interesting to know what Dr. Roberts proposes doing with those naughty counties which have declined to assess for the sums required for the operation of his pet proposition. Unless the province is united in this matter it will be impossible to enforce the provisions of the Health Act, for its ends will be defeated unless the same policy is adopted everywhere, and unless all districts are brought under one control. So far four or five important counties are numbered among the opposition. Does Dr. Roberts intend prosecuting the individual members of those county councils for failure to order assessments as demanded by him, or has he some other little plan by which they may be whipped into line? It is estimated now by members of the St. John Municipal Council that the operation of the Robert's Health Bill in St. John County during the present year will cost between eight and nine thousand dollars. This is the price we pay in this city for only one of the crazy schemes for which the Foster Government is responsible.

What do the housewives of St. John think, when they are moving heaven and earth to secure help, of a junior officer being able to enjoy the services practically free of charge of an able-bodied batman, who cooks the meals, washes the dishes, and does almost everything except the weekly wash for the household?

WHAT THEY SAY

Why Not?

Mail and Empire—When the question of internationalizing the Dardanelles, the Kiel Canal and other waterways of special use to sea traffic of many nations comes up, the Panama Canal ought to be considered. It is the private property of the United States, and was built at a great cost, but it is of as much international importance as the other canals to be internationalized.

There's Hope.

London Free Press—Canada's national larder is said to be full to overflowing. In view of the generous stock of provisions laid up our hopes for an equally generous drop in prices are not so fantastic as they were a few months ago. "While there's life there's hope" is not too wild a venture!

Conscription Was Vital.

Toronto Mail and Empire—The Toronto Star says it believes that conscription "and conscription alone" kept Sir Wilfrid Laurier out of Union Government. Well, what of it? Conscription was the only issue which suggested that Sir Wilfrid should unite with the then Conservative Government. Conscription was the crux of the whole political situation. Upon it

rested the issue whether or not our armies in France should be reinforced. Laurier was opposed to unity upon the only question that was of vital consequence. He divided the country upon the matter of keeping a promise that we would stand behind our soldiers to the last man and the last dollar. And the price that he pays is the loss of the prestige and the support that were once his command.

Nothing New Under the Sun.

Baltimore American—A Berlin Journal is worried for fear the lynching of Lebnacht and Rosa Luxemburg will be the eyes of the world, justify the name of Hun. The fear may be late to rest. That name was justified long ago.

Safety First.

New Orleans Times-Picayune—It is reported that Austria's ex-emperor refused to pay his million-dollar subscription to the eighth Austro-Hungarian war loan. Probably he has decided that it would be wise and prudent, in these troublous times, to hang on to such crowns as he has managed to save from the wreck of empire.

A Quaint Custom.

London Daily Chronicle—Why is an orange on a plate placed on a chair near the door in the Savoy Chapel on the Sunday after Christmas? The meaning of this curious old custom seems to have been entirely forgotten. Perhaps Mr. Chesterton would connect it with his theory that the "apple" which Eve gave to Adam was really an orange, and mankind has been slipping over the peel ever since.

After that the Tariff.

Edmonton Journal—Repatriation, trade expansion, soldier land settlement, the future of the war-time economy act, prohibition, the new immigration policy, and other questions more or less closely connected with the general problem of reconstruction will furnish material for a full and memorable session. It should be possible, in the interests of national peace and prosperity, to deal with these first and so complete the task with which the people entrusted parliament in the first instance.

"Let George Do It."

San Francisco Chronicle—There is a type of anarchist orator and writer, who would never think of handling a bomb or a torch, but who, by means of inflammatory deliveries, incite others to the foulest crimes. Often these "gentlemanly anarchists," or "parlor Bolsheviks," as Roosevelt called them, are as crafty as they are cowardly and criminal, and so phrase their utterances as to make it extremely difficult and even impossible to bring them within any particular statute, yet their meaning is obvious to the malcontents, who are ready to do the work of destruction. Inspiring of crime, they should share the punishment meted out to their dupes.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE FIGHTING SHIPS OF ENGLAND.

(William Hurd Hillier, in New York Herald.)

The fighting ships of England, they sailed the seven seas,
From the Clyde and rainy Cornwall to the sunlit Orkneys,
Vancouver, Yokohama, Pacific isles forlorn,
The Orkneys, Nova Scotia, round Good Hope and the Horn,
And everywhere men wondered and everywhere men saw
That the fighting ships of England brought Anglo-Saxon law,
Not the law of lawless rulers, misusing in the name
Of God or goddess kingdoms; but where those great ships came
Was certain death to tyrants, and so the saying ran—
"Trade follows the flag—and justice and the ancient rights of man."

II.
The fighting ships of England, those good grey men-of-war,
Were gathered once at Whitby, from cruising fast and far,
When sudden and clear at daybreak the call to action rang,
For the German Midgard serpent had struck with his ironfang—
Struck, and the whole world shuddered, as if with a mortal wound—
But quietly sailed at sunrise the Grand Fleet, eastward bound;
And the North Sea kept the secret—how the hell-born powers recoil—
While many a distant harbor and many a farling key
Saw the good ships of England as they kept the ocean free.

III.
The right arm of Great Britain—who'd shorten that arm now?
The Fleet—who'd grudge the splendor of our victorious prow?
Behold our fearless coast line by foreign foes untrod;
Behold our unsunked cities, our vast inviolate sod;
Then rail not at the glory that round the Grand Fleet clings,
For the Sea Hawk held the Vulture till the Eagle found his wings;
More power to the Sea Hawk, however strong we be—
To the fighting ships of England, that keep the ocean free!

A BIT OF FUN

What's the Inference?

Mrs. Flatbush—"Is your husband a good golfer?"
Mrs. Bensonhurst—"Well, he doesn't swear, if that's what you mean."

The Wise Fool.

"It is the unexpected that always happens," observed the Fool. "If this is true, why don't we learn to expect it?"
Wily.
"The widow seems to take great interest in old friends," said the Fool. "Yes, she thinks that if she takes interest now she'll have the principal interest later."

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE FAPE.

Travel.

The easiest way to see different parts of the world is by travelling. Many people who are good in joggity at school stay home all the rest of their life and even forget what the different rivers go after they start, while other people who get bad marks in joggity travel all over the world after they leave school and then come back and tell you their experiences, and all you can do is stand there and listen on account of not having travelled enuff to deny anything.

The most popular way to travel by water is in a boat, the cheapest of all being that if you get sea sick you don't feel like enjoying even the most beautiful sites. Most people who have never bin on a boat before don't think they will get sea sick, but that's only what they don't think.

The cheapest way to travel is to walk, only by the time you get very far you would be too tired to appreciate it. Besides, you're liable to get cut in the rain out in the country some place where there ain't any awnings.

It is safer to travel in a train than in a automobile, because if the train brakes down you can just set there while somebody else fixes it, but if the automobile brakes down and you just keep on setting there that's all the further you'll get.

When you travel on a train you have to have a ticket, the reason being that when the train comes to the end of the line you have to get out of it if you don't want the conductor to ask you why not.

Properly Stringed.

"What is that string around your finger for?"
"That is to remind me that I forgot something my wife tied it for me to remember."

A Reason for It.

Motorist (blocked by load of hay)—"I say, there, pull out and let me by. You seem in a hurry to let that other fellow's carriage get past."

Farmer—"That's 'cause his horse was eatin' my hay. There ain't no danger o' yew eatin' it, I reckon."

A Predicament.

"As I went along this morning I suddenly heard a man yelling for help."

"What was the matter with him?"
"He couldn't get a cook."

Sartorial Item.

The man dressed in a little brief authority is generally very proud of his apparel.

Heard In a Flat.

"Singing is said to benefit the health."
"Indeed it does. Miss Howler next door drives us all out into the open air every Sunday afternoon."—Boston Transcript.

Who Killed Kaiser?

Who Killed Kaiser?
"I killed Kaiser!"
"I brought his defeat!"
"I killed Kaiser!"

Who saw him die?
"I saw him die!"
"I saw him die!"
"I saw him die!"

Who caught his blood?
"We did not catch his blood!"
"We did not catch his blood!"
"We did not catch his blood!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

Who'll dig his grave?
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"
"I'll dig his grave!"

HEART PALPITATED
Could Count Every Beat.

When the heart begins to palpitate, it will beat fast for several seconds, then slow, then start to flutter, and a feeling of utter depression will come over your whole system, accompanied by weak, fainting and dizzy spells.

When the heart gets into this condition, you become weak, worn and miserable, and are unable to attend to either social, business or household duties.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills will give prompt and permanent relief to all sufferers from any heart weakness or nerve derangements.

I could not sleep nights, my heart palpitated so, and I could count every beat.

I used to have such dizzy spells I would have to go to bed. I was not able to do any work for eight months. A cousin of mine had taken Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and told me what they had done for him. I took eight boxes of them, and now I am able to help every day with the work. I am so thankful to tell others what they have done for me, so that they may try this great and wonderful remedy. I hope this may prove good to some one who is suffering the way I did.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c. a box at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

- Our -
Annual
February
Clearance Sale

of Good Quality Footwear

Starts Monday, 10th Feb'y

Don't miss this opportunity to get good shoes at bargain prices. The goods in this sale are taken from our regular stock, all few pair lots, single pairs, and lines which we are discontinuing will be reduced to ensure a quick clearance.

Remember the Date
Monday, 10th Feb'y

Foot Fitters McROBBIE 50 King Street ST. JOHN
Buy Thrift Stamps.

THE BEST QUALITY AT A REASONABLE PRICE

Winter Days Strain the Eyes

The short days of winter, with their long evenings, and often the necessity of working during the day by artificial light, put a heavy tax on the eyes. If there is a defect in refraction, the constant strain of overcoming it is increased, and the eyes grow tired, headaches become frequent, and there is a general slowing down of efficiency.

Properly fitted glasses will bring relief and prevent permanent injury to sight.

Our optometrist will provide you with the glasses you ought to have.

L. L. Sharpe & Son

Jewelers and Opticians.
Two Stores—21 King St., 189 Union St.

LANDING:

20,000 Bus.

OATS

Wise or Wit for Prices

C. H. PETERS SONS LIMITED, ST. JOHN, N. B.

WRINGERS

No matter how a wringer is made, the vital part of it is the quality of the rubber in the roll.

The Niobe has extra high grade rolls, ball bearing spiral tension springs. Suitable for any kind of tub. Rolls eleven inches.

Price - - - \$7.25

A Full Assortment Now in Stock.

T. McAVITY & SONS, LTD.

Jewelry—Silverware
Cut Glass

While most of the novelties are to be found in our select jewelry display, we aim especially at the

DISTINCTIVE EFFECTS so prominently featured in our offerings and with which we would be interested in acquainting you.

Silver and Cut Glass Exhibits are fully abreast of demands, both in quality and variety

FERGUSON & PAGE

Peerless Anti-Freeze Liquid
Will Prevent
Frozen Radiators

Do not drain your radiator or use substitutes.
On draught or in sealed gallon cans.
M. E. AGAR, 51-53 Union St. St. John, N. B.
Phone Main 818.

The Union Foundry and Machine Works, Ltd.
Engineers and Machinists
Iron and Brass Castings. Phone West 15.
West St. John G. H. WARING, Manager.

ESTABLISHED 1870
GILBERT G. MURDOCH Civil Engineer and Crown Land Surveyor
A. M. Can. Soc. C. E.
Surveys, Plans, Estimates, Superintendence, Blue Prints, Black Line Prints Maps of St. John and Surroundings.
74 Carleton Street, St. John

FIRE ESCAPES

Structural Steel, Bolts and Rods
WM. LEWIS & SON, ST. JOHN.

LEATHER BELTING

GENUINE ENGLISH OAK TANNED IN STOCK

NOTE—FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT

SINGLE AND DOUBLE, ALL SIZES—ALSO

Lace Leather, Patent Belt Fasteners, Cotton Waste

D. K. McLAREN, LIMITED, — Manufacturers

Phone—1121. 90 GERMANTOWN STREET P. O. Box 702

ENGRAVING AND

PRINTING

of Best Class.

FLEWELLING PRESS

Market Square.

OUR NEW TERM

BEGINS

Thursday, January 2nd

Send for Catalogue.

S. Kerr, Principal

RED
CEDAR
SHEATHING

Clear stock 3-8 thick, 2 1-2 and 3 1-2 wide. Covers more surface than Douglas Fir and cheaper in price.

No. 1 grade only.
\$40.00

The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd.
186 Erin Street

THE J. A. SULLIVAN
BRIEF SUBMITTED

Counsel for City in N. B. Power Co. Investigation
Sends Copy to City—What Boston Lawyer Suggests

Mayor Hayes has received from John A. Sullivan, counsel for the city in the New Brunswick Power Company investigation, a copy of his brief submitted to the commission. After going into the evidence submitted and the reports of experts employed Mr. Sullivan places the amount on which the company is entitled to a return at \$1,400,000.00 and the amount of the return at six per cent. This figure is exclusive of the amount paid for water power rights, as he contends that until the latter are developed the company are not entitled to any return.

Mr. Sullivan suggests three methods of remedying existing conditions: Private ownership under a reorganization; municipal ownership or private ownership under public control. In connection with the latter he says: "A better plan would be to continue private ownership and operation; but to have a director appointed on behalf of the public to supervise the expenditures of the company and to report to the Mayor and City Council from time to time in his discretion."

"If a public director is appointed who is both competent and honest both the company and the public will be protected against unreasonable expenditures or extravagance in the establishment of better service conditions. This plan may prove to be a great success story for the city, namely the restoration of harmonious relations between the company and the public."

A letter from S. H. Midreem, one of the city's experts, states that he found in the files of one of the daily newspapers of the city for 1914 a statement showing that the total amount expended in the extension of the road in 1914 was \$200,000.00, of the \$400,000.00 claimed by the company.

Tortured For
Nearly Two Years

Mrs. Plante Found Relief in
Dodd's Kidney Pills.

She Tells How They Helped Her Kidney Disease and Made a New Woman of Her.

St. Florence, Que., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—"Two boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills made a new person of me. The speaker is Madame M. L. Plante, of this place, and her numerous friends here fully verify her statement. "For nearly two years," Mrs. Plante continues, "I suffered from torture. I heard of Dodd's Kidney Pills, and made up my mind to try them, and to my surprise they did me good almost at once. The disease which was the cause of all the trouble, they were failing to strain the impurities out of the blood, and the result was disease all over the body. Dodd's Kidney Pills helped the kidneys, the impurities were strained out of the blood. The result was pure blood and good health all over the body. The cause of the disease has been removed."

SAINT VINCENT'S
ALUMNAE MET

Council of Women Suggestions Adopted—Contribution for Princess Patricia's Wedding Gift—Arrangements for Dance.

At a meeting of the St. Vincent's Alumnae in their room last evening the suggestion of the local Council of Women was adopted, that the thanks Memorial for Peace take the form of a building which could be utilized for the holding of meetings of all the local women's societies.

A contribution was also donated to the Princess Patricia's wedding gift. Arrangements were made for the holding of a dance for the members in the Knights of Columbus Hall on February 19th. Members may procure their tickets from Mrs. James McMurphy, Mrs. Leonard Conlon, Mrs. James Robinson, Miss Beatrice Gossell, and Miss Madeline Dwyer.