The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

H. V. MACKINNON, Manager. R. E. WALKER, Editor.

Yearly Subscriptions:

By Carrier $5.00
By Mail 3.00
Semi-Weekly by Mail 1.00
Invariably in Advance.

Commercial Advertising:

Per Inch, per year $45.00
Line Rate, Over 5,000 @ .... .02
Line Rate, Under 5,000 @ .. .03
Classified, One Cent per Word.

'Phone Main 1910.
Intercommunicating System Connecting All Departments.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1913.

THE BUILDING OF BATTLESHIPS.

Since the Naval Aid Bill was introduced the question of building battleships at the ports of the Dominion has been the subject of considerable discussion. The weight of evidence leads to but one conclusion. The suggestion that the proposed battleships could be expeditiously built in Canada cannot be based on full knowledge of the question.

The battleship of today has gradually been evolved from years of experiments and experience. She is a mass of intricate machines, and the armor, guns, gun-mountings and machinery, all require separate and extensive plant of a very costly nature, to cope with the constant changes in designs and composition.

In addition to this the actual construction of a battleship, where high tensile and mild steel are largely used, requires the employment of special rivetters and steel workers. These men are difficult to obtain in Great Britain, and it would be a long time before a sufficient number of efficient workmen of this nature could be obtained in Canada.

For the manufacture of armor plates large steel furnaces, heavy rolling mills, planing machines, carburising plant, etc., capable of dealing with weights of 150 tons at a time, have to be provided—besides which the special treatment to obtain the correct quality of plate requires special experts who have been brought up to nothing else. Such men could not be obtained in Canada.

For the manufacture of guns, plant consisting of heavy lathes, boring and trepanning machines, wire winding machines, as well as a heavy forging plant and oil tempering baths with heavy cranes, all capable of dealing with weights up to and over 100 tons, are required. The men for this class of work are specially trained and could not be obtained in Canada.

For the mannufacture of gun-mountings, which involves the use of castings of irregular shape from 80 to 100 tons, and which require special armor treatment, a special armor plate plant is required. The hydraulic and electric machinery for these mountings are all of an intricate and special design, requiring special knowledge, and can only be undertaken by a firm having years of experience of work of this nature.

The manufacture of engines, although requiring special treatment, does not present such great difficulties as that of armor, guns, and gun-mountings. But in starting a new business of this kind it would be difficult at this stage to know what plant machinery to put down, as the possible introduction of internal combustion engines may revolutionize the whole of the engine construction of warships.

The above does not include specialties, such as bilge pumps, steering gear, and numbers of other details which have to be sub-contracted for all over Great Britain and only with people on the Admiralty list. The expense of fitting these up, sending them out, and carrying out trials, would become very onerous.

For the building yard itself, the installation of heavy cranes and appliances for building a vessel of, say, 27,000 tons, is a very heavy item, and the fitting of the blocks and slips to take this weight would require considerable care in selection of site, in regard to nature of soil for the blocks and launching facilities; so that the existing shipyards in Canada might not be adapted for this purpose.

As an example of the cost of a shipyard, it may be mentioned that the Armstrong engineering works at Elswick, in England, in order to cope with increased work, have lately put down a new shipyard which is costing approximately three-quarters of a million pounds. This yard has already been two years in preparation and will not be ready for laying down a ship for another six months.

With regard to foreign shipbuilding, Austria-Hungary has largely extended her resources by laying down two large slips at Fiume. This scheme was projected in 1909. It is understood that these slips were put down in 1911 and the first battleship commenced in January, 1912. The Austrian press stated that the contract date for completion is July, 1914, but that it is probable there will be a delay of some months in the realization of this. In this instance, however, they have other large yards and all the necessary plant in the country. The cost of this undertaking is not known.

The Japanese have taken twenty years in working up their warship building, and now take over three years to build a battleship, and although anxious to build all ships in their own country, they still find it necessary to have some of them built in Great Britain.

Spain has developed a shipyard in Ferrol and at Cartagena. They have only found it possible to put down Second Class Battleships of about 15,000 tons at Ferrol—the bulk of the material coming from Great Britain—and the yards are being financed and worked by English firms—Armstrongs, Brown, and Vickers.

Taking the above points into consideration, it is clear that it would be wholly unwise for Canada to attempt to undertake the building of a battleship at the present moment. The cost of laying down the plant alone would, at a rough estimate, be approximately $60,000,000, and it could not be ready for four years.

Such an outlay could only be justified on the assumption that Canada is to keep up a continuous naval building programme to turn out a succession of ships after the fashion of the largest shipyards in Great Britain and Europe.

ANOTHER PILGRIMAGE.

With much display, the Times announces in front page headlines: "Move to defeat Borden Policy; British M. P.'s said to be taking action; Favor Laurier Plan" etc. Reading the despatch we note that the London Daily Telegraph "publishes a startling "announcement from a correspondent "to the effect that a number of Gov-"ernment supporters are taking con-"certed action to defeat Borden's nav-"al policy."

The next paragraph is more enlightening. We see the fine Italian hand of an emissary of the Opposition at Ottawa. It says:

> "They are anxious to do all in their power to rehabilitate the scheme of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and are working in close association with the Hon. Mr. Fielding, who came to this country immediately after the introduction of the Borden naval bill. These members of Parliament, says the story, have already seen Mr. Asquith and Winston Churchill with a view to prevailing upon them to alter their attitude towards the Borden scheme and are thus assisting the Liberal Party in the Dominion."

Mr. Fielding's career of activity in Canadian political affairs, it will be recalled, came to an abrupt and inglorious end after a pilgrimage to Washington. If this story is true, his second pilgrimage, to London on another discreditable errand, will be equally ineffective. It would appear to be a deliberate attempt on his part to interfere in matters with which he has no concern.

Mr. Fielding, and those that sent him on his mission, must be fully aware that the British Government are taking no part and exerting no influence in the discussions in the Canadian Parliament. Mr. Asquith in reply to Mr. Bonar Law, stated clearly the position in which the Government stand. He said:

> "The government fully recognize that it is both the desire and the duty of the House of Commons to give formal and authoritative expression to the universal feeling of warm appreciation and heartfelt gratitude which has been aroused in the Mother Country by the splendid patriotism and liberality displayed by her fellow-citizens and fellow subjects in the Overseas Dominions. The Government, however, thinks it would be proper and only respectful to the Canadian people to defer taking such action until Premier Borden's proposal shall have come under consideration and discussion in the Canadian Parliament."

In the face of that statement does Mr. Fielding think that by gathering around him a small coterie of Little Englanders he can influence the British Government? The naval question, as Mr. Asquith recognizes, will be decided in the Canadian Parliament by the representatives of the Canadian people and no misguided efforts on the part of Mr. Fielding or any other agent of the Opposition can affect the result.

There is one other consideration. Does Mr. Fielding expect the British Government to stultify their action as set forth in the Admiralty's Memorandum? On the first page of the Memorandum in plain terms is the following statement by Mr. Lewis Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Colonies:

> "This document has been prepared by the Admiralty on the instructions of His Majesty's Government in compliance with the request of Mr. Borden with a view to presentation to the Dominion Parliament if, and when, the Dominion Ministers deem it necessary."

Mr. Fielding and his band of Little Englanders have greatly overestimated their ability if they imagine that they can influence the British Government to ignore the purport of the last clause in their own memorandum for the sake of "assisting the Liberal party in the Dominion." Mr. Fielding's presumption is monumental.

THE COBALT REVIVAL.

The Cobalt silver mining district of Ontario, which a few years ago suffered from excessive, reckless and dishonest flotations, is now coming to its own. While the price of Cobalt stocks fell from boom quotations, until in many cases they were far below their real value, the production of mines under operation has steadily increased.

One Cobalt property, according to the Vancouver News-Advertiser, has for several years distributed $1,800,000 a year in dividends at the rate of 20 per cent. on the par value. The stock of the Nipissing mine was once quoted at thirty dollars for the five dollar share. It was then paying only 12 per cent. dividends. These shares now paying 30 per cent. are now selling at nine dollars per share, having dropped below six dollars last year. Several Cobalt mines came into the dividend list last year.

BON VOYAGE!

Canadians generally will wish Hon. George E. Foster bon voyage and a safe return after the extended visit he is about to make to the Antipodes with a stay of a few weeks on his way home in China and Japan. He will sail from Vancouver on February 19th, and will be absent from Canada for five or six months.

Some misapprehension exists in the report which has been circulated that Mr. Foster is proceeding to Australia for the purpose of negotiating a trade agreement. It should be clearly understood that this is not the object of his visit to the Sister Dominion. The Minister of Trade and Commerce is visiting Australia as a member of the Dominions' Commission, which was constituted in 1912 by the Imperial Government by Order-in-Council pursuant to a resolution of the Imperial Conference of 1911. The Commission was formed for the purpose of considering and reporting upon the resources, production, manufactures and trade of each part of the Empire represented at the Conference.

The Commission is composed of representatives of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland. Mr. Foster is the representative for Canada, and in the autumn of 1912 he attended a session of the Commission which was held in Great Britain.

The next session will open in Australia; and after that, sessions will be held in Canada and in South Africa. The Commission has no power to deal with or consider tariffs or fiscal legislation, but is solely concerned with the matters which are expressed in the Imperial Order-in-Council above mentioned.

Mr. Foster's visit to China and Japan will be made by invitation of the respective governments. In accepting Mr. Foster had in mind the commercial possibilities of the two countries and the extension of Canadian trade. Both China and Japan are making rapid strides by the introduction of transportation facilities, and by adopting modern methods. Mr. Foster rightly believes that, going under the auspices which have been offered, he will have an excellent opportunity of forming a judgment at first hand of the prospects for development in the trade of the Dominion.

CURRENT COMMENT

Second Infections.

(Dr. Hastings, M.H.O., Toronto.)

The germs causing pneumonia, influenza and diphtheria do not produce an immunity in the persons who have had these diseases—that is, people are just as liable to get a second infection of the same kind. In fact, these particular diseases make one more sensitive to them than before. This is quite unlike measles, scarlet fever or smallpox, any of which will give one a resistance against a second attack of the same disease which usually lasts for life.

Spoiled By Bad Phrasing.

(Hartford Courant, Rep.)

If only the income tax amendment had been better phrased, how much more welcome it would have been! Instead of establishing a custom, it should have provided that the income tax should only be levied in emergencies and then at the discretion of the President. This tax is our final refuge in case of great national need. To use it up in every-day expenses is to cut off that final resource.

Balm For The Golfer.

(Springfield Republican.)

The snow has placed an embargo upon the golf links, but let not the hearts of the golfers be troubled, for there is a first-rate substitute. Shovelling the snow off the sidewalk takes the shoveller out into the open air and affords most healthful exercise. It may not be so fashionable as golf, but it is just as good. Why so much scepticism?

Is This a Square Meal?

(Montreal Witness.)

Dr. Wiley, the famous United States pure food expert, points out that wheat is the best balanced food both for the muscle and the mind, and that with an ordinary coffee grinder it is possible to make enough breakfast food by grinding a pint of wheat to last a family of four for four days at a cost of a cent and a quarter a day.

One Kind of Mixed Farming.

(Toronto Star.)

Mixed farming is pointed to as the hope of the Canadian west. This, we wish to point out, is exactly what the west has been indulging in, farming a little and sub-dividing the rest for sale to the eastern tenderfoot. And it's been a great thing for the west—so far.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

WHY TIGERS CAN'T CLIMB.

The tale is of the Tiger and his Aunt,
who is the Cat.
They dwelt among the jungles in the
shade of Ararat.
The Cat was very clever, but the
Tiger, he was slow;
He couldn't catch the Nilghau or the
heavy Buffalo;
His claws were long and pointed, but
his wit was short and blunt,
He begged his wise Relation to instruct him how to hunt.

The Cat on velvet pattens stole along
the quiet hill.
"Now this," she whispered, "Nephew,
is the way to stalk your kill."
The Cat drew up her haunches on the
mossy forest couch,
"And this," she said, "my Nephew, is
the proper way to crouch."
She hurtled through the shadows like
a missile from a sling;
"And that, my loving Nephew, is the
only way to spring!"

Oh, hungry was the Nephew, and the
Aunt was sleek and plump;
The Tiger at his Teacher made his
first apprentice jump;
He did it very ably, but the Puss,
more quick than he,
Escaped his clutching talons and ran
up a cedar tree,
To purr upon the Snarler from the
bough on which she sat.
"How glad I am, my Nephew, that I
didn't teach you that!"
And, since that curtailed lesson in the
rudiments of crime,
No enterprising Tiger has discovered
how to climb.

His Party.

A young lady reporter on a country paper was sent out to interview leading citizens as to their politics. "May I see the gentleman of the house?" she asked of a large woman who opened the door of one residence.

"No, you can't," answered one woman decisively.

"But I want to know what party he belongs to," pleaded the girl.

"Well take a good look at me," she said sternly. "I'm the party he belongs to."

The Joy Rider.

Pater had burned the midnight oil,
Mind to improve and wits make
keen—
His wealthy heir, with scorn of toil,
Now burns the midnight gasolene

Details Wanted.

Client—He called me a liar, a scoundrel, a coward and a thief.

Lawyer—And which epithet is it you object to?

In the Crowded Car.

First strap-hanger—Sir, you have your hand in my pocket.

Second ditto (evidently married)—Oh, pardon me! I was wondering how I came to have all that loose change.

Howlers from New Zealand.

Gross darkness is 144 times darker than ordinary darkness.

Charon was the man who fried soles over the sticks.

Marconi is the stuff you use to make delicious puddings.

Man of His Word.

Doctor—Why don't you settle your bill? You said when I was treating you that you could never repay me for my efforts.

Harduppe—I meant it, doctor.

Metamorphosis.

"Last month Jones suggested my going into a money-making scheme with him."

"And did you embrace the opportunity?"

"Yes, and soon found that I was hugging a delusion."

WINDSOR TABLE SALT

is pure salt—all salt—and nothing but salt. It is clean, dry, fine—every grain a perfect crystal.

For table use—for cooking and baking—for making tasty dishes—you can always depend on the purity and perfect quality of WINDSOR TABLE SALT. 56

There is Just One
Butternut Bread
The Master Baker's Best Bake
Do You Eat It?

45 YEARS OLD AND THE LAST YEAR THE BEST OF THE 45.

The same enterprise, earnestness, ability and devotion to students' interests which have given this college its present standing, will be continued, and every effort made to be worthy of the generous patronage enjoyed.

Next term will begin Thursday, January 2nd.

Send for catalogue.

S. KERR, Principal

Murray & Gregory, Ltd.
ST. JOHN, N. B.
THE LEADING FIRM FOR
ART GLASS
MIRRORS
AND ALL KINDS OF FANCY GLASS
Distributors of
BEAVER BOARD
Manufacturers of
Spruce and Pine Lumber
Door Sashes, Mouldings
Flooring, Sheathing
Boxes etc. etc.
WRITE FOR PRICES.

HAY, OATS AND MILL FEEDS

We are now landing, ex cars, at St. John and West St. John:

Good Carleton County Hay.
Manitoba, P. E. Island and Ontario Oats.
White Middlings, Bran.
Crushed Oats, and Corn and Oats.
Shall be very much pleased to quote our lowest prices. Ring us up.

A. C. SMITH & CO.
UNION STREET.
West St. John, N. B.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price

No Superficial Examinations

We do not make any superficial eye examinations. It is our invariable rule to take all the time and pains necessary to make every examination a thorough one.

This thoroughness has been a large factor in the success of our work. It is what you want when you have your eyes examined.

If you suspect any trouble in your eyes, have us examine them. If you need glasses we will prescribe the correct lenses. If you do not need them we tell you so.

L. L. Sharpe & Son,
JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS.
21 King Street, St. John, N. B.

SHOW CASES

The Kristy Silent Salesman—
the Cases of Quality
Counter Show Cases
Wall Cases
Umbrella Cases
Confectionery Cases

The Christie Wood-Working Co., Ltd.
TWO FACTORIES.
245 1-2 City Road, 68 to 86 Erin St.

A POSITION GUARANTEED
To every student who enters for a course in Shorthand or Bookkeeping.

GUARANTEE BACKED UP.
We do not require a cent of the tuition fee until our Employment Bureau has placed the student.

THE J. R. CURRIE COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE,
85 Union Street. 'Phones: Office 989; Res., 2223.

SPRING CATALOGUES
Our Engravings on Wood make the clearest and most satisfactory illustrations.
Let Us Show You.
Circulars and Booklets Carefully Printed.
C. H. FLEWWELLING,
85 1-2 Prince Wm., Street, St. John

NEEDN'T take flour for "better or worse."

If Regal doesn't yield—the *utmost* bread per barrel, light, white loaves, fine flaky pastry.

Your dealer gives back your money.

REGAL FLOUR

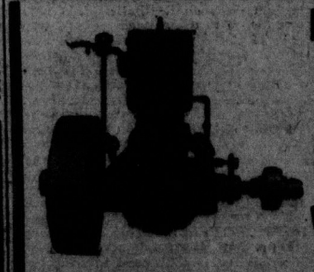
HEADQUARTERS FOR
Watches, Clocks,
Diamonds, Jewelry,
Cut Glass, Silverware, etc.
Our Depleted Stocks Are Being Rapidly Replenished
FERGUSON & PAGE,
Diamond Importers and Jewelers. King Street

Thermometers
Glass Window Thermometers
75c $1.00, $1.25, $1.50, $1.75, $2.00, $2.30
Regular Outside Thermometers
15c., 25c., 35c., 50c., 60c., $1.00, $1.50.
Inside Themometers
40c., 50c. and 75c.
T. McAVITY & SONS, Ltd., 13 KING STREET

LOOSE LEAF SUPPLIES,
LEDGERS AND SHEETS
All Sizes and Patterns at
BARNES & CO., LTD.
84 Prince William Street

D. K. McLAREN, LIMITED
—MANUFACTURERS OF—
Genuine English Oak Tanned Leather Belting
BALATA BELTING
Lace Leather and Belt Fasteners of Every Description
COMPLETE STOCK AT
64 Prince William St., Phone Main 1121, St. John, N. B.

38th Annual Farmers' and Dairymen's Ass'n CONVENTION
February 17th to 21st
AND
FIRST ANNUAL WOMEN'S INSTITUTES CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 18th and 19th.
FARMERS & DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION SESSIONS at City Council Chamber, City Hall, Judging of Stock and Provincial Seed Fair at Exhibition Building.
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES CONVENTION SESSIONS at Y. M. C. A. Building, York Street.
For programme, prize lists and other information, address
The Secretary for Agriculture, Fredericton, N. B.
Return fares on railways for delegates on standard certificate plan.



FRASER
Marine Engines
1913 MODELS
FITTED WITH THE
New KEROSENE
Attachment
Will Save You Money
STOCK BY
THE A. R. WILLIAMS'
Machinery Co., of St. John N. B., Ltd.
13-15 DOCK STREET