

## The St. John Standard.

**H. V. MACKINNON,** Publisher  
21 Prince William St., St. John, N. B., Canada

**REPRESENTATIVES:**  
Chicago: Henry DeClerque  
New York: Louis Kiebach  
Montreal: Frank Calder  
Toronto: Fred W. Thompson  
London, Eng.: Freeman & Co.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**  
City Delivery, \$6.00 per year  
By Mail in Canada, 4.00 per year  
Semi-Weekly Issue, 1.50 per year  
Semi-Weekly to U. S., 2.50 per year  
(Agent Measurement)

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Windsor Hotel, Montreal  
Chateau Laurier, Ottawa  
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**ADVERTISING RATES:**  
Contract Display, 3c. per line  
Classified, 2c. per word  
Inside Readers, 9c. per line  
Outside Readers, 15c. per line  
(Agent Measurement)

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1920.

## THE EXHIBITION.

Today will see the opening once again of the St. John Exhibition Association's biennial show after a lapse of six years. Conditions brought about by the war caused a period of suspended animation, but it is very satisfactory to know that after the "rest," the Association is now better prepared than ever to maintain the excellent record that it has succeeded in establishing for itself. We understand that there is a very full list of entries in practically all lines, and some very excellent exhibits may be expected.

While, no doubt, the great majority of people who patronize the Exhibition will do so from motives of pleasure, it is not to be overlooked that pleasure is not the principal motive for which it is held. It is desired to have the "show" illustrative of educational features in the more technical and materialistic sense. Hundreds of people every day will know more about Canadian productions when they leave the grounds than they did when they entered the gates. They will see examples of what their fellow-countrymen are accomplishing in industry and agriculture, and learn something of the advancement that has been made in the science of the factory and the farm. They will see also the products of some of the lesser industries, those of the home, for instance, which, in their way, are quite as interesting.

The purely pleasure-seeker will find plenty to occupy his time for this feature has been well looked after. But it is to be hoped that whether the average visitor attends more for pleasure than anything else or not, no one will go away without having found something to enlarge his mind, and learning something that he did not know before. Fine weather is all that is needed to make the Exhibition a huge success, and we trust the Clerk of the Weather will endeavor to put on his best brand for the occasion.

## MR. TAFT ON THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Hon. W. H. Taft, ex-President of the United States, was accorded a very warm welcome by the members of the Canadian Bar Association, when he was called upon to address them at their annual meeting on Ottawa on Wednesday. His address on the League of Nations, with more particular reference to the United States' attitude towards it, was an admirable contribution to a topic which is causing considerable discussion at the present time. Few men are better able to deal authoritatively with this subject than Mr. Taft, and for that reason his words are entitled to every respect.

Mr. Taft was emphatic in refuting the claims of those United States public men who assert that the ratification of the League of Nations would mean the relinquishing of the sovereign powers of the Republic, and declared that there was nothing in the arguments which said that acceptance of the covenant of the League meant curtailment of the power of Congress to make war. Starting out with the statement that it was important to understand thoroughly what the covenant of the League really was, Mr. Taft said it was not an instrument establishing a government. It was a partnership agreement, made up of two kinds of stipulations. The first kind were self-restraining covenants. They bound the nations not to do things likely to lead to war; to respect the territorial integrity and independence of every other member of the League of Nations; not to begin war over any differences with another nation; to submit such difference to arbitration; to turn such differences over to the executive council or the assembly of the League, and not to begin war until three months after recommendations had been made. They also included the open diplomatic covenants. There were the others directed towards penalizing and enforcement of restraining covenants, through united obligation. This was left to the conscience and good faith of the members of the League. The strength of the League of Nations must, to be efficient, depend on the spirit of co-operation to perform its functions.

Dealing with the statements that by accepting the covenant the United States would have to part with some of its sovereign powers, Mr. Taft declared that a promise to do one thing, which did not run up the facilities of the treaty-making power was not a departure from sovereignty. The element of sovereignty was the power to break as well as make a contract. The treaty-making power was the promising power of the government. Congress was the performing power of the government. There was nothing in the promise in the League covenants which curtailed the discretion of Congress to declare war or the universal

boyhood. The point had been urged that by promising to make or not to make war was taking away from Congress its power. He asserted there was nothing in that contention. If it came to proceedings there were many. Concluding, Mr. Taft said:

"I do not think that those people who contend against the power of the United States to make contracts and to enter into obligations with other nations fully realize how completely such a construction of the constitution would reduce that government to the limbo of infants and of persons irresponsible, who may not make obligations that are binding upon them."

## PUTTING THE BOOT ON THE OTHER FOOT.

The decision of the British industrial leaders to shut down their factories if any further strikes take place is a wise one; it will teach the labor leaders that two can play at the game they want to call on. While every fair-minded man has every sympathy with the reasonable demands of labor, and recognizes the right of labor to get all that it is fairly entitled to, at the same time labor must be made to understand that other bodies and individuals have some rights also that are equally entitled to respect and recognition. Hence it is with this principle before them that the National Union of British Manufacturers, having considered its membership throughout the country, finds that sentiment is unanimous for closing all their works the moment the coal miners hand in their strike notices.

Hope has not yet been abandoned that mediation may produce a compromise in the critical situation brought about by the vote of the Miners' Federation in favor of a strike for nationalization of the mines. This hope is held despite the fact that the chiefs of the "Triple Alliance"—railwaymen, transport workers and miners—have formally endorsed the miners' demands as just and declared they should not be abated.

Simultaneous strike action by the "Triple Alliance" and the national lockout planned by the Manufacturers' Union would paralyze the whole country and bring the masses of the people close to starvation within a few days.

## CANADA NO PLACE FOR THEM.

There is no country in the world in which there is less excuse for the existence of unrest than in the Dominion of Canada. This nation should be a great hive of contented workers. Only by an extremely small percentage of its people is there any aping of the ugly unrest-mongers of the devastated countries of Europe. We have some professional agitators and some desperate politicians and some people incapable of loyalty to any country who are doing their best to wear down the nerve system of society and bring on confusion. The sooner such trouble-makers are restrained the better it will be for the country.

As the Mail and Empire says, the state of the world would be far better today if democratic government were always in the hands of strong representatives of the people. There must be mastery somewhere, and not for a moment should constituted Government in any democracy let it be questioned whether it or the agents of revolution hold the balance of power. Ireland would not be torn by strife today, murder would not be proclaimed, and practiced as a policy as it now is by the Sinn Feiners, if the British Government had never weakened in the face of rebellion. It is a mistake to go upon the idea that because Government is democratic it must be weak. The advocates of Sinn Feinism, Bolshevism, or any other form of anarchism should have short shrift in this country, and care should be taken that our doors are kept tightly closed against immigrants of their kind. This country of nine million souls is not obliged to suffer these incendiaries. Its people are not in the helpless position of a coachful of unarmed railway passengers held up by a bandit with a revolver in each hand. The pleaders for free speech ask too much when they expect the Canadian public to put up with the inflammatory utterances of Sinn Fein agitators and Bolshevik spouters and other enemies of the British Empire.

Sir George Foster says that our people ought to think more about the things they have reason to be thankful for. If every Canadian of good will made a point of dwelling often on the blessings his country enjoys, the fomenters of unrest would soon be out of business. Canadians have no reason to envy the people of any nation on earth. A healthy public opinion will prove too much for the germs with which the mosquitoes of discontent are trying to poison the body politic.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

**The "Old Gang" in Command.**  
"We may have new parties spring up here and there but after all the forces that are going to count in the long run are not the new forces that have just come into being, but the old forces that have come with might through the centuries, replenished, renewed and revived by new springs of influence, and power which come with changing times and seasons."

And as exhibits "A" and "B" of the replenishment, renewal and revival of Canadian Liberalism, Mr. King presents—Mr. Jacques, Thorne and Mr. George F. Graham. The spectacle of these two ancient members of the "Old Gang" as heroes in a resounding procession about "changing times and seasons," was enough (in Mr. Pugsley's historic phrase) to "make a horse laugh," and it must have been only by a special effort that Mr. Graham, who is not without a sense of humor, escaped from uproarious laughter. Either that, or else the Honorable George has become a trifle jaded, and regards such periods of "conversion" of his party to its alleged principles as pretty much of an ancient joke.

And, come to think of it, the story of a Liberal regeneration, when there are no regenerates in sight, is getting a bit stale. Ever since 1911, when most of the old guard were submerged, it has been drummed into the public ears. Always and ever the party was being purified and purged, but somehow or other the "Old Gang" managed to survive. For a time it did seem as if the party was to be re-born, but a big revival was staged. The country was told that the old spirit of Liberalism was dead, that the old Bourbons and reactionaries were more, and that a new and sanctified Liberalism, a Liberalism purged by the fires of adversity, was at last to make its place. For a time it did seem as though the conversion was real, as though a party of political Magdalen and honest reformers had been born, but, alas for hopeful radicals, the promise was unfulfilled. What appeared to be genuine contrition turned out to be the rankest of humbug; and with Mr. King for window-dressing, the same old guard, impudent and incurably dishonest, remained in command.

Obviously the leader of his party, Mr. King, whether he knows it or not, is but the tool of the "Old Gang." Where sits McGregor, is "the head of the table." And where sits Mr. Jacques Bureau, with sixty-three Quebec votes at his back, is the leadership of the Liberal party. Mr. King may talk about progress and Liberalism as much as he likes, but Mr. Bureau will see to it that the "new springs of influence and power" do not infringe upon the interests of reaction which he so well knows how to shield.—Ottawa Journal.

## A BIT OF VERSE

## FOR THE SUMMER.

"Where shall we go?"  
Said he to she;  
"To inland farm  
Or by the sea?"  
"Some place," said she,  
"With prices low—  
That has an air  
Less bungalow."  
"Oh, yes," said he;  
I also guess  
You'd choose a bay.  
For extra dress,  
And water cold,  
And water hot,  
I only know  
Of one such spot.

"It is a place  
Where milk is sweet;  
Devoted of flies  
And also heat,  
And where in ice,  
They do not skim,  
Where thrice a day,  
The only place  
One does not primp."

"Oh, Oh!" she cried,  
In ecstasy,  
"That is the place  
I long to be."  
"All right," said he,  
"We will not roam;  
The only place  
Like that is home."

## THE LAUGH LINE

How He Learned.  
"You're a very careful driver."  
"Yes, ma'am. When I learned to drive there were always three women in the back seat telling me what to do."

## Settled!

A party at the Zoo stood puzzled before a bird.  
"Is a heagle," said one.  
"It's not; it's a howl," said another.  
They appeared to a bystander.  
"Both wrong," he said soberly; "it's a hawk!"—London Daily News.

## Getting Close To It.

"Has he proposed to you yet?"  
"No, mother, but I think he's going to. He spends most all of last evening wondering if rents are likely to come down soon."

## It's Not Hun-Likely.

Paper says from Germany,  
That's the latest paper.  
They're utilizing probably  
Old Wilhelm's "scrap of paper."

## Hair-Raising.

Customer—"Why do you keep telling me all these horrible murder stories?"  
Barber—"Well, you see, sir, I find they help me to get hot by making your hair stand on end."

## He Rose to Protest.

The Chairman (Mr. Bones, the butcher)—"Well, now, after those few cursory remarks by Mr. Woodhead—"  
Mr. Woodhead (excited and emphatically)—"It's a lie! I never swore in my life."

## An Old Proverb.

Ever heard this?  
A Chinaman was much worried by a vicious-looking dog which barked at him in an angry manner. "Don't be afraid of him," said a friend. "You know the old proverb: 'A barking dog never bites.'"  
"Yes," said the Chinaman, "you

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAGE

I was talking to Mary Watkins on her front steps yesterday afternoon, and I made a date with her to come around after supper and talk to her on them again, and while I was eating supper I had a queer idea, and I got thro' eating the food and went up to my sister Gladys's room and sprinkled a lot of her cologne on my handkerchief, making it smell grate, and then I started to hunt for my hat and while I was looking in the setting room ma and pop came up, pop smelling upwards and saying, "My O my, what a fragrant we have with us this evening."

O, do you smell it, I smell it too, said ma. With jest then I started to quirk go out of the room, pop saying, "Wither away, Benny? Meaning ware was I going, and I said, Out."

Out is a big place, said pop. Meaning he wanted to know exactly ware, and I said, I got a engagement to see Mary Watkins.

O, him, said pop. With jest then Gladys ran down stairs from her room and came in looking mad, saying, "Mother, this has to stop. I just looked at my new 7 dollar a bottle perfume and about a quarter of it is gone, it must be Nora taking it and I wish you would speak to her about it, I think it's perfectly disgusting."

Haw haw haw, Mary Watkins, haw haw haw, said pop laughing.

Hee hee, I never heard anything so funny in my life, hee hee, said ma.

Well if you'll kindly explain ware the joke comes in maybe I'll last too, said Gladys. Pop and ma just laughing more instead of less, and Gladys looked over madder and went down to the kitchen to tell Nora herself and I quick went out without my hat and Mary Watkins was on her front steps already and the first thing she did was smell the cologne, saying it smelled bewitching, and I rubbed my handkerchief on hers, making hers smell pretty near as much as mine without changing the smell of mine hardly any.

know proverb. I know proverb, but does dog know proverb?"

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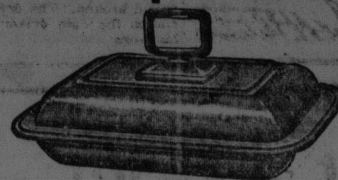
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