

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1922.

TWO ANNIVERSARIES.

Today, St. George's Eve, will be forever immortalized by Canadians as the anniversary of the Second Battle of Ypres, when the representatives of the Maple Leaf first disclosed their prowess to the world and incidentally retrieved the Allied fortunes at one of the crucial moments of the great war. Tomorrow there will be celebrated by all Englishmen the Festival of St. George, their patron Saint.

The curiously-minded, who notice the red rose worn in honor of the day, may ask themselves when this flower first became the emblem of England and it may be that some, even of those who wear it with pride, would be sorely perplexed to find an intelligent answer.

The choice of the red rose was probably made as a national emblem, we are told by antiquarians, with the commemoration of the Wars of the Roses, fought in the fifteenth century between the Houses of York and Lancaster. The former House wore as its badge the white rose, or rose argent; the latter the red rose, or rose gules. In battle every soldier of that day had his emblem in his cap.

It is not quite certain whether these badges had been adopted previously to the war or in its early days, but there is a gracious tradition that, when it had been finally terminated through the union of the two Houses with the marriage of Henry VII. of Lancaster to Elizabeth of York, a rose-bush in a certain monastery in Wiltshire which, during the troubles of the land, had borne at once roses red and roses white to the amazement of all beholders, now bloomed forth with petals of mingled red and white. People are said to have come from far and wide to see the wonder, and to have heralded it as a joyful omen of peace and prosperity. To this day the parti-colored rose produced by artificial cross-breeding is called York and Lancaster rose.

The national flower came to England freighted with a wealth of legendary glory. It has long been regarded as the king of flowers. The rose was the Syrian emblem of immortality, and possibly some cognate idea makes the Chinese plant it over graves, as the Greeks and Romans carried it on their tombs. In ancient Egypt it was the symbol of silence, and it preserved this significance in classic mythology, where Eros was represented as offering a rose to the God of Silence. Love delights in secrecy but, also, does strategem; thus we naturally find the rose appearing on Roman shields. In connection with the cross it was the device of Martin Luther and the symbol of the Resurrection Order.

The Greeks held that the red rose derived its color from the blood of Venus when she trod on a thorn of the white rose while going to the assistance of the dying Adonis. The Turks say that it is colored with the blood of Mahomet and will never suffer one of its blossoms to lie upon the ground. Christian legend ascribes its origin to a holy maiden of Bethlehem who, being unjustly condemned to death by fire, prayed to our Lord, whereupon the fire was suddenly quenched and "the burning brands became red roses, and the brands that were not kindled became white roses and full of roses, and these were the first roses and roses both red and white that ever any man sought." Henceforth the rose became the flower of martyrdom. It was a basketful of roses that the martyr St. Dorothy is held to have sent to the notary Theophilus from the Garden of Paradise and roses, says the romance, sprang up all over the field of Boncesvalles, where Roland and his peers had stained the soil with their blood.

Whatever its exact emblematic origin may be, centuries of association have made the rose as dear to the Englishman as is the heather to the Scotchman, the Shamrock to the son of Erin, or the look to the man of Wales. For the honor of the Cross of St. George and the Rose of England, men have lived and died like heroes in every age. Therefore it is but right that rose and cross should be specially honored by everyone through whose veins there pulses English blood on the occasion of this national anniversary that they celebrate to-morrow.

The Times sets a good deal of store by Mr. Herbert Phillips' statement showing that there would be no increase in taxes with civic distribution of Managash current. He has also shown that the Power Company can distribute this current at 4.22, as against civic distribution at 6.53. Mr. Phillips knows what he is talking about, or he doesn't. Which does The Times think it is?

THE ADVANCE OF SCIENCE.

The progress which scientific research and development has made during the past quarter of a century has been so great that people have now arrived at that stage when they cease to wonder very much when any further discovery is announced, no matter how remarkable it may be. Wireless telegraphy, which was considered to be a wonderful achievement, has since been followed by wireless telephony, which is even more wonderful still. Before we are very much older, the chances are, that the wireless telephone will be just as much a part of the household equipment as the ordinary 'phone is at present.

The movement to inaugurate a Radio Club in this city, which has been started by the Commercial Club, promises to prove very successful. The subject is certainly a fascinating one, and is likely to "catch on" among the young people particularly. Certainly the younger generation in these days have many advantages in a scientific way that their elders would very much have appreciated in their youth. We recall the "scientific researches" of our own boyhood days, when hair-raising effects were often accomplished with home-made apparatus of which crudeness was the leading feature. Professor Pepper's handbook on scientific experiments was held in far greater esteem, we fear, than even Holy Writ, and a close study of his methods frequently led to most amazing results.

Radio, of course, is something quite new, and there is no telling to what lengths its development may go. But it is unquestionably a great achievement to be able to hear music being played a thousand miles away, and even voices speaking. One is almost tempted to wonder whether or not "roamin' in the gloamin' wi' a lassie by one's side" will not become rather a risky pastime, if conversations are to be so readily heard as they seem able to be.

AN ERA OF FALLING PRICES.

The interesting address which Mr. C. H. Macintosh, the President of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, gave to a large number of business men yesterday, contained a considerable amount of information of value. Not the least valuable of this was his statement that the world is facing an era of falling prices, which will not touch bottom for twenty years or so yet. Commercial history it seems, repeats itself, and it goes to show that trade prices revolve in cycles, of about fifty years, twenty-five being occupied in approaching a peak, followed by twenty-five more on the downward grade. Moreover, as he reminded his hearers, high prices and prosperity are by no means synonymous terms, as is frequently thought to be the case; on the contrary high prices mean as a rule a falling off in buying which will in turn certainly not stimulate production.

Mr. Macintosh's remarks being addressed to business men, were naturally of a nature which appealed solely to that class, and were largely directed towards showing how customers may be induced to purchase more than they intended to buy when they entered the store. From the standpoint of the storekeeper, this sort of thing is fine of course; but there are doubtless a goodly number of heads of households who will be inclined to feel that it is energy wrongly directed, and that with prices dropping it is likely to become a nuisance if too universally adopted.

What evidence is there to support the statement of The Times that "Each year would see an enlarged market for the current and a reduction of rates that would soon be both large and permanent." Not a particle. On the contrary, all the evidence—the reliable evidence that is—is to the effect that it is very doubtful whether the Managash plant will be able to develop at all seasons of the year, even the minimum volume of current that is needed to supply ordinary consumers at the present time. We shall be very much surprised too if time does not show the reduction of rates that The Times talks about to be as mythical as the enlarged market.

The Deputy Minister of Justice has just given an opinion, which is concurred in by the Minister himself, St. Lomer Gouin and also by the Solicitor General, that a Wheat Board would be unconstitutional. Certainly, if the Royal Commission to investigate the Grain Trade was regarded as ultra vires of the Dominion Government by Western Grain Growers' interests, a Wheat Board must be considered to be in the same category. It would have control over property

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Wood the Real Leader?
(Edmonton Journal.)

That Mr. H. W. Wood is the real leader of the former movement in Canada, and not Mr. Crerar, is the statement of the Calgary Albertan, which could never be accused of unkindness to either. Recent developments at Ottawa have convinced it on this point. But the cleavage was apparent in Alberta at least, as long ago as the Medicine Hat by-election last year, when the president of the U. F. A. constituency organization, Mr. Harris, definitely repudiated Mr. Crerar's "open door" idea and stated that in Medicine Hat they were solidly behind those of Mr. Wood.

The Albertan states that "Mr. Crerar seems more in line with Mr. Drury, Premier of Ontario, and there is a wide gulf between him and Mr. Wood." How wide is this gulf is apparent from a close study of the speeches of the three on the question of political organization. Mr. Wood has stood definitely for group politics. The broadening out programme enunciated by Messrs. Crerar and Drury has never been accepted in this province at least. While the former members sent from Alberta are described as "Progressives" at Ottawa, it was not under that caption that they were elected. It was a remarkable thing that the general election could be fought without this disagreement being accentuated to a greater extent than it was. Both elements concerned themselves simply with bringing about the overthrow of the existing government and paid little or no attention to the points of difference between themselves. However, it looks as if these must now be taken into account. Mr. Crerar can hardly be expected to continue to carry the responsibilities of party leadership and to have his opinions overruled to the extent that we are informed this is being done.

Mr. Barnjum's Work.
(Ottawa Journal.)

Mr. Frank J. Barnjum, of Annapolis Royal, who is devoting much of his time and means to the cause of forest preservation and conservation in Canada, is extending his methods in directions that should furnish examples of provincial and municipal authorities. He has now announced that he is purchasing timber lots of pine and spruce in Nova Scotia located on main highways or adjacent to railways which he will preserve as examples of scientific forestry and as a reminder of the people of the beautiful forests of times past.

Another move of Mr. Barnjum may not be unanimously endorsed, but it is a move in the right direction. He is offering a bounty on porcupines killed in his province, claiming that they are a source of widespread destruction. Forests are not agreed on the destructiveness of the porcupine. They do cut the bark from trees, it is admitted, but it is claimed by many that their mounds of waste material, the damage they do is relatively light.

Some woodsmen contend that the porcupine is one animal that should be destroyed for the reason that it is the only one that may be easily killed without a gun and so is an emergency source of food for men who become lost in the forest.

Perils of the Street.
(New York Times.)

The District Attorney's office has solved the mystery of the shooting of Mr. Crone, an innocent bystander who was killed during the pursuit of a suspected thief. A policeman shot him, but, says the report, it was most unfortunate that Mr. Crone got in the way of the bullet. It appears that if the fugitive had not left the sidewalk the moment he did he would have been shot, as was the intention of the officer.

Who is responsible, then, for the death of Mr. Crone? Obviously, the miscreant who dodged the bullet that was intended for him. There ought to be a law forbidding fugitives to dodge when the police are shooting at them, unless we want our streets to be unsafe for peaceful citizens. Indeed, with so much gunplay going on, it may be said that the chief security of peaceable persons now lies in the fact that the odds are against any bullet fired on the streets will hit a crook. If the criminal classes are allowed to dodge—still worse, if they keep off the streets altogether—the mortal danger among law-abiding citizens would be altogether too high. The only alternative would seem to be a request from the Mayor that good citizens stay at home and out of the way of flying bullets.

College Athletics.
(Brooklyn Eagle.)

Maintaining hockey football and baseball players at college and allowing them to take "snap" courses in order to maintain athletic prowess was a scandal and a joke as long ago as when George Ade wrote "The College Widow." Since then the situation has improved considerably, and it is likely to improve further under the action of Princeton authorities in barring from the college teams three students who had been taking loans from the college athletic war chest. The action is taken under the agreement by which Princeton, Yale and Harvard have undertaken to break up the practice of subsidizing athletes to play on university teams.

THE LAUGH LINE

Finished Jazz.

"Many London jazz bands," says a contemporary, "have some 'very finished players.' Our only trouble is that more of them are not finished.—Punch.

The Real Question.

Fisherman—Don't you want to buy some fine crabs, sir? Look—they're all alive.
Summer Boarder—Yes, but are they fresh?—Le Journal Amuseant.

Arithmetically Speaking.

Sundae School Teacher—Willie, how many Commandments are there? Willie—Ten.
Teacher—That's right. If you broke one of them, what would happen? Willie—There would be nine left.—Boys' Magazine.

Plantation Philosophy.

Good cookin' keeps 'em in 'de house much longer dan good looks.
Dars many a gyal gibe up a hundred dollah daddly for a ten-cent husband.—Boston Transcript.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

"Ma was improvident in brodering and pop was smoking and thinking and I was thinking, and I sed, Hay pop, can you play a violin?"

I dont know, sed pop.
"Wy, Willyum, such an answer, sed ma, dont you know whether you can play the violin or not?"

No, I never tried, sed pop, how do I know wat misterious abilities are lurking in this strong rite hand and this strong rite bruse?"

Well for goodness sakes, sed ma, and I sed, Wy dont you try and find out, pop? and pop sed, Maybe I will some time, but I wouldnt like to be disappointed in case nothing happens.

Such an idea, sed ma, and I sed, Well hay, pop, id like to take violin lesstas, I bet I could play good on the violin if I took enuff lesstas.

Yee gods, wat a prospect, sed pop, and ma sed, Well, wy not, my brother used to play the piano reel well wen he thart of it and I had a ant would of bin playing the harp all the time if she only had one, so maybe Benny reely inherits musical talent.

Sure, maybe I do, pop, I sed, and pop sed, Far be it from me to ixtinguish a spark of genius in my own family, in fact thb more I think of it the better I like the idea, and practice makes perfect so you'll haff to have lots of practice. Ill call you erly every morning so you can practice an hour before breakfast, and then wen you come home from skool you can practice 2 hours instead of going out and wasting your time with the boys, and then after you do your homework in the evening you can practice another hour and then go to bed immediately so you can get up for erly morning practice the next day, and during vacation you can practice practically all day.

Me thinking, Good nite, holey smokes, gosh. And I sed, Well, I dont know, pop, I gess I think maybe I wont take any violin lesstas, it mite interfere with my homework and things like that.

Jest as you say, sed pop.
Being a narro escape.

Officers Elected At Anglican Church, Edmundston

Edmundston, N. B., April 20.—The regular annual meeting of the parishioners of St. John's (Anglican) Church was held in the Church on Easter Monday evening, the Rector, the Rev. N. C. Franchetti, presiding.

The Rector presented the treasurer's report, showing that there was a good balance to the credit of the church in the bank. A new furnace, hardwood floors and other improvements have been made during the year.

A resolution was passed expressing sympathy with the family of the late G. Fred Dayton. Mr. Dayton had been treasurer of the church for years.

It was recalled that it was just forty-six years ago to a day—Easter Monday, 1876—when the members of this congregation met and passed resolutions looking to the erection of a church, and naming the church St. John's. Two of the officers bearers of that date were elected to office for this year. The following are the officers for the year: Warden—T. M. Richards, Sr., and Richard Hodgson.

Vestrymen—T. M. Richards, Jr., Edgar Carter, Lee Sealey, T. L. Landers, Kenneth Vavasour, B. Trzon, Robert England, J. W. Hall, W. R. Belyea, H. W. Harris, Chas. Wolverton and R. W. Hammond.

Treasurer—The Rector.
Vestry Clerk and Auditor—W. R. Belyea.
Lay Delegate to Synod—J. W. Hall. Substitutes, W. R. Belyea and T. M. Richards, Jr.

A Question of Taste.

The Waiter (who is on a week's notice)—Did you have tomato or pea soup, sir?

The Customer—Heaven knows! It tasted more like soap.
The Waiter—Ah, that would be tomato, sir. The pea soup taste like paraffin.—Punch.



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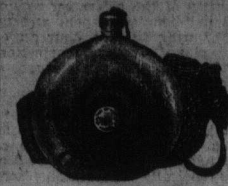
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