

## The St. John Standard

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## CROP PROSPECTS.

From the reports, from Western Canada, there is every reason to hope that the Canadian grain crop this year will be above previous records both in quantity and quality of yield. A Toronto exchange quotes its correspondents that "grain prospects are of an unusually favorable character, and in the United States the present outlook warrants the belief that the yield will be anything between nine hundred and a thousand million bushels. In Canada the estimated surplus for export is also high. Had the yield in other main sources of world supply been equally exceptional it might easily have resulted in a glut of the wheat market. But the crops of two of the largest early contributors—Argentina and India—have both fallen below expectations and the slight increase in the Australian crop will not go far to redress the deficiency. If, therefore, the promise of abundant crops in North America comes to fruition, and the European figures, as is likely, fall considerably below those of last year, the demand will be on an extensive scale with correspondingly satisfactory prices. Favorable weather till the crops are safely harvested appears, therefore, to be all that is necessary to tide the Dominion over next winter."

While it is not wise for any country, even Canada, to pin its faith to one resource yet it cannot be denied that the prosperity of this country or at least of a very large portion of it is largely dependent upon the condition of the western grain crop. The reports that the crop this year promises to be large and to yield good prices is therefore of importance in the Maritime Provinces, and particularly in St. John where the product of the western grain fields forms such a large proportion of the traffic handled through this port in the winter season.

With the development expected to be shown in other lines of trade there is increasing evidence that the next few months will see the end of the period of depression which has affected Canada in common with other countries.

## THE DUTCH TAKE HOLLAND

Thomas Edison has been taking a lesson from the bee. On his way from New York to Philadelphia by automobile he observed a bumblebee, and as he watched it he realized that an aeroplane of great weight can be built as soon as we obtain something that beats the air at the rate of 200 times a second, says the Toronto Mail and Empire. An average bumblebee is an inch long, three-eighths of an inch in diameter, with a wing of an inch and a half wide and five-eighths of an inch long. The bee weighs about 7,000 times as much as its wings, but the fact that the wings beat the air at the rate of 200 times a second drive him through the air with amazing speed. This discovery of Mr. Edison's is like the discovery that Queen Anne is dead, or perhaps it is better likened to Sherlock Holmes' discovery of the basic laws of the solar system. He knew nothing about them, much to Dr. Watson's astonishment, and when he was informed of a few facts said that he would try at once to forget them, the storing capacity of his brain being required for data of more usefulness, Langley, Wright and the other pioneers of aviation. If they were not familiar with the dimensions of a bumblebee, did not fail to recognize the fact that it was by speed alone that they could hope to conquer the laws of gravitation. If they did not observe the wild duck, which presents the same paradox, a heavy body and a small wing with great speed. We see the same thing in the wild goose, in the partridge, the prairie chicken, the pheasant—all fast flyers, all birds of comparatively small wing area to weight. The very reason these birds fly fast is that they have to fly fast to keep from falling. Racers of homing pigeons believe that to draw a couple of slight feathers from each wing of a bird is actually to increase its speed for short distances. The bird goes through the air not as a bird, but as a missile, its fear of falling making its wings work at a greatly increased rate. It is only the hawks, the sea birds and a few others that present great spread of wings with light bodies, and these birds are calculated for soaring rather than for terrific speed, though sometimes they combine both qualities. Nevertheless, it is not impossible that Mr. Edison, with his remark about the bumblebee, has laid the foundation upon which posterity will rear his fame as the discoverer of the great principle of aviation.

## MANCHESTER'S CASE.

Those who decry municipal ownership and operation of public services should consider the case of Manchester, one of the leading and most progressive of English cities, says the Toronto World. As in the case of the

great majority Manchester freed itself from dependence on private companies, and in addition came to the rescue of the Ship Canal Company and secured control through its right to a preponderance on the board of directors. Its enterprise in carrying this great scheme to a successful issue endowed the city with a new lease of life and has given it high place at ready among British seaports.

Manchester established its electrical supply in 1893, and taking 1895, the first completed year of working, at 90 as representing the quantity sold, the amount in 1900 stood at 244. In 1905 at 2,882; in 1910 at 6,124, and in 1914 at 10,952. Or put alternatively the sales in 1895 were just over a million board of trade units, while in 1914 they were almost 118 millions. The corresponding income from sales rose from \$140,000 to \$2,560,000.

As is always the case with well-managed municipal undertakings the average prices declined with increase in the volume of business. Starting at a little over 11 cents per unit sold the charge constantly decreased till in 1914 it was a fraction over two cents. This was accompanied too by a diminishing ratio in capital debt. The net capital outlay of assets at March 31 last stood at \$16,000,000, against a loan debt of \$9,000,000. This process of freeing the assets has proceeded continuously, the period from 1910 to 1914 showing the largest ratio of improvements.

## CONCERNING CIGARETTES.

Thomas A. Edison, the great scientist, has been investigating against cigarettes as a curse and by his pronouncements has aroused the ire of the New York Times. That newspaper recently published an editorial article in which it gave some consideration to the arguments of Mr. Edison and replied to them with much force. For the benefit of those who find enjoyment in cigarette smoking, with little or no equalizing injury, the views of the Times are submitted. The Times says:

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Interested persons in Austria are already advancing the claims of the young son of the slain Archduke as heir to the throne of the dual monarchy. The exalted position is one that has its perils and that has brought sorrow to the present aged holder of it. It looks as if on his death it will be even more dangerous. The friends of the orphan may not be acting in his best interests in trying to secure the mantle of his father for his young shoulders.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak, at one time a member of the Bombay Legislative Council, and who is popularly known as "the father of Indian unrest" has been released from prison at Mandalay. Advocacy of assassination brought his last punishment on him. If Tilak is wise he will rest his tongue and his pen for a while. The present is a bad time for agitators in the Indian Empire.

## Diary of Events

## HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

Thirty-one men in a crude little boat proceeded slowly up the silent St. Lawrence on a July day in 1608. Thirty-and-one, but the one was Champlain, and by his genius that voyage, otherwise so insignificant, became the starting point in the history of the settlement and conquest of a mighty land. On the third of July the voyagers landed where Stratheona once stood, beneath the frowning Cape Diamond, and on that day the city of Quebec was founded. The men felled trees and built rude houses, but, as summer waned and dreary winter drew on the toilers began to murmur against their hard lot, and Champlain came near to falling a victim to their malice. He discovered, the conspiracy against his life just in time to thwart it, and, after hanging the leader in the plot and deporting three outlaws, continued the work of building a city in the wilderness. Under the hands of the pioneers there grew up, under the shelter of a towering rock, a village, square as to shape, with a wall of logs and a ditch surrounding the few log houses, and with the protection of bastions and towers. It was well that Champlain provided for defense, for within a year the ferocious Iroquois had declared war against the pale-faced invaders of their savage empire. The immediate cause of conflict was Champlain's alliance with the friendly Ottawa Algonquians, but in any event the warfare with the Iroquois was inevitable. For many years Quebec withstood the onslaughts of the redskins, the Algonquians, and the peace and storm and flames. A century and a half after its founding Quebec had become a city, and the slopes of the great rock rose the gables of monastery and convent, the spires of church and cathedral, while above them all the rugged battlements of the citadel, bristling with cannon, broke the skyline. So it was, proud and apparently invulnerable, when Wolfe came to Quebec—came, and saw, and conquered!

## THE HUMAN PROCESS ON

## MRS. GILMAN, FIFTY-FOUR TODAY

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, famous throughout America and Europe as the leader of the feminists, makes no secret of the fact that she is over fifty years old today. The foremost advocate, on the platform and in the press, of "the larger feminism," and the woman who is hailed by many as the greatest thinker and philosopher of her sex, was born in Hartford, and spent her girlhood in the Connecticut capital and in St. Francis. She is the granddaughter of Henry Ward Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe, and the great-granddaughter of Lyman Beecher, which perhaps accounts for her eloquence as an orator and her ability as a writer. In 1884 she married C. W. Stetson, and in 1900 she became Mrs. Gilman, the wife of a lawyer who was related to Daniel Galt Gilman, the Johns Hopkins University president, and to the Rev. Dr. Edward Gilman, a prominent librarian in San Francisco, and wrote the widely-read "Guide to Best Reading." Mrs. Gilman's literary career in 1898, when she published "Women and Economics," and a volume of verse entitled "The Yellow Wallpaper." As a writer of psychological fiction she produced a little masterpiece, in that weird study in suggestion, "The Yellow Wallpaper."

Many radical and revolutionary doctrines have been preached by Mrs. Gilman since she became a platform lecturer. In her lecture on "Love, Love and Marriage," delivered before many startled audiences in America and Europe, she took Cupid, the god of love, and the bow and arrow, severely to task for the way in which he manages love affairs—or, rather, mismanages them. The gods of Cupid, she said, have been the cause of many a tragedy. She declared that Cupid represented only sex attraction, while Mother Love, Gratitude, Friendship, Admiration and Usage were equally necessary to successful and happy marriages. Mrs. Gilman admits that the subjection of women may have been necessary at one time, but she insists that it is no longer. She admits, speaking for her sex, that "we have been kept alive, and fed, and clothed—very much so," but she believes that the time has come when women should claim and achieve economic freedom.

The iconoclastic preacher of the larger feminism has scant respect for the institution of the home kitchen, and scorns the food that mother used to cook. She declares that woman's thralldom to the kitchen range will soon be a thing of the past, and that the culinary art, as well as house-cleaning and the family washing, will be turned over to specialists. If Mrs. Gilman's prediction comes true, numberless Johns throughout the world will soon be deprived of the delights of "home cooking."

The time-honored story of Adam and Eve has been completely overturned by Mrs. Gilman, who asserts, and quotes sociological authorities to prove, that Adam was the rib. Woman, she says, was the original form of life from which was was a later and insignificant offshoot. The story of the rib, as it appears in Genesis, is characterized as "man-made myth."

"The order mammalia," says Mrs. Gilman, "is the highest form of animal life," and she follows this statement, which nobody can deny, with the declaration, "and woman, the female, are the order mammalia, and the female only!"

And now, Mr. Man, what have you got to say to that? Isn't it about time that you turned over the page to peruse the sporting news? In the ring and on the diamond, at least, poor man still reigns supreme. "How he!" And yet—who knows?—the next "white hope" may be a perfect lady!

FIRST THINGS HOME RULE. The first great figure in Ireland's long struggle for home rule was Henry

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

We had strawberry shortcake for supper last night, being the jolly kind with plenty of strawberries in different places and lots of wine stuff and top, and I asked for 3 peaces and got 2, and then I went out to play with the felloes and about half past 9 Puds Simkins sed, Hey, Benny, thares yure mothir at the door waving for you, she wunts you to go to bed, I gess.

With she did, telling me so when I went down to see what she wuntid and I sed, Aw, ma, I jest calm out.

Youve bin out 3 hours, if enybudy happens to ask you, sed ma.

Well, can I have a peeces of strawberry short cake before I go to bed,

I sed.

Ask yure farthir said ma.

Aw, he'll say no, I sed.

Thats wye I wunt you to ask him, sed ma. Wich I went in and asked him enyhow, saying, Pop, ma sez I can have a peeces of strawberry short cake if you say so.

Far be it from me to stand between an ambishliss yung man and a stummick ake, sed pop, if you promise not to wake enybudy elts up no mattir how mad it herts, I gess I'll be awright.

Goddness, Willyam, I expectid you to say no, sed ma.

Its always the unexpected that makes news, sed pop. And ma went back and cut me off a pritty good peeces of wat was left of the straw-berry short cake, and I went to bed and in the middil of the nite I wook up awa akkount of a farsee stummick ake.

I bettir go and wake ma up and get sumthing for it, I thawt, and then I thawt, G wizz, I sed I woodent wake enybudy up if I got a stummick ake.

And I layed awn it a while, ony making it worse, and it kep awn getting farser and farser, and aftir a while I thawt, G, I got to take sumthing for this. And I went and wook up ma and beer wat did pop do but wake up, to, so I codden't say wat was the mattir, jest saying, ma, wats good for a pane in the foot.

Are you dreamin', sed ma.

No mam, I sed, and ma sed, Duz yure foot reely hert, and I sed, No mam, and ma sed Then wat awn erth did you wake me up to ask me that for?

I was wandring if sumthing was good for a pane in the foot weathir it wood be good for a pane in the stummick, to, I sed.

Benny, youve got a stummick ake, sed pop.

Yes, sir, I sed.

Well, thats a grate way of telling a persin, I must say, sed ma. And she got up and mixed sumthing in a medecin glass and gave it to me and I went back to bed and the first thing I noo I was asleep.

Grattan, who was born in Dublin 164 years ago today. With everything to gain by becoming the tool of the British ministry, he was unwilling in his advocacy of the independence of his country. A Protestant in religion, he was as willing to fight for the rights of Catholics as for those of his own religious party. He raised an army of 80,000 volunteers and in 1782 freed the repeal of the statute of George I, which enacted that the crown of Ireland was inseparably connected with that of Great Britain; that the last resort in all cases of law and equity was the British House of Lords. The Irish Parliament voted him a house and lands and \$250,000 for securing this concession. After the union was carried Grattan entered the House of Commons, where he continued to uphold Ireland's interests. He died in London in 1820.

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To keep the face smooth, white and beautiful all summer, there's nothing quite so good as ordinary mercurised wax. It's tried and tested, and as common as salt. It's gently absorbed by the wax and replaced by the newer, fresher skin beneath. The face exhibits no trace of the wax, the latter being applied at bedtime and washed off morning. Creams, powders and rouges on the other hand, are apt to clog the pores of the skin, and in a week or so the complexion will look remarkably youthful and healthy.

Sun, wind and flying dust often cause scrubbing and other contortions which make wrinkles. You can quickly get rid of every wrinkle, however produced, by using a harmless face bath made by dissolving 1 oz. powdered sassafras in 1 pt. cold water.

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