

The St. John Standard

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H. V. MacKINNON,
Managing Editor.

ALFRED E. McGINLAY,
Editor.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1915.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

SENATE REFORM.

It will be admitted by the great majority of thinking Canadians that the proposal, submitted to the House of Commons by Major Sam Sharpe, of North Ontario, calling for the appointment of a special committee to consider the question of Senate Reform, does not come one day too soon. As at present constituted the Canadian Senate is out of harmony with the representative branch of the Canadian Parliament, and the result is that the Senators can use their hostile majority to defeat any measure submitted to them by the lower branch of Parliament, no matter how greatly such measure is required, or how beneficial it may prove in the interests of all Canada.

Under the British North America Act, by which the Canadian Senate was created, the upper branch of the Canadian Parliament has co-ordinate powers of legislation with the House of Commons, except in the case of revenue, taxation, or money bills. It cannot initiate or amend such bills, but can reject them in their entirety when presented. Over all other classes of legislation it has practically supreme power, and it is a matter of recent political history that this power has been shamefully misused for the grossest of partisan motives.

Understanding of the great powers of the Senate, and knowledge of the fact that while there is a Conservative Government in control in Canada, and a Conservative majority in the House of Commons, there is still a Liberal majority in the Senate, will indicate the necessity of a changed condition. This could be brought about by several processes. In England, where the situation between the House of Commons and the House of Lords was somewhat similar during the progress of the Home Rule question, the Commons took measures to curb the Lords by limiting their powers. Similar measures might be taken in Canada, or the more democratic plan might be adopted of making of the Canadian Senate an elective body and thus bringing it as closely as the House of Commons under the control of the people.

Whatever plan is chosen is likely to meet with public favor, although it is not to be expected the Grits will permit the last vestige of their control of Canadian affairs to pass from them without a struggle. That struggle must come sooner or later, as the present situation is intolerable and cannot continue. In order that the best results shall be obtained the two branches of the Canadian Parliament either must be in complete accord, or the powers of the non-representative branch, if such a branch is to continue, should be so limited and controlled that there can no longer remain any doubt as to the will of the Canadian people being obeyed to the letter.

THE POLICE AND THE PRESS.

It has been the pleasant privilege of the local newspaper workers, particularly those whose daily routine has brought them into contact with officers and men of the city police force, to form many warm and enduring friendships among the men into whose charge the preservation of law and order in this city is committed. In the past there has been the closest and most intimate co-operation between the local police and the local press. Information given to police reporters in confidence has been held inviolate until such time as its publication was permitted and we believe the older men in the police department today speaking from years of experience with St. John newspapers will cheerfully bear out the statement that the interests of justice have never suffered because of unwise or indiscreet publicity given to police matters or through violation of confidence reposed in newspaper men.

Police officers can be of much assistance to newspaper men in the matter of gathering news but the advantage is not all on their side, for newspaper men, too, have deemed it a privilege to assist the police with information whenever possible. A case in point is that of the Rockwood Park murder of several years ago where much valuable information leading to the solution of that murder and the eventual capture of the notorious "tan yard gang" was contributed by police reporters assigned to the case.

Up to a few days ago there had never been a tendency on the part of police officials to withhold from the reporters interesting, though harmless, information relating to arrests, police activities and police administration, but Chief of Police Simpson, apparently

views the relation of the police officer and the reporter from a different angle. The Chief is a comparative stranger to St. John and it would be unfortunate for him if, at the outset of his career here, he had been furnished by any person with the impression that the newspapers and newspaper reporters were not disposed to regard him and his force with sympathy. If by withholding information from the newspaper reporters it is found that the ends of justice will be more completely served, there will be no disposition on the part of the newspapers to question the policy, but if the idea is that the work of the force is not public property and the newspapers are not entitled to full information regarding arrests, etc., it is not to be expected that the policy of co-operation can continue. The newspapers will probably manage to get the police news anyway, or, if they cannot, they will know where to place the responsibility. Events of the past few months have brought to the local police force much undesirable publicity. Surely it is not the desire of those in control of that body to afford opportunity for more.

THE HEROIC RUSSIAN.

While the bombardment of the Dardanelles by the Allied fleets continues to be the spectacular feature of the war news, yet the progress being made in the campaign against the common enemy is not confined to that narrow waterway. Official reports from the eastern war zone, where the forces of Muscovite and Teuton are locked in one of the greatest struggles of the war, are contradictory in character, but it is evident that the Russians have succeeded in regaining the ground lost by them in the last German offensive and now their position is as good as, if not better, than that of their enemies.

That it has been possible for the Russian soldiers in less than three weeks to recover from the effect of a gruelling retreat, in which they lost very heavily, reorganize their broken forces and add to them hundreds of thousands of fresh troops, well trained and equipped, is another mighty testimonial to the splendid military organization and system of the Russian Empire. It seems but yesterday that the Russians were being shamefully beaten by inferior forces of Japanese and the Russian army stood for all that a military force should not be. Today there are no finer soldiers fighting in this war of millions and while all allowance is made for the splendid work done by the French, Belgian and British troops on the western side of the war zone, it is, nevertheless, a fact that since the war began the Russians have had the hardest fighting and the most of it to do.

Where the British and French, in the west, have been opposed only by German troops, the Russians have had to encounter Germans, Austrians and Turks. Fully half of the German force and all of that of Austria has been turned against them, and yet, after seven months of war we find the Muscovites unbeaten, drawing slowly but none the less surely toward their goal, enduring frightful losses with an equanimity which must result in victory, reforming and replenishing their lines and advancing again to resume the combat where it was left off, and through it all, wearing down the enemy's forces by the most skillful warfare history has ever known. In the past there has been a disposition to regard the Russian as a comparatively poor fighter, but this war will change that as it will change other things. Hereafter, when warfare is the topic and the tendency is to speak of the heroism of "Tommy" and "Jacques", for the splendid work done against the Empire's enemies, it must also be "hats off to Nicholas as a first class fighting man." Russia has awakened.

Mr. B. Frank Smith will move the address in reply to the speech from the throne at the opening of the legislature. We venture to bet that Mr. Dark Lantern Brigadier Carvell will not be among those present.

It is reported that Mr. William Squid Pugley is to make a tour of Canada addressing agricultural institutes on "The ubiquitous squid as an aid to apple culture."

HONUS GETS \$10,000

Pittsburg, Mar. 3.—Honus Wagner, the veteran shortstop, signed his 1915 contract with the Pittsburgh National League Baseball Club here today. The contract, which calls for \$10,000 per year, was the sixteenth he has made with the local club.

Restless Joe Batiste

Some months ago there appeared in the Wall Street Journal a few verses from the pen of "H. F. W." a Boston bard. These verses were reprinted in newspapers and periodicals east and west. Here they are:

The Invasion Begins

"I think, by gar, I move down States,
There all mans dey be free;
Susette 'nd me, we emigrate,
Mon wife, he cum wit me.

Dese mans up here talk grut boeg war,
Dat mak me mouch afraid;
I don no wa 's fitin for,
But guns—dey shoot tres strait.

Dat Sultan man say 'hoi war,'
De Zar hees ikon kees;
Beeg Kliser man he fite, by gar,
He tink dat war be hees.

Bien-vite la prayer, en suite bataille,
Each mans de odder hates;
I no go fite wit dat cannille,
I hike down Unite States.

Allons, cherie, pack portmanteau,
We keep away dis war;
Joost cum along wit hosband Jo,
Adieu dis Canada!

It now appears that after migrating to the States Joe Batiste and his "cherie," Susette, are not finding conditions here to their liking, and now they are hiking back to their beloved Canada, as witness the following:

"I tink, by gar, I gon me bak—
Vivre en Canada;
Down States all beezness vera slak—
No job be wurse dan war.

Susette 'nd me joost want sum hire
In mill—maybe bazaar;
All mans we ask, dey only fire
Us out de door, so far.

I tink me smart to mak retreat
When talk of grut boeg fite;
But dere we get lots grub to eat—
Down here we dos get bite.

In Unite States lot mans want job,
When dey be sans le sou;
Bimeby dey joost go steal 'nd rob—
No gotting else can do.

Plent bons hommes get kill in war,
Dey dey die vera quik—
No work—les hommes gon starve, by gar,
Dey dey be long time silt.

'N avant, cherie, pack portmanteau!
Tak Montreal stim car!
Grub he be verine, acade hallo,
Mangeons en Canada!
—Boston—H. F. W.

England and the Great Struggle

Recently a large number of Belgian engineers have been engaged at the great Vickers' works at Barrow. There has been a very big demand for engineers, owing to the large government orders for war purposes, and although a great many additional British workmen were taken on, the supply was insufficient. Arrangements were therefore made to employ a small party of Belgians to begin with, and the experiment proved so satisfactory that others were sent for, and now 900 Belgians are employed by the firm.

Speaking in London the other day, Lord Haldane said that he shared the hope that the doctrine of the recognition between states of moral obligations might in time become a reality with Germany as with other nations. In the phenomena before them, in the larger political world, of the relations of nations within groups to one another, they had indications of how ethical standards might be developed and ethical obligations become binding, although there was no external sanction. It had been inconceivable for some years past that Russia, France and England could fall to war until after the greatest and most strenuous efforts of the most genuine kind had been made to avert it. Between England and the United States of America there was the same thing. It had not always been so. If the world arranged itself in groups and the groups came to arrange with each other so that the ethical feeling should extend beyond the groups, then, indeed, they might hope that they were entering on a new phase of there is always the danger of its being dropped or knocked against something with expensive results.

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The Wrist Watch is very popular among school teachers because the method of carrying it is so practical.

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In an interview, in the London Times, a coal merchant says: "The way the coal traffic is being handled is abominable. We cannot get the coal from the pit-head. The traffic may be stopped for a whole week without any warning being given by the railway companies to the coal merchants. Thousands of tons of coal are lying dead somewhere on sidings the location of which is unknown to us. Again, the delay in sending the empty trucks back to the collieries is worse, if possible, than the delay in delivering the full trucks at our London stations. The empty trucks are allowed to remain idle outside the stations for days after they have been cleared. Many of the collieries, being thus insufficiently supplied with trucks, are compelled to reduce their output by working short time. As a consequence, the supply of household coals in London is very low."

Preparations are now complete for the internment of some 200 or 300 captured German officers at Donington Park, Leicestershire. The British Government has spent £20,000 in adapting the place for the purpose. The well-wooded park comprises about 400 acres, but only twenty acres immediately adjoining the hall will be used by the prisoners, this space being enclosed by barbed-wire entanglements eight feet high, six feet wide, and set into the ground to a distance of three feet. Additional dormitories

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE.

Us fellas was playing war this afternoon and we was awl standing around the lamp post talking about who was going to be submergins and who was going to be aeroplanes, and awl of a sudden Sam Krawses sed, Hah I spy a spy up at the cornir. And we looked, and who was standing up there looking down but Flatfoot, being the cop, wich we call him Flatfoot awn akount of the way he wawks and not because his feet aint him, wich it probably aint.

Who volunteers to go up and investigate weathir its a spy or not, sed Sid Hunt.

Ill go up if anybody's got the nerve to go with me, I sed.

I got the nerve, sed Puds Simkins.

And me and Puds started to wawk up the street, wawking near the houses like scouts scouting, and Flatfoot kepp awn standing up there looking down, and Puds sed, G, maybe he will nab us for playing ball this mornin' if we go to near him.

G, maybe he will, I sed. And we krawsed ovr to the othr side of the street and stood there watching him a while.

He looks like a spy, awl rite, lookat the size of his feat, sed Puds.

Look at his guilty ipresshins, I sed.

Look at the sneaky way hes standing there sed Puds.

Look at the bomb hes holding behind his back, I sed. Meaning his club.

Wich jest then Flatfoot started to krawse ovr to the side of the street waw the othr side, and Flatfoot called ovr. Hay, is anything the matir with you 2 kids, do you want anything with me.

No sir, I sed.

No sir, sed Puds.

Then kwit gawking around heer and go down ware you belawng, sed Flatfoot.

Wich me and Puds did, wawking down agen to ware the fellas was, and wen we got down there we looked back and Flatfoot wassent there any moar and awl the fellas sed, Was he a spy, was he a spy.

He was a spy awl rite, but we chased him, I sed. And we got up a gain of tern cap.

built of wood have had to be erected a few yards from the hall for some of the prisoners and for the guard.

The political growth of E. S. Montagu, the new Chancellor of the Duchy in the British Cabinet, has been very rapid. He was educated at the Prime Minister's old school, in the City of London, and performed excellent service for Mr. Asquith as parliamentary private secretary for the first four years of his House of Commons life. He was appointed Under-Secretary for India in 1910, and made some notable speeches on the condition of the Eastern Empire. When Mr. Masterman entered the Cabinet twelve months ago, Mr. Montagu succeeded him at the Treasury, and he has been Mr. Lloyd George's right-hand man in the arduous and difficult duties which have fallen upon the department since the outbreak of war. Now he succeeds Mr. Masterman again, at the early age of thirty-five.

Spurious £1 Treasury notes, good imitations of the genuine, are beginning to make their appearance in London.

Up to January 9, 824 teachers in the public schools of London had joined the forces for the war, and vacancies due to other causes, and after allowing for further enlistments, the number of available substitutes, it is calculated that by June next there will be a dearth of nearly 600 masters. In the country the lack of teachers is even more acute, but this is not entirely due to the war. To some extent the profession appears to have become less popular, and the number of students of both sexes entering the training colleges after leaving school has been steadily declining for several years.

Another of the Rajput Ruling Princes of India has gone on active service. H. H. the Maharawal Sri Ranjitsinghi Mansinghi of Baria, one of the Rewa Kantha states of western India, is on staff duty in France. His Highness is in his twenty-ninth year, and succeeded to the gadi in 1908.

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