

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1921.

CALL TO THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Periodically for months past we have been urging upon the Conservative party in this city and province to begin the work of organizing its working forces in readiness for the general election that must come in the not distant future. As far as we have been able to judge our exhortations in this regard have been of much effect as a voice crying in the wilderness. Nothing appears to have been done, and as likely as not, nothing will be done until the writ is signed, and there will be the usual hurry and scurry to get into working order, with the natural result that when polling day comes, the working forces are about twenty-five per cent. deficient.

The Standard does not pretend to have any particular influence with the Conservative party here. Senator Thorne has, and while the party has paid no heed whatever to the suggestions we have made from time to time, it will probably heed what he has to say. In another column will be found a resume of the Senator's ideas upon the present political situation, which it would be just as well for the party to take note of and act upon. His advice is to get busy with as little delay as possible. His suggestion that a general convention of the party in the province be called at an early date to consider the whole situation is, to say the least, a very wise one, and if the party leaders are not wholly lost to all sense of responsibility, they will take steps to act upon it. Conservative candidates in this province are not going to be elected by acclamation, and it would be as well for their supporters not to forget this fact.

THE MARITIME PROVINCES

The position in which the Maritime Provinces find themselves in regard to the remainder of Canada is providing serious food for thought among the people who reside in them. Apparently in the view of the authorities at Ottawa, Canada begins at Quebec and ends at the Rockies. But when anything is wanted for the betterment of that part of Canada, the Maritime have to provide their quota of the cost. Take the railway situation for instance. That portion of the government system which runs through these provinces pays, or very nearly pays—its way. At least 15,000 miles of railway has been built during the past few years in Ontario and the Western provinces, which is being operated for the benefit solely of those provinces, at a cost of a million dollars every year. This is no fault of the Maritimes, yet they have to shoulder their proportion of the burden, not understanding that they get no advantage whatever from these roads.

These roads are not even used to provide trade in the country. There is nothing being done to stimulate a home market for Canadian produce and goods. Every effort is directed towards finding markets outside the country. This is well enough in its way, but why not endeavor to encourage inter-provincial trade? If there is any trade to be done, as far as possible it is to be done across the border, rather than from one province to the other. Very little trade passes between the Maritime provinces and the remainder of the country, and nothing is being done to improve conditions. How is it to be expected that the provinces can progress as they ought to, if they are deliberately handicapped by succeeding governments?

SELF-DETERMINATION

A correspondent in The New York Times pertinently asks the National Council of the Friends of Irish Freedom, which is demanding that Great Britain and France surrender their American islands and territory as part payment of war indebtedness, how they make this request jibe with the principle of self-determination. He points out:

In accordance with this principle, which the Friends of Irish Freedom have always professed to uphold, would France and Great Britain surrender the territories in question and the inhabitants thereof without consulting them and at the demand of another government as compensation in whole or in part of a debt contracted by the French and British Governments acting in the name of the native people?

It is hard to understand how so many American papers could have taken the proposal seriously. Great Britain could not and would not think of such a scheme without the consent of those concerned. As a matter of fact there is a movement on foot at the present time to form a federation of the islands and to establish responsible government forming a new self-governing Dominion.

PRINCIPLE FIRST

In the course of his interview with The Standard, Senator Thorne struck a note upon which members of the Conservative party in this country would do well to dwell, when he referred to the principles for which the Conservative party stands. Loyalty to the party is one thing, and a good thing too; loyalty to its leader is also to be desired; but loyalty to the principles for which the party has always stood and which it has always upheld, is the greatest thing of all. Leaders may come and go; the party may pass through troublous times and petty differences may sometimes arise within it, but its principles remain the same throughout all vicissitudes. It is the principles of the Conservative party which have made Canada what she is today; the principles which dictated the formation of the National Policy, upon which Canada has risen to the status of nationhood; the consistent adherence to which is necessary if Canada is to continue to expand and become as great a country as her neighbors to the South. It is loyalty to these principles which must be inculcated in the minds of the youth of the country, so that they may continue the work that their forebears have so well begun and brought to such successful issues.

A WAY OUT

In view of the widespread unpopularity of his appointment as a Senator from New Brunswick, of which Mr. J. A. McDonald is fully aware, the most graceful thing he could do would be to retire without further delay. If, as one may not unreasonably suppose in the case, he is enamored of his position as a Senator, he might make a request for the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Crosby. On his own showing he is a resident of Nova Scotia, and it is common knowledge that he has business interests in Halifax, so that there should be no question of qualifications in that case. His tenure of office as a pseudo-New Brunswick Senator will always be more or less unpleasant; he will always be regarded as an interloper by other New Brunswick Senators. Any attempt to force him out of the Red Chamber for lack of proper qualification would be very undignified and unpleasant and is therefore not to be thought of; but if Mr. McDonald has any sense of decency or even of the fitness of things he will eagerly appreciate the false position in which he is placed, and will seek a way out.

THE HARDING GOVERNMENT AND CANADA

There is not much to indicate in any definite way what effect the inception of the Republican administration will have upon the relations between the United States and Canada. That nothing will be left undone to maintain the fine neighborliness that has characterized their attitude in the past, is of course, to be assumed. It is, fortunately, only in a business way that changes of administration in either country modify the relationships between the two peoples. To what extent the fiscal policy of the Republic will be altered in a way material to the Dominion remains to be seen. The Fordney bill cannot be taken as an indication of normal Republican sentiment on the tariff and economic questions. That was a measure designed to meet an emergency. It was vetoed by President Wilson; and the emergency is passing. The bill may even not be revived. That it forecasts a crippling interprovincial trade is scarcely conceivable. Canada is the best customer of the United States, and the demand of the U. S. farmers for "protection" against Canadian produce is hardly likely to be gratified at the expense of closing a great and growing foreign market for U. S. industrial products; a market needed now more than ever before, and certain to be needed even more in future.

It is pertinent to recall that it was a Republican administration which ten years ago offered to make a reciprocal trade arrangement with Canada the essential feature of which was the free admission of Canadian farm products into the United States. The economic conditions which implied the Taft administration to that course of action are conditions which exist in the United States today, and with increased urgency. The question of cheaper food is still uppermost in the thought of the people of the Republic, and may be expected to influence the attitude of the Harding administration toward Canada in matters of commerce; if the Canadian people want a reciprocal trade agreement, somewhat on the lines of the former one, it is by no means beyond the range of possibilities that it can be brought about.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Editor St. John Standard,
 Dear Sir—Recognizing the injustice that has been done New Brunswick in the appointment of an Amherst, Nova Scotia man as a New Brunswick Senator, I would suggest, in order that good feeling may continue to prevail between the two provinces, that The Standard present the names of some party as well qualified to fill the position as our own "Timmy" McDonald, to succeed the late lamented Hon. A. B. Crosby, like our friend "Mac" I am not even waiting the burial of the deceased before putting my suggestion on file.

Yours, A Former New Brunswicker, now A NOVA SCOTIAN.
 Amherst, N. S., Mar. 11th, 1921.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Self-Determination.
 Ten counties in Idaho threaten to secede and establish a separate state. By this application of the "self-determination" theory about every resident in the state would be an office-holder.—Vancouver Province.

Hotel Profits.
 It is interesting to learn, in face of the predictions that prohibition of the open bar would spell the ruin of hotels everywhere in the province, that the King Edward hotel in Toronto has during the past year earned 28 per cent on its capital, these figures being arrived at after providing for all costs of operation, taxes, salaries, maintenance and all expenses except depreciation, reserves and any sum that may become payable under the income tax. The sum applicable to dividends represents 14 per cent on the investment.—Ottawa Citizen.

A BIT OF VERSE

A SONG OF HOME.
 Here is my kingdom—here within these walls;
 Such narrow walls, and yet they bound me
 The whole wide world—north, south, and east and west—
 The highest mountain top and farthest sea.

A little kingdom, bounded by four walls,
 And yet within its narrow space I see
 The tender eyes of him my heart calls king,
 A little child who waits beside my knee.

A lowly kingdom, yet 'tis set about
 With moat and wall and guarded by whose strong walls the warder, lo!
 Over my little kingdom of content.

What matters, then, the burden of the day?
 Dear heart, what matters anything to me
 If I can touch your hands at evening side,
 And hold a little child upon my knee?
 —Florence J. Hadley.

Boycott Head Is A Strange Hindu

Peculiarities of Gandhi Who Leads Activity Against British in India.

London, March 13.—Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, who holds such sway over a certain section of the Indian people and who has been headhunting the anti-government boycotts in an attempt to force home-rule in India, is 51 years of age with greying hair, thinning, truthful eyes and slim sloquent hands, says a correspondent of the Daily Mail.

The writer continues: "His voice is low-pitched and monotonous, yet pleasing, whether in Gujarati or English."

"He is married and has four sons. Gandhi lives in Ahmedabad, the big mill center, where he has founded a settlement for the culture of truth in poverty and for handweaving, and primitive agriculture.

Not a Priest.
 "Gandhi is not, as is commonly supposed, a Brahmin of the priestly caste. He belongs to a Kshatriya, or trading caste, family resident in Kathiawar. He descends from politicians. His political mind comes from his father, who was a Dewan, or chief minister, of the state of Porbander for 25 years.

"Gandhi's genius lies in making lost causes live. In his disarming sweetness of a saint he adds all the arts of the advocate. In South Africa, he matched even General Smuts. They sparred for years over Indian claims without quarrelling.

Diet Experimenters.
 "Gandhi has a hobby, it is experimenting in diet. Eighteen months ago he had reduced his daily food to

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAGE

It follows was going to start up a game of something, and we went around to look for Puda Simkins and he was sitting on his front steps with his hand up to his face and a sad expression on it, saying, O boy maybe I aint got a head of a sea snake, O boy.

With us fellows started to say things to make him feel better, Sam Cross saying, You aw; to be glad it aint in both ears, Puda, it would be feared in both ears.

Its fears in one, sed Puda.

Aw G, Puda, think of something cheerfull and forget it, jest suppose you had a broken leg in 3 places, think how much more worse that would be, I sed.

Nothing could be any more worse, wats the use of thinking, sed Puda.

It will all be the same in a million years, Puda, theres no use worrying, sed Sid Hunt.

I dont expect to be heef in a million years, sed Puda.

Well cheer up, Puda, you can any die once so it mile as well be now, sed Skinny Martin.

If like to see you cheer up with a tooth ake, you fong legged proesen, sed Puda. Being a heck of a way to immit somebody trying to make him feel better, and Skinny sed, Whose a long legged proesen, jest for that I got a good mind jest to leave you suffer.

And us other fellows sed, Gosh Puda, its a wonder you wouldent use a little gratitude wen people try to sympathize with you, heck Puda, if thats the way yours going to tawk you deserve to have a tooth ake and its a wonder you didnt get one long ago, G Puda, gosh, holy smokes, Puda.

And we went and started a game of Cops and Robbers and I left him there to sympathize with himself if he wanted to.

France Will Help American Cemeteries

(Copyright, 1921, by Public Ledger.)
 Washington, March 13.—France will assist in the beautification of the American military cemeteries at Belleau Wood and Romagne-Sous-Montfaucon as a tribute to the Americans who fell in the world war. The French foreign office also has notified the American Embassy that the French government will purchase and present to the United States the property upon which Marine Corps monument is to be placed at Belleau Wood, as a gift from the French republic to the soldiers of the United States.

"He never sees a debtor, never gives evidence against an enemy, always travels third-class, the some of discomfort in India, and always goes barefoot. He can sleep when he likes and he dispenses with sleep for long periods at will.

"India's humble masses, saturated with ancient philosophy, have long imagined a saviour who should unite earthly practice to divine precept. The key to Gandhi and Gandhism is wrapped in his self-revealing sentence: 'Most religious men I have met are politicians in disguise; I, however, who wear the guise of a politician, am at heart a religious man.'

Wireless From South America To Paris

Buenos Aires, March 13.—Wireless telephone communication between Buenos Aires and Paris is a promise of the not distant future. The government has granted a concession to the General Wireless Telegraph Company of Paris to construct on the Argentine coast a powerful radio-telegraph and radio-telephone station to communicate with France and other European countries. The company, it is stated, expects to establish telephone connection with Paris by a system of continuous waves of 800 kilowatt power and over.

WAS SUFFERING FROM INDIGESTION

No Fear of Pains Now.
 Indigestion is one of the worst forms of stomach trouble, and many people suffer terribly after every meal they eat. The rising and souring of the food, pains in the stomach, heartburn, water break, belching of wind, vomiting shortly after eating, etc., are some of the symptoms.

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Mr. H. H. Collins, Norton, N. B., writes: "I was with the overseas forces for four years and two months, and in October, 1915, I was unfortunately enough to be wounded and taken prisoner. I was a prisoner for two and a half years, and the food they gave us was not good at times, and after a few months I found I was suffering from indigestion. When I came home in July, 1919, was nearly a wreck. I was told to use Burdock Blood Bitters. I did so and found great relief, and can now eat without fear of pains and sickness. I would recommend B. B. B. to all who suffer from indigestion."

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APPROVE DELEGATES

Berlin, March 13.—Approve German Government's attitude the allied reparations demand by the Reichstag you or foreign minister Stunneson's lengthy explanation of his London conference. The partisan debate over the reparations, which was moved coalition parties, but it adapted by vote of 264 to 265.

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