

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1914.

A DANGEROUS ORGANIZATION

News despatches of yesterday brought the information of further discreditable activities on the part of that organization of fanatics known as the Industrial Workers of the World. Under the leadership of one Frank Tannenbaum, members of the band have adopted the practice of invading churches in America's largest city, pleading poverty because of lack of work, and demanding cash contributions from the worshippers. On Sunday night last 250 of them invaded St. Mark's Protestant Episcopal church and made the stereotyped demand. They were fed and offered work at twenty cents per hour, shovelling snow, but although they claimed to be without means to feed themselves they scorned the offer and declared they would not touch shovels unless they were paid thirty cents an hour.

The pastor of St. Mark's extended a welcome to the invaders and gave their leader Tannenbaum a chance to speak. He said: "At last we have a chance to let the city know what we want. We are members of the working class. Everything in this city was created by our hands or the hands of our brothers and sisters. We have a right to share in every house and in every man's loaf of bread. What's more, we are going to make the city give it to us, or take it by force."

It has been the proud boast of Canadians, and citizens of the United States alike that under the folds of the flag of either country men enjoy the highest form of liberty. The case of the Industrial Workers of the World affords an indication of how easily liberty may be construed to mean license. There is the greatest respect due to labor men who band together for mutual protection and benefit. As a class they represent a safe and sane citizenship with a wholesome respect for the laws and a regard for their country's wealth that is highly creditable. But the Industrial Workers of the World, or, to give them a more fitting name, the "I Won't Works," do not represent the type of men usually found in the well organized and decently conducted labor union. Rather they are fanatics with added ideas of their rights and privileges.

There is no scarcity of evidence to support this contention. In the city of Lawrence the banner of the I. W. W. was literally soaked in the blood of innocent victims of the rioting that formed a fearful finale to the difficulties in the textile industry there. In the Cripple Creek labor trouble of more remote date, members of the same organization were guilty of murder, arson, and dynamite outrages. Even the miners of the Western States found their organization literally honeycombed with men who preached the gospel of violence and it is now more than rumor that the recent trouble in the Vancouver Island collieries had its genesis in the activity of officials of the I. W. W.

In Ireland, Larkin, the syndicalist, operated along lines similar to those adopted by Tannenbaum in New York. In Africa, the leaders in the general strike, whom an indignant government was finally forced to deport, had as their creed the gospel of the Industrial Workers of the World, or something very like it.

Labor unions are to be commended; socialism has much in its favor but organizations like the Industrial Workers of the World should be placed upon a level with nihilism, anarchism, the Mafia and Camorra. The hand of every right thinking citizen should be against them for they represent no social force, have no commendable aim to justify their existence. Born of dissatisfaction and nurtured in wilful ignorance it would be well to prohibit by law such organizations as that responsible for the recent happenings in New York. A parasitic growth upon our social life, and an insult to the name of organized labor, both Canada and the United States would be the better for a vigorous and thorough operation that would tend to remove the obnoxious and dangerous I. W. W.

HARD ON SIR WILFRID

Newspapers supporting the Opposition party in the Dominion Parliament have objected to statements freely made in the Conservative press, and known to be true, that the heart has gone from the Liberal party and that the brand of opposition presented in the House of Commons this session is more a ghastly joke than any attempt at a serious exposition of the doctrines of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. In fact the session to date has been concerned more with an exposure of Liberal methods than an exposition of Liberal policy.

Can it be wondered that Sir Wilfrid has no answer for the fighting? Whatever may have been said about the Liberal leader, it was generally conceded that his personal honesty is

above reproach. But can as much be said for his followers or for the methods they adopted when in power? Although the Grit press is trying very hard to cover up on the National Transcontinental Railway Commission of Enquiry, it is known that the transactions revealed cannot be explained away on the ground of "differences of opinion," or "arrangements between contractors." The practices indulged in were dishonest and if the commissioners themselves were not directly concerned they made no effort to prevent the looting and jobbery going on all around them.

Then there is the matter of the Trent Canal, not so well known in the Maritime Provinces as in the Province of Ontario. In this case the Liberals permitted exorbitant sums to be paid for work that was not done. Payrolls were padded and the merry bill of expenses allowed to roll up until it assumed gigantic proportions. If the evidence of former canal employees is to be depended upon there was apparently no bit of grafting too petty or too coarse for the Liberal machine to undertake and always "for the good of the party."

Liberals point with pride to the fact that under the Laurier regime Canada had a growing and an expanding revenue. Well, Canada needed it, and the miracle is that even an elastic revenue did not break under the strain put upon it by the political vultures that picked clean every contract and every public work, giving the people in return but indifferent value for very large sums of money expended.

What with the recent graft and bribery scandal in the Province of Quebec, in which men close to Sir Wilfrid, and to his titular lieutenant, Rodolphe Lemieux, admitted their guilt by their hasty retirement from public life rather than stand the gas of public exposure and conviction, the N. T. R. plundering, the Trent Canal steal, the Western Land graft operations, the spectacle of a prominent Ontario Liberal convicted of offering to sell his public position, his talents and his vote to the liquor interests, the complete disaffection of Nova Scotia, as evidenced in the case of Victoria county, and an open war in the camp of the Liberals of Alberta, it is little wonder that the old chief has little taste for fighting. It will not be surprising if the white plume is bowed in grief and seeks solace in political retirement long before his discredited party has opportunity to rehabilitate itself. The Liberal party was built up in eighteen years; it has taken but two years to utterly wreck it.

ANOTHER PORT RECORD.

Once more have St. John laborers broken the record for speedy handling of mails landed at Sand Point from trans-Atlantic liners. The Royal George of the Canadian Northern Line, docked at West St. John at 7.40 o'clock yesterday morning. Twenty minutes later the first mail bag was landed and at 9.15 the landing was finished. As the steamer brought 1,574 bags of mail, and 279 baskets of parcels post, it will be seen the mail was landed at the rate of 1,452 bags an hour, or more than 25 bags per minute.

But this is not all. Twenty-seven minutes after the last bag was landed it was in the cars and at 8.41, the mail was on its way to the west by C. P. R. special train. Many claims, most of them absurd, have been made by the enemies of St. John to the effect that the mail steamers can be handled more quickly through some other port. There has been no case this winter where these contentions have been verified by the actual performances. Yesterday's record, which is but one of several made by St. John men, establishes the fact that this port can compete with any other Atlantic port in the handling of mails. It should not be lost sight of. There is no disposition to cry down the wares that any competing port can offer, but we have a first-class article of our own in the shape of a port and we should unite to promote its interests.

REDISTRIBUTION.

The redistribution committee, which will draft the plan for the allotment of seats in the next parliament in accordance with the country's population, is reported to be making good progress, and if the proposals outlined for Nova Scotia can be taken as a standard from which to judge the character of the recommendations affecting the other provinces there is absolutely no ground for the plaint of Grit newspapers that the present Government will follow the course adopted by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the last redistribution, and so allot the new seats as to benefit the party in power.

In Nova Scotia, the counties of Digby and Annapolis will be merged, with one representative. This is decidedly a concession to the Liberals,

for Yarmouth has been a Liberal hive for years, and the Liberal majority in that county is more than sufficient to offset the normal Conservative majority in Digby. If the sole idea of the committee was to manipulate the redistribution to the political advantage of the Government party, another arrangement could have been made. There is no gainsaying the fact that the Liberals will require all the assistance the most favorable scheme of redistribution can give them if they hope to have, in the next parliament, anything like as strong a representation as they have in the present one. The tide of affairs during the past two years has not set in favorably for the followers of Sir Wilfrid, their sins have been uncovered, their fallacies exposed, while the Government party has gained in strength everywhere. If the call for an election were to come tomorrow it would find the Liberal party with very little hope of retaining even the smallest percentage of popular esteem.

Diary of Events

HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

Toronto will celebrate its eightieth birthday as a city today, having been incorporated on March 6, 1834. The town of York, the ancestor of the Ontario metropolis, was founded in 1794. In 1813, when it had a population of only 800, it was captured by the Americans. Despite its insignificant size, it was an important place, being the capital of Upper Canada. The town was pillaged by the enemy, and all the government buildings were burned. It was also the scene of the capture of the legislative library by the Americans. By 1830 York had fully recovered, and had a population of 2,800. When it was incorporated as a city, under the new name of Toronto, there were less than 300 buildings of all kinds in the corporate limits. The streets were unpaved, and there were no sidewalks. Following incorporation Toronto entered upon a season of growth and prosperity, and within two years had a population of over 9,000. The first mayor of Toronto was William Lyon Mackenzie, who had opposed the incorporation of the city. When the incorporation succeeded, Mackenzie contested the second ward, winning over Dr. Widmer, and was chosen mayor by the council. While occupying that position he received the famous letter from the English alderman, Joseph Hume, in which the latter asserted that Canada's troubles could only terminate with "freedom from the shackles of the mother country." The letter was made public and was not disapproved by Mackenzie, who thenceforth entered upon his career of rebellion, hoping thus to become the president of the new republic. When insurrection the point of action Mackenzie fled at the first shot. A little later the public career of Toronto's first mayor, a brilliant if misguided orator and journalist, ended in disaster and disgrace.

THE PASSING DAY

Not long ago a company of distinguished English literary men and women attempted to discover the world's best joke, and, after a vote, they awarded the palm to Du Maurier's sketch dealing with the urchin, the porter, and the grandfather's clock. George Louis Parnell Bussan Du Maurier, who was born in Paris eighty years ago today, is thus immortalized as the author of the best joke of the centuries, as well as the author of the celebrated "Tribby." It was while he was a member of the staff of Punch that he drew the caricature which represented the weight of a grandfather's clock of enormous size, which he had employed to deliver a small boy of the street halls him, and the text gave the "punch" to the Punch joke: "I say, mister," he said, "your grandfather wouldn't you find it more convenient to carry a watch?" All England laughed at that joke when it appeared in Punch, and the cartoonist, for once not scoffing at the English brand of humor, joined in the guffaws of merriment.

Du Maurier first went to England to study chemistry, but he soon fell out with that science, and returned to his native Paris to study art. Believing that London offered the best field, he settled in that city, and began to draw for several publications, finally joining the staff of Punch, the pages of which he enriched with his caricatures and sketches, dealing largely with society life. He also illustrated Thackeray's "Henry Esmond," and other novels. Turning from art to literature, he achieved even greater fame as a writer than he had as an illustrator. In 1891 he published "Peter Rabbit," which was fairly successful. Then, twenty years ago, "Tribby" was published on both sides of the Atlantic, and within a brief time the name of Du Maurier's pathetic and beautiful heroine was on all lips. The story of artist life in the Quarter Latin of Paris, with its little "Tribby" and "out of the mysterious past," was the literary hit of the century. A "Tribby" craze, which stopped little short of mania, swept America, and spread across the Atlantic to England and France. The name of Du Maurier's central figure was applied to scores of articles. Newspapers gave up pages to grave discussions of hypnotism, inspired by the hypnotist in Du Maurier's novel "Tribby" was dramatized, and, although the stage version left much to be desired, the vast publicity given to the novel made it a success financially.

In 1898 Du Maurier published "The Martian," and in October of that year he died. The "Tribby" craze has long since died out, and the rising generation knows little of "Tribby," and wonders why a former generation should have been so madly, wildly excited about that delightful heroine. Compared with the highly-spirited literature of the present, it must be admitted that "Tribby" seems a bit tame.

Englishmen—How much money do you think a man ought to accumulate before he can be safely said to be a millionaire? Mr. Esmond—It depends on the man, Mr. Esmond. You will have to accumulate several millions.

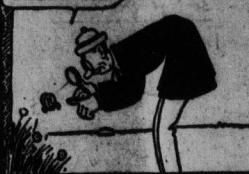
Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE
 I heard a good win, my cousin Artie said to me yesterday, and I said, Wat, and he said, Who was Santa Klaws wife.
 I don't no, I said, who.
 Mary Klaws, said Artie, Alint that a god win, he said.
 Yes, I said, and when I went home I said to ma, Ma, who was Santa Klaws wife.
 Santa Klaws never had a wife, you silly child, said ma.
 Well, weather he did or not, who was she, I said.
 Are you krazy, said ma, or haven't you got rite sense.
 Its a riddle, ma, I said, its a joke.
 O, sed ma, I thawt you were seery-us.
 Well, who was she, I sed, and ma sed, O yes, who was she, im sure I dont no, I never was good at riddles.
 Mary Klaws, I sed.
 Wat, sed ma, and I sed, Mary Klaws, dont you see, Isted of saying

Merry Klaws, you say Mary Klaws, making a lady's name.
 Well I deklare, sed ma, thais kwrite a joke was you see it, I tent it. I'll haff to tell it to yure farther, hee awlways saying I have no sense of humer.
 Wen pop calm hoam and buns up his buk, ma sed, Willyam, who was Santa Klaws wife, its a joke.
 It must be it yure going to spring it, sed pop.
 It is, sed ma, who was Santa Klaws wife.
 Well, who was the poor lady, sed pop.
 Merry Klaws, sed ma.
 Happy Noo Year, sed pop.
 Merry Klaws, sed ma.
 A lawing life and a happy win, sed pop, wat is, this, a felicityasin kon-sent.
 Dont you see the joke, sed ma.
 Not exactly, sed pop, but if you do its enuff for me.
 Merry Klaws, sed ma.
 Good nite, sed pop.

AND HE DID

AH, OBSERVE THE BUSY BEE, FLITTING FROM FLOWER TO FLOWER! I'LL STUDY HIM CLOSELY.



How Philip Got a Fill-Up.

Farmer's Wife—Yes, I suppose I can let you have a cup of coffee. How do you take it?

Prayed Philip—With breakfast please.

The Solicitous Oriental.

The Arabs, we are told, have no "Hello!" in their language. The nearest they come to it is to throw a stone and hit a man in the back and then ask as he turns around: "Does it please heaven to give you good health this morning?"

The Girl For Him.

Tom—I've seen the girl I want to marry. I stood behind her at the ticket window this morning and she took seven minutes to buy a five-cent elevated ticket.

Alice—Did that make you want to marry her?

Tom—Yes, I figured out that she could never spend my income at that rate.

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