

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1919.

JINN FEIN.

The appearance of Jan O'Connell in Paris, presenting himself to the Peace Conference as the accredited envoy of the Provisional Government of the Irish Republic, is not without a characteristic touch of Irish humor, for the triumph of Sinn Féin in the recent elections was more apparent than real. In spite of the large number of candidates elected, Sinn Féin only polled 48,106 votes out of a total of 1,937,245 registered electors in Ireland. When the voters in the unopposed constituencies are deducted, there were 1,462,467 electors who had an opportunity to express their views at the polls. Of these 543,357 voted against Sinn Féin, and 434,065 did not take the trouble to go to the polls. And it is certain that many of those who voted for Sinn Féin out of sympathy with it, as an emotional protest, are not in accord with the designs of its leaders to set up an independent state.

The intimation that the credentials of the envoy of Sinn Féin would come before the committee on credentials in the same manner as those of any other persons applying for recognition is interesting. It is not likely that Lloyd George will offer much opposition to the recognition of the Sinn Féin envoy, more especially as the leader of the remnants of the Nationalist Party has suggested that the Irish question be referred to the Peace Conference. What precisely is the idea of either the Sinn Féin or Nationalist Party in this connection is not very clear. The decision of the Peace Conference, if it consists in a deal with the Irish question at all, is a foregone conclusion; it can only advise the application of the Whelan principle of the self-determination of peoples—that is Sinn Féin Ireland for the Sinn Féiners, Nationalist Ireland for the Nationalists, and the balance for the other fellows. And that decision, the only possible decision, would leave the question precisely where it is now. The Sinn Féiners must know that well enough. Possibly they only desire to annoy and embarrass Lloyd George and the British delegates, and hope to be turned down, and thus given new fuel to keep alive the fires of protest. Possibly they desire a pronouncement from such a body as the Peace Conference in the hope that it will give them an excuse to moderate their attitude of extremists.

INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS.

A report has been prepared giving the results of an investigation carried out throughout Canada by agents of the Dominion Government. This presents the opinion that the task of replacing Canada on a peace footing, so far as manufacturers are concerned, can be accomplished with little confusion and that a period of exceptional prosperity and activity lies before both Canada and the United States. Canada, according to the Department of Labor, is enjoying upon a period of expansion greater than at any time in its history. There is no uncertainty concerning the attitude of the manufacturers who realize that they must take full advantage of existing opportunities and minimize the difficulties of transforming their plans from war to a peace basis. In every department of industry opportunity is apparent, for since the necessity of conservation has passed, the demand for all lines of goods has increased. Deferred construction programs, both private and national, involving the expenditure of many millions of dollars, will be proceeded with in the early spring, and industrial plants in all parts of Canada are now reorganizing their labor for the anticipated activity. Stocks everywhere are low, and the call for manufactured goods will come not from Canada alone, but from overseas, for Europe must be rebuilt and with the gradual release of tonnage for commercial purposes trade with other parts of the globe will be stimulated. There is no immediate prospect of a marked general lowering of prices. Any possibility of such a slump is precluded by the existence of a worldwide demand. And this being the case no sudden readjustment of wages to peace conditions is expected. Generally speaking, it is believed that business will remain reasonably stable, with a slow and steady readjustment in accordance with the gradual industrial change.

PYTHIANS ARE INTERESTED.

When the Knights of Pythias become interested in any project, that project goes. The various lodges in St. John are now interesting themselves in the proposed extension of accommodation for Protestant Orphans. They realize, as do all interested in the welfare of homeless children, that existing accommodation is not sufficient and that a larger institution, or an additional institution, should be provided at once. In addition to the Knights, other organizations have been looking into this matter, but perhaps the activity of the Pythians will result in the presentation of a definite program in which these other bodies may co-operate. So far as The Standard has been able to learn, it is not the desire of those lodges to assume responsibility for the provision

of a building such as this, but the members feel that something should be done as promptly as possible, and they are prepared to co-operate to the fullest extent with any responsible bodies which may be moving in the matter. It is suggested that as the collection which is taken at their annual service is for the care of Protestant orphans, the amount so received a few Sundays ago might form the nucleus of a building fund. In this respect The Standard has already made announcement of one hundred dollars to be given by a citizen who has to work for every cent he earns, and this paper has pleasure today in announcing another gift of one hundred dollars. Both of these amounts will be available whenever required.

DEMILITARIZATION.

During the present week the militia organization of Canada undergoes a radical change. Depot battalions pass out of existence and there become established as a permanent force, garrisons at all the principal points. In St. John all units excepting the organized garrison company will complete demilitarization by tomorrow. There may be some odds and ends of business left over, but all officers, excepting a few who are required to settle up those details have received their discharges, while discharge of the men has been going on for the past few weeks. A certain number of troops are required in each military district. There is office work to be done, buildings must be cared for and hospital attendants provided, supplies looked after and it is imperative that a sufficient number of men be retained. These at the same time form a mobile company available for service of any nature should occasion arise. It is not intended, however, that these garrisons will be retained as an army, but when demilitarization of overseas forces is completed, which will be some time during the late summer, these men may also be released and returned to their homes. In so far as it has been possible to do so, those who have been retained for this garrison duty are men who have not been overseas, have not been in service for any lengthy period, and are thus required to sacrifice themselves in only a slight degree in the performance of their duty to their country.

THAT POTATO REPORT.

Premier Foster explains to The Standard that it is none of this paper's business whether or not he has received the report of the Royal Commission regarding the potato investigation. Possibly not. This is a letter in which, unfortunately for the people of this province, Mr. Foster is the judge. And yet, why there should be any hesitation about handing out this report, if it has been received, is a little hard to understand in view of the fact that the report has been paid for by the people of this province, that the investigation was in their interests and that they are entitled to know the findings of the Commission. Possibly, however, Mr. Foster looks upon this report from a purely political standpoint, and wishes to make use of it for party purposes when the legislature meets or at some other time.

There is an interesting report current to the effect that Mr. Foster received this report from the commission a few weeks ago, and not finding it quite satisfactory to himself, handed it back for amendment. That may possibly have been done on the evening which Mr. Foster spent with Mr. McQueen in his room in a St. John hotel. Of course, it may never have occurred at all. The thing is only a rumor.

We have been waiting for somebody to make remarks about the new Telephone Directory. What do you think of it, anyway? It saves paper.

WHAT THEY SAY

Phonetic Affinity.
New York Herald—Despatch says Michigan authorities are trying to dam whiskey flood. Sounds exactly like what New York men are doing to the prohibitionists—and without half trying, either.

With Variations.
New York Herald—Arrival of "Big Bertha" on its way to Paris to be placed on exhibition will fuel Germany's boast that her heavy artillery eventually would be planted in the French capital.

A Preachers' Union.
New York Tribune—The attempt to create a preachers' union in England may shock some of the pious souls; but there is no more reason why a clergyman should starve than a hod-carrier.

Strange to Her.
Vancouver Province—The wife of one of the Cabinet Ministers of Ontario failed to recognize the bust of her husband which adorns a niche in the new parliament buildings. Perhaps it was the first time she had gazed on his features while in absolute repose.

The Plug Hat.
Hamilton Spectator—Sporadic attacks have been made for years past on the silk hat, and predictions confidently made of its decadence and early extinction. Granted its pervasive use through all grades of society.

by, from back-driver to statesman, the fact remains that no piece of headgear has yet been devised that so well tops off a well-groomed biped for social functions as the familiar "plug" or "stovepipe," and, having so well topped off a well-groomed biped, it is anything but ugly in its contour. Every probably animates its detractors, due to an inability to "raise the price," and there will be likely many of them, shine in glossy entourage at the obsequies of such iconoclasts, and long after.

Coming.

Toronto Globe—It may yet be "Madame Speaker" at Ottawa.

The Turnout in Germany.
London Chronicle—A certain section of the German press has the following titles for Germany's imperial democratic Big Four:
"Ebert the traitor! Scheidemann the crawling coward! Noske the stupid, obstinate bull! Landberg the sly serpent!" What a lot of those who have fallen in the struggle against the revolution? They died the hero's death for Ebert and Scheidemann. What a cause to die for!

One For His Nob.

Philadelphia Ledger—The German Crown Prince, says former Ambassador Gerard, "was much coddled by ladies in the past, but I once heard an American girl in Berlin hand him, as the slang phrase goes, a good one. She was a breezy western girl, a millionaire's daughter, and the Crown Prince was much taken with her dash and beauty. I can trace my ancestry back twenty-seven generations, he said to her. She looked him over. 'What else can you do?' she asked.

President Wilson's Visit.

London Times—Mr. Wilson leaves us to go back to work at Paris. His stay in England, we hope, has been not so much work as a holiday, for there is no more pleasant way of spending time than in the exploration with those one likes of common sense and in the fellowship of high ideals. The actual translation of these agreeable ideals into practice, which will have to be done at Paris, will indeed be work, but we are convinced, not too difficult work. Mr. Wilson has made himself genuinely liked in England, not only by the people, but as head of the United States, but as a man. He is genial, and evidently has a sense of humor—a precious quality in statesmen. He is encouraged to think, a keen desire to establish our relations on a sure footing of friendship. Even the question of the freedom of the seas, generally regarded as the only real difficulty between us, will yield to treatment in the spirit that has animated the president's visit.

A BIT OF VERSE

The Stairs of Life.
(From a juvenile point of view by R. W. Wetmore, Kings Co., N. B.)
Midnight and mysterious haste,
To Grandmother's joy, and driving fast,
The doctor comes with babe at last—
The tiny little thing!
She laments and plays bubbles do,
Then cries a little wee "boo, boo,"
As many a little did all of you;
And then she'd coo and sing

One step of time, and baby's grown;
Now as a romping girl she's known,
Brim full of mischief, glee and fun!
A precious puss, and sly;
With dishes, dolls, mud pies and cakes
To twirl and nibble at she makes;
Or make-believe ma her baby takes
To nurse a noiseless cry.

A step again, and other scenes
Are brought about by old time's means;
A blooming maiden in her teens
Our rump appears to view.
To parties, balls and routs she goes,
Attended by devoted beaux;
Enduring them a habit grows,
But this is nothing new.

Another step—a blushing bride,
A manly form close by her side,
With friends all wishing joy betide;
She bids mamma adieu.
To leaving home in earnest now
She goes, with light and happy brow;
"Make-believe" of childhood long ago,
Is real at last, and true.

Again a step—a matron fair
Now greets us, with a face where care
Has made some furrows here and there,
As care will always do.
Her children now attention claim,
While off in frolic do they roam,
As she did years ago.

A greater step than those before—
Her head is silvered—frosted o'er;
Her trembling frame bends aere and
more,
As years fast slip away.
Her children's children round her
crowd,
And childish voices shout aloud
At grandma's funny stories, proud
Of which to boast are they.

But one step more—she's up the stairs
The scene is ended—from the cares
Of life she's called, and shares
True joy with saints above.
Dear children all, our story heed:
The stairs of life you'll tread indeed,
And may each step on which you
tread,
Be marked with joy and love.

My Winsome Mary.
When'er I'm feeling out of sorts
And all things seem contrary,
I pack my grip and off I trip
Away to visit Mary.
How heartily she welcomes me,
With outstretched arms she meets me,
And with a bright and winning smile
And loving words she greets me.

Then I forget my woes, and find
A cure for all my troubles,
Perplexities, corroding cares
All disappear like bubbles.
Come woe or woe I'd happy be
Whatever might betide me
If all through life I could but have
My Mary dear beside me.

Once more between us distance rolls,
And I am broken-hearted,
With joy I'll welcome that glad day
When we'll no more be parted,
Though far from her who o'er me
wields
The magic wand of fairy,
I hope ere summer comes again
To meet the winsome Mary.
—Isabella B. Watson.

January, 1919

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.

THE PARK AVE. NEWS.

Weather. Partly according to the papers.
Public Lecture. Last Wednesday evening SM Hunts father gave him a lecture on the street for getting in a game of prizefight base instead of keeping on going on a errand. Among those present was Benny Potts, Leroy Shooter, Ed Wernick and Arlie Alexander.

Sisistety. Mr. Sam Cross Back from the Hospital. Last Saturday afternoon Mr. Sam Cross came back from the hospital where he went to see his sick and bedridden mother. Mr. Cross says he don't think he can't anything, however, on account of not breathing much while he was there.

Military News. A flag was going to be presented to Company B by Miss Mary Watkins last Thursday, until Company B found out it was only a college banner with Yale on it.
Intriguing Fucks About Intriguing People. Skinny Martins first name is Algebin and his middle name is Clara, only nobody wouldnt ever know it by looking at him.

A BIT OF FUN

Improving.
Yeast—But he's too old to work isn't he?
Crimsoneak—Indeed, not. Why he's doing his best work now.

Yeast—Really?
Crimsoneak—Truly. He just worked me for \$5.—Yonkers Statesman

Was It a Compliment?

An English knut, taking refuge in Ireland recently, found it necessary to put up for the night at a country hotel, where he was obliged to share a bedroom with Pat.
He was just about to retire when our hero, who was watching him, intently remarked:
"Ye should be a powerful grand singer, mister."

"How so?" inquired the knut.
"Sure ye have the rale legs of a canary," answered Pat.

A Promising Singer

Wife—That girl in the opposite flat is quite a promising singer.
Husband—Well, get her to promise that she won't sing any more.

Fame's Sliding Scale

Landlord of Country Hotel—You can have the bedroom in which Charlie Chaplin slept—two suitcases or that once occupied by Mr. Parnell—a guinea and a half—or the one Mr. Gladstone used when electing here—here—
Visitor—Thanks. But might I do you think, have a look at the one in which Robinson, or Jones, or Smith put up when down this way?—From the Passing Show, London.

Knew What She Wanted.
Yesterday, confesses the Custer Courier, a young lady entered our office and said: "Too bad! We asked her what she wanted, and she said: 'Too, too, too.' So we knew at once that she wanted wedding announcements and promptly asked for the names and date."

A Strategist.
Oh, Jack, what shall I do?
Why, what's up?
Miss Tellem saw you kiss me.
Never mind, dear, I'll fix Miss Tellem.
Oh, how can you?
I'll kiss her and let you see us.—Boston Transcript.

The Lazy Man.
Let's sing a song to the lazy man.
Whose soul don't yearn for work;
Who sidesteps trouble whenever he can,
And is always inclined to shirk.
Who would loaf at his ease his whole life through.
If he only could have his way.
And who manages somehow to get along.
No matter what people say.

He doesn't achieve a measure of fame,
And he doesn't care a hang;
He knows that the future world know his name.
And that doesn't give him a pang.
He lives at his ease in a selfish way,
Scorning the hard world's strife—
No one approves of him ever—but, say,
He gets a lot out of life.
—Somerville Journal.

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will form fitting tributes to you Soldier Church and Sunday School members who gave their lives for Freedom's cause.
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The remedy is glasses, not medicine. Properly fitted and adjusted, they relieve the muscles of the extra work, ending headaches, nervousness, exhaustion and other results of eye strain which are a drag on general health. Sharpe's make a specialty of the scientific making and fitting of glasses.

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Send name and address for copy Royal Yeast Cake Book.
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DIED.
McCanna—In this city on the 24th inst., Mary A. Morris, wife of David McCanna, leaving her husband and step-daughter to mourn.
Funeral from her late residence, 43 St. David's Street, Thursday morning, at 8.30 to the Cathedral, for solemn High Mass of Requiem. Friends invited to attend.

STACKHOUSE—At Millville on the 26th inst., James William Stackhouse, leaving a wife, one son and two brothers to mourn.
Funeral Thursday, 2.30 p.m. Coaches leave Scott's Corner 2 p.m.

DURANT—In this city on the 26th inst., Jessie Sanction, youngest

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