

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

H. V. MacKINNON, Managing Editor. ALFRED E. MCGINLEY, Editor. **YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS:** By Carrier \$5.00 By Mail 3.00 Semi-Weekly, by mail 1.00 Invariably in advance. Advertising rates on application.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 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.

COTTON CONTRABAND

The decision of Great Britain and France that cotton is absolute contraband of war is likely to cause no small amount of indignation in the United States, the cotton exporting nation which will be most affected. Cotton finds its way into the manufacture of all kinds of high explosives and Great Britain's action is taken to prevent supplies of the staple from reaching their enemies. Without cotton the manufacture of high explosives will be greatly interfered with, if not prevented altogether.

Within the past couple of weeks the claim has been made that German chemists have discovered a method of treating wood pulp whereby it will be available for explosives, but the discovery has not yet reached the stage where it can be seriously considered, and it is not at all likely that the effect of the decision to keep cotton away from the Germans will be offset by employing the new substitute.

Sir William Ramsay contends that wood pulp cannot be successfully used, in explosives, without necessitating a change in the gaseous ordinary intended to carry propulsive explosives in which cotton is the base. With cotton contraband his opinions are likely to receive the test of experiment.

The declaration of cotton as contraband of war will of course strike an immediate blow at the cotton export trade of the United States. The New York Evening Post of Thursday last had an article forecasting the possible effect of such an action. The article was published before the announcement as to cotton had been officially made. The Post says in part:

"All sorts of predictions have been made, varying from those extremely alarmist in tone to assertions that the effects of such a step already have been discounted. But the strict fact seems to be that wise men, who try to speak conservatively, are willing to admit that they are all at sea. If the expected crop should be as small as the government forecast allows, namely, 12,000,000 bales, things may not be so bad. If, on the other hand, the crop attains the dimensions claimed for it by others—and it is said to be quite possible that it will—it may be 14,000,000 bales or more, or only some 2,000,000 bales less than last year's bumper crop.

What will be done with it? That is the question which every one who has the remotest interest in cotton is trying to solve to his own satisfaction. The answer seems to be, that, large crop or small crop, if cotton is put in the contraband list, the two chief factors in tackling the resulting situation will be, first, the organization of adequate financial machinery to tide over the growers, who will be left with a large part of the crop on their hands, and, second, sufficient warehousing facilities to store the surplus. This last factor is, if anything, the more important of the two. The south lacks proper warehouse facilities, but if cotton can be stored, it will not deteriorate in quality, and sooner or later there must be a market for every pound of it."

The Post goes on to predict that with Germany and Austria-Hungary removed from consideration as possible cotton customers the stocks of cotton held in the United States on German account will not be needed and may be thrown on the market in an effort to break the price and thus entail great loss to the American interests. Such a result can be but temporary as, eventually, the market for cotton must return.

her that when their own interests were threatened by King Cotton they did not hesitate to take an action which had a very similar effect.

WAR COMMENT

The declaration of war by Italy against Turkey should prove an important factor in hastening the development of the situation in the Balkans. It will also make available for service in the Dardanelles hundreds of thousands of Italian troops and a large portion of the Italian navy which, hitherto, has confined its operations to the Adriatic Sea.

Last week the cables brought advice of the mobilization of Italian army corps with instructions to hold themselves in readiness to leave at once for service in other fields, while it was also stated that Italian naval squadrons were awaiting orders to sail for the Dardanelles.

Now that Italy has decided to throw herself actively into the campaign against Turkey the task confronting the Allies in the Dardanelles should become easier of accomplishment and it would not be surprising if the added force should bring about developments in that campaign which would more than offset the successes gained by Germany in the campaign against Russia.

The naval engagement between the German and Russian squadrons in the Baltic apparently brought no great advantage to either side. From reports of the numerical superiority of the Germans it was expected the Russians would have but indifferent chance of success. But the Czar's sailors appear to have at least held their own, while the land forces have considerably stiffened in their opposition to the advancing Huns and brisk fighting is reported along the line of the Kovno-Vilna railway, where the Germans, a few days ago, were reported to be sweeping all before them.

It is futile to look for much success in the east until after the completion of the Dardanelles campaign. When the famous straits are forced, and the gateways thrown open for the shipment of supplies into Russia, the Muscovite armies should be able to make a stand. Probably by that time the much heralded Allied advance in the west will be underway. To date the Russians have done the major part of the fighting, but Petrograd knows well that the turn of the other allies will come and that the last shattering blows at Prussianism will be struck by the British Empire.

It is reported that Rumania will call a partial mobilization of her troops on Wednesday of this week and that Bulgaria is also on the verge of casting in her lot against Germany. If the now waiting nations of the Balkans hope to profit from the struggle now being waged they must not delay too long before acting. With the Dardanelles forced Russia will be greatly strengthened, and the value of the Rumanian and Bulgarian participation will be lessened in consequence. The market for Balkan armies should now be at its best. When the demand lessens it will be too late to trade to advantage.

WAR AND IMMIGRATION

Immigration figures for the fiscal year show that the war has been a revolutionary factor in more ways than one. Arrivals in Canada from foreign lands during 1914-15 were fewer than in any similar period in ten years. Each twelve months since 1909 arrivals have been over a quarter of a million, and in 1913 they numbered nearly half a million. Last year the figures dropped to 144,000. The cause of this drop in the immigration tide, is of course not far to seek. Continental Europe is an armed camp and the young men of the British Isles have either felt the call of patriotism or found higher wages and more plentiful employment at home turning out munitions of war.

With the end of the war, says the Ottawa Journal, it is reasonable to expect that the flow of immigration to the Dominion will reach and even surpass the old dimensions. Labor invariably goes to where wages are highest, industry greatest and the standard of living best; and we have every ground to believe that in years

to come Canada will have the same attraction for those seeking better conditions of livelihood that it possessed during the past twelve or fifteen years.

An Election or An Agreement

(Toronto News, Aug. 19.)

Ever since the war began there has been talk of a dissolution of Parliament and a general election. It is idle to suggest that the leaders and organs of the Liberal party have abstained from partisan controversy. It is not pretended that there has been any organ or no partisan utterances by Conservative politicians. Even in time of war in a free country there will be active and vigorous political debate. The Daily News, however, has always maintained that nothing would be more unfortunate than to divide the country over any war issue or to impugn the patriotism of the masses of the Liberal party. But we have also insisted that the Opposition cannot be allowed to assail every general feature of Conservative policy and every escape concentration of its long denial of the German menace and its use of the unrepresentative Senate to defeat the Borden naval programme. Nor do we think it reasonable that the Opposition should be free to choose grounds of attack and the Government be less free to choose grounds of defence. In short there can be no real freedom from political controversy until we have had a general election or the parties have entered into an agreement to postpone the contest until two or three years after peace is restored.

In the course of twelve or fifteen months the natural term of this Parliament will have expired. It has not been the practice in Canada or in Great Britain to allow Parliaments to run for the full statutory period. There were four-year Parliaments under Sir John Macdonald and under Sir Wilfrid Laurier. No Parliament expired by effluxion of time during all the years that Sir Wilfrid Laurier held office. The Liberal leader understood that in a fifth session the Government would be practically at the mercy of the Opposition and that no expedient to embarrass Ministers would be neglected. An Opposition of great power, therefore, is invariably abused. In practice we have established the right of a Government to dissolve after the fourth session and this is amply supported by British precedent. It is true that they have fixed elections in the United States, but there they have a very different political system, and a wholly different relation between Ministers and Parliament.

Undoubtedly there is feeling in Canada against a general election under existing circumstances. The Opposition professes profound antipathy to an appeal to the country. But if the Government foresees the right to dissolve what guarantee have Ministers that the Opposition will not profit to the utmost by the concession? At the moment when the legal life of Parliament ends an election may be most inopportune and undesirable. Is the Government to carry all the tremendous responsibilities of the war and yet be denied the right to dissolve, the right to defend itself, the right to offer free criticism of its opponents while the war continues? In short is the Opposition to enjoy all the advantages and the Government to submit to all the disadvantages which are inseparable from the management of public affairs in the very difficult period through which the country is passing? If there can be no dissolution at the will of the Government should there be dissolution at the will of the Opposition? Today the Government has power over parliament, but a year hence, even though peace may not be in sight, the power to force an election will have passed to the opposition.

It is surely fair to ask that the life of parliament shall be extended for two or three years after peace is proclaimed if the Government is to forego the right of dissolution. If such an agreement could be effected between the parties Ministers would be free to give all their energies to the prosecution of the war, and to the great problems of finance and administration which demand unremitting attention. Such an agreement would enable the two parties to co-operate in the conduct of the war as they cannot co-operate if an election is imminent, and if the Government has no security beyond the immediate professions of the opposition. Under the constitutional practice of a generation the Government is now free to dissolve Parliament. It cannot be contended that a Government has less freedom in a time of unparalleled stress and difficulty than under natural and normal conditions. It is impossible to have freedom from political controversy for many months if the Government must begin preparation of its defence for the constituencies. Fairly and inevitably its defence must extend to the record of its opponents. Whether in peace or war a general election has very human manifestations. If, therefore, the country does not desire an election, and if the opposition is against a contest, there must be an early agreement between the parties to extend the life of Parliament.

The Vale of Shadows

(Clinton Scollard.)
There is a vale in the Flemish land,
A vale once fair to see,
Where under the sweep of the sky's
wide arch
The winter frosts or summer parch,
The stately poplars march and march,
Remembering Lombardy.
Here are men of the Saxon eyes,
Men of the Saxon heart,
Men of the Fens and men of the Peak.

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

Theres wattr in the clouds,
And wattr in the sea,
Theres wattr in the spikitta,
We drink it, for its free.

We use it to put out fires
And to skvert the garden path,
O, wat wood we do without it
When we take our Satidday bath?

Wattr has no feelings,
Yet in summer it gets warm,
When it rances it comes down lighty,
Excepting in a storm.

It is fun to swim in if you can,
And splash in if you cant,
A elefant drinks a barril a day
But a drop wood drown a ant.

Wattr is nice and even
And not bit in humps or ridges,
You always see sun in linnadine
And you always see sun undir bridges.

It runs down hill very easy,
But you haf to push it up,
And if you dont like to put yure mouth awn a spikitt,
Wy dont you use a cup?

O wattr is the helthiest drink thare is,
Wich noboddy shood despise,
But if we coodent have ice tee and root beer eny moar,
It wood cause mutch pane and seprize.

Men of the Kentish meadows sleek,
Men of the Cornwall cove and creek,
Men of the Dove and Dart.

Here are men of the killed class
From the heathery slopes that lie
Where the mists hang gray and mists
hang white,
And the deep locks brood 'neath the
crazy height

And the curlews scream in the moon-
less night
Over the hills of Skye.

Here are men of the Celtic breed,
Lads of the smile and tear,
From where the loops of the Shannon
flow.

And the crosses gleam in the even-
ing
And the halls of Tara now are low,
And Donegal cliffs are sheer.

And never a word does one man speak,
Each in his narrow bed,
For this is the Vale of Lons Release,
This is the Vale of the Lasting Peace,
Where wars, and the rumors of wars,
shall cease—
The valley of the dead.

In the dusk of death they laid them
down
With naught of murmuring,
And laughter rings through the House
of Mirth

To hear the vaunt of the high of birth,
For what are all the kings of earth
Before the one great King!

And what shall these proud war-lords
do?

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price.

Expert Knowledge In Buying Diamonds

In crystals alone there may be seven to ten different colors. Carbon spots, flakes of "frost," "feathers," or nicks can easily be missed by a person not accustomed to handling diamonds, even though long and careful examination is made.

It takes years of constant handling of many diamonds to become an expert grader and judge of diamond quality. The safe way is to purchase only at a reliable, high-grade jewelry store that gives especial attention to diamonds.

Sharpe's is such a store. We deal in stones of good quality only—"clean," white stones, or with very slight defects. Where there is a defect it is pointed out to the customer.

In Solitaire Rings at \$25 to \$100 we always have very fine selections.

L. L. Sharpe & Son,

JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS,
21 King Street, St. John, N. B.

Verandah Posts

Rails, Balusters, Newel Posts, Gutters and Shingles

Send for our NEW PRICE LIST

Christie Woodworking Co., Ltd.
Erin Street

say
At foot of His mighty throne?
For thee shall dawp a reckoning day,
Or soon or late, come as it may,
When those gave the sign to slay
I shall meet His face again.

What, think ye, will their penance be
Who have wrought this monstrous crime?
What shall whiten their blood-red
hands
Of the stains of riven and ravished
lands?
How shall they answer God's stern
commands
At the last assize of Time?

DeLong-Saunderson,
At the home of Mr. and Mrs. McLean, 60 Draper street, Dorchester, Mass., on Thursday evening, Aug. 12th,

Harry J. DeLong and Miss Margaret F. Saunderson, both of St. John, N. B., were united in marriage. Rev. A. A. Rideout performed the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. DeLong will make their future home in Dorchester, Mass.

Our Shelves Are Full of BARGAINS In Boys' and Girls' School Shoes To Boom Our Mid-Summer Sale

Girls' Dongola Blu. Bals. \$2.00 and \$1.75 values, sizes 11 to 2. \$1.65 and \$1.40
Girls' Box Calf Blu. Bals. \$2.25 and \$2.35 values, all sizes . . . \$1.85
Boys' Dull Calf. Blu. Bals. \$2.50 grade, sizes 1, 2, 4 and 5. \$1.90
Boys' Box Grain Blu. Bals. \$2.50 grade, all sizes . . . \$1.50

Mail Orders Parcel Post. Open Friday evenings and all day Saturdays until 10.30 p.m.

FRANCIS & VAUGHAN,
19 King St.

Eyes Tested and Glasses Fitted. Broken Lenses Duplicated on Short Notice.

K. W. EPSTEIN & CO., Optometrists,
193 Union St., St. John, N. B.

Too Warm to Bake Try Butternut Bread Comes Wax-Paper Wrapped At Grocery Stores

The First Week In September

is the beginning of our busy season, but you had better not wait till then. Our classes have been continued all summer, and you can enter at any time.

Catalogue containing tuition rates and courses of study mailed to any address.

S. Kerr, Principal

Children Cry for Fletcher's CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher, and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA
Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Peppermint, Drops and Soothing Syrup. It is pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. For more than thirty years it has been in constant use for the relief of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic, all Teething Troubles and Diarrhoea. It regulates the Stomach and Bowels, assimilates the Food, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher
The Kind You Have Always Bought In Use For Over 30 Years
THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

New Gold and Platinum JEWELRY

In very pleasing and novel designs. You will find styles and combinations of Stone and Pearl effects that are not shown in any other stocks in this section.

Our Name Stands for Quality and Fair Dealing
FERGUSON & PAGE
Diamond Importers and Jewelers - King Street

Pike India Oilstones

Just Eat Steel. No Other Stone Cuts So Fast Without Losing Its Shape.

During this week a representative from the factory will give a special demonstration of these celebrated abrasives.

You are cordially invited to call at the store and see this interesting demonstration.

Present this coupon and get a handy pocket knife stone—Free

T. McAVITY & SONS, LTD., 13 KING ST.

CANADIAN OFFICE DIARIES FOR 1916

ALL SIZES
BARNES & CO. Limited, 84 Prince William St.

D. K. McLAREN, Limited

Manufacturers of Genuine English Oak Tanned Leather Belting, Balata Belting

Lace Leather and Belt Fastenings of Every Description Complete Stock at 64 Princ. Wm. St. Phone 1121 Saint John, N. B.

YOU WILL FIND US IN OUR NEW QUARTERS TISDALE BUILDING, 3 Water Street With our up-to-date plant we can give you prompt service. Phone Main 1740-11 FLEWELLING PRESS, ENGRAVERS and PRINTERS