

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1921.

## WOMEN SUFFRAGE.

The Province of Quebec is usually regarded as the stronghold of Liberalism in this country. Perhaps it would be more correct to describe it as the stronghold of Laurierism, which is not quite the same thing. In one respect at any rate Quebec appears to be intensely conservative, it adheres strongly to the idea that women are out of place in politics, and refuses to give them the provincial franchise. Several attempts have been made by the advocates of women suffrage to get legislation passed conferring the franchise, but without effect, and despatches from Quebec indicate that a further attempt shortly to be made is not likely to meet with any greater success. The point is taken that women as a class do not want the vote, and that the small minority who do want it are not representative of the mass of women in the province.

It is idle to rehearse all the arguments that have been served up from time to time against giving the vote to women, but after all is said and done, the fact remains that the political game is not a fit and proper one for women to take part in. They are a perfect nuisance in the last general election in this province, and they are likely to become more of a nuisance as time goes on. Very few of them indeed have any proper appreciation of the many and various complexities of politics, and yet some of them have the assurance to take the public platform and air their views with all the sang froid of old campaigners. The spectacle of some of these political Junos prancing around the province talking politics was more amusing than edifying. Mrs. Asquith maintains that the House of Commons is no place for women, and that meddling in politics and mothering children are altogether incompatible. One would imagine that if there is any living woman qualified to express an opinion on the place of women in political life, it would be Mrs. Asquith, and that is her deliberate opinion. There are many who agree with her.

Will any one maintain that the political life of this province has been in the least degree improved by the granting of the franchise to women? What proportion of women took the trouble to go to the polls at the last election? Not twenty per cent., and not more than half of those who did so, understood in the least what the issues in the campaign were. To a very large number of these women, voting was a new game, and they went into it "just for the lark." There are, of course, some women who have made a study of the various political questions, and who are as well qualified to discuss them as the every-day practical politician, but they are few and far between. But because five per cent. of the women are educated politically is no reason why the other ninety-five per cent. who are not should be turned loose on polling day to upset all the calculations of political leaders.

## U. F. O. DIFFERENCES.

The wordy warfare between Premier Drury on the one hand and Mr. J. J. Morrison, secretary of the U. F. O., on the other is getting interesting, and we are inclined to fancy that the great majority of the people will endorse Mr. Drury's views in regard to the position of the Farmers' party rather than those of the very militant Mr. Morrison. In the Premier's view the Farmers' party should broaden out and become a national organization, appealing to all classes of society. Mr. Morrison on the other hand believes in maintaining the Farmers' party as a purely class organization, whose members are banded together to put the farmers' interests ahead of anything and everything else. He further issues notice on Mr. Drury that unless the latter changes his attitude on the question "there is going to be some thing doing very soon."

Here is the statement of Premier Drury to which Mr. Morrison takes particular exception:  
 "The Farmers cannot and ought not to rule the country. To do so would be a sort of tyranny. We are in a minority, and we must not attempt to do it because we are a democracy. . . . I believe the Farmers' organization should not go into politics as an organization. That was part of the original law of the organization. I believe the Farmers' organization has altogether too great a work to do in other directions to risk its life or waste its energies by participating directly in politics."

To this Mr. Morrison replies:  
 "You would think that was spoken by an old-time politician. Keep your hands off government. That is a sound line. You are a beast of burden. Feed them, clothe them, but leave politics alone. It's not your

right. Government belongs to the professional classes. If the farmers, if the people, had not gone into politics, would Mr. Drury have been where he is today? Absolutely not. He'd still be plowing a lonely furrow at Crown Hill."

Matters have not been running any too smoothly among the Farmer group for some time. The doctrine of class government is stoutly maintained by one faction, which maintains that the farmers should ignore all interests but their own. The Hon. T. A. Crerar and Premier Drury do not agree with this attitude. They believe that the Farmers' party, looking for support to agriculturists only, cannot survive; it must make a broader appeal and become a national party, or else, as Mr. Drury says, "be predestined to a short and ineffectual life." These views were supported by the National Council of Agriculture in their recent Winnipeg meeting. Unless these differences can be composed the new party will have hard sledding ahead.

## THE INVISIBLE CAKE.

Perhaps it is because the favorite film plays of the silver screen are rather standardized as to plot, that the men, women and children of the country do not recognize the merits of the newest moving picture drama that is now being enacted under their eyes, entitled "You Cannot Have Your Cake and Eat It." There is, says a contemporary, no system of production and distribution under heaven by which men and women and children can enjoy high wages and low prices—children are included advisedly, for their pay has mounted beyond all realms of value received or responsibility assumed. The whole lesson of this period of readjustment, which is totally different from any other experience the country has had undergone, is that prices brought down arbitrarily by refusal to buy, are not the prices supporting a stand for existing or increased wage scales. Nobody, it is said, likes to take the trail backward; a reduction of wages to any great extent would upset the national apple cart so badly that people would suffer, but when the feeders of the nation and the clothiers of the nation cannot agree on a mutually fair exchange of labor at just prices the community suffers a bad stomach ache. Wages and farm products went up together; farm products have come down, but the wages stay aloft. "Come up," say the high wages and "eat the cake which we have to sell." The farmer looks at the coppers that high wages have left in his hand in return for flour, fruit, butter, eggs and milk wherewith the cake was baked, and shakes his head. If the branches of city labor wish to eat each other's cakes, they may do so. The food producer has eaten his and can buy nothing now but plain everyday bread.

German women protest against giving any more cows to France. Their own children need the milk, they say. This is probably true; but during the war Germany lost only 3 per cent. of her cattle, whereas the Germans killed or took home with them so many cows that France lost 15 per cent. of hers. The treaty provided that Germany should return 800,000 head of cattle to France. This was reduced to 600,000 to be delivered at the rate of 6,000 a month through a period of ten years. Wishing being unsympathetic towards Germany, therefore, we may very properly consider the justice of the matter and the needs of the children of France.

Eighty thousand people, it is claimed, were present when at Budapest four monuments were unveiled, to keep alive in the capital city of Hungary the memory of the provinces "lost" by the war. Church bells were rung, while thousands knelt in the streets in prayer for the fatherland, and took a solemn oath not to rest until their "inheritance" had been recovered. The Peace of Versailles seems to have left as many causes of war behind it as did the Peace of Vienna a hundred years before. The spirit shown by the Hungarians in a nation that has led to many wars. It is natural and human, but it is menacing.

Lloyd's Register reports that Great Britain is now building more ships than all the rest of the world combined. In spite of Britain's appalling losses during the war she made a more rapid recovery than any other nation. A power which can recuperate so rapidly does not appear to be in any immediate danger of disintegration. Britain's supremacy as Mistress of the Seas is still unchallenged.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Carry of Firearms.  
 There seems to be need for more drastic steps to prevent the promiscuous carrying and use of firearms by criminals and would-be imitators. Bad men will always get possession of them in some way or the other, but if officers of the law and citizens generally must run the risk of assassination by this class of the community, it should be made as difficult as possible for the lawless ones to get firearms. One of the papers read at the convention of the Chief Constables' Association pointed out that in Geneva they were now being imported, some 6,000 revolvers would come into this country this year. They were chiefly from the United States. What are they for? The records show that there were very few brought in for police officers, or for bank officials, and that the majority were not such as are used for military or target practice.—Canadian Police Bulletin.

An American View.  
 Johnny Canuck shows himself as much of a scrapper at Geneva as he was at Vimy Ridge.—Waterbury, N. Y. Times.

As to 1921.  
 Retail business anticipates a big boom in 1921. The luxury taxes are gone, the public is again buying freely and there remains no reason why the year's trade should not be an unusually satisfactory one.—Kingston Whig.

Mr. Chesterton.  
 We greet with a glad heart the landing of Chesterton, whose banner of whimsy o'er the world is unfurled. He has a plethora of friends here, who are too much inclined to regard him as the last enchantment of the Middle Ages. He is only a medievalist in the sense that he venerates tradition and continuity, and that to him old things are young and dead things quick. Like Merlin, one of the few historical characters in this universal romance of the World as Fiction, he remembers the oak when it was an acorn and the Thunder Lizard when it was, so to speak, a chicken.—New York Times.

Mr. Crerar and the National Railways.  
 Mr. Crerar in his address, attacked the Government railway policy and urged the acquisition of the National Railways, as a striking example of the result of public apathy in politics. He predicted that a movement would be made to return the ownership of the railways to private ownership.—Ottawa Journal.

For Mr. Crerar's own sake The Journal hopes he has been overruled. The ex-Minister of Agriculture was a member of the Government which took over the National Railways; and the platform of his party endorsed what was done.

## A BIT OF VERSE

## THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS.

It isn't the cut of the clothes that you wear,  
 Nor the stuff out of which they are made,  
 Though chosen with taste and fastidious care,  
 It isn't the price that you paid;  
 It isn't the size of your pile in the bank,  
 Nor the number of acres you own,  
 It isn't a question of prestige or rank,  
 Nor a show and noise and bone;  
 It isn't the servants that come at your call,  
 Nor the things you possess,  
 Whether many or little—or nothing at all,  
 It's service that measures success.

## THE LAUGH LINE

The man who court's trouble is soon married.  
 Why shouldn't a man be required to lift shoes after he gets home Saturday afternoon? Six days, not five and a half, shall thou labor.—Wichita Beacon.

Slight Difference.  
 Time and money are almost identical, but not quite. You can note the difference by watching how much time a man will give to you while stating the reasons why he won't give you money.—Kansas City Star.

He Didn't Fall Far.  
 Tinner—Yesterday I fell off an 18-foot ladder.  
 Lady—Mercy! You might have killed yourself.  
 Tinner—New! It was only from the second step I dropped.

Can't Blame Her.  
 A West Dallas widow says the reason she broke her last engagement was because her fiancé was a fat man who said he wanted a suburban home so he could move all he wanted to without disturbing the neighbors.—Dallas News.

The Reason.  
 "Why don't you and your mamma go to the big garden in the corner?" asked the new neighbor's child.  
 "Cause we belong to a different abomination," answered Dorothy.—Boston Transcript.

Indirect Success.  
 "Was your garden a success this year?"  
 "Very much so! My neighbor's chickens took first prize at the poultry show!"—The Evening Star.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAGE

We had company for supper yesterday, being Mr. and Mrs. Hews, and in the afternoon Mrs. Hews made an apple pie and a raisin pie, saying, Now Benny I want you not to ask for a 2nd piece of pie, in any going to cut one pie and there will be just one slice apiece.  
 Well, goah G. ma, I sed, wat if one of the Hews wunts another piece and you haf to cut the other pie, wat then, ma?  
 Well in that case you may have another slice, but only in that case, sed ma, and I sed, All rite ma, cut the apple, no, cut the raisin, no, the apple. O well I dont know, I think id rather have the raisin, or maybe the apple, I dont know.  
 Wish she cut the apple, giving everybody a slice and the Hews ate theirs and Mrs. Hews sed, Perfectly elegant pie, Mrs. Pitts. Being a big round lady with chins, and Mr. Hews sed, Perfectly elegant. Being a little size man with a big else stomach, and ma sed, Im so glad you like it, wont you try a slice of raisin pie? Me thinking, G herryay.  
 O deer no, I couldnt think of it, sed Mrs. Hews.  
 We couldnt think of it, sed Mr. Hews. Me thinking, Av roch heck. And I waited a minit to see if they would change their mind, which they didnt, and I sed, The raisin pie is even better than the apple pie, Mrs. Hews, you can tell that by just one smelling it, do you want me to bring it in and leave you smell it?  
 O my goodness no, such an idee, sed Mrs. Hews, and I sed, Would you like to smell it M. Hews? Which he sed he wouldnt, and I sed, I dont mind getting it if you want to smell it, and ma sed, Never mind, Benny, you musent annoy Mr. and Mrs. Hews wen they say they dont wish any more pie.  
 Well I bet they would if they smelt it once, I sed, ma saying Never mind.  
 Are you throo? sed pop, and I sed never mind, and pop saying, Drop the subject.  
 Yes sir, I just thart maybe they would enjoy the smell of it, if theyre all full, the smell isnt filling, I sed.  
 Yes sir, and pop sed, Then leave the table.  
 Wich I did.

## Employers At War With Labor Leaders

Winnipeg, Jan. 20.—E. J. Kennedy, president of the building employers' association of Detroit, addressing here today the convention of the association of Canadian building and construction industries, declared that the closed shop system was not only immoral but was destructive from an economic standpoint. Employers, he said, were not at war with organized labor, with professional labor leaders who made their living keeping the laboring classes discontented. It was the duty of the employer to direct and not to dominate.

## Tells Dyspeptics What To Eat

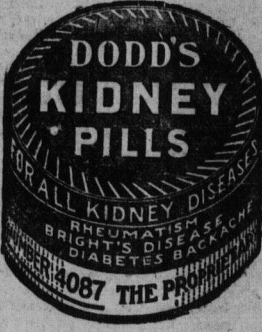
Avoid Indigestion, Sour Acid Stomach, Heartburn, Gas On Stomach, Etc.

Indigestion and practically all forms of stomach trouble, say medical authorities, are due nine times out of ten to an excess of hydrochloric acid in the stomach. Chronic "acid stomach" is exceedingly dangerous and sufferers should do either one of two things.  
 Either they can go on a limited and often disagreeable diet, avoiding foods that irritate the stomach, that irritate the stomach and lead to excess acid secretion or they can eat as they please in reason and make it a practice to counteract the effect of the harmful acid and prevent the formation of gas, sourness or premature fermentation by the use of a little Bismarck Magnesia at their meals.  
 There is probably no better, safer or more reliable stomach antacid than Bismarck Magnesia and it is widely used for this purpose. It has no direct action on the stomach, and is not a digestant. But a teaspoonful of the powder or a couple of five grain tablets taken in a little water with the food will neutralize the excess acidity which may be present and prevent its further formation. This removes the whole cause of the trouble and the meal digests naturally and healthily without need of peppin pills or artificial digestants.  
 Get a few ounces of Bismarck Magnesia from any reliable druggist. Ask for either powder or tablets. It never comes as a liquid, milk or citrate, and in the Bismarck form is not a laxative. Try this plan and eat what you want at your next meal and see if this isn't the best advice you ever had on "what to eat."

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