

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1919.

HARBOR COMMISSION.

The Telegraph recalls statements made by Sir R. L. Borden with reference to the nationalization of Canadian ports, a policy which, however well intentioned the Government may have been, has evidently been impossible of application up to the present time. When the Federal Government is prepared to inaugurate such a policy and announces its intention of nationalizing St. John Harbor, The Standard will be more than pleased to hold up both hands in favor of such a scheme. But until we have from Ottawa some definite announcement by means of which the people of this city may be assured of the continued development of this port in accordance with the demands of increasing business, its operation on terms which will permit favorable competition with other Atlantic ports, and its administration in a way satisfactory to our people who have already given so generously of their means to provide a national harbor, we should hesitate about transferring control.

The Telegraph desires to know if there are now in authority at Ottawa any men whose attitude towards St. John is responsible for the present situation. The Telegraph may well inquire of Hon. Mr. Ballantyne and Hon. Mr. Carvell as to this, for they are heads of the Departments of Marine and Fisheries and Public Works, are the ministers directly concerned, and are the ones to whom St. John must of necessity appeal for the assurance which our people require. If these ministers, or others, on the authority of the Government, will state definitely that the transfer of St. John harbor now proposed is a preliminary to nationalization, that it is the intention of the Government to proceed with the necessary construction in this harbor, and that charges imposed on shipping will remain as low as those effective in any other Canadian port—losses in operation to be met from the Federal Treasury and not regarded as accumulated deficits to the discredit of St. John—then we are ready to sell out at a price of two and a half million. But there is no good reason why, even in view of the difficulties now confronting us, we, in this city, should surrender our greatest asset in the expectation that the Government may at some future date do those things which a few of our most optimistic citizens profess to believe.

THE LIBERAL LEADERSHIP.

In the interest of Hon. W. S. Fielding, the suggestion is put forward that Premier Martin will not permit his name to go before the Liberal Convention as prospective leader. Mr. Martin has not yet stated his own position in this regard, but it is rather strange if at this late hour, after his friends have for months been pulling possible wires in his support, he should desire to withdraw. Naturally such an action is in accordance with the wishes of those who favor Hon. W. S. Fielding, it is considered that with the western premier out of the way the chances of the veteran Nova Scotian may be somewhat improved. Otherwise, despite Mr. Fielding's recognized ability and his long parliamentary experience, the vote of the convention would undoubtedly go to a younger man. Yet whether Mr. Martin has retired or not retired, the long list of prospective candidates for Laurier's shoes seems to be dwindling down to a comparative few. During the past several weeks names have been put forward of many hopeless impossibilities, back-bench politicians who had seldom been heard of outside their own constituencies, and because of this clouding of the issue by the active leaders in Upper Canada, the rank and file of the party have been unable to even hazard a guess as to the probable outcome of the election. Yet as the date of the meeting approaches, these suggestions are being dropped and unless sectional results in a deadlock leading to the selection of a compromise candidate, the choice may now be regarded as narrowed down to comparatively few names.

THE ST. STEPHEN ROADS.

And so the cat is out of the bag at last. The members of the Retail Merchants' Association, according to Mr. Veniot, The Telegraph and The Times, are a lot of ignorant jackasses. It is quite true that they denounced the do-nothing policy of the local government with respect to the St. Stephen highway, that they expressed their opinions of this road in no way complimentary terms. But in this they were all wrong. These men did not know what they were talking about. Of course many of them own automobiles and have made the trip to St. Stephen on numerous occasions, being bumped about for hours on that badly neglected highway. But this doesn't alter the situation. They simply don't know the road. Instead of going to St. Stephen by the route over which people have been accustomed to go to St. Stephen ever since automobiles and carriages were first invented, they should have appealed to Uncle Peter. He would have advised

them to disregard all the sign posts erected by the Government, the Automobile Association and other supposedly interested organizations, and to have gone around by Lepreau over what is known as the short road. Now Mr. Veniot tells us that the back road has been abandoned as a main highway, but strangely enough he has so carefully concealed that secret that few people beyond the circle of his own friends have heard of it. However, since the announcement has now been made and The Telegraph and The Times have learned of it for the first time, we can readily appreciate the advantage the change will involve. The shore road to St. Stephen is only four or five miles longer than is the back road, and Mr. Veniot will have that much better chance to spend the people's money.

Just in line with this it should be added that yesterday afternoon Dr. Keith, of Lepreau, who has been a life-long supporter of the party now controlling the affairs of this province, told The Standard that between Lepreau and Musquash and for a distance of twelve miles or so from Lepreau towards St. George, the shore road, so called, is in a very unsatisfactory condition. He does not consider it fit for comfortable travel and the people of that community feel that a great deal more money should be spent on it. Dr. Keith had no hesitation about saying this and advised The Standard that it was the feeling of the majority of the people in that section.

PAPER COSTS.

Whatever measure of relief a few of the more optimistic newspaper publishers in the east permitted themselves to anticipate in respect to lower prices for white paper following the restoration of normal conditions, appears to be out of the question for the present at least. During the war, because of the restrictions imposed by various governments, the consumption of newsprint was reduced to a minimum, and by reason of increased costs, the demand for additional profits, and other causes more or less vague, the price of paper advanced at a really alarming rate. With the removal of former restrictions has come added business in the way of advertising and a natural desire on the part of publishers to present the news of the day in a more generous manner. The immediate consequence of this has been an increase of more than thirty per cent. in the average daily consumption of newsprint for the month of June over that of June, 1918, and an increase of more than twenty per cent. over the consumption during January, 1919. As against this the total production for the six months ending June 30th, 1919, has been only two per cent. greater than for the previous six months' period, and in June, 1919, exceeded the corresponding month of the year previous by only seven per cent. Every mill in America has been working to capacity and though there have been slight difficulties in the way of labor troubles, etc., these have not been of sufficient importance to affect the total production to any noticeable extent. Thus with the rapidly increasing consumption, the stationary production and the constantly growing export demand, it is difficult to anticipate when price regulations now existing become inoperative, as must be the case very shortly, there can be any reduction whatever. Indeed, if the rule of supply and demand remains the sole governing influence, even higher costs may be looked for and further troubles pile on the shoulders of the already overburdened publishers.

MR. WILSON DID IT.

Under pressure from members of the Senate, President Wilson modestly admits that he settled the Shantung question over which China and the allied powers are now at loggerheads. Mr. Wilson reports that when the point came up for discussion neither the British nor French representatives felt themselves competent to act, in view of the fact that these powers had been responsible for the entry of Japan into the war and deemed themselves under certain obligations which might be regarded by the outside world as capable of influencing their decision in a matter in which the interests of Japan were concerned. So Mr. Wilson stepped into the breach, and brought to bear that broad statesmanship which had already accomplished so much. He gave Shantung to Japan, but coupled with his decision the contention that Japan should give it back. This Japan declined to formally endorse, though the Eastern Empire was not unwilling to consent to the return of this concession at some time in the unnamed future. Today Mr. Wilson, with a wider knowledge than he possessed when he undertook to act as umpire, is asking Japan to return Shantung to China. And Japan is naturally unwilling to consent. In fact the very suggestion on the part of Mr. Wilson is creating among the Japanese people a distrust of the United States, a thing easily enough

done in the light of relations of the past twenty years. And China on the other hand regards with alarm the present policy of the President, believing that if he is right now in asking Japan to surrender this territory he was knowingly in error only a few months ago when he declared against China's interests.

WHAT THEY SAY

Revising It.
 From the New York Evening Sun: These are the times that dry men's souls.

An Insult to the Hog.
 Providence Journal: In 1914 a hog could be bought for less than nine dollars a hundred pounds. A hog would laugh in your face if you offered double that today.

Nothing Settled.
 New Bedford Standard: There is rejoicing in Boston and its vicinity over the settlement of the carmen's strike, but in reality nothing has been settled. The performance just witnessed may be repeated at any time.

Mother Hubbard, 1919.
 Louisville-Courier Journal: Old Mother Hubbard went to the butcher to get the poor dog a bone, but when she got there she said: I declare at the price the poor dog can have none.

When Suicide Is Confessed.
 New York Herald: The local papers recently reported the suicide of a young married man "dependent because of illness and his inability to get work." In a great city, with its millions of inhabitants, such an incident is likely to be passed over as one of the minor events of the day. But back of that event, which readers of newspapers scarcely notice, and which the police merely record on a blotter with many others, there is the greatest tragedy of all—the failure to obtain work.

Our Policy Towards Russia.
 The New Republic: The restoration of Russia is impossible until there has been a restoration of the common sense throughout the world. It really is not possible to have a policy, to act with any dignity and effectiveness so long as we continue to live in a manufactured panic. We have not acted in Russia. We have dabbled in Russia. We have made Kichak—a little bit. We have negotiated with Lenin—a little bit. But what we have done all the time is to dance around the edges of this continent making perfectly terrible faces at it.

Passing of the Delirium.
 New York Evening Sun: The proposed international strike, centering throughout Europe in protest against the peace settlement, has proved a complete fizzle. In France, Italy, Switzerland and Germany the workmen generally have refused to obey the strike order, while the predicted disorders everywhere proved to be sporadic. Only in Vienna could the much heralded "protest" be said to have had any measure of success. The failure of this movement augurs well for the early recovery of Europe from its post-war paralysis. The workman has refused to listen to the counsels of the radical leaders. They have shown that they will not succumb to the disaster of the war the still greater disaster of revolution, with its attendant chaos, ruin and starvation. The delirium which threatened to grip all Europe is passing; recovery now will be but a matter of time.

A BIT OF VERSE

FIGHT ON.
 Some people think—God rest their hard-worked minds
 That now we've won that nasty, horrid war,
 There's nothing else to do but raise the blinds
 And let the rays of pleasure in once more.

Good Lord deliver us, if now we say,
 "Our work is ended—it is finished—done."
 And now we have nothing more to do
 We'll play!

I've noticed in the daily papers that
 We're "out" a billion dollars cash—
 or so,
 That Bolshevism now is "up to bat."
 And that religion's quoted rather low.

A BIT OF FUN

There is safety in numbers. The more lady friends a bachelor has the more likely he is to remain a bachelor.

A wise man imagines that he is engaged in a game of flirtation until he wakes up and finds himself married.

"My husband ain't been arrested for high on twenty years."
 "Really?" said the second. "Well, mines in fur life, too."

Willie Slim—"I thought you were a great deal bigger than you are."
 Featherstone—"What gave you such an idea, Willie?"
 Willie Slim—"Why, my sister said that all you did was to take up room."

A New Eyeglass.
 "What are you studying now?" asked Mrs. Johnson.
 "We have taken up the subject of molecules," answered her son.
 "I hope you will be very attentive and practice constantly," said the

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Weather, ideal for fanning yourself.
 Exter! Big Jewelry Robbery! Last Saturday afternoon Pude Simkins asked a strange kid with freckles to mind his coat while he climbed up a tree to see if there was any eggs in a birds nest, with these wares, and the next time Pude Simkins felt in his coat pocket he discovered a diamond ring was missing. Pude Simkins saying it probably sat a real diamond on account of him getting it around a 2 sent stick of candy, but he is looking for the strange kid just the same.

Sports. While Leroy Shooster, Benny Potts and Sam Cross was comparing muscels last Wednesday, Sam Cross discovered his rite arm was bigger than his left, Sam Cross saying its properly because thats the arm he cleans his teeth with.

Some by Skinny Martin.
 A Square Deal.
 There are scroons in all our windows
 Ware all summer they have been
 And while some of them keep out the flies,
 The others keep them in.

Intriguing Facks about Intriguing People. Artie Alexander says he thinks he would make a good author any he can never think of anything to write about.

Smiley. Miss Mary Watkins is doing a grate deed of charity work lately, throwing bread crumbs out in the street after breakfast each morning for sparrows or pigeons to eat, she dont care which.

mother. "I tried to get your father to wear one, but he could not keep it in his eye."

Pohnie—"Pa, am I made of dust?"
 Pa—"That's what they say."
 Johnnie—"Are you made of dust, too?"
 Pa—"Well, your mother and sister seem to think so—and of god dust at that."

Valuable Dog.
 "Look here, sir," said Johnston's neighbor, Jones, "that dog of yours has gone and bitten my mother-in-law."

"Good heavens!" said Johnston. "I'm very grieved to hear that. He must have broken his muzzle, I hope it won't be serious, and that it won't bring me into trouble, I—"

"Trouble!" interrupted Jones. "My good fellow, not at all. Why, I came along to see if you wouldn't like to sell me the animal!"

Dog Days.
 Robinson was pouring out his woes to his sympathetic adviser, Jinks. "Do you know," he began sorrowfully, "my wife's pet Persians and fluffy Pidos practically rule our house."

Jinks, however, began to laugh. "Nothing to grin about," said Robinson.

"Nanno, old chap, but I was thinking that it was a case of reigning cats and dogs."

THE EDITOR'S MAIL
 WHY CHANGE NAME?
 Boston, Mass., July 28, '19.
 To the Editor of the St. John Standard, St. John, N. B.

Sir:—I have just returned from a visit to the city of St. John and Beulah Camp Grounds on the St. John River.

I read with interest while there an article in the St. John Standard in regard to the identity of Brown's Flat having been tampered with. A wide discussion of the matter was indulged in by the people I met while there, and a general air of dissatisfaction in regard to the change in name, as shown on the new station, seemed prevalent.

For a great many years this place has ranked second to none in popularity on the St. John River, and it does seem a pity that its identity should be lost on the railroad sign post. Vacationists have always known this place as Beulah or Brown's Flat, which threatened to grip all Europe is passing; recovery now will be but a matter of time.

It was stated in the article referred to above that the wishes of the majority of the residents had been consulted. On questioning some of them I found that a very small minority, instead of a majority had even been given a chance to express their views. The Camp Ground people, who have done so much to bring this place into its present prominence, have not as yet, even been given a chance of expressing a view on the subject, but I feel the unanimous vote would be to call the station "Beulah" or Brown's Flat, the same as the post office.

Hoping you will publish this letter in your paper and that the Valley Railroad will take some action in this matter before the first train passes by the above mentioned station, so that the sign will be painted all over again, which will please all who love the place so well, I have the honor to be,

A GREAT ADMIRER OF BROWN'S FLAT AND BEULAH.

FAIR PLAY.
 St. John, N. B., July 27, '19.
 To the Editor of The St. John Standard,

Dear Sir:—Please allow me space in your valuable paper to air what I consider a grievance to myself, a former private soldier in the C. B. F. I went overseas with the 15th Bn. and was transferred to the 24th, which unit I served with in France. I was awarded the D.C.M. at the taking of Vimy Ridge, for playing my part as a soldier as many more of the boys did. The sum of twenty pounds gratuity was payable to me on the date of my discharge from service for the above named medal. I was advised by Pay Master M. D. Erven to write concerning same to Officer in Charge, Imperial Pensions, Ottawa, which I

did. American buyers are covering the Maritime Provinces, buying all the lumber they can secure. Buy YOUR Supply NOW.

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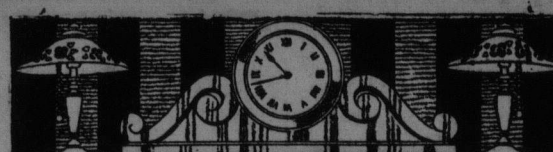
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 Brunswick, and one
 Edward Island.

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REGISTRATION DAYS
 In all Faculties Septem
 and 30th. Halifax stud
 register on the 29th.

LECTURES BEGIN
 October 1st, 1919
 FOR FULL INFORMATION
 write to President

INCREASED REVE
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