

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited 43 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada. H. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1919.

EMPIRE ORGANIZATION.

Among the problems which present new aspects as the result of the war is that of Imperial Federation, the problem of promoting in some form the political unification of the Empire. Before the war some steps had been taken in the direction of political consolidation through the occasional Imperial Conferences, but the main principle of any system of political unity—the right of the Overseas Dominions to a definite voice in the determination of foreign relations had not been made headway. If or when the Mother Country consulted representatives of the Dominions on matters of foreign policy directly and specifically affecting them, it was an act of courtesy rather than the recognition of a right. As for the general questions of relations between the British government and the Dominions, the latter were hardly consulted. Quite naturally the Mother Country took the view that the determination of foreign policy was her sole concern; she maintained a great navy and a considerable army, while she felt that the Dominions did not, or would not, make any adequate contribution to Imperial Defence. The assumption underlying this attitude was that if foreign policy had to be submitted to the ultimate arbiter, war, the professional navy and army would decide the issue.

The great war has thrown a strong light on this view, which certainly was a serious stumbling block to the political unification of the Empire. Much as the Empire and civilization owes to the professional navy and army of Britain—and it may very well be argued that they saved the situation at the outset—it must be said that they did not win the war alone. A citizen army had to be created, and a new navy improvised. The great battle fleet which typifies the might and majesty of Britain was impotent before the new weapon which Germany launched at sea—submarine—shiping—the arteries of Empire; and to overcome the faithful menace of the practical U-boats it was necessary to organize a new force composed of men of the merchant service, fishermen and not a few yachtmen.

A government which pursues foreign policies by secret diplomacy is incompatible with a condition of affairs that necessitates the wholesale conversion of peaceful citizens into fighting men. A British government can no longer deny the Dominions a voice in the determination of foreign relations on the ground that their contribution to Imperial defence has amounted to practically nothing. The presence of the representatives of the Overseas Dominions at the Peace Conference marks a distinct change in the relations of the Mother Country and the Daughter States.

The war has cleared the way for the political consolidation of the Empire. It has shown that the composition of the Empire, these apparently haphazard growths of centuries, these immense and marvellous masses of living interests, are bound together by bonds as solid as they are sensitive. Sir John Seeley, in his lecture on Political Science, observed that Britain seemed to have "conquered the world in a fit of absence of mind." The British dominions have expanded in an unprecedented, seemingly unconscious way, without plan, without design, but naturally and irresistibly. These expanding masses of eager life, scattered over the earth, everywhere bear the impress of the British spirit, enriched by their respective historical evolutions, broadened and deepened by the larger freedom, the wider opportunity, of new lands. They constitute a real British Commonwealth, but a Commonwealth without political unity, or political form. To give to this Commonwealth a political form and means of political expression—that is the great task which awaits the earnest endeavor of Imperial statesmen. As a result of the war the Mother Country must perforce abandon the arguments that she formerly appeared to consider a sufficient answer to the idea of taking the Overseas Dominions into real partnership. As a result of the war, too, the national self-consciousness of the Overseas Dominions has been developed to such an extent that they are not likely to be content to remain in the position of daughters in their Mother's House, even though they be mistresses in their own. In state papers and political speeches the phrase Overseas Dominions is now generally substituted for the term colonies, but this will hardly satisfy the amour propre of the young nations whose improvised armies have fought with a valor and efficiency unsurpassed by the best troops of Great Britain and France.

After the unconscious growth comes the need of conscious organization—of some definite political arrangement calculated to promote the integration of the Empire and consolidate its common interests. A theoretical system is not likely to be put forward as a means of Imperial Federation; the interests of the various commonwealths are complicated, complex, multiform; and symmetrical schemes of reform are not in accord with the genius of the British people. The method of Imperial Federation will probably follow the broad lines of precedents already established, of developments already apparent. In respect to the political heads of Empire, those of food supplies and those of defence, certain policies were pushing to the forefront before the war—policies which indicate the main lines upon which the organization of the Empire are likely to proceed. Possibly the lessons of the great war may modify the whole policy of the Empire in respect to defence; possibly the League of Nations may remove the question of defence from the domain of vital needs. But probably international rivalry will still continue with sufficient vigor to make the question of defence one of first importance for the Overseas Dominions, as well as for the Mother Country. In any case the security and well-being of Great Britain will still require the development of the food producing capacity of the Overseas Dominions. And it is around the elemental question of food, probably more than the question of defence, that the interests of the British Empire require consolidation and organization. In this direction, indeed, considerable progress has been made already, progress that will probably be accelerated now that the United States is ceasing to be a large exporter of foodstuffs. Side by side with this there has developed an increasing interdependence of interests, due to the expanding trade relations within the Empire itself. But until some form of political unity is established to give adequate expression and comprehensive guidance to these interdependent interests which have grown up more or less unconsciously, acting and reacting upon one another more or less independently, the progress of the Empire will not be what it might be.

PATRONAGE.

The Standard prints today a letter from a well known resident of this Province who takes exception to the views of this paper with respect to patronage. No doubt there is general diversity of opinion regarding this subject, but it should be noted that the attitude of The Standard is not an endorsement of the patronage system which is recognized everywhere as a weakness in our administration. Yet this paper cannot believe that any improvement whatever has been brought about by the substitution of the Civil Service Commission for the old form of patronage. In fact, so far as we are able to ascertain, conditions now are worse than they were before in view of the fact that people are not now appointed on their merits as was the intention of those who favored the abolition of the patronage system, but are appointed on the same old plan as before, with this difference, that the persons recommending appointments are not responsible to any recognized party and that selections so far made in this Province by the Civil Service Commission have not been as good as those made under the old patronage system.

The great complaint against the old plan was that as a rule those appointed to office were supporters of the administration then existing, while other persons of equal or greater ability were prohibited from holding office because of their political views. Today we are getting in public offices many incompetents; we are getting people who have not intelligence enough to hold a decided opinion one way or the other politically, and these are named for office by persons deeply opposed to Union administration, and who, by reason of the ill-advised policy now followed are securing positions for their friends or their prospective supporters in opposition to the party now in power. As a matter of fact, in many parts of this Province, capable persons are prohibited from holding office because of the fact that they support Union Government, which is just the same condition as prevailed under the old system, and members of parliament who realize this state of affairs are prevented from making any protest or from advising the Civil Service Commission in respect to the selection of candidates.

The patronage system was an evil, but it was a more efficient method of securing capable office holders than is the present irresponsible plan.

THE NEW LEADER.

The selection of Daniel D. McKenzie, M. P., as Liberal leader is of value only to Daniel D. himself, as it frays him from the obscurity in which he has existed for the past ten or twelve years and gives him a standing to which his own ability would never have brought him. D. D. is not a bad sort. He is rather narrow-minded, and a Scotchman—though of course this last is nothing against him—and he has made a speech every session, as a rule. He had to do this in order that his constituents might know he was present in Ottawa. But no person now remembers anything he has ever said. However, his selection will make very little difference either way to the Unionist party, for he is the leader of a group which, by its policy in this matter alone, has shown itself to be so narrow that the better-thinking class of Liberals who have supported Union, but who might

under certain circumstances be inclined to revert to their former principles, will now stand aloof more decidedly than ever. The ruling element of the Laurierite section being unable to secure the appointment of a French-Canadian to succeed the late leader, exercised sufficient influence to prevent the appointment of an English-speaking member of recognized ability. The fact that Hon. Mr. Fielding differed from the Laurierite policy on one point was sufficient to prevent his nomination. Union has never had anything to fear from this Laurierite section for the principles upon which Union is based are too strong to be disturbed by petty party tactics. The disturbing influences, if such there be, will come from inside.

The regrettable accident on the Kennebecas River yesterday has caused profound regret. There is a fascination in motoring on the ice, a fascination due in some degree to the element of danger involved, and this practice has been common among automobile owners during the present winter. It was generally realized that the river ice, by reason of the continued mild weather, and the constant wearing away by the undercurrent had become in reality unsafe for heavy travel. Yet some holding contrary opinions had continued the practice, and today many deaths in St. John mourn the untimely death of two estimable citizens. To the families of those who have met this fate deepest sympathy will be extended.

WHAT THEY SAY

Another King Attacked.
London Free Press.—Another King should be hazy been, and the untimely death of that volatile young fellow—Lig-nite.

A Gross Exaggeration.
Toronto Globe.—The first German woman to speak in a German parliament began her address, "Gentlemen and Ladies." A witty compliment to the men, even though it was a gross exaggeration.

What Next?
Hamilton Herald.—Just how far this women's rights outrage has gone is illustrated by the Toronto police-man's wife, who objects to cleaning her husband's boots, bringing the coal up from the cellar, and to his selecting her clothes.

Plenty of Precedent.
Edmonton Journal.—Surprise is expressed that some young women should be sent round by the Kaiser. But there is nothing very astonishing about it. Most other countries have been given much police salary and even more than the wages of the men, even though it was a gross exaggeration.

Engaging Candor.
Toronto Star.—The following advertisement, quite out of the ordinary, recently appeared in the situations wanted column of the London Times: "Efficient major, promoted by accident, no decorations, not so young as he used to be, wants job; salary every consideration; not too much work. Box T. 250."

Wide Guff.
Mail and Empire.—The French L'Evral who followed Sir Wilfrid Laurier object to having as temporary leader anyone who supported the Unionist Government even in a perfunctory way. The Ontario and Western Unionist Liberals are likely soon to appreciate more than ever the wisdom of the chain that divides them from their former party associates.

Will Have No Say.
The Sentinel, Toronto.—Bourassa says "when the next hour of decision comes, we shall begin by demanding the independence of Canada." Loyals Candidates agree that Mr. Bourassa is disqualified from demanding anything for Canada. If his teaching had been efficacious, Canada would now be a German colony. As to the future of Canada, Bourassa and his school will have nothing at all to say.

The Marvels of Science.
Calgary Herald.—Anticipating ultimate prohibition of the liquor traffic, English chemists have been experimenting to produce a pellet which will contain the elements of the "kick" more than ever the wit of members of the Hard Drinkers' Union.

A Difference.
Vancouver Province.—The British Premier has returned to London to meet the newly-elected parliamentary representatives of the people. The president of the United States is returning to Washington to act with the recently-elected representatives of the people. He will be in Washington in time to sign the bills passed by the Democratic Congress, some months after the people had elected a Republican Congress. Britain and the United States are democratic countries, with a difference. No representative in Great Britain legislates after he has been defeated at the polls.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE HOME GUARDS.
1914-1919.
(Arthur Conan Doyle.)
The dreams are passed and gone, old man,
That came to you and me,
Of a six days' stunt on an east coast
And the Hun with back to the sea.
Lord, how we worked, and sweated
To be fit when the day should come:
Four years, my lad, and five months more,
Since first we followed the drum.
Though "Follow the drum" is a bit too

Little Benny's Note Book.

BY LEE PAPE.
The Park Ave. News.

Weather, Middling.
Sports. Sig Hunt gave a birthday party at his home last Saturday night in honor of his fox terrier Teddy being 2 years old, and one of the games was to see who could blow out a candle the farthest away from him. Pude Stinkins was having the last 3 blows and he blew twice in vane, and just then he sneezed so hard the candle went out, thus winning on a fowl.

Society. Miss Maud Jonson heard about the Chinese ladies making their feet little by bandaging them all up with bandages, and last Sunday night she bandaged one of hers all up to see what would happen and Monday morning it was bigger instead of smaller on account of the bandages being so tight, Miss Jonson saying this country is good snuff for her and she don't care how the Chinese ladies act.

Pome by Sidney Martin.
The Ignorant Wind,
I had a little Sunday cap,
It was while as innocent snow,
Some wind blew it into a puddle
And now I wear it it every day or so.

Interesting Facts about Intrinsic People. Leroy Shooter took a bath last Saturday afternoon without anybody reminding him, and the rest of the family is still talking about it.

grand,
For we ran to no such frills;
It was just the whistles of Nature's
band
That heartened us up the hills.

That, and the foot of the corporal's
flute,
Until he could blow no more,
And the lit of "Sussex by the Sea,"
The marching song of the corps.

Those hills! My word, you would soon
get fit,
Be you ever so stale and slack,
If you paid it with rite and machine
kit
To Rotherfield Hill and back!

Drills in halls, and drills outdoors,
And drills of every type,
Till we wore our boots with forming
four
And our coats with "Shoulder hips!"

No glory ours, no swank, no pay,
One dull evening's grind!
Find yourself, and nothing at all,
Were the terms that the old boys
signed.

Just drill and march, and drill again,
And swot at the old parade;
But they got the two hundred thousand
men
Not bad for the old brigade!

A good two hundred thousand came
On the chance of that east coast
fight;
They may have been old, and stiff,
But, by George, their hearts were
right!

Discipline! My! "Eyes right!" they
cried
As we passed the drill hall door,
And left it at that—so we marched
From three to half-past four.

And solid! Why, after a real wet
bout
In a hole in the Flanders mud,
It would puzzle the Boche to fathom
us out,
For we couldn't get out if we
would!

Some think we could have stood war's
test,
Some say that we could not;
But a chap can only do his best
And offer all he's got.

Fall out the guard! The old home
guard!
Pile arms! Right turn! Dismiss!
No grumbling, even if it's hard
To break our ranks like this!

We can't show much in the way of
fun
For four and a half years gone;
If we had our chance—just one!
Carry on, old sport, carry on!

A BIT OF FUN

Security.
Did you lose that forgetful friend
of ours the book he asked for?
Yes, but I took care to borrow his
umbrella the same day.

Not Exactly.
He—Do you know anything about
the saurian tribe?
She—No; are they the new people
who moved in the block last week?
Baltimore American.

Epitaph.
Here lies a miser
Who would not repent;
He died in lamenting
His breath must be spent.

The Major—What makes you so
glad?
The Major—What makes you so
glad?

**Put Your Property
In Good Shape**
It will pay you in the
long run, for a house in
good repair commands
the better rental.

We Supply
Inside and Outside Finish,
Hardwood Floors,
Art Glass, Window Glass.
Everything in Wood and
Glass for Buildings.
Phone Main 3000
MURRAY & GREGORY,
LIMITED

LANDING
FEED FLOUR
PRICE LOW
C. H. PETERS SONS LIMITED, ST. JOHN, N. B.

OUR NEW TERM
BEGINS
Thursday, January 2nd
Send for Catalogue.

S. Kerr,
Principal

"McAvity Special" Razor

We have just received a full assortment of the famous "McAvity Special" Razor. These razors are thoroughly tested and set ready for use to give entire satisfaction. Widths 5-8 and 3-4 inch.

With Black Handle \$2.00
With White Handle \$2.50

T. McAVITY & SONS, LTD.

Ferguson & Page

Diamond Importers and Jewelers

NATAL TOKENS

As the yearly cycle brings around birth anniversaries of your family, and of friends, you like to remember, an inspection of our select offerings in Jewelry, Watches, Sterling Silver and related wares will reveal to you many appropriate gift suggestions. Especially would we draw your attention to our interesting collection of Birth Stones.

We await your visit with interest.

41 King Street — — — St. John

Peerless Anti-Freeze Liquid

Will Prevent Frozen Radiators
Do not drain your radiator or use substitutes.
On draught or in sealed gallon cans.

M. E. AGAR, — — — **51-53 Union St.**
Phone Main 818. St. John, N. B.

The Union Foundry and Machine Works, Ltd.

Engineers and Machinists
Iron and Brass Castings. Phone West 15.
West St. John. G. H. WARING, Manager.

GILBERT G. MURDOCH

Civil Engineer and Crown
Land Surveyor
A. M. Can. Soc. C. E.
Surveys, Plans, Estimates, Superintendence, Blue Prints, Black Line
Prints Maps of St. John and Surroundings.
74 Carmarthen Street, St. John

FIRE ESCAPES

Structural Steel, Bolts and Rods
WM. LEWIS & SON, ST. JOHN.

PHILLIPS' STEEL PRESSED PULLEYS

ALSO BELTING
Leather, Balata and Rubber
D. K. McLAREN, Limited Box 702
Main 1121 90 Germain St. St. John, N. B.

FLEWELLING PRESS

3 Water St.
HONOR ROLLS
For Societies
Artistically Designed.

2ND CLEAR CEDAR SHINGLES

Good stock of this
grade on hand. For
Barn roofs, walls, etc.

\$4.60
The Christie Wood-
working Co., Ltd.
186 Erin Street

FINAL SESSIONS
MISSIONARY

Rev. R. T. McKim and Rev.
ers at Centenary Yesterday
Formed—Rev. A. F. Rol
dressed Large Audience at

How the individual and the congregation could assist in the spread of missionary enthusiasm was the topic of yesterday afternoon's addresses at the Missionary Institute held at Centenary Hall.

Rev. Neil McLaughlin presided and the two speakers were Rev. R. T. McKim and Rev. H. C. Priest. Mr. McKim's subject was "The Place of Stewardship in the Work of Missions," and he pointed out that one of the greatest necessities of the mission work is intercessory prayer. He reminded the hearers of the Biblical story of the bands of Moses which were upheld and said that when people at home prayed earnestly for those in the foreign field the missionaries were given the victory against the powers of darkness. He said that the spread of the Gospel was actually prevented by the lack of prayer and felt that each one should personally interest themselves in the mission work. Mr. McKim spoke of the inspiration which a friend, a missionary who is laboring in the far north, is to him and showed how every individual could plan by personal assistance to make the way less hard for someone who was teaching the heathen of the love of the Master.

Rev. H. C. Priest spoke on the topic "How to Promote the Missionary Life of the Congregation," and laid stress on the fact that to spread the Gospel more effectively, the missionary interest of a congregation is dependent upon the spiritual life of that congregation was repeated again and again. Mr. Priest felt that more knowledge could be spread through the pulpits by the preachers informing themselves of the doings and endeavors of the "Ambassadors of God's Kingdom"—by the leaders in the Sunday school and in Young People's Societies reviving the interest in missions by the reading and study of the many books published on the matter and by more encouragement being given at home to make this subject a living thing, to vitalize the missionary knowledge so that it would become a real issue and not something which was far off and of no personal moment.

Both talks were full of inspiration and help, and were appreciated by the large audience assembled yesterday. After the meetings study classes were formed in groups. Rev. H. C. Priest taking that one of "The Way and Its Effect Upon Missions," and Rev. A. F. Robb resuming the study of Korea.

The ladies of the Methodist churches of the city supplied a bountiful supper which was served in the Central Baptist church school room by the ladies of that church with the following as conveners: Mrs. Z. Allwood, Mrs. C. C. Corkum, Mrs. Sophie Belyea.

Evening and Final Session.
The final session opened shortly after eight o'clock with the Rev. H. G.

ST. JOHN S

Bright, Newy Chat of the elsewhere—its people and entertaining, is one of the sought sections of the St.

which, with its numerous eludes many and varied stes, besides a highly spec

ALL NEWS OF INTEREST AND TOPICS OF THE

besides GLEANINGS IN A Do You Read T

Subscription Daily, in Town, by Carrier Daily, by Mail Semi-Weekly Tuesday and Friday, by Mail

A HINT OF THE
Owing to steadily advancing we are obliged to announce in OUR SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

The Standard

82 Prince William Street