

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 made much 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 the Empire and civilization owes to the professional navy, and to overcome 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 merchant shipping—the arctic of the Empire, and to overcome the fatal 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 fishermen.

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 component parts of the Empire, these apparently haphazard growths of centuries, these immense and marvelous masses of living interests, are bound together by bonds as solid as they are sensitive. Sir John Seeley, in his lectures 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 perform 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 in progress, of tendencies already apparent. In respect to the primal needs 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 imperial 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 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.

THE NEW LEADER. The selection of Daniel D. McKenzie, M. P., as Liberal leader is of value only to Daniel D. himself, as 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-partisanship. 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 is being followed by a large number of 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 friends 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 gone! It has been reported in favor of that volatile young fellow—Lig-nite.

A Gross Exaggeration. Toronto Globe.—The little 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 policeman'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 so ready to follow to the Kaiser. But there is nothing very astonishing about it. Most other convicted murderers whose cases have been given much publicity are the recipients of such attentions from degenerate females.

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

Wide Gulp. Mail and Empire.—The French Liberals who followed Sir Wilfrid Laurier (object to having as temporary leader anyone who supported the Unionist Government) are in a perturbed way. The Ontario and Western Unionist Liberals are likely soon to appreciate more than ever the wide of chasm 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." Loyal Canadians 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" which has been the cause of other innocuous temperance beverages. To be able to carry around in one's pocket a whole season of "jags" is to be a thing of the future, to 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 memories.

That came to you and me, Of a six days' stunt on an east coast front, And the fun 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. Big Hunt gave a birthday party at his house 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 furthest away from it, which Puds 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.

Sleazebag. 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 every day or so.

Trifling Fucks about trifling People. Leroy Shooter took a bath last Saturday night 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 hand. That heartened us up the hills.

Those hills! My word, you would soon get fit. Be you ever so staid and staid, If you pad it with rife and machine kit To Rotherfield Hill and back!

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

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

Just drill and march, and drill again, And swot at the old parade; But they got two hundred thousand men Not bad for the one 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 sold! Why, after a real wot bout In a hole in the Flanders mud It would puzzle the Boche to feteen 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 grouting, 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'd had our chance—just one! Carry on, old sport, carry on!

THE EDITOR'S MAIL

To the Editor of The Standard, Dear Sir—I am amazed that an enlightened progressive paper like The Standard should voice the sentiments contained in your Saturday's editorial on "Patronage," and the only fitting explanation seems to me that some member or defeated candidate has for the time being stolen your ink pot and pen, cannot conceive of anyone having the public interest at heart, and is unwilling to retain the rotten old system of political patronage with its train of appointments to the public service, in favor of the partisan member or the defeated candidate forsooth the man who did not even receive a majority of the votes of the progressive party, nominating persons for employment in the Public Service? Is he likely to do so with an eye single to the public benefit or does he look at those appointments first through his partisan spectacles? The Civil Service Commission has no axe to grind. He has, what if the candidate for a position does not support the government in power, does that curtail his efficiency as a public servant? Many of us who believed in Union Government and supported that government with our votes believed that a new and better era was coming in, an era in which an applicant for a position in the Public Service would not be accepted or rejected because of his politics, religion or the color of his hair, who are all his own private business so long as he does not bother his neighbors about them. Now you are trying to "split the beans."

It may be a sad thing for some members that their principal occupation is gone and a commission is making appointments to the public service. But if that is the case their loss is our gain. Feb. 24th, 1919. M.

THE BEST QUALITY AT A REASONABLE PRICE Glasses Are An Aid To Health Eye strain which comes from overtaxing the muscles that control the eye, brings on physical and nervous fatigue. It may be present when sight is excellent, this good vision being secured by constantly straining the muscles of the eye. 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.

L. L. Sharpe & Son Jewelers and Opticians. Two Stores—21 King St., 189 Union St.

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

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, 41 King Street, St. John.

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. C. H. WARING, Manager.

ESTABLISHED 1870 Civil Engineer and Crown Land Surveyor GILBERT G. MURDOCH 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 BELTING ALSO 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

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

FINAL SESSIONS MISSIONARY Rev. R. T. McKim and Rev. A. F. Robb at Centenary Year Formed—Rev. A. F. Robb dressed Large Audience a 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. A. F. Robb. 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 his hearers of the Biblical story of the bread 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 should personally interest themselves in a missionary and intercede for that worker. 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 he did not advocate any new organization but wished to help make the work of existing organizations more effective. He emphasized the fact that to spread missionary enthusiasm it is necessary to be enthusiastic oneself and to teach a missionary subject one must possess the exact knowledge. That 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 of "His Dominion," Rev. H. E. Stillwell that of "The Way and Its Effect Upon Missions," and Rev. A. F. Robb resuming the study of Korea. The ladies 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 convenors: Mrs. Z. Allwood, Mrs. C. C. Corkum, Mrs. Sophie Belver. Evening and Final Session. The final session opened shortly after eight o'clock with the Rev. H. C.

Bright, Newy Chat of the elsewhere—its people and entertaining, is one of the sought sections of the ST. JOHN S which, with its numerous cludes many and varied stes, besides a highly sp ALL NEWS OF INTEREST AN TOPICS OF T besides GLEANINGS IN A Do You Read T Subscrip Daily, in Town, by Carrier Daily, by Mail Senti-W Tuesday and Friday, by M A HINT OF THE Owing to steadily advanc we are obliged to announce IN OUR SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

The Sta Limited 82 Prince William Str