

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1920.

THE DOLEFUL DOLLAR.

The Canadian dollar is getting crumpled, and a lot of good Canadians who formerly bought many things from the United States are getting ruffled. Canadians are to some extent purse-proud; they resent Uncle Sam's belittling of our Almighty Dollar. Every Canadian paper has devoted columns of space to the rate of exchange; there is much talk about the laws of finance; and the phenomenon is involved in deeper mystery.

Perhaps if the truth were known the gambling of financiers has been responsible for the trouble. The war proved that the laws of supply and demand, as interpreted by the old economists, could be over-ruled and overlooked by Government agency, and even by the producers. England abandoned the gold basis, yet while carrying on a great war managed to give her mass of workers better conditions of life than they had ever enjoyed. Perhaps the hierarchy of finance are manipulating what is mysteriously called the laws of finance.

The United States has underwritten various European countries; and is treating them like ships overdue. It increases premiums by depressing exchange. There may be doubts that some of the European ships, floundering across the seas of bankruptcy, will reach a safe haven. It may be good business for the United States to stand by, refusing a tow except at a great price.

But why should the United States treat Canada as a possible delinquent? This country has immense resources; with the world it has a favorable balance of trade. Nobody doubts the ability of this country to meet its obligations. Currency is inflated; but so it is in the States.

Finance is supposed to be the servant of industry and commerce; but sometimes it is their master. It is no advantage to the American manufacturer or workman that the United States dollar equals 10 francs or eight shillings in the money market; on the contrary it will affect their market in England and France disastrously. Nor is the cost of living lower in the United States because the American dollar is bulled by the money market. Rich Americans may buy foreign automobiles and luxuries cheaper; but the American dollar for all its premium is not attracting real necessities from Europe to America.

But even when financial flibusters put to sea without perhaps being sure of their destination, it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good. The present exchange situation between the United States and this country will discount the diatribes of Hon. Mackenzie King and Hon. Mr. Crear as free trade and reciprocity. Canada will take more vigorous measures than ever to become a self-contained nation; to develop every industry which is capable of development here, and free herself from commercial dependence on the United States. The indignity to the Canadian dollar has created a new demand for Canadian-made goods, and a new understanding of the importance of the National Policy, which aims to create a self-contained country.

HOME INDUSTRY.

Conservation, published by the Commission of Conservation, at Ottawa, prints an article by Mr. Clyde Leavitt, forestry expert, who finds in the development of the pulp and paper industry in Canada a striking example of the benefits resulting from conducting processes of manufacture in this country instead of exporting raw materials. Mr. Leavitt says, in part: "Canada's wise policy of benefiting by the home manufacture of her natural resources is exemplified notably in the pulp and paper industry. In 1905, according to Government statistics, only 35 per cent of Canada's pulpwood cut was manufactured in the Dominion, whereas 64 per cent was exported raw. In 1917, over 70 per cent was manufactured in Canada, less than 30 per cent being exported in a raw state.

"Ten years ago, the number of employees in the pulp and paper industry of Canada was about 9,000. The number of employees at present is estimated at 25,000, and the annual wage bill at \$20,500,000. The exports alone for the past fiscal year from this industry are around \$100,000,000. About 90 per cent of the newsprint manufactured in Canada is exported. More than one-third of the newsprint used in the United States is of Canadian manufacture.

"Prospective increases in the capacity of Canadian plants will bring the production of newsprint during the coming year, on a conservative estimate, to a total of \$50,000 tons.

"The importance of all this in the maintenance and development of the economic structure of Canada can scarcely be over-estimated. Obviously, it would be the poorest kind of public policy for the respective Provincial Governments to relax the existing embargoes upon the export of raw pulpwood cut from Crown lands.

Such a course would inevitably mean reducing the supplies of raw material available for Canadian mills, as well as the more rapid depletion of our pulpwood forests, resulting in their comparative exhaustion within a measurable period of time. About 1,000,000 cords of pulpwood is now exported in a raw state, all cut from lands in private ownership. Practically all of this goes to the United States."

UNEXPECTED SPENDING.

The following figures show Hon. Mr. Veniot's expenditures on current account during the past two years:

	1918.	1919.
Roads, ordinary ..	\$192,394	\$265,657
Bridges, ordinary ..	263,347	343,175
Other public works	116,347	119,099

If, as he is reported to have said in Boston, his department has spent \$7,000,000 in the last few years on roads, the increases are a mere bagatelle. But with the large sums from capital account which have been at his disposal, it might have been supposed that his programme had provided against the need of any large unauthorized expenditures on current account. Mr. Veniot should give us a clearer explanation of his over-expenditures than is contained in the general statement that he found himself confronted with unexpected and unheard-of conditions. The words imply that the Province had suffered from some catastrophe. The public only know that it has suffered from the maladministration of Mr. Veniot and his friends.

PROHIBITION PROFITABLE.

The Provincial Government is finding Provincial prohibition a profitable investment. Its reported revenue from Provincial prohibition last year was \$56,422, as against an expenditure of \$35,949, leaving a net revenue of \$20,474.

In 1916 the Government's revenues from liquor licenses amounted to \$43,273, and the expenditures to \$26,243, leaving a net revenue of \$17,030. According to this comparison, it pays the Government to attempt to make the Province virtuous. Good works do not always go unrewarded, even if virtue is its own reward. And it is certainly gratifying to be able to record that in one department the Provincial Government has made a financial success.

One of the arguments for Commission form of Government was that the Commissioners being constantly on the job, they would not need to rely on permanent officials as the old order. But judging from the list of salary increases the Commission have provided themselves with a goodly number of officials, and apparently only lack a city planner. No doubt the city's business has grown faster than the capacity of the Commission form of Government for good government, and the staff has grown with it. But why not a city plumber? He might not be able to repair the drain on the taxpayers' pockets, but if he could improve the plumbing arrangements he might save a lot of annoyance in cold weather.

WHAT THEY SAY

Out of Place Now.

(Boston Herald.)
 The old adage about safety in the middle of the road was written 19 centuries before the automobile came.

The Important Part.

(Kingston Standard.)
 It does not matter very much what the size of the new Canadian cent is; it is rather how precious little a lot of them will buy nowadays.

A Fair Margin Allowed.

(Livingstone C. Africa Mail.)
 Rhodesians are not particular about the train service, to a few minutes or even hours, but the prevailing sentiment is that trains should arrive the same day as scheduled.

The Universal Discontent.

(Hong Kong Press.)
 The wave of discontent which has swept over Europe and America, owing to the high cost of living, is not confined to Hong Kong. Unless measures are taken in time, it will not be long before the Colony's placid existence is rudely disturbed by a shipping strike.

Mixed Cargoes.

(Zanzibar Gazette.)
 The cargo steamer Drujba arrived in the harbor on Friday morning from Naples via Red Sea and Suez. She will leave for Europe tomorrow with a cargo of copra and sisam for Genoa and about 10,000 bales of cloves and clove-stems for New York.

Only Themselves to Blame.

(Western Mail, Australia.)
 Politicians and Parliaments are, therefore, fast becoming terms of contempt instead of terms of honor and distinction. The fact is deplorable and ominous, and accounts very largely for the audience that is so freely given to the false teaching of the direct actionists whose aim it is to reduce society to chaos.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE FIVE GIFTS.

When God did our First Parents make,
 'Twas at the opening year,
 Therefore, since earth was filled with mirth,
 He gave them ears to hear.

And when the warmth of Summer days
 Upon that Garden fell,
 That ne'er a flower might lack its power,
 He gave them nose to smell.

Then followed Autumn bountiful;
 And that no whit should waste,
 But all that hoard its joy afford,
 He gave them tongue to taste.

And when came Winter at the last,
 And every bush and tree
 Was rich bedight with jewels bright,
 He gave them eyes to see.

But since alone those other four
 God's Self could not reveal,
 That they might know, and thanks bestow,
 He gave them heart to feel.
 —H. Lang Jones, in Westminster Gazette.

A BIT OF FUN

Same as Now.

"Where did you first meet your wife?"
 "I don't remember now, but I'll bet I had to wait for her."

Long Trip For a Drink.

Norwich Sun.—Mr. Buck's new home is an attractive five-room cottage with a cellar in the north part of the town.

Another "Dry" Vote.

"A burnt child dreads the fire," announced the teacher during the lesson in proverbs. "Now, give me a sentence different in wording, but meaning the same thing."
 A grimy hand shot up from the back of the class.
 "Please, teacher," came a small voice, "a washed child dreads the water."
 —Blighly, London.

THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Mr. Editor:—

Kindly permit me space in your valuable paper to say a few words on this important subject. I notice in the article in The Standard a few days ago by a young man he advocated one of the main things that was keeping young men out of the ministry was the small salaries paid.

No doubt in many cases this is true, but the question arises should a young man study law, or medicine, with the motive foremost that he can make more money by following one of these professions? Ought not the guiding motive with them be that by the study of medicine, he is better fitted to remove pain and restore the sick to health, and should not the young man study law, being guided by the motive not to get people into courts of law, but to help them settle their cases out of court? As long as the world goes on laying the stress too much upon material things, just so long will we have the spirit of selfishness and covetousness developing which is contrary to the teachings of Christianity. Every life to be a blessing to the world must be a life of sacrifice and self denial. The young person or older one who looks upon the Christian life as a life of ease, or a life free from suffering is not following in the footsteps of its Divine Founder. When people reason that young men will not enter the ministry because of the small pay it gives and contrast it with worldly occupations, it is looking at it too much from the material side, and not enough from the spiritual. It was not the material rewards that led most young men to go to the war and give up their lives. It was self sacrifice, and willingness to die, and loyalty to King and Country. If one believes God is calling him to the Christian ministry he should be willing to go forward expressing faith in Him, leaving He will provide. Whenever we put the Christian ministry upon a footing with worldly occupations, we are only glorifying the Divine Standard, and weakening the cause of Christianity. There are problems in connection with the Christian ministry the young man did not touch which I wish to speak of briefly. A young man with the Christ like vision goes to college, and after many years of hard study, comes out of school and is called to settle as pastor with some rural church. He has not been settled long before he discovers there is a great

A. PASTOR.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Mrs. Hews was at our house to see me this afternoon, and I sat there watching them tawk on account of not having anything else to do, and they started to tawk about cooks and things, ma saying, Well, they can say wat they want, but I wouldn't trust the best servant in the world to keep my house in order, I go over it myself every single day, and if there's a speck of dust anywhere, it flies, I can jest tell you.

Dislike all kinds of dust, and if there's one thing I dislike more than anything else, it's cob webs, and Mrs. Hews. Being a big fat lady with hardly any lap, and ma sed, O, cob webs, so do I, I simply can't stand them.

Say ma, I sed, I know wate there's a hole bunch of cob webs.

Benny, you musent interrupt wen ladies are tawking, sed ma, looking surprised as anything.

Well I do, ma I bet there's at least 10 of them, at least, all in one place, I sed.

Benny, sed ma.

And maybe 12, I sed.

Benny, did you jest heer me tell you sumthing? sed ma. And Mrs. Hews cawfed as if she was thinking of something else, and I sed, But goah, G. ma, you awt to see them, do you want to know wate they are?

No, leave the room immedietly for being so disobedient, sed ma loud as anything.

Wich I started to do, saying, Well, G. goah, ma, they're on the ceiling of the automobile garage up on Clumby Avenue.

All rite, all rite, you dont suppose I thawt they were in heer enyware, do you? sed ma.

Yes, mam, I sed.

And I kepp on going out and ma and Mrs. Hews started to tawk about how high difrent things cost more than they used to.

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lack of intellectual development and consequently lack of religious outlook. The young man desirous of expansion brings before the people proposals which he believes are for the growth of the Church, and community only to have them rejected by those who have been going on in the same way for years. Then again he is holding religious meetings, and he has a lot of young people who have no respect for the house of the Lord or His Word, many of them scoffing when it is read (or spoken) upon. To the writer's mind these conditions are harder than being pinched for money, and yet such are the conditions in many places today where the Gospel has been preached and taught for many years. The conditions I am now speaking about are due largely to lack of principles, deceitfulness and lack of intellectual development so as to see things in the light of Christian truth. No one can rightly value the things of religion that has no religious outlook. There are communities in New Brunswick and perhaps in Nova Scotia where the people to a large degree have no interest in Christianity. No man with outlook upon life wishes to settle down where there is no possibility of being able to develop the life of the community.

It is in cases such as I have mentioned that the young pastor or older one finds himself greatly handicapped so far as bringing about that growth is concerned.



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