

# The St. John Standard

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H. V. MacKINNON, Managing Editor.  
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ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1914.

## THE PORT AND POLITICS.

Two editorials in the Times last evening were of more than passing interest to persons who had observed the course followed by the Board of Trade members and officials in dealing with matters in which Mr. Hazen has been concerned. In one article the Times deplored the fact that the meeting of the Board of Trade on Monday night was not more largely attended, and plaintively wondered whether the Board was becoming apathetic in matters affecting St. John. In the other it attempted to show that a resolution passed at Monday's meeting served as a vindication of Secretary Armstrong's action in writing to the newspapers a letter which, to say the least, was not fair either to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, or to the Government of which he is a member.

The Standard, yesterday morning, expressed the opinion that the suggestion made by Secretary Armstrong, that 4,000 people should write to Mr. Hazen urging St. John's claims, was unnecessary, and his letter a production which, judging from its context alone, might well have been written for political effect. We have no desire to enter into a controversy with the Board of Trade or with the Times over the matter, but we adhere to our opinion and we also desire to submit that the resolution to which the Times refers was practically no more necessary than the letter. Mr. Hazen already knew the sentiment of this community as to the Cullis agreement. He is also well aware that there is need for additional harbor facilities and he is exerting every effort to have these provided as quickly as possible. Every day brings additional evidence of this fact. Where then is the need to urge him to further efforts when he is already doing, and will do, what St. John desires without the added stimulus.

That the resolution in question was proposed and seconded by business men who are, and have been, life long and respected members of the Conservative party, does not make it necessary. If this fact shows anything, it does prove that men of the Conservative party are not actuated by political motives in their conduct at the Board of Trade meetings. Now that the Times has raised the point, can it say as much for the Liberals?

When Mr. Pugsley was Minister of Public Works he made many pledges to the port of St. John without the slightest move to implement them. Did the Times, or the Liberal members of the Board of Trade, so far forget their political affiliations as to address communications to Mr. Pugsley couched in the terms of the resolution, or in Mr. Armstrong's letter? Yet there were many things Mr. Pugsley should have done for this city which he failed to do and upon which 4,000 citizens might have written to him.

Mr. Hazen has done more for this port than all the representatives who preceded him from St. John in the Laurier cabinet. On one occasion, when his department was asked to furnish information to the Board, and his prompt response so pleased that body that they acknowledged his work what then was the attitude of the Times? Did it not attempt to minimize the value of Mr. Hazen's services, and to spread the impression that the members of the Board of Trade who approved of him were "not unwilling to tickle his vanity"?

The Standard does not accuse Mr. Armstrong of using his position for political purposes. The Standard does claim that, in his letter to the newspapers, he did not give due credit to the Government and to the Minister of Marine for what had been done for St. John. And The Standard now claims that while the Board of Trade members are desirous of working only in the interests of St. John, the Times and the Telegraph are misrepresenting the spirit of their actions and using such communications as that of Mr. Armstrong as instruments with which to create political capital against the Minister of Marine and Fisheries and the Borden Government.

Members of the Board of Trade and the secretary of the Board of Trade, doubtless, are actuated by what they believe to be the very best motives, but the Pugsley papers are not. On the contrary they are seizing every opportunity to make of Board of Trade matters political material against Mr. Hazen. If the members of the Board were unaware of this before they at least know it now, and if they have no desire to treat port matters from the standpoint of politics they know how to guard against future misstatements of their words and works.

If St. John's plan of campaign for more business and additional harbor facilities is to be conducted along the lines of misrepresentation and criticism of Hon. Mr. Hazen and of the Borden Government, which is being

asked to provide the facilities needed, then there are hundreds of good Conservatives in this city, who have the interests of their city at heart, but who also believe the Government, and the Minister, already doing all he can do, are entitled to some slight show of credit and respect, who will know how to act. Present methods of all blame and no praise have about been worked to the limit.

## THE FOREST FIRES.

While reports from the sections of country comparatively near the city, which have been visited by forest fires, indicate that the loss from fire is not as serious as might have been expected from the cloud of smoke rolling over the city during the past few days, yet it may be said that there is already some destruction of timber and that the element of risk still remains. An unfriendly wind may bring the fires down upon settlements, and cause much damage and suffering, with possible loss of life.

As far as can be ascertained, by those who have been in the woods fighting the flames, the fires or some of them, were undoubtedly started by fishermen or sporting parties displaying carelessness in the extinguishing of camp fires. Every year, in the early summer, considerable sections of timber land are swept by fire and much of the resultant loss may be placed directly at the door of the careless fisherman. A fire once lighted, in proximity to wooded growth, may, if allowed to burn itself out, do incalculable damage.

Much has been said and written upon the conservation of our timber resources, but it would appear that if the forest fire nuisance is to continue there would be much support for legislation which would prevent fishermen or hunters from going into the woods before the first week in June, or in particularly dry weather, an even later date. There would be no desire to interfere with legitimate and pleasurable sport, but if fishing parties would persist in lighting and leaving wood fires with absolute disregard, or lack of thought for consequences, then the prosecution of the sport must cease in order that the interests of the greater number, the farmers and those who derive livelihood from the timber lands, may be served.

There has been some difference of opinion as to the general observance of today's holiday. Merchants claim with some show of reason, that following Victoria Day so closely, and with less than a month intervening before Dominion Day this holiday could possibly be eliminated. On the other hand, clerks and others contend there are not any too many holidays in the year as it is. It would be found more satisfactory, however, to have a definite understanding for the future as to the observance or non-observance of the King's birthday.

The bill to grant assistance to the Canadian Northern Railway was passed in the House of Commons last night by a majority of 47 votes. The agreement made by the Borden Government, which became effective by last night's vote, represents the very best possible solution of a difficult problem. Canada has been well safeguarded, an important railway industry saved and a situation averted which might have had very disastrous results.

From the newspaper accounts of the Empress disaster it is very plain that some men who were saved owe their lives to the fact that they were able to swim while others who were lost might have been alive today if they had possessed the same accomplishment. Here is a striking illustration coming thus early in the summer season of the value and importance of the ability to swim. It is to be hoped many will heed the lesson.

Huerta says he will be willing to abdicate if the government which is to succeed him is one which will command the respect of the people of Mexico. It strikes many as just possible that when the time comes for abdication Huerta will be more concerned with the ability of trains to carry him out of the danger zone of his with the character and ability of his successors.

King George V., of Great Britain and Ireland and the Overseas Dominions celebrates his birthday today. That his reign may be as long and as illustrious as that of his revered grandfather, Victoria, the Good, will be the earnest wish of all his loyal subjects.

Now the Government has the problem of aid to the Grand Trunk to face. Considering that this problem is a legacy from the bungling of the Laurier government it will be interesting to watch the course of the statesmen behind Sir Wilfrid.

## Diary of Events

### HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

Canada will join with the remainder of the Empire in observing the birthday of George V. today, and anywhere under the British flag will "God Save the King" be uttered more fervently than in the broad Dominions which stretched from sea to sea. Since the first English occupation of what is now Canada the birthday of the reigning monarch has always been fittingly observed. The natal day of Charles I. was celebrated in Quebec and Acadia in 1639, as the result of Admiral Kirk's victories over the French. Under the Crownlands there was little attention paid to natal days either in Acadia or the mother country, but May 29th was celebrated as the king's birthday after Charles II. ascended the throne. In 1667 that monarch gave Acadia back to France, but in 1710 the country was restored to England. Port Royal was renamed Annapolis in honor of Queen Anne, whose birthday was celebrated almost as was that of the first George. The natal day of George II. was celebrated in Quebec by Wolfe's conquering army Nov. 10, 1759. That monarch died the following October and George III. began his long reign. His birthday fell on June 4th, and for nearly sixty years that date was annually observed in Canada and the Maritime Provinces. When Newark, now Niagara, became the capital of the Upper Province, Governor Simcoe set the example by celebrating the fourth of June with a levee and ball, at which—according to a chronicler of that period—"there were about twenty well-dressed and handsome ladies and about three times that number of gentlemen," and at which "the music and dancing were good and everything was conducted with propriety." The birthday of William IV. was observed in August, and that of Victoria, most popularly observed of all by Canadian, on May 24th.

### THE PASSING DAY

#### A TERRIBLE BATTLE.

One of the most terrible battles of the American civil war was fought at Cold Harbor, Va., just half a century ago today. It was Grant against Lee, and it was the great mistake of Grant's military career—a blunder almost as tragic as the charge of the Light Brigade. Grant hurled his army against Lee's impregnable works along the Chickahominy, and after thirty minutes of terrible carnage, involving a Union loss of 13,000 and a Confederate loss of a tenth of that number, the attacking army was thrown back in defeat and disaster. Some hours later Meade ordered a renewal of the attack, but the northern army, sullen, silent and immobile, refused to again immolate itself. Not a man stirred when the orders were given, and the officers staring, threatened and pleaded in vain. The defeat at Cold Harbor and the mutiny of the army, caused Grant to change his tactics, and that of Victoria, most popularly observed of all by Canadian, on May 24th.

### FIRST THINGS

#### AMERICAN ASTRONOMY.

The first observation of the transit of Venus by American astronomers was made today from a temporary observatory fitted up in the State House yard in Philadelphia. This successful observation, which practically marked the beginning of scientific astronomy in the New World, was in charge of the American Philosophical Society, an organization of the foremost scientists and savants of the America of that period. The society was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743 and was the parent body of the hundreds of scientific associations in the United States and Canada. The transit of Venus over the sun's disk is the best method of ascertaining the distance of the great luminary, and in recent years American astronomers have engaged in elaborate observations, notably of the transit of Venus in 1882, when the American photographic methods were used with great success. The only important phenomenon of this character in 1914 will be the transit of Mercury on Nov. 7th next, which will be partly visible in the eastern portions of the United States and Canada.

Try Ungar's Laundry for carpet cleaning.

### OBITUARY.

Malcolm B. Barbary, Malcom B. Barbary, 72 years of age, died yesterday morning at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Barbary, Moore street. His death took place after an illness of several weeks and much sympathy is being extended to the sorrowing parents. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon to Fernhill. Rev. E. B. Hooper officiated.

Mrs. Alex. McM. Staples, Special to The Standard, Fredericton, June 2.—Mrs. Alex. McM. Staples died suddenly this afternoon from heart trouble. She had been ill for some time but the end came very suddenly. The deceased was formerly Miss Maggie Clayton of Marysville and was about 32 years old. Besides her husband who is well known as a hockey referee and in other lines of sport, she is survived by several children.

### FUNERALS.

George Moore, The funeral of George Moore took place at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon from Chamberlain's undertaking rooms. Rev. H. A. Cullen conducted the funeral services. Interment was in the Church of England burying ground.

Miss Ina L. Purvis, From her parents' residence, Duke street, Carleton, the funeral of Miss Ina L. Purvis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Purvis, took place at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Rev. Dr. J. A. Morrison conducted the funeral services. Interment was in Cedar Hill cemetery.

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Puds Simkins and me and Sid Hunt and Sam Krawas was passing a sear star this afternoon with a waying masheen awn the outside wich you half to put a sent in it befor it warks, and we startid to have an argumint about wich wun wayed the most outside of Puds Simkins.

Lets get wayed and find out, sed Sam Krawas, I got a sent, who elts has.

Wich we awl felt in our pockits and found out noboddy elts had, ony we properly awl noo it without feeling, and I sed, I no a way we can awl get wayed for a sent.

How, they awl sed, Wich I told them and we did it, ferst Sam Krawas getting awn the masheen and putting his sent in and the hand went eround to 75, proving that was how much Sam Krawas wayed, and I marked down 75 awn Puds Simkins collar with a littel stump of a pencil, noboddy having a peeces of paper.

And Sam Krawas stayed awn the masheen and Sid Hunt got awn it with him and the hand went eround sun moar and stoppid at 154, wich I put I down awn Puds collar and subtrackid 75 from it, leaving 76, proving that was wat Sid Hunt wayed.

Then I got awn with Sam and Sid, awl of us having to hold awn to each other to keep from fawling awl, awn akount of the masheen ony beeing apposed to hold wun, and the hand kep awn going to 225, wich I leened ovir and rote it awn Puds collar, subtrackid it from 154, leaving 75, proving that was how much I wayed. And then Puds tried to clime up with us, wich the masheen was soon was so full of us awlredy we awl startid to fawil owf, making such a noize about it the sear star man cam runing out, saying, Hay, nun of that, nun of that, wat do you think this is, bargin day.

Wich jest then suboddy sed, Eaything rong, and we awl terned eround and who was it but pop.

Yes, sumthings rong, sed the man, these kids darn neer broak my waying masheen by awl trying to get wayed for a sent.

Thats wat I call crimiln monpdy of trade, sed pop. And he gave the man 3 moar sents, beeing wun to meny awn akount of Puds not beeing able to clime up, and then he took me hoam with him, saying, Now yung man, tell me whoe idder that was.

Mine, I sed.

Well, morris asid, it was a stroke of jeanyis, sed pop, and I don't think I cood of thawe of it myself in a millyun years, I think ill have to make a finanser of you, yung man, so you can support me in my old age, heers 2 sents comelisin from the comin peopl for putting throo the deol, Wich he gave me 2 sents, and I sed, Q its a god thing Puds Simkins coodnt clime up, and pop sed, Wy, and I sed, Bekause his collar was so full of marks awlredy thare wasnt eny moar room to subtrackt enything to find out wat he wayed.

### Paternal Solitude.

Suitor—I want to marry your daughter.

Father—Can you divorce her in the morning to which she has been accustomed?—New York Sun.

### All Right, But—

A Scotch servant shortly after her marriage met her former mistress, and on being asked how she was getting on, she replied: "I'm getting on fine, mem; but ah, I canna bide the man."

### Her Revenge.

Gibbs—Does your wife ever scold when you have been out late at the club?  
 Gibbs—Never! She merely sets up at four o'clock the next morning and practises on the piano, and I daren't say a word.

### Double Courage.

"Johnson is certainly a man of courage."  
 "What's he done?"  
 "He not only appeared with the first straw hat of the season, but he was brave enough to wear one of those narrow-brim, rough-straw chimney pots."

### Martyr to Conscience.

Wearly Walker—No, mum, I ain't dirty from choice, I'm bound by honor. Yer see I once wrote a testimonial for a soap-maker and promised to use no other.

Madam—Well, why don't you use that?

Wearly Walker—Because, mum, the firm failed about five years ago.

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## THE MAN WHO HAS NO WATCH

He's like a ship without a compass. Of course he can ask the time, or observe the town clock, or look into the window of a progressive store that displays a clock, but who wants to depend on such expedients to find out what time it is?

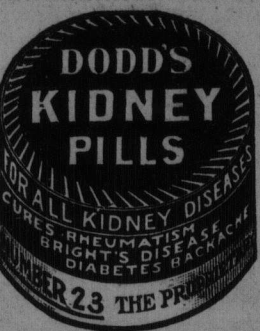
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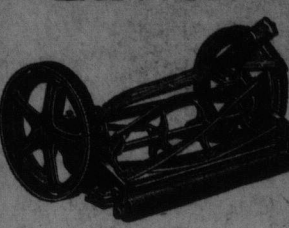
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The organ recital  
 Herbert Saunders of Otter  
 church last evening was  
 most interesting musical  
 here for some time. The  
 well filled, and the work  
 was much appreciated  
 audience.  
 The programme was  
 1. Overture to Ruy Blas  
 2. Prayer and Credo So  
 3. Aria (Soprano)—"He  
 (Miss)  
 Miss Louise K