

The St. John Standard

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THE STANDARD IS REPRESENTED BY:
Henry de Clerque 1 West 34th St., New York
Louis Kiebasa 3 Fleet St., London, Eng.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1920.

EMPIRE RELATIONS.

The Toronto Globe has been making a survey of the problems which lie before Canada, and has come to the conclusion that the most important have to do with the determination of future relations within the Empire and naval policy. In its opinion the attitude of the Union Government to these problems is rather obscure, but it does not advise us how the Liberal Party would proceed to work out a solution of them. It intimates that it is incumbent upon Union Government to develop a definite policy of dealing a solution of the very important problem of Imperial relations; a large order, especially in view of the fact that in the past the Liberal attitude of wait-and-see to the problems of Empire relations.

The ideal of the leader of the Union Government can hardly be described as obscure. Sir Robert insisted upon and secured the recognition of Canada's status as a nation by the Conference of World Powers at Paris and by the Mother of Parliaments at Westminster. The culmination of the growth of the Dominion towards nationhood was signally marked, when, as stated in a message of Premier Borden last June, the plenipotentiaries of the Dominion "took full rank with those of the World Powers in the signing of the Treaty of Versailles." It was sealed, so far as Great Britain was concerned, by the withholding of British ratification of the Treaty until the Parliaments of the Dominions had ratified the peace. The new status of the overseas Dominions have taken, as a consequence of the war, probably requires a new orientation of Empire relations. More perhaps than any other overseas statesman, Sir Robert Borden is responsible for putting the ideal of the Dominions have set before themselves into a practical relation with Imperial and world affairs. But the further embodiment of this ideal is by no means a task for the Government of Canada alone; its practical working out can only be accomplished in co-operation with the Mother Country and the other Dominions. The problem is likely to be surrounded by difficulties; as Mr. Balfour said recently, it is a problem of "finding some organization which shall increase unity of action and unity of sentiment, but which shall not interfere with the absolute autonomy of the great constitutional elements of this great community of nations." At present Great Britain is considering a scheme of devolution, providing for national parliaments for Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland. This would clear the ground for an Imperial Parliament concerned only with Imperial and foreign affairs, in which the Overseas Dominions might have proportionate representation. But the question of the future constitution of the Empire hardly requires a definite pronouncement from the Union Government; there is no apparent dissatisfaction with the existing relationships that demands immediate action; evolution may be forced, but there is no particular need of a forcing process. If, as the Toronto Globe intimates, a solution is urgent, then there is another argument for the continuance of Union Government. The important thing is that the problem of Empire relations should not be made a question of party politics.

THE LOGIC OF EVENTS.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King says: "It is not significant, indeed, that there is not a political happening of first importance since the death of Sir Wilfrid Laurier which has not afforded unmistakable evidence of his political wisdom." One of the political happenings has been the rise of the Farmers' Party, which according to Mr. King himself is an "evidence of Liberal thought and feeling" operating in the rural districts. If this is so, it would look to the ordinary observer as if the farmers had come to the conclusion that Laurier had led the Liberal Party astray, and that the new leader was not to be trusted to lead it back into the straight and narrow way. Another political event of first importance has been the liquidation of the Grand Trunk, a course imposed upon the Government by the disastrous results of Laurier's Grand Trunk Pacific policy, "the crowning achievement of his career." Another political happening of some interest has been the sowing of seeds of division in the Liberal ranks in Quebec. But perhaps in the estimation of Mr. King the only political happening of first importance since the death of Laurier has been his ascension to the leadership of the distracted Liberal Party, though in that case the political wisdom of Sir Wilfrid and the whole Liberal Party has yet to be proven.

NAVAL POLICY.

The question of determining a naval policy for Canada is not merely a matter of deciding the extent and form of the contribution this country shall make to the cause of Empire Defence.

There is the consideration of the control of the general naval policy of the Empire. It is not consonant with the new status of the Dominions that they should build and maintain navies, which at the declaration of war will automatically pass under the control of the British Admiralty at Whitehall. The general problem of Empire relations cannot be dissociated from the question of naval policy of the Dominions, and in the present state of British opinion it is not unreasonable to expect that the mother will be prepared to recognize the right to some voice in the general naval policy of the Empire. Apart from other considerations, the sacrifices made by the Dominions in life and treasure during the war have earned them the right to some form of participation in the shaping of the general policy of Empire Defence. The following figures are sufficiently eloquent:

	Force of white raised population.	Percentage of white population.
United Kingdom	5,704,416	25.56
Canada	458,218	13.48
Australia	331,314	13.43
New Zealand	112,223	19.35
S. Africa	76,184	11.12
	Casualties population.	Percentage of white population.
United Kingdom	2,453,266	10.91
Canada	205,675	6.04
Australia	209,951	8.50
New Zealand	56,886	8.80

NEED OF TERMINALS.

Statements made at the meeting of the Commercial Club last evening involve a rather serious reflection upon the management of the Canadian National Railways, and the fact that the Club decided to organize a demonstration at Chubb's Corner today to put the case for the port before Dr. A. P. Barnhill, the St. John member of the Board of Directors of the C. N. R., indicates that there is a very strong feeling that this port is not receiving the consideration it has a right to expect, considering the sacrifices it has made in the past to provide facilities for the winter port trade of all Canada. That there is a congestion of shipping and a blockade of freight cars at St. John was the general view of the meeting, and in the circumstances the energetic methods which the Club proposes to take to bring attention to the need of larger terminal facilities for both ships and cars will doubtless receive the support of the citizens generally.

In some respects the situation is unusual. The Allied Governments have apparently undertaken to move grain in a hurry to starving Europe, and ships are being ordered about in an unexpected fashion. Portland is crowded with ships waiting for grain, and the same condition apparently obtains at other grain ports. Nevertheless the congestion here is not by any means wholly the consequence of an emergency, and the Government and the people of Canada should have their attention called to the inadequate facilities; pictures of the port such as the Commercial Club propose to take will be the strongest argument for St. John's claim to be treated as a national port.

A point raised by Mr. H. C. Groat and emphasized by Mr. F. W. Daniel ought, however, to receive attention. A Mr. Groat pointed out that the City Commissioners were not prepared to take a plebiscite on the question of putting the Harbor in commission till the Ferry matter was settled and more information available on other questions, and at the same time the Government was not prepared to do anything of importance for the port until the question of control was settled. Some people are encouraging the perpetuation of this deadlock, though what good purpose can be served by it is hard to see. Our members of Parliament have told us that the C. N. R. have big plans for developments at St. John, but they are unable to straighten out the difficulty between the Government and the City.

FRENCH AND TURKS.

Premier Lloyd George's recent declaration that Constantinople should be taken from the Turk does not meet with the approval of some of the Paris papers. The Echo de Paris thinks this would be an initial error, because, if deprived of its capital, the Ottoman Empire would break up into quarrelsome factions. It is pointed out that Russia has a strong interest in any decision respecting Constantinople, and that it might be neither prudent or politic to attempt the liquidation of Turkey at a time Russia is not able to make her voice heard. Other embarrassments would probably arise. The Echo de Paris, which is generally supposed to reflect the views of the French Foreign Office, adds:

"What measures would be taken by the Mussulmans, whom we are allowing to gather strength and to arm? The nation which dominates India, Afghanistan, and Egypt, and which has just secured a preponderant position in Persia, has no need to be warned of the serious nature of the peril, whilst

France received during the war too loyal support from its numerous Mussulman subjects not to avoid doing anything which would arouse their discontent."

Mr. Rockefeller having made a gift of \$100,000,000 to educational institutions it was perhaps natural that the price of gasoline should go up. But Mr. Rockefeller is not the only philanthropist. While the all interests lacked a cent on the price, the distributing interests lacked three cents. The more education they have in the United States the better no doubt; the consumer already has to do some tall figuring to make ends meet.

WHAT THEY SAY

Not Perfect.

(Regina Post.)
The British Ministry of Pensions says that in payments made to injured soldiers, Canada leads the world. That is the verdict of real authority. Nevertheless there is much room for improvement in the details of our pension scheme.

Ministers' Salaries.

(Winnipeg Tribune.)
In a conference on ministers' salaries by the Interchurch World Movement in Philadelphia, the president of Muskingum College, the Rev. Dr. J. Knox Montgomery, declared that the minister is "the forgotten man," and that his treatment is the shame of the church. Their allegedly treatment is driving many a good man out of the ministry," he said. "Man either serves as a maid of all work, and does the wash, or he has to make his wife a slave and send her to an early death—and no red-blooded man will do that. Few clergymen can afford a washing machine," Dr. Montgomery said. Conditions are only slightly better in Canada.

A Labor Opinion.

(Quebec Telegraph.)
Of the many opinions called forth by the trial and condemnation of Russell, one of the Winnipeg strike leaders, none is more likely to commend itself to thoughtful minds than that expressed by Mr. John T. Vick, of the Toronto Bricklayers' Union, who says: "Strikers of any kind are getting to be things of the past and the general sympathetic strike is gone. We were through all that twenty years ago, and have found by better organization and an aggressive policy of negotiation that we can gain more for our members than could be possible through calling them from their work." It is surely unnecessary to point out how much more keenly is this with the spirit of the times. Negotiation is unquestionably better than fighting.

A BIT OF FUN

What He Knew.

Youth—"Can you take back the engagement ring I bought today?"
"Didn't it suit?"
"I don't know, I didn't."

Funny.

Tommy—"Isn't 'wholesome' a funny word, father?"
Father—"What's funny about it?"
Tommy—"Why, take away the whole of it and you have some left."

Sad Consequences.

He—"Then all is over between us?"
She—"Yes. Nothing remains but to go back to those we were engaged to before."

An Unwilling Victim.

Editor—"You say here: 'He tried to butt into society—'"
Reporter—"I thought it a pardonable expression."

Question Incomplete.

Mrs. A.—Have you still got that cook you had last week?
Mrs. B.—Which day last week?

Decided on Something Cheaper.

Siloam Spring News—"Bert Bramwell thought he had appendicitis, but changed his mind when he found it was going to cost \$100."

Jane had prayed faithfully for a

brother and was very happy upon his arrival. After a few days, however, she said, "O, mother, if you had told me how much extra work we'd have with a baby I'd never prayed so hard."

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

THE PARK AVE NEWS.

Weather. Either clearing up or raining down. Sports. A cawing contest took place in school last Wednesday between Leroy Shooter and Sid Hunt to see which one could caw the most number of times before Miss Kitty made them stop, with the score was 13 to 13 favor Leroy Shooter won Miss Kitty told them both to stay a hour after school.

Extort! Candy Tasters Not Wanted! The new candy store opened last Thursday, and among those who offered in vane to donate their services free of charge as taster was Benny Potts, Artie Alexander, Pude Simkins and Ed Wernick.

Sisley. Mr. Charles (Pude) Simkins has bin receiving lots of mail lately, getting 3 letters and 6 picture postcards in one week and denying indignantly that he sent any of them himself.

Pome by Skinny Martin.
The Patient Handstander.
He stood on his hands in his room at night,
And at noon time on the lawn,
O he was just learning how to,
And he practised from daybreak on.

Lost and Found. Lost—Nothing.
Found—The same.

Nothing To It.
"Then you don't go in for this ultra radical stuff?"
"None. For years I tried to get something for nothing. I'm convinced now that it can't be done."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A La Mode.
"What caused the excitement in that restaurant?"
"A fellow home from overseas ordered an egg, and the waitress faint-ed."

Revolution May Follow in Wake of Prohibition.
Syracuse, N. Y., Jan. 9.—Revolution is likely to follow in the wake of prohibition.

THE BEGINNING OF THE TROUBLE.
Is the Time to Stop It—And the Means of Stopping it are Provided by Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Have your meals become of interest to you simply because of the trouble they bring? Is your appetite gone? Do you get up in the morning with a dark brown taste in your mouth? Is your head muddled and sort of half-aching? Is your day's work a burden? Do trifles worry you?
If you have any of these symptoms it is time to pay attention to your stomach. It has been overworked and needs help. Attend to it at once or you will drift into indigestion, and from that to dyspepsia. Help your stomach with Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets. They tone up the stomach and bring it back to a healthy condition. Mrs. Jos. A. Collett, Gloucesterville, Kent Co., N. B., says: "Two boxes of your Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets cured me of dyspepsia."

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