

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1913.

## TO PREVENT "PERSISTENT OBSTRUCTION."

The Borden Government announce that when Parliament meets after the Easter recess the necessary steps will be taken "to press for an amendment to the rules, which, while securing all reasonable and necessary freedom of debate, will prevent persistent obstruction and will permit Parliament to provide for the public necessities and to proceed with the business of the country." But this course will not be taken "if the Opposition will give any evidence, or assurance of their willingness to permit the vote upon the (Navy) Bill to be taken within a reasonable time."

There will be general agreement with the opinion expressed by the Hamilton Herald as to the wisdom of the steps the Government will take. "This," says the Herald, "is the obvious course. It is not reasonable to expect the majority to surrender to the minority—and the demand of the minority so far has been for unconditional surrender. It will be absurd to accuse the Government of attempting to interfere with freedom of discussion. The principle of free speech is not at stake. When freedom of discussion is employed as a means of obstruction, it may degenerate into an instrument of tyranny rather than of freedom, and in such case it needs to be checked in the interests of freedom."

"No candid person will assert that the principle of the Government Naval Aid Bill has not been sufficiently discussed. Three months of the time of Parliament have been consumed in talking about the bill, and for two weeks continuously the Opposition speakers have been making a pretence of discussing one clause. They have said all that there was to be said against it, and then said it all over again, and then repeated it all for the third, fourth and fifth time. "This is no exaggeration. A prolongation of the debate would mean simply that all that has been said would be said over and over again. This is not freedom of discussion. It is abuse of free speech. And we believe that, if no amicable arrangement can be made by the leaders for ending the burlesque discussion, the sense of the country will endorse any measure which Mr. Borden is likely to use for the purpose of ending it."

## AUSTRALIA'S NEW CAPITAL.

The foundation stone of the new capital of the Commonwealth of Australia was laid on March 12th last by Baron Denman, Governor General of the Dominion. It was christened Canberra, after the name of the district in New South Wales, in which it is located, in the presence of an immense gathering of the people drawn from all parts of Australia. Canberra will be built on two commanding hills on either side of the Molonglo River, which will be magnificently bridged. The intention of the Federal Government is to make it a model city for its purpose.

Architects from all over the world were invited to compete for the furnishing of the plan on which Australia's new capital will be built. The New York Commercial in a review of the undertaking, states that the plan accepted is peculiarly American, suggested by the city of Washington in its general design, though modified in its details. The Commercial is justly proud of the fact that the winner of the prize of \$8,750 offered by Mr. Walter Burley Griffin, of Chicago. The plan covers a district of twenty-five square miles, and the arrangements give special attention to structural value and convenience, combined with beauty of public buildings.

These will be the Houses of Parliament, the Governor General's palace, the courts of justice, departmental office buildings, churches, a national art gallery and library, a city hall, railroad stations, barracks, jail, markets and parks. The industrial and residential districts are also carefully planned in the total scheme. The new Canberra bids fair to be worthy of the reputation which it will embody in Australian development.

The plans provide for an immediate population of 75,000, and are of the radial type, like the spokes of a wheel. From the centre where will be grouped all the more beautiful and important Government structures, streets and boulevards will diverge to other centres and from these in turn will radiate street spokes, broken up and beautified by squares and circles and other delightful spots of greenery and plant decoration. Officials who have visited the capital city of the United States, the seat of

Federal Government since 1800, will recall that in this respect the ideal of Washington will be made the model, as it is in the geometry of the design.

The site for Canberra was purchased by the Government of Australia in 1911 from the State of New South Wales. The science of building is making tremendous strides in advance of the last century, and it is confidently predicted that the building of Canberra will not long be delayed. It will then supersede Melbourne in the State of Victoria, the present seat of the Commonwealth Government, as the capital of the Sister Dominion.

## THE POLICY OF THE "OPEN DOOR."

The first open repudiation of a policy of the Taft Administration was made last week by President Wilson, who, in a published statement regarding the six-power loan to China, declined to continue the participation in the six-power negotiations.

The American bankers who were to have participated in the \$50,000,000 loan, as it was planned, were J. P. Morgan and Company, Kuhn, Loeb and Company, the First National Bank and the National City Bank of New York. They were to have represented the interests of the United States in co-operation with the bankers of Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia and Japan. As a result of Mr. Wilson's statement the banking houses in the so-called American group have announced their withdrawal from the loan negotiations.

The new President pledged himself, however, to the promotion of all legitimate American commercial enterprises in China, but only through the "open door"—the "door of friendship and mutual advantage." Mr. Wilson pledged himself further to the support of legislative measures necessary to the development of American banking facilities in the far East.

The four American banking houses interested were apparently quite in accord with the President's views. They had already issued a statement that they were not willing "to undertake a loan which would so largely increase China's debt, without insisting upon the inauguration of reforms which would enable China to sustain it."

## LIPTON'S CHALLENGE.

In a cabled despatch from Belfast, Ireland, Sir Thomas Lipton begs to differ from the New York Yacht Club in the latter's interpretation of the deed of gift of the America's cup. He says that his recent challenge is quite a different matter from the one that was declined in 1907 and that the only conditions he makes now are those of the deed of gift. According to the New York Sun there is a feeling among yachtsmen outside as well as inside the New York Yacht Club that Sir Thomas Lipton and his advisers have "put one over" on the club. Sir Thomas Lipton's adviser is Hon. Chas. Russell, a son of the late Lord Chief Justice Russell, of England, and himself a very shrewd lawyer.

The meeting of the New York Yacht Club on Thursday of this week promises to be interesting. A well known New York yachtsman speaking of the latest cablegram and the situation, expresses the opinion that the New York club will differ from Sir Thomas Lipton's views and will insist that only a 90 foot yacht of the sloop class can sail for the trophy. "In that event," he adds, "if Sir Thomas still insists and says he will send a 75 footer, the club will be in a still worse position, because if it accepts the challenge, as it must, and puts a 90 footer against the 75 footer, it will be ridiculed by sportsmen all over the world. There are many members of the New York Yacht Club who do not agree with the position the club has taken. These members maintain that the club's action six years ago was wrong but, having made a wrong move then, it had to continue doing wrong."

It is further pointed out that a seventy-five footer under the deed of gift, with the only limitation water line length, and with no tax on sail area, would be an enormous boat and doubtless expressed if it could be safely sailed across the Atlantic. A ninety footer as defender of the cup, without any limitations, would be nearly half as large again as the Reliance. It would be largely a question of handling the enormous pieces of canvas and the strength of the spars and rigging. A boat built conservatively might win through the extreme boat breaking down and being overruled.

Added interest is attached to the conclusion arrived at by the yachtsmen who has been quoted when he says: "Sir Thomas Lipton, his designer, Mr. Charles Nicholson, and others, probably know what they are about."

## DIARY OF EVENTS

### FIRST THINGS

#### FIRST CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS.

The first issue of the first newspaper in Canada was published in Halifax, 161 years ago yesterday, March 23, 1752. It was called the Gazette, and consisted of four small pages. Of the daily newspapers now published in the Dominion, the oldest is the Quebec Chronicle, founded in 1764. It is fourteen the senior of the Montreal Gazette, which dates from 1778. The Kingston, Ont., Standard was established in 1810, and the Halifax Daily Acadian Reporter has just celebrated its centenary.

The most venerable daily paper in the West Indies is the Victoria Colonist, which was launched in 1828. Other Western papers founded in the pioneer days include the Winnipeg Free Press, 1874; the Edmonton Journal, 1880; the Calgary Herald, 1883; the Medicine Hat News, 1884; and the Vancouver News-Advertiser, 1886. The oldest daily in Ontario is the St. Catharines Journal, which was commenced in 1828. Among the weekly papers the oldest are the Royal Gazette of Halifax, and the Royal Gazette of Charlottetown, both founded in 1791.

The St. John Globe was established as a daily evening journal in this city in 1861, and has the distinction of being the oldest evening newspaper in Canada.

#### THE FIRST CHRONOMETER.

The first chronometer was the invention of John Harrison, an Englishman, who died in London 137 years ago today. Watches were first made at Nuremberg in 1447, but Queen Elizabeth was the owner of a small table clock, sometimes referred to as the chronometer, which was presented to the Royal Institution Museum. Watches properly so called, were invented by Dr. Hooke, an Englishman, and Huyghens, a Dutchman, in the seventeenth century, but were neither ornamental nor useful. Harrison's watch was the first that was both compact and an accurate timekeeper. He made his first timepiece when he was only 28 years old, and shortly afterward perfected a chronometer that procured for him the £10,000 reward offered by the Board of Longitude.

Harrison also invented the first eighty-day clock in 1715, and it is still to be seen at the English Patent Museum. It strikes the hour, indicates the day of the month, and, with the exception of the escapement, its wheels are made entirely of wood.

#### THE HUMAN PROCESSION

EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK SUN. Edward Page Mitchell, for thirty-eight years a member of the editorial staff of the New York Sun, and now staff editor as well as vice-president of the Sun Printing and Publishing Association, will pass his sixty-first birthday in Beth, Me., and entered journalism on the Boston Advertiser in 1871. He rose to the presidency of the Sun Association, but retired from that office when the paper was bought by William C. Reick.

In an address before the Pulitzer School of Journalism, Mr. Mitchell said that the great need of such an institution is an ocean-going vessel. On this ship he would place the best working library that intelligence could assemble, and would "embark the class next to be graduated, or perhaps a selected post-graduate class, and keep the bright young men afloat, under the direction of a picked staff of instructors, visiting and investigating and visualizing the various parts and peoples of the world, about which it was to be the work of their life to write intelligently and with the vividness that is born only of personal experience, interest and impressions."

Such a plan, if it could be carried out, would doubtless be of tremendous value to embryo reporters and editors, and, incidentally, to the world. Provincialism, in the opinion of most critics, is the most glaring fault of the average newspaper writer of the United States and Canada. European journalists, of course, are free from this vice—though some of them write of Denver as a suburb of New York, and it is a matter of record that a London editor, visiting Montreal, expected to go to Calgary by street car for "thruppence."

#### THE PASSING DAY.

THE ORDER OF THE IRON CROSS. Just a century ago today the first decorations of the Prussian Order of the Iron Cross were bestowed on officers and soldiers of his army by Frederick William III, as rewards for conspicuous bravery in the preliminary skirmishes that marked the beginning of the war for freedom from Napoleon's yoke.

Volunteers under Dornberg and Lutnow, who had raided French districts along the border, were the first to win the coveted emblems. No order of knighthood ever aroused so much enthusiasm as that of the Iron Cross. Just a week before the first bestowal of honors, the Prussian King had issued his immortal appeal "To My People," which had stirred the Germans to their depths. Professional men, nobles and college students flocked to the standards, and even women, disguised as men, shouldered muskets.

Nearly all the wealthy women of the land contributed their jewels and valuable articles of personal adornment to the cause and were given in return ornaments of iron, of which they were prouder than of gold and diamonds. The demand for the decorations was so great that the Prussian government was forced to issue orders of the Iron Cross in great numbers. The Order of the Iron Cross was revived by William I, in the Franco-Prussian war, and in 1910 Napoleon went down to defeat. About 40,000 persons were decorated with the Iron Cross in 1870 and 1871.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN

### A LETTER FROM A CAT.

By Oliver Herford.  
Mr. Editor:  
I hereby take  
My pen in paw to say,  
Can you explain a curious thing  
I found the other day?  
There is another little cat  
Who sits behind a frame,  
And looks so very much like me,  
You'd think we were the same,  
I try to make her play with me;  
Yet, when I mew and call,  
Though I see her mew in answer,  
She makes no sound at all.  
And to the duldest kitten  
It's plain enough to see  
That either I am mocking her  
Or she is mocking me.  
It makes no difference what I say,  
She seems to know the game;  
For every time I look around,  
I see her do the same.  
And yet no matter how I creep  
On tiptoe lest she hear,  
Or quickly dash around the frame,  
She sure does disappear.

The Insomniac.  
He most of all knows murdered sleep  
Who, slumber never having missed,  
When "torture" sets him his first rest  
Becomes an Insomniac!

### Brought My Stomach Back to Health

"That's Why I Recommended Nerviline."

The person who suffers from a stomach ailment, if far from a doctor or drug store, is bound to be extremely miserable. Such was the case with Mr. Johnson E. Evans, a well known farmer living near Edmonton, who writes: "My stomach got upset I think owing to bad water. I found great pain after eating. There was swelling and much gas in my stomach and no person could have been more miserable. Away out in the country it is not easy to get medical attention except at great cost, and I had to do without. My neighbor who heard of my condition sent me a partly filled bottle of 'Nerviline.' The first dose eased the pain in my stomach. How good that relief was I will never be able to tell. Nerviline cured me. Today our home is supplied with many bottles of Nerviline. No farmer should be without it, because if it's cramps, diarrhoea, or internal pain, Nerviline is a dead sure cure. It's a strain, a little bruise, lumbago, rheumatism, neuralgia, or any rubs with Nerviline cured very quickly. For these reasons I recommended Nerviline."

Never go to bed at night unless you know Nerviline is handy on the shelf. It prevents illness by curing little aches and pains at the beginning. Sold by every storekeeper and druggist. Family size, 25c. per box, 25c. prepared by The Cattaraugus Co., Buffalo, N. Y., U.S.A.

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### Proof Positive.

Don't tell me mechanical tricks can't fool!  
My alarm clock must warn you with scornings;  
For it dances in frenzied, demoniac else  
When it wakes me early o' mornings!

Fugh Dugh.  
There was a young fellow named Hugh  
Whose eyes were set widely askew,  
When asked "D'ye feel and?"  
Quoth he, "No, sir, I'm glad;  
Where you see but one girl, I see tugh!"

Equally So.  
Jack—I tell you when you get around the proposing point with a girl the suspense is awful.  
Tom—Well, and how about the expense?

Wouldn't Change Places.  
Gibbs—It costs more to live than it did a hundred years ago.  
Dibbs—All the same I wouldn't like to be one of those who lived then.

Lucky Survivor.  
Dora—That charming Miss Peach seems to have quite a number of eligible young men in her train.  
Dick—Yes, and one of these days there's going to be a smashup to that train, with only one survivor.

Proof of It.  
Daughter—But, papa, how can you say that Jack is extravagant? I'm sure he's very economical.  
Her Dad—How do you know?  
Daughter—Why he never comes here an evening but that he turns down the gas.

Might Be Called a Hint.  
Mrs. Wyse—There are times when I wish I were a man.  
Her Husband—Well, when, for instance?  
Mrs. Wyse—When I pass a millionaire's window and think how happy I could make my wife by giving her a new hat.

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