

The St. John Standard

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 THE STANDARD IS REPRESENTED BY:
 Henry de Clermont 1 West 24th St., New York
 Louis Klebans 9 Fleet St., London, Eng.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1920.

THE EXPORT OF RAW MATERIAL.

Until it has been decided whether a Commission shall be appointed under the terms of the Underwood resolution to visit Canada, and confer with the authorities here regarding the removal of the present restrictions on the export of pulp wood and other forest products, it may perhaps be considered premature to discuss the matter; but there are some facts in connection with it that it will do no harm to consider under any circumstances.

Premier Foster said a few days ago that if such a Commission were appointed, New Brunswick would be properly represented upon it. Of course it would, in view of the fact that this province is one of those most vitally affected in regard to the subject to be dealt with. But the matter of the most consequence is, what would be the attitude of our representatives towards the question the Commission would assemble to discuss?

At the present time Provincial regulations forbid the export of raw pulp wood that has been cut on Crown lands. It is this regulation that is causing all the disturbance across the line, and which Senator Underwood wants removed. Our representatives must be instructed that there can be no such removal; there can be no relaxation whatever of it. On the contrary, it is a question whether the present restrictions should not be enlarged so as to include manufactured pulp as well as pulp wood, leaving only the fully manufactured article, paper, to be exported. Surely everyone will agree that as much New Brunswick wood as possible should be retained here to supply raw material to Canadian industries employing Canadian capital, and not shipped abroad to help to build up industries for other people's benefit. We need all the industries we can get in our own land, and when we have the raw material in such abundance right on the spot, common sense alone dictates that we should use it ourselves, and not go poor while our neighbors grow rich at our expense.

We have not just at present before us the exact figures showing the value of the pulpwood annually shipped out of this Province, but upwards of a million cords is annually shipped from Canada as a whole, to the United States, which returns only about \$15,000,000; but if this wood were kept in Canada and made into pulp and paper here, it would bring in more than \$50,000,000 a year. On the face of things it seems to be very foolish policy to give \$45,000,000 away to outsiders, when we need the money so badly to build up our own industrial life.

We need the largest export trade our country is capable of catering to, but this export trade should not comprise raw materials that we cannot replace within a few months. We can raise agricultural produce every year, and we can increase the amount produced as much or as little as we like; but with our timber resources it is vastly different. These require more than the average man's lifetime to reproduce themselves to merchantable size, a consideration which should make us very chary as to how we dispose of the supply we have. The country is asked to speed up production to the utmost extent. We cannot produce without raw materials; hence these should be kept at home.

LABOR'S PROGRAMME.

The reply of the Government to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress of such a nature as must surely satisfy that body of the generally sympathetic attitude of the Government towards Labor's reasonable demands. It is recognized that it is unquestionably the right of Labor to organize to support its friends and oppose its enemies. So far as men oppose the just and fair interests of organized Labor, they are no more friends of the public than they are of the unions; for it is in the public interest that Labor, organized or otherwise, should be treated justly in all respects.

It is just as well, also, at this time to say that he is no friend of Labor or of the land in which he dwells who puts the interest of organized Labor above that of the public interest—who puts that or any other interest first. No single interest—be it Labor, Capital or Farmer—can be permitted to dominate the whole. It is but fair to assume unless evidence to the contrary is forthcoming that in the programme they are mapping out for their activities, the Congress seeks to serve only the just interests of Labor in due relation to the common interests of all. Any representative of Labor, or any politician bidder for the support of Labor, who seeks to put Labor first, will invite, and should incur, the hearty opposition of all fair-minded citizens.

THE RENT QUESTION.

The epidemic of rent-raising that is so prevalent nowadays among the landlord class does not appear to be confined to this province, but is almost continental wide. In Montreal a com-

mittee consisting of four well-known business men has been appointed by the City Administrative Commission to enquire into complaints against landlords charging excessive rentals, and to mediate between the parties. In the City of New York, where a similar committee is in existence, settlements have been effected in 25,000 cases affecting 100,000 citizens, with a total saving to them of upwards of \$1,000,000. In New Jersey, the City Legal Department is advising tenants not to submit to the increased rentals, and is giving free legal services to those tenants who need them in carrying on the fight with the landlords. In this province tenants seem to be submitting to the increased imposts with as good a grace as they can assume.

There appears to be one bright spot in this dark picture, however, for we notice in a New York contemporary that there is a landlord in that city who believes in the principle of "live and let live." He owns a flat in which seven families are housed. The service was so good, steam heat, hot water and so forth, that the tenants offered to pay more rent, which was \$30, but the landlord declined to accept more, and forthwith installed electricity, which up to that time was wanting. He is not, as might perhaps be supposed, an inmate of Matteawan either.

TURKEY'S FUTURE.

The decision of the Supreme Council of the Allies that the Turk be allowed to remain in Europe has evoked a storm of protest within the British dominions, particularly. During the war the Allied statesmen repeatedly affirmed that the power of the Turk must be broken, and the world had come to look upon the days of the Ottoman empire as ended, at least outside Asia. But the Supreme Council has agreed to the principle of maintaining Turkish sovereignty at Constantinople, while establishing an international board to govern the city and keep the peace between the Turks, Greeks, Jews, Armenians and Franks who make up its population. But the simple fact is, as the Ottawa Citizen points out, that the Allies have agreed to keep the Sultan and the Turkish government in the ancient capital. That is the thing that appeals to British popular opinion, led by the Liberals who believed, with Gladstone, that the "unspeakable Turk" should be banished forever from Europe—"bag and baggage," as the old statesman put it. That was for many years the attitude of British Liberals. Only since the war did the Tories take a like view, Lord Robert Cecil in the British Commons in May, 1917, declaring that "it was only we benighted Tories who ever had anything good to say about the Turks. We are all agreed that there is nothing to be said for them now." And to Premier Lloyd George, not so long ago, the Turk was a "human cancer." Yet to the Premier is given the credit of evolving the plan to retain the Turk in Europe for "practical" reasons, among them being the fear of irritating the Mohammedan subjects of Great Britain and to fulfill a pledge which he made while discussing war aims before the delegates of the trades unions in January, 1918.

Under the present arrangement the potentialities of the Turk for trouble in the future are not lessened. Indeed there are not lacking students of international politics who affirm that the Allies are sowing dragon's teeth by permitting the Turk to stay where he is. And it cannot be denied that history confirms this view.

If American newspaper concerns find the supply of newspaper running short of their ordinary requirements they should reduce these requirements. For one thing there is no real need for so many of the large Sunday editions which are being put out in many American cities; both their number and their size could be very considerably reduced without the public being in any way inconvenienced. It has been said that it requires ten acres of spruce to provide the paper for most of these Sunday editions. When one figures up how many of them there are all over the United States, and then multiplies the total by fifty-two, some idea can be gained of the number of acres that must be destroyed to get them out. New Brunswick is expected to provide quite a large quota of these acres.

It is not very material whether those St. John & Quebec bonds fell due by effluxion of time, or were redeemed before maturity. The fact remains that the Government chose to take them up, and make a re-funding issue; and the point is that in doing so they neither invited tenders in the usual open and straightforward manner, nor made any announcement as to the figure the bonds realized when they were sold. But the price obtained, it must be admitted, did not leave much opportunity for shouting.

The Ontario Government has definitely decided against any change in the Ontario Temperance Act that would have the effect of limiting or

interfering directly or indirectly with the importation of liquor into the Province. About ten days ago representatives of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance waited upon the Government and presented a number of requests for legislation, chief among which was a request that the Legislature pass a bill embodying the utmost measure of prohibition within its power, and giving the Government absolute control of the sale and distribution of liquor in the Province. The reply, as stated, was a refusal to do as asked.

Montreal Gazette: Mr. J. H. Burnham, M. P., may exaggerate when he says from his place in Parliament that prohibition is the cause of most of our ills, not the least of which is Bolshevism, but it cannot be denied that the dry ware has been accompanied by a disturbed war. There is legal dryness but not contentment.

"We fought most, lost most, spent most and got least out of the war of any nation," is Admiral Lord Fisher's summing up of Britain's war efforts.

WHAT THEY SAY

As to Work.

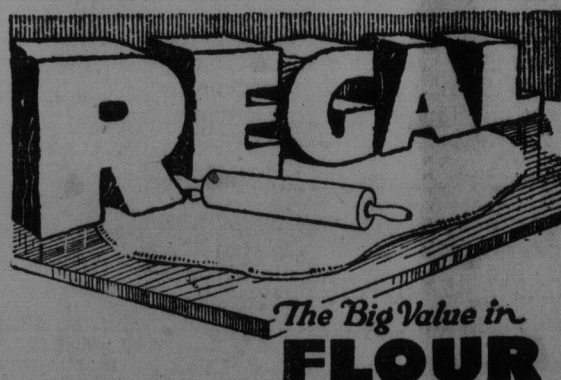
(Kansas City Post.)
 "The Bolsheviks are forcing every one in Russia to work twelve hours a day, seven days a week. Maybe Bolshevism is what this country needs after all."

Judge Robson on H. C. I.

(Montreal Herald.)
 The retiring chairman of the Board of Commerce, in announcing his resignation, made the extraordinary statement that Canadian producers should be allowed to make all the money they can. It is hard to believe that he was correctly reported because if he was it means that the interests of the people at large, the right to subsistence, the well being of the community, are all put to one side by him. Why, he is reported to have asked, should we control the price of milk and not that of flowers and perfume? Do flowers and perfume affect the lives of little children, might in turn be asked of him. Such views as those reported to have been expressed by this retiring official are what make for a communistic State, the confiscation of property and capital and all the evils of a people in revolutionary mood. Why, if he really held such views, did he accept the chairmanship of a board designed to limit exorbitant profits, and curtail unlawful exploitation by combines?

A BIT OF VERSE

OH, WHY SHOULD THE SPIRIT
 OF MORTAL BE PROUD?
 Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud,
 A swift, fleeting meteor, a fast flying cloud,
 A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,
 Man passes from life to his rest in the grave.
 The leaves of the oak, and the willow
 Be scattered around and together he laid,
 The young and the old, the low and the high
 Shall moulder to dust and together shall die.
 The hand of the king that sceptre hath
 The brow of the priest that mitre hath worn,
 The wise and the foolish, the guilty and the good,
 Have quietly mingled their bones in the dust.
 The peasant, whose lot was to sow
 And to reap,
 The herdsman, who climbed with his goats to the steep,
 The beggar, who wandered in search of his bread,
 Have faded away like the grass that we tread.
 'Tis the wink of an eye, 'tis the draught
 Of a breath,
 From the blossom of health to the pale-
 ness of death,
 From the glided saloon, to the bier and the crowd,
 Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud?
 —William Knox.



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Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

THERE GOES THE BRIDE.

A Play.
 Scene, Mary Watkins frunt steps with her setting on them.
 The Dook of England comes up.
 Dook. Miss Watkins, you are looking perfectly bewtiffill to-day.
 Mary Watkins (proudly) Is that so?
 Dook. Yes. How would you like to marry me and be my dut-
 chess and wear the family jools all day if you want to?
 Mary Watkins. I wouldnt like to thank you jest the same.
 Dook. Perhaps you love another.
 Mary Watkins. No perhaps about it. I do.
 Dook. Cerees.
 The Erl of Frants comes in.
 Erl. Miss Watkins, I have bin all over the world sevorl times,
 and you are the most bewtiffill gert I have ever saw in all the
 times put together.
 Mary Watkins (proudly) Do you think so?
 Erl. Yes. Wat would you say if I laid my hand and hart at
 your feet in marriage?
 Mary Watkins. Id say no.
 Erl. Ah, I see it all. You love another.
 Mary Watkins. Absolutly.
 Erl. Heck.
 I come in.
 Me. Hello Mary. You sertenly are bewtiffill. Will you marry
 me?
 Mary Watkins. O Benny this is so suddin. Yes.
 Me. The pleasure is all mine.
 The End.

A BIT OF FUN

When the Lot Shrinks.
 "I thought you told me your lot was
 50 feet wide," said the neighbor.
 "So it is."
 "Then why shovel only 40 feet of
 snow off your walk?"
 Luck.
 "Swinson had wonderful luck at
 golf yesterday."
 "Did some fast playing, eh?"
 "No, his playing was rotten, but
 he found a nest of eighteen perfectly
 good eggs some farmer's hen had hid-
 den in the grass."—Wichita Eagle.

Affection.
 "Biggins loves his work."
 "Yes," replied Mr. Growcher; "but
 chiefly as a topic of conversation."
 Washington Star.

A Regular One.
 He was looking for a good canine
 companion, and had answered an ad-
 vertisement in the newspaper. The
 following conversation ensued:
 "You advertised a sensible dog for
 sale?"
 "Yes."
 "What do you mean by a sensible
 dog?"
 "This pup has never had a ribbon
 around his neck and has never rid-
 den in a limousine since the day he
 was born. He's a happy-hearted,
 bone-burying cat-chasing 100 per cent
 dog."

Up-to-Date Canonicals.
 The Rev. Henry Happle, who wore
 a peach color silk pongee with a horn
 hat and carried red roses.—Albany
 (N. Y.) Journal.

Tactless.
 "So Miss Higginson is angry with
 her doctor. Why, is that?" "He tact-
 lessly remarked that he would soon
 have her looking her old self again."

The Tragedy.
 "Oh, why was I born an actress?"
 "You weren't, dearie."—Opinion
 (London.)

His Quietude.
 Mrs. Knoff—Didn't your husband
 rave when you showed him the dress-
 maker's bill?
 Mrs. Spott—Rather.
 Mrs. Gnoit—And how did you quiet
 him?
 Mrs. Spott—I showed him the mil-
 liner's and then he became simply
 speechless.—Tit-Bits.

Enough to Make One Sick.
 "What's the matter, old top? You
 look sick."
 "I've just undergone a serious
 operation."
 "Appendicitis?"
 "Worse than that, I had my allow-
 ance cut off."

Daily Fashion Hint



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