

## The St. John Standard.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1920.

## THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY AND RUSSIA.

A few days ago the British Government was served with notice by the Labor Party that the latter would not tolerate any action against Russia on behalf of Poland, the reason being that British socialists, who form a large proportion of the extreme labor movement, are deeply desirous of more intimate acquaintance with Soviet Russia. It is difficult for the average man to understand what sympathy the British laborist can have with Russian ideas in view of the answers returned by the Executive Committee of the Communist International at Moscow to enquiries made of it by the British Labor party, and which were published a fortnight ago in English newspapers just to hand here. The document containing the answers to the questions of the British Laborists, and which were twelve in number, lays bare the brutal militarism of the Bolsheviks and their fiery, fanatical zeal. The closing paragraphs conjure up a lurid picture of Communism, triumphant in Europe, uniting "with the nations of the East" in a world-wide war for the overthrow of the last remnants of Parliamentary government and equal liberty in England and America. There is no Socialism but Communism, say the directors of the Moscow International, and Communists must not only expect to have to fight, but must organize themselves for "a life-and-death struggle." The Communist International, we are told, can permit no discrepancy between words and deeds. It is a new doctrine of thorough.

This is the concrete issue which the Laborists are now confronted with by the Russian comrades with whom they have sought friendly relations. Moscow was asked, subsequent to the discussion at the Independent Labor Conference on the Second and Third International, to set out the methods by which the Soviet intended that its policy should be achieved. The reply of the Moscow party can be made by one word—bloodshed. Any other means the Russian Communist regards with contempt. In substance, he says, there can be no Socialism apart from murder. "Whoever tells the British worker that it can, overthrow the capitalist dictatorship of the British Empire through any other means than the dictatorship of the proletariat—that is, by taking the full power into their own hands, by depriving of political power all who defend capitalist exploitation, and by organizing a Red Labor Army—delegates himself and others." "Therefore," it is added, "the workers should prepare, not for an easy Parliamentary victory, but for victory by a heavy civil war." As for other systems, beside the Communist, there are none. "Whatever else goes under the name of Socialism is either a wilful deception by the lackeys of the bourgeoisie or the self-delusion of persons who hesitate to choose between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, who hesitate between the life-and-death struggle and the role of assistants to the expiring bourgeoisie."

Britain and America are the two strongholds of liberty that are marked for the first great assault. Moscow, indeed, professes to the British working class the glorious privilege of being pioneers in this Titanic struggle. The revolutionary elements in Britain are summoned to unite "on the rock-bound programme of the Communist International," and to co-ordinate their activities with "those of the national movements of Ireland, India, and Egypt," so that "the revolutionary masses of the British Colonies may free themselves with the aid of the British workers." The Soviet plan of universal propaganda, of stirring up strife in every part of the world, no matter how much outrage and massacre may be the sequel, is not concealed.

"It is probable," the British Laborist is informed, "that upon the breaking of the chains of the capitalist governments the revolutionary proletariat of Europe will meet the resistance of Anglo-Saxon capitalists, who will attempt to blockade it. It is then possible that the revolution, any proletarian of Europe will arise in union with the people of the East, and commence a revolutionary struggle, the scene of which will be the entire world, to deal a final blow to British and American capitalism. This is the sort of naturalism to which Moscow beckons London and New York, and Paris, and Berlin, and Rome. It is the time the scales fell from the eyes of British Laborists. Soviet Communism and British freedom will not mix."

Since prohibition came into force in the U. S., the campaign of "Booming America First" seems to have lost its popularity.

## THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

It is always the part of wisdom to

settle out on any undertaking to sit down and make out your plans and count the cost. According to a correspondent of the Associated Press, Mr. Laurier has been making some plans, but whether he counted the cost is not clear. Probably, as the cost in this respect does not trouble him much, he did not think it worth while. However, it appears that the plan he has been making is, after conquering Poland, to occasion a Soviet revolt in Germany, and then with a Russo-German alliance to attack and defeat France, later to undertake the conquest of Britain, and finish up with the United States. This is quite a programme, in fact it even outdoes the German programme of 1914, but it is to be feared that it is not likely to meet with any greater success. The story was gathered from Bolshevik officers, who are supposed to be familiar with Mr. Lenin's plans, and whether it is authentic or not, it is, at any rate, just what that gentleman would like to see go through.

There is quite a lot to be done, however, before the proposed plan can be carried to a successful conclusion. Poland is not done with yet, and though the Bolsheviks may succeed in overthrowing this nation, the latter will be able to restore their domination for a sufficiently long time for help to arrive.

That there are elements in Germany which would welcome the advent of Bolshevism there can be no doubt, but they form but a small part of the population. No one doubts that Germany would be glad to scrap the Versailles treaty and avoid the consequences of the late war, but it is very doubtful if the Germans would take the chance of attempting to bring about such a result by an alliance with the Russian Soviets. They know what defeat by the Allies has brought them, but they do not know what would result from an alliance with the Soviets. If the alliance was broken, then their fate would certainly be very serious. If it should win, then Germany would be obliged to turn to Bolshevism or fight Bolshevism, making an outlook that the present leaders of Germany will certainly avoid if possible. We greatly doubt any German-Bolshevik alliance and any such combination would necessarily be opposed by most of Europe as well as by the Entente. The greatest factor that would help to bring about the advent of Bolshevism to western Europe would be lack of unity among the Allies. By recognizing General Wrangel as the head of the Russian Government, and offering him assistance if necessary, France has deliberately thrown down the gauntlet to the Bolsheviks. Britain, on the other hand, is inclined to temporize and to treat them lightly, while Italy openly frowns on any movement against the Soviet Government. Britain has not recognized Wrangel and is reported to be indulgent that France should have taken such an important action by itself. The French leaders have acquired a habit of acting first and discussion afterwards that is very disconcerting to their allies. This has been shown previously in the French occupation of Frankfurt and more recently in the French campaign in Syria against the Arabs.

If the peace of Europe is to be maintained there must be no divided action among the Allied Powers. There are, of course, reasons why the various nations should look at certain matters from different viewpoints, but the Bolshevik menace is steadily growing, and nothing but unity of policy and action can successfully cope with it.

**MR. MACKENZIE KING'S POSITION.**  
 Speaking at a gathering of his party at Toronto on Friday last, Mr. Mackenzie King quoted Mr. Meighen's reference to the Government's tariff policy, that "the policy of this Government is to keep Canadian workingmen in Canada; to enlarge the employment market and add to the size of the country; to make goods here and keep people here with plenty of work for every class of men; to give Canadian industries of every kind just what advantage is in the Canadian market, to make it pay them better to stay here and expand than to diminish their plants and leave." Then said Mr. King, "Wherein is the difference in this respect between the aims of the present administration, and those of any other government, whether Liberal, Farmer or Labor which might conceivably be managing the affairs of the country?" Then what in the name of common sense is Mr. King's object in denouncing the Government's policy on every possible opportunity in the way he does, when he admits that it is the same policy his party would follow out? How can he expect an intelligent electorate to put any faith in him or his ideas?

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

The Effect of Vacation.

(New York Globe.)  
 Vacations are not always the success literature makes them out to be. When a man comes back from fishing in mountain brooks or swimming in the salt sea he is healthier, to be sure, full of new life and vigor, keyed up to cheerful spirits. He has gained strength, lan, hope, and buoyancy. By all the known mental and physical test he should be worth more on the job than he was before he went away. In most cases he isn't—or not immediately. For if he is any sort of a man he doesn't want to come back at all. He wants to go on living in the manner of his baronial ancestors, doing as nearly nothing as possible and wearing clothes that are no chestnut but to his comfort. He wants to sail a boat, or paddle a canoe, or wander through unbroken woods in the dustless upper air that lies along the crest of the range. In short, he discovers, during his absence, that office work is a rather uninteresting business, dull, cramped, and unimportant, besides the business of loafing alongside of sunbeams and campfires and the moon. In essence, his discovery amounts to the fact that he is more nearly an independent savage and more nearly a plutocrat than he had thought. He doesn't like to work. He doesn't want to work. He wants to live without working.

A Change of Mind.

(London Express.)  
 Physicians are in the habit of prescribing a change of scene a change of diet, or a change of climate.

They know that the human system periodically requires it. It is rather a pity that they do not more frequently advise a change of mind.

People are dashing madly about in all directions—the Highlands or to the Continent—in a desperate attempt to leave boredom behind somewhere on route.

They seldom succeed.

If they would cry a change of mind, eliminating a lot of worn-out prejudices and ideas, they would be astonished at the result. The world would appear a different place; they might even find that their neighbors were quite decent folk, and that romances still live in ordinary life. It isn't always the liver that needs tending up.

## A BIT OF VERSE

SAMPLES.

In praise of love upon my mind  
 As lovers long ago designed  
 Emblems of courtesy.  
 Threading in warm and frosty words  
 Their wisdom's calendars and rules.

He errs to think those hands were set  
 All spinster like and cold  
 Who spell a scarlet alphabet,  
 And birds of a different place  
 And make immortal garden-plots  
 Of daisies and forget-me-nots.

The bolshies were an even pace.  
 Yet those are lyrics, too.  
 Breathing of spectral lawn and lace,  
 Old orders to renew.  
 For in the corners love would keep  
 His fold among the little sheep.

So I will sample make as well,  
 Nor shall the colors lack  
 In shining characters to tell  
 Your lovely Zodiac.  
 And all your kisses there and words  
 Shall spring again as flowers and birds.  
 —John Drinkwater, in "The Poetry Review."

## THE LAUGH LINE

**The Height of Courtesy.**  
 "They tell me you love good music," said the lady paying at the piano to her musical friend.

"Oh," said she politely, "that doesn't matter; please go right on."

**Wants to Know Him.**  
 "Mabel writes me that she wants to stay another week at the summer resort."

"What for?"  
 "Says she wants to get a little better acquainted with the man who is engaged to marry."

**Getting Discouraged.**  
 "Your father did not object to our marriage as much as I expected."

"Oh, poor papa has given up the idea of being too particular." —Boston Transcript.

**More Correctly Stated.**  
 "The Newriches are certainly going it. They are devoting themselves to pleasure regardless of expense."

"Say rather that they are devoting themselves to expense regardless of pleasure." —Boston Transcript.

**Profitable.**  
 "Was your daughter's musical education a profitable venture?" asked Gilder.

"Father," said Miller, "I bought the houses on either side of us at half their value." —Philadelphia Record.

**Couldn't Match It.**  
 Her Husband—Did you vote today?  
 Mrs. Newt—No. I want to be the polls, but they didn't have a single ballot to match that pink sample ballot you gave me.—Kansas City Star.

**Save Trouble.**  
 There was not even standing room in the crowded electric car, but one more passenger, a young woman, wedged her way along just inside the doorway. Each time the car took a sudden lurch forward she fell helplessly back and three times she landed in the arms of a large, comfortable man. The third time it happened he said, quietly:  
 "Hadin' you better stay here?" —Chicago Herald and Examiner.

**An Advertiser.**  
 Peeking—What was Scoreham arrested for?  
 Toothman—Fast driving.  
 "That's too bad."  
 "Not at all. He wanted people to believe he owns a fast car, and he tipped the policeman to arrest him." —Answer.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Yesterday was Nora's day off and ma had to make supper. "Benny, I don't know what to have, there's so much in the larder over to make a lard stew if your father likes it, O well, I guess I'll make a ham stew."

With the old saying, Benny, I've got some sewing to finish up stairs, I went out to stay down here and see that the stew didn't burn, just stir it once in a while, those all.

And she went up stairs and I stayed in the kitchen and started to keep the ham stew from burning, and after a while I heard Patsie Slinkins whistle out in the alley and I went out and opened the gate and started to talk to him, and pretty soon Patsie snuffed upwards, saying, Patsie, what's burning, now.

Gosh, does it smell like ham stew? I said. And I quick ran back and started to stir the ham stew again, being much harder to stir down at the bottom than what it was before and smelling fumes, and ma called down stairs, Benny, is anything burning down there?

In not sure, ma, this ham stew smells something like it, I said. And ma came running down, saying, You had boy, I should say it does smell something like it, it's ruined, shut it out, it's ruined, all you had to do to it was simply stir it.

Well G ma, that's all I did to it, I said. With it was, the trouble being I didn't do it enough, and ma said, You just wait till your father hears about this, you just wait.

And she sent me around to the butcher for some stake, being Patsie must have some thing, and when he came home ma told him about the ham stew, being his least favorite thing, and he kept pretending to talk mad and gave me a thump to go to the movies.

Proving the effect is just the same weather its good luck or good management.

## What She Went Around In.

"Been playing golf, eh, Mary? What did you go round in?"  
 "My red sweater and white silk skirt." —New York Evening World.

## Other Days.

"I want to get back to the good old fifty-fifty days," remarked the remnant person.  
 "What do you mean by fifty-fifty days?"

"The days when there was twice fifty cents' worth in every dollar." —Chicago Herald and Examiner.

## Love's Vain Call.

My love, 'tis she, I hear her footsteps near,  
 I call to a name so soft and sweet,  
 Alas, my youthful folly costs me dear,  
 It was not her's but Father's stippled feet.

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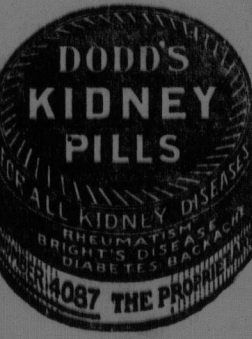
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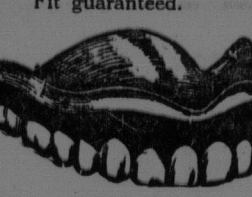
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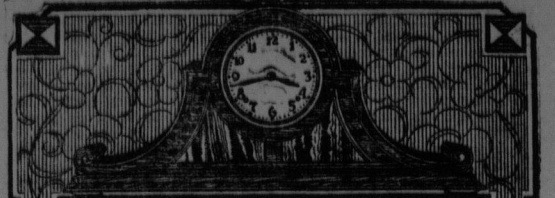


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