

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1922.

## EMPIRE DAY.

This is the day known in most parts of Canada as Empire Day. It is not a public holiday, but is a school day set apart, not by statute but by Departmental regulation, for patriotic exercises and instruction about the Empire. By most of the countries in the British Commonwealth of Nations, Empire Day is kept as a holiday, but the date of its observance is the 24th of May. Our Victoria day is the Empire Day. There is a certain likeness to having Empire Day associated in origin with the memory of Queen Victoria. It was not in her time that the British Empire was founded, but it was during her long and glorious reign that it became increasingly conscious of itself, and struggled to recognize the methods of its own evolution.

In England, no one has taken a greater interest or done more to promote the Empire Day movement than Lord Meath, who thus describes the process by which the seed came to be sown in his own mind:

"In my early days I was a diplomatist. As far back as 1866 I was a clerk in the Foreign Office, one of four resident clerks. That meant I was on duty at night, and had to deal with a document that came in. You got considerable finer knowledge of what Governments are doing when you are a resident clerk. I learnt much that the world does not know even now. Then came a change. I went to Berlin—was there in 1870, and helped to look after French prisoners. I saw the Germans clamouring for war round their national monuments; I also saw below the surface of Bismarck's time. Afterwards being transferred, I was in Paris during the Commune. I saw Paris in flames and smoking. I saw the prisoners taken out to be shot at Mont Valerian. I mention these things only to show that I got an inner eye on what was happening at home and abroad.

"Even in those early days I detected that the ruling clique in Germany anticipated what has taken place since. They hated the English then—I say nothing of the German people. I am thinking of their masters. Our Ambassador was openly insulted at Court, and not once only. So I formed a very strong opinion that we were in for trouble. I felt certain there would be war sooner or later. With this in mind as soon as I left diplomacy I began to think of making the people understand the danger that threatened. I started an organization called the 'Lads' Drill Association. Lord Roberts acted with me until the Boer War called him away, but he remained our well-wisher. He said, however, 'I want soldiers; you are only training boys'; and eventually the Association was merged in the National Service League.

"There came a day when I happened to read in a newspaper that the Prime Minister of Ontario had addressed a school at Hamilton, where the British flag was hoisted and the children sang the National Anthem. Why, I asked myself, should this delightful idea be confined to Hamilton, Ontario? I wrote round to Prime Ministers and Governors for their views; and in this way the scheme of Empire Day gradually developed. It was a lady who suggested the Hamilton gathering, and there was a controversy in Canada some years ago whether she was not the real founder of Empire Day."

Thus, out of a small incident, has grown an Empire-wide movement, that is capable of enormous possibilities. Empire matters are now occupying the mind of more people living under the British flag than ever before; and Empire questions are getting into practical politics and into the popular stage of discussion. Publicists and statesmen have no longer the field to themselves. They have been theorizing and laying down principles and in some cases have presumed to speak as if the Empire had become disintegrated and its several Dominions had ceased to be constituents of it. The exigencies of domestic politics account for some of these outbursts. Lack of imagination and absence of sentiment are to blame for some of the others.

Much has been written and spoken on the great subject of Empire union. Among the names which inevitably suggest themselves in connection with the beginnings of this are those of Sir Charles Dillie, Lord Rosebery and Joseph Chamberlain, all statesmen of the Victorian era. It was only 25 years ago, in 1897, that the first Imperial Conference took place, yet a great deal of water has passed under the London bridge since those days. It was then that Mr. Chamberlain first brought forward in a tentative way his policy of countering the States by commercial ties, and that the

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## ST. JOHN—TAKE NOTICE.

Financial Post: Faced with prices for Nipigon power as developed by the Hydro Commission much higher than the rates of the old contract with the Kamistiquia Power Company, Port Arthur and Port Arthur are acting jointly to have these charges reduced to as low a basis as Toronto and Winnipeg and the deficit charged up to the province as a whole.

The principle of public ownership is power at cost. But it is not hard to understand that the people of Port Arthur and Port Arthur do not want power at cost when that cost promises to be double or more than they could get the same service for from a private corporation.

If a market is to be found for Nipigon power it appears that it will be necessary to establish rates much below the cost of production. The people of Port Arthur and Port Arthur are objecting strenuously to shoulder the cost. Why should they pay more for power than Winnipeg or Toronto, they ask? Their attitude is of course illogical but easily understood and the result of the unsound economic teachings of the protagonists of public ownership.

Hydro enthusiasts shout from the housetops that Hydro has not cost the people of Ontario one cent. But who will pay for the Nipigon blunder?

And who will pay for the Chippawa extravaganzas if the people of Ontario take the attitude that they should not pay more for power than is paid in Montreal and Winnipeg?

Buying power at 19 per h.p. from an efficient private corporation and distributing it is one thing. Making Nipigon and Chippawa pay their way is another.

## "PARLIAMENTARY DISCIPLINE."

A close-up on the present Canadian Parliament, says Saturday Night, must impress one with the fact that possibly never since Confederation has it been the loose body it now is. Party discipline as known in former Parliaments is now a thing of shreds and patches. To a large extent it is non-existent.

As an example of this condition of affairs, our Toronto contemporary refers to the attempt the other day to get through the military estimates. It was, it says, "to be taken for granted that the great majority of Progressives would frown down upon these expenditures, but who would have thought that a goodly proportion of the Premier's 'Solid Quebec' would under the guidance of Major (Chubby) Power member for Quebec South, have set their faces against the Hon. George Graham's estimates to the extent of supporting an amendment to cut down the summer training camp costs from \$1,400,000 to \$300,000, which, of course, meant that there would be no summer camps at all. Major Power who went out to the war in a private and came back a Major and who expressed the view on the floor of the House, that a soldier could not be made in a nine-day camp, was in an excellent strategic position in more than one sense of the word. First of all Quebec City has never had much use for the militia since the days of the conscription riots when the military body was called in to preserve the peace. And secondly Major Power's excellent war record allowed him to say things that might have been looked upon with suspicion had they come from a conscription dodger.

"Be all this as it may, the Hon. George Graham felt obliged to drop these estimates for the time being, as he would a hot potato, and from that time on there has been more or less gossip relating to the Government's possible disintegration and a new election. Now, no one in Ottawa with the possible exception of a flock of the Progressives favors an election. The Tories, who are looking on or 'milling' as the case may be, in the House, are the only ones who are constantly shouting for an election, and who

are waiting for the chance, and quite prepared to 'let the Grits ride' as one expressed it. An election would do neither of the old historic parties any good and might do them a good deal of harm. In as much as there is every reason to believe an early appeal to the country would strengthen the Progressives by splitting Quebec's solid Grit representation. For as one member said, the Quebec Habitant is getting a little tired seeing the city lawyers, metropolitan newspaper men and big business magnates gather in that seasonal allowance year after year, and he is galloping to come into the House and rub shoulders with his former friends from Ontario and the West. He does not know much about Parliamentary procedure, but he is willing to learn."

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Villainous Business.  
(Ottawa Journal.)  
An illustration of the W. R. Hearst style of yellow journalism in the United States is shown by comments made by the Wall Street Journal upon some remarks in the New York American about Britain's debt to the United States. Says the Hearst paper:— "England borrowed billions upon billions of dollars from us and she has never paid a cent, not even the interest on a cent."

To which the Wall Street Journal replies:—

November 15, 1921, Great Britain paid us a total of \$247,844,686 in interest on the debt she incurred here, so that this charge is a manifest falsehood on the facts of record. It is needless to say that the further payment of interest is provided in the British budget. England borrowed from us to prosecute the war and lent to her allies and our own, twice what she borrowed from us. For her own needs she would not otherwise have borrowed a single American cent.

Another statement by the Hearst paper was this:—

"England is using our money with which to pay her soldiers a bonus and consequently we cannot have our own money with which to pay our soldiers a bonus."

The reply:— "This on the facts of record, is another falsehood. England did pay her soldiers a bonus. Every man, for the past century or more, enlisted in the British service has been entitled to a pension, and this practice was continued when she adopted conscription. Because of that right to a pension her soldiers were paid less than one-third of what the American soldier received. These pension rights were, for the most part, commuted for at a gratuity, which, of course, amounted to deferred pay. It was not a bonus.

"Not a cent of it came out of the money borrowed from America, which was all spent here. Mr. Hearst and those in his employment describe this sort of thing as 'American.' That has been a frequent excuse for bad manners. Does it palliate lying?"

The Hearst lying goes to millions of people in the United States. The exposure of it is unfortunately confined to a more limited circle. Still, the gratitude of decent people is due to such sane and fair newspapers as Wall Street Journal.

One can hardly imagine a more villainous business than that of stirring up a war between Great Britain and the United States by deliberate and malicious falsehood.

## Immigration Changes.

(Mail and Empire.)  
The slow-moving King Government has at last moved to amend the immigration regulations. The new bill does away with the \$250 cash requirement. It provides for free admission of settlers, agricultural workers and domestic servants from all countries except those of Asia. Any British subject or American able to satisfy the immigration officers that he has sufficient means to maintain himself upon employment is permitted to be admitted. This is an important provision, for it means that British urban residents may, if they have a job in sight, or sufficient means to maintain themselves reasonably, gain free access to the country. The preference thus given to immigration of Anglo-Saxon stock, or that of the United States, should offset the influx of European Continentals that has been the bane of the prohibitory period. What Canada needs now, since the regulations are amended, is an active effort by Canada to enlist the interest of thousands of British who wait to emigrate, and who are now looking toward Australia.

## Arbor Day.

(Providence Journal.)  
Let every owner of property, every lessee resolve to have an active share in the celebration of the day. The cog is small. Especially where trees are needed, they should be planted—either in front yards or along the street curb. There is room for thousands of saplings in Providence; why not fill some of the vacant spaces with out further delay? Every year will pay dividends in health, comfort and beauty.

## Where Uncle Sam Steps Out.

(Hamilton Herald.)  
The Washington Government refuses to co-operate with European powers in the task of investigating Turkish atrocities and protecting the Armenian and other Christian people in Asia Minor from massacres. But the Washington Government insists upon obtaining from the British Government a guarantee that American rights to exploit the oil resources of Mesopotamia will be respected.

## Training for the Navies.

(Woodstock Sentinel-Review (Lib.))  
One of the lines at the end of the navy is to spend most of its time

ECZEMA  
The skin disease which causes itching, burning, and scaling of the skin. It is caused by a germ and can be cured by the use of the Eczema Ointment. It is sold by all druggists and chemists.

## Benny's Note Book

BY BEN PAPER

We were eating supper today, being alone under eulons, and we had to pop, Well, Willyum, I guess you know in to be congradulated, I was elected Royal High Purple of the Darters of Chocapats this afternoon, its a grate honor, I assure you. It sounds like one, Royal High Purple, well well, what are your duties? sed pop.

You dont think im going to tell you, do you? sed ma, the duties are absolutely secret, but its a grate honor, I can tell you that much.

Was it a hard fought election, how many canditates were there? sed pop.

Well let me see, 4 there was Mrs. Ambrose and Mrs. Willyum and Mrs. Balder and myself, sed ma.

And you beat them all to it, grate stuff, sed pop.

Well, in a way I did, sed ma.

In a way, how can you win an election in a way? sed pop, and ma sed, I didnt say that, I sed I beat the other canditates in a way, because I was the first one elected.

Yes gods, was there more than one Royal High Purple elected? sed pop.

Curse you, naturally, all 4 of us were elected, its one of the duties were there no limit to the number that can be elected, but just the same its a grate honor, sed ma.

It must be, I dont see how you can bare up under it, you gods, sed pop. And he kept on reading the sporting page and saying, yes gods every once in a while.

## Fiery, Itching Skin

Is Quickly Soothed  
With This Sulphur

Mentho-Sulphur, a pleasant cream, will soothe and heal skin that is irritated or broken out with eczema; that is covered with ugly rash or pimples, or is rough or dry. Nothing soothes fiery skin eruptions so quickly, says a noted skin specialist.

The moment this sulphur preparation is applied the itching stops and after two or three applications, the eczema is gone and the skin is delightfully clear and smooth. Sulphur is so precious as a skin remedy because it destroys the parasites that cause the burning, itching or disfigurement. Mentho-Sulphur always heals eczema right up.

A small jar of Mentho-Sulphur may be had at any good drug store.

## THE LAUGH LINE

It is cheaper to be married than to be engaged—yes?

Have something to say. Say it. Stop talking.

The oftener you look back the faster you don't go.

## Piling On the Agony.

When our story-tellers really get down to work, says National Life, it is astonishing that they can sometimes do as, for example, this in a recent story:

"The look from his eyes, the passion in his voice, mute though it was, frightened and bewildered her."

## Authentic.

Teacher—"If you take four fingers from ten, how many remain?"

Allice (beaming): "No music lessons!"—Stray Stories.

## Just the Thing.

It is suggested that dress materials can be extracted from bananas. Just the thing to slip on in a hurry!—Passing Show.

## A Difficult Problem.

A small girl asked her mother: "If I grow up, shall I have a husband like papa?"

"Yes, dear," mother replied.

"And if I do not get married, shall I be an old maid like Aunt Susan?"

"Yes," was the reply.

The little girl thought for a minute, put her hands to her head, and said: "Well, I am in a fix!"—Queer in the London Evening News.

## As It Seemed to Her.

"Mamma," said a five-year-old girl, "will you please tell me how to spell 'tunkin'." "I don't know any such word. Why do you ask it?"—Cause 1

## Grandma Never Let Her Hair Get Gray

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