

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1921.

THE LEGISLATURE

The proceedings of the Ontario Legislature, which opened a few days ago, should be of considerable interest to Premier Foster, who finds himself in a very similar position to that of his Ontario confrere, that of being in charge of a waterlogged boat, which won't stand very much rocking. As the Ontario Legislature will have been in session for several weeks before the New Brunswick House can open, Mr. Foster will be able to watch how Mr. Drury shapes his course, and thereby shape his own. In a House of 111 members, Premier Drury numbers 56 followers, the other 55 consisting of a Conservative-Liberal-Labor-Independent Opposition with the Speaker making the odd man, who would on a show-down vote with the Government Premier Foster is faced with much the same situation; he has 24 followers out of a House of 48, but he will be in a minority when the Speaker is appointed.

Rumors emanating from irresponsible sources have indicated that the House would probably open on the 24th, February or the 3rd, March, but in view of the fact that the 15th, February has been fixed as the date for bearing the petition lodged against the two Conservative members-elect from Restigouche, the House cannot open before the 10th, March, unless the Government is willing to let the two members-elect take their seats, and hold them until the petition is heard, which in that case would not be until after prorogation.

However, the 10th, March will probably be early enough for the Government, in view of the very backward condition of the report on Public Accounts, which it is said is not even yet sufficiently advanced to be put into the printer's hands. The annual statement of the Comptroller General with the balance sheet is due today, and it is characteristic of the muddled condition of affairs in the Treasury Department that it could not be got ready in time to be published in the ordinary issue of the Royal Gazette of Wednesday last, without having to have a special issue prepared for it. All kinds of stories are afloat as to the contents of this balance sheet, the most common being that it will show a deficiency of at least \$300,000 on the year's transactions. This, however, can scarcely be so; Premier Foster promised the House last session that the revenue for the year would be sufficient not only to cover all the expenditures, but would wipe out the deficiency already existing also. The Premier of course knew perfectly well what he was talking about; and he is not the man to make sweeping statements such as that without having something tangible and assured upon which to base them. Taking his word for it therefore, we may confidently look for a "tidy surplus." If this should be lacking, Premier Foster need never expect the House to believe him again.

THE HYPHENATES

When the conspiracy between Germany and Sinn Fein leaders was discovered, and made public at the time of the trial of Sir Roger Casement, nobody thought of denying the obvious truth that Sinn Fein was helping Germany in the belief that subsequently Germany would help Sinn Fein. But after the close of the war and the inauguration of the murder campaign, the fact was ignored, especially by Sinn Fein sympathizers in the United States, and lately has been impudently denied. It was fitting, therefore, as the Mail and Empire points out, that Rear Admiral Sims, of the American Navy, should publicly testify from his own knowledge when in command of an American squadron in European waters, as to the operations of Sinn Fein. These operations, he says, cost the lives of American sailors and American citizens since they aided the German submarines. No wonder the admiral is dumbfounded to find men who profess to be loyal American citizens openly sympathizing with an order that insulted and attacked American sailors and indirectly contributed to the toll of American life and property in the Great War. The facts had previously been set out in a book Rear Admiral Sims wrote of the part played by the American navy, but since they have been denied for political purposes by Sinn Fein representatives, the admiral returned to the attack. Nobody who is open minded on the subject will doubt his word.

The point is that the majority of the Irish-Americans are not loyal American subjects. We remember how in the early days of the war every Irish-American and German-American effort to hamper the Allies was made in the name of American rights and

Interests. The pretext did not serve for long. A similar pretext on the part of the people who are feeling Mrs. MacSwiney and who prostrated themselves before Archbishop Mannix fails to deceive. These people are trying to force the United States into another war with Great Britain for the sake of Ireland. If they were loyal Americans, if they cared the snap of their fingers about the prosperity of the United States or about the lives of Americans which would be sacrificed, perhaps by the hundreds of thousands, in such a struggle, would they be demanding the official recognition of the "Irish Republic"? Their action proves what "Punch" recently asserted that the Melting Pot fails to melt, and that the masses of Irish-Americans and German-Americans remain Irish and German. And what applies to Irish-Americans applies with equal force to the alleged Canadians who are assisting in favor of Sinn Fein. They are not loyal subjects, and never will be loyal, no matter what happens to Ireland.

On several occasions recently charitable and other organizations in this city have been called upon to relieve Canadians, who, finding themselves stranded in Britain and other European countries, have been shipped back here and dumped down in this city. This sort of thing may well get by occasionally, but when continued it becomes not only monotonous, but expensive. There seems to be no good reason why St. John should be made the clearing house for all the derelicts who may happen to gravitate here; we have enough to do to look after the needs of our own necessities and unfortunate without being saddled with the task of caring for all and sundry who may find themselves stranded here. These men cannot of course help the fact that they are in St. John, because here is where the boat landed them; but there should be some sort of Government provision for returning them to their homes, without the citizens of St. John being called upon to do it.

The Ontario Government has placed before the Legislature in the speech from the throne a comprehensive bill of fare for the session which may strain the digestive capacity of the members. The session promises to be much more exciting than last year. The Conservative Opposition has at its head a leader who has been confirmed in his position and will be anxious to make good. Hartley Dewart as Liberal leader, will be on his mettle. He has a following none too loyal to him and only by aggressiveness can he hold his authority. Ex-Mayor MacBride, the peppery Brantford member, is now on the cross benches and will be on the alert. With a majority reduced to the Speaker, Premier Drury will have to walk a straight and narrow path to retain power.

The attitude adopted by the City Council with regard to the grant for Vocational Training seems to justify the views expressed by us in these columns, although as will be seen from a communication published elsewhere in this issue, the secretary of the local board controverts our statements. It is a pity that the secretary and the members of the Board cannot agree upon the facts; for two members of the Board told The Standard a totally different story, and it was their story that we published. Vocational training is no doubt all right in its way and under proper regulations, but under present conditions it is being badly abused.

Passengers by a new air line to be established in the United States are to be charged according to weight, a course which the Montreal Gazette says is an apparent discrimination in favor of men of the Casius kind, those of the lean and hungry look. On the other hand, it may be said that few of the weightier sort will be affected. Fat men, as a rule, do not go up in the air.

"Pussfoot" Johnson is reported as saying that unless the United States makes good and enforces the law, the cause of prohibition throughout the world will be set back a century. This may not be putting the case too strongly. The passage of the prohibition amendment to the United States constitution was the greatest statutory achievement in the history of the day movement. If it fails, the rebuttal will be correspondingly serious.

The position of women in politics appears to have been decided upon in the United States. They are using them as messengers.

George Arliss, the well-known English actor, is now playing "The Devil," but we fear he's not the only one!

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

January 27, 1921.
 Dear Sir: Referring to an article which appeared on page one of yesterday's issue of the Standard regarding Mr. J. A. H. Irwin, and which was apparently sent to you from Montreal; some time ago the address which this gentleman delivered in Montreal was circulated in sections of this province. At last, time I took the trouble to write to Ireland in order to obtain some information in connection with the gentleman, and it affords me much pleasure to enclose you copy of the reply which I received.

I am simply doing this to show you that the source of some despatches are not always reliable and authentic. Yours very truly,
 L. H. PALMER.

ULSTER UNIONIST COUNCIL

Unionist Headquarters, Old Town Hall, Belfast, 16th Dec. 1920.
 L. A. Palmer, Esq., Grand Orange Lodge of New Brunswick, Bathurst, N. B.
 Dear Sir and Brother:

In reference to your letter of the 11th, November, addressed to Miss Hamilton, the latter has passed it on to me.
 The Rev. James Irwin referred to in the Rev. James A. H. Irwin, M.A., B.D., D.P.M., minister of the Killen Congregation, near Crumlin, County Antrim. The clergy of the general assembly writes me that Mr. Irwin was a distinguished student, but he completely misrepresented the Presbyterian church in Ireland, when he visited the United States in the early part of this year. He had not returned to Ireland when the general assembly met in June last; but on the strength of reports received, the assembly removed his name from all "the committees or the minor committees. His views as reported were repudiated by the Kirk session and committee of his own congregation, and I understand that since his return the number of people attending his church is very small, as he in no way represents the views of the Presbyterian church or the views of his congregation in regard to the Home Rule question.

Yours fraternally,
 (Sgd.) R. DAWSON BATES.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Origin of "Tenderfoot".
 No term used in the Far West is more significant than "tenderfoot," and in no connection is it more used than in relation to horsemanship. If a person approaches a horse to catch him or saddle him from the "off" side, or mounts or dismounts on that side, he is more sure to be styled a "tenderfoot," than when he cannot shoot straight.

The tough western mustang or broncho used in the mountains and on the ranches in the Southwest was formerly never shod. His hoofs grew so tough that shoes were not only unnecessary, but a hindrance, for tough unshod hoofs are much more sure-footed on rocky trails than are iron shoes. After once being shod, however, the hoof always needs it, and becomes very tender and lame without an iron shoe.

As nothing is more useless to a western ranchman or guide than a lame horse, and as shoeing was not easy in the early days, a "tenderfoot" was despised. The unshod "toughfoot" was always reliable. Hence we have the western term "tenderfoot" to denote a "greenhorn."—Edmonton Journal.

World's Largest Buzz Saw.
 The largest buzz saw in the world were recently installed on the Pacific coast to cut the enormous cedars of that region. They are nine feet high, and in the time are inserted 100 detachable teeth, which can be easily replaced if broken. Each saw started out as an log weighing 1,140 pounds, and after breaking, rolling and trimming, each weighed 795 pounds. Tremendous difficulties attend the making of such huge implements of industry. The saws are made in the form of a plain absolutely straight and true. The saws in operation attain a speed of 130 miles in an hour, a bit of statistics hinting at the revolution in saw mill methods since modern demand outstripped old-fashioned means of supply. Circular saws have been in use for over a century, being of English invention, but the insurmountable teeth was the development of an American idea.—Vancouver World.

The Liffey.
 Archbishop Mannix was talking to a reporter one day about Ireland. "A widdy lady," he said, "widdy even in her troubles."
 "I know an Australian who visited Ireland for the first time last summer. In Dublin one warm afternoon he put his handkerchief over his nose and said in a choked voice:
 "'What the deuce is this?'"
 "That," said his Irish guide, "is that the river Liffey. Didn't you know, man, that the smell of the Liffey was one of the sights of Dublin?"
 —Manchester Guardian.

THE LAUGH LINE

"The wise man seeks a woman with an independent fortune rather than a fortune with an independent woman attached."

Always New.
 The reason nobody wears old clothes is because the kind being sold now wear out before they get old.—Dayton News.

So It Seemed.
 Mr. Henpeck—"I'm a submarine."
 Mr. Jollyboy—"What do you mean?"
 "Why, in the sea of matrimony I'm usually kept well under.—Answers.

Changed Times.
 The old-fashioned boy who used to run away to join the circus now has a decision who has to stay at home and help wash the dishes because his sister has run away to go into the motion.—Kansas City Star.

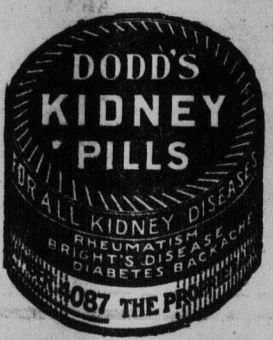
Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PA'Z

WORDS.
 If you put a lot of letters next to each other any old way it just looks like words, but if you put them next to each other almost right it almost makes a word and is more useful than putting them next to each other all rone.
 Every word in the world is in the dictionary including some nobody ever uses and some nobody ever heard of. A dictionary would be a easy book to rite on account of all you would have to do would be to copy another one.
 Some of the smallest words mean the smallest things and vice virtue, such as ant meaning a ant and hippopotamus meaning a hippopotamus.
 Words awfen depend on wat comes after them. If you say "This is a grate day," it means one thing, but if you say, "This is a grate day like heck it is," it means the intirely opposite.
 Many words rime, such as herd and 3rd, horse and corpse, and flour and sour, and a dome dont, such as sobra and corpa, and camel and bow legged, and pritty and corn starch.
 Words are usefull to izpress thaws and make conversation, Babies make sounds insted of words, only their mother "gen" relly thinks they are greater than words, being the only one "gen" thinks so.

Knew His Luck.
 Wife (at a function)—John, I wish you would find out who that homely woman is.
 Hub.—Nothing doing my dear. She'll prove to be the sister or the wife of the first person I asked.—Boston Transcript.

Where Resemblance Stops.
 "That Miss Gabbie reminds me of a church bell, only she hasn't the sense of one."
 "What do you mean?"
 "Well, a church bell has an empty head and a long tongue, but it is discreet enough not to speak until it's tolled."—Boston Transcript.



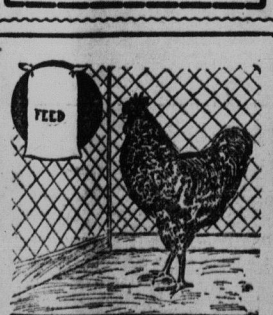
WAR SECRET OUT

The German Intelligence Department were mystified as to how the Allies were able to transport hundreds of thousands of HORSES and MULES from America to the war zone with practically no loss, even during the sticky winter months. It was noticed that a lump of ENGLISH ROCK SALT was placed in the feeding trough at the head of each animal and the information is now forthcoming that the wonderful tonic properties of the salt mined in its natural state kept the Horses in the best of health notwithstanding the hardships which they were subjected to.

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