

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited 22 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada. H. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1918.

POLITICAL AFFAIRS.

Last week was more than ordinarily interesting from a political standpoint because of a succession of incidents which, whether they occurred accidentally or, as some suppose, by pre-arrangement, have started a lot of comment.

There was Hon. F. B. McCurdy's announced resignation and his attack on certain departments of the government; the somewhat hostile attitude of the banquet tendered Hon. Robert Rogers in Toronto; Hon. Walter Scott's editorial demand—Mr. Scott is now an editor—for certain Liberal Unionists to quit the cabinet, and lastly, the radical programme demanded by the Canadian Council of Agriculture in the West, which programme has not only been sanctioned, but approved, by Hon. T. A. Crerar, Minister of Agriculture in the Union Cabinet. The opinion prevails in Ottawa and elsewhere that these events are likely to be followed by even more important incidents, for it is believed that Mr. McCurdy's antagonistic interview was timed to synchronize with Mr. Rogers' little banquet in Toronto, and while that banquet was less spectacular than some persons expected, being attended by scarcely any parliamentary representatives and mainly by party workers who are disaffected with the present system of the distribution of patronage, yet it is clear that such a gathering indicates a certain inordinate restlessness. Mr. Scott calls upon Messrs. Calder, Sifton, Crerar and Carvell to resign at once from the Union Government and return to Laurier. Mr. Scott has evidently not yet overcome his old habit of saying foolish things, and apparently still clings to the delusion that Laurier holds the esteem of a considerable portion of the Canadian electorate. And Mr. Scott's outburst at this particular time is not in reality due to dissatisfaction with the policies and administration of the Union Government, nor is it due to an overwearing love for Laurier. It is in reality merely his method of working off his spleen because that government refused to appoint to the senate a particular friend of his for whom he was lobbying. The radical platform now reaffirmed by the Canadian Council of Agriculture is the old platform with a few additions. These Western grain growers demand, as they have done in previous years, the abolition of the tariff on all agricultural implements, a certain measure of reciprocity with the United States, a substantial reduction in tariff leading eventually to a form of free trade. To this they now add the demand for the immediate repeal of the war time elections act. Hon. Mr. Crerar, Minister of Agriculture, was in attendance at the sessions of this council and sanctioned the entire programme. The government on the other hand will not sanction such a programme in its entirety, and Mr. Crerar's position in the Union Cabinet has thus become a rather curious one. He has returned to Ottawa from Winnipeg, but beyond stating definitely that the programme of the Western men expresses his own private views he has not committed himself in detail. Yet it is understood that Mr. Crerar's retirement from the cabinet will not be long delayed.

All of these instances, none of them of particular moment in themselves, indicate among certain groups a feeling of unrest in respect to the present political condition, and the next few months may show rather interesting developments.

THEY HAVE DONE WELL.

The war has made many great military reputations and has ruined very few. While it is true that among officers of the lower ranks numbers have failed to measure up to the required standard, men in responsible positions have on the whole surpassed the expectations of those to whom they were responsible. Seldom has there been a campaign extending over a period of years in which the leaders have come through with such achievements to their credit as have marked the careers of nearly all Allied commanders in the recent war.

Previous to 1914 Kitchener was perhaps the greatest soldier in Britain, with the possible exception of Earl Roberts, who, on account of his age, was out of the running. Kitchener in 1918 would not have measured up to requirements. He was the biggest man of his day, but the magnitude of operations in this war was such that Kitchener, saturated with the ideas of fifteen or twenty years ago, could not have developed to assume command in the field. Nor would he as an organizer have accomplished what was required. This was beyond the power of any one man, for the development of Britain's resources from the military point of view demanded the best combined brains of her many leaders. Yet Kitchener in his day was head and shoulders over his contemporaries. His military career ended without a whisper of criticism or attacking to his name, and his reputation was higher on the day of his death than it ever had been before. Earl Roberts, his teacher and friend, lived to see some true predictions which he had

been making for the last fifteen years of his life, and by the very fact of the outbreak of this war, Earl Roberts' reputation as a far-seeing soldier and statesman was enhanced, and he, although not actively engaged in the recent campaign, won additional renown by the foresight he had displayed. Field Marshal Fouché, essentially a cavalry officer, was Britain's first choice as leader of her armies on the continent, and bore his share through the early years of the struggle in such a manner that when the powers of human resistance could no longer carry the strain he came back to England to enjoy the warm appreciation of all his people for the magnificent work he had accomplished in a very trying time. General Haig, who had won some prominence in the South African war, became Commander in Chief, and the result of Britain's campaign in France and Flanders forms the best test of Haig's outstanding ability. He has deserved, and will no doubt receive high honor from the people of Great Britain, and in this his associates, without exception, in the higher command will undoubtedly share. On the western front during the entire four years of the war there has not been a single failure on the part of a British general, for though on one or two occasions incomplete press reports have paved the way for hostile criticism of one or another of these leaders, later explanations have invariably cleared up the situation and restored the officers affected to their former high place in public opinion. On other fields strangely enough honor has been won on several occasions through failure—or seeming failure. General Townshend's great success was his surrender to the Turks at Kut-el-Mara. General Allenby in the East won his spectacular campaign by being held up, and during that enforced delay preparing for the smash which obliterated the Turkish army. General Hamilton, in spite of the criticism at one time directed against him, added to his former laurels by the splendid manner in which he saved his army from disaster by the retreat from Gallipoli Peninsula. It is true that mistakes have been made, that commanding officers have been unable at times to perform all that was attempted. But it is apparent that these failures were due, not so much to lack of ability in the leaders themselves, as to the impossibility of the achievements required under orders from those at home.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

The City of St. John and the Province of New Brunswick are pleased this week to welcome on his first official visit His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada. This Dominion has been fortunate indeed in the selection of representatives of the crown who have from time to time honored us with their presence, and while there have been in the group certain outstanding figures there is none, we feel sure, who has taken a warmer personal interest in Canada's affairs than has the present incumbent. It has been his pleasure to move about among the people, to keep in touch with matters of national importance, and with projects of a patriotic, philanthropic and charitable nature, and during the brief period spent in this country the Duke of Devonshire has won on all sides the esteem of those with whom he has come in contact. It is unfortunate that his visit to the Eastern Provinces is made at a time when the natural beauties of these Provinces are not to be seen at their best, and when the impression he will obtain will not be as pleasing as we would wish to convey. Yet we trust the hearty welcome which His Excellency will receive from our people will, to some extent, compensate for the discomforts of travel during an inclement season. We are delighted to welcome the Duke of Devonshire, not merely as the personal representative of our King, but as a Canadian citizen and a man whom it is good to know.

DEMobilIZATION.

It was with a great deal of satisfaction that The Standard was yesterday able to announce rather important proposed changes in the system of demobilization of Canadian forces. This paper contained some little time ago, when Ottawa sent out details of the plan, that the policy adopted would not prove satisfactory either to the men overseas or to the people at home. We felt that our boys did not enlist by trades or professions, or to suit the convenience of economists, but went gladly when they were called as units representing their communities, and we believe it was their desire to return as they went, in battalions, batteries or other corps to the places from which they enrolled. Evidently the demobilization committee has come to a realization of this prevailing sentiment on the part of the men and the folks at home, and yesterday's announcement that regiments will be returned as units in order that they may be properly received is a pleasing feature in connection with this most important work.

WHAT THEY SAY

Hearts of Steel.
(Kansas City Star.)
It was fitting that the German high seas fleet should have surrendered to the British admiral. In that spectacle a thousand years of history found fulfillment. "The royal navy of England," wrote Blackstone, "has never been its greatest defense and ornament." Its ancient and natural strength—the floating bulwark of our island. "The ships of British oak, and hearts of oak our men, of Nelson's time, are today ships and hearts of steel." The Englishman can still repeat those wonderful lines from "Richard III":
"This Sceptred Isle,
This little world,
This precious stone set in the silver sea,
Which serves it in the office of a wall,
Or as a moat defensive to a house,
Against the envy of less happier lands—
This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England!
And America today salutes the British Commonwealth, worthy inheritor of a great and glorious tradition of freedom, dauntless of heart!"

The British Monocle.
(Ottawa Citizen.)
The story about Admiral Wemyss fixing his monocle in his eye and coldly remarking to the German naval delegate that the Teuton fleet had only to emerge from shelter in order to have been licked, goes altogether too far. The true story, we will eventually find, is that the British admiral merely adjusted his monocle and transcribed the unfortunate Teuton, who, without doing her best to look around for a knothole or anything of a similar size into which to retreat. Any sailor, or civilian either, who can face the spine-chilling survey of a monocle set worn by a real Britisher and retain his poise or coherence is deserving of special mention. To say that the admiral found it necessary to say a few words to the effect that, in paying the Teuton naval delegate a honor which is, we are sure, utterly undeserved. The conduct of the Teuton fleet during the war does not indicate that it possesses any of the fear which could stand up for a moment under the British monocle in action.

Let Us Forget.
(Frankfort Gazette.)
If today the cannon-thunder of the great offensive battle of the Germans echoing in Paris brings tidings of German victory over the British, it is under the fire of our newest artillery marvel, and the hail of German aeroplanes. If, finally, the enemy in London sees the light, it is because of the wings of our bombers. It is not the ruins of devastated French provinces; it is, thus, the terrors of the war have come again to millions of people, when the military defeat inflicted by the rulers of England and France rejected with snuff words the hand of peace and understanding which was offered them.

Power of Arms.
(The Village.)
Let us make no mistake about what it is that we are fighting against in Germany. No "diplomatic" maneuvering for a revolution in the enemy's country, brought victory. There has been ever with us a group of peace-advocates who hoped that by falling prey to revolution, Germany would save us the trouble of fighting her. A "revolution" has come in Germany, but it follows the military defeat inflicted by the Allied armies under Foch; it has not brought victory, it has been the unmistakable result of it. Bolshevism in Russia could not save us, for it was a staggering blow, but we rallied and fought through. Bolshevism in Germany, sham or genuine, has been no more able to win us our triumph. It was no statesman's program, but a general's plan of battle, which pushed the German army back towards the Rhine; out of that retreat, his armies all that is happening in Germany today.

A BIT OF VERSE
"SOME DAY"
Some day fresh grass will grow along the Belgian lanes,
Some day the flowers will open to May,
And on the grave of my brave soldier boy the grass will grow,
But not today.
Some day the widows of Louvain will cease to weep,
And from the ashes of those ruins grey
Will rise a city fashioned by the love of all the world,
But not today.
Some day the Golden some day which the future holds,
When trumpets blow and angels line the way,
My soldier boy will come to meet me down the glittering ranks,
And he will say:
Welcome brave mother-heart, the day has set us free,
The parting and the pain have passed away,
Yes, I shall see, mine ears shall hear, my heart,
Again grow young
Upon that day.
—Anonymous.

A BIT OF FUN
Breaking It Gently.
The junior clerk sought out his employer and timidly addressed him. "Could I have a fortnight's leave of absence, sir, to attend the wedding of a dear friend?" "It must be a dear friend for you to want all that time," said the boss sarcastically. "Well, sir, the wedding, sir, she—she'll be my wife!"
—Brave Dame.
She is the best of women and for four years she has worked untriflingly. But the other day at the N—s—s

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE.
Yesterday me and my cousin Artie found a bug laying on its back in my yard with its legs up in the air, being a black kind of a bug with long ones, Artie saying, G, look at the dead man, lets berry him and have funeral services.
All rite, you be the grave digger and Ill be the minister, I sed.
Which we started to do, Artie making a little hole with dirt along-side and laying the bug in the bottom of it still with its feet up, and me starting to make a speech, saying, Ladies and gentlemen and fellow citizens, this is a sad occasion, but what can you expect at a funeral?
Amen, sed the grave digger, and I sed, We have come to berry Artie the Bug.
Hay, who sed so? Why dont you call him Benny Bug if you want to call him sumthing? He looks more like you than what he does like me, sed Artie, and I sed, All rite, lets call him after both of us, lets call him Artie B. Bug, we have come to berry Artie B. Bug he was a fine fellow and all his friends admired him and thart he was all rite, and so did all his enemies.
Amen, sed the grave digger, and I sed, He was a good man wite he lusted, only he didnt last long, and now I sed, maybe some day his grate grandchildren will see the grave and bild a monument on it to remind them wate it is.
Hay, the darn thing aint there any more, sed Artie. Wich neither it was, nothing being there but a little hole in the bottom of the big hole wate it had anuk thero, me saying, The darn cheater, and Artie saying, The big har.
Proving wat people say about you after you ded dont always count.

hospital she was not exactly tactful. Seated in the ward she was in the habit of visiting, she said:
"So you lost a leg?"
"Ah, poor fellow! Have a chocolate!"
Uncle John Told Her.
Little Dot—I know something my teacher doesn't know.
Mamma—Indeed! What is that?
"I know when the world is coming to an end and she doesn't ask her and she said she didn't know."
"Or well, who told you?"
"Uncle John. He said the world would come to an end when children stopped asking questions that nobody could answer."
Getting It Straight.
Old Maid—Are those men following up?
Pretty Girl—One of us, dear.
The Way of It.
"Chappa is boasting about saving a life at Atlantic City."
"That's true. He saved his own by not going in swimming."—Baltimore American.
A Useful Husband.
"Why in the world does his wife call him Picket Fence?"
"Well, she says he's easy to see through."
"And, then, he's very useful around the house."—Exchange.
A Friendly Call.
"I see you live next door to Mrs. De Sivy at Atlantic City."
"We do."
"Has she ever called on you?"
"Once, informally, to tell me that if I didn't keep my shop she'd have me pitched."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

under subjection and made to work for the restoration of the devastated country. The work has been done, it takes a century for its accomplishment. All leaders responsible for the war or for any of the horrors committed during its course should be tried and if convicted, pay the full penalty for their crimes the same as any common criminal, nothing less will satisfy those who believe in justice or who hope to see the world made safe for peace-loving people.
The ordinary people of the country should then be policed and made to work for payment of the most complete reparation has been made, it takes a century for its accomplishment. All leaders responsible for the war or for any of the horrors committed during its course should be tried and if convicted, pay the full penalty for their crimes the same as any common criminal, nothing less will satisfy those who believe in justice or who hope to see the world made safe for peace-loving people.
The educational system of the enemy countries should be controlled to see that there is no further teaching of the "right" of "brute force" and in 35 years from now we may then hope to have a new wave of nations who will be guided by something else than "kultur," and will realize their obligations to society at large.
To revert to the food question, it would seem just that the large food reserves apparently still held in the enemy countries should be distributed to carry the people as long as possible on half rations if need be, before an ounce of food is taken from our needy allies, and if anyone has to die from want of food let it be the brute beasts of the enemy rather than a single person of our allies.
Let us also remember that at present Germany is not by any means subdued, her mighty armies are yet millions strong, her emissaries are still spread broadcast over the world actively working by their pernicious propaganda to stir up trouble between the Allies, to arouse a feeling, by most insidious means, of compassion for Germany and to keep alive the spirit of a some day world conquest; even in Canada we are allowing men to occupy leading positions who have never shown that they had anything properly in their mentality. Make no mistake, Mr. Editor, the war is yet a long way from fully won, and the present period of fully means the least dangerous of the last four years.

THE EDITOR'S MAIL
SHALL WE FEED THE GERMANS?
Editor The Standard.
In response to your call for an expression of opinion in regard to this subject, I beg to say that I believe that the Allies should be guided in this matter entirely by what their leading statesmen consider is the proper course to pursue from the standpoint of national economies. If it is necessary and desirable in order to help in the recovery of indemnities to repay all Allied losses caused by the war, to preserve life in all or any portion of the German or other enemy countries and such life cannot be preserved without sending in such food supplies as can be spared from the rest of the world, then it would be desirable to feed the brutes. The humanitarian side of the question does not appeal to me at all, as the enemy populations since the start of the war and even since the signing of the armistice by their brutality have proven to the world that they are not human, but are dangerous brutal beasts. Tigers, hyenas and boa constrictors could not be more brutal, ferocious and dangerous than Germans, Turks, Austrians and Bulgarians have shown themselves to be, and I have yet to learn where Christianity or any other religion teaches that such dangerous beasts should be preserved.
I do not believe for a moment that any spirit of revenge should prompt the destruction of life or property in the enemy countries, but I do believe firmly that the war will not be won nor the world made safe until the whole enemy populations are placed

Pulpwood Wanted
We are in the market for Peled Spruce, Fir and Poplar, Rough-Spruce and Fir.
Also—
We wish to purchase Spruce and Fir Logs and Skave Poles.
If you're writing offering, call, write or phone—Main 3000.
MURRAY & GREGORY, Ltd.

TO ARRIVE
Gartcraig
FIRE BRICK FIRE CLAY
Price Low Ex-Steamer. We solicit your inquiries.
C. H. PETERS SONS, LIMITED, ST. JOHN, N. B.
Agents for Gartcraig Fire Clay Co.

"Universal" Hot Water Bottle

A NECESSITY IN EVERY HOME
Made of seamless Aluminum—long wearing, rustless and leakless.
Will outlast several ordinary hot water bottles and give complete satisfaction.
Complete with Cotton Felt Bag, \$4.00

T.M.PAVITY & SONS, E

Good Silverware
The Happiest of Gift Suggestions
What woman does not admire Good Silverware which invariably gives pleasure and a lifetime of service.
In our offerings you'll find a large variety of artistically designed Tea and Coffee Services, Sugars, Creams, Vegetable Dishes, Entree Dishes, Bon-Bon Dishes, Table Flatware of every description. Also Candlesticks, Epergnes and Toilet Accessories.
WE SUGGEST EARLY SELECTIONS
FERGUSON & PAGE

Peerless Anti-Freeze Liquid
Will Prevent Frozen Radiators
Do not drain your radiator or use substitutes. On draught or in sealed gallon cans.

M. E. AGAR, 51-53 Union St. Phone Main 818. St. John, N. B.

ESTABLISHED 1870
GILBERT G. MURDOCH Civil Engineer and Crown Land Surveyor
A. M. Can. Soc. C. E.
Surveys, Plans, Estimates, Superintendence, Blue Prints, Black Line Prints, Maps of St. John and Surroundings.
74 Carmarthen Street, St. John

FIRE ESCAPES
Structural Steel, Bolts and Rods
WM. LEWIS & SON, ST. JOHN.

Main 1121. — TRY — Box 702
D-K BALATA BELTING
For Strength, Durability, Damp Situations
D. K. McLAREN, Limited
90 Germain St. St. John, N. B.

GRIP NECESSITIES—Hot Water Bottles
Fountain Syringes Nasal Syringes
At The Royal Pharmacy, 47 King Street

NEW ENGLISH CLOTHS Just Received
For Fall and Winter Overcoats and Suitings.
Direct
EDGECOMBE & CHAISSON

FLEWELLING PRESS 3 Water St.
ORDER NOW
Christmas Greeting Cards
Die Stamping and Copper Plate Printing.
L. L. SHARPE & SON, JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS,
2 Stores { 21 King St. 169 Union St.

It Drives Up Tight
Beaver Brand Hardwood Flooring goes together tight. This gives you a floor that does not give under the foot.
Avoid flooring that goes together too freely. What is worse than a squeaky floor?
Choice Maple 11c. a foot.
The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd.
186 Erin Street

OUR STUDENTS
Are of all attainments, ranging from Grade eight to the university graduate. All are welcome and there is no better time for entering than just now. Tuition rates and full particulars mailed to any address.
S. Kerr, Principal

Sterling Table
Practical finds happier Silver and showing of range of ext
Electro-Coffee Urns
Trays, Sauces, Salad Sets, Kettles, Fl
Silverware
Sho
W. H. TH
FANCY L
We are sho goods. Most any one or another Ladies Strap Handle We have black Pin Seal Gunmetal Fitted with **BARN** 84