

## The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 32 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B. Canada. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.

THE STANDARD IS REPRESENTED BY  
Henry de Clerque, .....Mallory Bldg., Chicago  
Louis Klebahn, .....1 West 44th St., New York  
Freeman & Co., .....9 Fleet St., London, Eng.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1919.

## HARBOR COMMISSION.

Before committing ourselves to a final decision on the proposed harbor transfer our people should give careful thought to the respective advantages of civic control, commission and nationalization. Let us not forget for a moment that the proposal now under consideration involves merely placing St. John harbor under commission. This property is not being taken over by the federal government as a national institution. St. John is simply to be reimbursed for the amount of its outlay to date less bar gain counter two dollars, and if the sale goes through this purchase price, all future expenditures, and all costs of operation, will be chargeable against the harbor itself. Under civic control as it has existed for the past twenty years St. John has been able to go to the federal department of public works with reasonable requests for the construction of necessary works or for aid in providing such works. And the public works department has on different occasions set apart generous amounts to be so expended. These appropriations have not been charged against St. John harbor as such but have been included in the ordinary man-revenue producing expenditures. The result is that the capital outlay against St. John harbor as it will appear includes only those amounts paid out by the City of St. John. Under harbor commission the two million dollars purchase price is the first investment of capital and on this the board of commissioners must produce five per cent. payable to the government for the money loaned. If during the next few years a million dollars are expended, that million must also produce five per cent. In fact, every penny of outlay on St. John harbor will be expected to return to the government the interest of that investment. In addition to this our harbor must meet the cost of management in every detail, including salaries of commissioners appointed by Ottawa at amounts fixed by Ottawa. It must provide insurance, upkeep, and all other incidentals out of current revenue. In short, every possible expenditure on capital and operating account will be charged against the harbor itself, which must produce a specified return. There will be no more assistance from the public works department in the way of contributions for necessary work. The purchase, therefore, is merely a loan from the federal government on which it intends collecting interest. It is this easy to see that if this property is to pay a return on all the money hereafter invested in it, that return will be a much greater amount than would be required were the harbor still in the enjoyment of occasional grants from the public works department. In order to produce this increased revenue, wharfage rates must eventually be advanced. Whether such advance will adversely affect business is a matter of opinion. In certain respects our rates are already high, in other respects the rates are low. The new scale about to be made effective must of necessity be further increased before very long if the existing wharves are to be renewed and additional equipment provided. Failure to produce this necessary revenue will not bring relief for the annual deficit if such there be will merely be added to the amount of invested capital and interest charged on that deficit during future years.

Medical men appear to be really peeved over the application of the prohibitory law in New Brunswick. In an organized body such as this, where members with a common grievance are met for discussion, and where no opposition to their views is encountered, there is always a tendency toward exaggeration and, while the doctors of New Brunswick may have grievances against the prohibitory law, surely the state of affairs is not as bad as represented. They are feeling the restrictions of prohibition perhaps more than any other individual profession, because of the fact that alcohol and alcoholic preparations are an everyday necessity in their practice and the conditions imposed under the existing law are burdensome to say the least. Yet it is fair to suppose that no one among all these doctors is inclined to favor the free sale of liquor in St. John or throughout New Brunswick, nor that any one member of this profession would conscientiously vote in support of a return to the former system. It is true, as one of the doctors declared, that prohibition was imposed upon this province without a vote of the people. This course was not objectionable, for a campaign in favor of prohibition had been actively carried on during a period of years and the feeling of the great mass of people was so marked that government action became imperative. Our province did not have any previous experience with prohibition, but it had experience with license and Scott Act. How then could the voters of New Brunswick intelligently desire for or against something with which they were not acquainted? It was considered advisable that, before a plebiscite should be taken on this great question, all should have an opportunity of realizing through experience the advantages or disadvantages of prohibition as conscientiously enforced, and be put in a position to compare the working of such a law with the conditions prevailing under license. Thus an intelligent decision could be made possible and, with this end in view, prohibition, as it exists today, was introduced. We have had a few years of it, of our own law supported by national legislation, and it is not going too far to say that the majority of the people of New Brunswick are satisfied that prohibition in itself is greatly to be desired. An equally large number will admit the necessity for improvement in the methods of enforcement and amendments to the law itself. An opportunity for an expression of feeling along this line is shortly to be given and, despite the weaknesses in the existing law, and the onerous restrictions imposed, some of which appear to bear too heavily on certain classes of people and to create undesirable inconveniences in phases of slight importance, it is reasonable to anticipate that the principle of prohibition will be solidly endorsed by New Brunswick.

## A DISHONORED RULER.

If Ex-Emperor William were the sort of man he pretended for years to be, instead of a cowardly murderer, as he actually is, he would today be a voluntary occupant of an English prison cell. Instead of skulking behind the forced protection of Holland's government and attempting to avoid arrest, there would, no doubt, be a measure of sympathy for this creature if, in the closing hours of his career, he had displayed any evidence of bravery. In his personal conduct he had indicated the least trace of true royalty. But this man, who for years posed as the world's greatest military leader, who commanded obedience from millions of better men than himself and who, by accident of birth and from the shelter of a throne, managed to delude the world, is at last revealed in his true colours, as a pitiful weakling lacking in all those qualities which go to make a king, the object of scorn and contempt even of the meanest of his subjects. History records many instances of defeated rulers who, at the climax of their lives, have killed themselves rather than fall into the hands of their enemies, of others who have surrendered, admitted their defeat and heroically accepted the punishment imposed. But William of Germany is creating a new record in showing to the world a king who, in the hour of personal danger, preferred hiding behind the national honor of a helpless neighbor, skulking like the miserable wretch that he is in a frenzy of fear lest deserved punishment should overtake him.

## HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE.

In connection with the High School entrance papers, it is stated that although twenty-eight of the pupils failed to pass the examinations, this was in no case due to row marks on the nature study paper. This paper was wholly absurd for presentation to boys and girls living in the larger centres, and it might readily be expected that the marks earned on that examination fell below the average of the other subjects. Whether this was the case or not the statement is now made that although the standing of many pupils might have been different if a suitable nature study paper had been submitted, the success or otherwise of the twenty-eight who failed was not affected. On the whole the papers this year formed a very reasonable test of the year's work. The questions perhaps were not as difficult as are sometimes given, but allowance was made for the fact that a great deal of time was lost because of the closing of the schools during the epidemic of influenza and that the year's work was to some extent limited on that account.

## PEACE DAY.

Tomorrow, St. John, in common with the rest of Canada, will observe the completion of peace. The programme for the local celebration is simplicity itself and includes merely a band concert, several addresses and a little fireworks celebration at night. Interest in the affair is not very intense and it is altogether probable that many of our people will take advantage of the declaration of a public holiday to spend that day elsewhere than in the city, leaving to those who are unable to go away the duty of participating in the public gathering. It is difficult to arouse popular enthusiasm in a condition which has become commonplace and although the official declaration of peace is an occasion of the utmost importance, yet we have had peace for the past eight months and have become quite accustomed to the idea.

## WHAT THEY SAY

**Abuse of Asylum.**  
New York Herald: If William Hohenzollern has been directing any of the criminal or political activities of his adherents in Germany from his Dutch retreat what right has Holland to talk about her neutrality?

**Movies and the Eyes.**  
The Scientific American: Moving pictures, under favorable conditions, do not cause so much fatigue of the eyes as the same period of concentrated reading. When there is eye discomfort there is usually some ocular defect, which should receive the attention of an eye specialist. Under favorable conditions moving pictures causing fatigue, if continued, become unpleasant, and may, if persisted in, become harmful, a condition which is greatly aggravated by fixed staring at one spot on the picture, a practice which should never be indulged in.

**The Issue Joined.**  
New York Globe: The closer we come to the actual conflict in the Senate over ratification of the peace treaty and the league covenant the more apparent does it become that the issue must be fought out on the fundamental problem, with minor aspects pushed into the background. When President Wilson goes before the country to defend the covenant he has one real question, and one only, to ask: Will America undertake to do her share in maintaining peace and order throughout the world? If the answer is Yes, then the covenant should be accepted without amendment and without reservation. For if America enters the league with reservations, so can any other country; and an agreement without amendment and without reservation to a different thing will not and cannot have any force or meaning.

**Our Improved Conditions.**  
Kansas City Star: Hours of work have been greatly shortened in the last fifty years. The work of women and children has been restricted. Education has become more general. Books, magazines and newspapers have become abundant and cheap. Music in one form or another is available for almost every home. Reproductions of the great art works of the world are to be had at a nominal cost. Capital has been accumulated for enterprises that once could not have been undertaken. Schools and hospitals are built on a scale never known before. Every town has its public library, its theatre, its comfortable hotel. Transportation has been enormously developed. The steamship, the railroad, the trolley, the motor car are all available for a large proportion of the population. The home is full of labor-saving devices that were unknown to our grandparents.

**Cost Would Be Heavy.**  
Victoria Times: W. F. Nickle, Unionist member for Kingston, declared that the maintenance of a permanent force of 10,000 men would involve an annual cost of \$15,000,000. Mr. Nickle's estimate is too low. The cost is certain to run to \$20,000,000 per annum. This, however, would not cover the whole expenditure required by the Department of Militia and Defence, for maintenance of a permanent force, while perhaps the largest factor in the military budget, is not the only one. If Canada maintains a permanent force of 10,000 men Parliament probably will have to vote between \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000 per annum for the whole military service, or nearly three times as much as it appropriated in 1913.

## A BIT OF VERSE

Tailor—"The postal service is in a wretched condition."  
Friend—"Never noticed it."  
Tailor—"Well, I have. During last

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Yesterday afternoon I was throwing a tennis ball up against Skinny Martin's house and catching it again, trying to see how near I could come to the window without actually hitting it, and my arm slipped and the ball hit the window and made a long crack in it the shape of lightning, proving it properly wasn't extra good glass, and Mrs. Martin opened the window and stuck her head out, saying I would have to pay for a new pane and she would send Mr. Martin around to my house when he came home.

And after supper I was sitting on the front steps and Mr. Martin came up, being even skinnier than Skinny on account of having more to be skinny with, and he said, Tell your father I wish to see him.

Yes sir, I said. And I slow went up in the setting room where pop was, and I stood there a while watching him smoking and thinking, and pop said, Well, do you think you'll know me if you see me again?

Did you ever see Skinny Martin's father, pop? I said.

I believe I have, a long gentleman, isn't he? said pop.

Skinny as anything, I said, and pop said, Ah, yes, that's the impression I was trying to think of, skinny as anything.

And he kept on smoking and thinking and I kept on watching him, and pretty soon I said, Do you want to see him now, pop?

I do not, and if anybody asks me wait was the silliest question I've heard this week, I'll know what to tell them, said pop.

Yes sir, I said. And pretty soon I said, Well shall I tell him you don't want to see him, pop?

For the love of Pete, wait is he, wait the big idea? said pop, and I said, He's outside on the front steps he wants to see you.

Well wait in the name of all that's reasonable didn't you say so at first, wait he want? said pop.

He just said he wanted to see you, he didn't say I, I said. Not saying I knew you without him saying, and pop quick went down stairs and so did I, the main difference being that he went out the front way and I went out the back.

month I posted one hundred and eighty statements of accounts, with requests for immediate payment, and, so far as I can learn, not more than two of my customers received their letters."

"Wouldn't you like," his mother asked a little boy, "wouldn't you like to give your toy boat to that poor orphan who hasn't any father?"

The little boy looked at his toy boat and frowned. "Couldn't we give him father instead?" he asked.

The Goods, All Right.

First Gossip—"Don't tell a soul, but I saw a whole barrel of whiskey delivered to the Topleys' this afternoon in broad daylight."

Second Gossip—"How'd you know it was whiskey?"

First Gossip—"Why, Topley himself helped the delivery man handle it with care."—Buffalo Express.

His Opinion.

They were talking about that terrible cry, "Man overboard!"

"Only those who have been roused from midnight slumber on board ship can comprehend its meaning," said a seasoned traveller.

The sudden alarm, the fear and horror—"Oh, yes, they can!" replied a lame little shoemaker, who had no reputation as a traveller.

"I heard it once when I was on a ship, and I realized the horror of it more than anyone else."

"You couldn't!" said the great traveller contemptuously. And the assembled company sided with him to a man.

"But I could," persisted the cobbler. "You see, I was the man who fell overboard."

Too Good to Be True.

A man from a bone-dry Arkansas community went to a wet Missouri town and was invited by an acquaintance to have a drink, says an exchange. In the saloon the friend asked:

"What are you going to have?"

"Have?" dreamily returned the visitor, blinking at the glorious array of barbeled and bottled goods. "I ain't going to have nuthin'."

"What do you mean, Gabe? You won't have a drink after coming all this distance?"

"Nope!" answered the Arkansawyer. "There ain't no such place as this. I'll wake up in a minute."

And Harry Laughed.

The head of the family glanced up from the paper and remarked:

"I see there's a new hippopotamus at the Zoo."

Glancing at his son a moment later, he said:

"What are you laughing at, Harry?"

"I was just laughing to think of a stork carrying a hippopotamus," returned Harry.—Boston Globe.

## A BIT OF FUN

HE THAT ALONE WOULD BE.

He that alone would be, let him arise and come

From out the quiet, stagnant community.

And stand gazing in a city where the thousands dwell.

And there abide.

The hermit, weary of mankind's ignominious strife.

Flies to the forest, or in dark retreat

Secludes himself. O fool! There is one secret place—

The city street.

And there be some who take the conventional way and hope

Thus to avoid earth's pleasures and false joys.

While grim seclusion, bound with brass, awaits the seeker, midst

A city's noise.

The prairie dweller, lone, may see the change

From green to dreary white, nor ever hear

His neighbor's voice, but birds and beasts give him companionship

Amidst the dear.

In the city you can live and walk among

The crowds as through a drifting, misty zone—

Can hear strange voices, see the unknown faces of mankind,

And be alone!

Or in your chamber note strange foot-steps pass your door

That evermore go past—with tumult

Can mark the cheery laugh, the scrag of talk, that put bounds to

Your solitude.

You that alone would be, arise today

From cave and cell, from prison and prairie wide,

And hide yourselves forevermore among the multitude,

And there abide!

## PYREX Transparent OVEN-WARE

Has the name on every piece

Quicker, Better, Cleaner, Cheaper, Baking.

PYREX is easy to clean and does not absorb odors or flavors. Will not crack or flake—besides it looks so attractive on the table.

Made in shapes for every practical baking purpose.

Have you tried this wonderful ware?

'Phone M 2540 McAVITY'S 11-17 King St.

**The WALTHAM WATCH**

ONE of the favorite Waltham Watches for gentlemen is the "Riverside" Model—the best moderately-priced watch in the world. With all the precision of workmanship for which Waltham is famous it has a chaste beauty of appearance that always pleases particular men. Show you our range of Walthams.

**FERGUSON & PAGE**

**15 Tons Damaged OATMEAL**

—In 98 lb. Bags—

Cheap feed for Pigs and Horses.

**C. H. PETERS' SONS, LTD.**

St. John, N. B.

**Ready-Made Wood Hub Wheels**

**Ready-Ironed Neck Yokes**

**Automobile Tires Grease, Oils, etc.**

**M. E. AGAR**

'Phone 818. Union Street, St. John, N. B.

**QUALITY COUNTS**

—TRY OUR—

**Genuine English Oak Tanned EXTRA C. LEATHER BELTING**

Manufactured By

**D. K. McLAREN, Limited**

Main 1121 — 90 Germain Street, St. John, N. B. — Box 702

**FOR YOUR HALL FLOOR**

Maple flooring makes a splendid floor, looks good, and wears well.

11 cents a foot.

'Phone Main 1893.

**The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd.**

186 Erin Street

**WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

and AT HOME CARDS

Engraved in the latest styles

**Die Stamping**

**FLEWELLING PRESS**

3 Water Street, St. John

A Good Variety of

**ALL KINDS OF FISH**

including Harbor Salmon.

**SMITH'S FISH MARKET**

25 Sydney Street

'Phone M 1704.

**MAGE**

MASTER FUR FOR 60 IN ST.

SUGGEST FOR renovation of your remodeled for 1919-20

NOW—Economize to avoid disappointment

**NEW MODELS**

fur and fur goods the coming season played in our Fur

Enquiries are If desired estimate given

**MAGE**

Manufacturing 60 years

**Women's Calf Leather Walking**

Black Brown

Made on top model with long forepart and stylish heels.

Styles now our women's wear

They look good give splendid service

Black Calf Brown Calf

Foot Fitters **McROB** ST. JOHN

**Painless Extraction**

Only 2

Boston Dental

Head Office 827 Main Street

'Phone 683 DR. J. D. MAHER Open 9 a. m. to

**Repair F**

—then Pair

It's cheapest end to put you in good work before painting

We turn EVERYTHING WOOD AND FOR BUILDING

For Prices and material, Phone 3000

**MURRAY & GRE**

**EYES TESTED**

Satisfaction guaranteed only advised when Prices moderate.

K. W. EPSTEIN Optometrist and 193 Union

M. 3554. BUY WAR

**ESTABLISHED**

Optical Shop Unexcelled in Work We grind our own eyeglasses

PROMPT AND Send your next D. BOYAR 111 Charlotte