

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 1919.

## ACTION IN THE WEST.

For the past week or more, leaders of the revolutionary strike in Winnipeg have been having low. They, without doubt, have feared the action of the Federal Government which developed early yesterday morning and has resulted in the arrests of agitators in several western cities. In so far as conditions in Winnipeg are concerned, the strike may now be considered to have come to an end, for, although the points of difference between the workers and their employers, which differences were used by the Bolshevik element as the alleged foundation for a general strike, have not been settled, the determination of these is a matter for adjustment between the parties directly concerned and has actually no bearing whatever on the general situation as it has existed for some weeks. Before this disturbance occurred the Federal Government and the Civic Government of Winnipeg were in possession of information tending to show that outbreaks might be expected as a result of activities of the I. W. W. Organization, the United States, as represented by socialist revolutionaries at work in that city. It was recognized that the better element in labor circles was being overcome by the activities of these agitators and that unless a definite stand was taken in opposition to the revolutionary movement, which had as its declared intention the overthrow of constituted government and the establishment of Soviet rule, the contagion would spread into the whole west and possibly all Canada. This realization was followed by the organization of a citizens' committee in Winnipeg of approximately ten thousand persons, banded together to maintain order and to carry on public services necessary in the social and business lives of the people. There has been hardship. There was bound to be hardship with the cessation of many lines of activity, and there has been on the part of the strikers a display of utter heartlessness and disregard not only for the well-being of the city, but for the lives of those who in the natural course of events became the innocent victims of the conditions created. Thousands of men have been under arms in Winnipeg, drilling day after day in anticipation of outbreaks of violence which fortunately have not come. Thousands of others, giving up their accustomed positions, have been diverted themselves to carrying on public services in place of misguided workers who have been influenced by those self-seeking agitators. Business has been disturbed, great inconvenience has been caused in homes, but if this confusion will result in a lesson to all Canada it will not have been too high a price to pay. The attitude of the Federal Government in the whole matter has been commendable. Premier Borden and several of his ministers have on different occasions clearly stated the attitude of the Government towards this revolutionary element, as well as the policy to be enforced with respect to those public servants who violated their oaths of office and endeavored by illegal methods to obtain redress for grievances, real or imaginary, complained of by workers in an entirely different sphere. It has secured sufficient evidence to justify the step which has now been taken, and in the arrest of the large number of criminal offenders against public order it has struck a blow at Bolshevism which will be a damper on the aspirations of any who may be inclined to follow the lead of the Winnipeg game. It is gratifying to note that organized labor elsewhere in Canada has refused to permit itself to be led astray by these soap-box orators and that sympathetic strikes which certain I. W. W. workers and Bolsheviks have attempted to arrange have fallen flat because of the common-sense of responsible labor leaders in those other cities who recognize that good can be accomplished only by legitimate methods.

Among those placed under arrest in Winnipeg are the following:  
 R. B. Russell, who participated in the Red Convention at Calgary which passed resolutions for the release of German agitators for the establishment of Soviet Government, and for minority dictatorship of labor by manipulated votes.  
 R. E. Bray, who poses as a returned fighter but who never saw the firing line. On June 2 this man told Premier Norris that he was a Bolshevik out and out and intended to work for the establishment of Soviet Government in Winnipeg.  
 George W. Armstrong, another notorious Red, drew down upon himself the wrath of returned men over the conscription issue. Later he denounced returned soldiers who broke up a Bolshevik meeting which had passed resolutions of greeting and support to the Soviet Government of Russia and the Spartacists of Germany. His wife, Mrs. Helen Armstrong, is another agitator, who has spent some years of her life in an insane asylum.  
 Alderman John Queen, a Socialist, participated in a meeting held in Winnipeg Market Square in 1917, counselling everybody to burn their registration cards and to resist conscription. He had to run for his life from the returned soldiers, who became enraged at his conduct.  
 Rev. William Lyons is editor of the Western Labor News and pastor of the Labor Church.  
 Alderman A. A. Heaps is an upholder by trade and has been active in inflaming the workers of Winnipeg to revolt.  
 Other arrests which may be expected will include Victor Midgley, of Vancouver, the leader of the one day general strike in that city in August last in honor of a military defaulter who was shot while resisting arrest. Midgley was expelled from Vancouver on demand of returned soldiers. W. A. Pritchard, another Vancouver man, participated in the same general strike. Joseph Knight, of Edmonton, is described as one of the most notorious of Western agitators in the mining districts, a man who has demanded the immediate release of traitors who were actively working in Canada for the German Government during the war. Joseph Maylor, of Winnipeg, frankly admits himself a Bolshevik who is out to overturn the present system of government. R. J. Johns, one of the worst of the gang, is a Winnipeg man who endeavored to promote a general strike against conscription and national registration. He went to Toronto and was instrumental in bringing about the unsuccessful general strike there. F. J. Dixon, a member of the Manitoba Legislature, was knocked about by returned soldiers after counselling everybody to burn their registration cards and resist conscription. Andrew Scobie is another prime agitator who favors the release of German spies, the establishment of Soviet rule and proletarian dictatorship.

## A HUSTLER NEEDED.

If we had at City Hall in charge of the Public Works Department a man of energy and determination, this is what would happen. He would go to ride around the town and pick out those streets which bear the heaviest end of the traffic and which are now in need of attention. In the possession of this information he would settle down to the preparation of an estimate of the cost of replacing those streets with permanent paving and in the light of past experience would decide to his own satisfaction whether the work could be done more economically by the city itself than by contract. Having reached his conclusion he would in the ordinary course of his duty prepare a request for an appropriation to be covered by bond issue providing for the construction of the pavement decided upon as necessary during the present year, and even at the threat of his own resignation he would force that vote through Council and proceed at once to get busy. It is quite possible that there might be some objection from other commissioners, but this would speedily be overcome by the expressed wish of the people who will support to the finish any man with a definite policy and a desire to carry it out. The chances are that during his first season of activity some folks might complain that this commissioner was bringing the city to bankruptcy. There are all ways a few who are inclined to talk that way, but by the time the paving programme had been completed the whole town would be behind the commissioner and his reelection would be assured. Citizens who are either too lazy or too indifferent to do things for themselves are usually willing to endorse the activities of the person who will do things for them, and all are ready to admire enterprise in someone else when it is actuated by a desire to be of real service.

In place of that condition, take a look at what we have. Our streets are disgraceful. We have no paving programme for the present season. Money is being frittered away on cheap repairs which scarcely carry traffic for a year. Douglas avenue has been gone over time and again and at the present time it is simply an abomination. The Marsh Road as far as the One-Mile House was half done in a temporary way in the hope that the other side of it might be completed before the first portion played out. The expenditure of a year or so ago was literally thrown away, for the entire roadway will now have to be given attention.

Prince William street, for the greater part of its length, is a mud hole. Union street is patch work. King street, which ought to be the best in town, would not be creditable to Sussex. In fact apart from the few scattered bits of paving here and there throughout the city, we have had no definite plan or policy, and no man in the Council at present appears willing to take up the duty devolving upon our commissioners of creating the streets which we should have. Perhaps it is because these commissioners are afraid of defeat if they spend any more money. So long as that fear is before them, just so long may they count on certain defeat, but even at this late date if any member of the present

Council will formulate and carry through a clear cut policy of street paving he can count on re-election of a practically unanimous vote. Getting down to brass tacks, the people don't care two straws about a few dollars additional taxation so long as they can see that something is being done. It is not too late even now to undertake a worth while expenditure on permanent paving and to have several miles completed before the first starts it. The work need not be confined to any one contractor. Tackle the job on a big scale and let us get somewhere.

## WHAT THEY SAY

## Hoping for More Hop.

Toronto Mail and Empire—From Winnipeg the Bolshevik trouble has hopped about 1,500 miles west to Vancouver. Here's hoping the next hop will be about the same distance further in the same direction.

## What of Public Interest?

New York Evening Post: The one thing absolutely clear about the threatened strike of telephone and telegraph operators, under the call of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, is that the public interest in the matter must receive a consideration which neither of the parties to the dispute appears in the least disposed to give it.

## The Citizen's Right.

New York Times: The right to recognition in collective bargaining too often is regarded as a right to exclude all other workers from their civil rights. The law cannot grant that, for if any union is recognized as must be all unions. The right of unions is undivided and indivisible from the rights of members and non-members alike, for it is a citizen's right which can be neither alienated nor allowed to be invaded.

## Save Good, Avoid Bad.

New York Tribune: The American people have no wish to surrender their independence, their liberty of action, when new questions arise. At the same time the evidence is that they are willing to associate themselves with other nations for peace maintenance. The two claims are reconcilable—at least, it is possible to save the good in the covenant and at the same time avoid the bad. The periodic conference principle would seem to be worth saving, and may be that by use and wont the practice of acting in concert will develop.

## Rocky Path to Prohibition.

Philadelphia Public Ledger: National prohibition is on the way. But to one who is surprised if it develops that it has traversed only an inconceivable portion of the distance in the direction of the goal. If the contentions of the able attorneys who are fighting John Barleycorn's battles may be taken at anything approximating their face value, national prohibition has still a long way to go. One need not be antagonistic to the cause to realize that its pathway is beset by legal pitfalls and constitutional snags.

## Those Who Need Watching.

New York Herald: There is cause for joy in the announcement that the newly appointed head of the bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice intends to begin at once a comprehensive campaign "to destroy Bolshevism and anarchy in the United States." This meets the approval of all respectable and law abiding citizens. It must now be evident to all close observers of current events that the only kind of a republic, indeed the only kind of a government of any kind, deserving long life is one that can and will stamp out all disintegrating forces, whether from below or above.

## Removing Good Restriction.

New York World: This is a matter of no great practical consequence for the present at home, but it is becoming of some consequence in our exterior trade relations. Thus the dollar has fallen to a discount in the South American markets because those markets on their excess of exports to the United States cannot collect their balances due in gold. Exchange on the United States is being pounded down all the time to the injury of our credit there, and to the ultimate injury of our trade, and to the extension of that artificial position in protection of war inflation in the United States which is the only kind of a republic, indeed the only kind of a government of any kind, deserving long life is one that can and will stamp out all disintegrating forces, whether from below or above.



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## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Extol! Big Storm Floods Puds Sinkinsons Celler. After the big thunder and lightning storm last Thursday there was so much watter in Puds Sinkinsons celler that he wasn't allowed to go down even after he offered to put his rubbers on, thereby spoiling his idea to make money by taking people down for 2 cents a trip.  
 Sports. Last Thursday morning at breakfast Benny Potts tried to open his soft boiled egg by just hitting it once with his knife, which he succeeded so good that the insides went all over everything including his fathers vest.

Pome by Skinny Martin.

A Awful Error  
 A man lived in the jungle  
 Ware there wasn't any breeze,  
 So he hired all the savidges  
 To chop down all the trees,  
 And then he cried "Alas alas  
 Ive made a awful bungle,  
 Because without a lot of trees  
 How can you have a jungle?"

Intisting Facks About Intristing People. Leroy Shooter is going to be a inventor wen he grows up, never having invented anything yet but saying he likes the idea and knows ware he can get a book on the subject.  
 Sisley. Miss Mary Watkins came home from the shoe store in a new pair of shoes carrying the old ones in a box last Saturday afternoon, squeezing a little but not much.

## A BIT OF VERSE

NATURAL THEOLOGY.  
 Rudyard Kipling, in "The Years Between."  
 Primitive.  
 I ate my fill of a whale that died  
 And stranded after a month at sea.

There is a pain in my inside,  
 Why have the Gods afflicted me?  
 Ow! I am purged till I am a wraith  
 Wow! I am snot till I cannot see!  
 What is the sense of Religion and Faith?  
 Look how the Gods have afflicted me!

Pagan.  
 How can the skin of rat or mouse hold  
 Anything more than a harmless  
 The burning plague has taken my household.

Why have my Gods afflicted me?  
 All my kith and kin are deceased,  
 Though they were as good as good could be.

I will out and batter the family priest  
 Because my Gods have afflicted me.  
 Mediseval.

My privy and well drain into each other  
 After the custom of Christendie  
 Fevers and fluxes are wasting my

Why has the Lord afflicted me?  
 The Saints are helpless for all I offer—  
 So are the clergy I used to fee.  
 Henceforward I keep my cash in my offer  
 Because the Lord has afflicted me.

Material.  
 I run eight hundred hons to the acre,  
 They die by dozens mysteriously.

I am more than doubtful concerning my Maker.  
 Why has the Lord afflicted me?  
 What a return for all my endeavor!  
 Not to mention the L. S. D.!

I am an atheist now and forever  
 Because this God has afflicted me.  
 Progressive.

Money spent on an Army or Fleet  
 Is homelid lunacy. . . .  
 My son has been killed in the Mons retreat.

Why is the Lord afflicting me?  
 Why are murder, pillage and arson  
 And rape allowed by the Deity?  
 I will write to the Times, deriding  
 on person.

Because my God has afflicted me.  
 Chorus.

We had a kettle; we let it leak;  
 Our not repairing it made it worse.  
 We haven't had any tea for a week . . .

The bottom is out of the Universe!  
 Conclusion.  
 This was none of the good Lord's pleasure.  
 For the Spirit He breathed in Man  
 Is free!

But what comes after is measure for measure,  
 And not a God that afflicteth thee.  
 As was the sowing so the reaping  
 Is now and evermore shall be.  
 Thou art delivered to thy own keeping  
 Only thyself hath afflicted thee!

It's curious, but it's often said  
 And I should like to know  
 Why some men toil to earn their bread  
 And others work for dough.

## A BIT OF FUN

A Real Explanation.  
 The Reckless Auto Driver (rounding a corner at full speed)—Do you hear those cylinders knocking?  
 Timid Companion—Taint the cylinders; it's my knees.

An Absurd Judge.  
 "Madam, why can't you serve on this jury?"  
 "Why, Judge, I have a bridge engagement this afternoon." And she said it so positively that the judge subsided.

Friendly Service.  
 Harduppe—Will you settle a bet for me?  
 Goodtuyng—Gladly. What is it?  
 Harduppe—Ten dollars I lost to Fibbub.

Teaching the Young Ideas.  
 Society Mother, (entertaining)—Don't forget, my dear, that in conversation the interest must not be allowed to flag.  
 Daughter—But I'm sure I do my best.

Mother—Maybe so, but while the pianist was playing just now I thought once or twice that I detected you listening to him.

Professor (to his class): "Gentlemen, I have to apologize for a short delay in beginning this lecture. I have unfortunately left my manuscript at home, and my son—whom I have sent for—it will be here shortly."  
 Professor's Son (returning): "Mother could not find the manuscript and so she sent the book you copied it from."

Mrs. Testy—"What are you burning, my dear?"  
 Mr. Testy—"The letters I wrote you before we were married."  
 Mrs. Testy—"Oh, you heartless wretch! Have you no sentiment, no tender—"

Mrs. Testy—"Shut up, my dear! I'm doing it for your sake. I'm trying to manage things so that when I die nobody will dispute my will on the ground of insanity."

Right or Wrong.  
 A fellow said to a famous sprinter: "I'll race you and beat you if you will let me choose the course and give me a yard's start!"  
 "Fifty dollars to one you don't," said the sprinter. "Name your course."

"Up a ladder," said the challenger.  
 The Host's Comment.  
 "I'm sorry that I cannot finish my shortcake," said the guest at the dinner table.  
 "So am I," replied the host. "You've wasted just about eighty cents worth."

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