

The St. John Standard

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St. John, N. B., Canada. H. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1919.

NOTICE

Effective immediately, The Standard office will operate on Daylight time. The business office opens at eight o'clock (Standard time) and closes at five o'clock. Advertisers will please govern themselves accordingly.

THE FEDERAL GRANT.

Of the Federal Government's contribution towards the construction of permanent highways, New Brunswick will be entitled to a lump sum of eighty thousand dollars, together with fifty cents per head of population, bringing the total amount available to this province up to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. According to the conditions now outlined it is proposed that this sum shall represent forty per cent. of the expenditure to be made by this province on such permanent roads. New Brunswick itself providing by the sale of debentures or otherwise the other sixty per cent., or three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. Should such a plan be eventually adopted this province will have the privilege of receiving such an ory of extravagance on the part of the Honorable Peter Veniot as will wipe out all his past records. With six hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars more in his hands, the irresponsible Minister of Public Works, who managed to spend more than a million dollars during the past year without building one inch of permanent highways, will find himself in a position to help every one of his numerous friends.

It would be a great misfortune to New Brunswick if such a plan as is now proposed were adopted with restriction placed on the method of expenditure. As has been evidenced by the results of the past year's financing, the present Provincial Government is not a government deserving of the trust and confidence of the people, and should not be permitted a free hand in the expenditure of a government fund such as this, or of a capital account raised by the province itself. There should be a sufficiently effective check kept on this work to guarantee to the people of New Brunswick and to the Government of Canada that every cent will go into the construction of really durable roads, that it is not paid out for ditching and grading and similar ordinary repairs as has been done in 1918. And there should be provision that such durable roads as may be decided upon shall be constructed by competent contractors at prices fair and reasonable in the open market. For the accomplishment of this end the Federal Department of Public Works will be well advised if it appoints one or more representatives on a committee which will have in charge the expenditure of this six hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars in New Brunswick when that expenditure is to be made. New Brunswick wants the money. No other province in all Canada is more in need of better roads and it would be a great misfortune if this opportunity were merely utilized for the purpose of giving Peter Veniot another chance to carry on as he has been doing in the past with Provincial finances.

SAVING WASTE.

The Editorial Committee, a comparatively new organization created for the purpose of keeping a check on Government printing, has presented its report. The definite objects for which this Committee was appointed were to eliminate unnecessary printing, to prevent waste of paper, and to save in the cost of paper used by substituting cheaper qualities. Substantial results have been achieved. During the year scores of manuscripts from practically all departments of the Government were cancelled, the number of copies of necessary publications reduced, and office stationery standardized, with the result that an almost unbelievable amount of waste has been prevented. Annual reports of departmental heads and others which were printed in great numbers in previous years have been cut down to the issue annually required, or as near thereto as could be ascertained. Interested officials are required to show details of proposed distribution and by keeping this close check on the output, requisitions for 50,000 of a pamphlet have been reduced to 6,000 copies, which latter amount has been found quite sufficient. In the Auditor General's report alone, which a year ago was cut down by 1,300 volumes, a saving of six tons of paper was thus effected, worth \$1,200, while this year there will be a further reduction of 1,600 volumes with a corresponding saving. To these amounts should be added the cost of printing, binding, etc., and when it is remembered that this report is now printed in both languages in place of English and French having volumes of their own, it will readily be believed that a saving of \$30,000 per year has been made on this one item. It is pointed out in

the report that various Government Departments which have been accepting annually 500 free copies of their own reports did not know what to do with these and hit upon the expedient of sending them in bunches to various other departmental offices. Where any of these reports were sent out by mail to individual addresses it was found that the mailing list was practically identical with that prepared and utilized by the Printing Bureau, so that the recipients of these favors almost invariably received duplicate copies. In short, the Committee found that it had an excellent field in which to work and that by the savings effected it has more than justified its appointment.

THE KINMEL AFFAIR.

Six Canadian soldiers are facing court martial in England on the charge of participation in the riot at Kinmel Camp. The Legislature of New Brunswick has placed itself on record as favoring the postponement of the trial of the New Brunswick men involved until all necessary evidence can be secured, many of the witnesses interested being scattered throughout Canada. It has already been made absolutely clear that the trouble in Rhyl was a protest against existing conditions, a violent expression of disappointment over the unnecessary delay in transport of troops to Canada, and it is equally clear from the action already taken by the military authorities in England that the complaints of the men were justified. The Olympic and Aquitania which were diverted from Canadian service to please the people of the United States have, since then, been restored, and since the riot occurred the Olympic has made a trip to Halifax, the Adriatic which has taken the place of the Aquitania for a round trip has also arrived, and the Carmania, a third big liner, is now in Canadian service. Apparently it required the death of a number of Canadian soldiers to bring the overseas military authorities to their senses, but from all accounts the looked-for reform in the methods of demobilization has not yet been completed. There is still complaint on the other side that the men who have served longest are being kept in France, Belgium and Germany until the last, and that those who but recently went over are given first chance to return.

In connection with the court martial now in progress, it may readily be believed that the men who were arrested were not taken into custody without sufficient evidence to justify that step. This, however, is not the important point. What must be regretted is the existence of conditions which forced Canadian soldiers to such action as would never have occurred to them had even reasonably fair treatment been accorded.

WINNIPEG SUFFERS TOO.

Winnipeg in common with many other cities in Canada, has come to the conclusion that the alarm in increase in rentals is due almost wholly to the falling off in building operations during the past four or five years, and that the only remedy will be found in the construction on an extensive scale of new homes. Pending action along this line the Winnipeg council is considering a proposal to appraise all blocks in the city for the purpose of ascertaining fair rental values in different zones and with this information fix rents in due proportion to cost, maintenance and taxation.

In view of the condition of the road and the rolling stock, the street car smash in Lancaster on Saturday evening occasions no surprise. The wonder is that we have had so few of these serious incidents. Speaking roughly, the section between the bridge and Tilton's Corner is good for an average of one derailment per day. The old rattlertrap parading there under the name of cars should not be permitted to operate. Unfortunately the people who have to use street cars are not the ones in a position to exert an influence for improvements. Such people have cars of their own, and know little about what the other ninety per cent. ride in.

With legislative precedent so fresh in their minds it is strange that our vacillating council even went to the trouble of discussing the daylight problem on Saturday morning. It should have been referred at once to the Supreme Court, which seems to be the last resort of those who are unable or unwilling to support their own opinions. True the members of the council all look forward to an other election, and are anxious to avoid any step which may lose a vote.

WHAT THEY SAY

Cannot Afford Butter. Montreal Gazette—Yesterday on the local market butter sold at 65c. a pound solid and 68c. in blocks. Such prices were never paid before in Montreal. The retail price is 75 cents, and will probably be 75 cents in a month or two. Large purchases of margarine were made by dealers at 33c. to 34c. a pound, and there is heavy and increasing consumption. The facts are a convincing argument for a continuation of the oleomargarine business. Thousands of citizens cannot afford to eat butter at the present high cost, and to deprive them of the healthy substitute would be most unjust and calculated to add to the widespread

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True to Ideals.

New York Herald—Fugitive Crown Prince's mother-in-law brands him as wife beater. This being generally understood to be the favorite Teuton indoor sport, disclosure may create a reaction in his favor in Germany.

Chooses.

Toronto Star—The instinct of self-preservation, if no higher motive, should lead one to have done well under the present order, to ask themselves whether the injustices of existing industrial conditions are less than those with which they are being threatened by revolutionary changes.

The Butter Boost.

Hamilton Herald—With the price of butter higher than ever before, the agitation for having the can put on margarine is about the limit of selfishness on the part of the dairy interest. That interest is demanding that the consumer be bound hand and foot in order that they may not be outdone while the dairy interest robs him.

Irreclaimable.

New York Herald—German agent tries to burn transport bearing Boston. As Tom Moore might have said, you may break, you may shatter the Hun as you will, but the faintest of his shrieked clings to him still.

Not Ours Returned.

London, Ont. Free Press—Mr. Philip Gibb has been hurt by our failure to speak more freely of the wondrous tenacity and valor of the British Tommy. And we have to confess that there is justification for his complaining. We have been so occupied with our own case that we have not given the consideration to the fighting men of the otherland that has been their due. This has been through no want of good intent, but because we have been absorbed in pride and thought for our own men.

The Canadians were first among the allies to withstand a gas attack. With great fortitude they held on, and the British soldiers. They have said of them that they saved the Empire that day. But he did not add, as he might have done, that of one British regiment who relieved the Canadians on this occasion not an officer or a man returned.

Annexation Talk.

The Victoria Times—There is about as much prospect of Canada being annexed to the United States within the next ten years as the next ten years of the United States being annexed to the British Empire. There is no important sentiment in this Dominion in favor of the "amalgamation" as Senator Edwards calls it, and his alleged assertion that there is would suggest that his imagination has been playing tricks with him.

Nor is there any general desire for such a union among the people of the United States. They have troubles enough of their own to keep them busy for a good many years and they are not looking for more. Finally, there should be no place in the Canadian Parliament for anybody holding the views attributed to Senator Edwards.

A BIT OF VERSE

Gethsemane.
The world is dark with sorrow and unrest;
Turn Thou our faces to Gethsemane
That we may follow the divine behest,
And for an hour keep vigil, Lord, with Thee.

The shadows deepened on Judea's hills,
Beyond her mighty hills the sun had set,
The last gleam faded from her stately domes,
And from the purple ridge of Olivet,
Yet deeper shadows rested on the hill
Above the grove which Jesus loved so well;
And on the Garden bordering Kedron's hill,
On that dread night how deep the darkness fell.

There, knelt He in an agony of prayer,
"Whom with the vision of the Cross and shame,
The tempter's whispers goading to despair,
And fainting nature echoing the same.

The voice that broke the slumber of the grove,
That gave the blind their sight and soled pain,
The voice that calmed the wild Tiber, ran wave,
Now in the hour of darkness pleads in vain.
O night of nights! O depth of deepest woe!
When o'er the guiltless swept the tide of sin,
That we its bitterness should never know,
That He for us immortal life should win!

—E. S. GODFREY.

Ottawa, April 13, 1919.

In "The Song of the Derelict," the poet presents the novel image of a derelict craft at once complaining against the sea and taunting it.

The Song of the Derelict.

By Lieut.-Col. John McCrae.
Ye have sung me your songs, ye have charmed your rime,
(I scorn your beguiling, O sea!)
Ye fondle me now, but to strike me betimes,
(A treacherous lover, the sea!)
Once I saw as I lay, half-awash, in the night,
A hull in the gloom—a quick ball—and a light,
And I lurched o'er to leeward and saved her for spite,
From the doom that ye meted to me.
I was sister to Terrible, seventy-four,
(Ye ho! for the swing of the sea!)

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Time is divided into hours, minutes and seconds, especially seconds. Every minute has 60 seconds, even in February, which only has 28 days. There is 24 hours every day including Sundays and holidays. The first 6 take place early in the morning while people are asleep and are therefore the least used, only being necessary for milkmen and people coming home late.

The sun rises about 5 o'clock every morning weather anybody is up to see it or not. Before clocks were invented people used to tell time by the sun, except on rainy days when they probably told by how hungry they got. But all they had to do nowadays is ask somebody with a watch, and if they tell them, all they had to do is ask somebody else, and so on till they find out, only by that time it might be later than when they started to ask.

If a clock starts to keep on telling the same time, it's a sign that somebody forgot to wind it, thus making it tell what time it was instead of what time it is. Clocks are not to be dropped too often on account of their delicate works.

Time seems extra long while you are waiting for supper to be ready, and extra short when you only have a minute before you have to get up in the morning. It passes so quick while you are asleep that babies must not hardly notice it at all on account of them sleeping so much. Babies would properly think, how time flies, if they could think.

Each day is divided into day time and night time, the easiest way to tell them apart being by the color. Some children are, tawny to tell time when they are so young they can hardly tell anything else.

And ye sank her in fathoms a thousand or more
(Alas! for the night of the sea!)
Ye taunt me and sing me her fate for a sign!
What harm can ye wreak more on me
Can ye on mine?
Ho, bragging! I care not for boasting
Of the wrath of the sea!

Some night to the lee of the land I shall tread,
(Heigh-ho to be home from the sea!)
No pilot but Death at the rudderless helm,
(None knoweth the harbor as he!)
To lie where the slow tide creeps
hither and fro
And the shifting sands lap me around,
For I know
That my gallant old crew are in Port
long ago
For ever at peace with the sea!

A BIT OF FUN

Sort of a 23 1/2 per cent. Relative.
"I just asked Mr. Blank for a loan of \$20."
"A near relative, isn't he?"
"Yes, he put me off with fifty cents."

Shocking News.
Mrs. Huskiny (with letter from the medical student)—Sakes alive! Hiram, he says that he's learnin' how to torture a—
"I think it's a—"
"I am a firm believer in the prophecy that 'the country which God made is better than the town, which man made,' then why shouldn't the farmer dictate, once in a while to the city man, or, if you will, the business man. Which one is the more independent today, the farmer or the business man?" When the hired man or men leave at 6 o'clock it is up to the farmer to muster the female help of his farm to complete the work which must be done before the shades of another night fall. The man who provides you with berries has to gather them, and the condition they reach you in depends on the time they were picked: while wet? under scorching sun? etc. You city folk who have never had (and probably never will have) a privilege of living "near to Nature's heart," on the farm, know not "whereof you speak," but "where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise." Please remember the farmers and the laboring men are human. They are not mere machines. They are men with all the God-given instincts of men.

Thanking you Mr. Editor for your courtesy in allowing me space, I am Yours sincerely,
FARMER'S DAUGHTER.
Randolph, St. John Co., N. B.

They Supply the Words.
"Why did the composer arrange those songs without words?"
"Evidently he was accustomed to an ultra fashionable audience."
—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Bala'ced.
She-Jack, what can equal the warmth of a true woman's love?
The love of a true woman's love?
"Yes, he put me off with fifty cents."

Didn't Think of it Before.
Miss Gingham—I saw your picture at the exhibition, Mr. Brush, and it was just heavenly.
Mr. Brush—Heavenly, eh? Maybe that is why it was "skayed."

Sticking to the Stix.
Talkative Shade—About time you started an aerial ferry, old man.
Charon—Your joke is returned with thanks. How do you suppose a bird of my age could get by these upsetting aviation tests?

Fencing.
He—Miss Willing, I'm going to propose to you.
She—Really, Mr. Phoxy, this is so sudden.
He—That we have some ice cream.
She—Oh, I shall be delighted.
He—Some evening when the weather gets warmer.

Limited Objection.
Jack—So Kitty's parents objected to her marrying?
Tom—No, only to her marrying me.

Worst Garden Pests Removed.
"So you're gardening every season now?"
"Sure-lee! I have a fair chance at it. All the neighbors are too busy with their own gardens to stand around laughing at me."

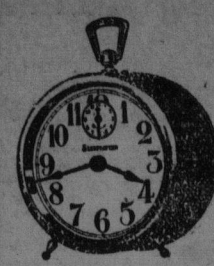
THE EDITOR'S MAIL

IN BEHALF OF FARMER.
To the St. John Standard:—
Referring to the letter of F. W. Holt in The Standard of April 12th, I feel I cannot but take up the cudgel in behalf of the farmer. As an explanation of myself, let me say, I am not a farmer, but I am a farmer's daughter, at present earning my own living away from the farm. Not because the "land which gave me birth" is better fitted for raising trees, than country produce which you know is very necessary to the city-borne. So far as I am concerned personally, it does not make any difference to me, the time I am obliged to use at my work, but I am broadminded enough to understand the reasons for objections on the part of the laboring man, and I have lived and worked on a farm under daylight time, and I therefore know just what that means to the farmer. True, the farmer meets trains on daylight time. Why? to provide the city man, railway officials included, with the food necessary to his

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VITAL STATISTICS.

Seven marriages were recorded during the past week. There were eleven births registered—nine boys and two girls.

Twenty-one deaths for the week are reported by the Board of Health as follows:

Tuberculosis 4

Broncho-pneumonia 2

Pneumonia 2

Malaria 1

Menigitis 1

Hemiplegia 1

Peritonitis 1

Heart disease 1

Periculous anaemia 1

Carcinoma of intestines 1

Influenza pneumonia 1

Fracture of skull 1

Tubercular meningitis 1

SATURDAY AUCTION SALES.

At Chubb's Corner, Saturday noon, Auctioneer F. L. Potts offered for sale the leasehold two family dwelling house, No. 48 Bellview avenue, belonging to the estate of Mary McFee. Florence M. Cochran was the purchaser for \$700.

The sale of property lately occupied by the Children's Aid Society, Elliot Row, was postponed.

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