

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1920.

## A SATISFACTORY SITUATION

When Sir Henry Drayton introduced his Budget proposals last session, he made the announcement that it was his intention to, if possible, make the revenue and expenditure balance, and that there would not be any more loans. He had facing him tremendous objections, which included the large amount called for an interest on the war debt, a growing pension list, soldiers' civil re-establishment and soldiers' settlement scheme, as well as the innumerable ordinary demands from all sides on the Treasury. In the face of these things, his desire to make ends meet, while highly laudable, appeared to be easier said than done. But notwithstanding the difficulties he has had to face, the outlook for Sir Henry is quite encouraging.

The situation at present seems to be that not only will Sir Henry be able to accomplish his object, but he will be able to pay off some \$74,000,000 of treasury bills which fell due last October. The public revenue has been much more buoyant than was anticipated. Revenue for the first eight months of the fiscal year totaled \$236,094,000, as against \$218,027,000 in the corresponding period last year, an increase of 35 per cent. Ordinary expenditure has not shown as great an increase, while capital expenditure was only \$27,013,000, as against \$251,120,000 last year, the most of this large figure being to complete demobilization.

The preliminary figures for the eight months are as follows:

	1919	1920
Revenue	\$218,027,000	\$236,094,000
Ordinary expenditure	202,536,000	238,349,000
Capital expenditure	251,120,000	27,013,000

Of the revenue, \$124,000,000 was derived from customs, or about 40 per cent. Free traders have not yet adequately explained how this large proportion of the revenue would be met if the tariff was wiped out. If for no other reason than for revenue alone Canada will need a customs tariff for many years.

## THE AMERICAN TARIFF BILL

During the last few years prices for farm produce on both sides of the line have been remarkably good and the farming community in both Canada and the United States have made some easy money. Now that prices are showing a strong tendency to come down, there is considerable heart-burning among those communities. Their crops have been raised under all the conditions of high prices of labor, implements and supplies; but by the time their crops were ready to market there had been a sharp fall in prices of most of them. Many farmers would like to hold their produce for a time, in the hope that prices would go up again, but to do this considerable financial assistance would be required—what in the case of the American farmers, is not forthcoming from the banks, whose resources are in many cases pretty well tied up already. They are therefore driven to resort to some other method for assistance.

As a result an Emergency Tariff Bill to apply for ten months, has been rushed through the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, by a vote of 136 to 85. The bill proposes heavy duties on almost the whole list of agricultural products, duties which in some cases are higher even than those of the Republican tariff law of former years. Party lines were considerably broken in the division. Some Republicans, avowed protectionists, held that tariff legislation should be left to the new Congress. Some Democrats, traditionally favorable to low tariffs, became alarmed by the complaints of the farmers and supported the Emergency Tariff Bill.

There is thus a departure from the ordinary slow process of tariff revision. But the first rush is over and the bill will now have to await more deliberate consideration. The Senate is not likely to be stampeded as the House has been. The parties in the Senate are pretty equally divided. The Republicans have a bare majority, if they have that. While there may be some break in the party lines, as there was in the House, the bolters from the Democratic standard are likely to be fewer, and in any case there will be enough opposition to the bill to oblige its promoters to be less hasty. The power of any considerable group of Senators to talk a measure out has more than once been exhibited. The authority of the present Congress ends on the 4th of March. The Republican leaders will find much difficulty in getting the bill through its various stages before that time.

In the end there is the President. It is hardly probable that Mr. Wilson will be willing, as one of the best aids of his Presidential career, to consent to a measure which is so much at variance

with his principles. He is likely to veto the bill if it ever reaches him, and the supporters of the measure may not be strong enough to carry it over his veto.

In discussing this measure, the Journal of Commerce expresses the view that time is likely to favor the opponents of the measure. Indeed, the tone of the debate in the House did not indicate that the friends of the bill expected it to become law at this session. One Republican supporter frankly said he would not have voted for the bill if he had believed that it would pass the Senate. The desire to please the farmers is easy to understand, it is questionable, however, whether the measure, if enacted, would provide the relief that the farmers desire, and there are other interests which will make themselves felt when the subject is calmly considered. If the bill is to give the American farmer a higher price for his wheat, for example, he can only get it at the expense of the consumer, and any policy which aims at increasing or maintaining the high cost of living is not likely to find favor with the masses of the people.

Canada is as much interested, as the American farmer, in an important one to our farmers. It would be idle to think otherwise. The balance of trade between the United States and our neighbors, Canada is one of their best customers. If in the face of that fact they undertake to virtually shut our products out of their markets, there will naturally arise on this side of the line a desire for retaliation. These things will not make for the good relations between the two countries that from every point of view are desirable.

## THE POSITION OF QUEBEC

The Liberal party has always fallen back upon Quebec as its great stronghold, and is now making its hopes to practically a solid representation from that province after the next election. Whether the party's expectations are going to be justified, remains to be seen; but it is clear that whatever Quebec may think of the present Government it at least has no sympathy with free trade, which will be the main issue upon which the next election will be fought. This was shown by the testimony before the Tariff Commission; there was an almost unanimous vote in favor of protection. Quebec papers, also, irrespective of politics, are strongly opposed to free trade, and Hon. Mackenzie King, apparently, has not gained strength in the province by his repeated utterances that the aims of the Liberals and Farmers' parties are identical.

Recently, La Minerve, one of the leading French-Canadian papers of Montreal said:

"As can readily be seen, the new 'National Liberal and Conservative' party has the only true principle which protects the Canadian labourer. According to the free trade 'policy of Oremar and of King, the Canadian labourer who is out of work, has but one alternative: Go and seek work outside of Canada.' And again:

"The ridiculous claims of the Liberal 'press will change nothing to the real facts. The Farmers' party is a radical 'free trade party; the Liberal party 'has no settled tariff policy; free trade in principle, he has applied 'protection when he administered the 'affairs of the country, and today he 'has to coach it, a nebulous leader 'who seeks eagerly an alliance with 'the free trade farmer; the National 'Liberal and Conservative party is the 'party of moderate protection.'"

Another prominent French-Canadian paper, Le Jevril says:

"Having seen the hopes of a union 'with the Farmers' Party shattered, 'will the Liberal party attempt an alliance with the National Liberal and 'Conservative party? The National 'Liberal and Conservative party is 'well organized, it has ample funds; 'it has at the head of the organization men of talent and of ability; 'it is preparing an efficient press service. This party has on its side all 'the forces of the manufacturing and 'Imperialists, and these constitute a 'powerful factor in Canadian politics.'"

When the Wall Street Journal advises Canadians to do more of their shopping at home, and less in the United States, it is time for Canadian buyers of unnecessary imported articles to rub their eyes, and wake up.

The way they dream now, some of the girls show about everything but their ears and their judgment.—Ohio State Journal.

Perhaps it is to improve the saying "little children should be seen and not heard" that modern girls decree their "little ears shall hear" but not be seen.—Burlington.

## DRIVING BISHOPS OUT OF PALACES

(Mail and Empire.)

Just as we added lavishly to the ranks of the newly rich, so the aftermath of war has contributed largely to the population of the newly poor. The latest, unwilling candidates for the ranks of the poor are the bishops of England. We learn from recent letters in the press that several of them have come to the conclusion that it is just only unwise, but impossible, to keep up their palaces. Several are offered for rent, their former occupants moving into less lordly but more comfortable quarters. They are almost in the position of the landed proprietors who have large estates and beautiful homes, but not the ready money with which to pay their various taxes, and at the same time maintain a decent splendor.

**Tendency of Religion.**

Mr. George Carlin, a London correspondent of the Detroit Free Press, introduces the subject thus: "Is religion going to the devil in England?" was the amazing question I heard last evening in the stuffy old room where the clergy are quite common sight. The writer asked why such a question should be asked, as the habits of writers devoid of answers. "A people that won't pay their persons, even their bishops, enough to live on don't care enough for God or don't believe in the clergy are His representatives." Although Canadians do not suitably reward their clergy, the question has not publicly been raised as to the tendency of religion. It is rather astonishing that in the Established Church of England there should be an outcry against the miserly wages paid.

**Result of Taxes.**

But the war can be blamed. It is not so much the cost of living, which affects everybody, that is worrying the bishops, but the taxes which are designed to pay the cost of the war. In England income is taxed in two classes, earned income, and income that is not earned. In the first class would go professional fees; in the second would go interest on investments. The expert at the treasury, evidently confusing investments with vestments, has decided that the income of bishops is unearned, and that it is subject to a higher tax. With regard to the Bishop of Lichfield, whose case is typical, the thing works thus: Income \$210,000; taxes, \$10,000; church expenses, \$6,500 and balance in hand, \$4,500. Out of the amount in hand the bishop has to do his charitable work, and he is expected to be great, and pay for his living and the expenses of a retinue of servants. The bishop says that it costs at least \$10,000 a year to maintain the palace. Therefore, he abandoned it for less impressive apartments.

**Burden of a Palace.**

The average income of a bishop is about \$25,000 a year, and a residence. A Toronto housewife might amuse her self by calculating the expenses necessary to rid a mile of stair carpet of the inevitable peanut shells and ashes. When she arrived at the answer she will not be surprised to learn that Rev. E. S. Talbot is likely to move from his palace and emancipate himself from the bondage of a mile of stair carpet.

**Bishops Are Evacuating.**

The Bishop of London some time ago gave up his mansion in St. James's Square. The Bishop of Lichfield also left his palace. The Bishop of Durham, the most powerful of the English hierarchy, Canon Hensley Henson, has done likewise, and half a dozen others of the high dignitaries of the church have admitted that they cannot maintain the dignity that is expected of them on the salaries they are allowed. When their rate of compensation was decided by a Parliamentary Committee some eighty years ago, it was considered handsome. Bishops could keep up their palaces and still be leaving a comfortable estate. They were not to be permitted for the railway porter or signal man to employ his spare time and add to his earnings by doing work which other unions considered to be "detrimental to their wages." They must not, it would appear, be allowed even to play a musical instrument or paint a door and accept recompense for the service, in case the interests and feelings of the Musicians' or the Painters' Union might be hurt. The practices must be "stamped out" it is said that the Painters' Society have made a grievance of the fact that trade unionists who are not painters paint and decorate their own dwellings; and there has been a similar complaint by shoemakers against the practice in thrifty working-class households of repairing the family boots at home.—Burlington.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

**Sparetime Earnings.**

Under the rules by which the unions seek to bind their members more and more tightly to prescribed hours and kinds of labor, it is not to be permissible for the railway porter or signal man to employ his spare time and add to his earnings by doing work which other unions considered to be "detrimental to their wages." They must not, it would appear, be allowed even to play a musical instrument or paint a door and accept recompense for the service, in case the interests and feelings of the Musicians' or the Painters' Union might be hurt. The practices must be "stamped out" it is said that the Painters' Society have made a grievance of the fact that trade unionists who are not painters paint and decorate their own dwellings; and there has been a similar complaint by shoemakers against the practice in thrifty working-class households of repairing the family boots at home.—Burlington.

**South Africa and the Empire.**

General Smuts' arrangements for raising the South African and Unionist Parties in order to defend the Imperial connection are progressing favorably. He has not the executive of the Union Party, and the latter has endorsed his plans. An election in January is, therefore, probable. Both parties to this agreement are to be congratulated upon their statesmanship. The old party arrangements had resulted in unstable gov-

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAE

Saturday afternoon me and Leroy Shoster and Skinny Martin was outside my house and Nora stuck her head out the front door saying, Benny, don't you be dirtying up those front steps now or you'll hear from me, do you understand?

And she stuck her head back again, and Leroy Shoster sed, G, do you allow your cook to boss you, holey smoke.

Jimmy Kriesman id never allow our cook to boss me, sed Skinny Martin, and I sed, Aw, whose cook bosses them, wait you tawkin about, if she had kept her head out there a minute longer id of told her a few things all rite, that's why she didn't keep it out there.

Aw, do you expect us to believe that, like fun, anybody can see she bosses you, do you expect us to believe that? they sed, and I sed, Well do you want to see me sass her, come on back with me and ill soon leave you see me sass her.

And I went in and started to wawk back to the kitchen, and Skinny and Leroy following me, and Nora was sweeping the dining room floor, saying, Harr, heer, wat do you mean by bringing chem boys tramping throo my clean house?

Wat boys, wat house, wats the matter? I sed, Being pritty good sass, and Nora sed, Who you tawking back to? Get out of heer.

We aint in there yet, how can we get out before we're in? I sed, Being swell sass, and Nora sed, If I get hold of you ill show you how, And she started to run at us with the broom and we ran out of the house again fast as the dickins, and woa we got out I sed, Well, you har? who was boss, didn't you?

We certeny did, sed Skinny and Leroy, Meaning they still didn't think it was me.

ernment. General Hertzog made it impossible for the two Dutch parties to combine. He is resolutely separatist. Moreover, such a combination would have meant the marshalling of the people on racial lines, an arrangement most unfavorable to sound politics. The union between General Smuts and Sir Thomas Smuts creates a party which is not racial, but South African, and which stands for a definite policy, which we believe to be in the best interests not only of the Empire, but of South Africa herself.—Westminster Gazette.

## THE LAUGH LINE

Nobody—a prominent woman's husband.

A Versatious Epitaph.  
 On a tombstone in New Jersey—  
 "Julia Adams, Died of Thin Bones, Aged 19 years."—Boston Transcript.

Old Formula Best.  
 There may be some new-fangled method of achieving success, that looks good for a time, but we don't believe that any man has ever improved on the old formula of hard work and honesty.—Seaford (Ark.) Citizen.

Not Enough to Go 'Round.  
 "Jack, how is it that you never bring any good marks home from school?"  
 "Oh, papa, there are such a lot of us that when my turn comes there are none left."—Edinburgh Scotsman.

STILL MURDERING POLICE.  
 Cork, Dec. 30.—Armed civilians are reported to have ambushed a police patrol in Middleton, County Cork, last night killing one policeman and wounding several others.

At the same time another ambush occurred on a Cork road in which it is believed one soldier was shot.

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## New Bank for St. John



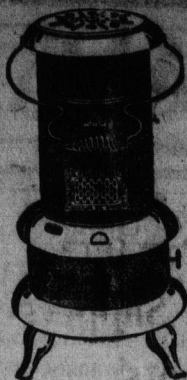
THE Standard Bank of Canada announces the opening of a branch in St. John on Wednesday, December 8th, at the Corner of King and Germain Streets, under the management of Mr. W. L. Caldwell. January 3rd.

## THE STANDARD BANK OF CANADA

## CONDENSED STATEMENT October 30th, 1920

LIABILITIES	
Capital paid up	\$ 2,000,000.00
Reserve Fund	4,500,000.00
Undivided Profits	431,232.16
Deposits	4,862,368.00
Notes in circulation	94,920,330.56
Due to other Banks	2,518,671.58
Bills payable (acc. by London Corres.)	24,948.13
Acceptances under Letters of Credit	141,865.61
	\$22,965,025.00
ASSETS	
Cash on hand and in Banks	\$12,708,794.53
Deposits in Central Gold Reserves	2,000,000.00
Government and Municipal Securities	11,250,591.02
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	763,432.07
All Loans in Canada	8,776,708.11
	\$22,555,522.70
Loans and Discounts	59,210,451.84
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit as per Contra.	141,865.61
Bank Premises	1,560,000.00
Real Estate other than Bank Premises, Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank	89,760.00
Deposits with Dominion Government for security of Note Circulation	175,000.00
Other Assets not included in foregoing	120,017.46
	\$23,863,626.81

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FUNERALS.

Funeral of Thomas B. was held yesterday afternoon at the residence of his daughter, O. Watson, 80 Oxbow street, Hill. Service was conducted by Rev. G. A. Kurling.

Service in connection with the funeral of Joseph B. Shaw was held yesterday night at his late residence, 1000 Main street, conducted by Rev. G. A. Kurling. The body was taken early train yesterday morning for the settlement, Quebec via Norton.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

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