

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1921.

## THE ROADS

Mr. Veniot has been giving the Farmers and Dairy men a spiel on the road question, and doubtless a very interesting one. The newspaper reports of what he said are necessarily short and incomplete, but they are sufficient to indicate the "high spots" of his subject. He is credited with having made the statement that New Brunswick was the only province or state in Canada or the United States which did not have a Municipal Road Tax. Yet according to the Comptroller-General's report on Public Accounts we find the Municipal Road Tax brought in \$75,290 in 1919. Mr. Veniot however says there is a road tax in the province amounting to \$224,000, of which \$31,000 was deducted, and \$48,000 was paid out in Statute Labor, and on the latter there was a return of not more than \$20,000. The obvious thing to do under such circumstances is to abolish Statute Labor. The average man who is working out his road tax in Statute Labor in the course of an eight-hour day, does about two hours' work, or perhaps less; and the man who is paid for working on the roads does about four hours' work in the day, in either case the municipality is a heavy loser.

The proposition has been made by Mr. Veniot, that the municipalities should assume responsibility for some of the branch roads, and that the province will contribute dollar for dollar of the amount provided by the municipalities for the purpose. Mr. Veniot knows perfectly well that at most every scheme for the maintenance of the roads that the ingenuity of man can suggest has already been tried, and proven a failure, the simple reason being that it is impossible to get an honest expenditure of the money. Every man who handles road funds expects to make something out of them for himself. Time is kept in any sort of fashion—if it is kept at all—and the men with the picks and shovels take nine hours to do a stretch of road that could readily be done in three, if honest effort were put into the work.

## WILSON AS A LAWYER

Ex-President Wilson and ex-Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby propose to open a law business with offices in New York and Washington, though it is said that the laws of New York State will not permit him to practice there. Mr. Wilson is a lawyer, but in the language of a Nova Scotia barrister who was a Parliamentary candidate in a rural constituency where the legal fraternity were not popular, he might say that he is "not much of a lawyer." He graduated in law at the University of Virginia in 1881 and practised the profession for two years in Atlanta, Georgia. That he then abandoned the law is indicated by an official biography of him published while he was Governor of New Jersey, which states that "while the principles of the law and its study interested him, the practical business side of it did not." This "the record continues," may be said to have been the turning point in his career and decided his future sphere of work. The sphere was education, literature and politics. In returning to the practice of law now it is reasonable to believe that he does so not because he has any new love for it, but because his circumstances require him to do so. Though the salary and allowances of the President of the United States are handsome the occasions for large outlay are many. Presidents do not usually retire from office as rich men.

The Journal of Commerce thinks that it is high time that the great Republic made provision for a generous pension to a retiring President and that a wise policy would be to give a President a six or seven years term, forbid re-election, and allow him for the remainder of life a pension equal to half his salary while in office. Under the present system a President spends a considerable part of his time in planning for re-election. A fixed term of seven years, followed by a pension, would be better for the nation and fairer for the President. In this connection, however, it must not be forgotten that the late Andrew Car-

negie left a large amount of money to be used to provide a retiring allowance for ex-Presidents.

## POULTRY RAISING

Some pretty sound advice seems to have been tendered to the Farmers of New Brunswick by Mr. P. C. Elford, the Dominion Poultry Superintendent, on the question of poultry keeping. Considering the comparatively small amount of capital involved in starting poultry keeping, and the excellent returns that are available from the industry, it is surprising that greater interest is not shown in it. There is an insatiable demand for poultry products, and there is little fear of over production. Moreover the fact that during the winter season shipments of poultry to Britain can be made two or three times a week from St. John gives all the market that could possibly be desired.

Many people who have small backyards might keep a few hens with considerable advantage to themselves. Some do so, and they find how convenient it is to gather in a few eggs a day in the months when new laid eggs are things not easily found in the market. The cost of keeping a few hens is almost nil, the scraps from the kitchen provide the bulk of the food required, with the additional advantage that the food thus provided is of a great variety.

Poultry farming on a large scale is of course as exacting as any other highly specialized business, but the average farmer does not lay himself out along these lines. His flock is as a rule comparatively small, and is mainly self-supporting, and is looked upon usually as a side line of little account. Quite a number of farmers however are beginning to discover that property looked after and fussed with no branch of their calling pays them better than their henery.

According to Mr. Veniot, there are 5,583 motor vehicles owned in the rural districts of the province, presumably by the farming community. In many respects this is a good sign; the greater the number of cars owned in the country districts, the less will be the tendency of country dwellers to move to town. There can be no doubt that a motor car makes a tremendous difference in farm life. It and decent roads are proving powerful factors in enabling rural life to compete with city life in attractiveness. The farmer who is a car owner is practically in constant touch with the town or city that is his marketing centre. The motor cars secure for him better advantage in the markets and enable his family to enjoy most of the amenities of life that dwellers in urban centres enjoy. The farmer with an automobile is in much the same position in respect of marketing, entertainment, and social advantages as the suburbanite.

Referring to the debate on the Address, The Times thinks that "eloquence which usually occupies the first week of the session might well be curtailed." We entirely agree, and it may be that the debate this year will be short. Nearly half of the members are new, and while they may not be exactly shy, they will probably desire to get more familiar with their surroundings before launching forth into debate. After the leader of the Opposition has been heard in criticism of the Speech, and the Premier has replied, further discussion is practically waste of time. No new arguments are ever or seldom advanced; it is merely repetition. Words, words, words.

The Nova Scotia Government is in that position where it must look around for new sources of revenue. It would be a graceful action on the part of Premier Foster, remembering that he himself was in a similar fix some time ago—and probably is in it still—to draw his brother Premier's attention to the existence and qualifications of that eminent taxation expert, the Rev. Prof. Kierstead. Of course the trifling fact that the ex-Food Controller (like Mr. Copp) has not prepared himself to do work of any value along this line, and that his performance is likely to be in accord with his preparation, doesn't matter in the least.

Referring to Commissioner Frink's project for removing the unsightly telephone and other poles from the streets, one is inclined to say "More power to him." Poles are out of date in the modern city now-a-days; they may do for country districts and one-horse towns, but no city with any regard for its reputation suffers their continuance in those times, not in the leading thoroughfares at any rate. Wires can be placed underground or strung over the houses—as is done in England—just as well as carried along the streets.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

## Would Like To Know

That portion of the U. S. seems so busily engaged in hostile criticism of England's treatment of Ireland should, for a change, tell just what they would do were they occupying England's position.—Hamilton Spectator.

"Black" Horror in Germany. France employs no black troops in the occupation of German territory, but that fact did not prevent the holding of a great mass meeting of German and Irish Americans in New York to protest against that "horror,"—Hamilton Herald.

Good Talk. Major-General Leonard Wood recently told the American people by way of an address to the Army and Navy Club, that "if we ever go back on our allies, the millions who are buried in France and Belgium will have died in vain." It is about time that some leading Americans began to talk this way.—Manitoba Free Press.

Government by Commission. The old cry against Union Government that it was a government by commission is no longer heard in the land. The reason is to be found in the fact that the present Farmers' administration at Toronto has appointed nearly a commission a week since it was returned to power. Every time a new problem has arisen there has been a fresh commission. Altogether some 30 commissions of inquiry of various kinds have been named.—London Free Press.

## A BIT OF VERSE

## THE DUEL

The gingham dog and the calico cat side by side on the table sat;  
 'Twas half-past twelve, and (what do you think?)  
 Nor one nor (other) had slept a wink!  
 The old Dutch clock and the Chinese plate  
 Appeared to know as sure as fate  
 There was going to be a terrible spat.  
 (It wasn't there; I simply state)  
 What was told to me by the Chinese plate!

The gingham dog went "how-wow-wow!"  
 And the calico cat replied "meow-meow!"  
 And the air was streaked for an hour or so  
 With bits of gingham and calico,  
 While the old Dutch clock in the chimney-place  
 Up with its hands before its face,  
 For it always dreaded a family row,  
 (Now mind, I'm only telling you)  
 What the old Dutch clock declares is true!

The Chinese plate looked very blue  
 And wailed, "Oh, dear! What shall we do?"  
 But the gingham dog and the calico cat  
 Wallowed this way and tumbled that,  
 Employing every tooth and claw  
 In the awfullest way ever saw—  
 And, oh, how the gingham and calico flew!

(Don't fancy I exaggerate,  
 I got my views from the Chinese plate.)  
 Next morning where the two had sat  
 They found no trace of the dog or cat.  
 And some folks think unto this day  
 That burglars stole the pair away;  
 But the truth about the cat and the pup  
 Is this: They ate each other up!  
 (The old Dutch clock it told me so,  
 And that is how I come to know.)  
 —Eugene Field.

## THE LAUGH LINE

Right On the Job.  
 Mrs. Newlywed (giving first order to butcher over 'phone)—Please send me a pound of steak.  
 Butcher—And what else, please?  
 Mrs. Newlywed—And—and some gravy.

She Bought the Piece.  
 "And this is the end!"  
 Something glittered in the man's hand as he uttered the words. The beautiful girl before him looked up into his face and a doubtful look crept into her eyes.  
 "The end!" She echoed his words wistfully, standing there in the beam of sunlight, which caused the glittering thing in the man's hand positively to dance with fire. "You are quite sure?"  
 A smile flickered across the man's face.  
 "Quite sure! This is the end!"  
 The fair creature shrugged her shoulders resignedly. "Then—" she breathed, tensely. "I will take the piece." She smiled, a smile that made the actress and paroled on the short length of calico.

## American Cash For Sinn Feiners

By G. H. BRETHERTON  
 (Copyright 1921, by Public Ledger.)  
 Dublin, March 11.—After assuring General Seftland, commanding in the Cork area that they would not distribute any money in the martial law area without his consent, the American Relief Commission. It is charged immediately handed \$3,000 to the Sinn Fein White Cross Society in Cork. They then proceeded to take a trip around Queenstown harbor with the local Sinn Fein officials. This sort of thing coming on top of their failure to call together the advisory committee they told Sir Nevill Macready they would surrender to the Sinn Fein White Cross Society has greatly strengthened the belief here that the whole affair is just an ingenious Irish-American scheme for getting money into the coffers of the Irish Republican Army and making trouble between Great Britain and the United States.

Sir Nevill Macready and General Strickland are both entirely in sympathy with any scheme for relieving Irish distress, but are strongly opposed to the promiscuous paying into Sinn Fein hands of money that is bound to relieve it not actually to swell the Irish Republican funds.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LES PAGE

We were eating supper yesterday, being pot roast nothing enter, and I said to my sister Gladie, Hay Gladie, give us some bread, will you?  
 Perhaps I will if you will condescend to talk less like a rowdy and more like a gentleman, said Gladie.  
 Which I did, saying, I say, Miss Potts, would you kindly be so kind as to please mind pawing me the bread?  
 How haw haw, haw haw, said pop laff.  
 He's not funny, father, he's just funny looking, said Gladie. Meaning it sarcastic, and pritty soon I said, My dear Miss Potts, could I be so bold as to trouble you to take the trouble to paw me the bread if its not too much trouble?  
 How haw haw, paw, haw haw, paw, that boy aint to be a sower, haw haw, said pop.  
 Which I airt, and I said, O paws, Miss Potts, would it be convenient for you to indulge in pawing me the butter?  
 How haw haw, indulge in pawing, thats the limit, haw haw, said pop.  
 He's as funny as a critter, and if he waits for me to pass him the butter he'll sit there till dooms day, said Gladie.  
 Then I shall be obliged to indulge in pawing it to myself, I said. And I reached over and took a hold of the edge of the butter dish with 2 fingers to make it look more slaty, and the dish leaped over to one side and the butter slid off into pop's plate in the middle of his paw, and the paws jumped every which way especially in pop's lap, and pop jumped up, saying, Come, come, enuff enuff, some people never know when to quit.

## MAJOR GRIFFITH INSANE.

Montreal, March 10.—Major Robert W. Griffith, self-confessed slayer of William A. Holland, Montreal stock broker, who was shot and mortally wounded on Jan. 14, in the office of Macdonnell Bros., 13 St. Sacrament street, of which firm he was manager, was today found to be unfit, by reason

of insanity, to stand trial for the murder, and will therefore be confined until instructions as to his future are received from the Lieutenant Governor.

## MOTHER!

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 Child's Best Laxative



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Miss L. M. Boulter, 88 Victoria Road, Halifax, N. S., writes: "I have suffered for years from eczema. I could not rest day or night, I suffered great agony, and was nearly crazy with the itching and burning. I used all kinds of salves, but nothing seemed to help me. I saw Burdock Blood Bitters advertised, and was advised to try a bottle. I found great relief, and I really cannot recommend it highly enough for what it has done for me."

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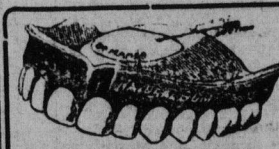
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## 300,000 Worth

The standing of the candidates given below represent the vote for each up to noon 7:30 March 10th:—

A.  
 Appleby, Mr. Irving .....  
 Armstrong, Miss Sarah .....  
 Anderson, Miss Margaret .....  
 Alward, Miss Ouida .....  
 Anderson, Chas. W. ....  
 Anderson, W. ....

B.  
 Baskin, R. C. ....  
 Burton, Geo. E. ....  
 Boyd, Geo. H. ....  
 Butler, Mrs. Hayward .....  
 Barker, Mrs. Charles .....  
 Brown, E. Susie .....  
 Bawn, W. J. P. ....  
 Burke, Miss Rita .....  
 Besten, J. E. ....  
 Boudreau, J. E. ....  
 Brundage, A. G. ....  
 Borden, Miss H. ....  
 Brewer, Miss Minnie .....  
 Buchanan, Miss Annie .....  
 Bishop, George .....  
 Banks, Thos. H. ....  
 Burns, Walter J. ....  
 Burns, Harold .....  
 Ballantyne, W. T. ....

C.  
 Cohen, Columbus .....  
 Cullen, Charles .....  
 Cripps, George .....  
 Crawford, Robert .....  
 Crane, Mrs. J. J. ....  
 Cunningham, Hugh .....  
 Cosman, Miss Aime F. ....  
 Oiggins, J. B. ....  
 Anase, Wellington .....  
 Cormier, Mrs. W. W. ....  
 Chappell, Montreal .....  
 Cunningham, Wm. ....  
 Chadwick, Harold .....  
 Carr, Harrold .....  
 Cameron, Mrs. Irene .....  
 Corbin, Miss Ella .....  
 Cranley, Thomas .....  
 Colby, J. N. ....  
 Comeau, J. Alphonse .....  
 Coteau, Rev. Father .....  
 Cusack, J. ....  
 Cosman, Roy W. ....  
 Cropley, Floyd .....  
 Campbell, Sam .....  
 D.

Doherty, Arthur .....  
 Dow, Cecil .....  
 Dryden, Leonard .....  
 Downey, Miss Beaul .....  
 Doucet, Fred D. ....  
 Davis, Willard .....  
 Daly, Badio .....  
 Dixon, Miss Marion .....  
 E.

F.  
 Fehay, S. S. ....  
 Furlong, Mrs. Mary J. ....  
 Filmore, R. L. ....  
 Ford, Miss Jessie .....  
 Flewelling, Capt. W. ....  
 Flewelling, Chas. W. ....  
 Fawcett, Wm. R. ....  
 Fox, Arnold .....  
 Flatt, Andrew .....  
 G.

Gavie, Mrs. Chas. W. ....  
 Geary, Wm. ....  
 Gardener, Mr. ....  
 H.

## Closing Rules Vote Of Tomorrow

1. The \$32 Extra Vote test closes at 8 p.m. Saturday.
2. All contestants can reach the office of the be open until 8 p.m. Saturday.
3. City contestants who have not reached us on March 14th.
4. Out of town contestants Extra Vote Offer with their returns to the Auditor. The postmark of letters even though the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.
5. Friends of contestants will be governed by testants. Friends of contestants will be governed by the testants.
6. New contestants reach them before the out the names of their them in with sufficient ants already enrolled with. Do not let any extra vote ballots.
7. All personal communications must be marked drawn.
8. Kindly keep your contest copies.
9. Contestants must be filled out before noon on Saturday, otherwise they will be disqualified.