

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1913.

OIL FUEL FOR THE NAVY.

When Mr. Winston Churchill announced that oil will supplement coal in the case of large as well as small ships of war, he called attention to another of the long series of changes that have revolutionized ocean transportation. The use of oil will bring with it not only increased speed, but a much larger range of action and easier and faster replenishment. The Admiralty has not come to this decision without full assurance that it is justified. For more than a hundred years destroyers have been built or under construction dependent entirely on oil fuel, and the experiment of building battle cruisers and a number of light cruisers burning oil fuel, Mr. Churchill affirmed, has proved successful.

The immediate policy of the Admiralty, as announced by Mr. Churchill, is to make contracts for oil five years ahead, and one contract, for a substantial proportion of the quantity required, is being placed with the Mexican Eagle Company, which is a British concern. This will be only an interim arrangement, enabling the Government to have for a time the certainty of being able to buy a steady supply at a steady price. In Mr. Churchill's words, "the ultimate policy is that the Admiralty should become the independent owner and producer of its own supplies of liquid fuel." It is to do this by building up an oil reserve sufficient to keep the navy supplied in time of war, and to be above price fluctuations in time of peace; by acquiring the power to deal in crude oil as it comes cheaply to market, afterwards distilling it as needed; and by becoming the owner or controller at the source, of a proportion of the natural oil that will be required.

The use of oil as fuel will effectively meet the increasing difficulty of securing stokers in sufficient numbers to feed the boilers of the great modern battleships, and thus will make possible a considerable reduction in a ship's complement. Larger and healthier living quarters can be provided for the men, because of the lesser space required for the storage of oil fuel, and the hard and dirty work of coaling ships will become a thing of the past. But of greater consequence than any of these are the strategic advantages which the use of oil will offer—greater speed and secrecy of movement.

Coal will not be entirely abandoned because, as Mr. Churchill explained, oil is only required in ships when an exceptional speed has to be reached. Whatever may ultimately happen, coal will continue to be the main basis of British sea power in the battleships at present. But the stake in oil ships is already so important that Great Britain must have the certainty of a steady supply of oil at a steady price. The Admiralty recognizes that it must become the independent owner and producer of its supplies. In the United Kingdom are great potentialities, since the Scottish shale deposits, if developed, can supply a large quantity of oil for many years. There are also many other sources of supply available in various parts of the world besides Mexico. The problem, Mr. Churchill stated, is not one of quantity, but price.

MR. WOODROW WILSON.

The New York Post considers what has been going on at Washington since the inauguration of the present regime as of capital importance in the development of the Presidential functions. From the first Mr. Wilson made it plain that he proposed to take an active part in the making of laws. This became clear when he, in person, read two messages to Congress, and when he spoke of the members of Congress as "colleagues" with him in the legislative branch of Government.

It is, says the Post, the President who has been the chief driving force behind the two great measures (tariff and currency reform), that have been occupying the attention of Congress. Both now seem likely to become law, and if they do their passage will constitute a record without parallel in the annals of the Presidency.

In the words of The Post: "Nothing is so fascinating in public life as the study of a new personality wrecking itself upon old tasks. Some how, from this business President sitting at his desk, there has come an impulse and a sustained force which have made the legislation that looked impossible two months ago seem today almost within sight. It would be folly to attempt as yet anything like a complete account of the way in which President Wilson works his will. It is evident, however, that he is a firm believer in the light which comes from the striking of ideas on mind. He has the historic English conception of taking counsel as a part of his business. His decision seems to him properly ended in discussion.

which does not close with the words: 'Now, let's to business.' And he must also have a fine instinct for the higher strategies of public affairs, knowing when to strike and when to bide his time; and withal a just idea of the value of steady pounding on one side."

Without doubt the new chief magistrate of the United States seems to be a strong man, and from what can be learned he could poll a larger vote today than he did last autumn. Many pitfalls, however, beset his feet. The Mexican and Japanese questions, particularly, as the two nations appear to be acting to some extent in sympathy, may not be easily solved. He has made a good start, but it is too early yet to pronounce finally on his work as head of the nation.

PARCEL POST ADVANTAGES.

The parcel post system, which is to be introduced in Canada at no distant date, will have good results quite outside of the cheapening of the cost of rapid transportation of small shipments of merchandise. Much of the business, which has so long been in the hands of the express companies, will in future be handled even more expeditiously and at a lower rate. The express companies will have to face competition but they will not necessarily be seriously affected. The chief difference will be that they will have to seek out new business at present neglected.

This is a phase of the situation appearing in the United States as a result of the inauguration of a parcel post system. The express companies declare that they are being forced into a "ruinous" competition, but realizing that they are up against a competitor that has come to stay they are already breaking new ground. Plans for beating up trade that in the past has been neglected are being brought to the front; among others are ambitious schemes for express companies to assume the role of middleman between the agricultural producer and the consuming public. The parcel post is a carrier, but it is not a canvasser, or a commission merchant. It waits for the public to bring the goods for shipment while the express companies can go after the business. There are still great undeveloped fields of trade, and the fact that the former monopolies in the United States must now hustle for business will be very much to the advantage of the public.

PANAMA CANAL AND WESTERN CANADA.

The probable effect upon British Columbia and upon Saskatchewan and Alberta of the opening of the Panama Canal is just now the subject of much discussion, particularly in the West. The Winnipeg Telegram points out that years ago when the Suez Canal was under construction all sorts of dreams were evolved in European countries. It was supposed, for example, that the nations bordering on the Mediterranean sea would take most of the traffic of the Orient from England. But it turned out that the canal put an end to the fleets of sailing ships which used to go to the east by way of the Cape of Good Hope, and that England with her immense capital and vast shipyards was able to build the new steamers that took their place.

Without doubt Western Canada ought to derive considerable benefit from the Panama canal if only in its trade to the countries on the west coast of South America. Bolivia is greater in area than Germany, France, Italy and Spain combined. Chile, which has a coast line of 2,500 miles on the Pacific ocean directly south from Panama, is three or four times larger than the State of Washington; Peru is equal to the combined areas of France, Germany and Austria; Ecuador is another big country, and Colombia has twice the area of the German empire. Panama itself is a huge place, and so, of course, are Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. All these will trade with the Canadian Pacific coast.

An Appeal for Aid.

Rev. Elmer E. Court, superintendent of Methodist missions in Bulgaria, reports that there are thousands of refugees from the war in misery, want and dire distress. Scores of villages and hundreds of homes have been destroyed, he says. In his appeal for aid for the suffering, his testimony confirms the statements made by press correspondents and other observers. The price of war is not paid only on the battlefield, a fact that the history of every conflict teaches.

Japan's Trade Development.

(Victoria Colonist.) In the record of trade development as estimated by the value of imports to different countries during the past thirty years Japan shows the most remarkable development, with Canada second on the list. In 1882 the value of Japan's imports totalled \$27,500,000, whereas in 1912 the total had risen to \$215,000,000. The value of her exports in 1882 was \$11,400,000, and in 1912 it had risen to \$188,500,000, an increase of 564 per cent.

DIARY OF EVENTS

HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

SURRENDER OF DETROIT.

Detroit was surrendered 101 years ago today to the British forces under Major General Sir Isaac Brock, Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, and commander of the troops in Canada. A month before General Hull, the American commander at Detroit, had invaded Canada, announcing himself in a proclamation as a savior who offered relief from "British tyranny and oppression." Nobody seemed particularly anxious to be saved, and early in August Hull returned to Detroit, having accomplished nothing. Governor Brock, with the promptness which was his chief characteristic, organized an invasion of his own, and with 320 regulars, 400 Canadian militia and 600 Indians under the great Tecumseh, crossed the St. Clair and moved on Detroit. Hull had 2,500 men under his command—brave men who were able to put up a good fight. The advantage was all on the side of the Americans, and yet when Brock came in sight, "erect in his canoe, leading the way to battle," the craven Hull indignantly surrendered without firing a shot. Brock's bloodless victory not only gave him possession of Detroit, which practically commanded the whole of Western Canada, but also the entire territory of Michigan. Valuable and much-needed stores, many stands of arms, thirty-three cannon and a war brig fell into the hands of the British. Hull was sentenced to be shot for cowardice but was pardoned.

FIRST THINGS

GAS LIGHTING.

The first street to be illuminated by gas was Golden Lane, in London, where the new method of lighting was first used 106 years ago tonight, Aug. 16, 1807. The method was invented by William Murdoch, a Scotchman, in 1800, and in 1802 the system was installed throughout London. Gas-lighting was introduced in New York in 1823, and in Paris in 1829. The first experiments with illuminating gas were made in 1792 by Mr. Murdoch, in Cornwall, England. In 1803 the London theatre district was lighted with gas and in the following year a Manchester mill adopted the system. The cost of illuminating gas continued high until kerosene and electricity forced a gradual reduction. In 1860 the price per thousand cubic feet ranged from \$1.50 in Pittsburgh to \$7 in Philadelphia and the lowest rate of any big city except Pittsburgh, \$2.15. In New York and Boston the rate was \$2.50, and a \$2.50 rate prevailed in Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit, Milwaukee and most of the middle western cities. In Maine, upper New York and Canada the rates ranged even higher, as high as \$7.

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

JAMES WILSON.

James Wilson, for sixteen years the head of the United States Department of Agriculture, will today celebrate his seventy-eighth birthday in citizen's clothing. Dr. Wilson recently visited the United States, and the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him last month by the University of Minnesota. He is a Scotchman, and his father, having received the same degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1904 and McGill University in 1909. Dr. Wilson—or "Tama Jim," to give him his less formal name—came to America at the age of sixteen, settling first in Connecticut and soon after in Iowa. He was actively engaged in farming for many years before the political bug began buzzing. He was tried, convicted and sentenced to the State legislature. Later, for good behavior, he was permitted to go to Congress. President McKinley appointed him secretary of agriculture in 1897. He continued to hold that portfolio throughout the McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft administrations. When he retired last March, owing to the election of a Democratic president, he held the record for cabinet service, having far surpassed that of Albert Gallatin, who retired as secretary of the treasury just a century ago, after a service of a dozen years.

THE PASSING DAY

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

In Santo Domingo, the capital, and throughout the Dominican Republic there will be a great celebration today, commemorating the semi-centennial of the establishment of the republic. The 675,000 people inhabiting the black republic will today give themselves over to merry-making and patriotic fervor, forgetting for the time the political warfare which began last November when Eladio Victoria resigned the presidency and was succeeded by Archbishop Moulas as provisional president.

The Dominican republic occupies the eastern and by far the larger portion of the island of Hayti, and is nearly twice as large as its neighboring black republic, Santo Domingo was discovered by Columbus on his first voyage, and he found it inhabited by a peaceable race of Indians, who had divided the island into five kingdoms. Then came the Spanish conquistadores, and built the city of Santo Domingo, now the capital of the republic, but for a century the principal base and metropolis of the far-flung empire of Spain. The island died off rapidly, and four centuries ago 4,000 African slaves were landed on the island—the beginning of the present population. French buccanniers gained a foothold in the island, and in 1795 the flag of France was supreme, but in 1809 the combined empire of Spain and France captured the island, and Spanish sovereignty was restored. In 1821 the people of the Spanish part of the island declared their independence, but President Boyer of Hayti was able to extend his dominions to include all of the island. In 1846 the first Dominican Republic was established, and continued until 1861, when the Dominicans, fearing foreign invasion, appealed to Spain for protection. Spain annexed the island, and in 1898, at Cap-Haitien, a revolution was proclaimed, which resulted in the restoration of the republic.

OPHELIA'S SLATE



IN LIGHTER VEIN

Muffled Knocks.

"Bobby, you mustn't put your sticky fingers on Mrs. Kawler's nice dress; it's the only silk dress she has."

"No, Mr. Styles, I haven't the least objection to your smoking in my house; let me offer you a good cigar."

"Old Scout, you always pitch a good game of ball—except when I'm betting on you."

"You live in Outsomehurst, do you, Mr. Blubbins? Has that suburb a respectable residence section?"

"Won't you let your little boy come to our Sunday school, Mrs. Jordie? It can't make him any worse, and it may do him much good."

"Small Boy—Mummy, is it really true that the devil has horns and a club foot?"

"The Mother—Ah, my dear, sometimes the devil appears in the shape of a very handsome and charming young man."

"Small Boy (pittily)—Oh, Mummy, you're thinking of Cupid—Punch."

"Mule Power. 'I specks dat genman has his automobile figured wrong,' said Mr. Erasmus Pinkley as he watched the man and the motor."

"He said it was a fifty-horsepower inline. De way it balks, I speck he mus' a' meant mule power."—Washington Star.

"Untangle It Yourself. 'This article says oleomargarine is made of beef fat.'"

"Yes, and the person who eats lots of it will be fat."

"But nobody sings them now."

"That's why I like them."

"Unmusical. 'I like the songs that were popular twenty years ago,' remarked Mr. Grover."

"But nobody sings them now."

"That's why I like them."

"Quite Willing. Kindly Disposed Magistrate—Don't you think this is a case that could be settled out of court?"

"Plainly—I thought of that, but the coward won't fight."—London Opinion.

"The First Week In September. Is the beginning of my busy season. It is better not to wait till then. Get started before the rush begins."

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S. KERR, Principal

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PROVINCIAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Players Spent Busy Day Yesterday—Cup and Prizes to be Presented to the Winners Today.

Sackville, Aug. 15.—The results in the provincial tennis tournament yesterday were:

Mixed doubles, semi-finals—Mr. Thompson and Mr. Chipman defeated Mrs. Wood and F. C. Harrison, 6-1, 6-1. Second round—Miss Robertson and Campbell defeated Mrs. Harrison and W. A. Harrison, 6-3, 7-5.

Men's Singles, semi-finals—Chipman defeated F. C. Harrison, 6-1, 6-2. Ladies' Singles, semi-finals—M. E. Robertson defeated Mr. Thompson, 8-10, 6-2, 8-6.

Ladies' Doubles, Second round—Mrs. Wood and Miss Fisher defeated Miss Palmer and Miss Sherman, 6-1, 6-1.

Semi-finals—Mrs. Babbitt and Miss Schofield defeated Miss Church and Miss McAvity, 6-0, 6-2.

Navies Ladies' Singles, First round—Miss McAvity defeated Miss Robertson, 6-1, 6-1. Second round—Miss McAvity defeated Miss Dobson, 6-1, 6-1.

Miss Wiggins defeated Miss L. F. Flett, 6-4, 6-1. Semi-finals—Miss Flett defeated Miss Wiggins, 6-3, 6-2. Second round—Miss McAvity defeated Miss McAvity, 6-2, 7-9, 6-1.

Novice Men's Singles, semi-finals—Mr. Smith defeated Mr. Pickett, 6-2, 6-1. Mr. Carney defeated Pickett, 6-1, 4-5, 6-2.

Today's Matches. The following are the results of day's matches:

Ladies' Singles—Miss M. E. Robertson defeated Miss K. Schofield, 6-4, 6-1. The winner plays Miss Flett for championship Saturday morning.

Men's Singles—Chipman defeated Fraser Campbell, 6-3, 6-4, 8-6. Winner plays T. McAvity for championship Saturday morning.

Ladies' Doubles—Mrs. Babbitt and Miss Schofield defeated Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Harrison, 6-0, 6-2. 1 year's champions, Miss Mabel Thompson and Mrs. Thompson, not defeated this year.

Novice Ladies' Singles, semi-finals—Miss McKenzie defeated Miss McAvity, 7-5, 6-4. The winner plays Mr. Pickett in the finals Saturday morning.

Novice Mixed Doubles, Finals—McAvity and M. Fisher defeated McAvity and Carney, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2. Consolation Ladies' Singles, First round—Miss Church defeated Miss Palmer, 6-2, 6-1.

Men's Doubles, Finals—Geo. W. and Harrison defeated W. T. W. and Bigelow, 9-11, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3. Challenge Round—Turnbull Chipman defeated Wood and Harrison, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-2.

Mixed Doubles, Finals—Miss Robertson and Fraser Campbell defeated Mrs. Thompson and Chipman, 6-1, 6-2.

Challenge Round—Miss Robertson and Fraser Campbell defeated Mrs. Babbitt and Turnbull, 6-3, 6-1.

Novice Men's Singles, Finals—ney defeated E. P. Smith, 6-0, 2-6, 6-2.

The cups and prizes will be presented by Governor Wood at 12 o'clock tomorrow morning after the finish of championship rounds, men's singles and ladies' singles.

MAY EXTEND PAVING TO THE SOUTH SIDE

All Property Owners that Side of King Square have now Signed the petition.

C. M. Bostwick and the executor of the Robertson estate have signed the petition asking the city to pave the south side of King Square, and the one-quarter of the cost to the street.

Com. Agard said he would bring the petition, which is now signed by the property owners interested, to the attention of the council on Monday and recommend that the work of paving the street be proceeded with this year. On this street the city will have to pay three-quarters of the cost of putting down permanent pavement. It owns the land on the north side of the improved street around square.

MAINE SUMMER HOTEL BUR

Boothbay Harbor, Me., Aug. 15.—The Samoset House, a large hotel on Mouse Island, was destroyed by fire this afternoon. The only phone wire between the island and the mainland was rendered unusable after the fire started and the tails were early obtainable. The house was filled with guests.

MILLIONAIRE FOUND WITH BULLET THROUGH HE

Duluth, Minn., Aug. 15.—The John McAlpine, a pioneer Duluth millionaire lumberman, was found today in the basement of his home with a bullet through the head, the theory that the shooting occurred accidentally while Mr. McAlpine was seeking a burglar.

WATCHES

Hamilton Railroad Watches, chain, Equity and Bracelet Watch in all styles.

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