

## The St. John Standard

**W. V. MACDONALD** Publisher  
**St. John, N. B.**  
**REPRESENTATIVES:**  
 Henry DeGuerre, Chicago  
 Louis Kleban, New York  
 Frank Calder, Montreal  
 Freeman & Co., London, Eng.  
**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**  
 City Delivery, \$5.00 per year  
 By Mail in U.S., \$4.00 per year  
 By Mail in U.S., \$3.00 per year  
 Semi-Weekly Issue, \$1.50 per year  
 Semi-Weekly to U.S., \$2.50 per year

ST. JOHN, N. B. TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1921.

## LICENSE OR TAX?

The decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council that the provinces of Canada cannot legally compel companies incorporated by Dominion charter to pay a license fee before doing business in the province, will make rather a dent in the revenue programmes of some of those provinces which have been exacting heavy license fees from such companies as a condition of being allowed to do business within their borders. At first sight it looked as though New Brunswick would come within the scope of this judgment, but under an Act passed by the Legislature when Hon. J. B. M. Baxter was Attorney General the system of levying toll on these extra-provincial corporations was changed. In this province now-a-days, instead of demanding a license fee from an extra-provincial corporation—that is a company incorporated otherwise than under the provincial Companies' Act—before it can do business here, the province imposes a tax on them for doing business here. Instead of telling a company it cannot do business here until it has paid such a fee, the Government permits it to open up and then demands a tax for the privilege of doing so. To the lay mind the distinction is rather subtle—in fact too subtle for many to grasp. In the first case, if a license fee were allowable, which the Privy Council's judgment says it is not, the company could be restrained from doing business in the province until the fee was paid; under the tax system the company cannot be restrained from doing business, but it can be sued for nonpayment of the tax.

## THE GOVERNMENT AND RAILROAD WAGES

No better opportunity could be afforded the Dominion Government than the present to prove the truth of its claim that the Government railways are to be operated as a business enterprise, independent of political interference. That strong pressure will be brought to bear to lessen in some respects the inevitable cut in wages on Canadian roads, following the example of the United States roads, may be taken for granted. The laborer would be hardly human if they foresaw such an effort aimed at those who in the past have proved so susceptible to requests backed up by large bodies of voters. Public opinion should demand that the Government allow its managing railway board a free hand to deal with the situation as an ordinary industrial one.

There are not wanting grounds for the gentle suspicion that political aspirations had something to do with some of the rules and regulations of the Meadoo awards, amends and supplements that have proved so irksome and costly to efficient railway operation. All the more reason, then, that the question of wages, and the rules and regulations incident to the coming changes in the old awards, should be settled on the basis of a business administration of the railways of Canada under Government operation. This would very soon render the deficit crisis less acute, if anything will, and make possible a gradual decline in freight and passenger rates in this country.

In the opinion of the Financial Post, it is doubtful if there is any greater factor in the industrial depression in America today than high freight rates. The cumulative effect of transportation charges on raw materials through all the stages of manufacture until the consumer is reached, with increasing wages for labor in various industries all along the line, is tremendous. Readjustment must proceed until production costs are brought to a basis where buying power will create a normal demand. Until this condition is reached the problem of unemployment will not be solved.

## A CANADIAN COPYRIGHT BILL

The Government is taking under its own wing this session a bill to strengthen Canadian copyright. A similar bill was introduced two sessions ago, but met with opposition from certain interested quarters and was dropped. Now that the Government is fathering the measure it should meet with a better fate.

Under the present inadequate copyright law Canadians who produce original works in music, poetry, fiction or motion picture receive no protection against pirating American publishers. Canadian composers, such as Lieut. G. H. Rice and Lieut. B. C. Hoffman, were responsible for some of the most popular war songs. These men, as well as many others, have found that as Canadian citizens they have no protection from music publishers and music record manufacturers. Many a Canadian composer and author has been forced, out of self-protection, to become an American citizen.

A bill of this character comes at a

fitting time, when there is a movement for the encouragement and the development of Canadian art and literature. The Government should have no trouble in securing its passage, particularly as Hon. Rodolph Lemieux, an author and a lover of literature, was one of the most ardent advocates of the bill when it was last before Parliament.

## THE MAGISTRATE'S SALARY

Police Magistrate Ritchie has asked The Standard to call attention to the somewhat casual treatment he is receiving at the hands of the City Council. He tells us that he has occupied the position for thirty-two years, and that notwithstanding the greatly enhanced cost of living which has obtained in the past few years, the general increase in salaries in all public departments, and the specific increases in the pay of other officials of the City Council, his salary has remained the same, and is still the same as he received when first he undertook his present duties. We understand that all Mr. Ritchie's requests, made at various times, for an increase in salary have each met with no response from the present and previous Councils. The only inference to be drawn from this attitude on the part of successive Councils is that the Magistrate is not, in the opinion of the Council, performing work of any value, and that he is only paid the salary he is paid because his appointment carried that amount with it. It would seem to us that if the Magistrate is performing his duties satisfactorily, he should receive such consideration as respect of an increase in his salary as the changed condition of the times warrants. If not, he should be offered a retiring allowance on a scale commensurate with thirty-two years' service.

## THE ANCIENT COURT HOUSE

There is a rumor afloat that some of the City Fathers are as taken with the pictures of the ruined Cloth Hall at Ypres that they have decided to let the ruins of the Court House remain as they are as a kind of perpetual memorial of the war. Others again feel that the pigeons which frequent the Square should be provided with comfortable roosting and nesting quarters, and as they appear to have decided to use the late Court House for this purpose, it is felt that they should not be disturbed. The suggestion has been made that with a view of brightening up the appearance of the building, some flower boxes should be placed on the window sills, from which some climbing plants might be trained over the openings; a couple of ornamental shrubs placed in tubs at each side of the entrance would also add to the beauty of the scene. No doubt there are many persons with artistic temperaments in the city who would be willing to superintend the floral decorations and see to it that the color scheme of the flowers harmonized. Thyme and forget-me-nots would be suitable as a reminder of the passing years, and some bunches of "old man" would suggest to the more elderly inhabitants that they, like the building, are reaching the last stage. There is probably no truth in the report that the County Secretary will be glad to receive suggestions along the line of this decorative scheme, but it would do no harm to try him.

German labor unions have decided that there will be no "general strike" by way of showing that they do not approve the occupation of more German territory by Allied forces. However little they like the presence of the foreigners the German workmen are not foolish enough to suppose they can intimidate him by such tactics. In other cases they are doing their cause poor service. Burning his home is about the quickest and surest way known to make the Englishman want to fight.

**MINE COAL AT LOSS.**—The financial condition of the coal trade in South Wales, as viewed by the coal owners, is strikingly disclosed in a statement issued by Henry Gibson, secretary of the South Wales Coal Owners' Association.

It shows that on a total quantity of dispatchable coal of 2,823,284 tons, the total output was 534, 142 per ton, leaving a cullinary loss of 124, 762 per ton.

It seems out that Pannas didn't show his last in the time.

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL.

## RESPECTING PATRONAGE.

To the Editor of The Standard,  
 As to the Inside Service, I am in favour of the Civil Service Commissioners controlling the appointments but as regards the Outside Service, the efficiency is not increased by the present system of appointments. The principle of competitive examination, promotion by merit and the Civil Service Rules generally respecting appointments to the Inside Service cannot be applied to the Outside Service. Taking for example the appointment of postmasters. What can the Civil Service Commissioners do about it? When the Member has the patronage it entails on him some consideration work and maybe loss of time but he will be kept (after consultation with his party friends) to appoint the best man for the position and to select as the site of the Post Office one that will be convenient to the residents. Surely the representative of the people can be trusted to dispense patronage in the Outside Service in his County to the best advantage instead of handing the patronage over to the Civil Service Commissioners in Ottawa who cannot give the matter personal attention and who have no personal knowledge of the applicants.

Under responsible Government where the people's representatives had the patronage, good results respecting appointments to the Outside Service have generally followed, while it is beyond dispute that the present system of appointment has not given satisfaction.

H. H. McLEAN.

## IS WILSON A PLAGIARIST?

To the Editor of The Standard,  
 Sir,—The Boston Post (March 18th) publishes a report of a movement to establish a perpetual memorial in honor of Woodrow Wilson as "the man who brought forth the world the idea of the League of Nations."

There is a book published under the title of "J'accuse," written anonymously by "A German." The writer brings forth a plea for such a monument to govern the world's affairs, but does not lay claim as to being the originator of the idea. According to the writer the suggestion emanates from a man named "Kunt" many years ago.

As the book was written early in 1915 and published long before Wilson interested himself in European affairs, it would appear that Wilson has plagiarized the very quintessence of Plagiarism?

Yours truly,  
 FREE LANCE.

## To the Editor of The Standard

Sir,—I always believed that the patronage system as practiced in times past was not in the best interests of Canada and when the Union Government stated that they would abolish the old patronage system I believed that they had taken a long step in the right direction, but to my disappointment, while they have professed to abolish the patronage system and have appointed a Civil Service Commission, it would appear that Wilson has established the very quintessence of Plagiarism?

As the book was written early in 1915 and published long before Wilson interested himself in European affairs, it would appear that Wilson has plagiarized the very quintessence of Plagiarism?

Yours truly,  
 W. CALDWELL.

Ottawa, March 15.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Couldn't Have Been.  
 The former Kaiser says his people deserted him and God at the same time. It sounds impossible.—Globe and News.

Brotherly Love.

The Bolshevik crusaders are now engaged in spreading their doctrine of brotherly love into the Pacific region of Central Asia. Desperate fighting is reported.—Seattle Times.

The Superannuated.

There are many hundreds of superannuated civil servants throughout Canada who are suffering through the fact that their allowances have remained at their original amounts, notwithstanding the increased buying power of money.

The principle back of superannuation is that provision shall be made for the old age of faithful servants for the country who have passed their time of usefulness in active employment.

The amount granted them is fixed in proportion to the value of the work they have performed and the years they spent at it. This is an obligation which the country has always recognized and the desire of the country has been to make these old servants of the public at least a comfortable old age.

Under conditions now prevailing this object is not being attained. The country's superannuated are really

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAGE

Me and Leroy Shoober and Skinny Martin was walking along talking about different things, such as which is the best kind of dogs, little size or big size, and which is the best kind of bathing, shower or ocean, and we came to some little kid holding a toy balloon by a string in front of a lady's hat glaze, me saying, G, look at that, would you, I bet if he ever left go of that string that balloon would go straight up and never come down.

Which Leroy and Skinny wanted to say it wouldn't, and we stood there arguing about it a while, and Leroy said to the little kid, Hey kid, do us a favor, will you? Leave go of that string a minute.

No, said the little kid.

Aw, what the matter with you, just leave it go for a second and then grab it again, said Skinny.

No, said the little kid.

Then just leave go of it for a half a second, wait a half a second? I said.

You leave my balloon alone, the kid yelled.

Aw, whose touching your balloon, ain't you got any spooling hand? said Skinny Martin.

No, go away from this balloon, yelled the kid. And he kept on yelling as if he thaw the world was coming to an end with his underneath of it, and some lady came running out with a green hat in her hand and a red one on her head, saying, Edge darling, wait the matter?

These boys are trying to take my balloon away, yelled the little kid, and the lady said, Arent you ashamed, big boys like you to do such a thing to a little boy like him? and me and Leroy and Skinny said, Aw, he's crazy, we never touched him, he don't know what he's talking about, we never even went near him, aw, he's crazy.

Which he was, and we kept on walking.

Proving that wat you get for talking nice to a little kid.

## THE LAUGH LINE

Belated Reform.  
 Edith—Why don't you marry him?  
 Everybody says he has reformed.  
 Marie—Yeh, but he reformed too late. His money was all gone.

## Knew Her Business.

"John," announced Mrs. Stylover, "I'm going to town tomorrow to see the new hats."

"You forget," her husband reminded her, "that tomorrow is Sunday. The shops will be closed."

"Who said anything about shops? I'm going to church."

## Timelessness.

The Fisherman—I suppose this rain will do a lot of good, Pat?  
 Pat—Ye may well say that, sorr. An hour of it will do more good in five minutes than a month of it would do in a week at any other time.

## When Liars Meet.

"You love my daughter?" said the old man.  
 "Love her," he exclaimed passionately, "why I would die for her. For one soft glance from those sweet eyes."

## Special Offer

Full Upper or Lower Set of Teeth  
**\$10.00**  
 FIT GUARANTEED

## The "Hurlbut" Shoe

## For Children

has many features which identify it as one of the best makes of shoes for children's wear.

They are made on a correct fitting and orthopedic shape model.

They have soft cushion insoles built into the shoe.

There is no possibility of tacks or other roughness hurting your child's feet while wearing

"Hurlbut" Shoes  
 Have us fit your child with a pair—you will like them and your child will have comfortable feet.

Foot Fitters **McROBBIE** 50 King Street, ST. JOHN, N. B.

## ADVERTISERS

We Design and Engrave Cuts for newspaper advertising, for Booklets and Catalogues.

**FLEWELLING PRESS,**  
 3 Market Square, St. John

## Now Landing!

## CHOICE OATS

## For Seed

**C. H. Peters' Sons, Ltd.**

ST. JOHN, N. B.

## PYREX Transparent Oven Dishes



Make baking so much easier—enabling the cook to see the bottom and sides of the cooking food as well as the top.

—PYREX helps a woman to prepare better meals with less labor.

—PYREX helps a woman to serve her meals more attractively.

There's a PYREX dish for every baking use—make a selection from our complete assortment and enjoy baking satisfaction.

'Phone **McAVITY'S** 11-17  
 M 2540 King St.

## COUPE'S LACE LEATHER

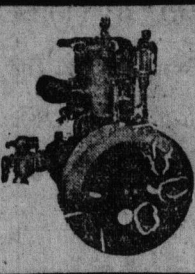
In stock for immediate shipment

—ALSO—

Leather and Balata Belting

**D. K. McLaren LIMITED**

MAIN 1121-90 GERMAIN ST., ST. JOHN, N. B.—BOX 702



## GAS ENGINES

Marine and Stationary.

Lobster Trap Hoists.

A good assortment at best prices.

Call and examine.

**P. CAMPBELL & CO.**

73 Prince Wm. Street.

## Increased Lighting Will Cut Manufacturing Costs

See Us About Equipment.

**THE WEBB ELECTRIC CO.**

S. C. WEBB, MGR., ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS.

91 Germain Street. Phones M 2152 Store, M 2247-21 Residence.

## FIRE ESCAPES

Structural Steel, Bolts and Rods.

**WM. LEWIS & SON, ST. JOHN, N. B.**

## Special Plate

## Glass for Motor Car Doors

You can now have the broken glass in your motor car doors replaced with the finest Belgian Plate Glass, made especially for this purpose, which we cut promptly to

ANY SIZE REQUIRED  
 Also Belgian Plate Glass for Motor Car Wind Shields.

'Phone Main 3000.

**MURRAY & GREGORY, LTD.**

St. John, N. B.

## The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd.

186 Erin Street.

## Painless Extraction

Only 25c

**Boston Dental Parlors**

Head Office Branch Office

527 Main St. 85 Charlotte St.

'Phone 683 'Phone 38

**DR. J. D. MAHER, Proprietor.**

Open 9 a. m. Until 9 p. m.

## L. L. SHARPE &amp; SON,

Jewelers and Opticians

21 King St. 189 Union St.

## Specials—Salt Fish

Salt Mackerel

Salt Trout

Salt Salmon

Salt Turbot (Delicious)

Salt Herring

Salt Tongues and Sounds

**SMITH'S FISH MARKET,**

25 Sydney St., 'Phone 1704

## THOROUGHNESS AND PROGRESSIVENESS

have always been the dominating idea in the management of this College.

A great variety of work is given so arranged that each step is a preparation for the next.

Students may enter at any time. Send for new Rate Card.

**S. KERR,**

Principal

Montreal, P. Q., March 14

## Women Cause

## Dollar To S

## Sir Henry Drayton S

## Purchases of Un

## Goods Help Make

Montreal, March 21.—S

Drayton, minister of finance

today before the American

Club here today, laid at t

the Canadian housewife a t

of the responsibility for t

age of the Canadian doll

United States market and

warning that, if the Domi

used on her way of lavish i

of United States goods at t

of Canadian producers and

tures, national bankruptcy

inevitable.

Canada's apex of in

trade reached last year in

two and a quarter billion

did not, in the minister's

for prosperity in a country

bearing the colossal burde

debt, of obligations to Can

aders and of great debts gr

the war in connection with

way system of Canada.

Unnecessary purchases,

fruit, vegetables, eggs and

mean, he said, an extra co

on every ton of coal in the

Montreal houses, since the

rate of exchange inflated t

every article thus import

## Cuticura S

## Clears the S

## and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C

Cuticura S

Clears the S

and Keeps it C