

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1913.

### SINCE CANADA FAILED.

The Government of the United Kingdom has ordered the three battleships which Canada has failed to provide for the world requirements of the British Empire. The affairs of the United Kingdom are in the hands of the Liberal party, the Government of which Mr. Churchill is a member has made an honest effort to keep down the increase in armaments and indeed part of the present tension is due to its slackening of building in the years before 1909. That Government, which is not likely to wish to help a Conservative Cabinet, which is not likely to order one ship more than is absolutely necessary, has followed up the action of the Liberal majority in the Senate by ordering them itself. The Liberals talk of elections; the British Government orders ships.

The action of Mr. Churchill is absolutely consistent with his utterance of two months ago. Speaking on March 21 last he explained the situation as it will be in 1915 and 1916, when the ships will be ready for service. He said: "Having regard to the responsibilities of the British Empire both in the Pacific and in the Mediterranean, and having regard to the fact that the new development of forces in the Mediterranean, it is clear that the margin of strength available for the whole world service of the British Empire will not be sufficient after the first quarter of 1916 unless further steps are taken either by the Dominion or by ourselves. From this point of view the reality of the need of the three Canadian vessels can well be appreciated. If, however, new developments take place of such a kind as to affect Admiralty problems, or if the Canadian ships were to miscarry for any reason, the situation would have to be reviewed. It is necessary, however, to make it clear that the three ships now under discussion in Canada are absolutely required for 1916 onwards for the whole world defence of the British Empire, apart altogether from the needs of Great Britain in home waters; that if they fail a gap will be opened, to fill which further sacrifices will have to be made without undue delay by others."

Thus two months ago, Mr. Churchill explicitly informed the politicians of Canada that the three ships were absolutely needed, and that if Canada did not furnish them Britain must, "Thanks to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Senate, Canada has not furnished them. So patient old England does. This absolutely destroys one of the principal Liberal arguments. Liberal speakers declaimed for months that there was no emergency, that there was no need, that the British navy was quite strong enough, and so forth. They said this over and over and then, like the old man in Lewis Carroll's book, said that the fact that they repeated it so often proved it to be true. After all this talk comes action. Great Britain is building Dreadnoughts at the rate of five a year, an enormous rate. She now orders three more—the three which the Liberals have been saying were not needed. The Mother Country has urgent need for the money for social legislation, but she orders the thirty-five millions worth of battleships which the Liberals said were not necessary.

So far as the Empire is concerned the effect is deplorable. Canada is publicly pilloried as refusing to help with the necessary work of Empire defence. Australia is helping. New Zealand is helping. Canada hangs back. The three ships will be built, but as Mr. Churchill said, on Mar. 31, the moral effect of three ships given by Canada would be far greater than that of three ships ordered by the Mother Country. There is an appearance of disunion in the Empire; the enemies of the Empire are rejoiced—Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Liberal echo in the Senate have rendered the British Empire a bad service. How do Canadians like it? Their country is made to look niggardly, poor-spirited and mean, before the world. Canada talked of helping the Empire, and backed out. Outsiders will not recognize the fact that a disaffected band of office seekers made use of accidental power to wreck a scheme which had the people behind it. Canada is humiliated—thanks to the Senate and Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

### THE MYSTERIES OF CLIMATE.

The unusually cool temperature that has prevailed throughout large portions of the globe during the past weeks has provoked not a little discussion in meteorological circles and has induced a more or less universal interest. The literary critic announces the absence of the customary amount of spring poetry. The historian points to the frightfully cold summer of one hundred years ago, when ice and snow prevailed in Can-

ada and New England in June and July. The farmer shakes his head thoughtfully as he speaks of the lateness of the season, and the week-end bemoans the continued cold weather. Later on in the season should a like low average temperature continue, there will be a wall of lamentation heard from transportation companies and summer hotel people for, while scientific discoveries and modern commercial methods have emancipated the world from the dangers of famine, all people are still quite dependent upon the regularity of the seasons for much of the joy and prosperity of life.

Various reasons have been assigned as the cause of the phenomenon of a universally low temperature. The unscientific mind is in the habit of explaining that this condition arises from the fact that the sun, whose fires have been burning for ages, is losing its heat, but when he is reminded that the year 1816 was marked by a much lower summer temperature than the present season registers and that during the intervening decades there have been many summer seasons of blistering hotness, he is simply bewildered in the mystery of climatic cause and effect.

It has been estimated that the heat given out each hour by the sun is equivalent to the burning of a quantity of coal sufficient to cover the entire solar surface to a depth of 20 feet; nor can the source of the sun's heat be referred to combustion, or else the sun itself would have been burned out long ago, even if it had been made of solid coal. Modern scientists hold the opinion that the heat of the sun is due to contraction and they have estimated that a radial contraction of 150 feet would develop the amount of solar heat that is radiated throughout space and of which the earth receives its share. If this theory of solar heat production be correct, as Helmholtz once taught, and which is still accepted, the diminution of the warmth on the earth cannot be attributed to the conditions of the sun, for such solar contraction would require to continue during millions of years before the point would be reached at which the sun would supply sufficient heat to keep life on the earth.

In this connection, a very interesting theory has been advanced in the February issue of the National Geographical Magazine by G. C. Abbot, director of the Astrophysical Observatory, Smithsonian Institute. This eminent scientific authority affirms that atmospheric haziness, due to volcanic eruption, influences the temperature by several degrees. If this theory be correct, a sufficient cause has been found for the unusually low temperature of the summer of 1816 and thus far in 1913; for in 1815 occurred the extraordinary eruption of Tombooro Sumbawa, which is said to be the greatest eruption since that of Skaptar Tokull, in 1783. On this occasion there was a darkness of three days for a distance of 300 miles, while there occurred the eruption of Mount Katmai, Alaska, in June of last year. Speaking of the influence of the haziness thus produced in the atmosphere Mr. Abbot says:

"Certainly an agency capable of sending vast clouds of dust to a height of 20 miles in the air, there to be distributed by the winds all over the world, and to remain in suspension for months or years, causing the decrease in the direct radiation of the sun by as much as twenty per cent, is a climatic influence not to be ignored."

### IMMORALITY IN CANADA.

The criminal statistics for the year as reported by Secretary E. H. St. Denis, of the census and statistics office, and now printed, afford definite information on the subject of crime throughout the Dominion, and provide facts that demand consideration. In this report the operations of the white slave traffic and its allied forces are indicated. This traffic has been carrying on its work in every province of the Dominion. The Government reports show that of the 15,672 convictions for vagrancy, loose, idle and disorderly, and for keeping and frequenting bawdy houses in the year, Ontario had 6,365; Quebec, 2,862; British Columbia, 1,858; Manitoba, 1,708; Alberta, 1,212; Saskatchewan, 1,160; Nova Scotia, 403; New Brunswick, 162; Prince Edward Island, 39; and Yukon, 3. The past year marked an increase in number of summary convictions of 10.24 per cent. over the previous year, of which the principal increase, aside from trespassing, was in those crimes by which the morals of men and women are pre-eminently degraded. In view of the wide spread and ever-increasing activity of those engaged in promoting the white slave traffic, the vigorous declaration of war against this vice made by the Premier has called forth universal satisfaction and commendation.

The Bill amending the criminal code recently introduced in Parliament, provides severe penalties for procuring white slavery, living on the avails of prostitution, and leasing premises for immoral purposes. It also makes wife and child desertion a crime and authorizes the arrest by constables, without warrant, of suspected white slavers and procurers, and makes all employers criminally liable for the seduction of female employees under 21 years of age.

The Government has declared this evil must cease. It must be borne in mind that the root of this traffic is not a man and woman problem. It neither begins nor ends there. It is a vice of humanity, commercialized by men—managed by men, who undertake for sordid gain to supply, month by month, and year by year, fresh victims to be destroyed.

It has been said, "the white slave traffic laughs at law and religion, and has its net out for every woman, from the girl who occupies a hall bedroom to those of high education and social standing." The Chicago vice-commission, appointed June, 1910, reporting April, 1911, consisted of thirty members, all representative of many of the distinguished citizens. Several of these were "segregationists," or "tolerantists" before they had investigated conditions in Chicago, and forty-two other American cities. Every one of the thirty favored the following policy after investigation:

"Constant and persistent repression of the immediate method, absolute annihilation of the ultimate ideal." The action of the Government in amending the criminal code is praiseworthy, while the challenge of the Premier has afforded additional evidence of his determination to enforce the moral laws of the country.

### DIARY OF EVENTS

#### HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

##### TREATY AFTER TROUBLE.

The Oregon treaty, between Great Britain and the United States was signed sixty-seven years ago today.

The Puget Sound region and Alaska, the Columbia were awarded to the United States, but the British kept Vancouver Island. The 49th parallel was accepted as the boundary line. The United States had claimed the entire Pacific coast region up to Russian Alaska and had made this claim the basis of war threats, with "fifty-four forty, or fight," as a battle cry. Although Uncle Sam did not gain all he sought by the treaty of June 12, 1846, he did get a wide stretch of valuable territory which was British by right of discovery. The eminent scientist, Captain Cook and other explorers, it had been held for the Crown, however, only by the vague lease of the Hudson's Bay Company. The American people were keenly alive to the value of this territory, and they had a shrewd representative in Daniel Webster. As Ashburton, the English treaty commissioner, looked upon the country in dispute as worthless, and so assured the House of Commons.

The Equal Rights Association, a Protestant organization under the parliamentary leadership of Dalton McCarthy, was formed at a convention held in Toronto 24 years ago today.

#### THE HUMAN PROCESSION

##### MRS. HUMPHREY WARD 62 TODAY.

England's greatest woman novelist, Mrs. Humphrey Ward, will be the recipient of congratulations today on her sixty-second birthday. The author of "Robert Elsmere," "Diana Maclure," "Canadian Born," "Lady Rose's Daughter," "Eleanor," and other widely-read romances, was born in Hove, near Brighton, June 11, 1851. Her grandfather of the famous Dr. Arnold of Rugby, and her uncle the great Matthew Arnold. She was born in 1851, and was christened Mary Augusta. In 1872 she married Thomas Humphrey Ward, a distinguished author and editor, and used his name, minus the Thomas and with the prefix of "Mrs." when she began her literary career some thirty-three years ago.

#### SIR OLIVER LODGE.

"Society is an ass," declares Sir Oliver Joseph Lodge, the great English scientist. The eminent savant will receive the congratulations of his colleagues of the British Association today, this being the sixty-second anniversary of his birth.

Sir Oliver is one of the few great scientists who entertain a faith in immortality, although his views on that interesting subject are hardly in accord with orthodox Christianity. He inclines to a belief that there is some basis of fact in the idea of pre-existence—not an obvious truth and one to be set forth in a formula, but a truth that defies accurate description and is not to be identified with the popular notion of reincarnation.

#### FIRST THINGS

##### RAILWAYS IN JAPAN.

The first railway in Japan was formally opened forty-one years ago today, the Mikado and prominent officials taking part in the ceremony. The introduction of this method of transportation was viewed with superstitious awe by the ignorant population, but their fear and wonder soon gave way to a general recognition of the value of the innovation. During the following twenty years all Japan was girded with steel rails. Japan now has a total of about 5,000 miles of railways, built at a cost of about \$200,000,000, or about \$400 per mile. This is much less than the average cost of railways in America and Europe, and more than a third less than the cost of construction of the railroads of the United States and Canada. Within the last decade there has been great improvement in Japanese railways, and travel in that country has been rendered as comfortable, and almost as luxurious, as in America and Europe.

## OPHELIA'S SLATE



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## IN LIGHTER VEIN

### A BIRTHDAY IN MIDDLE LIFE.

(By A. J. Perman.)  
Upon the road another stone,  
Another hard-won boundary passed,  
And youth's dim unimaginable goal  
Has grown  
Instant and vast.

The end was far, undreamed of then,  
In life's first clear felicity:  
It was a fate that called sometime for  
Other men,  
But not for me.

I drank the gladness of the grass,  
The rapture of the woods in May,  
I was immortal as they are, serene,  
Alas!  
And young as they.

But now I know the years are told,  
And those come not again that go,  
And ever closer to me creeps the  
Silent cold  
Insistent foe.

What in the hurrying hours remains?  
What faded blossoms linger on  
To mock, as they recall the joys, the  
Joyous pains  
That now are gone?

Ah! In life's barren, desert lands  
This still may live the heart, and be  
A crystal well amid the bare rocks  
And the sands  
Monotony.

This—that no agonizing dies,  
No hoping and no strife in vain;  
That in the garnered harvest of a  
Man they rise  
And live again.

### At the Side.

"They're talking a good deal about  
the split skirt. What's your opinion  
of it?"  
"It's open to criticism, I think."

### Desperate Case.

Sapleigh—Miss Passee refused all  
the other fellows, but when I  
proposed she accepted me.  
Miss Keen—I'm not surprised. She  
always said that when she made up  
her mind to marry she'd stop at  
nothing.

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### He Knew Women.

Teacher—Bobby, is this sentence correct: "She'll go whether she wants to or not?"  
Bobby—No, miss.  
Teacher—Why not?  
Bobby—Because she won't go if she don't want to.

### A Family Talk.

The Irate Intruder—Look here, you've been in there half an hour and never said a word.  
The Man in the Telephone Booth—I am speaking to my wife, sir.

### The Real Reason.

Gibbs—I suppose they serve wine at banquets to make the speakers witty.  
Dibbs—No. They serve it to make the other people think the speakers are witty.

### Invitation to Find Out.

He—What would you say if I were to kiss you?  
She—I don't know. That sort of speech should always be extemporaneous.

### Such a Wag.

"So you think that Butman is selfish and grasping."  
"I didn't say that."  
"You said he tries to make everybody's business his own."

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## THE P

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## How

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A payment on subscription of \$1.00 to \$5.00 entitles the subscriber to a solution of the puzzle. The number the prizes will be solutions. Accuracy and for arriving at the correct who display these qualifications solve the puzzle best.

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