The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 82 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

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Yearly Subscriptions:

By Carrier.....$5.00
By Mail.....3.00
Semi-Weekly, by Mail.....1.00
Semi-Weekly to United States..2.00

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THUR SDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

BUSINESS-LIKE GOVERNMENT.

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Technical Education.
Crown Lands Classification.
Revision of Mining Laws.
Cheap Power.
Prohibition.
Aggressive Immigration Policy.
Valley Railway Completion.
Improved Workmen's Compensation Act.

These are some of the planks in the platform of the Murray Government. Don't they appeal to you as good business?

THE GOVERNMENT AND PROHIBITION.

Prohibition advocates should not mistake or underestimate the statement made by Premier Murray in his great address to the people of Kings county yesterday. The Premier plainly and definitely said that a vote **against the Murray Government is a vote against prohibition.** That is the absolute fact.

The Government has already placed on the statute books of the province a measure which calls for absolute prohibition on May 1st. This act will be thoroughly enforced by men in sympathy with it, and has already been described as the most advanced legislation of the sort in the Dominion of Canada.

On the other hand the best the opposition stands for is a referendum. Let this be made quite plain. E. S. Carter has stated that the opposition is as definitely committed to prohibition as the Government. That is not true. The opposition platform as published no later than this week in the Telegraph and Times proves it is not true. Just what does that platform say? Here is the prohibition plank in its entirety:

"In the event of the opposition being returned to power we pledge ourselves:

"At the first session of the legislature to pass a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the province to the fullest extent allowed by the constitution, and within three months after the passage of said act to submit the same by referendum to the electors of the province, and, should the majority of votes cast be in favor of the said law, then to bring the same into force by proclamation within one year thereafter."

The Government has already placed a prohibitory law on the statute book. The opposition pledges itself to pass one. It may adopt the Government's act or it may repeal it and frame another less binding in its provisions. **That loop-hole has been kept open in the opposition platform.**

After the act has passed what happens? Three months later it is to be submitted to a referendum? That is an easy way of delaying the issue, for while the present Government recognized the strength of the temperance sentiment and felt that a vote on such a bill would show a great majority in its favor yet **no referendum can be as good as the act itself already on the statute books and ready for enforcement on May 1st next.**

Following the referendum the opposition will allow another year before bringing the law into force. Just what does this mean from the standpoint of delay?

Suppose the Legislature meets on March 15th with a government composed of Mr. E. S. Carter and his friends in power. The usual routine of business would delay the introduction and passage of the act through its various stages for one month. That would be April 15th. Three months later a referendum would be held. As the act would not be enforced until one year after the referendum, and as the liquor licenses expire on May 1st, that means at least twelve months of legalized liquor selling, and no prohibition at the very best until July, 1918, provided the opposition lives up to the pledges contained in their platform.

Prohibition advocates must not forget this.

Here is the situation. Mr. Carter cannot deny it unless he repudiates the platform of his party and ignores what the present government has already done.

Under the Murray Government New Brunswick will go dry on May 1st, 1917—or nine weeks and two days after election day.

Under the opposition the best the prohibitionists can hope for is the elimination of the liquor traffic by July 15th, 1918, or fourteen and one-half months of licensed saloons which would not exist if the Murray Government is returned. And Mr. Carter cannot deny that, unless, again, he repudiates the platform which he himself largely prepared.

This is not a matter of politics. It is a straight frank question between the advocates of prohibition and those who favor a continuance of the liquor traffic. At present the liquor business is a legalized business. If the Murray Government is returned to power it will be an illegal business after May 1st and those who engage in it illegally will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Under the Carter plan the liquor business will continue to be a legalized business until July 15th, 1918. There is the situation as it absolutely is, as Premier Murray has said it is, and as the opposition platform proves it to be, despite all the vote catching phrases Mr. Carter may give utterance to.

Do the prohibitionists in New Brunswick really want prohibition or do they not? If they are prepared to implement their professions by their votes they will cast their ballots for the candidates of the Government that gave them the best prohibitory law in Canada today. If they desire to dally still further with this most vital question they will vote for the oppositionists. It is plainly up to the prohibitionists of the province. As Premier Murray stated yesterday, the Government is prepared to stand or fall by its prohibition measure and a vote against the Government means a vote against that for which the earnest temperance people of this province have worked and prayed for years.

FINE CONVENTIONS.

Premier Murray and his colleagues, George B. Jones and Hedley V. Dickson, have every reason to be proud of the magnificent reception given them yesterday by the stalwart electors of Kings County. The convention held in Hampton was the greatest ever held in that county, which has been a centre of political history in New Brunswick. Every parish was represented and the utmost enthusiasm marked the proceedings.

Hon. Mr. Murray's address was the most striking of his career and furnished a complete refutation of the slanderous campaign in which E. S. Carter has indulged. As to the Carter challenge which has occupied more than a little space in opposition papers the Premier disposed of it in short order. He will not engage in a mud-slinging campaign such as Mr. Carter delights in but he will meet the editor of the late but unlamented Progress on the hustings on nomination day and there, before the people of the county in which the Premier and Mr. Carter are candidates, defend the government's record, explain its policies, and discuss the issues of the campaign.

Kings has nominated a winning ticket, in support of New Brunswick's best government, and that splendid county will be in line with the rest of the province on February 24th.

Hon. Dr. Landry, Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, and the fighting Acadian representative in the New Brunswick Government, was renominated by a large convention in Kent County yesterday. He will have as his colleagues George A. Hutchinson and Frank O. Richard. Hon. Dr. Landry's strength in Kent is well known and his colleagues are also highly esteemed and popular in that constituency. Arrangements have been made for an aggressive campaign and there is every evidence that the Government candidates will emerge victorious.

In Restigouche County yesterday Hon. Arthur P. Culligan and his colleague, D. A. Stewart, were renominated at a large and enthusiastic convention. In the last election these gentlemen had substantial majorities and, judging from the demonstration accorded to them yesterday, will be returned triumphantly in the forthcoming elections.

MUTUAL LIFE OF CANADA.

The business of life insurance seems to have received an impetus rather than a set-back from the events of the last two and a half years. The reason probably is that in such a time of stress and strain the public has learned that it is wiser to build on the rock of life insurance than on the sands of speculation. Such a state of mind would naturally result not only in applications for new insurances, but would cause existing policies to be more highly valued and carefully kept in force. Another cause for the extraordinary prosperity of the companies was doubtless the phenomenal prosperity of the country at least in many lines of business. This made possible the payment of renewal premiums where otherwise there might have been lapses or surrenders recorded.

The first thing to attract the attention of the reader of the annual statement of The Mutual Life of Canada, which appears in another column, is the steady increase both in the size and the strength of the company.

Two elements of great importance in operating a life insurance office are the rate of interest earned and the ratio of expense to income. Last year it was noted that while the average rate of interest earned on its investments in 1915 had increased, the ratio of expense to income had fallen. This had been repeated in the experience of 1916 and clearly indicates two things—remunerative investment and economical management—both of which are essential if the policyholder is to secure life insurance at a minimum of expense.

The year has been one of marked progress in all departments, the business of the company at the close of the year totalling $109,645,581, the assets $29,361,963 and the surplus over all liabilities $4,595,151. The claim this company makes that Mutual Life Companies are among the most stable of all financial institutions, is being well borne out in its own experience from year to year.

Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE.

Sampsin and Deliler.

A PLAY.

Sampsin (looking in the mirrer). This is some hair I got, all rite.

Deliler. It wood be all rite on a lady, maybe.

Sampsin, (pulling down a piller). Youre jellus of it because its longer than wats yours is, I know wats the mattir with you.

Deliler. Huh.

Sampsin, (nocking down a house). Huh yourself and see how you like it.

Deliler. Wat time do you think youll go to sleep, about, tonite?

Sampsin, (kicking the peeces erround). I dont know. Why?

Deliler. O, no reezin. Do you think youll be asleep by haff past 10?

Sampsin, (pulling down anuther piller). How do I know?

Deliler. Well, do you think youll be asleep by a quarter to 12?

Sampsin, (leening agenst a stone wall and nocking it over). Wat do you think I am, a forchin teller?

ACK 2.

Scene, Sampsins room.

Samsin, (waking up). I dont feel very strong this morning, I gess Ill jest kick the end of the bed out the window for a little exercise.

(Wich he tries to do, but he cant.)

Sampsin. I bet that darn Deliler has went and cut off my hair.

(Wich he looks in the mirrer to see).

Sampsin. Darn if she hasent!

THE END.

THE TICKET IN WESTMORLAND

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Feb. 7.—In convention today the Local Government party for Westmorland nominated Hon. P. G. Mahoney, Col. F. B. Black, Albert E. Trites and A. D. Legere as the Government ticket for the provincial elections.

Luncheon To Col. Dennis.

At the Union Club yesterday afternoon a luncheon was given in honor of Col. J. S. Dennis by Brig.-General McLean. The other guests present were His Worship Mayor Hayes, Com. Wigmore, Com. Russell, Mr. Justice Grimmer, Col. Martin, Col. Powell, Col. D'Aigle, Col. Guthrie, A. H. Wetmore, president of the Board of Trade; the Earl of Ashburnham, F. P. Starr, F. B. Ellis, F. R. Taylor, J. F. Robertson, F. E. Sayre, T. B. Blair, H. A. Powell, R. B. Emerson, A. W. Adams, M. B. Edwards, Beverley R. Macaulay, J. B. Cudlip, E. A. Schofield, T. E. G. Armstrong, P. W. Thomson, Howard P. Robinson, H. C. Schofield, F. A. Peters, R. E. Armstrong, M. G. Teed, H. C. Grout, James G. Harrison, K. Jones, A. C. Skelton, W. J. Ambrose, H. M. Stetson, L. Mulkern, F. J. Shreve, F. T. Short, W. C. Hazen, E. A. Peters, H. P. Timmerman, F. E. Williams, J. V. McLellan, A. M. Belding, S. A. M. Skinner, Frederick Macneill, H. B. Cresswell.

DUKE OF THE ABRUZZI WILL BE REPLACED.

Rome, via Paris, Feb. 7—The Duke of the Abruzzi has requested that he be relieved of the command of the Italian fleet. He will be replaced by Vice-Admiral Paolo Thaon Di Revel.

GERMANY DEPORTING ROUMANIAN MALES.

Paris, Feb. 7—The Roumanian minister of foreign affairs telegraphed today to the Roumanian legation in Paris that Germany has begun to transport for internment in Germany all Roumanian males from sixteen to sixty-seven years of age.

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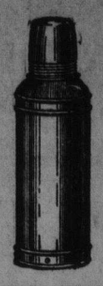

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Pints ..... $2.00 to $4.00
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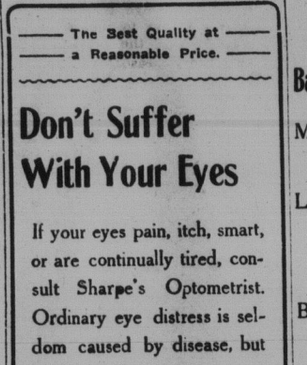

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