

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1921.

CANADA'S NAVY.

It is as the world was often told, the great war was fought to end war, the world must be easily disappointed, for at the very moment when the great peace instrument, the League of Nations, is getting fully into operation, preparations for war are everywhere prominent. Not only is there no sign of disarmament—for that we might be asked to wait patiently—but the principal nations are preparing new instruments of war. France is in her most warlike mood. There is much excuse for France, for she is next door neighbor to a nation which she believes will seize the first opportunity to attack again. Great Britain is making large appropriations for her naval service, yet not large enough to suit some influential sections of her people, who clamor for the construction of what are called "capital ships," even while her Admiralty question the value of such expensive vessels. Japan is spending much on the expansion of her navy. The United States has a large naval programme. When it is suggested that Great Britain and the United States should take a naval holiday the American Secretary of the Navy answers that such a policy would be all right if the whole world would adopt it, well knowing, as he does, that in the present state of affairs there is nothing upon which the whole world can be brought to agree. Canada, too, has in some degree caught the naval fever. A small fleet of warships donated by the British Government—a couple of cruisers, a couple of destroyers and a couple of submarines—has arrived at Halifax and has been received with considerable ceremony.

The navy in all countries is usually a popular service. The blue jacket of the sailor seems to appeal to imagination even more than the khaki of the soldier. We are all proud of the history and of the recent achievements of the British Navy. Canada is a maritime country, facing the ocean on both East and West sides, and consequently there are large sections of our people who are sure to feel a keen interest in naval affairs. Even in the inland districts our Navy League have been laboring, not without success, for the creation of a naval spirit. The British Government's offer of these six ships as a free gift proved a temptation that our Government could not resist. A number of the officers of the ships are young Canadians, graduates of our naval colleges. All these circumstances seem to make the arrival of the fleet at Halifax an occasion for the manifestation of much interest in our Canadian Navy. And all these things are very gratifying—if Canada can afford them. The ships, assisted, cost us nothing. But their upkeep will be quite costly, and there will be more than a few people to ask whether this is not one of the luxury taxes of the time that might well have been postponed.

The Journal of Commerce calls attention to one striking feature of the situation. It is now an accepted principle that whatever Canada is to do in naval affairs must be done along the lines of the policy laid down a few years ago by the former Government. The essence of that policy was that Canada should begin the creation of a small fleet, to be organized in co-operation with the British Admiralty, to be owned by Canada, to be controlled by the Canadian Government in peace time, and in war-time merged into the Imperial Navy. When that policy was devised it was bitterly attacked and in one province the attacks played a considerable part in bringing about the defeat of the Government which had proposed the policy. When the Niobe and Rainbow were bought as training ships, and steps were taken to build several cruisers in Canada, these were contemptuously described as a "tinpot navy" by writers and speakers who are today gabbling over the adoption of the same policy, which is being carried out under the very law that was then so broadly condemned.

Just how far Canada needs a navy now will be a question for debate, but there will be agreement that whatever is to be done must of necessity follow the lines of the much abused policy of 1910.

We have this little fleet as a free gift of the British Government and we are in honor bound to keep it up. But many thoughtful Canadians who appreciate the financial situation of the Dominion will feel that this line of outlay is one on which a close watch should be kept. The tendency of such operations is to expand; the tendency of such expenditure is to increase. Just now, in a period of business depression that gives much ground for anxiety, when revenues are falling and taxes are increased, when many works of urgency are denied the grants that they need, there will be an increasingly critical examination of

our public expenditure, which will often lead to regret that Great Britain did not postpone her generous gift of ships until Canada was more in need of them and better able to provide for their maintenance.

WHOLESALE BRITISH EMIGRATION.

"Bankruptcy of statesmanship" is the description by some British newspapers of Premier Lloyd George's urging that emigration solve the unemployment problem. It is easy to make phrases, but they help little in practical affairs. Britain now is passing through the economic aftermath of the war. The taxes necessary to carry a war debt of forty billion dollars to maintain huge pension and other war expenditures, to sustain foreign commitments, and to assist in the reconstruction of nations whose debts to Britain are one of the British debt, are heavy enough to kill business. They prevent accumulation of capital, and in the end, bring about stagnation of industry.

The Motherland will fight through to economic victory, as she did to military and naval victory, but the strain is great. A nation less staunch, less capable financially, less experienced in international crises, would probably sink from exhaustion. We in Canada have no conception of what real war burdens are, as they know them in Europe. Britain's position is peculiarly difficult, because she has to carry not only her own troubles, but a large part of those of Continental Europe. Much of the British debt to the United States, for instance, is owed for goods bought for France, Italy, Russia, or other Allies—goods for which there is no immediate prospect of payment. If Continental Europe were able to pay for British goods, the whole difficulty would be removed, because the market there exists. But exchange difficulties, the Continent's exhaustion, and high costs of manufacture in Britain combine to restrict markets. Countries like the United States, Canada, Australia and Japan are able to compete in foreign markets with Britain, because of the general burden she must place on her industry in order to help pay the cost of the war.

There may be many improvements in British Government policy that would help remedy the economic position. But it is gross exaggeration to term the present reaction a "bankruptcy of statesmanship." No statesmanship could have avoided it. It is the penalty of war inflation, and of contraction. Emigration would be much the easiest way out, and over the long course of years in which recovery to a normal basis has to be made, it will be a safety valve.

THE STRAITS OF BELLE ISLE

The project of damming Belle Isle Straits is being revived. At its narrowest point the strait between Newfoundland and Labrador is only 10 miles wide. Eminent engineers who have studied the question claim that if the Straits are closed and the Arctic Current, which flows through them, shut out of the St. Lawrence Gulf, the climate of the western coast of Newfoundland, the Maritime Provinces and the lowest part of Quebec would be transformed and the St. Lawrence would be made navigable at least as far as Quebec City all winter. The project is pronounced free from engineering difficulties, the cost being placed at \$150,000,000 at the outside. They even enthusiastically paint pictures of the Gulf Stream being driven inshore and the coast of Nova Scotia being turned into a second Florida.

The London Free Press in the course of a recent article, pointed out that this is not a new scheme, because in 1915 Judge Lewis, of Goodrich, then member for North Harn, brought the question to the attention of the House. The project was not treated seriously at the time. Canada has such heavy expenditures to face and so many expensive proposals on the table that it will likely be a long time before it is undertaken. However, more than one engineering dream in recent years has materialized earlier than was ever anticipated.

\$70,000 FOR MARCH 4 PARADE.

Boston, Jan. 2.—An appropriation of \$70,000 for Massachusetts militia men's expenses in attending the inauguration ceremony in Washington next March will be asked of the Legislature by Adjutant-Gen. Jesse F. Stevens. Gen. Stevens said he planned to have at least 4,000 men in Washington, and that he hoped to obtain from the Federal Government the use of two army transports to convey them.

To a lover there are but two places in the world—one where his sweet heart is and the other where she isn't.

WHY TEETOTALERS LIKE SWEETS

(Medical Man in The Overseas Mail.) Professor Hardman, the president of the British Association, while proclaiming himself a supporter of Teetotalism, pointed out that total abstinence from alcohol cannot really be attained even if the drink trade could be absolutely suppressed because alcohol is made the human body.

Physiologists do not question the fact that alcohol is one of the products of chemical processes which go on not only in the digestive tube, but in the living cells which compose the body. Alcohol is the product of the living processes of the yeast organism, and what is carried to an extraordinary extent in the case of yeast occurs to a slighter extent in other living organisms.

People who become total abstainers take to eating more sweets and sweet cakes, and to drinking sweet soft drinks, and sugar taken in excess may do them just as much harm as excess of alcohol.

There is a normal minute percentage of sugar in the blood, an amount which is found to be constant, from day to day, within very narrow limits in all healthy normal people. An excess of sugar in the blood acts as a poison.

The disease diabetes is characterized by an excess of sugar in the blood and by the excretion of sugar by the organs whose duty it is to keep the composition of the blood constant by excreting any excess of waste matter which the living tissues put into the blood.

Physicians in the U.S.A. have noted an increase of diabetes among the population following the acceptance of the "dime dry" policy, and the increased consumption of sugar consequent thereon.

As pointed out before in these columns, sugar only exists in traces in natural foods. Starch is the natural carbohydrate food which is slowly digested and absorbed as sugar, sugar is an appetiser, and should not be taken in such amounts that the blood is flooded with it.

When the membrane of the stomach is deranged by the eating of too much sugar, yeasts appear in the stomach and actively digest sugar in to alcohol.

Thus children who are allowed to eat excess of sweets by indulgent parents, who are total abstainers, absorb alcohol produced from the sweets within their little stomach by the action of the yeasts.

It has been found, indeed, that by eating sugar and yeast together enough alcohol may be produced in the stomach to cause drunkenness. Thus a man may use his own stomach as a still, and the excise officer cannot prevent this, or tax him for the alcohol he produces therein and absorbs.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

High Railway Rates.
 (Toronto Saturday Night.)
 The blame for the high rates now existing can be laid at the door of labor without any fear of doing an injustice to anybody. Eighty-five cents or even more of every dollar taken in by our railways goes to operating expenses, a higher percentage than ever before known in the history of railroading.

Manners Taught At Home.
 (London Daily Telegraph.)
 If at home vulgarity rules, no school can be trusted to make its children anything but vulgar. The American teachers explore the American parents' way of praising as "cute" and "clever" ugly tricks of conduct. Even so at home, masters and mistresses have been heard to lament that the wholesome influence of school and schoolfellows is often destroyed by the extravagance of home life. When we are so busy in overhauling our educational system and demanding more and more of the schools and teachers, it is worth while to remember that the home and the parents also have work to do.

American Modesty.
 (Vancouver Province.)
 Read the following passage from one of the leading journals of the United States Pacific coast:
 "It is the world's frank acknowledgment of America's power of leadership. Our country made possible the victory of democracy over autocracy in the war. . . . We stated the objects of the war. We gave to Britain and France the shibboleth which which they won. We called together the temporary League of Nations as embodied in the Supreme War Council. We became the directing force, the guide and leader in diplomacy. We changed the military operations of the Allies from chaos into organization and order. What we did in war we can do in peace. We are the disinterested nation, the respected nation, the nation in which all the people have full confidence, and the nation whose leadership and guidance all the Governments are willing to accept. It is a trusteeship paramount. It is the will of the world committed to American keeping, for better or for worse. One can not read the daily proceedings at Geneva without realizing that the assembled statesmen there look to America to become the guiding inspiration of the League, to be the big brother to the nations and to be the deliverer of mankind from the agonizing burden of the war."

THE LAUGH LINE

It's an easy matter to sympathize with the poor when your pocket is empty.

When a lady man comes home to supper he likes to tell his wife how hard he has worked all day.

Naturally.

"Mumsey, don't call me a lamb when people are here." Why not, darling? "It makes me feel so sheepish."

Jealous Spouses.
 Bob's wife's cognomen she has it surely was so both; Her given name is "Cynthia" And she's always on the watch.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PA'E.

Ma was imbrodering imbrodering up in her room, and I sed, Hay ma?
 Hay is for horses, sed ma.
 And she kept on imbrodering the imbrodering and pritty soon I sed, Hay ma, I mean, ma?
 Wat? sed ma.
 Is vinegar any good of a stain a remover? I sed.
 Sutch an idee, sed ma.
 Meaning it wasent, and I sed, Well wont it even take out egg stains, ma?
 Certany not, sed ma, and I sed, Not even out of carpike?
 Look heer, have you bin droppng eggs on any of my carpike? sed ma.
 No main, holey smooches, ma, I aint bin droppng eggs any- wares, I sed, and ma sed, Well then was all this silly conversation about?
 Wat silly conversation, ma? I sed, and ma sed, O hush up. Wich I did for a while, and then I sed, Well of course it vinegar wont take out egg stains then wy of course it wont take out grape jooce stains.
 Benny, wared did you spill grape jooce? Tell me immedeatly, sed ma, and I sed, Nowwared ma, holey smooches.
 Well did you spill anything? sed ma.
 Yes main, I sed, and ma sed, Wat? Ware?
 Only some ink on the parlor carpike, I sed.
 Being wy I had to stay in a all afternoon.

Interesting.

Freddy: "I don't know why you bought this book. There's nothing interesting about it."
 Teddy: "You should have seen the beautiful blonde who sold it to me."

A Mistake Somewhere.
 "Ma, did you ever hear a rabbit bark?"
 "Rabbits don't bark, dear."
 "That's funny! My story book says that rabbits eat cabbage and bark."
 —Boston Transcript.

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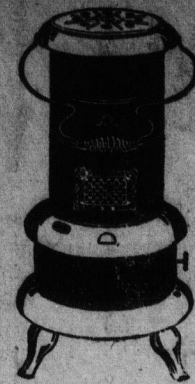


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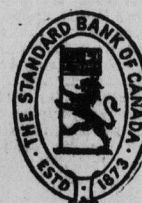
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New Bank for St. John



THE Standard Bank of Canada announces the opening of a branch in St. John on Monday, January 3rd, at the Corner of King and Germain Streets, under the management of Mr. W. L. Caldwell.

THE

STANDARD BANK OF CANADA

CONDENSED STATEMENT October 30th, 1920

LIABILITIES	
Capital paid up	3,500,000.00
Reserve Fund	4,500,000.00
Undivided Profits	431,622.16
Notes in circulation	6,802,268.00
Deposits	14,942,230.26
Due to other Banks	5,515,671.52
Bills payable (acc. by London Corres.)	25,548.13
Acceptances under Letters of Credit	141,885.01
	98,968,225.08
ASSETS	
Cash on hand and in Banks	\$3,795,794.58
Deposit in Central Gold Reserves	1,000,000.00
Government and Municipal Securities	1,830,537.02
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	783,432.97
Call Loans in Canada	1,875,709.11
	\$8,885,473.68
Loans and Discounts	\$3,555,522.76
Real Estate other than Bank Premises, Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank	62,750.00
Bank Premises	141,885.01
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit as per Contra	141,885.01
Real Estate other than Bank Premises, Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank	62,750.00
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of Note Circulation	175,000.00
Other Assets not included in foregoing	120,017.63
	\$9,868,225.08

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WEDDINGS.

Smith-McKnight
 The marriage of Miss Vera Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, St. Martins, N. B., to Daniel McKnight, B. A., of Antigonish, was solemnized at the Parsonage of Olivette Baptist Church, real, by Rev. Frank Orchard at 2 o'clock, Dec. 26th.

The bride, who was unmarried, wore a navy blue suit with beaver and satin hat.

Miss Dorothy Smith, sister of the bride, who is attending McGill University was present at the ceremony.

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