

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 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.

HON. GEORGE J. CLARKE.

The resignation of Hon. George J. Clarke from the premiership of this province will be received with very general regret. For a great many years Hon. Mr. Clarke has given of his best efforts to the public good, at the expense of not only his personal advantage but of his health as well, and largely as a result of the untiring activity which he has displayed he is now in a very serious condition. Indeed, Hon. Mr. Clarke's health is such as to cause the gravest anxiety to his many friends throughout the entire province. For the earnest endeavors which have marked his devotion to public affairs the people of New Brunswick owe to him a debt of gratitude which cannot be repaid, while the sacrifice of health and strength involved in his attention to public affairs is of course something which cannot readily be appreciated. Hon. Mr. Clarke has resigned because of his failing health, and this in itself is sufficient recognition of the deep and personal interest he has always displayed in the affairs of his province, in that he realizes the burden imposed upon the leader of the Government and feels that one holding such a position should at all times be prepared not only mentally but physically to withstand the strain involved through the ordinary duties of office.

As a private member of the legislature, as Speaker of the house, and as leader of the Government, Hon. Mr. Clarke has displayed a whole-hearted devotion to the interests of the people, a consideration of his colleagues in the House worthy of the broadest mind, and a grasp of affairs of province-wide importance which have made his handling of public affairs creditable not only to the party which he represents but to himself personally.

In acknowledging his resignation from the premiership his colleagues, and we feel sure, the people of New Brunswick, will wish Hon. Mr. Clarke a speedy recovery from his present illness and rest from the pleasing but exacting duties of public life.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

There are three new men in Premier Murray's Government. Hon. Arthur R. Slipp, who has successfully represented Queens county in the Provincial Legislature since 1908, succeeds to the portfolio of Lands and Mines, formerly held by Hon. George J. Clarke, while Hon. Arthur Patrick Culligan of Restigouche, and Hon. H. T. Taylor of Charlotte become ministers without portfolio. Attorney-General Baxter, Hon. Dr. Landry and Hon. B. F. Smith retain under Premier Murray the departments they so successfully administered under his predecessor.

There are few more popular men in the New Brunswick Legislature than Hon. Arthur R. Slipp, and his appointment to the important portfolio of lands and mines is a distinct tribute to his ability and character. The department, having to do with the largest revenue producing asset of the province, the crown lands and mining resources, is of paramount importance to provincial prosperity. In the capable hands of Mr. Slipp it will be well administered.

The two members without portfolio, Hon. Dr. Taylor and Hon. Arthur Culligan, are not strangers to public life. Dr. Taylor has represented Charlotte county for several years, heading his ticket in the election of 1911. He is widely popular and his elevation to cabinet rank will be hailed with distinct approval all over the province. Hon. Arthur Culligan represents Restigouche, politically. In business life he has been particularly identified with the lumbering and farming interests of the province. He is deservedly popular, and as a private member of the Legislature has given valuable service to his constituency and the province at large.

THE NEW PREMIER.

The announcement that Hon. James A. Murray is Premier of New Brunswick will be accepted with favor all over this province. Since it became apparent, some weeks ago, that the health of Hon. George J. Clarke would make it necessary for him to retire

from active public life, Hon. Mr. Murray was generally regarded as the logical successor to the high office of Premier. And he comes to his new honors and responsibilities with every qualification. Aggressive, optimistic, with lengthy and successful experience in political and business life, possessing robust health, an unusual measure of popularity, and an abounding faith in the resources and destiny of his native province, he is eminently the man to lead the Government of New Brunswick and to cope with and solve the many problems that will arise during the reconstructive period following the war.

As Minister of Agriculture Hon. Mr. Murray has already given evidence of great capacity and ability. Under the administration of the men who held office prior to 1908 that department never justified its existence. When Hon. Dr. Landry took charge he wrought a speedy transformation and the agriculturists of New Brunswick quickly realized that a new era had dawned. Hon. Mr. Murray succeeded to a department which, through its revitalization, possessed great opportunities for useful work and valuable service and he was quick to grasp them. Under his management new departments have been opened which have already proven their value. Mr. Murray's most important work of late has been in connection with the plan of settling returned soldiers on the farm lands of the province after the war. This land settlement scheme has already been hailed by British authorities as the most practical proposal of the sort submitted from any part of the Empire and it will be a great pleasure for the Premier to carry it to a successful conclusion.

Under Mr. Murray's capable and prudent administration New Brunswick will be in a position to secure its full share of the development and prosperity that will come to Canada at the conclusion of war and the people are to be congratulated on the fact that he is the first minister of this province. The honor comes to him as the result of long and meritorious public service and while his new position carries added responsibilities it is well known that Premier Murray is equal to all its demands. The Standard extends hearty congratulations to the new Premier and expresses the hope and belief that his Government will long continue to administer the affairs of this, his native province.

FUNERAL OF HON. ARNOLD R. MCGLELAN TOMORROW

Special train arrangements have been made to accommodate any persons residing along the line from St. John to Salisbury who may attend the funeral of the late Hon. A. R. McGlelan which is to take place tomorrow afternoon. The regular train leaving St. John at seven a.m. will reach Salisbury about ten o'clock. This will connect with the regular Albert and Salisbury train leaving Salisbury at 11:30. Arrangements have been made further so that after the funeral is over there will be a train leaving Riverside, back to Salisbury in time to connect with the C. G. R. train back to St. John tomorrow night.

Are You Intoxicated?

The question is not as impertinent as it sounds. You may be a real teetotaler and yet be "intoxicated"—that is, poisoned by the gases that come from imperfect digestion. The products of food putrefaction are taken up by the blood and often poison the entire system. Cut out meats and starchy foods for a while. Eat Shredded Wheat with milk or cream for breakfast; eat it with stewed fruits and green vegetables for dinner or supper. It will cure auto-intoxication and make a new man of you. All the meat of the whole wheat in a digestible form. A perfect meal at lowest cost. Made in Canada.

WHAT WILL GROUND HOG DO TODAY?

Is Backbone of Season of Cold and Storms Broken, or Will There be "Two Winters in the Year"?

What will the renowned ground hog do today and is the backbone of winter shattered, are two important interrogations which those who put their trust in the antics of the more or less celebrated little animal are putting up to themselves and to some other people. Yes, this is the day when the wood-chuck, guard-vack, arctomys monax, or whatever you please to call that distinguished member of the North American marmot tribe, emerges from his burrow after quite some period of fasting, hibernating and sucking his paw when he is awake.

Now for centuries it has been popularly, even if superstitiously, supposed that the hog in question is a sure and certain weather prophet just once a year, namely, on Candlemas Day, the date when this latitude winter is thought to be at least half over. Tradition has it that when this diminutive marmot leaves his lair he takes his blinkers and as soon as he can get a snifter of the light of day casts his optics about him. If the day be overcast that winter is about to breathe its last gasp. But on the other hand, should the wary wood-chuck see his shadow, he immediately decides that he will not chuck up his warm bed, but beats a hasty retreat for his winter quarters, the shadow indicating to his meteorological hog intellect that old Boreas and the chilling frosts and snows of winter are still present and that there are more to come.

Incidentally rhymes of poetry have been written on the ground hog and Candlemas, but we forbear, although this stanza may be familiar: "If Candlemas Day be bright and clear, There'll be two winters in the year." Etc., Etc., Etc.

REJECTED AS SOLDIER, KILLED ON RAILROAD

Son of Thomas Hennessy, a Leading Resident of Irish-town, Moncton, Meets Untimely Death in Maine.

Moncton, Feb. 1.—Basil O. Hennessy, aged twenty-two, son of Thomas Hennessy, J. P. of Irishtown, was killed while packing on the Maine Central, according to a telegram received by his father. He was well known in Moncton, having been formerly employed in the C. G. R. machine shops. He enlisted in the 56th Battalion, but for some disability was unable to go overseas. Last August he went to the United States.

Besides his parents, he is survived by three brothers, Charles Augustus, who has been overseas for two and a half years in the artillery; William P., charge hand at the C. G. R. repair shop; John P., C. G. R. locomotive fitter, Moncton, and four sisters, Sister Mary Benedicta of St. Mary's Convent, Haverhill, Mass.; Annie, in Boston; Gertrude, of the C. G. R. general office staff, and Beatrice, at home. His father is one of the Conservative leaders in Moncton parish.

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Little Benny's Note Book

By LEE PAPE.

My cousin Artie stayed at our house for supper yesterday, which we had veal cutlet and things, being all rite, and I was enjoying myself eating, and ma sed, Benny, for merseys sakes take your time, you don't see your cousin Artie eating like a famished lion, do you? Always eat slo, sed Artie. Like fun you do, I sed. Benny, sed pop, you mousset cast asparagus on your kumpitny table manners, it not do in the best families. Well, ma was casting it on mine, I sed. And I kepp on enjoying myself eating, and pritty soon ma sed, Benny, Im surprised, the idee of taking a peece of bread in yor hand and mopping up your gravy, you dont see your cousin Artie doing that. That dont say he dont do it wen hes home, I sed. I never do, sed Artie. The heck you dont, Ivo saw you, I sed. Benny, thats not hospitabl, sed pop. Well its true, I sed. Truth is impoliter than fockshin, sed pop. And him and ma and my sister Gladis finished there supper and went out of the dining room and me and Artie stayed there eating our peeces of minis pie, and as soon as everybody was out Artie sed, G, I hate to eat pie with a fork. And wat did he do but pick his peeces up in his hands and eat it that way. You dont call that good manners, do you? I sed. Sertany I do, sed Artie. And he kepp on eating it that way with all the minis meet falling out. Proving you never can tell till you see sombody wen nobody is looking.

TODAY IS FEAST OF CANDLEMAS

Today is Candlemas Day, a religious feast which commemorates the Purification of the "Blessed Virgin Mary, or the presentation of the Holy Child Jesus in the temple, and is a holy day in the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches throughout the world; also in the Lutheran churches of Germany, Scandinavia and the United States, and in the Greek Catholic and Armenian churches, although because of the difference in the calendar the eastern churches do not observe the feast the same time. The feast commemorates the event related in the second chapter of St. Paul's Gospel. The festival dates from early times and is said to have been formerly instituted by Pope Gelasius in A. D. 494. In the Roman Catholic churches and in some of the other denominations named the candles for the use of the church services during the coming twelve months are consecrated.

In The East.

In the Armenian church of Russia, Asiatic Turkey and the United States the sacred new fire is kindled on the eve of the feast day instead of at Easter, as is the usage elsewhere. In some parts of Germany and the Hebrides it was once the custom to observe certain rights on Candlemas Day, to ensure good crops of flax and oats in the coming year. And Germany still needs good crops! Candlemas is chiefly known in Scotland, in secular matters, as the first of the quarter days for the payment of rents, etc.

Major Edmund H. Drury.

Ottawa, Feb. 1.—Major Edmund Hazen Drury, acting assistant director-general of engineering services, on the headquarters staff here, died suddenly in his room last night. He was in apparent good health up to within half an hour of his death. Major Drury, who was born in Halifax, was a brother of the late Major-General Drury, of Halifax, and Mr. Harry Drury, of Winnipeg.

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Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which contains directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly on the bottle. Beware of counterfeits sold here. Get the genuine, made by "California Fig Syrup Company."

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