

## The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 25 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada. H. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.  
 THE STANDARD IS REPRESENTED BY:  
 Henry de Clerque, ..... Mallers Bldg., Chicago  
 Louis Klebahn, ..... 1 West 34th St., New York  
 Freeman & Co., ..... 9 Fleet St., London, Eng.

ST. JOHN, N. B. SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1920

### THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

The future of the Maritime Provinces is a matter in which the rest of the Dominion are deeply interested; and any proposals which have for their object the betterment of conditions within the provinces, and the improvement in the relations not only between the different communities in the provinces themselves, but also with those of the other provinces of the Dominion, are deserving of every encouragement. What is needed most is a policy of co-operation, and once some scheme can be formulated which will produce this beneficial results can confidently be looked for. The aims and objects of the peoples of the three Maritime Provinces are practically the same, but with all there has never seemed to be any very great desire to get together to attain these ends; each has been content to play a lone hand, with the net result that nothing very helpful has been accomplished. The Maritime Provinces were the cradle of Confederation; it was from a proposal to unite these three provinces into one that the Dominion of Canada sprang.

The ideals that prompted the statesmen of the three provinces to get together for the promotion of their common interests in 1864 are just as worthy and just as pronounced at the present day. Confederation, notwithstanding, the Dominion owes a considerable debt to the Maritime Provinces, a debt which is not very readily acknowledged and which it is proving very hard to get satisfaction for. The sacrifices which the provinces made for the benefit of the new Dominion have not been properly recognized; representations regarding them have been ignored and brushed aside whenever any attempt has been made to get them attended to; and they will probably continue to be so treated unless more energetic steps are taken to bring about a change in Dominion sentiment.

The old adage that in unity there is strength applies just as forcibly to matters in which communities are interested as it does where private interests only are concerned, and it is more than likely that community of action on the part of the three Maritime Provinces may succeed where individual action has so far failed. This matter is to be the subject of some addresses by Mr. H. J. Logan, K. C., and Dr. Baxter, K. C., in the Board of Trade Rooms on Monday evening, which should prove of more than usual interest.

### THE POWER COMPANY MATTER.

The people of St. John will be very interested if they allow themselves to be misled by the advice of a few who are supported by The Telegraph and The Globe, are for keeping up the fight with the Power Company. Making all due allowance for the irritation that may have originally been felt over the inflation of the Power Company's stock, there was no need to make matters worse than they were. The City's representatives, Legislative and Civic, accepted the proposal to leave the whole question to an impartial commission to be named by the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition, and this commission, having given the matter the fullest investigation and consideration, arrived at the conclusion that a fair valuation of the Company's property would be \$2,800,000, and they reported. Having agreed to the appointment of this commission, the City should have been content to accept its findings. But our civic rulers were not content, and carried the matter to the Legislature a second time, when a further reference was drawn on in time to the judges of the Court of Appeal, who, after wading through the reports and other papers prepared by the commission, reduced the amount of the commission's findings to \$2,577,965. Still the City's rulers were not satisfied, and once again they went to the Legislature, the members of which were by this time pretty much disgusted at the attitude thus adopted. The result of the Legislature's action on the matter is that the value of the Power Company's property has been fixed at \$3,100,000, which is \$500,000 in excess of the figure named by the commission, and \$500,000 more than that fixed by the judges of the Court of Appeal. In addition there has been more than a year's delay, an expense of several thousand dollars for costs and other things, and the City is worse off than before.

In the face of all these things, there are those who counsel the continuance of the fight with the Company. Have the City Fathers not had lesson enough?

### COMMODITY PRICES.

The Montreal Herald says: "We are told that there is in the neighboring Republic a shortage in potatoes and in sugar, and the game is worked so that Canada is drawn on for these supplies, to the cost of the Canadian consumer. There is something wrong and the more whose duty is to protect the citizenry of the country should discharge their duty."

To meet this condition of affairs, a league of housewives and others in some Ontario cities have decided to refrain from buying potatoes until the price comes down. As a remedy this course of action is about as much practical use as an attempt to stop an automobile by placing a lath across the road would be. There is such a big demand for these tubers across the line that they can be sent there just as well as offering them in the various Ontario towns and cities. Producers in this country will naturally sell their wares wherever they can realize the best price for them; they cannot be blamed for doing so; but it comes hard on the ordinary individual in Canada who needs them. There is no real remedy, short of putting on such a stiff export tax as will make it unprofitable for United States buyers to purchase, and such a tax is of course out of the question. Potatoes are not the only articles that are high in price in this country because of the rate at which large quantities are being shipped out of it. India has put a ban on the export of foodstuffs, until the prices to home consumers come down. Must we come to that here? Many people are of the opinion that our exports should be limited to the purposes remaining after the requirements of the home consumer are satisfied. As matters are at present, we are buying from other countries to meet our own requirements many lines that we are ourselves exporting.

### NOT HIGHER WAGES, BUT LOWER PRICES, NEEDED.

Some remarks addressed by the President of the Trades and Labor Congress to some Union men a few days ago are worth noting. He told them that future efforts by Labor to better conditions would not be for higher wages, but would be to regulate prices on behalf of the consumer. "It is high time," he said, "that the labor classes all over the world recognized and asked themselves the question: 'Are higher wages and less working hours the remedy for our condition?' The answer would be 'No,' because every few cents the employers grant the workers are immediately eaten up by the increased cost of commodities, whose price is boosted in order to give the workers the wages."

It is idle to deny that the heavy increase in the cost of practically all things that enter into the question of living is mainly due to the great increase in wages to labor. It could not well be otherwise. Every rise in wages means so much added to the cost of production and distribution, which naturally increases the price of the article to the general consumer, which includes the labor class itself. It may be doubted if the average worker is any better off than he was before the rise in prices began, notwithstanding his big increase in wages. His income, measured in actual purchasing power, any better than it was before the war? He may be getting more money, but he is paying more for his living, and any further increase in wages would quickly be followed by still another rise in prices all round. Not only, therefore, is Labor no further ahead, but the privations and difficulties of those whose incomes are fixed are immeasurably increased. Manufacture can only stand so much; already operating costs have, in many instances, become so burdensome that some manufacturers are almost ready to close up business; and if the enhanced cost of the article causes a falling off in the demand, as it must ultimately do, production would have to cease on account of the reduced sales.

Since business must be based on the making of some return on the capital employed, Labor's margin is, in the long run, restricted to what the consumer market will stand. Under normal supply conditions the general selling prices are based upon a scale of labor costs, for the profits of management are not, as a rule, excessive when all industrial production is working full capacity. It would be much better for Labor, and for the community, if some centralized effort were made by the unions to restrict their own wage demands, and at the same time to obtain a moderation of commodity prices.

The Chief Medical Health Officer for the Province is not the highest salaried official of the Health Department. Dr. Abramson, the bacteriologist, beats him out by \$1,500. And even if Dr. Meivins was always a strong Conservative, that does not affect the truth of our criticism; he is only one of many paid officials.

Senator Underwood says the United States cannot tolerate a situation that will in a few years put United States newspapers in the hands of Canadian newspaper manufacturers. Then, why does not the United States produce its own pulpwood, and remain independent?

### IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

#### THE HEALTH ACT.

To the Editor of The Standard.

Dear Sir:—I was very much pleased with your remarks regarding the so-called "Health Act" in your editorial this morning. One would almost be inclined to think from reading the paper reports which have of late been devoted to much space to the famous history of the instigators of this Act, that death itself had been struck a body blow, in its adoption. I see, notwithstanding, that the weekly mortality is still published in the Press. Has this wonderful Health Act, with all its effectiveness and invasions of the home, lessened epidemics? Has it decreased their severity? Has it prolonged life? The public has been surprised, as long with the concrete legislation of the past few years, but there is at present strong evidence that it is getting tired of the tremendous interest exhibited by these self-seeking politicians in the welfare of the "other fellow."

Cases have been brought under my attention where children have been held up on the street by a politically appointed physician of the Board of Health, who was not the family physician, rushed to his office and vaccinated without the consent of the parents. This is a condition, Mr. Editor, which makes for the welfare and contentment of the community? What does this politically appointed physician know about the physical condition of a child he has never attended? Would it not be better to show some consideration for the welfare of the little tots by asking the family physician to vaccinate, if he deemed the physical condition of the child justified the operation? Why force the services of these politically appointed physicians, with their large salaries, by any means, in this province, upon those who may not fully know the rights accorded British subjects. The Act has cost the province a lot of money and the Government a lot of anxiety, one of its supporters in the House of Assembly, I am told, has filled his support to the bill which he had privately condemned, as a "war measure."

We were told at the time of its introduction that Dr. Roberts, the promoter, was to serve at its head with remuneration, for which magnanimous act he was applauded by a friendly press, but he has been forced now to recede from this enviable position and has hurried at him a salary of \$2,100 per annum, the same salary for which the Hon. Peter Veniot works from day to day, till dark, and then some. In addition Dr. Roberts is to be "taken in" to the Government on the footing, as that astute Commissioner of Public Works I venture the opinion that P. T. Barnum, even in his painted days, had nothing on the Minister of Health.

I write this as one who has no political axe to grind, but with a full sense of a responsibility which we owe, and should recognize, to our fellow man, no matter what his position in life. I am, Sir, Mr. Editor for the above, yours truly,  
 A DISGUSTED PARENT.  
 St. John, April 30, 1920.

MILKAB, N. B.  
 April 27, 1920.

Editor St. John Standard:

Sir,—I would like some of your valuable space, a complaint about distribution of road worries, as I claim that the Board of the Kingston Peninsula is discriminated against. Last spring I wrote to Mr. E. S. Carter about improvement about ferry service, also that we were unfairly treated in regards to roads in 1918. In reply he said the road supervisor was doing good work and would do better, and I was the only bidder.

I will quote a few figures from Auditor-General's report for 1919, which show that we fared little better last year. The following expenditures were for roads in Rothesay: Permanent, \$69,746.64; maintenance, \$1,138.45.

Greenwich, Permanent, \$5,512.06; maintenance, \$592.91.  
 Westfield No. 1 permanent, \$9,066.54; maintenance, \$132.93.  
 Kingston, Permanent, \$16,609.82; maintenance, \$1,631.03; and Westfield No. 2, (Wm. Baxter, supervisor), Permanent, \$1,913.05; maintenance, \$209.51.

Only one mile of permanent work was done in Westfield, and one and one-eighth miles in Kingston under Supervisor Baxter. Therefore the larger part should be charged to Kingston. The \$209.51 shown for maintenance cost two years, as no accounts were shown for Baxter in 1919 report, though he was supervisor. The result is that we have one mile of road which was built only a few resident families, and the remaining 44 miles of road is in a very un-

Good Serviceable

Calf leather

Walking Boots

that are stylish, comfortable and well made.

Black Calf at \$9.00, \$11.00, \$12.00, \$14.00 and \$15.00.  
 Tan Calf at \$11.00, \$12.50, \$13.50, \$14.00 up to \$17.00.  
 Call and inspect these or better still allow us to demonstrate their good fitting qualities.

McROBBIE 80 King Street ST. JOHN

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Yesterday for homework we had to write a composition on flowers, today we should have had to write a composition on the weather. Benny's Note Book is the class tell me what is meant by the expression, Benny is the sole of wit.

Which nobody read they could, and Miss Kitty said, it means that the shorter a thing is, the better. Now I want you all to write a composition on frost feet to see who can write the shortest one.

And she gave out paper and waited a while and then she said, somebody finished yet? With one and Patsy Simkins and Sam Cross and Bill Brent raised our hands, and Miss Kitty said, Very good, William Brent read yours.

Which Bill did, being, Frost is all different shapes, especially bananas. Frost is at its worst when it gets rotten, but its still frost just the same.

Is that all? said Miss Kitty, and Bill Brent said, Yes mam, and Miss Kitty said, My goodness, that is short—Samuel Cross, read yours.

Which Sam did, being Apples are frost, and vice versa. Some prefer peaches and some don't, proving frost is a matter of taste.

These frost stuff too, to say the least, Benny Potts, suppose you read yours.

Which I did, being, Frost grows on frost trees, hence the name. The end.

Well for pity sake, I think I'll have the others collected and read them myself, we will now have the foggyfry bean, and Miss Kitty.

Which we did.

pathological condition. In spite of large expenditures in Kingston Parish the roads in part adjacent to the Westfield No. 2 roads.

Kingston No. 1 gets good roads and free ferry; we get free ferry only, and she is not on yet though the river is open nine days, and people have had no public way to get to market since March 25th.

Unrest is growing splendidly here. We were told at the time of its introduction that Dr. Roberts, the promoter, was to serve at its head with remuneration, for which magnanimous act he was applauded by a friendly press, but he has been forced now to recede from this enviable position and has hurried at him a salary of \$2,100 per annum, the same salary for which the Hon. Peter Veniot works from day to day, till dark, and then some. In addition Dr. Roberts is to be "taken in" to the Government on the footing, as that astute Commissioner of Public Works I venture the opinion that P. T. Barnum, even in his painted days, had nothing on the Minister of Health.

I write this as one who has no political axe to grind, but with a full sense of a responsibility which we owe, and should recognize, to our fellow man, no matter what his position in life. I am, Sir, Mr. Editor for the above, yours truly,  
 A DISGUSTED PARENT.  
 St. John, April 30, 1920.

MILKAB, N. B.  
 April 27, 1920.

Editor St. John Standard:

Sir,—I would like some of your valuable space, a complaint about distribution of road worries, as I claim that the Board of the Kingston Peninsula is discriminated against. Last spring I wrote to Mr. E. S. Carter about improvement about ferry service, also that we were unfairly treated in regards to roads in 1918. In reply he said the road supervisor was doing good work and would do better, and I was the only bidder.

I will quote a few figures from Auditor-General's report for 1919, which show that we fared little better last year. The following expenditures were for roads in Rothesay: Permanent, \$69,746.64; maintenance, \$1,138.45.

Greenwich, Permanent, \$5,512.06; maintenance, \$592.91.  
 Westfield No. 1 permanent, \$9,066.54; maintenance, \$132.93.  
 Kingston, Permanent, \$16,609.82; maintenance, \$1,631.03; and Westfield No. 2, (Wm. Baxter, supervisor), Permanent, \$1,913.05; maintenance, \$209.51.

Only one mile of permanent work was done in Westfield, and one and one-eighth miles in Kingston under Supervisor Baxter. Therefore the larger part should be charged to Kingston. The \$209.51 shown for maintenance cost two years, as no accounts were shown for Baxter in 1919 report, though he was supervisor. The result is that we have one mile of road which was built only a few resident families, and the remaining 44 miles of road is in a very un-

A Safer, Better Wall Lining

Rubberoid Asphalt Saturated Felt

makes a weather-proof first-rate lining for walls and floors. It is strong, tough, and will not tear or break.

Two Weights:—No. 10—60 lbs. to the 400 ft. No. 14—100 lbs. to the 400 ft.

Price \$5.00 per 100 lbs. Phone Main 3000.

MURRAY & GREGORY, LTD.

### No Summer Vacation

this year, as some of our students cannot afford to lose the time. Our classes have been considerably crowded, but changes now occurring give a chance for new students who may enter at any time. Send for Rate Card.

S. KERR, Principal

Seed Oats

2 Cwa. Oats For Seed

FEEDING OATS

Market Very Strong—Buy Now

C. H. PETERS SONS, LTD., St. John, N. B.

## Daily Fashion Hint

Prepared Especially For This Newspaper

Half-Witted Drivers.

(Toronto Star.)

There are some who cannot drive safely—who so handle their cars that sooner or later the tragedy happens. They do not mean to kill anybody, but they drive in such a way that they are forever putting it up to the people to get out of their way and keep from under their wheels. A motor car in the hands of such a person is a dangerous engine, and likely at any moment to become a murderous one. Nobody can drive a car, but half-wits should be prevented from doing so. It will become necessary to cancel the right of men to drive cars who have been shown to be deficient in the good sense that the job calls for. Until wild driving is vigorously punished, without the slightest regard for pull and influence, there will be a steady increase in the number of those tragedies as the population grows and as cars multiply in numbers.

Unrest is growing splendidly here. We were told at the time of its introduction that Dr. Roberts, the promoter, was to serve at its head with remuneration, for which magnanimous act he was applauded by a friendly press, but he has been forced now to recede from this enviable position and has hurried at him a salary of \$2,100 per annum, the same salary for which the Hon. Peter Veniot works from day to day, till dark, and then some. In addition Dr. Roberts is to be "taken in" to the Government on the footing, as that astute Commissioner of Public Works I venture the opinion that P. T. Barnum, even in his painted days, had nothing on the Minister of Health.

I write this as one who has no political axe to grind, but with a full sense of a responsibility which we owe, and should recognize, to our fellow man, no matter what his position in life. I am, Sir, Mr. Editor for the above, yours truly,  
 A DISGUSTED PARENT.  
 St. John, April 30, 1920.

MILKAB, N. B.  
 April 27, 1920.

Editor St. John Standard:

Sir,—I would like some of your valuable space, a complaint about distribution of road worries, as I claim that the Board of the Kingston Peninsula is discriminated against. Last spring I wrote to Mr. E. S. Carter about improvement about ferry service, also that we were unfairly treated in regards to roads in 1918. In reply he said the road supervisor was doing good work and would do better, and I was the only bidder.

I will quote a few figures from Auditor-General's report for 1919, which show that we fared little better last year. The following expenditures were for roads in Rothesay: Permanent, \$69,746.64; maintenance, \$1,138.45.

Greenwich, Permanent, \$5,512.06; maintenance, \$592.91.  
 Westfield No. 1 permanent, \$9,066.54; maintenance, \$132.93.  
 Kingston, Permanent, \$16,609.82; maintenance, \$1,631.03; and Westfield No. 2, (Wm. Baxter, supervisor), Permanent, \$1,913.05; maintenance, \$209.51.

Only one mile of permanent work was done in Westfield, and one and one-eighth miles in Kingston under Supervisor Baxter. Therefore the larger part should be charged to Kingston. The \$209.51 shown for maintenance cost two years, as no accounts were shown for Baxter in 1919 report, though he was supervisor. The result is that we have one mile of road which was built only a few resident families, and the remaining 44 miles of road is in a very un-

A Safer, Better Wall Lining

Rubberoid Asphalt Saturated Felt

makes a weather-proof first-rate lining for walls and floors. It is strong, tough, and will not tear or break.

Two Weights:—No. 10—60 lbs. to the 400 ft. No. 14—100 lbs. to the 400 ft.

Price \$5.00 per 100 lbs. Phone Main 3000.

MURRAY & GREGORY, LTD.

No Summer Vacation

this year, as some of our students cannot afford to lose the time. Our classes have been considerably crowded, but changes now occurring give a chance for new students who may enter at any time. Send for Rate Card.

S. KERR, Principal

Seed Oats

2 Cwa. Oats For Seed

FEEDING OATS

Market Very Strong—Buy Now

C. H. PETERS SONS, LTD., St. John, N. B.

## Your Thoughts



Should now be on that lawn of yours, and now is the time to have it rolled. We have the

Water Weight Rollers

No. 3 ..... \$15.00  
 No. 5 ..... 17.70

Our assortment of Garden Tools and needed equipment for looking after the lawn and garden is most complete.

GET THEM AT

'Phone M 2640 McAVITY'S 11-17 King St.

## And when Ye Plight the Troth—

be mindful that the Ring—which marks the step so vital in the life of womanhood—be of finest gold, with gem of purity beyond reproach.

### ENGAGEMENT RINGS

In Solitaire and Cluster Diamond effects, also set with Pearls, Rubies, Emeralds and other precious stones, are special features of our up-to-date display.

We're always glad to show them to you. Call at your convenience.

FERGUSON & PAGE

## PAINT OF BEST QUALITY

At \$3.50 Per Gallon.

We are going to sell 900 gallons at this price. Send for Color Card.

HALEY BROS., LTD. - St. John, N. B.

## In Driving Your Band-Resaw or Rotary Machine Use

Extra-C-Leather Belting

MANUFACTURED BY D. K. McLAREN, LTD.

MAIN 1121 80 GERMAIN STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B. BOX 702.

## Elastica House Paints

For Interior or Exterior Use

Painters' Sundries, High Class Varnishes

M. E. AGAR 51-53 Union St. St. John, N. B.

'Phone Main 815

## Gas Ranges

"Gurney's" Latest Design of Single and Double Oven Ranges. Well worth inspection.

Full assortment of Oil Cook Stoves, all patterns. Our prices are satisfactory.

P. CAMPBELL & CO., 73 Prince William St.

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price.

Real Comfort For The Eyes

Glasses ought to be a boon to the wearer, and it is possible for everyone to have glasses that are. In the many years that we have been making and fitting glasses, we have always held the comfort of the patron to be the chief consideration. No detail, however, slight, that will add to comfort is ever omitted.

It is this painstaking care that has caused those who wear them to name them Sharpe's Comfort Glasses.

L. L. SHARPE & SON

Jewelers and Opticians 2 STORES—21 KING STREET 189 UNION STREET

## BACK TO ST. JOHN AGAIN

Beaver Brand Hardwood Flooring is again being sold by us.

It is made by the largest Manufacturer of flooring in Canada and has given excellent satisfaction.

The demand has been so great that the price is now \$200.00 for 13-16 and \$160.00 for 12.

Phone Main 1893.

The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd.

186 Erin Street



\$5.00

Will purchase a

Knox Straw Sailor

Friday and Saturday

BLACK NAVY PURPLE

It's worth your while to investigate

D. Magee's Sons, Ltd.

Fine Hatters in St. John



Painless Extraction Only 25c.

Boston Dental Parlors

Head Office 827 Main Street Branch Office 85 Charlotte St.

'Phone 688 'Phone 38 DR. J. D. MAHER, Proprietor.

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



ESTABLISHED 1894.