

The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1912.

UTILIZE THE MARKET.

There are signs that the patronage of the country market by citizens is increasing. At this time of the year a larger number of farmers come to the city than at any other season. They often drive as far as forty miles with their produce in order to visit the city and all the shops at holiday time. Men and women who "come to town" at no other season like to look at the many novelties displayed in the shops at Christmas time. Railroads supply the means of transport for the great majority of country folk, but there are still many who risk the bad roads and changeable weather of mid-December in preference to the more comfortable railroad train. The chief item of produce brought in by those who drive is poultry, and an occasional carcass of beef or mutton, or a fat porker or two. Mutton is not so popular as it was years ago. In the late fall, or whenever they are fit, the lambs are now killed and placed in cold storage by the local butchers. It may not be generally known, but there is quite a large export of cold storage lamb from New Brunswick to the Western Provinces during the winter season. There is an excellent market for New Brunswick lamb but the supply is limited.

An increased patronage of the market by local housekeepers would have an immediate effect in settling the question of the increased cost of living. Why there should be either surprise or complaint at the increased cost of living is not apparent to those who have watched conditions during the passing year. Take in the matter of food supply alone. Forty, even thirty or twenty years ago, everybody bought their supplies at the market or direct from the farmer. The open space behind German and Charlotte streets, that served for a country market, was one of the sights of St. John on a summer Saturday morning. Everybody was there and carrying baskets to hold their purchases. A few went in carriages, but the great majority were on foot. Judges, lawyers, doctors and merchants rubbed shoulders with mechanics' wives doing their marketing. They bought everything for the table in the market in those days, including fruit for preserving and vegetables for drying, for the canning factory was still in its infancy and confined largely to fish products. Then as the season advanced and field crops were harvested the family cellar was stocked for the winter according to the means of the individual. In the cellar of a well appointed home would be found all the vegetables, a quarter of beef, an abundant supply of poultry, pickled fish and eggs, all laid down in the most approved style for keeping through the dreaded January thaw; and somehow the things did keep in those days and were good too.

At that time there was no Western beef on the market, all the hams and bacon that were used in St. John were produced in New Brunswick, with the exception of a few brought in from the United States. Whether the people ate as much beef as they do now is a question, but so far as the supply was concerned it was obtained in the Province, or in Nova Scotia, and paid no tribute to trusts. This was before the days of big business and before there were any mushroom millionaires who had accumulated their wealth over night.

Thirty years have brought many changes. Now the family wash is done at a laundry and no well thought of cook would think of performing the duties of a housemaid alone. In homes were a general servant only kept the mistress cleans the scullery, if there is one, and carries the coal. There are but few home milliners and no home tailors. The clothing of the male person either comes from the custom tailor, whose number grows less each year, or is a factory product, no longer "off the shelf" but selected from a "wardrobe." Home knitting is forgotten. Everything underneath the outside garments of a man comes from a factory—and is no longer the product of the nimble fingers of the women of the home. With all these changes it would be supposed that the household labors would have been lessened. On the contrary, the women seem to be more fully occupied than ever, although a few manage to find time to discuss suffrage and kindred evils, to write poetry and dabble in the arts.

With all these changes how could anyone expect any result but an increased cost of living? The increase has not come over night. It has been coming gradually for years and with it an increase of wages for all classes. For several years the increases in wages about kept pace with the increases in the cost of living. Lately the cost of living has increased more rapidly than the wages, consequently those who feel the pinch cry out and demand a readjustment, while the whole question is not solved by bringing the producer and consumer more closely together a great point is gained. If the housewives of St. John let it be known that they propose going to the market to buy direct from the producer, and this knowledge is properly disseminated, there will be no lack of produce in the market for sale. The farmer will get more for his stuff than the forester will pay him and the housewife will save the profit of the middleman. Such has been the experience where the experiment has been tried and history will repeat itself in St. John, if the people can be induced to make their purchases in the market instead of by telephone.

LAURIER'S ATTITUDE.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier placed Canada and loyal Canadians in a false position during the Boer war, when he prevented a Canadian contingent going to South Africa until it was clear that he must either resign his office or consent. He is again placing Canada in a false light before the rest of the Empire in the amendment which he has moved in Parliament. There is not to be found in all Canada a corporal's guard who do not believe that Canada has as much right to aid in the defence of the Empire, on sea or land, as England, Ireland or Scotland. Yet Sir Wilfrid would keep his navy at home. There is no talk in Great Britain of a navy for the protection of Ireland, or Scotland, or England, as separate parts of the Empire. The navy is maintained for the protection of the commerce of the whole Empire, and the Overseas Dominions should long ago have paid a fair lot and set for its maintenance. Perhaps the reason they did not was due to a lack of asking. Even now the contribution is a voluntary one, due very largely to the fact that the people of the Overseas Dominions realize that the dominance of Great Britain on the seas is threatened, and that it is the duty of every loyal Dominion under the flag to lend aid at a critical moment. This Sir Wilfrid Laurier would deny. He would build ships to protect Canada alone, but he would not send them where they are most needed to protect the interests of the

Empire. His attitude on this important branch of the subject is now attracting attention. The Toronto Mail and Empire says:

"Sir Wilfrid admits, and takes as one of the premises of his amendment, that Britain has found it necessary to concentrate her principal naval force in the North Sea because of the naval situation in that quarter. But neither in this amendment nor in the speech by which he introduced it had he one word to say of sympathy for the old Mother Country in her present stress and danger. It was as if he should say: 'That is her affair; it is ours to maintain warships on our shores, when she has withdrawn hers.' The Laurier speech and amendment might have been the production of a man at the head of a foreign Government, studious to maintain a 'correct' and perfectly neutral attitude towards two powers between which there seemed to be serious risk of war. In Sir Wilfrid's speech and amendment there is not a word about helping Britain in the present crisis. In fact, Sir Wilfrid keeps on denying that there is a crisis, while at the same time urging speed in the establishment of a separate navy for Canada. All foreign governments, both those that act with Britain on lines of foreign policy and those that are less in harmony with her, will note the absence from Sir Wilfrid's speech and amendment of any expression or desire to help her now, and will be impressed by his complete ignoring of her present crisis. No other party leader in the British Empire has taken such a stand of detachment towards the Mother Country, has shown such indifference as to how she 'muddles through' the naval emergency in which she finds herself."

The attitude of Sir Wilfrid Laurier is that of a separatist. The Telegraph and Times have spent a very enjoyable season denouncing the Nationalist Bourassa. Wherein does he differ from the Liberal leader, save that he wants neither navy nor army. The distance between Laurier and Bourassa is easily measured.

There is a State Senator out in California, says an American exchange, who is a courageous man, but a rash one. His name is Birdsall, and he hails from Placer County. He's at work on a bill to regulate the attire of the girls (incidentally, of the boys as well) in all California's public high schools. "The bill," writes a Sacramento correspondent, "will provide that skirts, coats and waists shall be of the same material for all the girl students; their hats are to be of a standard price; their stockings and shoes are to be uniform; costly picture hats, high-heeled shoes and attractive silk stockings must go." Speaking of sumptuary legislation, how's that? We see the finish of the bill, and of the Senator.

The city by-laws may be unjustly administered or they may not, but the fact remains that few people know what they are. Only a small number of them have ever been printed and some have not been revised for years and contain some very startling provisions. For instance, it was once punishable under an ancient by-law to carry friction matches about one's person. There is a popular belief that the penalties imposed under civic by-laws cannot be enforced. In most instances the penalty can be collected by distraining on the goods of the convicted party or if he has no goods the person convicted may be placed in jail. A revision of the civic by-laws and their publication is necessary. It has been advocated for years but never done.

When Justice Goff, of New York, sentenced Thomas O'Donnell to four months in the penitentiary for stealing \$250 of the funds of the Electrical Workers Union, he told him that if he was really going to steal he ought to go down on Wall Street, where there would be at least an air of respectability about it. "O'Donnell," said the Justice, "why didn't you go down on Wall Street? You have made the greatest mistake of your life. If you had gone there and done something like this you would have been called a successful financier, and there would have been an air of respectability about you. A man who takes a small sum like this is only a common thief."

The New York Sun quoting the references of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the Munro Doctrine says: "Sir Wilfrid Laurier seems to be more of a politician than a statesman now that he is out of office and planning how he will resume the Premiership. The following passage in his speech opening the naval debate at Ottawa certainly lacks the quality of statesmanship and as certainly smacks of the politician." It was when Sir Wilfrid was willing to sacrifice Canadian trade for the benefit of the United States that he was a great statesman.

Municipal graft has extended even to the small towns of the United States. Evidence in the Cleveland county, Ohio, graft inquiry shows that the county infirmary for one year bought 400 men's hats to supply the twenty-five male inmates, while over nine hundred pair of socks, some silk, were also purchased. Some very fancy millinery for the women inmates was purchased at \$12 and \$15 a hat.

The common towel has been ordered abolished from railroad cars, vessels, all other interstate vehicles, and from stations, by Franklin MacVagh, Secretary of the United States Treasury, in an amendment to the interstate quarantine regulation. This action follows closely the abolition of the common drinking cup from use on interstate carriers. Towels may be used again only after having been sterilized in boiling water.

The naval policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier is purely selfish. He would protect the credit of Canada alone and take no part in the protection of the commerce of the Empire, or do nothing even to help Canadian shipping in foreign waters.

For the past two days the chief work of the police court has been connected with youthful offenders. It is surely time that some active and energetic steps were taken, to lessen the number of juveniles who constantly figure in the police reports.

Sir Wilfrid's naval policy is getting hard knocks these days. Imagine such a navy as he proposes pitted against even a small unit of any of the European navies! No matter how brave his seamen were it would be at the bottom of the sea in half an hour.

P. O. Surplus.

A post office surplus of over \$1,200,000 is a substantial argument in proof of the efficiency of the Administration. Moreover, it represents the dividends of profit which under private ownership would have gone into the pockets of the few.

Married Women's Franchise.
(Hamilton Times.)

The Toronto Board of Control voted recently in favor of giving married women the municipal franchise. The ladies are getting there.

The Prohibitive Cost of War.
(Toronto Globe.)

The Balkan war cost upwards of five billion dollars per month. It is little wonder the Concert of Europe hesitates to provide a martial entertainment at that price.

Men's Christmas Slippers

Worn every day in the year, they make ideal gifts.

Men's Kid Slippers, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50.
Men's Brown Slippers, \$1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50, 2.75.
Men's Congress Slippers, \$1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50, 3.00.
Men's Brown Morocco Travelling Slippers in a beautiful leather bag, \$3.50.
Dr. Jaeger's Pure Woolen Slippers, 85c., \$1.35, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00.



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HIS WIFE WAS TOO GENEROUS AT CHRISTMAS

Wealthy New Yorker Says His Wife's Christmas List Grows Longer Every Year—Posted Debt Notice.

New York, Dec. 13.—About the beginning of December, Mrs. A. W. J. Pohl, wife of a wealthy builder, with offices at No. 56 Pine street, Manhattan, sits down at a desk in the boudoir of her home, and thinks of all the friends to whom it would be nice and charming to give Christmas presents. About the same time Mr. Pohl, in his office, dreads the very mention of To him the list his wife makes out gets larger and larger every year, and necessitating, of course, an extra amount of money. What she bought for last year is not as costly as what she certainly must have this Christmas. She has, like most women, an ever increasing circle of friends. Naturally, in her generous mood she can't possibly figure out on that list whom it would be advisable to strike out. But if Mr. Pohl had his way he would take a blue pencil and go through it without mercy. But not having that opportunity, Mr. Pohl, who is a happy, generous man, with an appreciation of the festive occasion, thought out another way which will curtail expenditures which his wife might entail for gifts.

Their Friends Started.

Mr. Pohl inserted an advertisement in a Brooklyn newspaper, saying that he would not be responsible for his wife's debts. It took a lot of nerve to do this. Mrs. Pohl's friends were startled when they read this in the newspaper.

"My wife, Catherine Pohl, receives ample funds to pay cash for all her needs. I will therefore not be responsible for any accounts she may contract for." A. W. J. Pohl, 1256 Flatbush avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Pohl are known among their many friends as an affectionate couple. Hence the advertisement was a puzzle to those who knew Mr. and Mrs. Pohl. The couple have been married sixteen years—sixteen Christmas masses. When asked by a reporter for an explanation, Mr. Pohl said: "My wife gives too many presents each Christmas," said Mr. Pohl. "I may have acted hastily in publishing the notice, but that is the reason, and it stands. I do not regret it. I have nearly decided to do it last year. It is a warning. I heartily favor Christmas giving, but there is a limit to everything." He added that he did not believe his wife had more than 150 names on her list.

A Debt to Science.
"What a debt we owe to medical science!" he said as he put down the paper.

"Good heavens!" he exclaimed, "haven't you paid that doctor's bill yet?"

LUMBER!

Three scow loads of 1, 2 and 3 inch Refuse Spruce, 100,000 ft. Merch. Spruce Plank, 2 inch, from 3 to 12 inches wide.

Hemlock Boards and Planks. British Columbia Fir Boards, one carload, from 10 to 20 inches wide.

Whitewood, from 18 to 23 inches wide.

Plain Oak Boards, wide stock.

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Gum, Hickory, Walnut, Mahogany, Butternut, Chestnut and Cherry.

The Christie Wood-working Co.
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We Solicit your kind patronage and offer our Xmas Greetings to all.

W. Hawker & Son,
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104 Prince William Street.

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THIS is an earnest, honest bid for your good will. If what we say is true we shall learn it. Otherwise it will cost us heavily. Besides we shall sacrifice the respect of the housekeepers.

We assert:
Regal Flour bakes the best quality and the utmost quantity of bread per barrel of any you have ever used. It is economical, little goes far. It makes delightfully light, white loaves. And fine, flaky pastry.

Guarantee:
Your dealer will return your money if what we have told you here is not true. He loses nothing. For we pay him back. Will you meet our sincerity half way? Please remember—Regal.

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