

**The St. John Standard**

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ST. JOHN, N. B. TUESDAY MARCH 1, 1921.

## REDISTRIBUTION

That the Western provinces should be anxious for the postponement of an election until after the redistribution Bill which must follow the forthcoming census is not natural, in view of the fact that their representation will be largely increased. The older provinces will probably lose somewhat. The province of Quebec, whose people are naturally proud, and whose industries have of late years undergone great development, has doubtless had a large increase of population during the past decade. There is a general consensus of opinion that Quebec's population will total at least 2,000,000. By the B. N. A. Act Quebec is entitled to 36 members and fixes the unit of population per constituency. This would mean a unit of 40,000 per riding. Ontario's population in 1911 was 2,532,774 and it is not likely that the growth of its population has kept pace with Quebec. Even if Ontario has three million people, it would mean only 75 members, or a loss of seven, as now there are 82 members from Ontario. Before the 1911 census Ontario had 86 seats, so that the province's influence in Parliament is on the wane. The West will undoubtedly gain considerably, although probably not more than 10 ridings, bringing the total west of the Great Lakes from 57 to 67.

The Maritime Provinces on the other hand stand to lose more of the reduced representation that they at present have. These provinces started 16, so to speak, with a representation at Ottawa of 21 for Nova Scotia, 16 for New Brunswick, and 6 for Prince Edward Island. At the present time this representation has been cut down to 15, 11 and 4 respectively and the chances are that further reductions are coming as far as Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are concerned at any rate. The Maritime Provinces have not the opportunities for increasing their population that the other provinces have. Surrounded on all sides by the sea, they cannot have their borders enlarged like the inland provinces can, with the not unnatural consequence that their population has remained almost at a standstill. An amendment to the B. N. A. Act passed a few years ago provides that the representation of any province in the Commons shall never be less than its representation in the Senate, so that it is some small consolation to know that at the worst New Brunswick can only lose one more member, while Nova Scotia may lose six. They will get the minimum of anything in the way of benefits that is going any way, that may be depended on.

## CANADA AT WASHINGTON

When Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, over the question of the Canadian ambassador to Washington, shouted out in Parliament that "The ink was hardly dry on the document marking the approval of Parliament when loud protests were made by the British ambassador and the Colonial Office," he made a statement which the Winnipeg Tribune characterizes as "false on the face of it."

It would be impossible to point to a single instance in the political history of Canada within the last thirty years, where the attitude of the British Government to the growing powers of Canada has not been scrupulously correct, and where the spirit actuating the British Government has not been one of sympathy and encouragement.

The United Kingdom it is true would be too fortunate an island if it did not contain some individuals of the same type of character as Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, men who are not above appealing to the baser prejudices of ignorance, partly perhaps because they share them, but more because they aim to derive advantage from the reaction those prejudices produce.

It has been purely a matter of Canada's own concern whether an appointment to Washington was made or not. Nobody else had a word to say, except, of course, the Government of the United States on which the duties of reception devolve. Why the fact that no appointment has yet been made should be cited as an instance of British interference by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux is unfortunately too clear. He wishes to raise a presumption in the mind of his public that there is British interference whether the facts bear him out or not.

Having thus declared himself, and having been roundly brought up for doing so, Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux went on to say that at no Imperial conference would Canada ever surrender her right as a free governing dominion to any central authority. By whom or for what purpose could such

## THE QUESTION OF ECONOMY

Hon. T. A. Cresser, leader of the Agrarian party in Commons has roundly denounced the Melghe Government for its extravagance and advocated stricter economy. The same kind of talk was heard in regard to the Hebert Government in Ontario; it was condemned on innumerable platforms for its orgy of expenditure.

If Mr. Cresser becomes prime minister and proceeds to put in force a variety of economy similar to the Drury Government it will be a long time before we reduce our national debt. Hon. Peter Smith, provincial treasurer of Ontario has no interest in war debt to meet, no pensions to pay, no soldiers' civil re-establishment, and no Soldiers' Settlement Board, yet for the year 1920 he spent millions more than the last administration. For 1920 the ordinary revenue was greater by five millions than the revenue for 1919. Despite this there was a deficit of \$300,000 and new taxes are to be imposed.

When Sir Henry Drayton brings down his budget he will be able to contrast to show a surplus of some \$75,000,000. Oppositions from time immemorial have denounced governments as extravagant, but the Drury administration, like many ministries before it, is finding that precept is easier than practice.

## THE REASON WHY

Tenure of high elective office in Great Britain is usually limited to a very few years. Public opinion works on the most flexible system of government the world has ever seen; there is no such thing in modern British history as waiting for years to give effect to a pronounced public desire for any change or reform. Months have replaced years as units of political calculation.

Lloyd George is an apparent exception to this rule. An analysis of his career, based on his official public utterances, shows why he survives. He only has one policy, one ambition, one purpose—to lead public opinion. His opponents, and many of his colleagues, reverse this mental attitude, and seek to hold public confidence through being led by public opinion.

The consequence is that Lloyd George is always out in front, is associated in the public mind with the gaining of the next desired result, keeps the public convinced that support of measures desired in the public interest involves support of Lloyd George as the nearest available force to bring success to those measures. This is not saying that he is an opportunist; for, while he is constantly seeking an opportunity, he uses every possible opportunity as an avenue to intelligent and efficient public service. His long tenure of office has resulted from combining sagacity in leadership, with power in performance.

## RAILWAYS AND DAYLIGHT TIME

A few days ago a story was sent broadcast throughout Canada to the effect that the Canadian Railways had determined to run all their trains upon Daylight time from May 1st to Oct. 2nd. It now transpires that there is no truth whatever in this report; that the railways have taken no official action whatever in this regard, beyond throwing out the suggestion that all municipalities adopting it should agree to observe it between those dates, for the sake of uniformity. The railways probably recognize that they will be expected to run some of their local trains on Daylight time to accommodate the various communities following it, and they wish to regulate their time tables with some degree of uniformity if possible.

Out of upwards of 16,000 entitled to vote on the question of adopting Daylight time, only some 3800 were sufficiently interested in the matter to take the trouble to record their preference. However, those who wanted it, will now be able to have it, which we presume is the main thing.

The inmates of Wandsworth Prison, England, are to hear a course of business lectures. The New York Herald offers Mr. Pons of Plymouth, Massachusetts, as an exchange professor.

Famous Whoppers.  
 "If mother's precious does that again, mother will whip."

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

## A Point.

But one who dare is allowed to speak to the danger of their dangerous glare headlights. And some of them seem disposed to persist in their use till the last moment. After that date they should be given short shrift.

## Still Going Strong.

Some say that the talk of war between the United States and Japan is due to Japanese jingoism, and some say American jingoism are to blame. But isn't the whole thing largely due to Pan-German propaganda started several years ago and still fanned from the same source?—Toronto Star.

Cobalan and Lindsay Crawford, Judge Cobalan, of New York, is now interesting himself in a demand that Great Britain should free Canada. He should be politely but firmly told to mind his own business—a request which Lindsay Crawford, who was present at the meeting, doubtless neglected to make.—Hamilton Spectator.

## That is Well.

Replying to a threat of Labor that a general strike of railwaymen would be called if redress was not made for the killing of an Irish railway employee in a fight with soldiers, Lloyd George told the threateners that the Government could not be intimidated by such a menace. "This is the spirit which will be approved by the people of England. It is the only way in which a government could act unless it was a spineless, cowardly thing."

The incident shows the premier and his government in fighting fettle, which is reassuring, as Labor has drawn up legislation which it declares must be accepted by the Government whether it likes or dislikes it. Should the Government refuse to accept these proposals, Labor would resort to methods which are described by them as "unprecedented."

Here is our old friend "direct action" once more. How far would Labor endeavor to carry it? Does Labor plan an attempt to establish a soviet government? Responsible leaders of England surely realize that such an attempt would bring on a terrible civil war. What ever form the pressure which Labor threatens may take, it is clear that Lloyd George will not be secured by it, and will fight to a finish any attempt to override the ruling of popular representation and the constitution. That is well.—London Advertiser.

## A BIT OF VERSE

## THE SLUGGARD.

"This voice of the sluggard; I heard him complain,  
 "You have waked me too soon; I must slumber again."  
 As he dozes on his hinges, so he in his bed  
 Turns his sides, and his shoulders, and his heavy head.

"A little more sleep, and a little more slumber;  
 Thus he wastes half his days, and his hours without number;  
 And when he gets up, he sits folding his hands  
 Or walks about musing, or trifling he stands.

I passed by his garden, and saw the wild bird  
 The thorn and the thistle grow broader and higher;  
 The clouds hang on him as he turns to rage;  
 And his money still wastes till he starves or he begs.

I made him a visit, still hoping to find  
 That he took better care for improving his mind;  
 He told me his dreams, talked of eating and drinking,  
 But he scarce reads his Bible, and never loved thinking.

Said I then to my heart, "Here's a lesson for me:  
 That man's but a picture of what I might be;  
 But thanks to my friends for their care in my breeding,  
 Who taught me betimes to love working and reading."

—Isaac Watts.

## THE LAUGH LINE

Suggested by the Partner.  
 "Harry," she said, thoughtfully.  
 "What is it?" responded the worried business man, rather shortly.  
 "I wish you could rearrange your business a little bit."

"How?"  
 "So as to be a bear on the stock exchange instead of at home."

Knew What He Ordered.  
 "How much is mine?" asked a customer in the rapid-fire restaurant.  
 "You didn't gimme no check."  
 "Lez see," queried Heloise, the waitress. "What'd ya have?"  
 "Lord knows! I ordered corn beef hash."

The Bureau of Information.  
 Sub-Editor "A" correspondent wishes to know why they whitewash the inside of a henhouse.  
 Editor—"Tell him it's to keep the hens from picking the grain out of the wood."

Changed Circumstances.  
 "You were too lenient with the chauffeur of that motor truck," said a tansy pedestrian.  
 "I know he violated the law," said the Paris traffic policeman, "but I didn't have the heart to arrest him. He should be a grand duke, and everybody got out of the way of his car."

"Bothered with time-wasting callers, are you? Why don't you try my plan?" asked the first.  
 "What is your plan?" said the second.  
 "Why, when the bell rings I put on my hat and gloves before I open the door. If it proves to be someone I don't want to see I say: 'So sorry, but I'm just going out.'"  
 "But suppose it's someone you want to see?" asked the second.  
 "Oh, then I say, 'So fortunate, I've just come in,'" said the first.

## Benny's Note Book

## BY BENNY

## HISTORY.

Notes of things have happened since the world started years ago. And the principle reason we know they did is because history tells us so.

O Jonah was a man in the bible Who was swallowed by a whale. But the whale got nervous and cawed him back So he lived to tell the tale.

O Columbus discovered America, A famous thing to do. But his picture is all that's left of him, Because he did it in 1492.

O Alexander the Great was a general Who licked everybody in sight. And if he was living now he could do it again. So it's a good thing he ain't, for his mite.

O Napoleon was a little fellow, Just taking him by his size. But the people that judged him by his length Were doomed to much surprise.

So let us study history And learn about the past. For we are now in the present We'll be that way ourselves at last.

## LEFT ESTATE OF \$6,350.

Special to The Standard.  
 Fredericton, N. B. Feb. 28.—In the will of Frank Wallace of Nashua, N. H., the estate consists of real and personal property and is valued at \$6,350 of which \$4,600 is real estate. The administratrix, Mabel C. Wallace is the sole beneficiary.

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## A Popular

## "SA"

## - And Y

## The Membership to thi

## Sinn Feiners Are

## Executed At C

## Appeal for Clemency

## Cork Corporation is R

## ed and Six Are Shot.

## Over, Feb. 28.—Six Sinn

## held in the jail here, who had

## found guilty of leaving war

## the Crown forces and were con

## ed to death, were duly executed

## military today. The men were

## batches of two each at intervals

## minutes. An appeal for clemency

## recently been made by the Cor

## poration. The men executed

## Timothy McCarthy, Thomas O

## Patrick Mahoney, John Lyons,

## Callaghan and John Allen.

## Grime Paid For.

## The first five were condemned

## this month for an attack on

## Crown forces at Droichead, Count

## in January. Allen, whose home

## in Tipperary, was sentenced by

## martial for possessing a revolu

## ammunition. It was this we

## which the King's bench contri

## Feb. 24, in deciding that a s

## war existed in Ireland, giving t

## Harry full power to act without

## reference by the civil courts.

## The clemency appeal for the

## was adopted by the corporation

## day and sent to General Sir

## Mervyn, commander of the tr

## Ireland.

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