

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited 82 Prince William Street,
St. John, N. B., Canada. H. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MAY 19, 1919.

MR. HANNA'S PROMISES.

Mr. D. B. Hanna in his tour of the east threatens to achieve a reputation for making promises hitherto unrivaled in this part of the country. We have frequently been lifted to the stars by the effusive outpourings of federal ministers and transportation magnates, but we have just as often dropped with a cold and cruel thud when these glowing predictions have transformed themselves into hot air. And despite all that has been said in previous years the people of St. John have learned by bitter experience to depend wholly upon their own resources and not to put their trust in the words of others.

New Mr. Hanna is a new man down here. While he has been in the railroad a considerable time and has no doubt learned many things through his connection with McKenzie and Mann, he has not previously appeared in this part of the country as a man of promise. There is thus ground for a faint glimmer of hope that he may not be as others, and that what he states as to plans for the future may materialize to some slight extent at least. But so many and so keen have been our disappointments that Mr. Hanna will surely not be offended when he learns that the people of St. John do not care one continental for his promises. They have become calloused and nothing will do now but the real thing. They want to be shown, and if Mr. Hanna desires to achieve a reputation in this community he will not first and last do the talking afterwards.

Yet if in his diplomatic conversations it becomes necessary that he make promises, it is in the interests of all concerned that his words be not merely repetitions of what has been said before. For example, we now learn that sketches are being made as a preliminary to the preparation of plans for a new depot. If Mr. Hanna comes to look up the records, we will find that an exactly similar statement was made by Mr. Gutelius very shortly after his appointment, and repeated at more or less frequent intervals. But that depot is still nonexistent, while Mr. Gutelius has gone. And Mr. Hanna repeats the old platitudes about the government road not waiting for business but anticipating it by the provision of all sorts of equipment. All of which sounds very well indeed, but looks much better in the concrete than in newspaper interviews.

As mentioned before, Mr. Hanna is a new man hereabouts, and we would like to see things happen before the talking begins, for otherwise, and judging from past experiences, we will have a very long wait.

SATURDAY'S RECEPTION.

While lacking the abandon of Lady Smith Day, from which joyous events the history of St. John is dated, Saturday's celebration was possibly the most enjoyable thing of the kind ever attempted in this old town. The failure of troop trains to arrive on schedule, a circumstance for which the management of the government road is wholly to blame, was a great disappointment to the thousands who from early morning thronged the streets, and who towards afternoon, footsore and weary, were naturally less enthusiastic than had the welcome been carried out as arranged. Yet little was lacking to make the reception a success. Before our boys went overseas we told them that on their return the welcome would be a fitting acknowledgment of their endeavors. It was just that very thing. Certainly no one who witnessed the parade up King street and to the Square could wish for anything finer. Nor would it be possible to find in this whole country a happier and healthier looking lot of men than those forming the corps which returned on Saturday. Without exception they are in the pink of condition, and their physical fitness combined with the shining joy of being at home again made them a perfect picture. They are not the same men who went away. They are older—not with the added years, but with something else which has given to their faces an expression of knowledge that time alone does not bring. What they have done and what they have seen have left their mark, and now, experienced in the bigger things of life, with a knowledge that can only be gained through the performance of difficult tasks and through suffering, they come home better men than before, to receive the thanks of those who could not go.

THE C. N. R. BUNGLING.

The troop trains for St. John which left Halifax early on Friday evening were held up on every possible excuse. While this was being done the president of the Government Board of Management was in St. John telling what great things are being planned for this city. His presence would have been far more warmly appreciated had he sent word to his employees that the transport of our men was of greater moment than the expediting of freight to Halifax. That he did not do so is a matter of regret, and the protest which Mayor Hayes has made against the treatment as-

credited our troops by the government road was fully justified. Those trains were sidetracked on every possible excuse to permit freights bound both ways to go by. They were held up by alleged hot boxes, which of course are not uncommon in railroading, but which in ninety-nine cases out of one hundred are the result of pure carelessness. They were unnecessarily delayed in Halifax, but got away in time to arrive here as planned if the management of the C. N. R. had displayed any interest whatever in their movement. There has been a lot said about the handling of troops on the government road since the war started, and The Standard among others has been pleased to refer repeatedly to the creditable accomplishments of those formerly in charge. But since the new management has taken hold, something seems to have slipped.

WINNIPEG'S TROUBLE.

What is perhaps the most serious strike in the history of Canada is now being experienced in Winnipeg, where because of a dispute between two comparatively small groups of workers and their employers over the question of wages, practically the whole life of the city is at a standstill. By means of volunteer assistance of persons not qualified, it is possible to maintain light and water services, and there is as well an attempt at fire protection. But other public services are missing, business is suffering, everyone is inconvenienced, and because of this condition there is grave fear of disorder. Something is radically wrong in our whole system of municipal government when such a condition can be brought about. There is every sympathy with people of the working classes whether bound together by unionism or not in their efforts to better their own conditions of labor and to secure for themselves reasonable treatment in the matter of wages. And there is sympathy as well with employers who honestly endeavor to do their right towards their men. But there can be no sympathy with those on either side who fail to display toward each other that attitude of fairness without which constant friction and dissatisfaction must exist. Nor in such a case as that of Winnipeg will the temper of the general public—always the sufferers—be improved by an unyielding stubbornness on the part of either side. The disposition of those not directly concerned towards any labor difficulty is almost invariably unfriendly to those, whoever they may be, who are looked upon as the cause of inconvenience. People do not want to have their daily habits disturbed, and they resent any action which tends to throw their lives out of the regular routine. Hence when trouble arises the mass of people are more concerned with the early settlement of that trouble than with the terms of agreement which may be reached. And Winnipeg will welcome the earliest possible settlement of the differences which are now resulting in such serious complications. It is sincerely to be hoped that the strike will not lead to actual disorder, though fear is excited that if the present state of affairs continues much longer trouble may be created by that unruly element which without consideration for either party seems always to be on hand ready, through pure perversity, to incite to violence.

THE U. S. LOAN.

Although final figures have not been given out, the official statement with respect to the United States loan indicates that the minimum has easily been passed. While the loan did not enjoy the popular favor accorded previous issues, and although the first two weeks of the campaign were not at all encouraging, the final days brought greatly increased activity and more generous purchasing, while the important financial institutions were called upon to do their share in order that the loan might go over the top. So that today the United States is in a position to boast—and has no hesitation in doing so—that of all the nations at war, it is the only one which has its entire war expenditure funded before peace is proclaimed. While this is a very fortunate position, yet the accomplishment is not wonderful for a country such as that, in view of the great wealth of the people and the comparatively small per capita cost of the war. Had the United States been in its proper place among the allies from the commencement of hostilities, and forced to bear its share of the burden from first to last, a different story might now be told. This, however, does not in any way detract from the credit due the enterprising people in the results now attained. Eighteen and one-half billions of dollars have been asked by popular subscription and subscribed. In fact the excess subscriptions received have totalled more than the amount of the largest individual loan, and while the per capita investment is not as high as in this country, nor the percentage of investors as great, yet in view of the magnitude of the financial effort, the results are really wonderful.

WHAT THEY SAY

All Shot to Pieces.
Chicago Evening Post: Every time a shirt comes back from the laundry we are reminded of George M. Cohan's famous song, "You're a Grand Old Rag."

Just Like Old Times.
Springfield Union: That England is gradually getting back on a peaceful basis is evident from the fact that Sylvia Pankhurst is in jail again for trying to force her way into the House of Commons.

A Sure Cure.
Baltimore American: If the authors and inciters of the war and the men responsible for its outrages are rounded up and punished, there will be a great drop in the Hun propaganda and a total collapse of the Hun bluff.

Our Disadvantage.
Toronto Globe: The industrial community everywhere in Canada is suffering from a lack of clear thinking, of instructed leadership, of a grasp of economic principles. Unlike their British brethren, the Canadian workers have not had the advantage of steady, persistent teaching by men of their own class who have studied the problems of industry in theory and practice.

They Should Reflect.
Toronto Star: The chief of the German envoys used the allied statement to reflect upon the fact that a great many lives have been sacrificed owing to the continuance of the blockade and the consequent starvation. The Germans should reflect upon this, too. Europe could not trust them—not for a moment. The loss of honor, the rejection of all the laws of morality, brings serious consequences sometimes.

Must Gulp the Profiteers.
New York Telegram: The high cost of living here, however, is becoming a serious problem. Wages hardly keep pace with the cost of everything the worker needs. If food and clothing continues to go up in price higher wages will not improve the condition of the worker. The remedy must be found in reducing the cost of living. The consumer, looking at the high prices the raise, pays more for necessities and more for rent and luxuries. There ought to be some way of curbing the profiteers and some way must be found if labor and capital here are to stay on a friendly footing.

Instigators of Violence.
New York Evening World: Why should anti-American forces menacingly hostile to the Government of the United States and to the fundamental ideals of its people go on gathering strength and numbers in this country? The protection afforded them by a high principle of the very Americanism they are ready to attack? Would any genuine American feel himself "muzzled" because he knows that he is not a disloyal and lawless fellow? Would he with certainty land him in jail, and that the benefit of any doubt as to the precise meaning or effect of his public utterances would go not to him, but to loyal, law-respecting Americans entitled to protection? Then why so much latitude and consideration for avowed instigators of violence who are not Americans at all? In the light of public safety and order as well as of its principles it is time country seriously asked itself these questions.

The May Day Paraders.
London Advertiser: Montreal is to be congratulated for the prompt curbing of these rogues of disorder who ignore any law, moral or man-made, that is not of their making. The Dominion Government will show wisdom in taking a tip from Montreal and clean out these dangerous stragglers. Deportation is the one certain way to be rid of the pests. Internment and imprisonment only serves to breathe these with martyrdom, which their comrades can play up to great advantage amongst the ignorant and emotional of our foreign-born citizens. But if we get these noxious fellows out of our country and change the barricade against the entrance of their kind we will break up a Red propaganda that appears to be rapidly spreading throughout Canada and head off many irritating clashes with authority.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE CHASIN' OF THE HAT.

Toronto Globe.
The Rev. R. S. G. Anderson, B. D., formerly of Wingham, Ont., and now of Ramsey, Isle of Man, sends to his friend (Williamson, publisher, Toronto) the following note: "I came across these lines some time ago, and thought you might like to see them. It seems to me one of the most spontaneous poems I have met with in the vernacular."

There was a sic another frae the brim o' the crown,
And the wee MacParlane gave it was the wanner o' the toon;
But a blast of Japwar weather cam' that laid a boardin' flat,
And half a second later Mac was chasin' for his hat.

It tumbled and it stolt, as it dauned it splashed in lika puddle, but it never stooped to stay,
Whiles it swooped like a martin, whiles it flurried like a bat,
For the winds were making mischief at the chasin' o' the hat.

Some fellows tried to turn it, like a fittin' wail their feet,
But it dribbled round an' roon, then proceeded up the street.
Syne it coult ower a hie pit weel as it aye he roared and grut
A' the whiles that we were lauchin' at the chasin' o' the hat.

It did't its pursuers in a hanner kin' o' tricks,
It jinkit their umbrellas and it lookit by their sigks,
While a young and frisky collic took

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

CLOUDS.
Clouds are wat makes the scenery in the sky. Wen theres snuff of them that all you can see, but the sky takes up so much space that it wouldnt be any use of just a few clouds trying to make a cloudy day. Wen a big black cloud goes in front of the sun the sun disappears, but wen a little white one goes in front of it the cloud disappears. This proves you cant always speck to do a thing jast because you see somebody else do it.

Clouds generally wait till a lot of them get together before they start to rain, because if people saw jast one cloud raining by itself they wouldnt even take the trouble to go in the house. Therefore wen theres no clouds its a sine that if it rains it will be unexpectid.

Clouds are all sorts of shapes, depending on the clouds and your imagination. One persin mite think a cloud looks like a elephant, but the more he argues the less anybody else will admitt it. This proves that everybody is intitled to their own opinion.

Berds can fly rite thru clouds and properly do.

the object for a cat.
An' 'th critter o' happy hustin' joined the chasin' o' the hat.
Then a polis tried to grasp it—in a grip bath fierce and grim;
Like a dounce wee lamb it waited, but it wassa fears for him;
It loupit like a foxie at the whumper o' a rat,
And the polis, wit' his birf, joined the chasin' o' the hat.

Sae the collic and the polis, and MacParlane in a line,
Gae fleelin' by our corner—but the hat was daein' fine;
They would'n soon be feeshid (by the rate they travellid at),
For the only one that never seemed tae weary was the hat.

A BIT OF FUN

Bill Rendered.
Dalton—You should pay more attention to your personal appearance, old chap. Remember that clothes make the man.
DeBroke—Yes, but for me the man refuses to make any more clothes.

Sheer Waste.
"What did Mr. Cummon say to you last night, Bella, when he was trying to button your glove?" queried her anxious mother.
"Why," replied the daughter, "he said that any firm making gloves as hard to button as mine ought to give up the business."
"Well, my dear," sighed her mother, "take my advice and don't waste any more time on him."—London Answers.

Proud, Almost.
"How do you like me for a traveling companion?" asked the detective, as he handcuffed his prisoner to himself.
"Oh, I'm very much attached to you," replied the prisoner promptly.—Pearson's Weekly.

Dibney—Those are the noisiest chickens I ever heard.
Wife—Well, they're Leghorns.

Keeping Late Hours.
Galey—Your beauty must intoxicate your latest beau, Midge.
Daughter—You're listening for the joker in the pretty compliment, old dear!
Galey—He seldom goes home till morning.

A little girl in Sunday school was asked "What is a lie?"
Quick as a flash came the reply: "An abomination unto the Lord, but a very present help in time of trouble."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Safe There.
"I think I'll go and live in Venice."
"Why Venice?"
"Because the motor cars cant run you down in the streets there."—Baltimore American.

APPOHAQUI

Apohaqui, May 15.—The many receptions, which have been tendered the returning heroes on their arrival from the battle fields, have been a source of much pleasure to their friends and relatives, the most recent of which, being the happy event of Monday.

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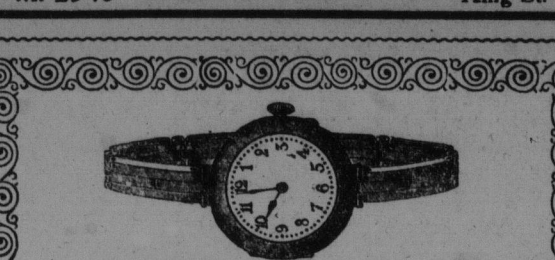
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SMITH'S FISH MARKET

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The Home-C Was Cel

Officers of the Fig Were Banqueted Night—General M Speaks Highly of Brunswick Unit.

The home coming of 26th Battalion was righted Saturday night in the clearing depot, Ban building, given by the ers of the New Brunswick officers who had returned.

Every seat available and the tables fairly g the weight of delicat been provided. It was feast, the first reunio of the officers' mess, a way for a celebration hoped, will remain as a tution.

Major George Keefe, the assistance of Capt. R. Brigadier-General Macdon commander of the brig the 26th was a unit; L. McAvity, original comm 26th and Lieut-Col. W. S. O., who led the batta many.

A feast of reason and intermingled with the corded inner man. Ritchie acted as toast "Our Departed Comrades" first toast, proposed by Hooper, first chaplain of and responded to by th ing in reverent silence. General Macdonal the health of the 26th b on the great assistan Brunswick boys had giv in command of the fift gade. He said the 26th always been equal to an nothing he had require ever been denied.

"The assistance rend 26th Battalion," declare "was equal to that of battalion in the corps, time commander of the brigades, of which you splendid a part, I wi

T means exhaust affects the w tired, listless tons vary in 'One may s aches; another a third nervo action of the

Some patient are cheerful, ill and mental

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But the per Nerve Food is