

## The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 22 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B. Canada. H. V. MACKINNON, Manager and Editor.  
 THE STANDARD IS REPRESENTED BY  
 Henry de Clergue, ....., Mallers Bldg., Chicago  
 Louis Kleban, ....., 1 West 44th St., New York  
 Freeman & Co., ....., 9 Fleet St., London, Eng.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1919.

## REAL ESTATE TAXES.

It is not for one minute denied that real estate values in this city have advanced during the past ten years, but the increase in valuation for assessment purposes has not by any means kept pace with the corresponding increase in the minds of property owners. Many a man who bought or built a three-story house ten years ago for two thousand or twenty-five hundred dollars, today values it at six thousand dollars. Look at the listings of any real estate company, examine the figures, trace back the records and find the prices at which these properties changed hands only a few years ago, and it will be realized that property owners are now placing upon their holdings a value many times the purchase price, while their taxes have not increased in anything like the same proportion. An ordinary residence which today is held at five thousand dollars is taxed on not more than one-half that amount, on the average, and such a residence in three flats will produce from six hundred to six hundred and fifty dollars per year in rentals. Out of this income a tax of sixty-five dollars or less is paid, as compared with a tax of thirty-five dollars five years ago. In this period there has been somewhat of an increase in assessment valuation and a decided increase in the rate of taxation. But the owner of a property valued at five thousand dollars is receiving an income of six hundred dollars per year, not on an investment of five thousand dollars, but on an original investment of not more than twenty-five hundred dollars at the extreme limit. And on that twenty-five hundred dollars he has drawn interest during all the succeeding years, has enjoyed a steadily increasing revenue and is today receiving double the amount in rental under the excuse that his taxes have doubled. Perhaps they have, but where his taxes have gone up, say thirty dollars, he is getting three hundred dollars in increased rentals. Of course his argument is that everything else in connection with the maintenance of rented properties has increased, that repairs cost more than double what they formerly were. We are all familiar with these old arguments, but they do not get away from the fact that the man who is receiving double the rental he enjoyed five years ago, on a property which cost him something less than half of what he is willing to accept for it today, is expending an average of not more than forty per cent. of his income from that property on repairs, insurance, etc., leaving his own net return a great deal larger than it ever was before. Too often is an advance of ten dollars in taxes made an excuse for one hundred dollar rental increase, and because the people of St. John, the majority of them living in rented properties, are almost desperate in their efforts to find lodgings, these things are permitted.

Landlords are not all the same. There are many in St. John who, where they are looking only for a fair return on their actual investment, who have some consideration for the rights of their tenants, who are willing to keep their properties in good repair, who are not endeavoring to profit by the abnormal conditions created through the scarcity of houses, but are satisfied with such rental increases as will meet the added demands upon them from other sources and still enable them to enjoy a fair return on the money they have expended. Unfortunately all are not of this class and it is the other class who are objecting to the present year's assessment and who are endeavoring to persuade the people that real estate taxes have been enormously increased and that rentals must go up.

## A MISTAKEN POLICY.

In the enforcement of the Prohibitory Law it is not always wise to insist too strongly on technicalities. Opposition to a measure of this nature is under the best of circumstances, unwise, and no action should at any time be taken which will tend to bring the operation of such a law into disfavor. The object of the Prohibitory Law is to prevent the distribution and sale of intoxicating liquors, not to inconvenience and annoy reliable business men by absurd charges of violation of this Act on purely technical grounds. Yet there appears to be a disposition on the part of the responsible authorities in this community towards this policy, and undoubtedly dissatisfaction will be created if this course is indefinitely pursued. For instance, the Prohibitory Law requires that a vendor shall enter in a book provided for such purpose all prescriptions which he may fill, these to be entered at the time of sale. Prosecution was taken in this city a few days ago against a druggist who had purchased a new business, who was remodeling the store, taking stock, and was short of staff. Prescriptions filled during a period of two or three days were filed, but were not entered in that book. An inspector who called at the store and discovered this, laid a charge against the

druggist in question, put him to a great deal of inconvenience and annoyance, compelling attendance at court on several occasions, because of a condition of affairs for which he was not really responsible and which as a matter of fact had nothing whatever to do with the real purpose of prohibition. The case was thrown out of court. In another instance a vendor who failed to properly label a proprietary remedy containing alcohol has been forced to appear in court time and again because of the fact that the inspection department under the prohibitory law, which brought the charge against him, is not now, and has not at any time since laying the information, been in a position to produce evidence and go on with the case.

Instances such as these—and they have been not at all rare in the past—create a feeling that the persons employed to enforce the Prohibitory Law are devoting their time to an attempt to earn their wages by any means whatever, rather than to prevent the distribution and sale of liquor. Inspectors should get away from the idea that it is their imperative duty to make some sort of a showing. Their real duty is to stop bootlegging, to check the importation of liquor for illegal purposes, and to bring to account those guilty of violation of the spirit of the Act. Of course some sort of check must be kept on vendors' sales, and methods of distribution under the law must be enforced, but this can very readily be done by request and suggestion, for the persons who are considered sufficiently responsible to be chosen as vendors should be worthy of a little consideration.

## IN PARLIAMENT.

The present special session of Parliament has been called for the purpose of ratifying the Peace Treaty. Unfortunately it is to be utilized by the member so the Liberal Opposition as a means of attempting to convince the country of their eloquence and unparalleled statesmanship. The terms of the Peace Treaty have been published in the majority of Canadian newspapers, have been discussed in every hole and corner of the world for months, and are known in their minutest detail to every person who has cared to read. Yet the Liberal Opposition in Ottawa asks for more time and opportunity to secure additional information. It is typical of the policy of this group that its leaders are now, immediately after the assembling of Parliament, taking steps to delay the proceedings on the flimsy excuse of lack of information. The Peace Treaty will be ratified by Canada just as it stands. We may have a month or six weeks of oratory during which, if the newspapers consider the debate of sufficient interest, the public generally may become more intimately acquainted with the terms of the agreement signed at Versailles, and there will undoubtedly be further reports by Premier Borden and those other ministers who were in attendance at the Peace Conference touching Canada's position as a world nation today and as a unit of the Empire. But in so far as opposition to the ratification of the Treaty is concerned, members of the Liberal opposition will be merely wasting their time in attempting the same thing they now plan. The free expression of their views is invited, full consideration of the effect of the treaty on Canada's future is desired, but as a matter of fact Canada's parliament cannot effectively alter one word in that treaty as it stands today. We must take it or leave it as written, and in reality it makes no great difference what we do.

## HIS LONG EXPERIENCE.

Hon. A. L. Sifton, the new Minister of Public Works in the Federal cabinet, is now sixty years of age and has been in public life almost since he was able to vote. A native of Ontario, Mr. Sifton moved to the West with his parents when but a boy and first interested himself in public affairs in Brandon in 1882, when he was elected to the town council. Nine years later when a resident of Calgary he became the commissioner of public works in the Municipal administration of the North West Territories, sitting as representative for them. In 1903 he resigned this office to accept the position of chief justice of the North West Territories, and two years later on the establishment of the Province of Alberta he became Chief Justice of that province. Mr. Sifton remained on the bench for five years longer, but the call of public life proving too strong he resigned on May, 1910, to accept the task of forming a new provincial administration in place of the Borden cabinet which had then resigned. In that newly formed cabinet Mr. Sifton took on himself with work in assuming in addition to the premiership the portfolio of President of the Executive Council, Provincial Treasurer, and Minister of Public Works. A year or so later he added to these duties the office of Minister of Railways and Tele-

phones. In course of time Mr. Sifton relinquished several of these positions, but continued in office until 1917 when in the month of October he was appointed Minister of Customs in the present Union Government. He now moves to the principal spending department, that of Public Works.

## WHAT THEY SAY

**Spendsprits.**  
 Huntingdon Gleaner: Canada can still find lenders and while we can raise money on our notes-of-hand let us continue to spend. The end of the foolish farmer is inevitable. His land will be sold to satisfy the mortgages, the proceeds of his big auction sale will be divided among his other creditors, and he move away to begin the world anew by hiring out.

**Have Got the Money, Too.**  
 New York Sun: There could be no better evidence that the national debt will be paid, interest and principal, than is to be found in the statement of the head of a big cleaning establishment that never before has his plant received such a flood of men's clothes to be cleaned and renovated. This absolute proof that so many citizens still possess salvable garments at least go about decently enough appeared to continue to earn income taxes.

**May Be Repeat.**  
 Troy Times: In making a tour through States said to be selected because Senators from those States oppose Mr. Wilson's league, the President is continuing the practice he adopted in Europe of appealing over the heads of representatives to their constituents. And what a sorry mess was made of it in Europe! Perhaps the national resentment shown in Italy, for instance, may be duplicated in American States.

**Whose Business Is It?**  
 Augusta Chronicle: Speaking of the marriages of American soldiers on the Rhine to German girls, we are inclined to the very decided opinion that this is a matter between the soldiers and the ladies in question, and is in no wise the business of anybody else under the sun—neither long haired men nor short haired women. A man has a right of selection, and so has a girl.

## A BIT OF VERSE

**THE PRINCE.**  
 "He travels far from other skies. . .  
 A fairy Prince with joyful eyes,  
 And lighter-footed than the fox."  
 —The Daydream, Tennyson.  
 Did you hear the bells ring out?  
 Did you hear the people shout?  
 Did you see the gay flags flapping?  
 Have you heard the children clapping?  
 And their merry voices ringing  
 In a burst of happy singing,  
 Calling down a heavenly blessing,  
 While the mighty crowds are pressing  
 In a manner quite alarming?  
 Shall I tell you, I will tell you,  
 'Tis the city making love to Prince Charming.

Pen of wise old poet drew him  
 Though the poet never knew him,  
 All the fairy tales are true.  
 We have seen him, I and you!  
 He's the prince of all the stories.  
 All the tales our nurses told.  
 Not a scrap of all the stories  
 Do we miss, as we behold:  
 Gallant, fair, and wise and young,  
 Sunny smile and silver tongue,  
 Warrior heart that leapt when worlds  
 were arming.  
 —Homage from a city to Prince Charming!  
 —Victoria English.  
 Toronto, Aug. 29.

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Yesterday Mary Watkins told me I was all rite only she thawt a boy awt to be bigger than a girl, me not being any bigger than her, and on the way home I had a idee, and I went back in the kitchen and ate a spoon-ful of baking powder, thinking if it makes cakes rise higher it mite make me, the hardest part about eating it being the swallowing, and I vawked around a little while and then I looked about the same size, and I went up in ma's room and ma was sewing with the sewing masheen, me saying, Ma, do you think I look any different?  
 I cant see anything different about you, sed ma. And she kepp on sewing, and I started to wawk around the room looking in the mirror every time I went pass it, looking about the same each time, and after a while I sed, Do I look any different yet, ma?  
 For goodness sakes, sartory not, wy in the world should you? sed ma. Me not saying wy, and I started to wawk around the room agen, and pretty soon I started to feel funny inside, thinking, Gosh, G, Im starting. And I kepp on feeling funnier and funnier inside, and I sed to ma, How do I look now, ma, any different?  
 For mersey sakes, I should say you do, sed ma.  
 Am I mutch bigger, ma? I sed.  
 Bigger? Wat are you talking about? Youre wite as a sheet. Have you bin eating anything you shouldnt of sed ma.  
 No mam, only baking powder, I sed.  
 You krazy thing, sed ma. And she made me take medicine, and I felt worse and worse and I had to go to bed, and this morning I still felt a little funny and still looked trackly the same size.

## A BIT OF FUN

**Advice.**  
 If you want a thing well done don't do it yourself unless you know how.

**The Safe Objection.**  
 "Shank's mare doesn't need any oats. That's one thing about it," said Dodd.  
 But what nowadays captures our fancy? What is the high cost of keeping it shod.

**Be Foolish!**  
 "John," she said to her husband, "tell me about the Irish matter. It seems awfully foolish to me."  
 "What's foolish about it?"  
 "Why, I overheard a man on the car say the trouble was about an ulster-fancy quarrel about an old ulster in all this hot weather."

**A Helpful Suggestion.**  
 He (somewhat embarrassed, after the car had stopped on a lonely road)—I can't start my engine; the thing won't spark.  
 She—Must be like some people I know.—The Olive Branch.

**True Distinction.**  
 Stranger—Does this man, Amos Darby, hold any place of distinction in the village?  
 Villager—Ye kin' Judge fer y'rself. When th' postman brings th' weekly newspaper down to Gny Parkman's grocery store, Amos is the first reader.

**Why She Was Anxious.**  
 Mrs. A. (before the full-length portrait of a girl)—"Oh, if I only knew the painter of this portrait!"  
 Artist (stepping forward joyfully)—"Permit me, madam, to introduce myself as the painter."  
 Mrs. A.—"What extraordinary good luck. Now, you will tell me, won't you, the dress of the dressmaker who made this girl's dress?"

## ABE MARTIN



Notin' makes us as mad as t' have a shoe clerk take off our shoes an' then wait on four or five other customers for a half hour. Notin' ever shrinks when you count on it.

## An Increase In Tuition Rates

It is to be made to take effect when our New Catalogue is issued. Students may enter at any time and those entering before each issue will be entitled to present rates.  
 No summer vacation.

**S. KERR,**  
 Principal

## LANDING 10000 Bushels MANITOBA OATS

We solicit your enquiries.  
**C. H. PETERS' SONS, LTD.**



## They're Awfully Good!

**YOU** cannot force children to eat what they do not like, but try them on something they do like and note the results.

Tempt them with McCormick's Jersey Cream Sodas, and the universal comment is that "they're awfully good."

McCormick's Jersey Cream Sodas are specially good for children. Nothing but the purest ingredients are used. They are baked to perfection for easy digestion.

## McCormick's Jersey Cream Sodas

Sold fresh everywhere. In sealed packages.  
 Factory at LONDON, Canada. Branches at Montreal, Ottawa, Hamilton, Kingston, Winnipeg, Calgary, Port Arthur, St. John, N.B.

## PYREX Transparent OVEN-WARE

Has the name on every piece.  
 Quicker, Better, Cleaner, Cheaper Baking.  
 Pyrex is easy to clean and does not absorb odors or flavors. Will not craze or flake—besides it looks so attractive on the table.  
 Made in shapes for every practical baking purpose.  
 Have you tried this wonderful ware?

'Phone M 2540 **McAVITY'S** 11-17 King St.

## DIAMONDS A Diamond Is Its Own Bargain Today

There are really no bargains in diamonds—in the way of price cutting, because no one cuts the price on goods that have "intrinsic value" and that are advancing in value all the time.  
 In the last ten years Diamonds have advanced over 100 per cent, and are still going up. That is the reason why "a Diamond investment is its own bargain"—and furthermore Diamonds cannot depreciate in value, at least until new Diamond fields are discovered. "As a gift—or for a personal investment"—you cannot go wrong if you make a purchase of one of our Diamonds.

**Ferguson & Page**  
 Diamond Importers and Jewelers  
 King Street St. John, N. B.

## BALATA BELTING

ENGLISH  
 —ALSO—  
 LACE LEATHER, Clipper Hooks and Crescent Plates  
 Steel Pulleys

**D. K. McLAREN, LIMITED**  
 Manufacturers  
 Main 1121 — 90 Germain Street, St. John, N. B. — Box 702

## Ready-Made Wood Hub Wheels

Ready-Ironed Neck Yokes  
 Automobile Tires Grease, Oils, etc.

**M. E. AGAR**

'Phone 518. Union Street, St. John, N. B.

## THE BEST QUALITY AT A REASONABLE PRICE

## Prompt Repairs

Our complete lens grinding plant enables you to have a broken lens replaced with great promptness. If your order is received early in the day the new lens will be ready before the close of business. If your prescription is on file here, you can save time by telephoning the order. The new ones will then be ready when you bring in the frames, and can be put in place in a few minutes. The charge is always a fair and reasonable one.

**L. L. Sharpe & Son**  
 Jewelers and Opticians.  
 Two Stores—  
 21 King St. 129 Union St.

## WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS AND AT HOME CARDS

Engraved in the Latest Styles  
**Die Stamping**  
**FLEWELLING PRESS**  
 3 Water Street, St. John

## EXTRA CEDAR SHINGLES FOR GOOD ROOFS

Extras is the best grade of Cedar Shingles made and it will pay you to use them.

'Phone Main 1893.  
 Send for illustrated price list.

**The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd.**  
 186 Esplanade

## A Good Variety of ALL KINDS OF FISH

including Harbor Salmon.  
**SMITH'S FISH MARKET**  
 25 Sydney Street  
 'Phone M 1704.



## "His Master's Voice"

The Great Reduction of Red Sea

Does not constitute but a permanent place made by the pictures for the World's Greatest reach of everyone

## Just Look

- 94301 Lucia—Seneca Caruso, Journalist
- 94001 Nigolotto—Quart Caruso, Journalist
- 94300 Bohemia—O. Caruso, Journalist
- 94000 Travels—Dile alla Caruso, Journalist
- 94004 Elegie—Massenet Caruso, Journalist
- 94004 Sing Me To Sleep—Caruso, Journalist
- 94000 Travels—Massenet Caruso, Journalist
- 94307 Pagine—Pina Caruso, Journalist
- 94000 Carmen—Toreador Caruso, Journalist
- 94004 Ave Maria—Tener Caruso, Journalist

Vietrola from \$14 to \$100. (If desired, a 1000 "His Master's Voice" records.)



## J. &amp; A. McKeen

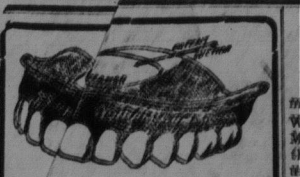
Wholesale Dealers in the Maritime and Gaspe

**LIPSETT'S VICTOR RECORDS**  
 Corner Brunswick & E. FOR VICTOR RECORDS. Come in and hear the only \$3.

**J. M. RICHES**  
 936 KING

You can get all VICTOR RECORDS

**KERR**  
 222 Union



## Painless Extraction Only 25c.

**Boston Dental Parlors.**  
 Main Office Branch Office  
 101 Main Street 10 Charlotte St.  
 'Phone 688 'Phone 36  
 DR. J. D. HANMER, Proprietor.  
 Open 9 a.m. Until 9 p.m.

## Weight and Strength into your Building

A 3 in. CUM, LAMBER FRAME for better than one of 2 in. lumber. Lumber, for it adds a three more weight to your building WITHOUT DECREASING THE COST.  
 For Prices of CUM Lumber  
 'Phone Main 3009  
**MURRAY & GREGORY LIMITED**