

# The St. John Standard

THE MARITIME ADVERTISING AGENCY, LIMITED, PUBLISHERS  
21 Prince William St., St. John, N. B., Canada.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
City Delivery ..... \$4.00 per year  
By Mail in Canada ..... \$4.00 per year  
By Mail in U. S. .... \$6.00 per year  
Semi-Weekly Issue ..... \$1.50 per year  
Semi-Weekly to U. S. .... \$2.50 per year

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1921.

## MR. MEIGHEN'S CREED.

"More than any other country, Canada needs a protective system. She is a young country mostly undeveloped. She lies alongside a great big country tremendously developed. The United States has every advantage that Canada has and tremendous advantages besides. It surely follows, to the mind of every reasonable man, that to abandon the protective system in Canada would be simply to invite the absorption of Canadian industry in the far vaster industries of the United States. The principles of the protection of Canadian industry have been proclaimed by practically every statesman who has shouldered the responsibility of government in Canada. They are sound and they are right and the vast mass of the people of Canada know that they are sound and right."

## THE SHELL-SHOCKED MR. KING

The Hon. Mackenzie King has been shell-shocked. He unexpectedly ran into a bunch of shells being unloaded at Lewis and was at once overcome. Not any of them exploded, or showed any signs of doing so, but the mere sight of these death-dealing missiles upset his equanimity to such an extent that he forthwith despatched a letter to the Prime Minister demanding to know what war he had next in contemplation for Canada to take part in. The sight of these shells so disturbed Mr. King's mental abilities, that he so far forgot the proprieties as to send copies of this letter to the press for publication, before even the Prime Minister himself had received it, which to say the least was shockingly bad manners. However, Mr. King never did manage to be able to do the right thing at the right time or in the right way; if he really tried to make himself look ridiculous, he could scarcely achieve greater success in that way than he does when setting in his ordinary manner. His latest effort is so absurdly foolish that even his most ardent admirers must be ashamed of him. He has been called "the boy who never grew up," and he must have the mentality of a callow youth if he thinks the people will be deceived by his outburst in regard to the shipment of munitions to Canada from England.

Naturally, of course, the fact that shells were being unloaded from England must mean the existence of some dark plot, which by a piece of good fortune Mr. King had stumbled upon unaware. More accurate on Mr. Meighen's part, of course. This would make great campaign material if properly used, so without waiting for any explanation, the impression was spread broadcast through the press of Canada that the Meighen Government was distributing explosives all over the country for some unknown, but necessarily improper purpose.

Premier Meighen, however, has been unkind enough to spoil his opponent's little game. Enquiry of General MacBrien, Chief of the General Staff, brought forth the following explanation of the presence of those shells at Lewis:

"When war broke out all available guns and ammunition in Canada were shipped to England as soon as possible and handed over to the War Office, for which Canada received credit. When the Armistice came and demobilization of the Canadian forces overseas was decided upon, an agreement was entered into with the War Office, under which practically all the equipment and ammunition in possession of the Canadian troops was turned into army ordnance depots. The Canadian Government obtained credit for same. Demands were submitted to the War Office for requirements of the active militia, and shipments referred to by Mr. King constituted part of these shipments. These demands were based upon the proper rates of ammunition for each gun returned to Canada. In accordance with the standard scale."

About July of 1920 a financial settlement was made with the War Office whereby the Canadian Government would get credit for the balance of equipment, which was not needed, and for which any demands were not submitted. In order that some, subject to deterioration, might not be out of date, a shipment was arranged to correspond approximately with the time it would be required. This corresponds with the shipment arriving now."

Mr. King has proved himself to be a "dud" as some of the shells, which he sent to be prime minister

## MR. CRERAR FALLS FLAT.

The Hon. Mr. Crerar's campaign in the Maritime Provinces has not met with a very auspicious beginning. At Woodstock on Tuesday, he had only a small attendance, and his reception was very half-hearted. Yesterday he was to have continued his course of addresses at Fredericton, but there no one turned up, either to welcome him or attend his meeting. His reception there was not even half-hearted. This sort of thing does not augur particularly well for the success of his cause; it might have been expected that some little enthusiasm at least would have been shown by the Progressive leader.

Mr. Crerar is having no better luck than the sower whose seed fell on stony ground, and though it sprang up quickly, it soon withered away. His doctrines when first promulgated caught the fancy of the farming community "way down East," because they sounded so enticing; but further acquaintance with them reveals their hollowness and lack of real value. Mr. Crerar preaches doctrines that originated among a small group of men in Western Canada, who in formulating them, had in view the serving of their own particular and personal interests only. This group has drawn to itself quite a large number of adherents, who have embraced these doctrines, and they are now trying to proselytize Eastern farmers, but, judging by appearances, with a degree of success that can scarcely be called encouraging.

The truth is that Mr. Crerar's doctrines are of no use to the farmers of Eastern Canada, whose modus operandi is totally different from that of the (so-called) farmers of the West. It only needs a campaign of education to show the farmers of Eastern Canada that this is so. It matters little or nothing to the Western Grain Grower how the local market fares, he is sure of a market for the whole of his produce overseas at a remunerative price. The Eastern farmer on the other hand depends almost wholly on local sales to get rid of all that he produces and the doctrines which Mr. Crerar advocates, would, if put into actual practice, absolutely ruin that local market for him, so that the Eastern farmers are not taking much stock in Mr. Crerar, nor that they know better the sort of game he is trying to teach them.

## HOW A PLATFORM BECOMES A CHART.

"When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said in rather a scornful tone, "it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more or less."

## THE U. S. MARKET.

By the operation of the Fordney Emergency Tariff of the United States, food-stuffs, which have constituted Canada's main exports to that country, have been very largely shut out from that market. Following on the heels of that almost prohibitive Emergency Tariff, the House of Representatives at Washington has passed, and the Senate has now under consideration, a drastic protective tariff which most seriously affects the major portion of Canada's export trade with the United States. The Republican Party in office is committed to a policy of protection of all their producing interests. Mr. Fordney, in introducing the bill now before Congress, said:

"The Bill will not let in Canadian wheat, but will save to the American farmer the right to raise a bushel of wheat instead of transferring that right to Canada."

President Harding, in the course of the election campaign, pledged himself to protection without reservation or qualification, especially in regard to agriculture.

As is usually the case in times like these, many people are prone to blame the Government for conditions above described, when as a matter of fact, the Government by assiduous attention to duty and refusing to yield to clamours of various kinds raised year after year has avoided error and has done much to keep this country relatively the best of all the countries that fought through the war. Canada, like all other nations is in the grip of the aftermath of catastrophic world war. Economic, social and other conditions have arisen which no Government could prevent, but which the Canadian Government has managed fairly successfully to control. Taken all in all the Government of Canada that has thus far carried the nation through safely and strongly is deserving of credit rather than condemnation.

tion. Had not cool heads and wise counsels prevailed at Ottawa during the last few years, Canada would, undoubtedly, have experienced greater hardship and possible disaster. Better let the same cool heads and wise counsels continue to direct Canada's affairs, for the next few years anyway.

Differences between sections of Government supporters in constitutional matters are sometimes acute, but they arise out of eagerness to hear the party standard. It ought not to be forgotten, however, that split support is a sure way to lose. The country's great stake in this contest should forbid the carrying of dissensions to the polls.



The teamster who when driving a load of coal along Prince William Street yesterday, suddenly found himself sitting high up in the air, with the tail of his wagon resting on the street and his horses poised on the curb.

It was apparently Babe Ruth's idea that being able to knock the ball over the fence almost at will, he could also knock baseball rules into a cocked-hat.

The chap who remarked that it's the things we haven't got that make us unhappy had evidently forgotten about toothache.

And to think that the only shell Mr. Mackenzie King ever made the acquaintance of should be a "dud"! How does he know a shell when he sees one anyway? Where did he pick up his knowledge of these articles?

All the world may love a lover, as Mr. William Shakespeare once declared was the case, but I hardly think it is ever quite so strong for him as the young lady in the case.

I see in one of the Toronto papers it says, "Opium is being made right in Toronto." Well why not? If it is to be made at all, it should certainly be made right. It is due to the Chinese to see that they don't get any wrong stuff.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Latest Calculation About Coal. (Kingston Whig.)

It is estimated that there is enough coal in discovered fields to keep miners striking for 3,275 years.

British Bulldoggedness (Punch.)

"My husband has been trying to strangle me for 20 years," said a woman at Wiltenden police court.

It is this dogged perseverance that has made us what we are.

One Horror of the Future. (Boonville, Mo., Republican.)

The greatest horror about the next war is the armistice that will follow.

The Women Voters. (Halifax Herald.)

If women are to vote and work with men, it is essential that they should have organizations of their own as effective as those of the men.

The two are likely to do much better work when joined together. Their co-operation would be made more effective by separation, because of the spirit of friendly emulation which would be aroused in the task of registering and polling voters of the different sexes.

Therefore, we commend such organization to the earnest and immediate attention of all thoughtful and patriotic Liberal and Conservative women throughout the Province. They have a leader in Mr. Meighen and a cause in his policy of protection for the home industry and home life of Canada, which demand and are well worth their utmost exertions.

## A BIT OF VERSE

### THE LITTLE TOWN.

The little town was like a love to me, yet all in vain I turned away from wandering to look for her again.

Most eagerly came, and found a stranger with a gaudy gown and brazen painted face, and all my joy at seeing her is frozen into pain.

For the path across the ryefields, where the lovers used to meet, at sundown when the world was still, is now a busy street.

With gas-lamps at the pavement's edge, brick houses in a row, and where the dear old school-house stood, a blazing picture-show, and always, far into the night, the fireless tramp of feet.

There are shops to tempt the women's gaze, with hats for every head. For the daughters spend on ribbons what their mothers saved for bread. The pale-faced sons of men who played with me as barefoot boys, pass by me all unknowingly amid the crowd and noise.

From milliner faces peer eyes of those long dead. The nights wear on, and one by one the glaring lights die down. Kind darkness wraps my wanton love, hiding her earthen gown. A cool wind stealing from the hills by well-remembered ways, freshens her into innocence pure as in far-off days. And she is mine, all mine again, my love, the little town!

—Edith Norman in the Westminster Gazette.

# Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

My cousin Artie was around today and him and me played Uncle Tom's Cabin, him being Uncle Tom by blackening his face with a cork and me being Simon Legree by getting pop pipe out of the setting room and winking around pretending to smoke it with a wicked expression, and I put the pipe in my pocket and forgot all about it and tonight while we was eating supper ma sed, Paw, for goodness sake paw Willyum, wats your pipe doing in the dining room?

Not a thing, because it happens to be in the setting room wats it belongs, the pipe may be strong but your imagination is stronger if I may be permitted to indulge in a little joke, sed, pop.

Ma thinking, Heck, G, and we kepp on eating supper and pritty soon ma sed, Willyum, paw, I tell you the pipe must be in this room somewares, nothing else in the house smells like that pipe, thank goodness. Dont you smell something, Gladdis? she sed, and Gladdis sed, I certony do, paw.

He wats it belongs, I tell you, sed pop, altho as a matter of fact the rich aroma of that pipe would grace any room in the house.

You mean disgrace it, hee hee, paw, sed ma. And she got up and started to look around the room getting paw, pop saying, You can look yourself deff dum and blind but you'll never find it in heer, do you smell anything, Benny?

No sir, I sed. Wich I didnt, proberly on account of being use to it by that time, and ma sed, Its in heer somewares, I know that smell, to my sorro

Me thinking, Gosh, holey smoaks, and pop sed, Benny, go up in the setting room and bring down my pipe with the small attached, we'll soon prove that us men are more intelligent as a socks than you wimin.

Yes sir, I sed, And I ran up to the setting room and took my pipe out of my pocket and brawt it down, pop saying, Well, wats it up there? and me saying, Yes sir, Wich it was on account of me having took it up, and ma sed, Well I declare, Im not convinced yet, the smell is exactly the same, izent it, Gladdis.

It certony is, sed Gladdis, and pop sed, O wats the use, you cant prove anything to a woman, can you Benny? and I sed, No sir.

Wich maybe you cant.

## THE LAUGH LINE

His Kind. "What kind of a fellow is Blinks?" "Well, he is one of those fellows who always grab the stool when there is a piano to be moved."

Doubtful Honor. Ruby—"Just think, Aigy is in the football team." Betty—"That's fine! What is he-half-back or full back?" "The captain of the team says he's the greatest drawback the team has ever had."

Modish Restaurant. "Don't you think some of the new fashions are a trifle extreme?" "What do you mean by extreme?" rejoined Miss Cayenne. I haven't observed that they go to any great lengths."

In the Wrong Place. "I," said the gentleman, "would like to see some of the late effects in summer hoisery."

"You have picked out a dark aisle for that," "I responded the floor-walker, pleasantly. "Why not post yourself where they come in from the street."

## PRETTIEST FEET SAYS MARY GARDEN

New York, Oct. 25.—Mary Garden, wreathed in smiles and wrapped in fur for fox and squirrel skins, returned from abroad on the Aquitania with the announcement that she is going to be married.

"Just say the bridegroom will be a certain oil king and the wedding will take place in America," was all she would offer in explanation.

Mary Garden returned from Europe with bobbed hair and a conviction that American girls should ignore the Parisian suggestion for longer skirts.

"Why should our girls give up short skirts?" she asked her interviewers. "They have the prettiest feet and the prettiest legs in the world."

The Backus Business. (Hamilton, Herald.) Mr. Drury has been addressing the electors at several points, but as yet has said nothing about the dastardly action of the federal government in introducing legislation which kept some of the water powers in northern Ontario out of the clutches of his friend Backus. Has Mr. Drury already forgotten his promise to rouse Ontario against Mr. Meighen? Or is his silence on the subject to be explained by the fact that his platform mate, Mr. Crerar, voted for, and spoke in support of, the bill which Mr. Drury denounces.

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# GOVERNMENT MEN

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(By a Great War) The first article on the subject of the government's liabilities stands at the head of the Unionist Government's report for the year ended March 31, 1921. It is a long and interesting study of the war's effect on the government's finances.

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