

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1921.

## EASTERN AND WESTERN FARMERS.

A section of the so-called Farmer party in Carleton-Place, desired to offer the nomination as the party's candidate to Mr. B. Frank Smith, who felt himself unable to accept it, as he declared he could not endorse in its entirety the platform upon which the party takes its stand. Mr. Smith's attitude ought to commend itself to the great mass of the farming community in this and the other two Maritime Provinces. The platform which the farmers of these provinces are asked to accept is that of the Western Grain Growers, whose interests have absolutely nothing in common with the farmers of these provinces. The latter are farmers in the true sense of the term; they cultivate the soil, raise stock, engage in dairying, fruit growing and all other branches of the agriculturists calling. The Grain Growers on the other hand are one-crop men, specialists in growing wheat and to a smaller extent, oats. To the general business of farming they are strangers. How therefore can a programme drawn up by these men, and taking care of their own particular interests only, be acceptable to men whose business interests are as different from the former as chalk is from cheese? Yet they send their apostles away down here in an effort to convert our farmers to their point of view. Can the farmers of the Maritime Provinces furnish themselves with any good and sufficient reason why they should be made into catspaws for a western clique who are out simply and solely to further their own ends? Did the Maritime farmers obtain any advantage from the legislation which the Grain Growers got put through to get for themselves a minimum fixed price for their grain? Is there any better reason for the Grain Growers being protected against low prices for their grain than there is for the Maritime Province farmers being equally protected in respect to their potato crop? If the farmer movement is intended to take care of the interests of the farmers of the whole Dominion, why were not the farmers of Eastern Canada consulted in the preparation of its programme? They had no voice in it at all, and will not have any voice in carrying out the policies it advocates. If Eastern Canada farmers are content to be dummies, whose only duty it is to follow the dictates of the Western Grain Growers, then on their own heads be the consequences of their folly. But if they wish to promote their own welfare, they will like Mr. B. Frank Smith, refuse to be led by the nose by Western men whose only interest in them is that of getting their votes.

## THE LIBERAL UNIONISTS.

The fact that a large number of men who were at one time influential members of the Liberal party, but who were a few years ago compelled to dissociate themselves from that party and join the Conservatives, because they could not stand for the nefarious policies its leaders were advocating, are still adhering and giving their active support to the party of their adoption, is causing the Liberal press of the century a considerable amount of grief and annoyance. While this section of the press is good enough to concede that the war issue might have caused some differences of opinion sufficient to justify the temporary withdrawal of their support by these members from the Liberal party, once the war was over, there was no reason, justification or excuse for these men not returning to their Liberal allegiance. The trouble is that this section of the press is so blinded by partisanship and so venomously disposed towards the Government, that it is unable to see and appreciate what is evident to any impartial observer. The Liberalism that these men formerly supported is now dead, and its place has been taken by the bastard offspring of little Canadianism and irrepressible politics, carefully nurtured by irresponsible politicians whose sole desire is to glorify themselves and reap whatever personal advantage comes their way. No honest Liberal can ally himself with such a group as that.

Dealing with this particular subject the Sydney Post recently said:—

As there was a certain calling for unity of action on the part of patriotic Canadians of both the historic parties in 1917, so there is a national emergency demanding similar co-operation today. Then unity of public spirited Canadians was required to establish the country politically for an unprecedented war effort. Now the unity of such citizens is needed to avert the menace of warring groups and political dissensions, and to ensure the country wide and stable government, to face the heavy problems of national reconstruction. To render this high service to the nation, no political

organization exists saving that represented in the National Liberal and Conservative Government. Outside the Government ranks, the forces of disruption have full play. The Government is not faced by a solidified Opposition offering an alternative policy to the electors, but by a number of discordant groups, each upon the political tide by the currents of disaffection and unrest, directed by disincarnate leaders, and advocating half-digested, reckless, mutually-destructive public policies. The Liberal's political aim is to get Liberals to link their fortunes with this fission and fusion, tossed about on the political sea by the gusts of popular discontent. Any political party that should be guided by such mad advice would quickly seal its own doom. The one chance for the survival of the political faction Mr. King leads is that it should be the exponent of the desperate expedient of an alliance with a class movement which will shortly be laughed off the political stage, and from which every responsible leader will in time be eager to become dissociated. But what the Mackenzie King Opposition may do in the premises is its own business. It is free to try for itself whatever pica its dilettante leader may prescribe. The vital fact is that such a strategy has no sanction for Liberal Unionists. Men who abandoned party for national unity, are not likely to help foment class divisions and the disintegration, in the fatidic attempt to galvanize a party corpse into a semblance of animation.

Liberal Unionists continue to support the Government, because it alone, of the political organizations now existing, represents in its personnel, its policies, and its administrative record, the highest principles of Canadian Liberalism, as well as the sanest ideals of a Canadian Conservatism.

## PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Undoubtedly the most serious problem which confronts any Government today is the problem of unemployment. Most of us will agree with the Toronto Telegram when it says that if it were a problem of the ante bellum days only it would not be so difficult of solution. While it is manifested in its most acute form at the present time, there is every reason to believe that it will be as persistent as a repeating decimal cropping up at more or less regular intervals. Emergency relief is only a palliative. However, people may challenge the popular opinion cherished by democracy that all men are born free and equal; there can be no doubt of the fact that civilization owes to every man the right to earn his living by the sweat of his brow.

Under the complicated system of modern civilization, it does happen too often that this privilege is denied. Under primitive conditions it would always be possible for man to revert to the land, but under existing conditions it is not quite so simple as it sounds. People whose entire education and training has been such as to fit them to earn a living in the industrial world, are usually badly equipped for agricultural pursuits. A process of slow starvation in the country is not much more attractive than a miserable existence in the city.

Statesmen have been battling with the problem for years. Great Britain has tried the much-lauded expedient of unemployment insurance, but there is no reason to believe that it is not open to the same criticism as emergency relief. It is a notorious fact that the labor situation was seriously complicated in Great Britain because of the unemployment insurance doled out by the Government. Men out of work refused offers of employment because its acceptance disqualified them for the pension paid out by the Government to the idle.

Public works are often delayed on account of the condition of the labor market. Great national highways are often projected, but never get past the debating stage because of their prohibitive cost. Collectively the various Governments must have contributed enough towards relief work to build a highway from Halifax to Vancouver. Relief in one form or another must be given those who have the misfortune to be out of work. It is the manifest duty of the Government, either Municipal or Federal, first to see that the unfortunate are cared for, and second to see that there is some adequate return to the general public for the relief so administered.

The tillers of the soil in the Maritime Provinces sell 90 per cent. of their products to the people of the nearby towns and cities. The prosperity of these towns and city people is dependent upon protection to the industries from which they get their livelihood. Remove that protection and you destroy that prosperity. Is it believable, therefore, that the Maritime farmers will cut off their nose to spite their face?

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

"Cribbed, Cabined and Confined." The assumption used to be, even legally, that a person not criminally inclined, could be trusted to behave himself. The assumption is now that he will not do so unless he has the assistance of two policemen, a deputy sheriff, an internal revenue inspector, a prohibition enforcement officer, and several field workers from one or more reform organizations. The citizen thus protected against his instincts, his inclinations and his weak will can be let out if he promises to be home by 6.30. Even with these restrictions upon his tendency to evil it is thought that the moral sense of the community is lacking a bit with regard to officers who lose their lives in the other hobbles, checks, and guide lines attached to him statutorily a pure and unerring creature.—Chicago Tribune.

A Gracious Tribute. The British Government is paying a gracious tribute to the American naval men who perished in the wreck of the ZR-3, by sending their bodies home on the H. M. S. Dauntless. It is an honor to be accorded in respect to the dead, which usually is accorded only to high officials. But in this case the American and British naval men who lost their lives in the discharge of a common duty, and the dispatch of the Dauntless is further evidence of the spirit of unity which brought the men of the two navies so closely together during the war and of the comradeship which animates them today.—Herald Chronicle.

By Bitter Experience. Germany will not discuss disarmament until she understands how it works.—Washington Post.

## A BIT OF VERSE

THE CARELESS SMOKER. Apologies to Kipling. (Written by the District Forester at Ogden, Utah.) A fool there was and his pipe he lit (Even so you and I) On a forest trail where the leaves were lit. To become a blaze from the smallest peed duff drutes.

Old heavy oaks, and the tender shoots Which might have made logs but for such galeots. Allowed to wander around. The lumberjack has now passed on. His pay-day comes no more, And the red-head haunts the camp at dawn. Where the cook's tin can woke the men of brown; But the mill is silent, the trees are gone.

The soil and forest floor. A deadly sight are those hills of rocks. Which once were beds of green; No hope for the human no food for the beast, but the floods must be held by expensive locks. While the harbor is silted to the docks. The ships no more are seen.

Let the fool smoke on in the forest still. Leaves campfires burning hot. While the patient public pays the bill And the nation's wealth is destroyed for all. If the law doesn't get him, the Devil will—Smoker, it's up to you.

THE LAUGH LINE. Just Multiply It. "It is computed that the average man speaks in the course of a year 11 million words."

Driven To It. Howell—"I named my baby after Julius Caesar." Jam—"What ever did you do that for?" "Because he was born too late to name him before him"—Answers.

Different Light. Father—"You seem to look at things in a very different light since your marriage." "Well, I thought, after receiving fourteen lamps and nine candelabra for wedding presents."

Hardy. Monty—"Will you love me if I give you all bad habits?" Zella—"But how could you expect me to have a perfect stranger?"

Wants It All. He leads a sad and lonely life. On him his neighbors seldom call. Of ple or cake, or coin to make. He thinks that he must grab it all.

Commercialism. Profiter—One million is the price of a gram of radium! His Partner—And we never thought of trying to sell any!—Le Rire (Paris).

Depressing Conditions. Doctor—Your troubles is dyspepsia; you should laugh heartily before and after your meals. Patient—Impossible, doctor. I cook them myself and then I wash the dishes.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

I was eating jelly beans on my front steps and I was just eating the last one when Reddy Merly went past, saying, Hey, wats you eating?

Nothing, bow, I sed. Wich I wasent, and Reddy sed, Aw, you poor fish, for 2 pins I'd give you such a crack you wouldnt find your front teeth for 3 months.

Being a pure insult, and he kept on going past, and Puds Simkinse slasey cuslin Persey started to come up the street to me thinking, Heck, I aint going to stand for any insults like that. Im going to insult Persey for revenge.

Wich I started to do as soon as he came up, saying, Hello Persey, youre looking more like a dry prune than ever.

You must be thinking of yourself, aint you? sed Persey. Being a heck of a kind of a anser wen a persin aint expecting it, and I sed, Aw wats you giving me, you poor simp of a shrimp. Dont look at me in that tone of voice, you rentchfried onion, I sed.

Who do you mean, yourself? sed Persey. Me thinking, Gosh, some people dont even know how to take an insult rite. And I sed, Hay, you then youve talking to, youre so dum you dont know weather youre coming or going or falling over backwards.

Who dont? You? sed Persey. Aw shut up, is that all you can think of to say, you ignorant munny face imitation of a cheese sandwich, I sed.

O, is that what you are? sed Persey. And he quick waked away with a independent ipression while I was trying to think how to insult him next, and I kepp on setting there feeling worse insted of better.

ing the sick, none of whom knew her as any other than a nursing elster. Her excoiency witnessed the triumphal entry of the King and Queen into Belgium, in her description of which, she made a very beautiful and spectacular word picture.

One thing which had impressed the speaker greatly was the fact that everything in the palace in Brussels was in the order in which it had been left. Parts of the palace had not been touched by the Germans, while other parts which had been used as a hospital were removed by the Belgians.

When Lady Byng had offered her congratulations to the King upon his return home, he replied: "I do not care for palaces, I was happy in the villa." This she considered a great lesson, the gift of contentment, the lack of which has been very evident since the war. England had suffered less than Belgium, and Canada less than England, and she thought it wise to remember Shakespeare's lines, "God's goodness hath been great to thee. Let never discontented heart be halloved pass, but still remember what the Lord hath done."

Mrs. J. A. Wilson, who moved the vote of thanks to Her Excellency, stated that Lady Byng had chosen a very interesting subject, for the Queen of the Belgians had written the Women's Canadian Club, thanking them for their valuable assistance during the war. "It is an excellent thing for us to have Lady Byng with her great knowledge of welfare work, at the helm during the trying times which face us," concluded Mrs. Wilson.

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC. St. John, N. B. Sept. 28, 1921.

Editor, Standard: Sir:—In this morning's issue you published a letter from Mr. Fred A. Campbell who signs himself as President of the Trades and Labor Council in his official capacity as President. He makes explanations in regard to charges made by the N. B. Power Co. who have criticized the City police force.

I have been informed that our City Police are handed into what they term an "Association" but which holds a charter from this same or a kindred Trades and Labor Council. "If such is the case, our police force can hardly be said to be in a position to enforce the law against their own officials, or they would be in grave danger of being disciplined through their own ranks."

It is very unfair to criticize a body of men working in such a position, if they may be wrong on this point and our Police may be entirely free to carry out the law against all comers. I think in justice to the force some official statement should be made.

Lady Byng Tells of Belgian Sacrifices. Emphasizes Value of Relief Work Done by Canadian Women's Clubs.

Ottawa, Sept. 28.—That the Belgian relief work taken up by Canadians during the war was greatly appreciated by the King and Queen of Belgium was told the members of the Women's Canadian Club by Her Excellency Lady Byng at a luncheon given by the club at the Château Laurier on Saturday, and at which Lady Byng was the speaker.

Mrs. W. E. Hodgins presided, and the Queen of Belgium who chose as her subject "The King and Queen of the Belgians." In a brief and most interesting talk, the speaker told of a visit she had made them in 1917, while they lived in a little Belgian village, which as in most Belgian villages at the time, the houses were scarcely inhabitable, lacking every convenience, and yet the King and Queen lived there from 1914 and were never known to make complaint.

Each day the Queen visited the hospitals, dressing wounds and tending the sick.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. "I have tried many other pills, but none have done me any good. I feel better now than I have for years."—J. H. Brown, Montreal.

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## Mr. Herbert Osborn Tells How Cuticura Healed His Wife

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Bank Managers Talk About Girls. When it Comes to Reduction of Staffs Girl Clerks Are Discharged. Can girls take up a business more easily as a life work? This seems to be answered in the negative by the experiences of several Bank managers in the city. Hearing that one of the girls working in banks had lately been dismissed, a standard representative questioned prominent managers on the subject, asking whether it was the policy of the banks in Canada, to dismiss the girls who were employed as emergency clerks during the war and to fill their places with boys. One manager stated that there has been no definite policy announced by his head office in this respect but that there is less business today than formerly and that the banks are generally reduced. All banks are inquiring: "Have you any girls over, or if one or two can be spared they will have to be dismissed in the present scheme of staff reductions. The latest taken into the bank and the least efficient naturally are the first to leave."

Girls were engaged on that basis was said and that not the amount of business, there is not the same number of employees needed. The reporter said that it was rumored that in some banks girls were being dismissed for being overpaid. The manager laughed at this idea but said that that is one of the limitations of women in office life. Usually a boy enters a bank with a ambition to become one of the heads of the institution. They study some of them pass examinations and look forward to the day when they will be general manager. Girls on the other hand, at least the majority, do not look forward to a life of banking, the prospect to get married some day. There are exceptions to this general statement for a number of girls in other Canadian cities have passed their preliminary and intermediate Chartered Accountant examinations and are holding positions as tellers. They have been no women tellers in the branches here.

"As to ability," the manager went on to say. "I consider girls quite efficient if not more so, than boys. Girls are by nature more conscientious and take the job more seriously. Take a boy of eighteen, which is the average age, and a girl of seventeen. The girl is far more grown up. The only drawback is that girls cannot always stand up under the responsibility. During the war the strain was too much for some of the clerks."

"I see no reason why a woman should not, after experience in a bank study, be a manager and extend credit or hold any other very responsible position."

"As stenographers we could not replace the girls, they are most capable of doing the job. Quite a number of boys are applying for positions at the present time but not many men."

Another bank official stated that great many of the girls employed there will be retained for years to come. They have made the savings invaluable. Banks all over the country are gradually replacing the staff of girls with men. The bank has a look to the future and train men for positions. There is, however, a wholesale departure of girls from the bank.

"For accuracy no man could do better than some of our girls," the second official said. "They measure well up to our expectation. The attendance is as good on an average as the men's and they are punctual. Their manner of meeting customers is admirable as they are polite and agreeable which helps a lot."

In the St. John Branch of one bank which has accepted the transfer of its work, they have held just as responsible positions and are doing very well. It was the opinion of this bank manager that a greater number of young men should be applied for bank positions for some years. There are great opportunities in this line he felt.

HARBOR FACILITIES. The harbor committee of the Board of Trade which recently took up with the Federal authorities the provision of live stock shipping facilities at the port for the coming winter, has been advised by Hon. J. B. Baxter the Minister of Marine and Fisheries has referred the matter to John Chesley, agent of the department here. Mr. Chesley is awaiting the receipt of instructions before entering upon the work. It is estimated that Shed D, pier 15, which was recommended for live stock, can accommodate at least 600 head. If this should prove insufficient there is another shed nearby that could be utilized.

Hon. Mr. Balfour has wired Hon. Mr. Baxter that the matter of grain conveyer extension has been referred to the Public Works Department. The Board of Trade committee have made a recommendation looking to the immediate starting of the work provided the department approves.

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