

## The St. John Standard

THE MARITIME ADVERTISING AGENCY, LIMITED—PUBLISHERS  
33 Prince William St., St. John, N. B., Canada.REPRESENTATIVES:  
Henry DeClerque.....Chicago  
Louis Klebansky.....New York  
Frank Calder.....Montreal  
Freeman & Co.....London, Eng.SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
City Delivery.....\$4.00 per year  
By Mail in Canada.....\$4.00 per year  
By Mail in U.S.A.....\$5.00 per year  
Semi-Weekly Issue.....\$1.50 per year  
Semi-Weekly to U.S.A.....\$2.50 per year

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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."

—From Premier Meighen's Portage Speech.

## THE DECADENCE OF LIBERALISM

Liberalism has been shockingly discredited by Mr. King and some of his henchmen. It has been trailed in the mud of insincerity and brazen disregard of principles and truth. The name once to command with is now a byword for shiftiness and piousness. These observations are evoked by the conduct of Mr. King in recent years and especially in recent days on the vital question of the tariff. In all Canadian history no parallel can be found to compare with the exhibition of pure hypocrisy and unblushing effrontery displayed by him on this subject. He must think the Canadian people are a pack of fools, or that they can be trifled with in political affairs with impunity. He pays them a very poor compliment indeed if he imagines for a moment that they are not wise to his comersaulting, twisting and turning, or that they do not gauge his performances correctly as the scheming attempts of an over-ambitious man to soar to heights for which he is unfitted.

The stern necessities of the times demand honesty and straight forwardness of utterance on the part of our leading public men but we get neither from Mr. King. Despite straight challenges he will not come out into the open. We defy anyone to tell where he stands on the tariff or what he would do if returned to office. Paraphrase or not he conceals his thoughts in meaningless and inconsistent language. He is for protection, for tariff for revenue, for destruction of most important basic industries through free trade, or any policy. He is like a straw in the wind blown hither and thither and lighting nowhere.

When the Quebec protectionist whip was cracked over his head he obeyed meekly. Listening to his speeches one involuntarily thinks of the terms "noise" and "impudence." The last is a strong word but what is it but impudence for anyone to try to fool the people as he has done? What dependence or trust can be placed in any man who says one thing today, another thing tomorrow, and different thing the third day and another thing the day after? What right has he as a leader of the party to try to qualify the platform of his party as laid down in the Convention which solemnly promised to implement the platform by legislation?

What are the people to think? Are they to accept Mr. Fielding's cynical statement that platforms are made to get in on, which is tantamount to saying that all politicians are impostors and platforms are intended to fool the public. Or yet again Mr. King's pronouncement that a platform is only a chart of general principles? Yet this is the sorry pass Liberalism in Canada has come to. Mr. King's game is not even clever, because it is transparently and flagrantly impudent. Bowed down to a word or two, he is in to catch votes and he cares not how he catches them. The good of the country is to him of infinitely less importance than the furtherance of his vainglorious ambition.

Let him go on. The more rope he gets the sooner he will hang himself—though we strongly suspect he has already accomplished that. We have sufficient confidence in the common sense of the Canadian people to believe that they will remain sober-footed and tried with and will place their trust in the man who stands disengaged in the trade question in clear unequivocal, unmistakable and consistent language. We refuse to believe that the unstable Canadian will lead their countenance to the chinkery and obsequious which have characterized the actions of Mr. King since his appointment to the post of Minister of Finance.

## POLITICIANS OR PRIVATE CITIZENS?

Time and time again has Mr. Mackenzie King declared from the public platform—more particularly however when addressing audiences in Ontario and the Western Provinces—that there were no essential differences between the tariff policy of the Liberal party and that of the National Progressive (or Farmer) party, and he used this argument as a basis for co-operation and even fusion between these two parties. The tariff policy of the National Progressive is as follows:—

1. An immediate and substantial all-round reduction of the customs tariff.
2. A reduction of the customs duty on goods imported from Great Britain to one-half the rate charged under the general tariff and that further gradual uniform reductions be made in the remaining tariff on British imports that will ensure complete free trade between Great Britain and Canada.
3. Acceptance of the Reciprocity Agreement of 1911 by the Parliament of Canada.

4. All foodstuffs not included in the Reciprocity Agreement to be placed on the free list.
5. Agricultural implements, farm machinery, vehicles, fertilizers, coal, lumber, cement, illuminating fuel and lubricating oils to be placed on the free list, and that all raw materials and machinery used in their manufacture also be placed on the free list.

6. All tariff concessions granted to other countries to be immediately extended to Great Britain.

In view of the fact that several of Mr. King's Quebec lieutenants, including particularly Sir Lomer Gouin and Mr. Lemieux, have denounced over and over again the tariff principles of the Crerar party, is he still going to maintain that there is no essential difference between the tariff policy of his own party and that of the Farmers? If he is not, what has caused him to change his views since his declaration on the subject last year?

Is his excuse going to be that when Sir Lomer et al express their disapproval of the Crerar programme, that they speak not as Liberals, nor with the authorization of the Liberal party, but merely in their positions as private citizens, as it was in the Imperial Theatre, that in facting the acceptance of the Shaughnessy plan for dealing with the National Railways, Mr. Lemieux spoke only as a private citizen and not with any authority from the Liberal party, it is mighty funny that he (King) should have permitted Mr. Lemieux's statement to pass unchallenged at the time it was made. Mr. King was present when the statement was made, and gave no manifestation whatever of dissent or non-agreement with it, thereby appearing from his silence to be in accord with the speaker.

Mr. King is a trimmer from the word go. He has no settled course, but changes his plans to meet every little variation of political sentiment that he meets with. In his time he has run the whole gamut of tariff policies, from free trade to high protection. What he really thinks, nobody knows, and it may be doubted if he knows himself. Except that he is most elastic in his opinions instead of being stiff, Dryden's lines on "Buckingham" was it?—would seem to apply very aptly to the honorable Willie:

"A man so various, he seemed to be  
Not one, but all mankind's epitome;  
Stiff in opinion, always in the wrong,  
"Everybody by turn, and nothing long;"

"Who, in the course of one revolving moon,  
Was Chameleon, Fiddler, Statesman and Buffoon."

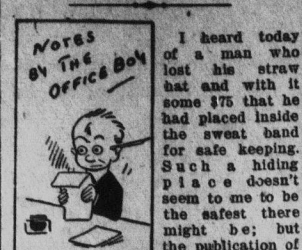
## SUMMING IT UP.

Speaking of the two Canadian political leaders, the New York Times says:—

"Mr. King is the better known on this side of the border through his fellowships at the University of Chicago and at Harvard, and by his investigation of industrial relations here, conducted under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation, of which his book 'Industry and Humanity' is the fruit. His political leadership is recognized in some quarters as a dubious experiment, for it is thought that he may not prove sufficiently pliable for the rough-and-tumble of practical politics. The overthrow of the Laurier Government in 1911 limited his actual ministerial experience to three years."

Only one thing need not worry Mr. King. He is as pliable as putty when it comes to adapting himself to the necessities of the various situations which are presented to him in the different parts of the country.

regarding Mr. King's "pliable" qualities. He is as pliable as putty when it comes to adapting himself to the necessities of the various situations which are presented to him in the different parts of the country.



I heard today of a man who lost his straw hat and with some \$75 that he had placed inside the sweat band for safe keeping. Such a hiding place doesn't seem to me to be the safest there might be; but the publication of this item may prompt those who have put their straws away, to hunt them up again and look underneath the sweat bands to see that they didn't absent-mindedly leave \$50 or \$100 there out of wife's way.

Those people who are advising that the first fifteen minutes of each day should be devoted to thinking, may perhaps be regarded as faddists. But now that the mornings are getting colder, the idea will likely grow in popularity, and the temptation will probably be to take a little longer time even than the fifteen minutes advised.

I see in one paper that wood of the kind suitable for making lead pencils is becoming scarce. I hope this doesn't mean a return to the kind where one had to unravel a roll of paper to get the lead.

A light in the (cellar) window these days should not necessarily be regarded as condemnatory of the man of the house. He may be "tending furnace."

I see that a statistician asserts that American college girls need instruction in "How to hold your husband." Practice in "how to hold your wife" may be properly had during courtship days.

Experience is an effective teacher. For instance, the man who drank wood alcohol thinking it ginger ale will never make the same mistake again.

Some guys are so blamed mean that they'll stick a used postage stamp on the letter they send to the Editor enclosing an essay on "Honesty."

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Labor's Interest in Distribution. It is only natural that Labor should be obsessed by the rights of the Producer, and should pay little more than lip-service to the rights of the Consumer. For the Labor world is a world of Producers in every sense of the term "Producer," and a world of Consumers only in the narrowest sense of the term "Consumer."

Indeed, they can scarcely be called producers. Their opportunities for practicing Consumption, except in the case of the few who are restricted by the unwritten law that drives their purchasing power down to the level, or below the level of subsistence. But Labor will never succeed in claiming its rights as a Producer, until it rejects, as an illusion, the belief that the economic problem can be solved by changes in the Producer mechanism alone. The surest way for Labor as Producer to achieve its rights, is for Labor as Consumer to demand changes in the Consumer mechanism. It is only these which will assure for all Consumers, including and especially Labor Consumers, an irrevocable purchasing power in the form of a dividend as well as a wage, and such a dividend as will increase the goods as will make that purchasing power really effective.—A. Byrne in The Guild Socialist, London.

Liquor Traffic is Britain's Enemy. Here are the figures taken from the Blue Book just published:—

Convictions for drunkenness in England and Wales, 1919, 57,949; in 1920, 95,765—being an increase of 65.26 per cent. As regards women there were 35 per cent. more convictions than in 1919.

Is there a single reader of "Overseas" who is not ashamed of this latest fact? When friends from the Dominion visit the Old Country for the first time, what is the thing which horrifies them almost more than anything else? The sight of British women, from the so-called working classes, crowding into the "pubs" with swarms of children and babies in prams outside the entrances while their elders and "betters" seek refreshment indoors.

I desire to be entirely fair, but can any one say that I have overstated the case as to the shock which the drinking among women in Great Britain causes the newcomer from overseas? Thanks to newspaper agitation the drink hours have been increased, and we are joyfully informed that "London is no longer drunk because your drinks can be obtained up to half-an-hour after midnight. Is this really a good for any one? I notice an editorial writer in the Daily Graphic remarks, "My own impression is that the whole thing will lead to a big increase in drinking," and no doubt it will.—Overseas, London.

NEWCASTLE CREEK. Newcastle Creek, Oct. 19.—The weather for the past few days has been in a very unsettled condition. Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Earle and daughter Lena, of 34 St. James street, St. John, accompanied by Mr. Reuben Mabey, are enjoying a hunting trip here, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. McMan. The vocational work of this town is in progress now. Mr. Patrick M. Monahan is the local director. Mr. Hazen B. McMan spent a few days at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett B. McMan. The school is progressing rapidly under the management of Miss Ellen Bright of Millstream, N. B. The Ladies' Aid Society, met at the home of Mrs. Harry Flowers two weeks ago. In the councillor's election held here on October 11th, the Liberal candidates were elected. Mrs. John B. Hawks spent the week-end with her son at New Zion, N. B. The game in the surrounding districts seem to be quite plentiful, especially deer and partridges. Rev. Z. L. Pash, Rev. N. A. McNeil and Mr. J. D. O'Connell spoke in the Minto Opera House on the referendum campaign, October 5th. Mr. Dixon Anderson and Ralph Sypher, who have been out West, are expected to return on October 22nd.

THE LAUGH LINE. Successful dentists live from hand to mouth. One man's weakness may be another man's opportunity. Willing to Wait. Young Drummer (proudly)—So sorry I can't give you a seat for the first performance of my new play, old man. His Friend—Oh, well, I'll just wait until the end of the run and then I'll be sure to get a seat.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Pop played tennis with Mr. Jones today, coming home looking as if he felt grate, saying, Well, I beat Jones today, he was playing at the top of his form, but I beat him. Good for you, I think I'll drop in at the Joneses after supper and tell Mrs. Jones about it, and ma, how did you happen to beat him? Happin' to see pop, I didn't happen to, I beat him by superior playing, he was good but I was better, that's the whole story. And he mentioned it some more while we was eating supper and he kept on mentioning it after supper and all of a sudden the bell rang and it was Mr. Jones wawking with a cane on account of something being the matter with one foot, saying to pop, Well Potts it don't look as if it'd be able to get out to play tomorrow. I can hardly move on this foot and I half to move a little bit, even to beat you, haw haw.

O I don't know, you playda pritty good game this after-noon, considering, sed pop. Yes, considering that a 3 munts old baby could of beat me, sed Mr. Jones, I had a sprained ankle and a severe cold, and no way that but I had to play with my left hand because my rite fist went back on ma, and to make matters worse 3 strings broke in my racket as soon as we started to play. Not that I wish to take away from your glory or anything but facts are facts weather they come from East or West, as Kipling says.

And he went home agen, and ma sed, I don't think I'll drop in and see Mrs. Jones after all. I never asked you to, Im sure, sed pop. And he opened the paper and stayed behind it and ma started to darn holes out of socks, saying "every once in a while, Broken rite, no wonder, broken ieg, no wonder, anybody could beat a cripple, no wonder. Pop not saying anything.

will be plenty of room then."—London Opinion.

Progress is Good. Onward we Flue. Yeast was Food. Now it's a Drug. —Louisville Courier-Journal.

Answer Unexpected. A well-known hostess was entertaining a distinguished Japanese visitor to England at her country house. Without saying what lay in store for her guest, she conducted him to her "Japanese garden." She expected to see a faraway look come into his tear-filled eyes as the prospect waited him back to his distant and beloved home. Instead he beamed on her through his gold-rimmed spectacles and bowing with true Oriental politeness, exclaimed: "Beautiful! We have nothing like this in Japan."

Says Punch.—Punch is partial to making quips about odd paragraphs finds in London and provincial papers. Here are a few samples:

From the report of a speech: "I... (Load applause, in which the audience joined)."—Morning Express.

It is always so helpful when the audience joins in the applause. In fact we know few sadder sights than that of a speaker resuming his seat amidst a silence broken only by the sound of his own clapping. "Wanted, from September quarter, good glass small house, furnished or unfurnished."—Local Paper.

We presume the tenant would enter into the usual covenant not to throw stones. —(Brother attended the bridegroom as best man, and the Rev. (Vicar of —) attended the bridegroom as best man.—Local Paper.

And did they have it out in the vestry after the ceremony to settle which really was? Applications invited for the position of second engineer. Temporary position about three months, seven days a week, including Sundays.—Australasian paper.

All the rest of the time he can have to himself.

## NEWCASTLE CREEK

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## LITTLE BABY C MIRACLE

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Lawston, Oct. 19.—Little

three-year-old Baby Charlotte, next to the young the 10 children of Mr. and Mrs. Lariver of this city, is endowed with the divine healing.

The neighbors will tell you that she never asks for anything but the pain it. She knows there is faith that this miracle cure, marvelous cures have been accomplished.

The fame of this child-healer and people actually come from other towns and cities to see to become cured of their ailments. She refuses to take sometimes, maybe a penny friend, but never any more, fuses to discuss her peculiar "Can you cure folks?"

Her mother, who is a co-median of 89, firmly believes in an example of pre-natal "Always I prayed that she might be given the gift of said she, "and sure enough, or was answered!"

"How edily was this power forced?" asked the reporter. "It is hard to believe,"

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