

The St. John Standard.

M. V. MACKINNON Publisher
 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 \$6.00 per year
 By Mail in Canada \$8.00 per year
 Semi-Weekly issue \$1.50 per year
 Outside Readers \$2.50 per year
 (Agricultural Measurement)

ADVERTISING RATES:
 Contract Display 40c per line
 Classified 20c per word
 Inside Readers 35c per line
 Outside Readers 35c per line
 (Agricultural Measurement)

ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1920.

WESTERN NATURAL RESOURCES

A conference between the Western premiers and the powers at Ottawa is to be held today to consider the transfer of the natural resources of the West to the provinces. This question is one which is not so simple as it would appear, as the Western Provinces not only want their natural resources, but the retention of the subsidies which were originally granted in lieu of the resources. The Eastern Provinces, and particularly the three Maritime Provinces, object to the handing over of these resources unless they are indemnified or given better financial terms. Sir Robert Borden, several years ago called a conference of all the provinces in order to reach an agreement, but the representatives of the Maritime Provinces objected so strenuously to the Western proposals unless corresponding compensation was given them, a course to which the Western provinces were equally opposed, that no progress was made.

In 1905, when the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta were created, the Conservative party urged that the resources should be turned over to them. However, the Liberal party in Ottawa supported by the Liberal administration in the provinces, favored an annual subsidy. These Liberal Governments, now so insistent upon securing their resources, have only themselves to blame for the situation in which they find themselves.

There is no reason why the Western provinces should not have control of their timber, minerals, etc., the same as the Eastern provinces have. Hon. Mr. Meighen is a Western man who understands Western needs and has Western sympathies, and he can be depended upon to treat the West fairly and generously, if the Western governments are prepared to be reasonable in their demands. But no settlement can be satisfactory to the Maritime Provinces that does not give them compensation for the concession to the Western provinces of their natural resources. There are more untold things, however, than that the activity which is now in evidence in the Western provinces concerning these resources is intended by the Liberal premiers of the three provinces involved to make a political grievance which may be used to stir up feeling against the Dominion Government in the West.

A SADLY WARPED JUDGMENT

The young man from Boston who recently refused to accept a bequest of \$1,000,000 on the ground that it doesn't belong to him, and that any system that permits or makes it possible for one man to get or hold a million dollars while women and children are lacking food and men are seeking employment to keep themselves alive must be wrong, may be thought to be in a class by himself. He is not quite alone however. Occasionally we hear of others in whose minds there are kinks of some sort. A few years ago, a young man fell heir to a considerable property in Edinburgh, and included in it was a most valuable cellar of wines, many of them of priceless vintage. As he was an ardent prohibitionist, he ordered them all destroyed, despite the pleadings of some of the doctors from the Heriot Hospital, just opposite, that he send some of the wines over for the benefit of the patients, to many of whom it would be the means of saving their lives. He flatly refused, and said "it would be better that they should die rather than have to drink intoxicating liquor to save their lives." The young Bostonian appears to have been equally narrow in his views. If he did not want to use the money to his own personal advantage, he might at least have helped others who through no fault of their own, need assistance. But the possession of so much wealth would have disturbed his peace of mind and troubled his conscience, and he could not or would not see that what he did not want, might be made of great benefit to others.

THE END OF PONZI.

Charles Ponzi, the Boston wizard of "frenzied finance" who startled so great a nation as the United States with the magnitude and all-embracing nature of his operations, has finally been sentenced to jail with a prospect of further prosecutions after he is released. He was a merry dancer while it lasted. He served as the piper while thousands danced and showered him with wealth. The dance is over. The dancers are in mourning over their losses, and the piper is in jail. The fate of both piper and dancers should be an effective warning against similar dancing parties in the halls of "frenzied" finance in the future. But will it? There have been other such lessons. They have been soon forgotten.

The Boston Transcript points out more prolonged slicing process.

that "the losers who supplied the millions of dollars for this merry dance may be divided into two classes. Not all of them are entitled to sympathy. Among them were the people who suspected that the dance would ultimately end in disaster, but who hoped to retire from it with their winnings before the crash came. It is impossible to sympathize with these people. It is difficult to sympathize with other victims who, because of education and environment, should have been led to question the apparent character of the dance and thus to discover its real nature. There are, however, a very large number of people who are entitled to real sympathy. They are the victims who were not by training and by their circumstances in life, in a position to differentiate the sound from the unsound when it came to opportunities for the investment of their savings. They are people of the kind who, through no fault of their own, have furnished the victims in many another get-rich-quick scheme. To safeguard such people in the future requires not only the passage and enforcement of suitable laws governing investment."

As to Ponzi himself, if the dance was an interesting spectacle, it may be said that the piper was of interest as an individual. There were times when he had in his possession a great fortune in cash and negotiable securities, and when escape would have been easy. But he remained at his post and did business as usual until the end came. Whatever may have been the idea that prompted him in the beginning of an undertaking in the prosecution of which people were defrauded by his use of the United States mails, it will be a matter for speculation whether, as the scheme grew, he was not hypnotized by its very success into a belief that the torrent of money coming in would, for an indefinite length of time, continue to exceed in volume the flood of money going out.

FOR CANADIAN GRAVES

In a short time a boatload of maple, elm, and spruce is to leave Canada for Belgium. In answer to the question which naturally rises to the mind, "Why for Belgium?" the Government gives answer: To decorate the graves of our boys who fell for Canada! The burial of the "unknown warrior" in Westminster Abbey, as a tribute to the men of the fighting forces of the Empire who fell in the Great War, made tremendous appeal. The Empire found thrills in the act.

Hard upon the touching ceremony comes the announcement that Canada has decided to pay special remembrance to those of her men who fell in the battle, whose mortal remains still rest in "Flanders Fields."

The form of the memorial is a touching and a fitting one... a tree from Canada! Either a maple or an elm, grown on the soil of Canada, is to mark the resting place of every Canadian who fell in the great cause. Rupert Brook sounded the hidden thought in the heart of every Englishman who faced death in the battle when he sang:

"If I should die, think only this of me:
 That there's some corner of a foreign field
 That is forever England."

An ideal thought, it well may be conjectured, illumined the heart of every Canadian who lies "over there," and, in token of our recognition of his homing thought, we send a tree from Canada; a tree to be placed where it will spread tender shade over the rich earth that conceals a "richer dust;" a tree to stand sentinel; a tree that will say to all who pass by: "I came from his land and my land, to watch and guard this corner of a foreign field that is forever"... Canada.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Abney Funeral Bills.
 An interment in Westminster Abbey was a costly business even in the eighteenth century. Two interesting original documents were recently offered for sale in the catalogue of a well-known firm of curio and autograph dealers. These referred to the burial of George, Prince of Denmark, Consort of Queen Anne, and father of her seventeen children. One document was the undertaker's account, amounting to £329 10s., which included the item—"For 2 strong Blime Coffins to inclose the body of ye late Prince of Denmark with a strong chest to hold ye Bowells and a leaden Coffin and Urn for ye same." The other was the account of church fees, being £68 6s. 8d., for his interment in King George's Chapel at Westminster Abbey. It is satisfactory to note that both accounts were accepted.—Manchester Guardian.

Ups and Downs of Millionaires.
 According to the just completed figures of the Internal Revenue Department, this country had 20,344 millionaires in 1919, or 5,346 less than the year before. And the number of "twenty-millionaires" was reduced from 141 to 67. These terms produce confusion. Any man who returned an income between \$40,000 and \$50,000 for a given year was a "millionaire" in official parlance. Any

THE LABOR QUESTION.

(Montreal Gazette.)
 Unemployed workers will find comfort in the statement issued from the office of the Minister of Labor, a statement which, so far as the future is concerned, puts the problem of unemployment up to the provincial and municipal authorities. It has been explained already that practical means at the disposal of the Government for the reduction of unemployment are limited. The same is true of the province and of the municipality. The Minister of Labor, nevertheless, has not done complete justice to the situation, nor made the most of his opportunity. Admitting that the Dominion Government, as such, cannot provide employment for all those who, from time to time, may be in need of it, and that neither the provincial nor municipal authorities are in any very different position, there remains, not only the occasion but it would seem the necessity for an explanation by the minister of where the responsibility for the situation lies. It can alone be remedied. There were two ways open to the minister in dealing with this problem, a narrow lane in which he could have walked, and a broad, candid and helpful way on the other. He seems to have given preference to the former, which alone can be of material value in the long-established relations with international organized labor. Those very relations ought to be his principal source of strength in the present emergency, because they enable him, if he so chooses, to speak to organized labor in Canada with the knowledge and sympathy of a trades unionist as well as the authority of a minister of the Crown, and to give to labor the friendly and helpful counsel which alone can be of material value in the circumstances that have arisen. These circumstances call for plain speaking, and in shrinking from the performance of his clear duty in that respect, the Minister of Labor does less than justice to his office and fails in service to Canadian labor.

The memorandum issued from the office of the minister and under his authority, refers to the fact that many employers are retaining as many of their men as possible, manufacturing stocks, the sale of which is uncertain, rather than cut down staffs. This is in striking contrast to the contention of the president of the Trades and Labor Council, Mr. Tom Moore, that manufacturers have brought about the existing situation deliberately for the purpose of forcing down wages, and it is gratifying to find, coming from the office of a Minister of Labor, something that does not suggest the handiwork of Mr. Moore. Yet the Minister of Labor, even in this respect, is not doing. They are taking their share of loss consequent upon readjustment and depression; they are playing their part and making their best for your benefit; it is for you to do your share, to take your loss if necessary, to play your part. He does not say that, nor does he say that the Minister of Labor is not doing his duty in the matter of Canadian labor, he should do so. He should say frankly to labor that the duty of the employer is to co-operate with the employer, to remain at work even if conditions are financially less favorable to him. Neglect of this clear duty exposes the Minister of Labor to the suspicion of being more concerned with the wage-exacting objects of international organizations than he is with the welfare of Canada and of Canadian labor.

It will not do for the Minister of Labor, either directly or by inference, to encourage labor, as Mr. Tom Moore encourages labor, to get itself into the face of a world conditions. A policy of that kind can bring upon labor and upon industry nothing but disaster, the privations consequent upon which will be felt by innocent people. Labor has been in employment of high wages in Canada during a period of great demand for sorts of manufactures at high prices; as the cost of living has risen in obedience to a world condition, his earnings have been reduced, due to the absence of so many men on military service abroad, was a condition in his favor, and he made duty of it. The world movement which brought about these conditions is now being reversed. The wave is receding, and labor under normal conditions of production, much less under conditions that go below the standard of normality. The situation imposes a duty upon the Minister of Labor. If that duty is not discharged, and if labor is to be encouraged in the belief that it is independent of economic principles and conditions, there will be precipitated a condition immeasurably more serious than that which now exists, a condition in which organized labor itself will go down and with it the road for a Ministry of Labor at Ottawa.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAGE

Mrs. Ebbits came to see me in a this afternoon, being a big lady with a little baby, the baby being asleep and Mrs. Ebbits saying, "Gentle put him upstairs, were its quiet so our tawking worst history him?"
 "Cortney and ma. And she carried the baby up and laid it on the setting room sofa and went down again to talk to Mrs. Ebbits, me listening to them a while without getting much enjoyment out of it so I went up in the setting room again to see if the baby was still asleep. Wich it was, but it wook up pritty soon properly on account of me blowing on the top of its hed to see if it would have any effect."
 "Holey smokes its going to cry, I thawt. Wich it was, and I started to make funny faces at it to make it change its mind and laff, the only effect was the opposite effect, and the baby opened its mouth about twice as wide as wat I thawt it could and started to yell like everything, me thinking, Heck, holey smokes, g. And I quick ran in the setting room closet and shut the door and Mrs. Ebbits and ma came running up, Mrs. Ebbits saying, "The poor little lamkins, Me thinking, The poor fish. And the baby kept on yelling and ma sed, Maybe she wasent warm nuff, Ill get her another cover out of the closet heer."
 "Me thinking, Heck, darn it. And I quick laid down on the floor of the closet and pertended I was asleep, and me opening the door, saying, Well my goodness, of all things. Meaning me, and I kept on laying there as if I was asleep, ma saying, Benny, wat have you been doing to that baby? Me not answering on account of not wanting to spoil the imitation of being asleep, and ma shook me all her mite, saying, Stop this nonsense. Proving she knew all the time I wasent asleep, and I opened my eyes saying, I didnt hardly do anything to it, ma, all I did was blow on the top of its hed and make a few faces at it."
 "Well then Ill hardly do anything to you, said ma. And she gave me four cracks some place with a ruler. Not sounding like hardly anything, but feeling like a hole lot."

man who returned an income of \$1,000,000 was a "twenty-millionaire." Of course, in most cases he was nothing of the sort. His income sprang from stimulated business, not from accumulated capital. But even with this qualification an essential one, the figures for 1919 are interesting. In 1914, for us a pre-war year, the men who paid taxes on \$1,000,000 income were sixty in number. In 1919 they were 120, just doubled. In 1918 they were 206. But in 1917 they had fallen to 141, and in 1916 to 67. The returns for 1919, not yet available, will almost certainly show a further drop. In other words, the World War, before the United States went into it, was remarkably fruitful in big incomes. But the years when we were actually in the war meant a drop in the top rank of from 206 to 67. That is food for reflection.—Brooklyn Eagle.

THE LAUGH LINE

Just Fancy.
 And to think that that Boston youth who declined the legacy of a million dollars from his father's estate did it right in the midst of the Christmas shopping season.—Philadelphia Record.

Touch.
 Diner (making poor headway)—I wish this fowl had been allowed to finish a little longer.
 Waiter—Why so, sir?
 Diner—Another day or two and it would have been in its second childhood.—Boston Transcript.

Got Personal.
 Mugs—It's as plain as the nose on your face.
 Rugs—Well, anyway, it isn't as plain as the face behind your nose.—Boston Transcript.

Helpful.
 Wills—I told my wife we must begin to economize and that she must keep account of the household expenses.
 Gills—"Is she doing it?" "She has made a start. She has bought a \$250 desk, a \$100 filing cabinet and has ordered a \$750 adding machine."—Life.

"A man is never too old to learn," observed the sage. "No," commented the fool, "but sometimes he is too young."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

He Probably Will.
 The indefatigable Mr. Wells, having written a history of the world may now be expected to devote a few weeks to the production of a history of the universe.—Boston Transcript.

Financially Speaking.
 "Honest, old man, you appear to be growing shorter."
 "No wonder. Three times I've been let in on the ground floor of oil propositions, with the usual results."—Buffalo Express.

QUALITY



YOUR HORSES SERVE YOU FAITHFULLY

Why not serve them equally well by giving them O-Molene feed, the best money will buy? Our horse feed has gained its reputation on quality alone. It builds fine strong horses, from steady feeding. The best is always the cheapest. Try O-Molene.

"Quality talks"

C. H. PETERS' SONS,
 ST. JOHN, N. B.

Cuticura Soap

The Safety Razor Shaving Soap

The Gift Ideal for Your Wife or Daughter

A HANDSOME BEVELLED PLATE PEER GLASS for the boudoir will be treasured as an ever-present remembrance of the donor's good wishes.

*Phone M. 2540

Murray & Gregory, Ltd.
 St. John, N. B.

I wish to thank the public for their most generous patronage and to announce that our new term will begin Monday, Jan. 3rd.

Send for new Rate Card.
S. KERR,
 Principal

Fresh Broiled Lobsters
 Choice Oysters
 Olive Oil
 Brown's Clams
 Brown's Dainty Dinner Dish
SMITH'S FISH MARKET,
 25 Sydney St. M. 1704

BRASS SIGNS
 See our Signs for Doctors, Dentists, Lawyers and Agents. Any size, any style. Quick delivery.
FLEWELLING PRESS
 Engravers and Printers
 Market Square. St. John.

CEDAR CHESTS AND CEDAR SHEATHING FOR CLOSETS

Made from Red Cedar. Not the Aromatic Cedar, but nice clear stock that looks well and has more or less of the cedar odor.

*Phone Main 1893.

The Christie Wood-working Co., Ltd.
 180 Erin Street

A Thoughtful Gift for the Housewife



One that she will welcome with joy is a
"Universal" Electric Vacuum Cleaner

for the housekeeper knows that it will give her faithful and untiring service every day of the year—that it will relieve her of many hours of work and enable her to have a clean house of which she and the family can be proud. Not because a clean house is unusual, but because a clean house is healthful, comfortable and beautiful.

Scientifically built, light, yet of sturdy construction, the "Universal" is easy to handle and thoroughly reliable. With its attachments it gets the dust, dirt and litter in every nook, corner, crack and cranny—leaves nothing that can be cleaned by air.

PRICE, Complete with Attachments,

\$60.00

McAVITY'S 11-17 King St.

The Art of Giving

The true gift giver of today is better known by the wisdom of his selection than by the amount of money he spends. If the gift bears distinction the cost may be dropped out of consideration. The "Gift Spirit" is not measured in dollars and cents.

Your Xmas shopping will not be complete without a visit to our store.

We are offering a very large and carefully selected stock of precious stones and Fine Jewelry, Toilet Ware, etc.

Any article that you desire engraved should surely be selected immediately.

Ferguson & Page
 The Jewelers — 41 King St.

Commencing Saturday, December 11th, and Continuing Until Christmas, Store Will Remain Open Each Evening Until 10 p.m.

ENGLISH BALATA BELTING **If You Want THE BEST** **Oak-Tanned LEATHER BELTING**

D. K. McLAREN, LIMITED, Manufacturers
 MAIN 1121 90 GERMAIN STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B. BOX 702

"GIFTS THAT LAST"

Not Too Expensive Christmas Presents

Whatever you buy at Sharpe's is quality that suits the discriminating. And every one of the thousands of articles here is a splendid gift thing.

This is a store for those who have little to spend as well as for those who have much. Indeed the one whose Christmas purse is limited will find our stocks just suited to it, for there is an exceptionally wide selection in not-too-costly gifts that you know will be received with genuine pleasure.

SOME SUGGESTIONS
 Cuff Links Set Rings
 Watch Chains Brooches
 Scarf Pins Bar Pins
 Tie Clips Pendants
 Signet Rings Thumbles
 Society Rings Bracelets

L. L. SHARPE & SON

Jewelers and Opticians,
 21 King Street 189 Union Street
 St. John, N. B.

FIRE ESCAPES

Structural Steel, Bolts and Rods.
WM. LEWIS & SON, ST. JOHN, N. B.

Each recurring on this continent and MEAN SO

Let a Carry

RE

CHRISTM

TAGS AN

ing. About ev

NEW YE

FINE LEA

DO

J. & A. McMIL