

# The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard, Limited, 22 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada.  
**E. V. MACKINNON**, Managing Editor  
 Yearly Subscriptions: Commercial Advertising:  
 By Carrier ..... \$5.00 Per Inch, per year ..... \$45.00  
 By Mail ..... 3.00 Line Rate, Over 5,000 ..... .25  
 Semi-Weekly by Mail ..... 1.00 Line Rate, Under 5,000 ..... .25  
 Invariably in Advance Classified, One Cent Per Word.  
 Phone Main 1910.  
 Intercommunicating System Connecting All Departments.

ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1913.

## WHY HARD TIMES?

Just what do we mean when we refer to "hard times," "financial depression," "money stringency," and similar subjects, in connection with the City of St. John or the Province of New Brunswick? It will be readily admitted that there has been, and is, something of a tightness in the world's money market but is it as bad as we think it is? The record of failures in this Province will not show that the present has been a disastrous year. Business men when asked will say that trade has been normally good and that the Christmas outlook is encouraging.

Aside from local causes which may have been responsible for a slight derangement of conditions, such as the mill men's strike, the effect of which was particularly felt in the North End, there has been no serious disruption of business and the situation is not nearly so bad as we have been believing it to be.

Once convince a man that a period of hard times is due, and it is most natural for him to shove his cash deeper into his pockets and do business on longer credit but with the prospect of a continuance of prosperity he will be the more ready to part with his money and put it into circulation. New Brunswick has had a good year in practically every line. St. John also has enjoyed prosperity. A walk through the city streets will afford evidence of this. On every side can be found tangible proof of progress. Developments hinted at twelve months ago have now become realities. The city is moving onward. Most of the people are spending just as much money as ever they did and yet the savings banks do not report any very great exodus of withdrawals over deposits.

Really there is nothing the matter with the East, and much of the general impression of hard times has filtered in from larger centres where there has been more or less depression. The Maritime Provinces today are the most prosperous in Canada. Why should we worry over the alleged bogie of hard times when, in reality we do not know what it means?

## CONCERNING FOOD PRICES.

In his latest stand for free food Sir Wilfrid Laurier is merely trying to re-establish the Liberal party upon a policy of unpicking the web which the Liberals themselves wove when in power. If the country is now reaping the whirlwind it is the Laurier neglect that sowed the seed. Liberal papers have made much of Sir Wilfrid's birthday but is it not a mournful swan song for him at 72 to sing: "Behold the havoc I have wrought," and then, in the next breath, plead for an opportunity to go back and do it all over again?

Even if Sir Wilfrid is sincere in his present advocacy of cheaper food, and is not attempting to use it as a rail upon which to ride again into power, it is beyond him to provide a remedy. He hopes largely to draw his supplies from the United States but this hope is not warranted by actual conditions. The reduction of the United States tariff upon cattle, for instance, drew nearly 50,000 western cattle across the border and if the demand was not there for them they would not be sent.

Sir Wilfrid claims that the removal of the U. S. duty has had the effect of adding to the cost of living in Canada. Possibly he is right but even if we admit that he is, does he suppose the removal of the Canadian duty will tend to return our 50,000 cattle or as many American cattle when they can be sold for more in the United States than in this country?

The cost of living is a serious problem but Sir Wilfrid can hardly solve it. "Grow food" would seem to be more closely applicable to the present case than "free food." If the Canadian producer can produce enough to meet the demands upon him, the cost of living will decrease. The question is by no means a new one, even though it appears to have just forced itself upon Sir Wilfrid. And there is one consolation thought about it. High prices are generally associated with prosperity. An old theory of economics, the truth of which has been abundantly proven is that prosperity and high prices usually come together.

## LAURIER AND BOURASSA.

Liberal newspapers which have been pleased to praise the existence of a "Tory-Nationalist alliance" at Ottawa, must be impressed with the fact that in their attitude on the question of naval defence Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Henri Bourassa are coming very close together. Last week both were in Ontario. Sir Wilfrid in Hamilton and Mr. Bourassa at Smith's Falls. Both delivered addresses in which they referred to naval matters. The following extracts from their speeches should make especially interesting reading for such high minded, patriotic

admirers of Sir Wilfrid as the editors of the Telegraph and Times. Here are the extracts. Don't they agree nicely? Henri Bourassa at Smith's Falls: "As to the general defence of the Empire on the high seas, its burden should continue to rest with the people of the British Isles."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Hamilton: Proceeding to a discussion of the naval question, Sir Wilfrid pointed to Canada's position as a nation. "Every community which has reached the status of a nation faced the duty to defend its own territory and its own shores."

## THAT POTATO EMBARGO.

The decision of the United States government to put an embargo on potatoes from Canada appears to be a cheap attempt to make tariff out of a supposed disease that does not exist. Some time ago, it will be remembered, Great Britain, while supposedly admitting cattle free of duty put a restriction on Canadian cattle, causing them to be slaughtered practically on arrival. This was because of a disease that was supposed to exist in cattle, but it had the effect of producing tariff.

The United States government lowered its tariff because it needed Canadian goods. Potatoes were among the food stuffs to benefit. The potato trade developed between New Brunswick and the United States is now sufficiently important to warrant the very best efforts of the Dominion government to protect it. New Brunswick potatoes will hold their own for quality against the world, and when the consumer in the United States purchases them he does so because the quality is there, not because he saves money, for they are not sold any more cheaply than tubers raised on American soil. To make a tariff concession to attract Canadian potatoes and then reject them because of an alleged disease, is one way of protecting the United States grower from Canadian competition.

It is fit and proper that the local Board of Trade should discuss this question as they did yesterday, and there can be no doubt that the government will insist that Canadian potato growers shall not be subjected to unfair treatment.

## PUNCTURED.

(Brookville Times.)

The St. John (N. B.) Globe, made famous by the late Senator Ellis as a Liberal newspaper of dignified independence, and still conducted by his family along the same lines, makes this short but pointed comment upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Free Food oration at Hamilton:

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in an address at Hamilton on Wednesday, appears to have come out strongly for free food. That is a policy many waited vainly to see Sir Wilfrid inaugurate during the fifteen years of Liberal rule.

A shorter and more effective puncture of a windy appeal for votes could not be imagined.

The Times last evening gave prominence to an Ottawa despatch which stated that the government had rejected the idea of appointing a commission to enquire into the reasons for the high cost of living. The best information The Standard can obtain is that the Times' despatch misrepresented the case. The government has not yet reached any decision in the matter. When there is an announcement to make it will probably be revealed that the problem will be dealt with in a satisfactory manner.

The Grit press in complaining about the high cost of living seeks to hold the Borden Government responsible. The facts are that the cost of living began to go up when the Laurier government took office and kept on going up for fifteen years. If the cost of misrepresentation had gone up in proportion, the local Pugsley organs would have been ruined long ago.

Sydney Fisher did tell the truth after all. He declared that the election in Chateaugay was the most corrupt he ever went through. Forty-three affidavits secured by the Conservatives charging the Liberals with wholesale bribery and corruption indicate that Mr. Fisher was right.

The fact that Mrs. Pankhurst will take about \$20,000 in cash back to England with her as the profit from her United States lecture tour almost makes us doubt the truth of the old adage that talk is cheap.

St. John Lodge.

The annual meeting of St. John Lodge No. 2 of Masons was held last evening in Masonic Temple, Gormain street. Thomas E. Powers was elected Worshipful Master for the coming year. The other officers for the year 1914 will be appointed in January.

## DIARY OF EVENTS

### HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

Major General Sir William Dillon Otter, one of Canada's most distinguished military men, was born near Clinton, Ont., seventy years ago today, the son of Alfred William and Anna Otter. He was educated at Upper Canada College, Toronto, and was famed as an athlete. He was especially fond of the national game, Lacrosse, and at one time was president of the National Lacrosse Association. He began his military career as a private in the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto, and in 1864 was gazetted lieutenant. In 1865, shortly after attaining his majority, he married Marian, daughter of the Rev. James Porter. He saw active service during the Fenian raids of 1866 and 1870, and was in command of the Queen's Own Rifles in the Fenian raid on the Niagara frontier, receiving a medal with two clasps for his services. In the Northwest rebellion of 1885, he commanded the column that relieved Battleford. The crowning command of his career was that of the famous first contingent of Canadian troops to South Africa in 1899. He led his gallant men through the war, and was seriously wounded at Israel's Port in April, 1900. His services with the Queen's Own Rifles were rewarded by the bestowal of the Queen's medal with four clasps. For many years he held distinguished positions in the Canadian militia organization, and a year ago today he retired from the post of inspector-general and military adviser to the Minister of Militia. He was invested with the Order of the Bath by King George, and many other honors have been showered upon him.

December 3 is the birthday of William J. Bowser, British Columbia statesman, at Reston, N. B., 1867. On this date in 1864 the Secretary of the Colonies, Mr. Cardwell, expressed approval of the confederation plan.

## THE HUMAN PROCESSION

### FAMOUS FRENCH THEATRICAL MANAGER

M. Jules Claretie, who recently retired as director of the Comedie Francaise, the great national theatre of Paris, after a devoted service of twenty-eight years, will celebrate his seventy-third birthday today. The most original, dramatic critic and feuilletonist undertook the difficult task of managing the Theatre Francaise in 1885, and in the opinion of those best able to judge he has been the ablest director of the house of Moliere since its establishment in 1680. M. Claretie's real name is Arsene Arnaud, and he was born on Dec. 3, 1840, at Limoges, famed for its china. He was educated at the Lycee Bonaparte in Paris, and entered journalism, acting as war correspondent in Italy in 1866 and at Metz four years later. When the second empire fell, he joined the republic, and was established on his ruins. M. Claretie returned to Paris and entered upon his career as a critic and feuilletonist. His first success as a novelist was scored with "L'Assassin," published when the author was only twenty-five. Of his fiction works that he has known on this side of the Atlantic is "L'Americaine," published twenty years ago. Many honors have been showered upon M. Claretie. He was one of the "immortals" of France for nearly a quarter of a century, having been elected to the Academie in 1905. He is also a member of L'Academie du Canada, and a commander of the Legion of Honor.

In the domain of history, M. Claretie has written a number of interesting volumes, nearly all strongly and bitterly anti-German in tone, including a five-volume history of the revolution of 1870-1871, "Paris Assiege," and "Le Champ de Bataille de Sedan." As executive head of the renowned Comedie, the great government-endowed playhouse for the perpetuation of the best traditions of the classic stage, M. Claretie has faced a thousand difficulties, and solved them. A large majority of the members of the troupe are "pensionnaires," and as such share in the profits. Instead of receiving a salary, M. Claretie has undertaken many suits in the courts against "pensionnaires" who have left the Comedie to accept more remunerative engagements elsewhere, among the number having been Coquelin and Bernhardt.

The Comedie is the oldest and greatest of the four French theatres which are supported by the state. It was founded in 1680 by Louis XIV, the actors being chosen from the company of Moliere, who had died a few years before. During the revolution the theatre ceased to exist, but it was soon restored by Napoleon, and ever since it has served its purpose of keeping alive the classic traditions of the French drama.

## THE PASSING DAY

### SAMOANS HONOR STEVENSON'S MEMORY

Although his remains lie buried on a mountain peak in a distant isle of the South Pacific, Robert Louis Stevenson, the well-beloved Scottish novelist, did not sleep in a neglected grave. Today, as on every third of December since 1895, the year following Stevenson's death, the natives of Samoa hold memorial services for one whom they called chief and gave the name of Tusiuta, and will place fragrant flowers on his final resting place.

The great novelist removed to Samoa in 1897, and captivated by the climate and scenery and the kindly and affectionate natives, he determined to spend the remainder of his life there. He bought an estate near Apia, on the island of Upolu. He gave his home the name of Vailima, and it was upon the mountain side there that he died on Dec. 3, 1894. He had asked that he be buried on the summit of the forest-clad Vaila, and this request was carried out. In order to reach the spot selected a small army of natives had to slash a way through the tangled jungle. Half a hundred natives took turns in carrying the coffin over the pathway to the mountain peak. The grave is marked by a monument which bears the inscription, "The Tomb of Tusiuta, the name given by the natives. Another tablet of bronze is inscribed with the epitaph written by Stevenson, which begins: 'Dig the grave and let me lie.'"

## IN LIGHTER VEIN

**Courage**  
 Courage is a splendid thing. No one can deny it. Winter, summer, fall and spring People keep on proffing And progressing by it.

**Courage is as free as air:**  
 Anyone may win it. There is plenty and to spare: Why not rid yourself of care By inventing in it.

**No man may possess it all.**  
 And no trusts supply it; Winter, summer, spring and fall It is good for great and small: Cheer up, brothers! Try it.

**Stop**  
 "Smith made a lot of money out of his penmanship school, I hear."  
 "Yes, business was flourishing."

**An Insult**  
 First Company Promoter to Second Ditch Digger: "Insult! See what the old scoundrel did? Carefully counted each of his fingers after I shook hands with him!"

**Solving The Marriage Problem**  
 "The stenographer's leaving us to get married, sir."  
 "That makes five we lost in the last two years by the matrimony route, doesn't it?"  
 "Yes, sir."  
 "Then hire a male stenographer this time. When he gets married he'll be darn glad to hang onto his job."

**One Cromide Canned**  
 "They are always talkin' about the wonders of electricity," said Farmer Courtisot, "but there's one of its greatest achievements they don't mention."  
 "To what do you refer?"  
 "The way it has killed off the fellows who made jokes about people who went to town and blew out the gas."

**The Skin Troubles Of Childhood**  
 School Records Show Much Time Lost From Eczema.

Chafing and skin irritation, whether from changing temperature, rough wash, strong soap or the action of the clothing, naturally develop into eczema, spread over the body and defy ordinary treatments. Most doctors do not give much attention to skin diseases, and consequently, it is necessary for parents to select some treatment which has proven a cure for such ailments. If records of cures count for anything, then you can turn to Dr. Chase's Ointment with fullest assurance that it will give you the means of controlling itching skin diseases.

By affording prompt relief from the terrible itching, Dr. Chase's Ointment puts an end to suffering, and removes the cause of scratching. As the fires of eczema die away the ointment sets up the process of healing, and brings about thorough and lasting cure. As a treatment for the skin troubles of children nothing has ever proven so satisfactory as Dr. Chase's Ointment.

## Buy Your Christmas Gifts Early

Already there's a "Christ-massy" feeling in the air, which probably brings to your mind all the worry and trouble you had last year in making "last minute" gift selections during the rush.

This can be entirely overcome by shopping early. Our stock is about comp etc, and we have an assortment of appropriate articles for gifts of which we certainly are proud.

If you will do your buying early, we can give you better service, a better assortment to select from, and you will do your buying much more comfortably than later, when our store is crowded with Christmas buyers.

## L. L. Sharpe & Son,

### JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS,

21 King Street, St. John, N. B.

## Evening Classes

### Will Re-open for Winter Term

Wednesday, Oct 1st

Hours 7.30 to 9.30, three nights a week, Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Terms on application.  
 S. KERR, Principal.

## Your Personal "Merry Christmas"

Daintily printed, with your name, on beautiful imported cards bearing exclusive holiday designs. SEE OUR SPECIMENS.  
 C. H. FLEWELLING, Engraver and Printer, 85-12 Prince Wm. Street.

## Supreme Among Gems

### THE DIAMOND!

of all gems, is the most lasting—most beautiful—most widely and universally Popular  
 Think of all the pleasure and satisfaction that will follow your investment in a Diamond of fine quality now!  
 Come in and see our Splendid Values and Choicest Settings.

**FERGUSON & PAGE**  
 Diamond Importers and Jewelers, KING ST.

**Tipping Them All**  
 An American traveller, about to leave his London hotel to make connections by train with a New York bound steamer, had just given a servant a liberal tip. "I owe, sir," the servant said, "that you've seen the Abbey."

**Natural—Historically Correct**  
 "No adults admitted," interposed the stage-door keeper as the frenzied mother tried to break in on the children's fancy dress ball.

**They Must Have Large Hands.**  
 "I'm disappointed in those new neighbors of ours. They borrowed a gallon of gasoline yesterday."

**Men's Viscolized Sole Boots**  
 For the Wet Weather  
 \$3.25, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00 and \$8.50

Winter Calf, Box Calf, American Elk, French Calf, Chrome Calf and English Grain  
 A Boot for Every Purpose

The best, selected from the different manufacturers, ensures you of getting the greatest possible value for your money.

**Francis & Vaughan**  
 19 King Street

## Hemlock Boards

150,000 feet Hemlock Boards, Planed one side. One scow load refuse Spruce Boards. One scow load refuse Deals.

Ask for Quotations  
 CHRISTIE WOODWORKING CO., LTD.  
 248 City Road

## NIGHT CLASSES

Open every night in the week, during the entire year  
 LOW RATES NOW  
 THE J. R. CURRIE COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE  
 67 Union Street.

## SANTA CLAUS HEADQUARTERS

The question of the hour, is "what about Christmas?" The children are asking it with wondering and hopeful expectations of what Santa Claus is likely to bring them. The older people are asking it as an inquiry as to how they are to provide suitable and satisfactory presents for relatives and friends, without too heavy a drain upon their time and purse. The problem is easily solved if you attend Arnold's great Christmas sale. Dolls, Toys, China, Holiday Fancy Goods.

Dolls ..... 1c. to \$10.00 each.  
 Toys ..... 1c. to 12.00 each.  
 Our values are easily the best in Canada.

**Arnold's Department Store**  
 83-85 Charlotte St.

## Supreme Among Gems

### THE DIAMOND!

of all gems, is the most lasting—most beautiful—most widely and universally Popular  
 Think of all the pleasure and satisfaction that will follow your investment in a Diamond of fine quality now!  
 Come in and see our Splendid Values and Choicest Settings.

**FERGUSON & PAGE**  
 Diamond Importers and Jewelers, KING ST.

**T. McAVITY & SONS, Limited**

Canadian, American and English  
**Pocket and Desk Diaries**  
 For 1914  
**BARNES & CO., LTD.**  
 84 Prince William Street

**J. E. WILSON, LTD.**  
 MANUFACTURERS OF  
 Cast Iron and Sheet Metal Work of Every Description  
 Copper, Cast Iron and Galvanized Iron Work for Buildings a specialty.  
 17-19 Sydney Street. Phone M 356

**Ask Your Grocer for**  
**GUNN'S MINCE MEAT**  
 GUNNS LIMITED, 674 Main Street  
 M 1670

**Doors, Sashes, Mouldings,**  
 MIRRORS, PLATE GLASS, ART WINDOWS  
**MURRAY & GREGORY, LTD., - ST. JOHN, N.B.**  
 Beaver Board, Ruberoid Roofing, Lumber, Shingles, Boxes

**PICTURES**  
 There are very few houses where there is not a room which might be improved by the addition of an up-to-date picture, and nothing will so add to the appearance of a room as a suitable subject, in a frame which is in harmony with its surroundings. We have just received a large consignment, which includes subjects suitable for every room in the house, from nursery to drawing room. The prices are moderate, and it will pay you to look over our stock while the variety is large.

**Pictures Make Splendid Christmas Gifts**  
 And we will be glad to put away any selected now for later delivery.

**A. E. EVERETT, 91 Charlotte Street**

## FIRE

The Once  
 Horses M  
 Discard  
 ture.

That the old  
 going out of  
 and cities is  
 able. In New  
 department as  
 see the old fir  
 a walk out to  
 the houses  
 truck, chemist  
 coming into  
 not only in the  
 motor apparatus  
 the fire dep  
 a new piece of  
 necessary in  
 the country  
 set of tools  
 world as a hon  
 tor driven app  
 As the New  
 speech at the  
 month ago: "I  
 mous old fire  
 ally got to g  
 by the motor  
 in Halifax,  
 a number of  
 partments are  
 vehicle, which  
 It is stated on  
 John will soon  
 The argument  
 has proven a s  
 (with hills), t  
 thing for St.  
 In the far v  
 into cities an  
 grow larger,  
 horse is being  
 and the motor  
 In a recent  
 tal of Edmon  
 large front pa  
 out of the ci  
 city lined up  
 of the civic  
 shows that in  
 Lauder's car  
 chemical, how  
 ces of apparat  
 ment. The re  
 the city wer  
 mite an hour  
 truck. Mayor  
 tal that he  
 the truck cou  
 good time. T  
 tal" states th  
 city ever sho  
 and that the  
 equipped in th  
 article publish  
 for itself:  
 "The larges  
 fighting appar  
 was seen the  
 city building  
 clonsters to  
 the city coun  
 departments.  
 interested cit  
 Chief Lauder's  
 city can now  
 the finest fir  
 da. The mot  
 partment cou  
 are more  
 in use either  
 Naturally, the  
 of the new o  
 are also high  
 midable array  
 devices, in lin  
 "The proce  
 chief's car.  
 50-horse-pow  
 The assistant  
 The most fa  
 combination  
 ons, recently  
 Two of these  
 American Lat  
 equipped with  
 power engine  
 thing in fire  
 "A still more  
 new combina  
 outfit recentl  
 grave compan  
 ped with a sh  
 engine, and i  
 spect. All o  
 painted a ple  
 lines.  
 "Another pi  
 the official  
 motor tractor  
 above outfit  
 pay. This is  
 ed to the ho  
 service was  
 in the aftern  
 strong. The  
 floral offerin  
 lake from m  
 in which Mr.

**THE RUSSIAN**  
 MIN

Stockholm,  
 ain Minister  
 insky, today  
 recall to the  
 said to be co  
 age affair, in  
 subjects ar  
 been mention  
 tion with the  
 tress Prince  
 the Princess  
 Duchess Mar  
 the Grand D  
 and Russia.