

The St. John Standard

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A POLICY OF COMMON DEFENCE.

Those who oppose the policy of helping in the world defence of the British Empire, whether their opposition is open or covered, are found of declaring that the financial relations between Canada and Great Britain afford no argument for a policy of common defence. In the language of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Great Britain invests money with Canada for business reasons and for business reasons alone. "If Canada has received money on loan from Great Britain," he said, "it was not given to her because of sentiment, but simply because Canada could afford the security and could pay the interest." The Standard already has brought forward the testimony of authorities much more familiar with financial operations than Sir Wilfrid Laurier is, who said that Canada got her money from Great Britain about one per cent. cheaper than any other lending nation. The Standard has quoted the statement of Sir Edgar Speyer, at once a great financier and a prominent Liberal, that Canada and the rest of the Dominions and dependencies pay \$50,000,000 a year less in interest for the British money invested in them than they would but for the fact that all parties belong to the Empire.

There is, however, an aspect of the case which takes the investment of the field of sentiment and puts it in the category of the hardest material considerations. Canada at present is receiving an enormous influx of British capital—about a billion dollars has come across the Atlantic in the last five years to be invested in our undertakings. Whether we are grateful or not, this flooding in of capital is of immense value to us. Thanks to it, our trade is heavy. Let anything happen to arrest this tide of capital from Great Britain, and the progress of the country would be checked. Hard times would ensue.

There is one thing that would so far as to arrest the investment of English money, and that is a great European war, in which Great Britain would find herself involved. War is a great destroyer of capital. Much of the present financial stringency is due to the Balkan struggle which has withdrawn hundreds of thousands of men from productive occupations and set them to the task of destruction. The capital wasted and destroyed must be replaced and that causes a diversion which is felt in far-away countries like Canada. But the waste of the Balkan War is as nothing to the losses that would ensue from a great European war for ten or twelve months. It has been calculated that the cost and losses would aggregate three billion dollars, while, in addition, there would be a shrinkage in securities of, perhaps, four billions more. This calculation leaves out the question of defeat: the mere warring of the war would cause this loss.

What would be the economic effect in Canada of such enormous losses in the Mother Country? Englishmen would buy less so that the market for Canadian products would shrink. Here, so that the flow of capital through the country would cease and stagnate and unemployment would come. In a word for Great Britain to get into a serious European war, would check Canadian progress and, probably, would cause great distress. Therefore, Canada is critically interested in Great Britain's fortunes.

There is one way to prevent a great European war. That is to keep the British Navy so strong that no other power will feel inclined to hazard hostilities. Time and again in the past the overwhelming might of the British Navy has kept the peace. In 1898 there might have been a general war as part of the Spanish-American conflict but for the supremacy of the British Navy on the seas. Assuredly, it was only the strength of the navy averted war with most of Europe during the South African war. There have been several narrow escapes in very recent times. Therefore, as Canada has every reason to desire to see peace continue, Canada has an enormous interest in having the British Navy strong enough not merely to win a victory, but so to discourage the other side as to prevent the occurrence of any war at all.

Mr. Borden's Naval Aid Bill would have helped to do this. It would have strengthened the British Navy so as to render war less likely. The Liberals, in defeating it, struck a blow against the cause of peace.

THE PARCEL POST.

The parcel post bill which was passed in the closing days of the recent session of Parliament is a piece of progressive legislation which will prove popular throughout the Dominion. There are still details to be worked out, but Mr. Pelletier, the Postmaster General, felt justified in stating that the system would be in operation by January first next or possibly before that date. The system adopted is simple, and at the same time effective. The manner in which the parcels post system of the United States has been evolved is probably about as perfect a system as could have been made practicable. But already complaints are arising out of the complicated schedule. This fault has been avoided in the Canadian Act. It was naturally impossible to make a flat rate all over the Dominion, owing to the great distances and the comparatively sparse population. So a zone system, modified from that adopted by the United States, has been worked out. The Maritime Provinces will constitute one zone, and each of the other provinces will constitute an additional zone. Besides this there will be a special zone extending for twenty miles around every post office. This latter provision is so eminently just that the retailers who protested against the parcel post system withdrew their opposition on becoming aware of it. It means that the traders in small towns will be able to use the parcel post for supplying the wants of their customers in the surrounding districts.

Mr. Pelletier will be generally commended for his determination not to operate the parcel post at a loss. He emphasized the point that the Post Office Department would run it as a business proposition. He expressed his conviction that the new system could be operated at cheap rates and at the same time be self-sustaining. So far as the weight and girth of the parcels to be carried are concerned, Mr. Pelletier has followed the usual conditions. No parcel of a greater weight than eleven pounds, or a greater length than seventy-two inches, will be carried.

There can be no question that the parcel post will be beneficial to the community in general, and that it will be particularly appreciated by the farmers. It is of interest to note that less than a year ago the Board of Trade of Toronto held an investigation on the high cost of living. That investigation was presided over by Professor Mackenzie, a well known authority on economics. In his report, Mr. Mackenzie attributed part of the high cost of living in the large cities to the absence of a parcel post system. Here are the words he used on that occasion: "Moreover, we have no parcel post service, so that the express companies, that is to say the railway companies, can and do make up their dividends on stock that has been shown to be largely water. It seems to be the universal opinion of shippers and consignees that in spite of the fact it is because of the monopoly these railways enjoy they do not give proper facilities for bringing produce into the city. It would be difficult to overestimate the advantages of a parcel post service such as is maintained throughout Europe, even in Russia, whereby produce could reach the consumer directly from the farmer. This small charge necessary for such service would at once put a limit to the profits of the middleman and would compel the express companies to meet the competition of the postal service."

The Board of Trade of Toronto, were so struck with the evidence gathered by Professor Mackenzie, that they unanimously adopted the following resolution in favor of the parcel post as a means of reducing the high cost of living: "Resolved, that the conference committee of one hundred of the Board of Trade of the city of Toronto request that the council of the board urge that the Dominion Government consider establishing a good parcel post, limited no doubt at first to the more populous localities, but extended as experience may warrant."

The late Government were urged on many occasions to introduce the parcel post but signally failed to grant this boon to the people. The Borden Government and Mr. Pelletier, in particular, are to be congratulated in placing on the statute book what Mr. Joseph E. Armstrong, of East Hampton, rightly declared in the course of the debate to be "one of the most progressive pieces of legislation and one of the most advantageous to the farmer and the consumer that was ever enacted in Canada."

Obviously.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)
After what the Laurier Senators did to hamstring the Mother Country in her work of defending the Empire, Sir Wilfrid will be inclined to assure the next crowd he addresses that Canada's "neutrality" would be respected by Germany should the latter go to war with Britain.

A Gentle Hint.

(Ottawa Citizen.)
A dollar given to a child means perpetual dividends to the man. This epigram is submitted for consideration to those who view the playground work and appeal without having thus far made any contribution towards it. For a gift-edged investment, nothing is better or more sure.

DIARY OF EVENTS

HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

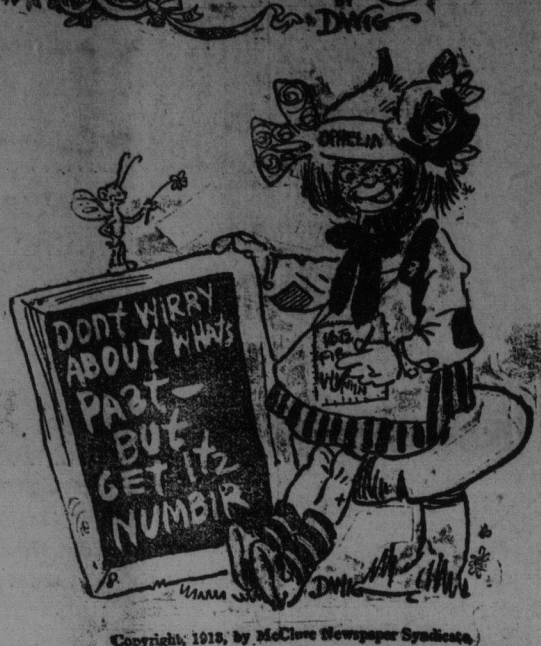
A CIVIL WAR INCIDENT.

An incident of the American civil war that was of great interest to Canadians was the banishment by President Lincoln of Clement Laird Vallandigham, of Ohio, the leader of the "Peace Democrats," or "Copperheads." Vallandigham persistently denounced the war as "wicked, cruel and unnecessary," and his audacity finally aroused Lincoln to action. The Ohio trouble-maker was transported beyond the Union lines into the Confederacy, and just half a century ago today, he took passage for Canada at Wilmington, coming to this country by way of Bermuda. He arrived at Halifax on July 5. From the Nova Scotian metropolis the exile went to Quebec and afterward to Niagara Falls. In the meantime he had been nominated for Governor of Ohio, and he carried on his campaign from this country, issuing several addresses to his hosts and ambitions. While the expatriate was defeated for the Governorship of Ohio, he received a large vote and was ever before given a Democratic candidate in that State. Vallandigham proposed to leave Canada and return to Ohio just before the election, but he was prevented from crossing the Detroit River. He remained in Windsor until June, 1864, when he returned to his home.

During his stay in Canada agents of the Confederacy were frequent visitors to Vallandigham, but they were unable to convince the exile of the justice of their hopes and ambitions. While the expatriate was defeated for the Governorship of Ohio, he received a large vote and was ever before given a Democratic candidate in that State. Vallandigham proposed to leave Canada and return to Ohio just before the election, but he was prevented from crossing the Detroit River. He remained in Windsor until June, 1864, when he returned to his home.

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OPHELIA'S SLATE



IN LIGHTER VEIN

A QUICK-LUNCH ECSTASY.
When Mamie waits on me,
How all too brief can be
The time for noonday lunch!
Of all the bunch
That order browned the wheat,
Bring coffee in the dark, and dairy
sweets.
She sure is queuing
Her smile serene
Can lure me to indulgence rash
In most mysterious hash.
Her eyes are blue
And it is really true
The "sinker" is as light as foam of
sea.
Yet wait a bit!
Now that I think of it,
When Mamie's off a day,
There's Annie—she whose eyes are
grey.

Or Kitty, red-topped roamer,
Who greets me with such fetching
brogue.
That toast served cold
Remains a crime untold.
And even the egg that's turned
Seems that precisely for which I have
yearned.
Each in her place
Reveals a part, appropriate grace,
And all is right from sandwiches to
tea.
When Mamie, Annie, Kitty, waits on
me.
—E. W. O. in N. Y. World.

Timesaving.
"We could save a great deal of
time by leaving 'Dear Sir' and 'Yours
Truly' off our letters," said the early
practical person.
"So we might," replied the man
who likes the little formalities. "But
we might save still more by not stop-
ping to put on collars and neckties
in the morning."

Shifting Responsibility.
Miss Rockey—Oh, papa, why do
you wish me to marry the kind of
man who can get money out of the
other fellow?
Old Rockey—Because, dear, then
he won't be trying to get it out of me.

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our services—the more you
will be convinced of the
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months just as pleasant as at any
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BLAMES GREED
OF MONEY FOR
MANY THINGS

Toronto Clergyman, Address-
ing Meeting at Charlotte-
town, Speaks Strongly.

COMMITTEES NAMED
BY THE CONFERENCE

Rev. J. W. Aitkins and Other
Addressed Meetings Yester-
day—Big Open Air Mas-
Meeting Held in Park.

Special to The Standard.

Charlotte-town, P. E. I., June 15.—
Speaking in the First Methodist
church tonight, Rev. J. W. Aitkins, of
Toronto, Field Secretary of the Ten-
perance, Moral and Social Reform, de-
clared the greed of gain, he believed,
was behind war, the liquor traffic and
white slavery. The congregation ap-
plauded his references to the growth
of the peace movement and to the
revelations in the German Reichstag
re the war scare fomented by the
Krupps. Rev. Mr. Aitkins showed
that in the first ten years of this cen-
tury 96 arbitration treaties were sig-
ned, there were 10 treaties to 1 war.
The conditions being reversed in the
preceding century.

An open air meeting was held in
Victoria Park and addressed by Rev.
W. G. Lane, who in dealing with com-
pulsory and voluntary service referred
to the arbitrary power in some cases
exercised by the labor unions. Rev.
R. G. Fulton and John Dystant, of
trot, Mich., also spoke.

In the afternoon Rev. S. T. Bartley,
General Sunday School Secretary,
Toronto, addressed a meeting dealing
with the growth of schools in Canada.
The increase is expected in the West.
The total membership exceeds 1,000,
other S. S. schools in Canada by 1900.
The problem is to retain the pupils
entering upon the adolescent
period.

The committees of the conference
have been named as follows:

Stationing.
The President of the conference
the Superintendent of Missions, the
Chairman of Districts and the fol-
lowing representatives elected by the
districts: John J. Pinkerton, J.
King, George Ayers, James H. M.
G. Lane, A. D. McLeod, Thomas
Marshall, John B. Gough.

Nominating.
H. Stanley Jones, Ernest Rowland,
Percy A. Fitzpatrick, E. C. Creed, James
Crispin, F. Stebbings, Leon
Jewett, H. S. B. Strother.

Laymen—B. J. Sharpe, Howard Ro-
gers, A. S. Benn, Wm. Metzler, John
Wilson, Albert Melone, Henry Smith,
H. T. Pickering.

Children's Fund.
Ministers—James E. Rowley, Thomas
Hicks, W. B. Thomas, Chas. K. Hudson,
A. D. McLeod, F. A. Wightman, Geo.
Young.

Laymen—Ernest E. Thomas, George
Bradley, James Toombs, H. M. L.
Tate, A. B. Brantome, W. C. Day,
H. Taylor, W. H. Stevens, Dr. J. H. Ayre,
Colin McKay.

Epworth League.
Ministers—Geo. A. Ross, Harry Har-
rison, Percy A. Fitzpatrick, C.
Squires, J. E. Shanklin, G. F. Dawson,
Jacob Heaney, George Morris.

Laymen—Isaac Mercer, H. M. L.
mont, J. W. Brantome, W. C. Day,
H. Taylor, W. H. Stevens, Dr. J. H. Ayre,
Colin McKay.

Sustentation Fund.
Ministers—Herbert E. Thomas,
Thomas Hicks, A. J. Gould, Wm. Har-
rison, Thomas Stebbings, Richard
Ople, E. A. Westmoreland, H. B. Stron-
hard.

Laymen—Fred C. McLean, J. J. We-
dal, J. A. Lindsay, Jas. Robertson, Lie-
Col. J. Wood, A. K. Parker, John Ste-
art, H. T. Pickering.

Sabbath Observance.
Ministers—Wm. Lawson, J. K. Kin-
g, P. A. Fitzpatrick, W. B. Thomas, J.
Champion, Richard Ople, Hugh M.
er, George Seller.

Laymen—C. H. Huchings, M. E. A. Bu-
gee, J. A. Lindsay, W. H. Anderson,
W. Hayworth, A. K. Parker, S. B. Ste-
art, W. E. Brooks.

Church Property.
Ministers—J. J. Pinkerton, D. R. Cho-
an, George Ayers, R. G. Fulton, Jam-
Crisp, Chas. F. Stebbings, Thom-
Marshall, Geo. M. Young.

Laymen—H. H. A. McKee, Wm. L.
pay, B. London, J. P. Wood, S. L. Stoc-
ton, G. McC. Young, Chas. Brynato,
B. E. Reid.