

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, APRIL 5, 1920.

PREMIER NITTI.

The vote of confidence received by Premier Nitti in the Italian Chamber of Deputies gives the Government the safe working majority of sixty-five, as large a majority as should be expected under the present political conditions in Italy. The 196 opposing votes represent the different Socialist elements in the Chamber and the 260 votes for the Government represent the Conservatives and their supporters within the new Catholic party.

In going before the Chamber upon an issue of internal policy Signor Nitti followed out consistently the plan which he laid down when he took over the Premiership. He announced his policy on his return from the conference in London and made little reference to it in the discussion preceding the vote in the Chamber. Even the Socialists have apparently accepted his plan of cultivating the friendship rather than the enmity of the Jugo-Slavs. This policy has at least borne fruit in two instances: in an agreement between the two countries to maintain the territorial integrity of Albania and in an amicable settlement of the recent clash between the Italians and the Slavs at Spalato. The Premier thus had an opportunity to direct his discussion almost entirely to the economic conditions in Italy. In this he took the position of opposing Socialist measures, but at the same time of opposing a "reactionary" policy or the application of the law in a rigorous and provocative manner.

Premier Nitti, in fact, is endeavoring to apply to home affairs much the same principles that he has applied to foreign affairs, and by doing so to bring about what he most longs for, a return to peace and quiet. Italy is suffering from a disorganization of transport system, the heavy fall in exchange and the privations of the poorer classes, which have been made more bitter by the extravagances of those who have grown rich through the war. That there should be a demand for reforms is natural, and the Government, acknowledging the country's need, has introduced a new system of taxation and is making an effort to solve its transportation and financial problems.

Labor disturbances have caused considerable concern, especially in the manufacturing centres of the north. There is no doubt a strong radical propaganda in Italy, and this has its responsibility for bringing about some of the industrial unrest. The one approach to an active Bolshevik underpinning, the case where the workmen seized a mill in the Trentino and attempted to operate it, however, resulted in a complete failure. With this exception none of the labor disturbances so far has taken on a Bolshevik character. The reasons are, first, the common sense of the Italian people, and second, the fight made against radicalism by the Catholic party, which has aligned itself as an implacable foe of Moscow.

Premier Nitti foresees the great danger in the situation when he says that Italy must go through two or three years of hard trials. There is promise that she can pass through these years successfully in the serious and sane manner in which she is undertaking her responsibility.

"INFANTILE PRECIPITANCY."

The ill advised action of the State Department at Washington in making a street riot in La Paz the text for a lecture to Bolivia, Peru and Chile has aroused much resentment in the countries addressed and in other South American republics. El Mercurio, of Valparaiso, referred to the notes as exhibitions of "infantile precipitancy," and the influential La Prensa, of Buenos Aires, asks "What is the origin of the arrogant diplomatic style of the White House in respect to sister republics?" The notes in question were equalled in stupidity by a bombastic statement sent out from Washington a few days later to the effect that the timely intervention of the United States had averted an outbreak of war in South America.

The query made by La Prensa must be for rhetorical effect only, for that well informed newspaper does not need to be enlightened as to the source of arrogant language in United States diplomatic communications. It is most unfortunate, however, that the Wilsonian habit of meddling should be extended to the continent of South America, which has hitherto been comparatively free from such interference. It is hard to believe that the officials who are in direct touch with Latin American affairs in the State Department would have manifested on their own initiative such disregard of the dignity of the nations with which they are supposed to cultivate amicable relations.

EQUAL WORK, PAY, HEALTH.

"Can you justly demand a wage scale similar to that of the men with whom you work, or are you in indifferent health, and hence a greater financial risk to your employers?" This is the question asked of young women by the Y. W. C. A. of the United States

in their campaign for better health for young women.

The object of the campaign is to interest and instruct the young woman worker in proper care and clothing of her body, in exercise and athletics, so that she may be fitted physically for the work she undertakes.

Women for years have been classed as frail or delicate. This is a mistake. Unless there is something organically wrong, there is no reason why any young woman should not be as strong as an Indian, and just as little handicapped by illness or weakness as is her brother. More girls realize this than formerly, and the average of woman's health is higher; but there are still many who accept a certain degree of illness as unavoidable and indeed rather reveal in it, not to say graft with it. If the young woman of today expects to compete in the business and industrial world with her male companions, if she expects equal pay for equal work, and hopes to keep up the pace, she must rid herself of any lingering feminine illnesses, just as she cast off the hampering train from her office skirt.

The gain to the employer and his feminine employee when the young woman worker comes into her own physically is of vast importance. But the benefit does not end within the walls of shop or office. It extends out into the world, and far into the future when this army of young women, apostles and exponents of good health, take their rightful places as wives and mothers. The campaign which works for such a cause works for humanity.

THE SURPLUS MILK.

Some plan for getting the surplus milk supply of spring and summer into the cities and arranging for its distribution among those who need it is a bit of seasonal philanthropy in which farmers, city authorities, milk dealers and welfare organizations might well join.

There are months ahead in which the milk supply will be heavy, that is, heavy at the farm. As a rule there is not a sufficiently increased call among regular patrons of the milk distributing companies to take this surplus supply off the farmers' hands.

If this extra milk could be got into the cities it could be made a deciding factor in fighting the battle of the undernourished; and by the time the supply became scarce again, it is entirely possible that the standard of public health would be noticeably raised.

Meanwhile the farmer, being able to dispose of all of his milk, could afford to do it more cheaply, and the price to the ordinary consumer could be lowered as a result. Dealers, too, handling a larger volume of milk, could get along with a smaller profit per quart.

Concerted action of the sort indicated, with price supervision by the constituted authorities, should be of benefit all along the line.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE STRANGE GUEST.

(Alfred Noyes.)
 You cannot leave a new house
 With any open door,
 But a strange guest will enter it
 And never leave it more.

Build it on a waste land,
 Dreary as a sin,
 Leave her but a broken gate
 And beauty will come in.
 Build it all of scarlet brick,
 Work your wicked will,
 Dump it on an ash-heap,
 Then—oh, then, be still!

Sit and watch your new house,
 Leave an open door,
 A strange guest will enter it
 And never leave it more.

She will make your raw wood
 Mellowed than gold,
 She will take your new famps
 And sell them for old.

She will crumble all your pride,
 Break your folly down,
 Much that you rejected
 She will bless and crown.

She will rust your naked roof,
 Split your pavement through,
 Dip her brush in sun and moon
 And color it anew.

Leave her but a window
 Wide to wind and rain,
 You shall find her footsteps
 When you come again.

Though she keep you waiting,
 Many months or years,
 She shall stain and make it
 Beautiful with tears.

She shall hurt and heal it,
 Soften it and save,
 Blessing it until it stands
 Stronger than the grave.

You cannot leave a new house,
 With any open door,
 But a strange guest will enter it,
 And never leave it more.

THE LAUGH LINE

More Gently Expressed.
 "How much ransom shall we demand for this chap?" asked the Captain of the gang.
 "I don't like that word 'ransom,'"

commented the brigand who had once kept a hotel. "We can get just as much and it'll sound more legal if we call it a board bill."

Very Simple.

Mrs. Styles—Is that a new silk hat you've got, Nicholas?
 Mr. Styles—Yes, my dear.
 "How much did it cost?"
 "Why it was \$8, dear."
 "What! Eight dollars, and not a bird or a ribbon or a feather on it?"

Exercising Judgment.

Old Salt—Yes, sir, I fell over the side of the ship, and a shark came along and grabbed me by the leg.
 Visitor—Good gracious! And what did you do?
 Old Salt—Let 'im 'ave the leg o' course. I never argue with sharks.

Uncertainty.

Mrs. Maloney—Appearances are deceitful.
 Mrs. Casey—They sure are. When Ol' see the old man surrounded by a squad of cops nowadays Ol' don't know whether he's got pinched or is going to work in some non-union plant.

As to Bargains.

"Lucky," said the teacher, "can you give me a definition for a bargain?"
 "Sure I can," snuffed the boy. "A bargain is when you get the best of them."

Lucky Adam.

Little Charles had just been chastised by his father. "Mamma," he asked, "was Adam the first man?"
 "Yes, dear."
 "Didn't he have any papa?"
 "Of course not," said Charles' mother.
 "Gee!" said the little fellow, "but he was lucky."

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Fort Howe Park

Editor of Standard:
 Dear Sir—Some years ago, one morning, the papers announced that Fort Howe had been sold to the Dominion Parks Commission, and its name had been changed by Order-in-Council to Fort Howe Park. Some people were skeptical about the "Park" end of it—but others pictured in their mind's eye the disappearance of the bare, rugged, verdurous rock and in place of it banks of shrubbery and avenues of trees, made accessible by a carriage drive cut out to the summit of the rock, breastworks of masonry to hold the soil, parterres of flowers and fountains of water, changing a bleak rock into a thing of beauty. It was also announced that the masonic whose wand was to make this transformation was an Ottawa official—one Mr. J. B. Harkin, head of the Dominion Parks Commission. A grand historical precedent was to signalize the change of the rock into the airy butterfly. All this was ago, before the war—and the "Park" still remains a barren and inhospitable rock, as it was left over a hundred years ago by soldiers of the King. They had long cursed it for the labor it imposed of hauling water and supplies up its precipitous sides and it was with pleasure they found more congenial quarters.

A question came up at a branch of the Canadian Society a few evenings ago: "Where is the 'Park'?" Where is Mr. Harkin? One of them made some doggerel verses, the first of which ran: "Oh! Harkin—how could you Oh! Harkin."

I wrote us all with your larkin? Groves, fountains, we expected you Harkin? Will dreams of a "Park" in.

The steep ledges of Fort Howe. I have been investigating and learn that Mr. Harkin is King of the Bison, and occupying that position he longed for new worlds to conquer—and perhaps he would not be adverse to more salary. It seems that the Government reserves in the wild and woolly west, are called by an access of politeness "Parks," and they embrace several buffalo ranges. It is the business of the Park Commission to govern these wild lands and restrain the nomadic habits of these horned terrors of the plains. This requires a number of keepers and of course a king pin at Ottawa.

The buffalo have been increasing of late years; it is a question where to find future ranges for them—in fact, it has been determined to kill some of them off—in this emergency some one has whispered into the ear of Mr. Harkin: "Convert Fort Howe into a Park." That gentleman not knowing where Fort Howe lands were forest or arable or pasture, whether they possessed water or feed, or whether they were amongst the wilds of Nipisquit or beyond, he eagerly accepted the suggestion and to presto an Order-in-Council was passed making Fort Howe a "Park."

But the movement has apparently stuck at last, and all work suspended. It has met with opposition.

Mr. Harkin would, it is understood, see a compromise be willing to abandon the idea of populating Fort Howe Park with Bison and to come down to goats, but the Minister is obstinate—not a goat for him.

Yours,
 PARKMAN.

ANOTHER ARREST

IN LIQUOR CASE

Fear and Trembling in Border Cities—Many Implicated in Liquor Smuggling Cases.

Special to The Standard.
 St. Stephen, April 4.—Another arrest was made Saturday in Bangor in connection with the attempt to smuggle liquor into Maine, the party this time being a young man named Thompson, employed on the Maine Central. It seems that in the face of two arrests made Thursday, Thompson persisted in the endeavor to do what had caused the trouble for the others. He was arrested in Bangor with five bottles of whiskey that he had carried through from Calais.

The story is told that when Miller, the Maine Central news agent, was arrested last week with liquor in his possession, he "peached" on all implicated with him in the transactions that he is alleged to have carried on for some time with marked profit to himself, and now there is fear and trembling in many quarters.

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Last night about 12 o'clock I was asleep and I woke up on account of thinking I heard a bell ringing, with I did, being on front door bell, me thinking, Gosh, it must be out of order, according it must be ringing all by itself.

And I went to sleep again for a couple of minutes and woke up again and the bell was still ringing, me thinking, Maybe somebody put a pin in it, a bell can't ring without something ringing it.

With it cant, and I went to sleep again, and the next time I woke up I heard pops voices all the way down stairs, and I thawt, Gosh, it must be bin pop, And I quick got out of bed and went down stairs in my pajamers and the parlor window was open and pop was setting on the window sill with his leg on the outside and a peccoman was standing out there holding one of pops feet, pop saying, but confound it and blast it, I say, I live heer and I rang the bell for 20 minutes without stopping and everybody must be either deaf or deaf or both.

I dont know nothing about that, all I know is I cant you trying to cline throo this heer parlor window, sed the peccoman. Hello pop, wats the matter, pop? I sed.

Ah, heers my little boy, he awt to know whether I live heer or not, come over heer, Benny, sed pop. With I did, and the peccoman sed, Is this your father?

Sure, aint you, pop? I sed, and pop sed, certainly I am, confound it to blisters, and the peccoman sed, Thats all I want, a identification.

Well thats all youre going to get, sed pop. And he took his foot out of the peccomans hand and came in and banged the window down, saying, does everybody in this house sleep with their hands over their ears and their heads under the covers?

Was that you ringing the bell all the time, pop? I sed.
 Yee gods, have you axually got the consummack nerve to stand these and tell me you herd that bell all the time? sed pop, and I sed, No sir, not all the time, I went to sleep 3 or 3 times and woke up again, I didnt know it was you pop, did you forget your key, pop?

Did you forget your brausen? sed pop. And he gave me 4 fearse smacks some place without me putting on account of me only having pilamers an, and I quick went back to bed.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Charlotte Case.

In the death of Charlotte Case which took place at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Alfred Vanwart, last Friday, Wickham loses one of its oldest and most esteemed citizens. She was the daughter of the late Jacob and Catherine Vanwart, born in 1838 at Hampstead, Queens county.

In 1856 she was married to Mayes Case, of Wickham, and has lived there all her married life. Her husband predeceased her by five months.

Mrs. Case was a woman of rare Christian qualities, a devoted wife and a loving mother. She leaves to mourn their loss four sons, Duncan, of Wickham; Arthur and Mayes, of St. John, and Gay, of Portland, Oregon; and six daughters, Mrs. Mary Paulin and Mrs. Julius Mayer, of Portland, Oregon; Mrs. Ruth Smith and Mrs. Georgia McIntyre, of San Francisco, Cal.; Mrs. L. T. Case, of St. John, and Mrs. Alfred Vanwart, of Wickham. One brother and one sister also survive.

The funeral will take place today (Monday), at 3 p.m., from the residence of her daughter, Interment in the old family lot at Wickham.

Mrs. Lizzie B. Dorey.

The death of Miss Lizzie B. Dorey occurred at her home in New Germany on March 30, after an illness of nearly two years. She leaves her parents, four brothers and five sisters to mourn. The sisters are Mrs. Frank May of Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. Fred Jefferson of Bridgetown, N. S., and Mrs. Percy Varner and the Misses Olive and Effie

at home. The brothers are Hiram and Leland of St. John, Arthur of Bridgetown, and Harry at home.

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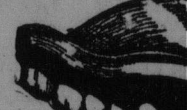
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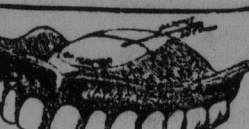
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