

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1921.

## THE CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Meighen's resignation is now in the hands of the Governor General, and only awaits Mr. King's announcement that he is ready to assume office, for it to be accepted. This may take place today. The country is getting a new government, and the change is being made in a most orderly manner. The new government will be a coalition of the Liberal and Conservative parties, and it is expected that it will be a strong and efficient one.

Mr. King's troubles are just beginning, as a glance at the anticipated make-up of his cabinet will show. According to a despatch from Ottawa, Mr. King is inviting men to sit with him 'round the Council Table, whose views are as widely apart as the poles. How can he expect to reconcile the Free Trade views of Messrs. O'Leary and Hudson with the Protectionist principles of Gouin and Lemieux? Quebec is just as firmly opposed to the Free Trade propaganda of the Progressive party as are the followers of Mr. Meighen. One may just as well endeavor to get oil and water to mix as expect to see a combination of Quebec Liberals and Western Progressives working satisfactorily together for any length of time. The trouble Mr. King may be having in forming a government may not be insuperable, but his troubles will come when he tries to keep it together.

## IRELAND'S AFFAIRS.

The cabled reports of the proceedings in the Dail Eireann yesterday upon the question of accepting or not the proposed agreement with Great Britain are interesting from many points of view, but more particularly in that they show very clearly to how little extent De Valera is really the friend of Ireland. Real Irishmen, such as Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins, are perfectly satisfied with the fairness of the terms proposed, and are urging their colleagues to endorse them. There is only one reason to suppose that these men have the true interests of their country at heart, and that is the fact that a section of the American people are fools enough to subscribe to a fund said to be for the purpose of procuring liberty in Ireland, out of which fund De Valera draws his salary, expenses, maintenance, and everything else. As long as people will keep on giving to this fund it is likely that this man will cease agitating. With Ireland free from Great Britain and governing herself there would be no further need for contributions from America for further agitation and De Valera, like O'Connell, would find his occupation gone.

Ireland's future lies in her own hands. If her own men are listened to and the advice they give accepted, there is no reason whatever why an era of prosperity such as that which England needs everything that Ireland can produce, and will be glad to buy from her, even to the extent of her whole output in the way of bacon, dairy and poultry products, and in everything else that Ireland may have to sell. One thing, however, is sure, Ireland can never settle down under even the most favorable conditions, as long as De Valera is able to have a voice in public affairs. He will always be a trouble maker. The only satisfactory way to deal with him would be to build a gallows as high as Haman's, and let him dangle from it for a week or so, and then bury him in concrete.

## GERMANY'S DEFAULT.

In notifying the reparations commission that it will not be able to meet in full the instalments falling due on January 15 and February 15, the German government is quite possibly carrying out a prearranged programme in accordance with an understanding with the Allies. The German government is carrying out a prearranged programme in accordance with an understanding with the Allies. The German government is carrying out a prearranged programme in accordance with an understanding with the Allies.

moratorium has been going on for some time, but it has been stated that no action could be taken until formal request for delay should be made by Germany. Such a request would have to be based on inability to pay, and this may be taken to be the significance of the notification made to the reparations commission. It is said at Paris that it does not include a formal request by Germany for release from its obligations, the matter apparently being left in the hands of the commission, but it may by implication carry such a request, or at any rate serve to raise the subject for official discussion.

The notification of inability to pay, therefore, is not to be regarded as revealing any new facts. Germany's financial status has been exhaustively examined by the commission, which made a journey to Berlin for that purpose, and has been very frankly discussed in London by Hugo Stinnes and later by Walter Rathenau, who explained the situation fully to the British government. It is generally believed that the January payment might be met but not the one falling due in February, and this understanding, on which the report of the reparations commission is based, is not contradicted by the new German statement in which the January and February payments seem to be lumped.

That a moratorium will be granted seems to have been assumed by the exchange market, and even Paris during the past few days appears to have been reconciled to the idea, finding consolation in the fact that a suspension of cash payments would not affect the plans for reparation in kind as provided in the Wiesbaden agreement lately worked out by Walter Rathenau and Sir George Buchanan and Louis Loucheur for France. These are two of the ablest business men in Europe, and if in 1919 the reparations question could have been settled in frank talks between them with regard only to what was practical and helpful Europe would be in far better case today.

## JAPAN KEEPS THE MUTSU

The new arrangement for naval disarmament whereby Japan will be permitted to retain her great battleship Mutsu may be regarded as a concession to that country's national pride, rather than a yielding in any respect to the original Hughes proposition. The 5-5-3 ratio between the United States, Great Britain, and Japan arms will be retained, and what was added strength the salvaging of Mutsu lends the Japanese sea-power will be compensated for by permitting the United States and Great Britain to retain ships other than those first proposed.

That is, all three powers will maintain a larger tonnage of fighting ships, but the relative proportion will remain as at first proposed. It would have been more nearly to fulfill the primary purpose of the Arms Conference if the Hughes scrap plan had been agreed to the letter; for to whatever extent the size of the navies of the three powers concerned is increased the heavier will be the burden for the peoples of those countries to bear.

At the same time the most advanced advocates of disarmament will not find it difficult to comprehend how Japan would want to retain her great battleship, the largest and most powerful in the world; by reason of the very pride that she had in it. Without doubt the Japanese people have looked upon this mighty seafighter of theirs as to some degree a symbol of the place their country has won at the forefront of the family of nations. If there does exist such a feeling, the representatives of the Japanese government could not well afford to fail to give it recognition.

According to the dispatches from Washington, the rearrangement whereby Japan will be allowed to retain the Mutsu has assured the success of the conference with respect to naval disarmament so far as the United States, Great Britain, and Japan are concerned. How great a stride the World will have taken towards the ultimate goal of world peace by the agreement just consummated can hardly be overstated.

Before the war this result would have been declared impossible. On the eve of the assembling of the Washington Conference, the people, bending and broken under the burdens of war preparation, hardly dared hope that the conference would be able to lighten those burdens.

War has not been banished. It may never be wholly. But humanity has sent a glimmer of the light and has set its face towards it. For the first time, we may almost say, since the Wars of the Roses, the people, bending and broken under the burdens of war preparation, hardly dared hope that the conference would be able to lighten those burdens.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Bright Christmas Ideas.  
(Syracuse Herald.)  
The earliest solution of the Christmas present is to buy for friends the things you want for yourself and then keep 'em and send postcards to the friends.

Said the Spider to the Fly.  
(Vancouver Sun, Lib.)  
Our friends, the Progressives, can speed the momentum of progress, do good for themselves and for all Canadians, by joining in with their natural associates, the Liberals, strengthening the administration and strengthening the power of Parliament both at home and abroad.

No English Secession.  
(Buffalo Express.)  
The Buffalonian of Irish descent who repeats his 15-year-old prophecy that Canada will sever connections with Great Britain and because a republic may know Ireland but he doesn't know Canada. If England starts any secession movement, she'll have to fight Canada.

"Give Away the Railways!"  
(Quebec Chronicle.)  
Evidence continues to pile up from day to day as to the sinister part played by the business interests of Montreal in the Liberal victory of last week. Thus, for instance, the shipbuilding and Exporting Register of Canada, published at Montreal, whose clientele is sufficiently indicated by its title, declares editorially in its current issue—the first to appear since the election: "The business men are almost holding their breath for a reduction in taxation, and this reduction can only be brought about through a reduction in the expenses in our Government-owned railways and other Government controlled institutions."

"The people of Canada, through their sweeping defeat of the Conservative party, have clearly indicated that they want sweeping changes that will better the conditions in Canada. There are in Canada many methods of taxation, but the one that hits the business man most directly is the profits income tax, and so burdensome has this become to the business man that they are of the opinion that most of them would be willing to see the Government Railways sold at a low price, or practically given away regardless who might profit thereby in order that they might be relieved of this exorbitant taxation."

## A BIT OF VERSE

WHEN MAIDENS VOTE.

By A. C. Wood.

She paused—the pencil in her hand,  
The ballot there before her—  
A look of indecision crept  
Her pretty features o'er.

It was her first—her maiden vote—  
She sighed and from her azure eyes  
The tear-drops nearly started.

She looked the ballot o'er again,  
Her loving heart it fluttered,  
The pencil in her fingers shook,  
Her cherry lips they muttered:

"That Grit is such a handsome man,  
And I just love that Tory—  
If one had been a single man  
I would be another story."

"For tariffs low or tariffs high—  
Who would care to fuss and stew—  
But, ah, to vote for only one,  
Seems a cruel thing to do."

A smile o'ercrept her charming face,  
Chasing shadows dense away,  
She knew the proper thing to do,  
And went about it blithe and gay.

She marked the ballot, marked it plain—  
Candidly, to tell 't was loth,  
For this is what the maiden did:  
Voted, yes, she did for both.

## THE LAUGH LINE

Opportunity doesn't wait for the man who is late.  
It's the fault of the player if an up-right piano is a downright nuisance.

If you don't care for the things you can't obtain you will be fairly happy.  
What a Pity!

The editor of a small paper in a remote part of South California found himself unable to insert his usual column of Births, Marriages and Deaths. "Thinking that some apology was needed for such an untoward circumstance, he inserted the following, in clear black type:

"We regret that, owing to pressure upon our space, several deaths have been inevitably postponed."

The Burden Bearer.  
Groome—"Why does old Melborn always look so sad?"  
Sloane—"Why, the poor fellow has to support his grandchildren before he has finished supporting his children."

Probably Not.  
Clerk—"My salary is not what it should be."  
Employer—"But do you think you could live on what it should be?"—Pearson's Weekly.

Dead Slow.  
He (just accepted)—I want to come, darling, that I've been engaged before.  
She—Oh, you slowpoke! Why, this is my fifth—Boston Transcript.

Something Else.  
"Here's a man found nine pearls in an oyster stone. Wonderful, hey?"  
"Oh, fairly startling, I thought you were going to try to lead me to believe he found nine oysters."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Rightful Owners.  
Botanical Old Gent (in public park):  
"Can you tell me if this plant belongs to the Arbutus family?"  
Gardener (curtly):—"No, sir, it don't; it belongs to the County Council."—Pearson's Weekly.

## Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Last night I came in to supper with one eye all red and one eye all black and blue, ma saying, Benny, you bin fighting, look at your face. With I could imagine it without looking, on account of the way it felt, and pop sed, You're a fine looking site, you are, wat do you suppose the Peace Conference in Washington will say wen it hears of this?

I dont care, I aint going to leave anybody insult me so my face or enyware else, I sed.  
Good for you, well spoken, sed pop, and ma sed, Wy, who insulted you? Wat did they say? Wat happened?

That darn olsey Persey Weaver insulted me and I aint going to stand still and be insulted, especially by him or enybody else, I sed.  
Good, thats the way they tawked wen neighborhood was in how-ers, sed pop, and ma sed, Well of corse if you were really insulted thats diffrent. Who did it? Wat happened?

Yes, allip us a few details, sed pop.  
With I did, saying, I aint going to leave Persey Weaver or enybody else call me a theef, especially Persey Weaver. I sed he wont call me a theef agen in a hurry. If you think I look had you awt to see him, I sed.

Thats a bad name to call a Poits and nobody ever got away with it yet, sed pop, and ma sed, How did he ever come to call you such a things Wat could he bin thinking of? Wat happened?

He was eating a apple and he was eating it so slow it was disgusting to watch him, so I grabbed it off of him and ate it rite to show him how, and he delibrity called me a theef, I sed.

O eat your suppr, sed pop.  
With I did.

## Dry Leader Sees Prohibition Victory In Australian State

La Grange, Ill., Dec. 19.—W. G. Calderwood, former secretary of the Prohibition National Committee of the United States, in a recent letter to Virgil G. Hinchaw of La Grange, chairman of the Prohibition National Committee, forecasts a dry victory in the State of Queensland, Australia, with the next election, in 1923. "People are up in arms over the effects of demon rum," writes Mr. Calderwood. "He declares that the great problem in Australia is to carry the outlying districts, which are of from 5,000 to 200,000 population every city of from 5,000 to 200,000 population voting for state prohibition in the election of last year."

Mr. Calderwood, at the time of writing, was 1,000 miles north of the city of Brisbane, where he is already campaigning for the 1923 victory.

His letter reads in part as follows: "I am now 1,000 miles north of Brisbane, the state capital of Queensland. Queensland is a state ten times the area of Illinois, but with only 750,000 population. Last year it voted upon State-wide prohibition, and landed 27,000 votes of going dry. Every city of from 5,000 to 200,000 population voted for state dry. Our only problem is to carry these outlying districts. They were untouched in the last campaign. We are determined to reach them for our next campaign."

"My prophecy is that this great state will go dry at the next election in 1923. People are up in arms over the effects of demon rum. Our head executive, Arthur Toombs, states that he spent three months this year in the United States, and that he crossed it from one end to the other, and saw first-hand the effects of that time that he can see in his native capital in one hour."

"It beats all how people are giving to the cause of prohibition \$50,000, another gave \$150,000. The nations of the world are rapidly coming to understand that a whiskey, wine or beer-soaked country cannot compete with a sober country."

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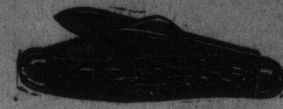
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## GIFTS THAT LAST

Grandma is Still a Girl  
Time has silvered her hair. Perhaps it has somewhat slowed her brisk step, too. But she loves jewels and pretty things as much as she did when grandfather brought her the quaint locket she treasures so tenderly. So don't think of something "useful" for Grandma this Christmas. Useful gifts are sensible, of course, but she would enjoy possessing something she would not buy for herself.

These are the gifts that will delight her eye:—Dainty pins of diamonds or pearls. A ring in one of the new styles. A dainty bracelet watch. A string of pearl beads.

Come in and let us help you make the selection.

L. L. Sharpe & Son Jewelers and Optometrists 21 King Street — St. John, N. B.

## IMPORTANT CH REGULATION OF GOODS

Various Amendments M Terms of Regulation in Original Order No Instructed to Use Dis Annoyance.

Ottawa, Dec. 19.—Important changes have been made in the regulations governing the much discussed regulation of imported goods to indicate country of origin. Since the Mac Act was passed last session, has been considerable criticism and representations have been made that its enforcement should be postponed. The latter course has been found possible, the act coming into provision for postponement. Today's amendments, however, considerably modify the terms of regulations made in August and instructions have been sent to collectors of customs and excise use reasonable discretion in the enforcement of the regulations so far as to cause undue annoyance or delay to importers.

Section 13 of the August regulations provide that the name of a province, state, department or division would not be regarded as indication of country of origin, section has been cancelled, section substituted reads: "The of a manufacture or his trade being marked without injury to the country or a place in a province or other division of a country where the goods have been manufactured or produced will be accepted as sufficient indication of the country of origin."

Exemptions Made.  
The amendments exempt a number of articles from the operation of section ten, providing for marking of containers where articles themselves are incapable of being marked without injury to the original section have now added the words: "Unless such articles are of a class or kind not or produces in Canada in which no marking is required."

The addition will exempt goods as tea, raisins, dates, raw sugar and coffee.

Section 11.—Dealing with imported containers or wrappers intended fitted with or used upon domestic products, is cancelled and replaced by the following: "Imported containers, labels or wrappers intended to be fitted or used upon domestic products are to be marked as required by the act, but, in order to avoid the possibility of origin from Canadian being imported, domestic products sold in such containers."

## First Aid Class of Instruction

Members of Police Force Have Not Already Received Certificates Attending tures.

The first aid class of instruction for members of the police force who have not already received the certificate of the St. John Ambulance Association, began last night at a lecture under the tutelage of John Redfern, first aid instructor of the Workmen's Compensation Board and a former R. A. M. C. man, course will comprise some six or lectures. There are only about dozen members of the police force who have not already qualified for first aid certificate.

## FOR BREAKING AND ENTERING

John Veneff, aged 42, and D. Petroff, aged 21, were arrested yesterday on the charge of breaking and entering the home of John Saranich, No. 672 street, and stealing therefrom a quantity of cigarettes to the value of \$10. Both men are Bulgarians. No arrests were made by the police yesterday up to a late hour last night.

## MOTHER!

Open Child's Bowels With "California Fig Syrup."



Hurry Mother! A teaspoonful of "California Fig Syrup" now will quickly clean the little bowels so a few hours you have a well, plump child again. Even a cross, fever-complained child loves its "taste, and mothers can rest easy, since it never fails to work all over bile and poisons right out of stomach and bowels without hurting or upsetting the child. Tell your druggist you want the genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has directions for babies, children of all ages printed on the wrapper. You must say "California" before your imitation.