

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1916.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H.M. The King  
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

## CIVIC FINANCES

The financial statement which the chamberlain and the comptroller were able to present to the city council yesterday is one that should give citizens of St. John more than a little cause for congratulation. As the comptroller properly remarked it is doubtful if any other city in Canada can make an equal showing either in its financial situation or the very satisfactory condition of the various accounts.

Perusal of the accounts in detail will show that the sinking funds have been well maintained in all departments. And with one exception all civic department accounts are provided with this means of ultimately redeeming their bonds. The exception is that of the water debt prior to the union of the cities of St. John and Portland which was provided for by other means.

Some years ago, a policy was devised whereby there were monthly exhibitions of the state of the civic accounts and a rule was made, and rigorously followed, under which no department was permitted to expend in excess of ninety per cent. of its warrant, the other ten per cent. being kept as an allowance for non-collected taxes. That rule marked the commencement of a new system of civic financing.

Greater care was exercised in expenditures and coincident with that, there came a change in the time of preparing estimates so that the assessment year was made to coincide with the calendar year. Estimates were made up in January of each year and the assessment was presented two or three months earlier than had formerly been the case. The effect of this change was that collection of taxes commenced before the balances remaining to the credit of the departments at the end of the year were exhausted and the city thus saved large sums which had formerly been paid in interest on bank overdrafts for two or three months of each year.

Comparison of the city's assets and liabilities shows that there is a balance on the right side of almost \$2,500,000 while the city debt was reduced during the past twelve months by \$172,000. These figures are impressive and illustrate that St. John citizens have every reason to congratulate themselves on the city's financial position.

This city has always possessed enough and to spare of critics of the class who are inclined to condemn things they know nothing about. Probably they will continue to exercise their prerogative in that direction until the end of time, but citizens generally can be well assured that for many years the financial departments of the City of St. John have been in good shape. No better evidence of this can be found than the records made in the sale of city debentures, which sales are usually based on reports furnished by bankers and financial men who are excellent judges of such matters. These bond sales have shown that St. John issues are reckoned with the very best civic or municipal securities in America. It is indeed a gratifying showing.

## THE INDISCREET TIMES.

Challenged to interview Mr. J. B. Cudlip of the Cornwall and York Cotton Mills, or the Messrs. Fleming of the Phoenix Foundry and, by the publication of their statements, make good its insinuation that there was wrong doing in connection with the shell contract secured by Mr. Cudlip, and now being executed by the Messrs. Fleming, the Times lacks the manliness to give the gentlemen mentioned the opportunity of presenting their case to the public. Instead, that newspaper seeks to evade the issue by suggesting that "as The Standard is a strong advocate of interviews, why does it not interview Mr. Hazen's German secretary? If that line is not attractive why not interview Mr. James K. Fleming, Mr. Fells, Mr. A. DeWitt Foster, Mr. Garland, or Mr. Albert John Henry Stewart of Gloucester?"

The publication of such a paragraph by the Times is nothing more than a futile attempt to evade the matter under discussion and an attempt so transparent that it will not deceive even

those hardened partisans who take their political gospel from a newspaper, now projecting editorial muscle for the Grit machine, but which has played, and would play, to another tune if the "box-office" interests demanded it.

The attack on Mr. Hazen's secretary is not only unfair but cowardly and made only with the hope of hitting at his employer over his back. With the exception of Mr. Stewart the other gentlemen named by the Times have paid full penalty for anything they may have done and until the Provincial Legislature meets no disposition can be made of Mr. Stewart's case. The people of the province, however, have complete confidence that Premier Clarke and his associates will do their full duty in that matter and it need not be considered now.

The subject under discussion is shell manufacture and, more particularly, the Fleming contract. The Telegraph and Times gave publicity to certain insinuations made by Mr. Carvell and editorially endorsed his charges. The Standard refuted them and pointed out to the Canterbury street newspapers a way by which they could either prove their case or show their political idols and themselves to be guilty of making charges unsupported by information. They have refused to avail themselves of the opportunity and the people understand why. For the Times to continue its attempts at evasion merely makes it more ridiculous. The better course for the editor of that newspaper to adopt would be to take a leaf from the book of the more experienced editor of the Telegraph and if not prepared to make good at least maintain silence which, under known circumstances, would be decidedly more discreet.

## WHY NOT CHANGE IT?

It appears that the Maritime Provinces are about the only section of Canada or the United States where the old custom of driving "to the left" is followed by teamsters, automobilists and others using the roads and highways. The condition has occasioned more than a little confusion particularly in the case of tourists and visitors coming this way and who are accustomed to a different regulation. Likewise Maritime Province people visiting other sections of Canada or the United States are similarly inconvenienced and it would seem that the sensible and logical thing to do is to bring New Brunswick, at any rate, into conformity with other provinces. The suggestion is made that the rules of the road should be changed to bring about the needed reform and that after a certain date to be fixed well in advance the rule should be to drive "to the right." It is believed that such a change would find a very general measure of support from all. What do the automobile and horse drivers think about it?

Manitoba has adopted woman suffrage and now the premier of Saskatchewan informs a delegation of women of that province that he will have legislation to this effect introduced in the provincial legislature. Slowly but none the less surely the women of Canada are being placed on an equality with the sterner sex in the matter of having a voice in provincial affairs. The activities of the women during the present war should do more than anything else to stimulate interest in their right to vote. If they are capable of managing businesses and engaging in many pursuits with more than usual success it would appear that their claim to the ballot has more than sentiment to recommend it.

In the death of Principal William Crockett, the province of New Brunswick has lost a man whose whole life was spent in the cause of education. It has been said that the imparting of knowledge to the youth of the land is the noblest profession in which one can engage. If this be true the late Mr. Crockett ranked amongst the most worthy of New Brunswick's residents.

The St. John Globe observes that the Senate of Canada is what the politicians make it. Quite true, and the Liberal politicians at the time of the Naval Aid Bill made of it a by-word and a reproach.

Last week it was Westminster's

turn to lead the province in the number of recruits secured for the Empire's armies. Recruiting in St. John seems to have slackened. Why?

Berlin now admits that fifteen Zeppelins have been lost during the last few months of the war. Evidently there is another side to those German tales of aerial triumphs.

Am, speaking of interviews, the Times' editor might interview himself and ask "What would I have done in this shell contract matter if another hand had been distributing the pay envelopes?"

## "WHY FRANCE LOST CANADA"

An interesting volume from the pen of Mr. W. Frank Hatheway.

A delightful little volume, written in optimistic vein, with a wealth of feeling, well printed, and presenting a number of excellent pictures of subjects of interest to Canadians, and especially to Eastern Canadians; these things can fairly be said of "Why France Lost Canada," a collection of essays and poems from the pen of W. Frank Hatheway of this city, and printed by William Briggs of Toronto. The present volume does not represent Mr. Hatheway's first journey into the field of authorship. He has been a prolific and ever interesting contributor to newspapers and magazines for many years and one volume from his pen, "Canadian Nationality," published in 1906, met with a particularly favorable reception. In his first volume the author seeks to "claim reverence and love for Canadian institutions, and thereby develop a high national character." The same commendable motive permeates his present offering and a careful perusal of the pages of "Why France Lost Canada" will convince the reader that Mr. Hatheway will accomplish much to ward the achievement of his desire.

Mr. Hatheway's knowledge of the spots of which he so charmingly writes has been gained by personal visitation. One can imagine him, a student and a lover of nature, as he saunters along the old Norton road, a journey so graphically told of in his "September Walk." The beauty of our New Brunswick scenery in the early autumn, when the first touch of Westfield begins to show faint purplish tints of trunk and branch as the birch buds swell. We have ethics for the guidance of our wills, and economics for the guidance of state and house, but also there are aesthetics which through the physical eye leap into the spiritual. The soul needs these aesthetics, these curves and colors, and when we pass them by to make our poor economies we are insulting the great Teacher. There we have the nature lover and the contemplative student—the blending of the visualized object and the lesson to be drawn from it—a rather rare combination in these materialistic days, but only one of the many delightful little touches that give to Mr. Hatheway's book a distinct rank with the best Canadian productions of the past year.

Those New Brunswickers who have enjoyed the St. John Standard's "Why France Lost Canada" will also feel an answering thrill of nature love at this paragraph from the author's essay on "The Lesson of Beauty"—"Mark how in April the tree crowned with the opposite twigs of trunk and branch as the birch buds swell. We have ethics for the guidance of our wills, and economics for the guidance of state and house, but also there are aesthetics which through the physical eye leap into the spiritual. The soul needs these aesthetics, these curves and colors, and when we pass them by to make our poor economies we are insulting the great Teacher. There we have the nature lover and the contemplative student—the blending of the visualized object and the lesson to be drawn from it—a rather rare combination in these materialistic days, but only one of the many delightful little touches that give to Mr. Hatheway's book a distinct rank with the best Canadian productions of the past year."

Gently satirical but still breathing deep veneration and love for the beautiful is the essay on "Art and Character," a production of the visualized object and the lesson to be drawn from it—a rather rare combination in these materialistic days, but only one of the many delightful little touches that give to Mr. Hatheway's book a distinct rank with the best Canadian productions of the past year.

But the little volume contains other articles of deeper import. The essay from which the book takes its name is a critical and accurate study and

Lazy Livers Come from Lazy Living—sometimes from food follies that tax the overworked digestive organs. Get back to Nature by eating Shredded Wheat. It puts you on your feet when everything else fails. It supplies the muscular energy and mental alertness that put you in fine fettle for the day's work. Delicious for breakfast with milk or cream, or for luncheon with fruits. Made in Canada.

But the little volume contains other articles of deeper import. The essay from which the book takes its name is a critical and accurate study and

## Little Benny's Note Book

THE PARK AVE NEWS

The fellow was standing around the lamp post this afternoon and a lady started to go by, being a pretty lady with one shoe lace untied, and Sam Craws sed to me, Look at that, we dont you tell her about it, Benny, she mite trip over it and brake her neck.

No, you tell her, I sed, and anyhow, even if she does trip over it, she woodnt hurt to brake her neck. Sumbdy awt to tell her, lets toes up and see who tells her, sed Sam.

With we did, me losins, and I ran after her, saying, Hay, lady, your shoe lace is untide, you mite trip over it and brake your neck.

So I mite, der me, tie it for me, wont you, like a good little boy, sed the lady. And she put her foot up on sumboddy's frunt step and I started to try to tie it for her, and the fellow all came up and started to stand around, making me feel so nervise my fingers slipped every time I al-most had it tied.

O look whose tying lady's shoe laces, sed Puds Simkins.

O the ideoer, sed Skinny Martin.

O slap him on the rist, sed Reddy Marty.

O they all started to say sumpthing, thinking they was funny, and my fingers kept on slipping, and after a while the lady sed, Never mind, ill tie it myself, but hears sumpthing for trying jest the same.

And wat did she give me but a hole dime and I thanked her very much and started to wawk up the street, and all the fellow started to follow me, but not saying anything about shoe laces, or anything and all looking very respectfull. Proving you never can tell how a things going to turn out, and I spent 3 cents out of the dime on lickerish sticks and gave everybody 2 bites.

appraisal of the factors in the early colonization of America—the difference in method and goal between the English colonies in Virginia and the French attempts in early Canada and from those differences, minor at first but gradually widening and broadening, the author traces the development of the colonial life to the point where "France Lost Canada" while the English settlements, though transplanted from their earlier surroundings, grew into the mighty nations of today. Space does not permit of detailed

reference to each of the eight essays and sixteen poems making up this interesting little volume. All are good, all are worthy of careful perusal. And if, after reading, one can join with the author in a deeper affection for Canada and things Canadian than the volume has well performed the mission to which the author dedicated it; even if the bond of sympathy is lacking, and the production judged solely on its literary merit, it will be found to provide several hours of delightful reading.



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Water

King St.

GAS

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P. CAMP

73 Pri

OUR COMPET

For Boys and

Splendid

A "Sum" C

This week's Contest is quite different previously been asked to compete in, but reader of the Children's Corner will be hav prizes.

Below will be found a simple division

are missing. What you have to do is sum out carefully on a piece of paper, fill and forward the result, together with one rectly filled in, to

UNCLE D

THE

2\*5\*4\*(\*4\*

4\*

10\*

\*4

20\*

\*89

20

All entries must reach this office by V

1916, and to the Boy or Girl, not older than

sends in the most neatly written, and corr

a beautiful Story Book. A second prize of

given to the sender of the next best story

will count a great deal, and also there will

the kiddie of say, six years of age, as well

busy and let me see how clever you all are.

Can You Draw

As you have enjoyed the last Drawing

let you have another. Make a careful draw

in pencil or pen and ink. Send result, tog

pon correctly filled in, to

UNCLE D

THE S

This contest is open to all kiddies not

are, and the age will be carefully considere

must reach this office not later than Wed

1916. To the senders of the best two sket

beautiful story books.

STANDARD COMPET

For Boys and Girls

Full Name.....

Address.....

Age.... Birthday....

The Convention

Farmers and Dairymen

and Provincial S

will be held in FREDERICTON, February 2

Thursday, March 2nd, will be Livestock

the Experimental Farm. The work of the d

tion of Prof. Barton, of Macdonald College.

Delegates attending the Convention will

cates over the I. C. R., and C. P. R.