

# The St. John Standard

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H. V. MACKINNON, Managing Editor. ALFRED E. MCGINLEY, Editor.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1918.

"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.

## WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A RAID.

At the request of Brigadier General Macdonell, The Standard this morning cheerfully gives free publicity to a communication issued by the Committee of Public Safety for the City and Port of St. John, and addressed to all residents of this city. While we publish the communication and endorse the suggestion that citizens should at all times obey the requests of the committee we cannot refrain from commenting that the communication says either too much or too little; perhaps both.

The Committee of Public Safety says there is no immediate danger, yet the publication of such a letter will undoubtedly cause a great deal of alarm and apprehension among citizens. The only information given is that ten blasts of the whistle or ten strokes of the fire alarm will indicate there is some danger, imminent. Under such circumstances, the citizens are advised to repair to the cellars which, in many portions of this city, do not exist. The portion of the public which is on the streets, when the alarm sounds, is advised to go indoors or prostrate themselves—possibly in an attitude of supplication—should shell firing commence. The letter suggests that arrangements have been made to provide places of shelter but as these are not indicated such a notice conveys very little information of real value.

Should such an emergency as indicated unfortunately occur, every citizen should, without question, obey all orders given by those authorities having charge of the safety of the city. It is to be regretted, however, that a notice, calculated to create a great deal of alarm, nothing better is suggested than that citizens should pass a copy of the notice extracted from the newspapers, in a convenient place in their homes. Surely a body entrusted by the Privy Council with such plenary authority as that possessed by the Committee of Public Safety should be able to afford by its notice a measure of protection somewhat better proportioned to the terror it is certain to excite.

## CANADA'S CROP OUTLOOK.

Upon good grain crops largely depends the prosperity of Canada so it is not surprising that about this time in each year the financial and commercial interests of Eastern Canada commence to look anxiously toward the prairies and to inquire as to the crop prospects. If there is a poor crop outlook a contraction of commercial and financial obligations comes at once. A good crop outlook at once establishes a basis for confidence.

Canadian grain crop prospects at the moment are excellent. Two weeks ago authorities in the west issued statements that the one thing necessary for a bountiful harvest was a liberal fall of rain within the next fortnight. The rain has come. In northern and southern Saskatchewan and in Manitoba rains have supplied an abundance of moisture. As there has been no important damage due to hail, and as the wheat plant is sturdy, an average period of warm weather is apparently all that is required to produce a big harvest.

In estimating the probable yield of wheat, it is possible at this early date merely to calculate in terms of acreage, average yields in past years and the prevailing condition of the crops. The land planted in all Canada to wheat this year aggregates over 16,000,000 acres. This is about 1,500,000 acres in excess of the area harvested in 1917. The average yield per acre of wheat, 1911 to 1915, was 32.1 bushels. On this basis the 1918 yield of wheat, provided the entire acreage was harvested, would aggregate 353,000,000 bushels. This compares with 231,000,000 bushels in 1917, 229,000,000 in 1916, and 295,000,000 bushels in the high record year, 1915. The price fixed for No. 1 Northern wheat is \$2.21 per bushel, but taking the average selling price for all grades of wheat at \$2.10, the gross return from a yield of 353,000,000 bushels would work out at \$741,000,000. This would be a mighty asset for the Dominion, and would assist materially in making the notation of the Fifth Victory Loan next October a success.

## A LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The formation of a League of Nations after the war has been considerably forwarded by the close alliance of the great powers of the Entente. The many nations in this group can unite, after the war, into a permanent League for the preservation of peace, and, by the sheer weight of their economic power, compel others to fall into line. Even if Germany and Austria

Hungary remain outside, as they must until they repent and reform, they cannot shake the main structure of an Entente League of Nations.

It is the sure prospect of such a foundation that leads the British Government to examine the whole project of a League of Nations, says an exchange. A league does not necessarily have to embrace every State. Already we have a firm alliance of the Anglo-Saxon races. The Latins are together, and, for all practical purposes, so are the Slavs. The Teutons are, for world economic purposes, a comparatively small minority. If the chief powers of the Anglo-Saxon, Latin and Slav races are brought together in a community of interest born of imperative need of preventing more war may not such a League exert an overpowering attraction for the lesser groups? The broad principles of such a League appeal strongly to all the better instincts, for they make for the commercial welfare of the peaceful nations, and it remains to be seen whether the forms and scope of the organization to carry these principles into effect can be satisfactorily arranged.

Viscount Grey's appeal for a league that would include Germany had a very hostile reception in Paris. The wrongs the French have suffered at German hands will lead to French insistence upon exclusion of the malefactors in Berlin. Sympathy with that attitude must prevail wherever the wrongs of the Allied nations contiguous to Germany are understood. Statesmanship takes a cold, detached view of the hideous crimes of Germany, and would pass them over in order to bring the arch-criminal into the society of decent nations, is bankrupt of all human feeling. Earl Curzon says that the admission of Germany is "impossible until she is compelled by force of arms to abandon her world dream." It would be morally impossible until Germany gave clear proof of repentance, and of desire to live in amity and friendliness with her neighbors. But even if the League ostracizes the Teuton powers, it would probably be able to effect its main purposes. The crystallizing of the Entente into a permanent world union for the better ordering of international dealings, on a basis of equity and respect for rights, would have a curative effect on Germany, unable as it would then be to renew the war for domination.

## WHY THE DELAY?

On the last day of the last session of the Provincial Legislature certain serious allegations in regard to road work in Gloucester County were made at a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee by Hon. B. Frank Smith, of Carleton County. Mr. Smith was prepared to move for the appointment of a Royal Commission to probe the allegations and make a public finding as to their truth or falsity. But Hon. P. J. Veniot, within the scope of whose department the Gloucester County road work comes, promised to investigate the matter himself in the form of a departmental inquiry and promised an impartial probing and a prompt publication of the finding.

The probe was held, Mr. Veniot conducted the case in person and Mr. Smith was present. That was weeks ago. As yet there has been no public report of the finding although newspaper accounts of the evidence given at the enquiry would indicate that some, at least, of the allegations were substantiated by sworn testimony. Of course it is Mr. Veniot's privilege to take all the time he desires in making up his mind as to the guilt or innocence of the gentlemen whose names were mentioned in connection with the Gloucester County work. Nothing this newspaper could say would hasten him in the least. But we cannot help thinking that if the same thing had occurred under the Clarke or Murray Governments the public would, before this, have had their ears assailed by the horrid din arising from some newspaper offices not a thousand miles from Canterbury street, St. John. Of course it makes all the difference in the world who is being investigated.

## THE PRINCE IN ROME

The first visit of the Prince of Wales to Rome and his tactful speech at the great war anniversary gathering in the mausoleum of Augustus has proved a triumphant success, as well from the personal as from the political point of view. The significance of the extremely hearty reception accorded his Royal Highness by all classes in the Eternal City is happily indicated in a passage of the oration of Signor Orlando, the prime minister. "Yesterday," he said, "I met a youth

in whose blue eyes is reflected the bright soul of an ancient people of that England which has given birth to an ethical philosophy of benevolence and sympathy, and to an economic philosophy.

"This youth is heir to the greatest Empire in the world, and in splendid simplicity he has come to share our hardships, and our dangers, and has wished to take his part in defending our territory on our Italian Alps."

Then turning towards the Royal box where the young Prince was seated, Signor Orlando exclaimed: "Never, never, your Royal Highness, will this your action be forgotten by the Italian people."

## INFORMATION FOR THE CITIZENS OF ST. JOHN

For the duration of the war the Privy Council of Canada has appointed a small Committee of Public Safety for the City and Port of St. John. This Committee consists of Senior Naval and Military Officers and certain selected representative citizens, including the Harbour Commissioner, who are connected with the City and Port. A wide range of action regarding the safety of the Port and citizens, generally, has been given this committee which is acting in the closest co-operation and exclusively with the Mayor of St. John as Chief Magistrate. In view of possible danger from enemy raiding vessels or submarines, it will become necessary to issue certain instructions to the citizens generally, with reference to lights, etc. These instructions will be issued by the Committee of Public Safety which alone has authority to do so.

The most complete co-operation in every detail, of the citizens of St. John is essential, and any instructions which may be issued by this Committee of Public Safety should be immediately complied with by all concerned, as the Committee is acting entirely in the interest of the citizens and the protection of public and private property. Since it is always better to be prepared beforehand for any eventuality, which may happen in the future, the ability of the City and Port of St. John, being sheltered by enemy raiders or submarines, has been considered by the Committee of Public Safety, and it is advisable to issue the following information and advice:

Should the City be in immediate danger of being shelled, the bells will ring ten blasts, and the bells will ring ten times. On this warning the citizens should immediately repair to the cellars, basements, or other places of refuge. During air raids in London and Paris most of the casualties occurred when people rushed to the streets to see what was happening. In view of this fact, the citizens here are warned not to follow this dangerous example.

When a shell explodes, the circumference of danger from splinters would be about two hundred yards in every direction. Should people be still in the streets and hear a shell coming they should throw themselves flat on the ground, this should minimize the danger of casualties, but they are advised to go into the nearest cellar. Owners of houses should welcome persons seeking shelter.

His Worship Mayor Hayes and his Commissioners are acting in complete and cordial co-operation with the Committee of Public Safety, and have already thoroughly organized the man power of the city by wards, as special constables to assist the city and military forces to assist the women and children in case of any emergency. The Committee of Public Safety wish to impress upon the citizens generally, the fact that there is no impending danger, so far as they know, but they are issuing this letter of information purely for their guidance and information, in case of anything unforeseen happening.

It is suggested that householders and others should cut this notice from the newspaper, and have it placed in a convenient place for ready reference. A. H. MACDONELL, Brigadier-General, Chairman, Committee of Public Safety, Port of St. John, N. B.

## A BIT OF VERSE

THE WINDMILL  
A Song of Victory  
Yes, it was a garden glowing  
When we first came to the hilltop  
there,  
And we laughed to know that the  
Boech was known that the land was  
fair;  
Acre by acre of green fields sleeping,  
Hamlets hid in the tufts of wood,  
And out of the trees were church towers  
peeping.  
And away on the hillcock the Windmill  
stood.

Then, ah! 'twas a land worth winning,  
And now there is naught but the  
naked clay,  
But I can remember the Windmill  
spinning,  
And the sails shone in the sun  
that day.

But the guns came after and tore the  
hedges  
And stripped the spinneys and churned  
the plain,  
And a man walks now on the windy  
ledges  
And looks for a feather of green in  
the waste,  
Acre by acre the sad eye traces  
The rust-red bones of the earth laid  
bare.

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

We was eating supper today, being stake under onions and French fried potatoes, only our cooks dished, and ma sed to pop, Willyum, a man came around today collecting old clothes for the Belgium relief. I wish some man would go around collecting old clothes for my relief, sed pop, in fact, if things get much worse in thinking of taking out Belgium naturalization papers. Don't be foolish, sed ma. Wy shoold I sed pop. Enyway, sed ma, I gave him that old blue soot of yours with the holes in the elbows. Grate greet, sed pop. It had a hole in both elbows, sed ma. And it also had a 10 dollar bill in the cash pocket of the vest, sed pop putting down his forth and massing his hair, not being hard on account of him not having hardly any to muss. Now, Willyum, was the use of acting unreasonable, you know very well you could almost put your flat throo those elbows, sed ma. Elbows he hanged to blazes, dident you jest heer me say there was a perfectly good transferrable 10 dollar bill in one of the pockets, wat did the man look like, wat did he come frum? sed pop. My goodnias, Willyum, im no detective, sed ma, enyway, youre serenty making a dredful fuss about a old soot with thinking of 2 holes watery the elbows apt to do bin. O, Willyum, youre getting all excited for nothing, I took the 10 dollar bill out, sed ma. Then wy in the same of heavenly Dick dident you say so, insted of singing a loonatick song about elbows? sed pop. I wanted to surprise you, sed ma. Give me air, sed pop. And he quick got up and went out, slamming the front door as if he was still mad, wich he properly was, and ma sed, I serprized him all rite, hee hee.

And the sign-posts stand in the marketplace. To say that a village was builded there.

But better the French fields stark and drear  
Than ripe for a conqueror's fat content,  
And I can remember the mill-sails flying,  
Yet I cheered with the rest when the Windmill went.

Away to the east the grass-land surges,  
Acre by acre across the line,  
And we must go on to the end like scourges  
Through the wilderness stretch from sea to Rhine;  
But I dream some day of a great revelling  
When the buds shall burst in the Blast-  
ed Wood,  
And the children chatter in Death-Trap Alley,  
And a windmill stand where the Windmill stood.

And we that remember the Windmill spinning,  
We may go under, but not in vain,  
For our sons shall come in the new beginning  
And see that the Windmill spins again  
—From Punch.

## A BIT OF FUN

RELATIVE VALUES.  
"Times is changing."  
"Yessuh, I speck to live to see de day when common low-down 'count chicken thief will be dignified to extent of bein' indicted for grand larceny."—Washington Star.

GREEN AND THAT SORT OF THING  
Hodge (with apologies to George Morehill)—All women are jealous. It's

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