

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1919.

NOTICE

Effective immediately, The Standard office will operate on Daylight time. The business office opens at eight o'clock (Standard time) and closes at five o'clock. Advertisers will please govern themselves accordingly.

HE FINDS HIMSELF NOT GUILTY

John G. Robichaud, a member of the provincial Legislature, went to the post office, received a cheque made out in the name of August Millett, endorsed it, and secured the proceeds. The name of August Robichaud appears on the public works roll under three different heads. An eight year old boy drew pay from the public works department for a man's work on the roads. Supervisor McNally testified under oath that he had sent in incorrect pay sheets to the department, and many other irregularities in the administration of roads in Gloucester County, and directly under the control of Peter Veniot, have been shown to exist. Charges of dishonesty in connection with this road work which were brought to the attention of Peter Veniot and his colleagues were investigated, not by an independent commissioner, not even by a partisan like McQueen, who could be ordered to do what was required, but by the Minister of Public Works himself, who, in the whole inquiry which he conducted played the dual part of defendant and prosecuting attorney.

Can anyone for a moment suppose that Peter Veniot would attempt to bring out evidence in condemnation of himself? He was afraid to order an impartial inquiry into the Gloucester road matters, for he knew perfectly well that the dishonesty so prevalent in that part of the Province, which worked out in the interest of a few of his supporters, would be enough to everlastingly condemn his administration of the department. So he went down personally to Shippegan to investigate the charges against himself, and the report which he brought in is just the kind of report he might be expected to bring in.

Mr. Veniot finds himself not guilty. He finds the boy not guilty. The money involved was taken from the province, paid to three different Alphonse Robichauds—who are all the one man—the eight year old boy got the money for a man's work, the incorrect pay lists were paid—but the province lost nothing. More than this, Mr. Veniot in the face of his own report insisted on remaining in the Legislature while his mismanagement of the public works department was discussed, although he was quite willing that J. G. Robichaud, M.P., who is not responsible for the administration of that department, should retire.

The Shippegan road crookedness is not a very serious matter. The amounts of money involved are not large, and possibly the loss sustained by the province in that particular matter will not be missed. But what has happened in Gloucester County is only an example of what is happening all over New Brunswick under the administration of Peter Veniot and in the aggregate the amounts squandered for unnecessary work, on doctored pay lists, on private expenditures charged to public accounts and in innumerable other ways, totals to a very large figure. So long, however, as Peter Veniot has a free hand in the expenditure of public funds and is delegated by himself to conduct investigations against himself and his colleagues, just so long must the people of New Brunswick be content to swallow the reports which he presents, remain content with the tremendous increase apparent in the public debt, and to see the resources of the province frittered away for campaign purposes.

DAYLIGHT TIME.

In such opposition as has developed to daylight time there has not yet been presented any single argument against the adoption of daylight time by St. John as a municipal movement. Such opposition as has been voiced is to the change from standard to daylight as a national affair. That, however, is not the point just now under consideration. Daylight time as a Canadian institution has been rejected for the present season by the federal parliament, but in spite of this action by Ottawa, railways and express companies in order to avoid serious confusion have followed the example of the United States and are now doing business under the daylight schedule. This involves the use of two times in St. John and elsewhere. While the daylight system is advisable at certain seasons of the year, there are many people who will agree that the present is too early to start it and the end of October too late to carry it on, but there is the contention that as a matter of convenience the community should have one schedule or the other. It is impossible to

do business satisfactorily when one half of the town is running on standard and the other half on daylight time. Therefore, unless those who oppose the daylight system in this city, and those in different communities who adopt the same attitude, are able to reverse the decision of the railroad and insist on a readjustment of our train schedules in spite of the change made in the United States, it is useless to talk about what St. John should do and what it should not do. The control of Canadian railways is beyond the power of this community. The control of local time is within our power. Whether or not we prefer Standard or Atlantic time as a Dominion institution is not now the question. All we have to decide is whether in view of the action of railways, etc., we shall carry on according to present confusing arrangements, or by the adoption of the daylight system simplify matters and avoid such existing confusion. Arguments for or against the daylight system in itself are needless just now. If the railways continue on their present schedule there is no other course open to St. John than the general adoption of the daylight time.

THEIR OWN EMPLOYER.

When the decision was reached to conduct an inquiry into the potato transaction the Government selected its commissioner. It did not choose this official from among the supreme court or county court judges of the province, who are generally regarded as fair and impartial men. It did not select a business man or professional man of high standing whose tendency would be towards honesty of purpose in a matter of this nature. It appointed James McQueen, of Westmoreland County, practically unknown in legal circles, but very well known in cheap politics—a man who, while holding a responsible office in his own county, was dismissed from that office for partisanship in elections. It chose one who was known to be longing for revenge on those who had put him out of his job, who had declared publicly that his one object in life would be to kill politically those who had interfered with his activities, but more than this, it appointed in the person of James McQueen one who depended on the Foster Government itself for his bread and butter, who was at the time of his appointment and at the time of the potato investigation under pay from that Government, and who in order to hold his job had to bring in the kind of report the Government wanted or be deprived of a portion of his income. At the time the potato inquiry was in progress James McQueen was acting for the Veniot-Foster Government in securing information and reporting on the taxation of wild lands in this province, and for this he was paid ten dollars per day and expenses. His first bill amounted to three hundred and fifty dollars, for thirty-five days' work, with an expense account of one hundred and fifty dollars and fifteen cents. His next account was for two hundred dollars for twenty days, with an expense account of ninety-five dollars and sixty cents, giving a total of seven hundred and ninety-five dollars and seventy-five cents drawn by this impartial commission from the public treasury.

And this is the man chosen by the Veniot-Foster group for the purpose of condemning the members of the Conservative party, whose chief crime was that they opposed the present Government.

FARM SETTLEMENT.

The annual report of the secretary of the Provincial Farm Settlement Board, the work of which has been carried on along lines established by the previous government, is of some interest. Although immigration from overseas was non-existent, some families came from the United States and Canadian West and were satisfactorily located on ready-made farms. Generally speaking occupants of such farms have made their payments very well during the past year, although in some cases fathers and sons had been killed in the war. Last year fifteen of those holding farms under agreement with the Board completed payment and received deeds of their respective properties. This, the secretary points out, is very gratifying indeed in view of the fact that the Farm Settlement Board scheme was instituted only as far back as 1912, and the first purchasers under the act would have until 1922 to complete payment. The secretary also states that the most desirable vacant farms with buildings have already been taken, and that in view of the growing interest in the scheme it will be necessary to make clearings on crown lands and build houses and barns, a lot of which is hardly in accord with the criticism of the policy of the Farm Settlement Board as worked out by the old government merely resulted in placing a few immigrants on worn-out farms.

WHAT THEY SAY

Minions of Gagged Parliament.
Eganville Leader: Military police, the minions of a law by an autocratic Government and a gagged Parliament, have been seen in Eganville and dis-

trict within the week. They have apprehended four or five young men as "deserters," or "defaulters," and taken them away. Mr. Pedlow, South Renfrew's representative in the Parliament, will be informed of the facts.

Immigration.

Montreal Gazette: While some are discussing the need and means of securing immigration, others are demanding the expulsion of all natives of enemy lands, and even of all citizens from whatever foreign country. For instance, the Alberta Orangemen demand that there be no more immigration permitted into Canada from alien countries for a period of twenty years. This sentiment of exclusiveness is held by many, for narrowness and prejudice are things that have been strengthened by war's workings. If the exclusivists had their way to the limit, the Dominion might be very slow of growth, and the restrictions would almost inevitably invite retaliation. The fathers of some Canada's best citizens came from foreign lands.

The Need For Change.

London Times: We refrain altogether from comment upon the party discussions in the United States, but we may observe that nothing could be more dangerous than a great international instrument, which should really be open to such a criticism. Such a document ought to be absolutely clear and free from ambiguity, and to ensure clearness and certainty on a subject so novel and of such vast complexity, minute consideration and careful drafting are indispensable. Let the broad outlines of the League of Nations be embodied by all means in the preliminary treaty, but let the detailed provisions of this most momentous and most comprehensive of all international covenants be reserved for the full consideration so great a work demands.

Future Rulers.

Harvey's Weekly: One point which should not be overlooked by the advocates of a league of nations is that presently there will arise "a king who knew not Joseph." There will presently come into control of the affairs of nations men who were directly concerned in the great war, and who are not moved by the spiritual exaltation which animates those who are now discussing its issues. It may seem very well in the flush of present emotions to enter into certain obligations, with a happy-go-lucky confidence that they will always be properly understood and interpreted. But "in the cold gray dawn of the morning after" how will these things appear? Will other men interpret and apply them in the same fashion as the men of today?

A Good Conceit of Ourselves.

Bulawayo Chronicle: Surely, we are among the thick-skinned community on the face of the earth? But this may be quite natural; for Africa, the hippopotamus and the rhinoceros—and pointed shafts of wild fire at short range from our next-door neighbor—will other men interpret and apply them in the same fashion as the men of today?

A BIT OF VERSE

HIS CREST.

By Florence Tacker Osman.
The feast was on—in princely halls.
The guests, in court attire,
Joy's chalice filled with jest and wine
When mounting high his ire.
"What dost thou here?" unspeakable
To him, a humble guest.
"Oh, lad, the high-born here have place
And thou art poorly dressed."
"I boast no coat-of-arms," said he,
"Of noblemen or heir."
And yet I measure with true men—
My crest, this Croix de Guerre."

"Give him of wine, the highest place.
Yes, next to me, the host,
Our homage lies henceforth shall be;
'Tis he I honor most."



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Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

The Park Ave. News.

Weather. All rite if it don't rane with it properly will. Slesley. Last Thersday afternoon Mr. Benny Potts and Mr. Leroy Shooster painted a mustash on each others faces with bernst cork to see how they would look with a mustash, both looking much older but not old enuff to fool anybody, even with their coat collers turned up.

Sports. Mrs. Joneses baby was outside the house in its baby carriage last Satidday, and Pude Simkins and Sam Cross had a contest to see how many times they could poke its milk bottle in its mouth the ferst shot, the score being 6 to 4 in favor of Pude Simkins went Mrs. Jones opened the parlor window all itxited and asked them if they was trying to kill the baby, thus ending the contest without the baby having showed weather it objected or not.

Exciting Chase. Sid Hunts for terrier Teddy chased a yello cat up a tree. Exciting Chase. Sid Hunts fox tejump up after it in vane, and nobody saw the cat come down agen but the next day it wasent up there, so it must of.

Pome by Skippy Martin.
NOTHING BUT THE EXERCISE.
I found a 1890 sent
Vine digging a sille hole in the yard,
And I tried for two hours to find some more,
In vane, but you awt to of saw the yard.

Intriguing Facke about Intriguing People. Ed Wernack can stick 6 fingers in his mouth and wissed, being more on account of the large size of his mouth than the small size of his fingers.

A BIT OF FUN

Like to Have Him Fire Up.

A soft answer is all right, but frequently when we call down to the janitor we want to have him answer with some heat.

"It" With a Capital I.
Being asked what the new baby's name was, Little Jane replied: "We ain't 'oldded yet, so we is just callin' her 'it' till we do."

Original State.
Wild of eye he burst into the barber's shop.

When the barber selling me some patent hair restorer last week, you hoary-headed old swindler!" he roared angrily. "Swore it would restore my head to its original state, didn't you?"

"And didn't it?" asked the barber, as he calmly went on shaving another customer.

"Didn't it?" snorted the enraged man. "You obtained my money under false pretences. Why it even restored the little hair I had left, and now I'm bald as the pavement!"

"Then there's no false pretense about it," said the barber. "I said it would restore your head to its original state, and you know, sir, most of us are born bald!"—London "Tit-Bits."

Sure Enough.
"Do you think airships will ever come into common use?"

"Most assuredly. If Ford is going to flood the land with \$300 automobiles a lot of us will have to take to the air."

No Call Boy.
"Omar declares that this world is an inn."

Yes, and a lot of fellows are lounging around it, expecting Opportunity to pass them."

Made a Hit.
Judge—You say this man was at the performance last night, and that he took aim and fired an egg at you?"

Actor—Yes, your honor.
Judge—And was it bad?"

Actor—The egg was, your honor, but the aim was not.

The Wrench.
The dentist was taking a day off and having a joyride in his car, which he had just released from its war-time internment.

"Far from the maddening crowd," it broke down, and with his thoughts busy with other things, the dentist got out and got under. Then, as he fixed his tool to an offending nut, he muttered:

"Now, this is going to hurt just a little."

REMAINS OF MISS GREGORY BROUGHT HOME FOR BURIAL

Sussex, April 3.—The body of Mrs. Anne L. Gregory, who passed away in the City Hospital, Lynn, Mass., on March 31st, arrived at St. John's on Wednesday's C. F. R. train and was laid at rest in Sussex Corner Cemetery. The deceased, who was 44 years of age, was the daughter of Mrs. Jane Gregory, Sussex. Rev. Mansel Sheven conducted the funeral services. Miss Gregory is survived by four brothers, James D. and William of Sussex, E. R., of Dorchester, Mass., and T. H., of Lynn, Mass., and one sister, Mrs. James A. Jeffries, Sussex.

DISARM EMPRESS AUGUSTA REGIMENT

It Had Become Infected With Spartan Idea and Berlin Gave Took Safe Methods to Prevent Trouble.

Berlin, April 4. (via Copenhagen).—The military authorities here today began disarming the Empress Augusta Regiment, which had become infected with Spartan ideas; up to 6.30 o'clock the disarming had proceeded without incident.

The regiment, which repeatedly had shown itself to be thoroughly unorthodox in an attempt to convert it into a unit of the national defence forces. Its barracks in Furstenstrasse were surrounded by government troops today. Artillery was brought up in the neighborhood and the barracks cut off from outside communication and machine guns placed on adjoining roofs. The loyal troops then began to disarm the regiment.

COUNTER PROPOSAL.
London, April 4.—A proposal that the Polish troops of Gen. Haller be taken by a land route from Lunenburg across Germany to Poland has been made to Marshal Foch at Spa by Mathias Erzberger, the head of the German armistice commission, a semi-official message from Berlin says.

HEART PALPITATED Could Count Every Beat.

When the heart begins to palpitate, it will beat fast for several seconds, then slow, then start to flutter, and a feeling of utter depression will come over your whole system, accompanied by weak, fainting and dizzy spells.

When the heart gets into this condition, you become weak, worn and miserable, and are unable to attend to either social, business or household duties.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills will give prompt and permanent relief to all sufferers from any heart weakness or nerve derangements.

Mrs. Walter Greives, Aspley, Ont., writes:—"I had been run down, and I was unable to do anything but lie in bed. I was so weak and nervous that I could not sleep, and I could count every beat of my heart."

I used to have such dizzy spells I would have to go to bed. I was not able to do any work for eight months. A cousin of mine had taken Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and told me what they had done for her. I took eight boxes of them, and now I am able to help every day with the work. I am so thankful to tell others what they have done for me, so that they may try this great and wonderful remedy. I hope this may prove good to someone who is suffering the way I did."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are sold at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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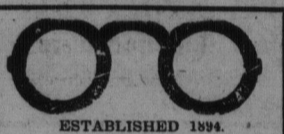
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POLICE COURT CASES YESTERDAY

In the police court yesterday morning Albert Hendrahan was fined \$50 for being drunk and having liquor in his possession. George de Forest was remanded on the charge of doing wilful damage to a cell.

Three drunks informed the court they became intoxicated on lemon extract purchased from John E. Simpson, a grocer. The latter was brought to court and fined \$50.

A fine was allowed to stand against M. F. Smith for allowing his car to stand on Prince William street for four hours.

Only McIntyre was charged with driving a car without a license. His explanation was accepted and a fine was allowed to stand.

Abraham Levine for driving his wagon under the railway crossing gates on Mill street, was fined \$20.

Thomas Davis, Albert Hogan, Henderson Mason, Joseph Crawford and Edward Harrison were sent up for trial on the charge of breaking and entering the McAlary and Co. grocery store on Douglas Avenue.

Victor McLaughlin and a juvenile charged with stealing chain from F. B. Hazen, were allowed to go on suspended sentence.

At the afternoon session the case of J. Gilbert, charged with purchasing military goods contrary to law was further postponed on account of the illness of Captain G. Earle Logan, counsel for the militia. William M. Ryan is appearing for Gilbert. The case will be adjudged as soon as Captain Logan shall have bettered in health.

WEDDINGS.

Rae-Dougall.
St. David's church was the scene of a pretty wedding yesterday afternoon, when the minister, Rev. J. A. MacKegan, united in marriage Miss Rachael Elizabeth Thom Rae of Aberdeen, Scotland, and Patrick Dougall of Timmins, Ont., formerly of Aberdeen, Scotland, of the 3rd Canadian Infantry Battalion. The bride arrived in the city yesterday on the noon train and the wedding ceremony was performed at five o'clock in the church. Mrs. J. M. Barnes played the wedding march as the couple entered the building and a couple of hymns were sung by the church quartette. The happy couple will leave today for their future home at Timmins.

TOWN PLANNING.
A conference on town planning was held yesterday morning in the mayor's office. Those present were Mayor Hayes, Commissioner Bullock, W. F. Burditt and H. L. Seymour, assistant to Thomas Adams. Mr. Seymour has been in Halifax and stopped over here to talk over conditions. The opinion was expressed by Mr. Seymour that the success of any scheme depended on the appointment of an efficient and energetic director of housing and town planning.