

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 22 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada. H. V. MAACKINNON, Manager and Editor.
 THE STANDARD IS REPRESENTED BY:
 Henry de Clerque, Malters Bldg., Chicago
 Louis Klebaha, 1 West 34th St., New York
 Freeman & Co., 9 Fleet St., London, Eng.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1919

GREAT DREAMS.

Halifax is asleep. At any rate the Halifax Herald shouts in great red headlines: "Let's wake up!" And it adds: "Halifax today is in a most humiliating and impossible position—for which there is positively no excuse. Warnings have been published in these columns so often that we feel it comes near to laboring the obvious to repeat them."

What is troubling the sleep of our sister city? Not the problem of harbor development. The Herald moans: "Halifax, the capital city of the province; Halifax, the third most important port in the world, has no aerodrome." And it gnashes its teeth over the "disgraceful procrastination" of the people of the city asleep; and it threatens to keep pounding away till some one wakes up.

Halifax may be asleep, but it dreams great dreams in its slumbers. The vision of the Herald soars above such mundane affairs as harbor works. It sees vast fleets of airplanes flying along the Atlantic route, dropping mail and passengers at St. John as a cargo station. At any rate, it has found a place for St. John on its aerial map, and it would apparently behoove this city to also wake up to its importance in the scheme of overhead transit. It appears that the President of the Aerial League of Canada is already planning for a transatlantic flight, starting at Halifax, and proceeding by way of St. John, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg to Vancouver or Victoria.

POWER FROM TIDES.

While Senator Denais is urging Halifax to visualize the possibilities of the air, the Board of Trade is turning its attention to water—not merely as a beverage, but as a source of power. The Board is urging the Halifax City Council to co-operate with the Nova Scotia Water Power Commission in working out a scheme which will give the city adequate and economical hydro-electric power. The Water Power Commission has completed a survey of the water powers of the province, and plans for the development of small water powers have been prepared. Nova Scotia has no water powers comparable with those of New Brunswick, but a few municipalities have made a success of developing small water powers, and Halifax will probably follow their example.

Appropos of the power question, news of a new plan to turn the power of tides into electric current comes from England. Joseph Clarkson has designed an apparatus consisting of a number of buckets attached to an endless chain, working round shafts in the way that the buckets of a dredger work. The buckets on the lower side are in the water, and are carried along by the current; those on the upper side are out of water, moving back with the endless chain to drop into the current again. The whole is fixed on a floating frame.

The Industrial Power and Transport Department of the Board of Trade have made tests with the apparatus, and it is reported that power can be obtained from tidal (and from non-tidal) streams where the water moves at a rate of two miles an hour at a cheaper rate than from coal. The inventor's estimate from these tests is that electric current could be drawn continuously from an average river at a cost of less than one penny per Board of Trade unit, and that on the tidal ways the dynamo could be driven and the accumulators charged for four periods of about three hours each per day when the tide was running most strongly.

If such an apparatus is practical in England it ought to have considerable possibilities here, where tides and rivers are so much greater and stronger. Mounted on a scow anchored in the Reversing Falls, so as to swing with the tide, it should produce power practically the whole day.

WINNIPEG ELECTIONS.

The civic elections in Winnipeg were fought on the issues raised by the strike last summer. Mayor Gray and the Citizens' Committee have won a victory, but the bitterness which characterized the campaign and the large vote polled by the labor candidates who defended the revolutionary tactics of the strike leaders may well cause serious misgivings as to the future. The labor leaders refer to the civic elections as Round Two in the fight for the control of the city, and the fight seems likely to go on with increasing bitterness. Mayor Gray boldly attempted to address labor meetings, and defend his course during the strike, but the men who clamored for the right of free speech usually greeted him with shouts of "liar," "tyrant," etc., and howled him down.

A controversy waged in this spirit is pregnant with dangerous possibilities. It is said the West has been Americanized; in any case the struggle between capital and labor there is character-

ized by a harshness, and a disposition to drastic action, that is alien to the British spirit. In England recently during a big strike when each side realized that any untoward incident might precipitate a general strike charged with the possibility of civil war, the leaders of the opposing forces took luncheon together. It is almost impossible to imagine Mayor Gray taking lunch with the Winnipeg strike leaders.

MORE LIGHT.

The Telegraph and Times have at last given us a definition of nationalism. Here it is, according to the latter:

"Nationalism is the building of canals from the revenues of the country for the benefit of the nation at large; the building of railroads from the Government treasury to develop the country; and the building of docks and terminals at the cost of the nation as an outlet to the railroad and to complete the efficiency; for an outlet is as essential to a country as a rail is to a ship."

The port of St. John should have nationalization, and should be content with nothing less. This is a national port. Perhaps the Canterbury Street Journal will now tell us what is the attitude of the Liberal Party to nationalization? Hon. Mackenzie King and the Liberal Party in Parliament opposed nationalization as applied to the railway situation in Canada when, thanks to the railway policy of the Laurier Government, no other practical course presented itself. Would a government led by Mackenzie King be more friendly to the Telegraph's idea of nationalization of ports?

Again the Government has spent money to provide harbor facilities here. Does the administration of the Government berths here comply with the requirements of nationalization, and if not, why not?

THE TARIFF.

The assumption of the Executive of the United Farmers of New Brunswick that the appointment of a permanent Tariff Board, as urged by Associated Boards of Trade of Ontario, would mean taking of the tariff out of politics is probably premature. The chief function of the Tariff Commission would be to collect information, and doubtless it would make recommendations, but it is altogether unlikely that the Government would forgo its right to fix the tariff schedules.

Some years ago the Borden Government proposed the appointment of a Tariff Commission. At that time Sir Thomas White said that the proposed commission would not make tariffs. It would collect facts, upon which the action of the Government would be based, and the Government would retain its full responsibility in tariff matters.

The present Government's intention, according to the last budget speech of Sir Thomas White, is to have the Finance Minister and two of his colleagues conduct an investigation into tariff matters. There has been nothing to indicate that Sir Henry Drayton has not assumed the responsibility of carrying out that programme. The object of the proposed enquiry is to collect a body of information which will enable the Government to effect a general revision of the tariff, fair to all parts of the community, and effectually promoting the national welfare of Canada.

The prominent Conservatives who attended the banquet in honor of Hon. Mr. Veniot may or may not have been surprised at the Minister's confession that he did not know what his road policy was going to be, but relied on the Ottawa Government to provide him with a better road policy than the one he has tried out at a cost of \$2,125,000 with rather poor results. But they probably were not any more embarrassed than Mr. Veniot admitted he was himself.

According to The Telegraph it is dignified to suggest that Hon. Mr. Veniot possesses in greater measure the distinguishing qualities of half a dozen leading Liberal lights of the Province. Perhaps that is so, but if so, it would seem that The Telegraph has a poor opinion of the aforesaid leading Liberals.

The Telegraph regards any criticism of Hon. Mr. Veniot as a species of lese majesté. Unfortunately upon Mr. Veniot himself criticism does not have much effect. If he gave more heed, perhaps he would be getting more satisfactory results from his large expenditures.

WHAT THEY SAY

Who Would Be Next?
 (Toronto Star.)

The British coal miners are talking of a strike, and will put the case up to Lord George very soon. Speaking of strikes, what would hap-

pen if one of these days Lloyd George were to jam his fist through his hat and go on strike himself?

The Lucky Farmers.
 (Hamilton Spectator.)
 Premier Drury is said to estimate rural depopulation by depleted church congregations. Why, bless the man! They haven't left the country—merely gone out "for a time" in their autos!

Partisanship to the Limit.
 (London Advertiser.)

The London Times held promise of prolonged peace and adequate punishment for the Hun, the establishment of better understanding and relationship between the peoples of the earth, security for the little fellows, the uplift for those in the dark places—in a sentence, it opened the way for a happier and healthier world. In spite of all this Lodge and his wreckers have for months blocked the putting into play of these things. While an entire world waits for ratification in order to end the industrial demoralization that has followed the war, Lodge's crew has haggled and squabbled, using every parliamentary trick and device to prevent the treaty. Humiliate Wilson, no matter what it may cost mankind seems to be the motto of the anti-treaty element. Playing the cards in the American Senate, Lodge has carried many a party to the extent that is being pursued by treaty killers in the American Senate.

America and Sinn Fein.
 The other day Senator John Sharpe Williams of Mississippi, told Senator Walsh of Massachusetts, whose ideas in regard to foreign affairs seem to be dictated wholly by his sympathies with the Sinn Feiners, that it would "become him better if he would try to be American for a little by way of a change." Senator Williams is a very exceptional politician in that he never seems to be afraid to say what the public interests require should be said, regardless of the voting element which he offends by doing so. In the Vancouver World, Mr. Frank Foster of Seattle publishes a letter which he recently received from a Sinn Feiner and German-American, and in which all that they can do to raise jealousy and distrust between the States and Britain. Their hope, he says, "is to bring about a row and if possible, a war between the United States and Great Britain to the benefit of both Germany and Ireland, and they seem to think that we Americans are so stupid that we are standing for it."

My pay smiled this morning when He came downstairs, you said, then She turned and smiled at me; And when she smiled at me, I went Out in the kitchen, and she lent it to a hired man.

So then he smiled at someone whom He saw when going by, Who also smiled and ere he knew His twin had got his lesson done So he went to his office then, And smiled right at his clerk, Who put some ink on the pen And smiled back from his work.

So when his clerk went home, he smiled, Right at his wife, and she Smiled over at their little child As happy as could be; And then she smiled after she took The smile to school, and when She smiled at teacher from her book Teacher smiled back again.

And then the teacher passed on one To little James McBride, Who couldn't get his lesson done No matter how he tried; And James took it home and told How teacher smiled at him, When he was tired and didn't scold, But said, "don't worry, Jim."

And when I happened to be there That very night at play, His mother had a smile to spare Which came across my way; And then I took it after a while Back home and mama said: "Here is that very self same smile Come back with us to bed."

A Chicago physician warns that if women don't quit wearing narrow shoes, we may become a "doped race." Are there any other arguments in favor of narrow shoes worth considering at this time?

There are two kinds of trouble. The kind you have and the kind you haven't. There are few of the first sort, but of the second sort there is no end.

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Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

THIS PARK AVE. NEWS.

Weather, Assorted.

Sports. Percy Weaver came around with an appeal last Saturday afternoon, and a contest was started to see who could take the biggest bite out of it, which it properly would of bin, a very interesting contest. If Percy hadn't of ran away while the fellows was still arguing who was going to go first.

Entire Excitement on Account of a Fish! Sam Cross was going home from the fish store with a fish rapped in paper last Thursday, and Sid Hunt ran in his house and got his fishing pole, and Sam Cross took the fish out of the paper and put it on the end of the line and kept on carrying it home as if he cawed it, some, causing much excitement and lots of remarks on the way.

Interting Facts About Interting People. One day wen Puds Simkins was a baby he swallowed a pin by mistake, and now whenever he feels funny any place he feels to see if its the pin, which it hasn't bin so far.

Sisley. Miss Mary Watkins put some of her big sisters rug on her face last Wednesday afternoon and came to the parlor window and started to do poses, and all of a sudden she disappeared on account of her mother having pulled her back and her voice was heard making cries of pain.

Fun by Skinny Martin
 Nature is Wonderful
 Winter comes soon after Fall,
 And leaves are lost by the trees,
 But cheer up and take the good with the bad,
 Dont the dogs also lose their flees?

ing close to a dogout when a Negro soldier was on guard. It did no damage, but a badly frightened troop suddenly drew some dice from his pocket and threw them as far as he could.

"From now on henceforth," he exclaimed, "I gwine lead a diff'rent life!"

Hymns of Hate.
 Keep her from me, I beseech ye,
 Her who always says "it's peachy!"
 He would give what he could,
 And who's always, always "thrilled!"

POVERTY OF THE BRITISH CLERGY

Durham Diocesan Conference met on Saturday to consider the subject of clerical incomes, and it was decided that efforts be made to increase the incumbents' incomes to £400 a year and the assistant clergy to £200.

The Bishop in a presidential letter, said they must be ready to give sacrificial help so far as they could. He was already contributing compulsorily to the needs of the poor-endowed parishes and to Queen Anne's Bounty. Such were the reasons for the Bishop's hope, he says, "is to bring about a row and if possible, a war between the United States and Great Britain to the benefit of both Germany and Ireland, and they seem to think that we Americans are so stupid that we are standing for it."

During a discussion at the Conference many instances of distressing poverty among the clergy were recorded, and it was stated that Bishop of Durham had privately given valuable help.—Liverpool Post.

WOMEN ARE AN ASSET IN CANADA

"In no country in the world do men and women work together so harmoniously as in Canada."

This is Lady Rhonda's view, stated to a Daily Express representative yesterday. She has just returned from a business visit to Western Canada, and is impressed by the political and sociological heights which have been attained by the young civilization of the oldest Dominion.

"Women in Canada are 'pearls of great price,'" said Lady Rhonda. "They are recognized as an asset, and while their numbers are so few, comparatively, their power is great, because they are nearer to the lives of men than their sisters in more crowded countries."

"That is one reason why so striking an equality exists between the sexes in Canada, and why Canadian men welcome feminine ideas and activities in every walk of life. It is only natural that in a country providing so many openings for honest work, equal opportunity should be nearer to the mark."

The Optimist.
 "Woman," he hissed, "woman, do you thus spurn my heart after leading me on?"

"When did I lead you on, as you call it?" asked the girl.

"Did you not tell me that that fortune teller had told you that you were to wed a handsome blond young man with the grace of a Greek god and the voice of an Aeolian harp?"—London Tit-Bits.

All the Same to Her.
 "I shall have to ask you for a ticket for that boy, ma'am," insisted a conductor, speaking to a quiet-looking little woman. The woman declined to pay.

"I am afraid if you don't pay for that boy I'll have to stop the train and put him off," he persisted.

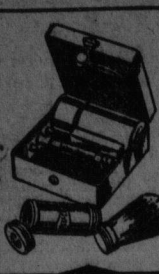
"I don't know, all the same to me," she said.

"You ought to know the rules. How old is that boy?"

"I don't know, I never saw him before."

Rependant or Reared.
 A German shell exploded one even-

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