

## The St. John Standard.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1920.

## MACKENZIE KING'S PARROT CRY.

With "damnable iteration" (to quote the Mail and Empire) the Hon. Mackenzie King calls out for a general election. It is a suicidal idea on his part, for when the general election does come, it will mean the end of his political ambitions. Though the last general election left him and so many of his anti-Union, anti-conscription comrades seatless, and though the next general election does not promise to be more lucky for him, he keeps on challenging the Government to go to the country. This bluff is doubtless his best play. As a general election is inevitable within the next two years or so, he may as well make an appearance of being eager for the fray.

At the convention of the National Liberal Party which met a year ago he was selected as leader. Yet the Premier of all the Provinces in which the Liberals were in power voted for Mr. Fielding. They desired to have at the head of their party a man who had not to live down the somewhat adverse fame of being a campaigner against the Union Government and the Military Service Act when so many of his peers were fighting for the defence of his country. Mr. Fielding, to his lasting credit be it said, gave the Union Government and the Military Service Act his loyal support, and if he had been as young a man as Mr. King he would, we doubt not, have been at the front. It was for the very reason that he did so loyally himself with the national efforts to win the war that he received less than a majority of the votes cast at the convention. Mr. King was his successful rival. That the new leader would be received with open arms in any Ontario constituency was not to be expected. He showed no repentance for his stand against the nation's war policy, and the fact that the convention which gave him the leadership showed so strong a bias against a Liberal supporter of that war policy did not recommend him to Liberals of Ontario, the Province which raised about one-half of the Canadian Expeditionary Force and which gave all but a few of its seats to candidates of the Union Government. No Liberal member of the House in Mr. King's native Province resigned his seat in order to make an opening for the new Leader. No Liberal member from Quebec, whence the majority of Mr. King's Parliamentary supporters come, vacated his seat in favor of the man of the convenient's choice. It is a far cry to Prince Edward Island, where at last Mr. King found political meeting place for the sale of his foot. And yet, in the face of all these things, he expects the people of Canada to fall down and worship him as the only man who can save the country from going to the dogs.

## THE MANNIX QUESTION.

Resolutions continue to be passed at meetings of sympathizers with Ireland's rebelled war, on the subject of Archbishop Mannix and the course adopted by the British Government in regard to him. Doubts, of course, are being expressed about the wisdom of thwarting the hostile cleric's desire to visit Ireland. It has, it is argued, the rights of British citizenship; he is therefore entitled to claim the hospitality of Ireland as well as of any part of the United Kingdom. But that is a fallacious view of the case. The right analogy is this:—Would any citizen admit the right of a fellow, even if it were a relative, who had declared his intention to make all the mischief he could in his house, who had spurned kinship and existed in alien sympathies and in hostile purposes, to claim absolute freedom of action in the town which he had begotten with infamies, and which he intended, if he could, to destroy? That is the sort of intolerance and freedom which Dr. Mannix demands. Ministers would only convince him of the accuracy of his opprobrious epithets if they permitted him to do as he pleased. He is a turbulent priest; he is an avowed enemy of Britain; he is a firebrand of whom Australia would be glad to be rid; and Liverpool will provide a healthier atmosphere for him than Cork.

It is charged against him in the Sydney Press that he is chiefly responsible for the creation of religious strife in the Dominion. How much of the primary principles of Christianity he understands may be judged by his prescription for the prosperity of religion. When he landed in Australia in 1915 he claimed that the Roman Catholic Church was justified in employing physical coercion in the treatment of heretics. There was a storm of protest; but the twentieth century priest and the old inquisitor—he would not recall his words—he maintained that there could be no argument about it; that Papal author-

ity settled the matter. This mischievous influence has remained unchanged, wherever the opportunity offered Dr. Mannix has presented himself as the same obnoxious personality. It is possible to believe that a fanatic, born centuries after his time, has convinced himself that he is assured of obedience and immunity from the ordinary obligations of citizenship by reason of his episcopal rank. Physical coercion may be well enough for the common man; to the priest there is due privilege and power, without question.

Of course it will be said by critics of the Government that this affront to the dignity of the Roman Catholic Church will inflame Irish feeling, and that the struggle will become more bitter. But the conduct of Dr. Mannix may well be as abhorrent to loyal members of his Church as it is to other people. And as for Sinn Féin, is it likely to devise anything more cowardly and wicked than the outrage it committed—the raid on Milen Head light-house for the villainous purpose of the wreckers?

## THE LIBERAL POLICY.

What of the Liberal fiscal policy which, according to Hon. Mr. King, is neither free trade, nor protection, nor a tariff for revenue only? The fiscal lumbago propose a policy that will at one and the same time combine the three plans. There are to be substantial reductions of duties on the necessities of life, on the food, clothing, and shelter of the people, and upon the instruments of production of agriculture; this is the bait for the farmers. Then it is explained that the large revenue needs of the Federal Treasury will entail the raising of much money by indirect taxation through a customs tariff, and the Liberal leader assures manufacturers that they have nothing to fear because "in revising the tariff to this end, care will be taken of the position and needs of all the industries in our country." And there you are! The farmer is to be relieved from tariff taxes, while the manufacturer is to be protected by tariff taxes. It is to be a solution of the problem of squaring the circle, but precisely how the solution is to be practically worked out Hon. Mr. King discreetly refrains from explaining. It is to be, he tells the public, a tariff for consumers and producers, a tariff that will permit the manufacturer to sell his products freely at a fair profit, and at the same time permit the consumer, the farmer, to buy the cheap dumped goods of the United States.

## THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

A few days ago we referred in these columns to the proposal of Mr. Robert Donald that there should be an institute for the proper teaching of the English language, with headquarters in London and Washington. On this language question the London Daily Express has this to say: "These well-intentioned leagues and clubs which are always talking about the unity of the English-speaking races, the bond of a common language and the rest, are a delusion and a snare. There is no common language between the peoples; it is the very species resemblance which makes the gap. Kipling well described the American in London who 'heard men talking a tongue superficially like his own, which on inquiry turned out to be something quite different.' An American says: 'I've got you'—meaning I understand. The Englishman thinks he has been discovered in some heinous deception. The language resemblance is, in fact, a her name than a bond. Imperfections of expression which we pardon in the Frenchman or the Russian we cannot pardon in each other. These organizations like the English-speaking Union have therefore a lot to answer for in preaching to two nations a thing which is not, and so confounding the very real understanding which might exist between them."

President Wilson's efforts to make peace will be remembered as the

source of almost as much bloodshed, slaughter and misery to humanity as Emperor William's efforts to make war. Europe is in danger of being set in flames, and the remnants of civilization burned up in a conflagration kindled at the altar of Mr. Wilson's conceit. Humanity must now pay the price of a fool's surrender to him and his infernal fourteen points. Where is the League of Nations that was to establish peace by a continuous distribution of tracts to the citizens of war?

A week or two ago, Dr. Warwick condemned much of the milk coming to the city, on the ground that it was too dirty for use. Is anything being done to remedy conditions, or is the matter being allowed to drift? In the meanwhile "Baby Blues" are being held, much to the amusement of the general public, at which mothers are being taught what to do, what to avoid, and the babies' staple food remains "too dirty for use." The Department of Health is a wonderful institution!

Commissioner Thornton is to be commended on the stand he has taken with regard to crowded street cars. It is little less than a scandal the manner in which some of the cars are packed, until the occupants are like sardines in a can. Naturally, everyone wants to get home with as little delay as possible, but the remedy should be more cars and run at more frequent intervals. Perhaps the one-man car would fit in here.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

## A Font to Draw Tears.

(London Morning Post.)  
 There is in the Fiji Islands a font which can only be described as the most pathetic in the world. It is made out of the pieces of rock on which little children were brained before being eaten! The results produced by the missionaries on these islands wrung from Charles Darwin this tribute: "They have abolished human sacrifices and the power of an idolatrous priest, and, as a system of property unparalleled in any part of the world." Missionaries at work in the islands not many years back often saw the ovens where the cannibals baked their victims.

## A German Compliment.

(London Westminster Gazette.)  
 In Princess Blucher's interesting book I read that towards the end of the war, the Germans took to praising the English. One who did so with extreme cordiality was Baron von Mittenheuer, the censor of correspondence at Rullleben. He was looking on, one day, at a football match between two German teams. It was a very hotly contested match, and at the end of it, the Baron turned to the captain of the camp, who was standing near him, and remarked genially: "When I see the way you fellows play football, I cease to feel any surprise at our failure to beat the contemptible little army."

## Soldiers As Teachers.

(Toronto Globe.)  
 Two hundred returned soldiers took advantage of the means offered by Hon. Dr. Cody, when Minister of Education, to train for the teaching profession; and nearly all of them have been successful in passing the courses prescribed for certificates. The knowledge of life and habits of discipline acquired during their military experience have enhanced their value as teachers, and many of the larger cities have already availed themselves of the opportunity to obtain their services for male vacancies on the staffs. The present Minister of Education, Hon. Mr. Grant, has carried out the scheme in a broad way, and this recognition of patriotic work should prove of great profit to the schools of Ontario.

## A BIT OF VERSE

## AT THE END OF THE OLD BROWN ROAD.

Dusky brown in the shade, golden brown in the sun,  
 The old road, turn by turn, cleaves through the fir wood's gloom,  
 Making a path for our feet, carpeted thick from the loom  
 Of the thirless weaving years, at their peak that is never done;  
 Clearing a path for our sight to the blue of the fathomless sky,  
 And the gracious tranquillity of white clouds floating by,  
 Far, so far, seem the sky, in its awful loneliness!

But the clouds so loitering low, as if they would fain look down,  
 Through the rift in the fir wood's roof, on the old road's sun-flecked brow;  
 Gently they move, and pass, exquisite, passionless,  
 So still far the road, beneath the sky's immensity—  
 But look—the last turn—that blue—the sea, the sea, the sea!  
 —Minnie Leona Upton, in N. Y. Sun.

## THE LAUGH LINE

No man who is not truly happy is truly successful.  
 The girl in love who has a rival should keep an eye on her—and if the rival is a widow she should keep both eyes on her.

## No Danger Yet.

"Aren't you afraid your cook will leave you to marry that fellow who gives her so much attention?" asked Mrs. White.  
 "Oh, no," replied Mrs. Brown, "not so long as he stays in the taxicab-floater and theatre stage."

Defined.  
 Little Tommy—"I say, father, what is meant by 'beastly weather'?"  
 Father—"When it's raining cats and dogs."

Then.  
 When Mary sold her little lamb, it made the scholars laugh;  
 She bought a bathing suit that showed she had a little calf.

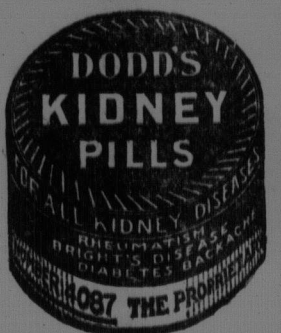
## Benny's Note Book

BY BEN PACE

Last Saturday I went down town to meet pop so he could buy me a new suit, with he have me a peachy check suit with slanty pockets, saying, Well, Benny, how do you feel now?  
 Hungry, I said, and pop said, So do I, I'm as hungry as a bear, I think there's a restaurant in this neighborhood somewhere.  
 With we started to look, and after a while we came to a little white place with a sign on it saying, The White Rabbit, Meals Served.  
 Ah, here's a place, said pop. And we went in and sat down at a little bit of a table, on account of all the tables being little bits of ones, and a waiter lady came over and pop said, What's good today?  
 Well, you can have a stuffed egg on lettuce, they're nice, or you can have a garden sandwich with a slice of lemon, they're nice, and the waiter lady.  
 I suppose they are, but I'm hungry, said pop, and the waiter lady said, Well, you might try a tomato filled with chicken salad, they're very nice, or a lettuce sandwich with mayonnaise, they're extremely nice, and pop said, Lettuce, lettuce, now I know why this place is called the white rabbit, good night, girl, when I was hungry I didn't mean I was a hungry rabbit.  
 Its none of my business what you want, said the waiter lady, and pop said, Well, do I look like a rabbit?  
 Yes, quite a few people, said the waiter lady.  
 O, is that so, do you eat beef yourself? said pop.  
 I certainly do, said the waiter lady, and pop said, I thank your ears looked kind of long, can you wiggle your nose?  
 And he got up and walked out, me following him, and we went to a regular restaurant and pop ate a plate of noodle soup and roast beef and mash potatoes and I ate lam stew and ice cream.

## A Friendly Hint.

Miss Crouch—"Yes, I'm continually breaking into song."  
 Miss Marie—"If you'd ever get the key, you wouldn't have to break in."  
 Answers.



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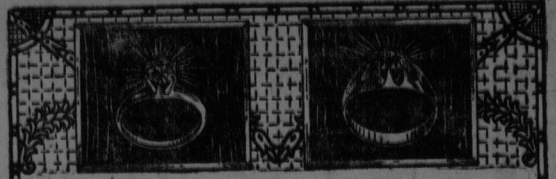


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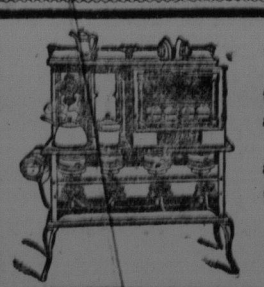
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## Children's Eyes Should Be Teted

A child has no experience by which to tell whether sight is as good as it should be. Often slow development of the eyes causes them to be strained by school work, making unduly hard. Neglect is apt to cause permanent harm to sight. Glasses correct the trouble and usually can be left off entirely after a year or so. We make a specialty of examining children's eyes.

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## I MUST GET THE HOUSE PAINTED

The boys will be here for the Exhibition and the house does look bad.

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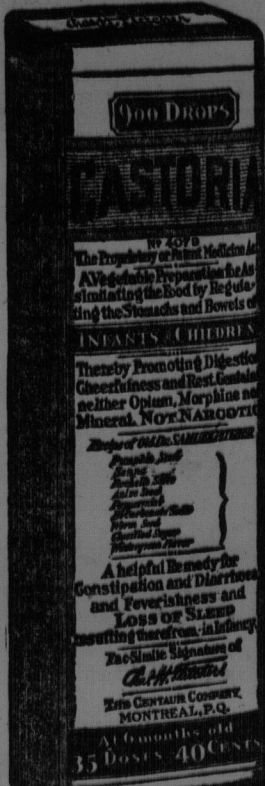
## Baby

THAT there are Physicians. Physicians understand their profession, his duty, to know

But in serious cases he Mother knows, or ought to know, special remedies.

Can a Mother be less a remedy that she would use

Always remember that will remember that Fletcher Children.



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What He Deserved.  
 "Sir, your daughter has promised to marry me."  
 "Well, don't come to me for sympathy."

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