

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1915.

"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.

THE CIVIC GRANTS.

While there may be much disappointment that the commissioners yesterday did not decide to restore the grants to worthy organizations which, in the past, have been receiving public support, it must not be forgotten that the reduction in the civic assessment, which gave the commissioners the excuse to eliminate the grants, was made at the request of the citizens themselves and followed considerable agitation in the newspapers. Whether other means could have been found to bring the estimates down to the point where they met the approval of the citizens is a matter for the commissioners. It cannot, in fairness, be forgotten that the people asked for the reduction and the method of bringing it about appeared to be satisfactory at the time.

If the desire now is that the grants should be restored to societies and organizations in need of them it should not be more difficult to impress that upon the commissioners than was the case when the lower estimates were asked for. After all, the people are in control and can have what they desire and are prepared to pay for.

GERMAN ATROCITIES.

The German newspapers quite naturally continue to publish stories of alleged terrible atrocities committed by their enemies. Some of their recent efforts are devoted to graphic tales of the alleged rack and ruin which the Russian troops have brought to Poland, the German editors, of course, claiming that the effort of the Kaiser's soldiers was always in the direction of sparing unfortified towns and villages from bombardment and civilians from attack. Unfortunately for the reputation of the German press there is no scarcity of evidence to show that German exponents of "kultur" led all others in the enormity of their crimes against defenseless men, women and children, in inhuman treatment of prisoners and of such of the enemy's wounded as fell into their hands.

The fate of Malines and Louvain is too fresh in world memory for the German newspapers stories to be credited. The commissions composed of independent observers that have visited Belgium have heard too many authenticated tales of horror for the German claims to have weight and letters from British soldiers at the front contain scraps of information showing that they, too, have been well posted as to the gentle methods of Germany.

An American writer, a few days ago, dealing with this question, expressed the fear that when British, French and Russian troops reach German cities they will be so steeped with evidences of German brutality that they may model their conduct on the mosaic law of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." If the fear of that writer is but half realized there will be a terrible reckoning in store for Berlin.

MR. CARVELL'S LITTLE BILL.

To those who were led by the Telegraph and Times to believe that in prosecuting the Dugal charges before the Royal Commission Mr. P. B. Carvell was acting without remuneration and solely in the interests of his dear province, it must come as a shock to learn that the Carleton county legal light has submitted a bill to the local government amounting to \$2,540 for his own services in connection with the case, and that similar bills totalling well up to \$4,000 have been submitted by Mr. Stevens and Mr. Hughes. It may also come as a shock to Mr. Carvell to learn that the Government does not intend to pay the account.

Some days ago questions were asked in the local house regarding the payment of the bills in connection with the Dugal hearing. The replies were given yesterday, and from a summary of them received by The Standard from Fredericton, it would appear that Mr. Carvell would have made a neat profit if his account had been paid.

As a member of the Dominion House Mr. Carvell receives a seasonal indemnity of \$2,500. As counsel for

Mr. Dugal in the charges connected with the New Brunswick timber lands and the Valley Railway, he hoped to obtain \$2,540 more. Together, these amounts would give him \$5,040 for the year devoted to the "interests of his country,"—quite a tidy little income, even for a gentleman of Mr. Carvell's talents.

Possibly Mr. Carvell is not alone in the matter of bills to the Government for services rendered. Mr. Man Friday Carter, who worked hard to score a political triumph in the Dugal matter, has still to be heard from. Mr. Carter is not quite as close to the treasury of the province as he was before the last change of Government, but if Mr. Carvell can present such a bill, and hope to have it paid, why not Mr. Carter?

DAYLIGHT SAVING.

Some years ago an agitation in St. John led to the adoption of Atlantic Standard Time instead of the local system which had formerly prevailed. The local time, based on actual sun reckoning and, in reality, the correct time, was thirty-six minutes faster than Eastern Standard, or railway time, and twenty-four minutes slower than the system now in use. The adoption of Atlantic Standard resulted consequently in the gain of twenty-four minutes of daylight in each day, and it may be remembered that in the first summer following its adoption the benefit from the change was quite noticeable.

Those who were interested in the time controversy of that day may now be interested to learn that William Willett, who first introduced the Daylight Saving Bill in the British Parliament, has recently passed away. The Toronto Mail and Empire makes of his death an occasion to review the effect of his activities and the results which followed the adoption of his example by Canadian towns. The Mail and Empire says:

"The death of William Willett, the foremost champion in Britain of the daylight-saving movement, and the father of the Daylight-saving Bill in the British Parliament, is a reminder that some Canadian communities have profited considerably by adopting the scheme. Mr. Willett was a builder and an untiring advocate of construction that would admit plenty of sunlight to all buildings, particularly those where many people congregated. The bill which he had brought before the House of Commons for daylight saving proposed to advance all clocks in the United Kingdom twenty minutes each on four successive Sundays in April, and reverse the process in the four Sundays in September. Between April and September the time would be therefore an hour and a quarter ahead of standard. Though it was supported by many public bodies throughout Britain, the bill was referred to a special committee, and did not reach the third reading.

"It is worth noting that one of the reasons advanced in support of the bill, that it would lead to a saving in artificial light, has been demonstrated to be sound in a Canadian city. Last Summer Regina put on the clock an hour in early Summer, and returned to standard in the Autumn. Not long ago the city lighting authorities reported that a saving of \$20,000 in the cost of light had been effected by the people. This is the only direct statement of economic saving from the scheme yet announced in Canada. Other Western cities followed Regina's example last year, and in Saskatchewan the movement went far enough to lead to a proposal that the Legislature should make the daylight-saving scheme obligatory on all communities. That was too drastic, however, and the municipalities still have the matter at their own option. In Eastern Canada spasmodic attempts have been made to get the scheme into operation, Orillia having tried it a couple of years ago with poor results, but nowhere has there been as much success for it as in the Western Provinces with their long, bright days. To few Canadians, perhaps, is the name of Willett known, but his death a few days ago merits a little of their thought."

DOES DR. CLARK REMEMBER?

Dr. Michael Clark, Liberal member for Red Deer, yesterday received well-merited congratulations upon the conspicuous bravery in action displayed by his son, a member of the Princess

Patricia Regiment. We do not begrudge the congratulations to Dr. Clark, but we wonder, if, while the applause of his fellow parliamentarians rang in his ears, his mind went back to another day in the House of Commons, a day when he arose in his place and said:

"The fact of the matter is that this German scare has become so attenuated a thing that it only finds a resting place in such comparatively disordered minds as we have had an example of this afternoon."

Or that other day when he waxed especially eloquent and made the house ring with this:

"Just as in the middle of the last century, the French scare passed away without there having been the smell of gunpowder between the two great nations of France and Great Britain from that time, and as the Russian scare in the seventies passed away likewise without there having been a trigger pulled then or since, so, happily for humanity and civilization, the German scare of yesterday is vanishing. I think I shall be able to offer proof from the best possible sources that a generation from now we shall be looking back upon this as another of the human follies and upon the historical fact that following it there was not the firing of a shot by the one or the other of these two great Christian nations. The evidence that there is no impending war between these two countries is carried to our very doors. There is no emergency."

Today, Dr. Clark is wiser, he can say with full meaning: "The evidence that there is war between these two countries is carried into my very heart. I agree that there was an emergency."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MICHAEL GRIFFIN.

St. John, N. B., March 22, 1915.

To the Editor of The Standard.
Sir:—In the olden times, according to what I have read, people went to church to listen to words of enlightenment on the problems of the soul, or to join in prayer for the elevation of the soul—not to hear advertised discourses on matters of gossip, municipal problems, or social questions. Alas! it seems that in some cases at least these latter factors hold the uppermost consideration and matters of spiritual welfare are relegated to oblivion. This preamble arises from a report of a sermon, so-called, which I read Monday morning in The Standard.

"Some lessons from the life of Michael Griffin—the hermit"—was the widely advertised title chosen by Rev. Mr. Haughton as a subject with which to help promote the religious welfare of his audience on Sunday night in the Congregational church. There was hardly any necessity of his showing such a lack of taste from the pulpit as to refer to one who was gone, by name, particularly under such circumstances and after all that could be said had been written in the papers previously. It should have been possible to have found many more matters of importance to moralize upon than the life of this unfortunate man, but if he were absolutely necessary that in order to attract a crowd by well advertised notices of a "sermon" of this kind, why could it not have been done without using the man's name?

Furthermore, why could not a better understanding of his subject exist with Mr. Haughton? "Old Griffin lived as a hermit and died in misery and poverty, in the midst of plenty . . . the old man was a fool . . . he persecuted his body and he impoverished his soul." If I were permitted to use plain words I should characterize this statement in a little word of three letters beginning with "L" and ending with "T." The reader can easily imagine the second letter.

I have known Griffin for years. He was a very kind, genial man—given somewhat to eccentricity but never to such an extent as "to impoverish his body and soul." He attended church regularly and was more careful with his tongue concerning the ways of men than others who should know better. So far as his dying in misery and poverty is concerned—who knows? True it is that little was found in his shack in the way of food but that does not say that he died of starvation. I have seen him at regular intervals in the country market purchasing meats, vegetables, and dairy products of good price and quality and I do not believe he stunted his body as has been said.

Everybody's life is somewhat of a lesson. If we wish to delve deeply into human nature we can find ready fault with others while they can find possibly greater deficiencies in us. But is it politic for an ordinary mortal to disregard the maxim concerning "first find the beam in thine own eye," and above all is it Christian or charitable? Pastors of Christian churches should be the first to apply the golden rule among mankind, but it hardly seems to me that this was what was done in the "sermon" in Congregational Church on Sunday night for the one who benefited mostly from the "lessons from the life of Griffin" was the speaker who derived the notoriety.

A FRIEND OF MICHAEL GRIFFIN.

CONCERNING WAR MOVEMENTS.

To the Editor of The Standard.
Sir:—In order to obviate the difficulty of the following the manoeuvres of the contending forces in the present conflict, and to convince the participants in a discussion in re, be kind enough to apply your deductive qualifications to elucidate the problem below:

"The Allies' left is trying to move around the Germans' right, but the Germans' right is also moving around

Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE.

I went around to the tailor to get my suit last night, and the tailor gave me a letter, saying, 'How, this was in the coat pocket. And I took the suit and the letter home, the letter looking as if it was supposed to be of him mailed and was sent.'

This letter was in the pocket of it, pop, I said to pop.
My grayhairs, I bet anything that the letter to my Sue I gave you yesterday to male for me, sed ma.

Nonsepta, nonsepta, sed pop. And he quick got up and startid to go out to male the letter.

Well, wat is it, then, sed ma.
Ill tell you wen I kum back, sed pop. And he went out and maled the letter and calim back agen, and ma sed, Willyum, now if that was my letter to Sue, I shall be very angry with you, I told you that was a very important letter.

My deer, that was merely a bizness letter, a verry urgent bizness letter, sed pop, I dont undirstand how I evvir calim to forget it, Im the last man in the world to forget to male a letter.

O, listen whose tawking, sed ma, well, wat was the letter, I thawt you were going to tell me wat the letter was.

O, sed pop, well, you see, ha ha, it was a verry funny bizness letter, and that wat made it so urgent, in a way, O yes, ha ha.

I didnt no thare were sutch things as funny bizness letters, sed ma.
Thare is moar in hevvin and bizness orlises than is dreamed of in yure illosophy, O Pawleen, sed pop, yes, as I was saying, it was a funny kind of a sort of bizness letter, ha ha, I haf to laff to think of it.

Its verry odd that if you maled my letter to Sue the day before yesterday I havent got an anser by this time, sed ma, well, Im watelng to hear wat was so funny about the letter.

O to be sure, ha ha, sed pop, well, you see, it was wat you mite call a letter frum wun department to anuthar, as it were, and the funny part of it was, but I suppose you wood haf to no moar about the bizness to apprehiate the funny part of it.

Try me and sed ma.
No, it wood take to lawng and Im sure you coodent undirstand, sed pop.
If I dont get a reply from Sue by tomorro, Ill undirstand, awl rite, sed ma.

I dont see wat that has to do with it, sed pop.
Posserly not, sed ma. Meaning she still thawt it was her letter to Ant Sue. Wich it was, awn akkount of me havng saw the address awn it wile I was bringng it hoam.

the Allies' left. Now, if the left of the Germans' right move around the right of the Allies' left, then, what is left of the Germans' right, must be right where the Allies' left.

"But if the Germans' rights' left is left where the Allies' lefts' right was right before the Allies' left, then the left is right where the right was right before the lefts' right left the rights' left."

Isn't that right? or is it?
Your courtesy in this matter will be truly appreciated.
Yours truly,

ARM CHAIR CRITIC.

PERSONAL.

Felix Michaud of Boutouche is at the Victoria. He will attend a meeting of the Public Utility Commission today.

Seib Jones of Sussex was in the city yesterday.
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Dickson of Revellstoke, B. C., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. George Watson, Germain street.

Got Out Big Cut

Robert Connelly, manager of the Pejabscot Lumber Company, was in the city yesterday. He said his company had 12,000,000 feet of timber ready for stream driving. "It was pretty hard work to get our cut out of the woods," he said, "but we did it. We are damming the lakes are not worried about water for stream driving."

The Cuban Consul.

Cesar A. Barranco, Cuban consul, received on Monday from the Court of St. James, London, the Regium Exequatur signed by His Majesty King George and attested by Sir Edward Grey, Minister of Foreign Affairs, recognizing him as consul of the Republic of Cuba at St. John.

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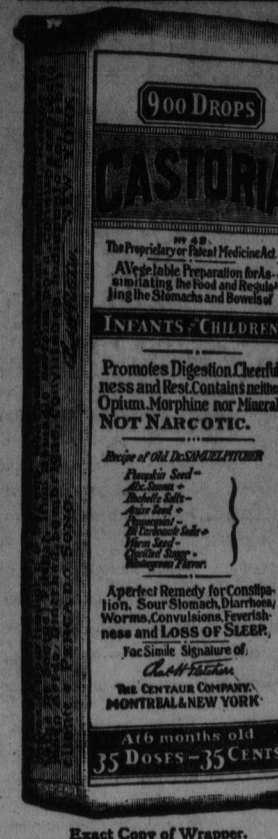
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Refuse Deal and Scantling . . \$14.00
Merchantable Spruce Scantling . . \$21.00
Merchantable Spruce Boards, matched \$23.00
Heved Spruce . . . \$14.00 to \$26.00
Merchantable Spruce Deal, \$22.00 and up
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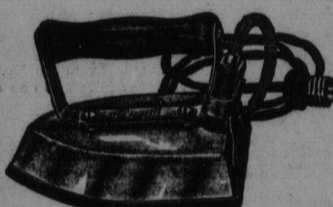
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