

The St. John Standard

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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.

WAR FINANCING.

As pointed out by Sir Thomas White in a recent address in Parliament, Canada's financial condition at the close of the war compared very favorably indeed with that of any nation which had been engaged since 1914. During the period of hostilities the Canadian Government issued five domestic loans, the fourth and fifth in the series being known respectively as the First and Second Victory Loans. The first two war loans were each for \$100,000,000 and were fully subscribed. The third brought \$130,000,000. These three were at 5 per cent. The Victory Loans, issued at 5 1/2 per cent, produced \$388,000,000 and \$800,000,000 respectively. The development of popular interest in national investments such as these is strikingly evidenced by the remarkable increase in the number of subscriptions received, 24,632 being taken on the first war loan and 1,067,879 on the second Victory Loan. In addition to these important issues, War Saving Certificates to the amount of \$12,500,000, as well as a considerable amount of debenture stock have been sold, bringing the Government's borrowings from the people of Canada since the beginning of the war to a total of \$1,436,000,000, equal to 132 per cent of population. Since August, 1914 Canada has established credits on behalf of the Imperial Government to the amount of \$709,000,000, by means of which Great Britain has been able to finance the purchases of food supplies and to carry on the work of the Imperial Munitions Board in this country. There has also been advanced to the Imperial Government through Canadian banks \$200,000,000, used for the purchase of munitions and food, which advances were made possible because of the large savings deposits in our banks existing in spite of the heavy withdrawals for subscriptions to war loans. These savings deposits, despite all such withdrawals have, during the war period, increased by nearly \$500,000,000. As against this Great Britain has advanced to the Dominion \$609,000,000, credited chiefly for the maintenance of Canadian Forces overseas.

Revenues and expenditures on Consolidated Fund Account for the four years of the war were as follows:

| Year | Revenue | Expenditure |
|---------|---------------|---------------|
| 1914-15 | \$135,073,487 | \$125,522,206 |
| 1915-16 | 38,566,950 | 166,197,755 |
| 1916-17 | 232,701,294 | 148,599,343 |
| 1917-18 | 260,778,952 | 178,284,313 |

The Consolidated Fund for 1917-18 includes an interest payment of \$47,845,584, with pensions amounting to \$8,156,691, whereas previous to the war there was no pension payments worth considering and the annual interest charge was only \$12,000,000.

Expenditures on Capital Account and on War Account during this same period were:

| Year | Capital | War |
|---------|--------------|--------------|
| 1914-15 | \$41,447,320 | \$60,750,475 |
| 1915-16 | 38,566,950 | 166,197,755 |
| 1916-17 | 26,880,031 | 306,488,814 |
| 1917-18 | 43,111,904 | 342,336,802 |

To November 30th, 1918, the total outlay for War Purposes was approximately \$1,065,605,527, which amount includes all expenditures in Canada, Great Britain and France, as well as the maintenance of troops overseas. Interest and Pension payments arising from the war total \$75,000,000 to the date mentioned and have been provided from Consolidated Revenue. The national debt of Canada which before the war was \$336,000,000 amounted on November 30th last to \$1,307,429,661, the increase being directly attributable to war expenditures.

Increased revenue has been derived from various sources. Taxation on luxuries has been gradually increased since the beginning of the war. Higher customs duties and rates of excise on liquors and tobacco, imposed soon after the beginning of the war, were followed in 1915 by a war tax on all transportation tickets, telephone money orders, patent medicines, cheques, drafts, etc., a 50 per cent. increase in postal rates, and by other methods. This was followed by a 7 1/2 per cent. addition to the general tariff, with 5 per cent. increase on the British preference on all commodities, with the exception of certain foodstuffs, coal, farm implements, fishing equipment, etc. Last year a special customs duty was imposed on tea and coffee, and the excise on tobacco was also largely increased, while other special war taxes have been imposed on various luxuries such as automobiles and jewelry, etc.

All businesses having a capital of \$50,000 and over have taken subject to the Business Profits War Tax, under which the Government takes 25 per cent. of the net profits of the business over 7 per cent. and not ex-

ceeding 15 per cent.; 50 per cent. of the profits over 15 per cent., and not exceeding 20 per cent.; and 75 per cent. of the profits beyond 20 per cent. In the case of businesses having a capital of \$25,000 and under \$50,000, the Government takes 25 per cent. of all profits in excess of 10 per cent. on the capital employed. Companies employing capital of less than \$25,000 are exempt, with the exception of those dealing in munitions or war supplies. Besides these various forms of taxation, the Canadian Income Tax which came into effect last year provides by a sliding scale for contributions to the Federal Treasury. Unmarried persons are exempt to an income of \$1,000 and married persons to \$2,000, with added exemption of \$200 for each child.

During the last fiscal year of 1917-18 the Dominion collected through war taxation as mentioned approximately as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Trust and Loan Companies | \$ 267,500 |
| Insurance Companies | 385,000 |
| Banks | 1,115,500 |
| Tax on Tickets | 2,230,500 |
| Excise Postage | \$309,000 |
| Business Profits | \$1,375,000 |
| Increased Customs | 45,000,000 |

With the object of encouraging thrift the issue of \$50,000,000 worth of War Saving Stamps was begun in the latter part of 1918, this work being placed in the hands of a committee representing the nine provinces. The Dominion in this purpose has been divided into thirteen districts, each with a local organization, and the work is now well under way.

NO REPENTANCE.

The Commission on Responsibility for the War has decided, first, solemnly to condemn the violation of neutrality and all crimes committed by the Central Empires, and, second, to urge the appointment of an international tribunal to judge all those responsible, including the former German emperor.

The Standard today publishes extracts from an interview written under date of March 29, by Harold Begbie, one of the most reputable European correspondents. From this the impression is gathered that the Emperor or William is entirely impotent. He is not only confident in his own mind of his innocence, but regards himself as one who exerted his utmost endeavors to prevent war. He cannot regard seriously the suggestion that he be placed on trial, and declares that if he thought the associated nations even contemplated such a move he would first kill himself, not through fear of the result of such a trial, but because of the insult to his dignity involved in proceedings of that nature when he regards himself as being responsible only to God. The ex-emperor hesitatingly admits that he may have made a few slight mistakes in his life, but these he blames not on his own disposition, but on force of circumstances. His excuse for any slight deviation from the rules of decency is that he succeeded his grandfather, who was an old man surrounded by old men. These elderly statesmen looked upon the youthful emperor as a joke, and this attitude so stirred him that he determined to exert his own personality and develop his powers in defiance of the advice of his elders. The opposition which he had to face only strengthened his determination and made him impatient and headstrong, and in spite of the few unimportant errors of judgment into which he has been led he feels that due to his personal efforts alone Germany became a great commercial and military power.

Russia, of course, in the mind of Emperor William, is entirely to blame for the war. None of the rulers of the nations involved desired hostilities, but England was deceived by the Russian Government, and through this deception was forced to stand by her Allies. William himself was led astray by the military diplomats of the German Empire, who deliberately cultivated that sinister influence in Russian affairs, which secret force led to the world outbreak. This at least in the defence the ex-emperor offers to the charges which will be brought against him, but it is not a defence to which the world will listen with any marked degree of tolerance.

UNFORSEEN?

In the local Government's estimates of expenditures for the current year there appears the following item: "Unforeseen expenses, commission to investigate, \$7,000."

Commission to investigate what? The whereabouts of the vanished surplus, or the permanent roads on which the Minister of Public Works has spent so much money? An investigation into the unforeseen expenses last year might develop some interesting information.

The Government made special warrants for expenditures on ordinary services in excess of legislative appropriations amounting to \$77,743.22. And in addition, they made special warrants for capital expenditures, not provided for by the Legislature, amounting to \$524,586.42. Of this amount \$619,586.42 is for expenditure on permanent road bridges, and \$5,000 for a military ward in the Jordan Memorial Sanatorium. The Government proposes to fund this sum.

HOW THE VOTE STOOD.

Just as a matter of record The Standard publishes herewith the names of those who voted on the Foster resolution concerning certain members of the Opposition in the matter of the potato transaction. Those who supported and opposed the resolution were:

| Yeas. | Nays. |
|--------------|---------------|
| Veniot | Campbell |
| Dugal | Potts |
| Allain | Peck |
| Dysart | Smith (Alb.) |
| LeBlanc | Crocket |
| Michaud | Pinder |
| Leger (West) | Sutton |
| Morereau | Grimmer |
| Melancon | Smith (Char.) |
| Bordage | Carson |
| Robichaud | Dickson |
| Leger (Gla.) | Flintner |
| Byrne | Young |
| McGrath | Tilley |
| King | |
| Burchill | |
| Magee | |
| Robinson | |
| Tweeddale | |
| Smith | |
| Foster | |

This makes a total vote of thirty-six. To the above list should be added to complete the personnel of the House, the four members against whom the resolution was directed, Messrs. Jones, Baxter, Murray and Smith. Also on the side of the Opposition Dr. Taylor of St. George and Mr. Guphill of Grand Manan, unavoidably absent, while on the Government side those not voting included Speaker Hetherington, Hon. William Currie who is ill in the hospital, Dr. Roberts detained at home because of the illness of his mother, Robert J. Smith and F. J. Sweeney. This gives a total of forty-seven members, one vacancy in the Opposition ranks being due to the death of Mr. G. L. White, of Carleton County.

WHAT THEY SAY

To Be Combated.
Calgary Daily Herald—Evidence in the hands of the Ottawa authorities that a genuine Russian Bolshevik movement is afoot in Canada. In the present temper of the people this movement is not to be pool-pooled. Rather it should be combated from its very outset and given no chance to gain a foothold.

Penalties of Neutrality.
Boston Evening Transcript—The proposition to make neutral nations that profited by the war help pay the cost of it will render such countries, if we ever have such countries, disposed to remain in the safety zone and count their gains.

A High-Colored Peril, Anyway.
Chicago News—Enlisting unnumbered Chinese in the Bolshevik army, where they are said to make excellent soldiers, is a conception of the "yellow peril" never presented by professional yellow perilists. It might be called the red and yellow peril.

The Future Not Hopeless.
New York World—Bolshevism has never yet stood its ground against determined opposition. It has gained its triumphs chiefly over populations distracted or terrorized. Wherever real men have resisted it as recently in Berlin and Bremen, it soon faded away. Those who now use the menace of it to sustain their own designs are being used by the Bolsheviks to put down anarchy also, and democracy can only make the process more tragic.

Victory Bonds.
La Patrie—For some time past hundreds of Victory Bonds have been thrown on to the market. Of course the holders of these securities are free to dispose of them when they choose, but it seems extraordinary that so many people should wish to get rid of them prematurely. In one day alone, bonds to the value of a million dollars have changed hands. Are the people who are getting rid of the finest security the State has to offer feeling the pinch of the high cost of living or are they urged by a desire to speculate in other channels?

A BIT OF VERSE

Hunted.
I hated him because he had a dwelling
And kept a maid and swanked in
sinfar pride,
While I, in agony beyond all telling
Sought vainly for a shelter, far and wide,
He bore my woes in philosophic
fashion,
Bidding me smile when absolutely
beat,
Raising within my heart a murderous
sweet.

Then, on a day, I set afoot the rumor
That jolted him from out his selfish
groove.
An inspiration of ardent humor
Put forth the lie, "He is about to
move."
Straightway there came prospective
tenants flocking
In numbers more than human
longs can tell.
His brain was maddened by the
frantic knocking;
His soul was sickened by the cease-
less bell.

Around his home a hungry crowd
there mutters
Of gaunt, howling hunters, frenzied
with despair,
In vain he draws the blinds and shuts
the shutters,
I whisper in their ears that he is
there.
Well has the simple tale repaid the
teller.
For who dared to mock my bitter
pain
Now spends the hours of daylight in
the sun,
Nor will he dare to swank with me
again!
—Touchstone, in London Daily Mail

Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

Mary Watkins didn't come to school today, everybody saying she was sick, and this afternoon I was wawking thru our dining room on my way from seeing if there was anything feeding in the ice box, and all those was some flowers in a thing on the table, and I thawt, G. I'll take them around to Mary Watkins house and leave them for her, and her mother will take them up to her and tell her who brant them.

And I took the flowers out of the thing and took them around to Mary Watkins house and her who was setting on the front steps but Mary Watkins, me quick putting the flowers inside my overcoat and holding them there, saying, I thawt you was sick, and Mary Watkins saying, My goodness no, I just stayed home to go to the dentist, wats that you put inside your coat, it looked like flowers.

Wich, these? I sed. And I pulled them out agen looked kind of mused, saying, Thats wat they are. Meaning flowers. And Mary Watkins sed, You didnt bring them for anybody special, did you? and I sed, No, why? and she sed, O I just wondered, I never saw you wawking with flowers before.

I hardly ever do, I sed. And I kept on going as if I thawt I was going sunwarves, and as soon as I got around the corner I quick went home agen with the flowers, dropping them twice on the way, not doing any good to their appearence, and wile I was putting them back in the thing me looked thru the kitchen do or, saying, Wats for money sakes, so you had them, did you, look at them, theyre a sate, wat on erth have you bin up to?

They looked as if they needed some wattr, I sed.

Well wat do you take them, to? And she sed, ma, and I sed, No main, I just went for a short wawk with them, I thawt maybe it mite rain a little.

Well you take the cake, sed ma.

Wich I do.

A BIT OF FUN

Willie Knew Whers.
Willie was being measured for his first made-to-order suit of clothes. "Do you want the shoulders padded my little man?" inquired the tailor. "No," said Willie significantly, "pad the pants."—Ontario Post.

Profitable Writing.
"I'd like to write a story I'd get paid for."
"Oh, I write home once a month—Answers."

Appropriate Action.
"The end of Bolshevism is near, and I began Professor P. to say, "Kick it as soon as it sets close enough!" interrupted old Gaunt N. Grimm.

A Dark Horse.
Mrs. Galey (with newspaper)—I see they're playing Wagner again.
Mr. Galey—I don't recall that horse. At New Orleans or Havana?—Buffalo Express.

Not In His Library.
Professor—Do you subscribe to the theory of evolution?
Mr. Newrick—I don't think so. Where's it published?

His Place.
"This new clerk doesn't seem to know anything whatever about any thing."
"Well, that won't do for silks or dress goods. Put him in the book department."—Omaha News.

The Excuse is a Mode.
"Late again, Miss Maplewood, I don't pay the same fee the old alarm clock excuse again."
"Oh, no! I won't my new hobble skirt and I couldn't run for my train as usual."

Human Nature.
Man was told that he was below, As you've been told before, But when he gets that little bit He wants a little more.
—Tennyson J. Daff.

Hymn of Hate.
I hate I hate I hate
And who shall dare
To chide me for hating
The dentist's chair.

Or One-Twelfth of a Dozen.
"What kind of a fellow is Smith?" asked Brown.
"O," replied Jones, "he's one of those fellows who asks the price of a carload and then buys a pound."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

A Shudder.
She's fair to see,
But I always sigh
Whenever she speaks
Of "her and I."

THE EDITOR'S MAIL

MOTOR VEHICLE TAX.
River Chario, N.B., April 1, 1919.

Editor St. John Standard.
A few days ago, Mr. Veniot, Minister of Public Works, introduced in the House a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicle Act, by which he proposes to increase the already exorbitant tax of 60 cents per hundred pounds on pleasure cars to 80 cents per hundred pounds.

We will take, for instance, the case of a person purchasing one of the so-called "popular priced" cars, the average weight of which is 3,000 lbs. Before he can operate the same on the dirt highways of New Brunswick, he will have to contribute to the Department of Public Works a registration fee of \$5.00, and in addition a tax of \$4.10, total \$9.10, the ten cents being the last pound of flesh exacted for the payment of postage on the license tags.

According to the World's Almanac for 1919, New Brunswick is the only province in the Dominion using weight instead of horse-power as a basis of calculation, even as West Virginia is the only State in the Union employing the same method. It is difficult to understand why our legislators depend from what is generally considered by engineers as the only just and reasonable standard of levying taxes on motor vehicles unless it is for the purpose of trying to confuse any inquisitive motorist who might want

TO ARRIVE

SEED OATS

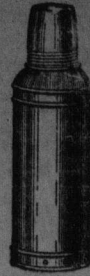
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