

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1919.

LORD LEVERHULME'S SCHEME.

Lord Leverhulme, who is now visiting the United States and will probably come to Canada, is one of the great captains of industry. His present visit is for the purpose of studying the fishing industry, as he desires to introduce new methods among the fishermen of the late of Lewis, which became his property by purchase some years ago.

At Port Sunlight, in England, and at other of his plants throughout the world, he has adopted the six-hour day, and has recommended this departure for the industrial world. Instead of eight hours his plants work two shifts of six hours, and though he pays his employees as much for a six-hour day as for an eight-hour day, he is making more money than ever. In his factories machinery is utilized to an extent probably only surpassed in Ford's motor works, and no doubt he finds it profitable to keep his machinery working four hours extra each day. That other manufacturers who do not rely so much on machinery could achieve the same results is doubtful. Moreover, Lord Leverhulme started his experiment at a time he had no trouble in finding a market for his extra output of soap. For the ordinary manufacturer in normal times the problem of production is generally easier than the problem of finding a market. In most big concerns the high priced men are usually employed on the selling end.

Before the war Lord Leverhulme's scheme would have been considered revolutionary, but these revolutionary times, and new ideas are not turned down simply because they are new.

Applied to the manufacturing industries of Canada as a whole we get an interesting result. Government statistics of the manufacturing industry of Canada for 1917 give the following:

Capital invested \$2,773,519,080
 Wages of employees 477,346,468
 Salaries 96,985,400
 Value of raw material 1,402,000,000
 Value of the product 2,015,000,000
 On the basis of these figures the Canadian manufacturer is able to produce a commodity of a value of \$100, pays a little less than \$10 in wages, \$5 in salaries, and a little over \$80 for raw material, leaving him \$21 for power, overhead expenses and profit. Incidentally, it may be noted that supporting other expenses remained the same as an increase of 100 per cent. in wages would only justify an increase of 16 per cent. in the price of the product. Assuming that the manufacturer were working on an average of eight hours a day, the extension of the day to twelve hours would with uniform production increase the output by fifty per cent.; that is value of the product would be \$150. Included in this unit of production there would be wages and salaries for the two shifts, amounting to \$38, and \$75 worth of raw material, leaving \$87 for power, overhead charges and profit.

U. S. CLERGY AND LEAGUE.

The clergymen of the United States appear to be almost solid for the League of Nations. The National Committee on the Churches and Moral Aims of the War sent a postal enquiry to clergymen of all denominations; twenty to one they supported the League; and a monster petition, signed by 17,000 clergymen scattered over every State, was presented to the Senate, calling for the ratification of the League Covenant in a way that would not cause its re-submission to the powers in Paris.

The Christian Work says:

"Contemplate the power of the message of seventeen thousand preachers constantly calling for a League of Nations and you can see the doom of the evil forces that keep the human family apart. Socialism may continue for a span, but its days are numbered. Commercial exploitation may persuade itself that it is immortal, but its days are in the yellow leaf. Militarism and nationalism may hold their serpentine heads above water for a little time, but soon they will go under. Too long have they been permitted to swim their slimy way into the life of nations, but their glory has forever departed."

"It would be an interesting thing to observe the success of any petition circulated among the ministers by the opponents of the League calling for signatures of those against ratification. The result of such a task would be a sorry sight. The mail that recently brought over seventeen thousand favorable replies brought word from only 935 that they opposed the League, or were not in favor of ratifying the Covenant without drastic changes."

The Christian Work finds it easy to understand why the vast majority of clergymen favor the League. "They have," it says, "been leading their flocks to a consideration of the Golden Rule. They have cried aloud and spared not those whose purpose in life is one of domination and not service. The Fatherhood of God and the

Brotherhood of Man have been their constant themes." And it adds:

"With joy they hail the coming day when the League, infused by the spirit of Christ, will be a living reality. They look forward to the new foundations built upon justice. They are sick of the unsound foundations of the past. They hope for the full co-operation of the nations in all matters of great and common concern. They hope that the League Council will soon get busy on the question of armaments. They are sick of armed peace, sick of the shameful record made by compulsory military service, sick of nations treating each other as if they are crooks to be forever armed against, sick of big nations being parasites on the back of little nations, sick of greed, sick of hate, sick of the whole philosophy out of which came the fire of hell in 1914."

NATIONALIZATION.

The question of nationalization is receiving more attention in Great Britain than it appears to be doing in St. John. At the special Congress of the Trade Union Congress the question is to be decided whether or not a general strike is to be called to induce the Government to nationalize the mines. Lloyd George offered a limited form of nationalization touching areas where owing to the system of ownership several shafts were sunk to mine one coal seam, an interference with private ownership which would have been considered revolutionary before the war. But Smilley and his advisors are determined to force the issue on the question of the nationalization of all the mines. At the summer session of the Trades Congress a resolution was passed by an overwhelming vote favoring nationalization of the mines, but when the matter was laid before the Premier he declared his Government would not submit to such a proposition. The special Congress has been called to decide what will be done now. The miners want a general strike, which would be in the character of a rebellion against the State, and might easily lead to civil war. On the other hand, the Labor Party is pulling its weight to make the question an issue at the next election, believing that it is only a matter of a few years before a Labor Government will be in power, and able to nationalize anything it wants to. The recent successes of Labor in the by-election, and the rather surprising strength the Labor Party developed in the municipal elections, may persuade the Congress to steer clear of the dangerous course of direct action.

The National Railway Union has demanded the nationalization of the railways, which are now under Government control, and the Premier's reply to this was to offer the railway men positions on the Board of Management. At the present time the shareholders do not appear to be anxious to take the railways out of the control of the Government, so doubt feeling it is better able to deal with the demands of the men than they are. Under Government management the Ministry reports a growing deficit, but it is worth noting that at about the time the Minister was telling the railway employees that the deficit was £20,000,000 the Chairman of the Scottish Association of Railway Shareholders was telling that body that the Government had made a profit of £20,000,000, which justified them in asking higher rentals. The latter claimed that the Government was not allowing freight on a great amount of Government traffic.

The nationalization bug has now bitten the seamen. The National Sailors' and Firemen's Union have decided to take a vote on the question of demanding the nationalization of the shipping of the Kingdom. Havelock Wilson and the other conservative leaders of the seamen do not take much stock in this idea, but shipowners who made fortunes during the war without making provision for the relatives of the seamen killed, has produced a strong feeling in favor of Government control of shipping.

Sir Leo Chinnery Money says the yarn that Old England is standing towards financial shipwreck does not hold water.

Perhaps the striking freight handlers are waiting for a job loading airplanes at St. John.

While St. John is making up its mind about the Court House it may obtain some relaxation contemplating the possibility of building an aerodrome.

St. John will now dream of being a great air port. Halifax has more than once suggested that it was a great hot-air port.

With the prospect of St. John becoming the centre of a great system of aerial transport held out by the enterprising young man from Nova Scotia, Mr. Venetis will not need to

spend much of that \$45,000,000 he says he requires in this neighborhood, and perhaps Premier Foster instead of extending the Valley Railway to Annapolis will arrange for an air line there.

The ocean was not friendly to the first German ship that has found its way to Canada since the war. Less friendly than that British shipmaster, who though he had been torpedoed and fired on in open boats by Germans, stopped to take off a wounded member of the German crew. Despite the atrocities wrought by the U-boats, the British seaman apparently clings to the tradition of succor on the sea.

Being keen on Nationalization, The Times can have no use for Mackenzie King and his supporters in Parliament.

WHAT THEY SAY

Should Not Vote.

(Calgary Herald.)
 It is suggested that in the new election set military defectors will be denied the franchise. If it should be so no one would mourn unduly. It would be an act that the country who will not fight for his country is not worthy to be called a voter.

Hamilton in a Hurry.
 (Montreal Herald.)
 The unhealthy concomitants of political control of railways are well known. As soon as the Senate passed the Grand Trunk measure the Hamilton papers came out with a demand that the Government should erect a brand new station for that city. Yet the station there is quite as good as the Grand Trunk station in Montreal, if not better.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE RED FLAG.

Across the cold, gray steps there creeps
 A stain, like fire, along the sky.
 Where in the frozen twilight hush
 Far glows the blood-red flag on high.

A torch! It lights with lurid glare
 An empire wasted, spoiled, and dead—
 A land of graves and strange, mad
 And blackened homes whence life has fled.

What though the wild mob seized a throne,
 And slew the rich for gems and gold,
 In crying words they starve and die,
 The young and strong, the sick and old.

For when the fearful Piper called
 The peaceful tollers stormed the place,
 And tore great, shining cities down,
 And wrecked the fields of yellow grain,
 Though pale pale wraiths of children weep,
 The morning brings no task, nor end.

For none but ghostly workmen make
 The broken, idle wheels go round.
 Yet there in wastes of woe and blood,
 Where Hunger stills the feeble breath,
 That flaming symbol hangs unveiled,
 A nation's shroud, the flag of death.
 —Murray Ketchum Kirk in New York Times.

A BIT OF FUN

Defined.

"Do you know what a polytechnic is?"
 "Of course, stupid; it is a hospital for parrots."

After the Suspension.
 "You say the fight was suspended. Did the defendant go home in the interim?"
 "No, sir; he went to the hospital in an ambulance."

A Nasty Man.
 Wife (with newspaper): "Just think of it! A couple got married a few days ago after a courtship which lasted fifty years."
 Husband: "I suppose the poor old man was too feeble to hold out any longer."

THE EDITOR'S MAIL

THE UNITED FARMERS AND THE TARIFF.

To the Editor of The Standard:
 Dear Sir,—I notice in your issue of the 27th ult., an account of the Telegram sent to Sir Robert Borden from Woodstock, by the President and Secretary of the United Farmers. I wish to call attention to such a telegram:

"I. No one objects to them making their representation to the Government, but the Government has not acted yet in the matter of adjusting the tariff, and because certain Boards of Trade in Ontario, and representatives of some of the manufacturers there have suggested a 'Commission' to advise as to tariff adjustment, these United Farmers make a prediction and also a survey, and make a threat." They think they are sure of carrying the next Federal election from the East to the West of this broad Dominion. Do they have a brief or have access to the minds of the electors in this vast electorate from Halifax to Vancouver? These farmers are free traders. If they want to hedge at the issue of Free Trade vs. Protection; and if they are wise in making predictions, and we can in this world only reason of things unknown by things that are known, and by comparing that issue whenever it has been tried from the years 1878 to 1911 by the results obtained under such leaders as McKenna in 1878, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier before the people of Canada, they will hardly realize the prediction of Mr. T. W. Chidwell, President, and Mr. Gordon Sharp, Secretary of the United Farmers of N. B.

2. They are, it would appear, looking at their own selfish interests, and have overlooked the fact that the United Government is doing all in its

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

He and Pads Skinkins and Leroy Shooter were standing around the lam post yesterday afternoon, and some man came up holding one side of his face with both hands, saying, Can any of you boys tell me where there's a dentist in this neighborhood?

There's one 2 blocks away and one about 6 blocks away, said Pads Skinkins, and the man said, Well, where's the nearest?

Two blocks away, said Pads, and the man said, I know that, I know that, I mean what direction?

It takes you there, mister, I said.
 So will I, mister, said Pads and Leroy Shooter. With we all started to do, we wawking in front of the man and Pads and Leroy Shooter wawking on each side of him. Being a middle size man with a small size mustash, and about half way to the dentists we started to go past Sid Hunt and Skinny Martin, Leroy Shooter saying, Come on along fellows, heers a mans got a tooth ake and we're taking him to the dentists.

With Sid and Skinny started to come too, the man saying, Come on, I don't need every kid in the city to show me the way.

There's only 5 of us, mister, said Pads Skinkins. Wich jest then we came to the dentists, all us 5 fellows going in shed of the man to show him the way, the man saying, Doctor, I've got a terrible tooth heer, Im afraid it will haff to come out.

It look at it, are all these yours? said the dentist. Meaning us 5 fellows, and the man red, Hevins no they jest showed me the way heer and I suppose they want to see the show, I don't need them if you don't.

Clear out, said the dentist, Meaning us 5 fellows, and Pads said, I was the one told him about you, cant I stay?

This is no side show, said the dentist. Meaning he couldn't and we all went out agen, Pads saying, The next time anybody wants a dentist I'll take them to the other one. And we stood out on the pavement a little while, to see if we could heer any yells, wich we didnt so we all went back to the lam post.

Power to assist the Allied Nations in their work, which has been begun, and as Sir George H. Foster said recently before the Canadian Society in New York, "We are responsible in the face of God, to see that it is done, and hundreds of millions in Europe are on the verge of anarchy and chaos, and hundreds of millions there without bread. There are vast numbers who do not know where to look for help except to the Allied nations." Away with all our petty strife, and away with all our national considerations! Let us measure up to the spirit of the battlefied by showing to these peoples that the light of liberty kindled in the war shall not go out. "Don't leave the task half done. By continuing you will have done for the world the greatest stroke of policies, of statesmanship, that ever has been done."

3. These Farmers make a threat against the United Government and Sir Robert Borden, instead of trying to assist, because the said few Boards of Trade and representatives of a few Ontario manufacturers suggest to him a commission on tariff matters, we must have revenue if we are to assist in the above great work. These threats, too, are of Bolshevism rather than of Democracy.

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ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

When Frederick Gorman was asked in the police court yesterday if he was guilty of attempting suicide, he said he was sorry to say he did. About 1.40 o'clock yesterday morning he jumped off a wharf at West St. John, then swam to a ladder, climbed up on the wharf, was arrested and conveyed to the police station. The man said he was a returned soldier and was taking a course in Fredericton, and when signing some military papers thought he had made a false declaration. This had been worrying him and he decided to end it all. He was allowed to return to Fredericton.

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