

## The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B. TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 1914.

### ST. JOHN AND HALIFAX

The statement made by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries in Parliament yesterday should be abundantly satisfactory to all but the bitterest Grit partisans. Mr. Hazen declared that in the making of any future contracts for the carrying of British mails, St. John must be given consideration. He intimated that there might be a division of the service which should prove an excellent solution of the problem and would probably satisfy both ports. It was not unexpected that Mr. A. K. MacLean of Halifax should attempt to make political capital against the Government in the Nova Scotia capital by declaring it as his belief that the Government interfered in the mail arrangements of last winter to have the Royal Liners sent to that port. Mr. MacLean's remarks, of course, are intended for Nova Scotia consumption, but if he is at all correct in his statement, it would seem that the criticism of Mr. Hazen and the Government which has appeared in the Telegraph and Times has been entirely for political purposes. As The Standard has previously pointed out an arrangement which favors St. John at the expense of Halifax or any other port should not afford ground for criticism to those St. John people who have been crying "give us the business no matter what happens." If this has been done, and Mr. MacLean claims it has, then there was little room for fault-finding from that portion of the public or press. If, on the other hand, there was no discrimination against Halifax then there should be no ground for complaint in the sister city. Yet the Grit opposition in both cities is placed in the position of declaring that each has a grievance against the Government.

If the service should be divided, as Mr. Hazen intimated it might be, it should satisfy St. John as well as Halifax. The main thing is the suggestion that St. John and Halifax should get together and stop quarrelling. As it looks at present the amount of business, both passenger and freight, to be handled through this port next winter and in succeeding winters will be limited only by the port's ability to care for it.

### A USEFUL SESSION.

It is now expected that the Parliament of Canada will prorogue on Thursday if nothing intervenes to prevent the carrying out of this programme. The House opened on January 15th and, with the exception of the usual adjournment at Easter, has been in session for almost five months. Principally has it been remarkable for the passage of an unusual amount of useful and beneficial legislation. On every occasion the Government has shown itself to be a government for the people and the best interest of the whole of Canada has been kept to the front in every measure passed. Particularly has the Government looked with careful eye to the interests of the agriculturists in Canada. The amount of aid to agriculture has been largely increased, the expenditures on that account having almost doubled since Hon. Martin Burrell, himself a practical farmer and orchardist, took charge of that department of the administration, while the Bill to aid agriculture, appropriating ten million dollars for co-operation with the provinces of Canada in the development of that important national industry, is the most progressive proposition ever adopted by a Canadian government.

During the present session Mr. Burrell was responsible for two measures designed to protect the interests of both the producer and the consumer. One was to regulate cold storage warehouses, and the other to regulate the sale and manufacture of dairy products. In both of these wise provisions is made whereby existing abuses will be remedied. The first named bill aims to prevent cold storage concerns from attempting to hold up both farmers and consumers, and the latter to make more stringent the penalties for the adulteration of butter and other products of the dairy.

Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice, took a long step in the direction of Imperial Unity when he introduced the Naturalization Bill which creates an Empire-wide citizenship, and altogether is a broad patriotic and highly commendable piece of legislation. Hon. T. W. Crothers, Minister of Labor, was responsible for various measures designed to aid and benefit the working men of Canada. One of the most important of these was the legislation which forbids the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches. Mr. Coderre, also, in his measure regulating the use and sale of explosives, became responsible for a valuable piece of legislation intended to minimize the risk to those whose daily employment requires them to work with explosives.

Hon. Mr. Foster introduced a bill of much importance which provided for

the extension of the powers of the Grain Commission to Eastern Canada which, hitherto, has been confined to the West. Under the new legislation the Commission will have control over eastern, as well as western elevators, and over the grain inspection in the east.

Hon. Mr. Hazen has been well abreast of his colleagues in the production of useful legislation. Important measures affecting matters over which he has control have been the Fisheries Act, which greatly improves that act, measures to increase the efficiency of aids to navigation and to amend the Shipping Act.

The tariff measure introduced by the Finance Minister, Hon. W. T. White, stands out as one of the most important items dealt with during the session. The tariff changes decided upon were prepared with the one idea of adding to the prosperity of the country, and were such as to draw much support even from the most aggressive members of the Opposition party.

By the tariff provisions the steel industry has been placed upon a better basis without injury or hardship to the consumer and there has been a greater reduction in the duty on agricultural implements than the Liberal party made effective during its whole term of office.

Then there is the measure to aid the Canadian Northern Railway, a measure which not only saves a great industry from possible bankruptcy but also amply safeguards the interests of the country at large.

Two important and progressive measures which, because of lack of time, could not be taken up this session, were the bill to consolidate the Railway Act and the Co-operative Credit Bill. Both will be taken up next session. They will be found to be most advanced pieces of legislation of great value.

Taken in all, the session has been a most useful one. Aside from the value of the bills passed it has shown that the Government party is united on the great questions affecting the country at large. As much cannot be said for the Opposition. The lack of harmony in the Liberal ranks was many times made apparent, especially during the tariff debate, when every Grit member seemed to have a little policy all his own. The Government forces can face the next session with every confidence that the country's affairs have been well administered and that the Canadian people, when the next appeal is made to them, will be outspoken in their endorsement of the Conservative policy.

### THE FARMERS' BANK.

Liberal newspapers, especially those in the Province of Quebec, are assailing the Government because it was deemed advisable that the state should reimburse depositors in the defunct Farmers' Bank. They made the claim that if this action is taken the Government has just as much right to aid the depositors in Quebec banks. "If this is good for Ontario, why not for Quebec?" asks the Montreal Herald. Certainly it is good for Quebec, and if the Liberal or any other Liberal newspaper can show that the conditions surrounding any of the defunct Quebec banks are similar to those of the Farmers' Bank it would be the duty of the Government to reimburse the depositors. But first it must be shown that these banks were granted charters after the finance minister of the government of the day had been warned against them because of their unstable character.

Hon. Mr. Fielding was advised not to grant a charter to the Farmers' Bank but he disregarded all warnings and thousands of people have reason to curse his action. The condition which makes it necessary for the present Government to reimburse the depositors in that institution was created through the inattention to business on the part of the Laurier government. It is a debt of honor which the present administration must liquidate. That Liberal newspapers should criticize the action is not only bad form but ingratitude.

### WHAT IMPRESSED "SHERLOCK HOLMES"

Sir A. Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, one of the greatest characters in twentieth century fiction, is a visitor to Canada at the present time and in his journeyings through this country he is making good use of that power of observation with which he has plentifully endowed his wonderful detective. Asked by a newspaper reporter to state what had most impressed him as a visitor to Canada Sir Conan Doyle said:

"As a British tariff reformer I am much struck by the way in which American industrial concerns are forced to establish branch factories over the Canadian line."

The British visitor is not alone in this. The same thing has struck the

Canadian people with equal force. Canadians are greatly pleased to recognize among the industrial factors of this country factories employing hundreds of men that but for the defeat of reciprocity, and the strict adherence to the principle of the National Policy, would never have come here. Also significant in this regard is the following item from the London, Ont., Free Press:

A Londoner having an exclusive article of manufacture left this week for Germany, with the announcement that his firm would build a factory in Germany. He said that this factory would supply the English market as well as the German market. The result is that German workmen will make the goods for the English, Scotch and Irish consumers for the Frenchman, his goods will be turned out in his own country and by his fellow countrymen.

Advocates of "free trade as they have it in England" should study the statement of Sir Conan Doyle as well as that of the Ontario manufacturer. Free Trade countries import the finished product. Where a protective tariff is in force the raw material is brought in and the process of manufacture carried on in the country which enjoys protection. Which is the more likely to appeal to the Canadian workman?

### Diary of Events

#### HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

Hamilton, the flourishing industrial metropolis at the west end of Lake Ontario, put on city airs sixty-eight years ago today, June 9, 1846, when it was formally admitted to the sisterhood of Canadian cities. It was a "city" in name only, however, for its great manufacturing enterprises of today were then undreamed of, and it was just a quiet little village, serving as a trade centre for the surrounding country. When the Province of Upper Canada was created in 1791, the principal landowner in the vicinity of the present city was Richard Beasley, who was both farmer and trader. He had there were several other settlers in the neighborhood. The site of Hamilton early attracted the attention of the first Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, Maj.-Gen. J. Graves Simcoe, and that builder of cities is believed to have considered its possibilities as the seat of government. In any event, he considered it an excellent location for a town, but Beasley asked what the Governor thought was an unreasonable price for the property on the Heights, although it would doubtless be deemed an excellent base for the future sites of London and Toronto chose the latter as the capital of the Province, and christened it York. The proposal to plant a town at the western end of Lake Ontario languished until after the outbreak of 1812, when the British evacuated the city and the United States and England. It was then that George Hamilton, a young farmer living near Niagara, sought greater safety from the enemy by removing to the site of Hamilton, and thus became the real founder of the city which bears his name. He not only perpetuated his family name, but in laying out the streets of the village he christened them after members of his family, including Hannah, Catherine, Augusta, Maria, James and John. From this humble beginning Hamilton has developed into a city of over 100,000 people, and one of the most important industrial centres of the Dominion.

### THE PASSING DAY

#### A RUSSIAN GALA DAY.

In the Russian calendar the ninth of June is a date of profound and historic importance, for it marks the anniversary of the birth in 1817 of Peter Alexievitch, usually styled Peter the Great, who was the creator of modern Russia, the father of such civilization as Russia may be said to possess, and the founder of St. Petersburg, as well as the first czar of Muscovy to assume the title of Emperor. All students of history are familiar with the career of Peter the statesman and soldier, who, disguised as a workman, toiled in an Amsterdam shipyard in order that he might introduce the art of shipbuilding among his people; who, inspired by his tutor, Lefort, a Genoese, determined to introduce the arts and sciences of civilization into Russia, and visited Holland, England and Germany, keenly observing and learning all that he could of trade, manufactures, commerce and the arts, and who introduced this leaven of civilization into a land which had been plunged into dark, barbarism. The student also knows that the Father of His Country, while reforming others, neglected to reform himself—an omission not peculiar to Peter—and remained to the last a coarse and brutal savage and tyrant, addicted to the meanest vices, and finding his greatest joy in torturing his enemies. Often he lopped off ten or twenty heads in succession, and was immensely proud of his horrid dexterity with the sword. Of Peter the lover less has been written, yet this cruel barbarian was not without romantic privileges. During the early period of his reign he jointly occupied the Muscovite throne with his brother, Ivan V., a weak and feeble person, but after seven years of intrigue Peter ruled alone. His first wife, Eudoxia, was a refined woman of noble birth, but Peter soon tired of her, and imprisoned her in a monastery, where, ill-cared and underfed, she spent twenty-four years of torture. One of the most pitiful love letters ever written was addressed by Eudoxia to Major Glebof, a soldier who, by his kindness, has inspired passion in the breast of the luckless ex-czarina. To her lover she wrote:

"Come to me. Without thee I shall die. . . . Send me but a crust of bread thou hast bitten with thy teeth, or the waistcoat thou hast often worn, that I may have something to bring thee near to me."

In 1703 Peter privately married Catherine, a girl of peasant birth, who had been a courtesan, and who was the spouse of a Swedish dragon when Peter first cast scornful eyes upon her. Peter was infatuated with Cath-

## Little Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE.

I wasn't extra good yesterday, and wen pop calm hoam ma told him and he sed, is that so, well, as Dustyuffsky ses in Krime and Punishment. Do as you have been dun by, yung man, you will kindly remane in the house this eveing.

Wich I did, heering the fellos out in the street wasseling for me wile I was in the setting room.

Pop, I sed aftir a wile.

Wats the trouble, sed pop.

The fellos is wasseling for me, I sed.

Let them wassel, sed pop.

Wich I did, jest setting there lissening to them, and aftir a wile I felt in my pants pocket and pulled out a littel box, sayins, Wat do you think I got in heer, ma.

Hevlin only noz, sed ma.

Wat do you think, pop, I sed.

Nothing senserbil, I be bownd, sed pop.

Yes sir, I sed, sumbunng usefil, if it wasent for wat I got in this box there woodnt be eny fisherman.

For gooddass sakes, sed mo, wat in the world is it.

Do you give it up, I sed.

Wat is it, did you heer me ask you, sed ma.

Answer yure mothr, sed pop.

Werns, I sed.

Wat, sed ma.

Wat, sed pop.

Werns, I sed, do you want to see them.

No, sed ma verry lowd, Benny Potts, you take those horribil things out of this house immediatly and nevvr bring them back.

Pop sed I coudent go out, I sed.

Benny, obey yure mothr, sed pop.

Yes sir, I sed. And I went out and the fellos was awl standing awn the payment wasseling for me, Sid Hunt sayins, G, you must be deff, wats in that box.

Nothing, I sed.

Wich there wasent.

erine, who was of Livonian birth, because she possessed a sumptuous and voluptuous figure and was an expert at ironing shirts. In one of his love letters, written to Catherine while he was away on a campaign, Peter sighed: "I am dull without you—and there is nobody to take care of my shirts."

When Peter was away fighting the sickle Catherine amused herself with intrigues with her courtiers. One of these affairs came to the attention of Peter, and he chopped off the head of the guilty man and exposed it to public view on a scaffold in the palace yard. Later Peter had the decapitated head preserved in spirits and placed in a bottle in the Empress's apartments, but this horrid souvenir of her love affair did not daunt Catherine, who remained fickle and faithless to the last. When Peter died, after very severe suffering, in 1725, the former peasant girl ascended the throne as

Empress Catherine I., and ruled as autocrat of all the Russias until her death in 1727.

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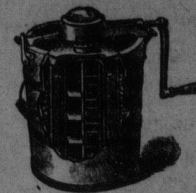
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