

# The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1912.

## THE CAMPAIGN FOR IMPERIAL PREFERENCE.

A mild and inoffensive paragraph in a letter sent out by the London Committee in charge of the Chamberlain Birthday Fund has roused the ire of the Telegraph, because in a reference to Mr. Chamberlain's policy of Imperial Preference a slight allusion is made to the fact that his policy was justified in the result of the Canadian elections last September. The Telegraph takes the opportunity to hold another inept over the dead bones of arguments which, as the result proved, had no weight with the Canadian electorate, and concludes by declaring that it is "shameful" that the Liberal party, which instituted and increased the British Preference, "should now be misrepresented in Great Britain by its own representatives and their political allies among the English Tories."

In the general election campaign of last year one of the strongest and most convincing arguments which conducted to the defeat of the Liberal party's policy was based on the contention that reciprocity with the United States would practically destroy Imperial Preference. It was an argument which was never answered, for the sufficient reason that the Laurier Government in their eagerness for free trade with a foreign country had ignored the effect this policy would have on the Canadian tariff throughout the Empire and with other nations.

When the Agreement came to be considered it was discovered that the arrangement would apply not only to the United States but to the whole of the British Empire, and to twelve other countries—Argentina, Austria-Hungary, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Switzerland, Spain, Japan, Columbia, Bolivia and Venezuela. In 1908 six of these countries exported \$512,000,000 worth of butter, cheese, eggs, animals, grain, vegetables, fruits, hay, etc. Australia, British India and New Zealand, whose agricultural products would also have come in under the Agreement, exported \$140,000,000 of these products. Canada was to pay a price which the United States was not required to pay. That price was the admission to the Canadian market of the agricultural and natural products of these twelve nations and of all British possessions. By the adoption of reciprocity the hope of Imperial Preference would have been destroyed. There would have been no tariff left in natural products on which to base a preference.

There was no effective answer to this argument. If any further proof were needed it is to be found in the subsequent action of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the Imperial Conference in May last year. On his motion a resolution was adopted asking the British Government to abrogate the treaties with the twelve favored nations. The resolution was as follows:

"That His Majesty's Government be requested to open negotiations with the several foreign Governments having treaties which apply to the Overseas Dominions with a view to securing liberty for any of those Dominions, which may so desire, to withdraw from the operation of the Treaty without impairing the Treaty in respect of the rest of the Empire."

A more candid admission of the entanglement in which the Laurier Government had themselves could not have been made. Sir Edward Grey held out little hope at the Conference that the twelve nations would consent to the terms of the resolution. His view of the situation appears to have been justified. At the beginning of 1912 it was announced that only one of the countries had consented to re-open these arrangements.

In the light of these facts the Telegraph has no cause for complaint because the London Committee of the Chamberlain Birthday Fund acknowledge that the Canadian elections gave support to Mr. Chamberlain's policy of Imperial Preference. In the general election the people of Canada, in repudiating the Agreement, endorsed the policy of Mr. Borden and Mr. Chamberlain for closer trade relations within the Empire. The Telegraph may parade the fact that the Liberal party instituted the British Preference but the equally important fact that in reciprocity with the United States a death blow would have struck at Imperial Preference must not be overlooked.

## BRITISH POPULATION.

In a review of the first volume of the detailed census of the United Kingdom in a British exchange, it is stated that "the population of England and Wales at midnight of Sunday, April 2, 1911, was 36,070,492, or 4.77 less than the figure published in the preliminary report, and an increase of 3,542,449 on the total for 1901. For the first time the number of families has been ascertained with approximate accuracy; it was 7,970,660, with an average of persons per family of 4.4—that is, of every two families one has two children and the other set three on an average. There were in addition 1,294,000 persons resident in institutions."

Some percentages of increase of population are given in a little table which shows that Canada leads the list in increase, while Ireland is lowest in the decreases, Norway and Italy leading:

Highest.		Lowest.
Canada.....	34.1	Ireland.....1.7
New Zealand.....	30.5	Switzerland.....1.6
United States.....	21.0	Scotland.....6.4
Germany.....	15.2	Italy.....6.3
	Norway.....6.3	

These figures are for the previous decade. England and Wales show an increase of 10.9 per cent. and the whole United Kingdom 9.1 per cent. The decrease in Ireland is very much less than in the previous decade, when it was 9.1 per cent.

There are in the United Kingdom 17,445,608 males and 18,624,889 females. It is to be remembered, however, that the British census is a de facto enumeration, that is, only the people actually in the country are counted. Hence all absentees on military or naval service, in the mercantile marine, in fishing vessels, even if only on shore, and all business men abroad are not counted. On the other hand all persons temporarily in the country are counted, but it is probable that in this case the women would offset the men numerically.

The greatest excess of women is in East Sussex, where there are 1,256 women to every 1,000 men; in Cardigan the number is 1,224, and in Surrey 1,168. The

following table shows the number of women to 1,000 men in the countries named, and here again Canada leads:

Highest.		Lowest.
Norway.....	1069	Canada.....888
England.....	1068	Ceylon.....888
Scotland.....	1063	New Zealand.....896
Denmark.....	1061	Australia.....926
Sweden.....	1046	South Africa.....941

In England more boys are born than girls, but the mortality of males is higher.

## THE RHODES MEMORIAL.

Cecil Rhodes' birthday, July 5th, was celebrated on the rugged side of Table Mountain overlooking Cape Town, by the unveiling of the Rhodes National Memorial. The eulogy was pronounced by Earl Grey. It was an address, says the Toronto News in a review of the ceremonies, vibrant with patriotic fervor, full of dignity, rich in the wise eloquence of simplicity, and polished after the simile of a palace. The subject was a notable one—Cecil Rhodes and the British Empire.

The Memorial, which is one of the noblest works of sculpture and architecture in existence, is a happy combination of the genius of G. F. Watts, R.A., J. M. Swan, R.A., and Herbert Baker, an eminent South African architect. A Doric peristyle of granite forming three sides of a huge square is backed against the mountain. Down a long flight of easy stone steps flanked on each side by four bronze lions of immense size, one comes to the central figure, Watts' famous heroic conception in bronze of a horse and his rider, a work known to the world by its title *Physical Energy*. The lions are by Swan. Within the peristyle is Swan's bust of Rhodes, treated in a free poetic style, and called *The Thinker*. The site is close to the Rhodes home, at a point where the prospect includes both oceans and a vast expanse of smiling countryside. In his lifetime the great builder had a fervent love for this particular spot and had a task bench placed there for the accommodation of passersby.

The Cape Times quotes Earl Grey as follows with reference to the Memorial: "It is a monument which speaks to us not of a dead man but of a living force. Everywhere the traveler goes in South Africa he finds it, and that impresses him even more than the material signs of Rhodes' handiwork which are everywhere conspicuous. Even more than the vast territory that bears his name is the new spirit that one sees in the hearts of men. If you are wise you will cherish this spirit, which is Rhodes' own, as your most precious heritage, and you will never forget that when the vision fades the city perishes."

The vision of a united and deep-founded Empire can never fail. In the future, as in the past, the Anglo-Saxon will stand for the things that are worth while in politics as in life—freedom, truth and the protection of the weak.

## CHINESE POLITICS.

Chinese politics, under the new order of things, appear to be in rather a chaotic condition. With the first genuine elections in all Chinese history almost upon them, the voters are not facing a clear alignment of parties. The most widely known, if not the most widespread of these, according to the Shanghai Celestial Empire, is the Tung Ming Hui, whose platform is Socialistic. It has not hitherto been a purely political party, but is now proposing to become so, and to signalize the change by altering its name. Another party organization is reported to have declared for a non-partisan cabinet. This apparently high-minded policy is interpreted as being a sign that this party realizes that it cannot secure all the offices for itself. Five other groups are about to amalgamate. No one, however, seems to be sure of the platform of any of these three great parties except that of the first.

The danger in the coming election is that the credulous and inexperienced voter will accept pronouncements at their face value. The Chinese are still under the spell of the printed page. The party that conducts a well-organized campaign, therefore, will have an excellent chance of winning with any platform whatever. In all these matters, nevertheless, the difference between East and West looks exceedingly like one of degree merely. The great step has been taken in substituting the ballot for the more direct method of assaulting an unpopular official and burning his house.

## Current Comment

Vacuum Street Cleaners.  
(Ottawa Free Press.)

Habitual infection from house dust, according to Sir James Grant, is the most common cause of the spreading of tuberculosis. But the dust of the streets is also charged with danger and even death. The danger is becoming widely recognized, so that in many cities today the principal cleaning of streets is done at night, and accomplished as an almost dustless operation by automobile vacuum street cleaners.

## Woman's Prerogative.

A Venetian prelate, Cardinal Callegari, speaking from the pulpit, denounced the "shameless frumpiness" of women in their costumes. He might as well have spared his breath. While granting him the inalienable right of caring for their souls, they will never yield their time-honored prerogative of clothing their bodies as they see fit.

## Missed His Name.

Note to Charlie Parmelee, King's Printer: "We beg to acknowledge receipt of blue book containing list of shareholders of the chartered banks of Canada. We searched in vain to see if our name were written there. Is this a typographical error or according to copy?"

## Without a Peer.

"Roosevelt," says Judge William Watson, of Brooklyn, "is a Moses, a Mahommed and a Zoroaster. The judge may intend to be complimentary, but why drag in these people? There is no T. R. but T. R., and T. R. is his prophet."

## A Convenient Memory.

Every statesman who argues for freedom of toll to coastwise vessels in passing through the Panama Canal is almost certain to forget to quote that part of the treaty with Great Britain which bears on that question.

## "Shame Tags."

"Shame tags," such as "Keep the end seat," and "Make them climb over you," are suggested as a cure for street car "end seat hogs" in Washington.

## In a Class By Themselves.

(Quebec Telegraph.)  
Chicago now has a court to deal exclusively with offences committed by users of automobiles.

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## DUKE-TO ATTEND CATHEDRAL OPENING

Royal Party will be in Capital for Ceremony—Archbishop of Ottawa and Other Distinguished Clergy.

Fredericton, Aug. 20.—Regarding the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught here next Saturday, Very Rev. Dean Schofield said yesterday that arrangements were going forward for the re-opening of Christ Church Cathedral with the idea of having it as great a festival as when the cathedral was originally consecrated on Aug. 31st, 1853. The cathedral chapters of eastern Canada will be represented, and it is expected that there will be about 70 clergymen in the procession, including at least a dozen from outside the diocese of Fredericton.

The festival will continue over Sunday with the celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a. m., morning prayer at 10.15 a. m., choral celebration of Holy Communion at 11 a. m., with the bishop of Nova Scotia as the preacher and Evening song at 7 p. m., with the bishop of Fredericton as preacher. An organ recital and sacred concert is planned for Sunday afternoon and on Saturday evening there will be a service without sermon at 7.30. The archbishop of Ottawa and other visiting clergy are to remain in the city over Sunday and on Saturday afternoon a garden party will be given at the deanery.

The new organ, which is to be installed at the cathedral, will be in use for the first time, and there will be a choir of from 75 to 100 soloists, including Mrs. McArdle, of New York; Mrs. H. B. Schofield and G. S. Mayes of St. John. There will be a number of offerings from St. John as well as several from this city outside of the cathedral congregation. The festival will continue over Sunday with the celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a. m., morning prayer at 10.15 a. m., choral celebration of Holy Communion at 11 a. m., with the bishop of Nova Scotia as the preacher and Evening song at 7 p. m., with the bishop of Fredericton as preacher. An organ recital and sacred concert is planned for Sunday afternoon and on Saturday evening there will be a service without sermon at 7.30. The archbishop of Ottawa and other visiting clergy are to remain in the city over Sunday and on Saturday afternoon a garden party will be given at the deanery.

## CHIPMAN NEWS.

Chipman, Aug. 19.—Mr. and Mrs. William Scott, of Fredericton, spent Sunday at the Chipman House.

Mrs. Hugh Hamilton, of Yarmouth, N. S., arrived last week and Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton have taken up their abode on Bridge street.

Rev. Frank Baird, of Woodstock, occupied the pulpit of the Presbyterian church on August 11th and preached with much acceptance to a large congregation.

Miss Zetella Parkhill, of Moncton, spent Sunday here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Parkhill.

Miss Nellie Harper, who spent the last four months at Saranac Lake, returned last week much improved in health.

Miss Maud Harper and Miss Margaret Summers, of Missoula, Montana, returned last week to their far western home.

Miss Robie Richardson who has been spending some weeks with friends in Halifax, returned home last week.

Rev. Edwin Smith returned on Saturday from a trip through Eastern Nova Scotia.

Miss Tillie Fraser has resumed teaching at Fulton Brook school.

Mrs. Noble, of Edmonton, who has been visiting her father, Senator King, returned to her home last week.

Miss Lulu Fowler, of Waverly, Col., is spending the summer with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fowler.

The new bridge at Burpee's, Upper Gaspereaux, has just been completed and is a great convenience to the travelling public. The old bridge was no longer fit for traffic but the present bridge is a handsome and permanent structure.

Last Sunday evening the church at Gaspereaux was filled to its full capacity and the singing, which is purely congregational, was particularly good. An interesting feature of the services in this church is the large number of young men and women who attend regularly.

Rev. Frank Baird and family, of Woodstock, who were here spending the summer, returned home last week. Mr. Baird has a comfortable summer cottage occupying an ideal situation on the banks of the river from which an unrivalled view is obtained.

Theodore Bishop and his daughter, Irene, both down with typhoid fever, Miss Irene is doing nicely, but Mr. Bishop's condition is still critical.

The recent heavy rains have caused the river to rise so high that all the meadow hay has been destroyed.

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