

# The Standard

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## THE "ADJUNCT" LETTER.

The contents of the celebrated "adjunct" letter which President Taft wrote to Colonel Roosevelt were not made public until Parliament was last in session. Mr. Borden made a timely and fitting allusion to the letter in his speech on the address. Referring to the speeches of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in Ontario and Quebec, he said that he observed the Leader of the Opposition was inclined to condole with the Canadian people upon the result of the last election. He suggested that his concern was absolutely unnecessary and asked him when next he addressed the people of these Provinces to throw aside this depression and gloom "and join with the rest of us in endeavoring to do some good work for the country."

That Sir Wilfrid should constantly bewail the rejection of Reciprocity, Mr. Borden pointed out, was hardly in keeping with the opinion of the people who under present prosperous conditions were not inclined to sorrow over the verdict they gave in the general election. "Allusion has been made," Mr. Borden continued, "to a certain communication which was made public last spring in April or May, I think—a letter written by Mr. Taft to Colonel Roosevelt. I would like to bring to the attention of the House, and of the country, one circumstance in connection with it which is of some significance. There is a very well known and responsible newspaper in the city of New York known as the Evening Post. It was supposed to be thoroughly in the confidence of Mr. Taft and his administration. Any gentleman who is curious in these matters will find in the columns of the New York Evening Post of Friday, May 3, 1912, an editorial article touching this letter, and from that article I will read just one sentence:

"When we recall that the 'adjunct' letter was passed upon by the full Cabinet and by other advisors of the President, the mistake of giving it out appears the more inexplicable."

"That is to say," added the Prime Minister, "that letter was not merely the personal opinion of Mr. Taft, but was a letter which had been passed upon by the whole Cabinet of the United States, and by other prominent men in that country. This circumstance, it seems to me, gives it a somewhat odd significance." Mr. Borden made no further comment. None was required. Advocates of Reciprocity have never succeeded in explaining away the significance of Mr. Taft's letter. It presents unimpeachable evidence that the design and intention of the agreement was to make Canada an adjunct of the United States.

## THE SENATE LEADER.

If Sir George Ross were ten years younger, instead of ten years older, than Sir Wilfrid Laurier, there might be a change in the leadership of the Liberal party in Canada. At the present time the so-called Liberal leaders, some of them in Parliament and some by the grace of the electors of Canada, do not persist in the statement that Reciprocity is still the policy of the Liberal party. While it must be recognized that Sir Wilfrid Laurier still speaks for the Liberal party the situation so far as the Senate is concerned is unique in the history of Canadian politics. At present there is a majority of Liberals in the Senate. Yet that majority deliberately refused to elect the nominee of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and put up a man whose views on most of the principal issues of the day are exactly the opposite of those held by Sir Wilfrid. Commenting on this matter the Ottawa Journal says:

"The new Liberal leader in the Senate is opposed to Reciprocity, which still remains a part of the Liberal party's policy. The moral effect of his opposition will doubtless be felt in the country, while it may easily prove a stumbling block in the way of co-operative action by the Liberal minority in the Commons and the Liberal majority in the Senate regarding tariff legislation."

The Hamilton Spectator says of the selection: "As a former Premier of Ontario, Sir George Ross will be very unlikely to thwart, by a Senate veto, the granting of Federal aid to the several Provinces for good roads and other public improvements. Perhaps by this time Sir Wilfrid himself repents his folly in that respect."

The Toronto Mail and Empire says: "Sir George's opposition to Reciprocity was declared on grounds of Canadianism and on grounds of British connection. We are, therefore, warranted in expecting that his leadership will not lend itself to designs for obstructing the Government's naval emergency measure. Obstruction to it in the House of Commons, whose members have to answer to their constituents, will hardly be risked, but the same cunning that used the Liberal majority in the Senate to make trouble for the Government last session would doubtless have been resorted to for the purpose of frustrating the Government's naval policy had there been similar leadership this session. Sir George's election to the leadership—quietly brought about, it is understood, to forestall the thrusting forward of a Laurier candidate for the place—seems to be another indication that the ideas and influence of Sir Wilfrid are vanishing quantities. The Hochelaga bye-election and the election of Sir George Ross to the leadership in the Senate are blows to Laurierism."

## SIR WILFRID'S CHARGES.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's temper does not seem to have greatly improved during the past year. His opening speech in the House on Monday shows that the Liberal leader has not yet recovered from the shock he received on September 21, 1911, when a large majority of the Canadian people ousted him from power. There were many indications in the speeches made by Sir Wilfrid last year that he regarded this action on the part of the Canadian people as a breach of good manners, if not of good faith. For some years prior to his defeat Sir Wilfrid hugged the belief that he was the only man capable of ruling this country, and all that he did himself or was done in his name was right. He closed his eyes to the growing corruption of his colleagues in the Government, and supporters in the House, and allowed everything but justice to be done to those who offended, if they were his supporters. The end came when, with all the assurance of a demigod, he proposed to hand over the control of the great and growing trade of Canada to the authorities at Washington through the so-called Reciprocity Pact. This free-born people of Canada refused to do and hurled Sir Wilfrid from power and relegated a majority of his colleagues in the Government to private life. Some of

those who fell by the wayside on September 21, 1911, called the result a snap verdict, but voting in the elections since shows that the people of Canada are even stronger in their opposition to Reciprocity today than they were a year ago.

Sir Wilfrid's speech on the address was not a great effort, or the effort of a great man. His criticism of the Government of the Speech from the Throne itself was weak—even childish. It lacked in both suggestion and force, and was chiefly notable for its fault-finding spirit throughout. The Government had done nothing right and the only thing that pleased Sir Wilfrid was that the mover of the address had made a kindly reference to the late Sir Richard Cartwright. In closing his speech Sir Wilfrid discussed the Macdonald and Michell elections and ended by making an amendment to the effect that there were practices in these elections calculated "to terrorize and corrupt electors, which were convoluted at by your Ministers, which deserve the censure of the House."

The only evidence that there was anything out of the usual in the elections referred to is based on newspaper statements, and partisan newspaper at that. There has been no official enquiry held to ascertain whether these charges have any basis in fact or not. It is strongly asserted by newspapers on the other side of politics that the statements are groundless and untrue, and that the charge of corrupt practices lies at the door of Sir Wilfrid's own supporters instead of where he would place it.

The Leader of the Opposition, who is an old campaigner and parliamentarian, knows that he has broken all the rules of parliamentary usage in bringing such charges against the Ministry on such evidence as he was able to produce. Such tactics are unworthy of notice and, although referred to by Mr. Borden in his reply to the Leader of the Opposition, it cannot be said that he regarded them seriously. Sir Wilfrid and his supporters have opened a door which they may find difficult to close in bringing up a matter of this character in the way in which it has been done and backed by not a tittle of evidence. It is evident that Sir Wilfrid's powers are waning and that the opposition he has met with in his own little family is having a serious influence on the Liberal leader which will further lessen his influence in the country.

## MR. CARNEGIE AND EX-PRESIDENTS.

The offer of Andrew Carnegie to supply the funds to provide an annual pension of \$25,000 to ex-Presidents of the United States has caused many uncharitable things to be said of the Laird of Skibo which will make his ears tingle. The way in which his enormous fortune was created, the very questionable financing of many of the corporations Mr. Carnegie has been connected with, and other incidents in his career, have been freely discussed in the press of the United States. Without exception his scheme to render the future of ex-Presidents secure from financial straits is condemned. The consensus of opinion is that the citizen of the United States who becomes its chief magistrate should be in a position to act while in office that his views would not be influenced by financial considerations future or present. The salary of the President of the United States was ridiculously small, but has been increased recently, and it is felt that during the four years of office at least a portion of the salary might be saved by the President. When this fact is alluded to it does not form any large part in the discussion. The Springfield Republican, which is independent in its views on all important questions, condemns Mr. Carnegie for his interference in things which concern the nation, rather than a private individual, and then goes on to say "But when Mr. Carnegie began placing public educational institutions on the list of his private pension agency, it is to say, State universities and State agricultural colleges and the like, he passed beyond proper bounds. Yet none of those institutions, and none of the State Governments having control of them, refused this form of subsidy; indeed, all of them seemed eager to be given a place in the Carnegie sunshine. It was humiliating, yet a fact. The effect upon Mr. Carnegie was undoubtedly demoralizing. His philanthropy became more and more meddlesome, until he has now ventured to assume the perfectly stunning public function of pensioning ex-Presidents of the United States. We cannot help feeling that he is not very much to blame, insofar as his present project undoubtedly is. He has been encouraged by the attitude of the States to go the limit, and the placing of the ex-Presidents of the wealthiest nation on earth in his list of persons receiving his 'retiring allowances' is the delightful result."

## WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

It is interesting to note the comments of the United States press concerning the recent victory for woman suffrage in four States of the Union. It is clear that considerable significance is attached to the result achieved. There are comparatively few criticisms of the suffragists offered, the majority emphasize the importance of the movement and look for it to extend throughout the Republic. Some of these comments, which have been collected by the Ottawa Citizen, are worth quoting:

The New York Evening Journal: "A country that was ashamed to keep the vote from a million black men should be ashamed by this time to keep the vote from sixteen million white women."

The Cleveland Leader: "Woman suffrage is not going to divide homes, set the sexes at war with each other or in any way interfere with the laws of nature or turn the world upside down."

The New York Evening Post: "The entrance of women into the national housekeeping has justified itself in our country as in Norway, Finland, New Zealand, Australia and even in China."

The New York Globe: "The most momentous aspect of the election was not the election of a President, but the great change effected in these four States. Its influence will endure long in history."

The Boston Herald: "The decision of most far-reaching importance was not the election of Wilson, but the adoption of four States of a woman suffrage amendment to the constitution. The common sense thing for the country to do is to recognize woman suffrage as decreed by the spirit of the age, whether wisely or not, and to adjust itself accordingly."

The Washington Post: "The American woman is winning her way by virtue of sane and orderly methods."

## After Many Centuries.

(New York Tribune.) Five and a half centuries ago the Bulgars and Serbs were young, growing peoples. Today we may regard them as just entering anew into the realization of the prospect which was then before them; and fittingly enough they signalize their renaissance by doing the very work which Lazarus Hreblanovich undertook in 1398 and which he failed in only because he had not the faithful allies which his successors today possess.

## New Settlers.

(Mail and Empire.) Canada will be glad to have the fifteen hundred Boer farmers who are expected to settle in Northern Alberta. There are no better settlers, but it will be regrettable if they are planted down in a single colony. They ought to be scattered over an area of square miles equal to twice their own number.

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## IN THE COURTS

### Circuit Court.

The case of John G. Spardakes vs. Evangelina Crisco was commenced to the circuit court yesterday morning before Mr. Justice Barry and the following jury: Dennis Connolly, Stanley L. Emerson, Fred P. Grogory, C. M. Morrison, Edward P. Coleman, J. Harold Kimball and Frank C. Magee.

This is an action of detinue on five promissory notes of \$50 each, and \$50 damages are claimed for the detention of the notes. The plaintiff claims that the defendant wrongfully came into possession of the notes, while the defendant says that he paid the notes, consequently they belonged to him. At the morning session the plaintiff and John Theodore were examined. The examination of John Theodore was concluded at the afternoon session. E. Kaus and Chris Nichols testified for the plaintiff.

Adjournment was made until ten o'clock this morning.

D. Mullin, K. C. and K. J. MacRae appeared for the plaintiff and John B. Baxter, K. C. and John A. Barry, for the defendant.

John Allen, who was previously allowed out on suspended sentence by Mr. Justice Barry, was sentenced by his honor to serve two years in Dorchester penitentiary.

When Allen was allowed his freedom by Judge Barry, he was afterwards arrested for a similar offence—obtaining money by false pretences—in Moncton and again in St. John recently. For the latter offence he was sentenced to six months in jail, which he is now serving.

Attorney General Grimmer moved for the enforcement of the suspended sentence, E. C. Weyman, who appeared for the prisoner, asked for a reserved case. His honor said he would have the right of appeal.

### HON. LOUIS CODERRE TAKES SEAT FRIDAY

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Nov. 27.—Hon. Louis Coderre, the new secretary of state and Minister of Mines, will take his seat on Friday as member for Hochelaga. He will be introduced by the prime minister and Hon. Mr. Pelletier.

### EIGHT HOUR DAY FOR BIG MONTREAL STORE.

Montreal, Nov. 27.—Commencing Saturday morning next the principle of the eight hour business day is to be adopted in the first time in the history of Canadian departmental stores by Goodwins Limited. The new arrangement will affect upwards of 1,400 young women and girls.

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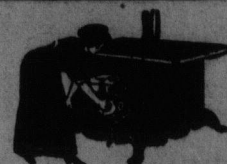
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Buried Yesterday.

The funeral of James E. E. yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock from his late home, James' street, West End. Services were conducted by J. Archibald and interment Cedar Hill. Many friends attended.

The funeral of Mrs. Joseph Hott took place yesterday from her late home in Sherbrooke. The body was taken to St. church where requiem high celebrated by Rev. J. O'Reganment was in the new Catholic.

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