

The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JULY 8, 1912.

OLD HOME WEEK.

Welcome Home! This sentiment is filling the hearts of the people of this city in readiness for the Old Home Week celebrations which begin today. St. John has entered upon a new era of progress. The invitation has gone out broadcast to former citizens, who have made their homes elsewhere on this continent to come home and see for themselves what the city of their early days is doing and what the future holds for them. The opportunities for still further development which are opening up not only in St. John but throughout the Province. The indications are that there will be a very large influx of visitors and homecomers, glad to renew old acquaintances, to revive old associations and to unite heartily in the celebrations which mark the expansion and progress of the old loyal city.

Judging by the extensive programme which has been prepared there will be no lack of entertainment. Apart from the amusement features, which are many and varied, the most important event of the week will be the ceremonies on Thursday in connection with the commencement of the harbor improvements in Courtenay Bay. The contract awarded to the Norton Griffiths Company involves an expenditure by the Dominion Government of upwards of \$7,000,000 for dredging, the construction of a breakwater and a further outlay of \$4,000,000 in subsidy for a dry dock. It is one of the largest contracts for harbor works ever undertaken in the Dominion, and the occasion will be fittingly celebrated. Hon. W. T. White, Minister of Finance, will set off the first blast on the site of the dry dock. Other prominent men who will be present are the Lieut. Governor, Hon. Josiah Wood, Hon. J. D. Reid, Minister of Customs, Hon. J. K. Flemming and Hon. Wm. Pugsley. A banquet tendered by the Board of Trade to the Lieut. Governor and the visiting members of the Federal and Provincial Governments will bring this important feature of the Old Home Week celebrations to a close.

During the next few days the citizens of St. John will have the opportunity not only to welcome many old friends but to convince them of the great future which lies before this city and Province. Within the area of New Brunswick there is a wide field for profitable investment. St. John presents today unrivalled opportunities for development. These facts should be made known, as evidence of the faith the people have in them. Old Home Week will then be something more than a happy reunion. It will have lasting and beneficial results.

LOOKING FOR A POLICY OF CO-OPERATION.

The Canadian Cabinet Ministers have received an enthusiastic welcome in the Mother Country. In the course of his speech at the banquet to Hon. George E. Foster, Mr. Hazen expressed the astonished pleasure with which Mr. Borden and his colleagues had marked the warmth of their reception, not alone from the governing classes, and politicians of both parties, but from the "men in the street." They were made to feel they were indeed "coming home." The conference with the British Government on the future naval policy of Canada, opening on Thursday, will take place under the happiest auspices.

The naval display of Spithead, which the Canadian Ministers will witness tomorrow, as the guests of the Admiralty, is a fitting preliminary to the negotiations. The magnificent array of warships, covering an area of thirty miles, will constitute the most powerful naval force ever assembled and will represent the full strength of the Home fleet from Dreadnoughts to mine sweepers. No fewer than 314 British fighting ships will be present at the inspection and take part in the subsequent maneuvers. The London correspondent of the Montreal Star makes the significant comment that, notwithstanding the strength of the British fleet, Germany is becoming so serious a competitor that the total mentioned exactly corresponds with the number of ships Germany will have in commission for manœuvres within two years.

In discussing the approaching conference the British press, recognizing the strong Imperial sentiment which prevails in Canada, look forward with confidence to an arrangement that will give closer cooperation in naval defence. The London Daily Telegraph on this point says:

"Unless all indications of the movement of Canadian opinion be misleading, Mr. Borden has come to us with a generous impulse. The course of political thought in the Dominion has undergone a remarkable change. Canada desires to remain in and of the Empire, is anxious to continue to share its privileges while willing also to be a partner in its responsibilities. The privileges have been defined; the responsibilities must be no less clearly indicated. In Mr. Winston Churchill we have a First Lord of courage, resource and imagination. If wise counsels prevail, before Mr. Borden leaves our shores the Imperial machinery for the purposes of peace and the requirements of war will have been re-adjusted in some sort of accord with the new international situation and where Canada leads the other Dominions will follow, united in ideals and deeds with the Motherland."

THE FIGHT AGAINST THE STEAM TRAWLER.

The importance of suppressing the operations of the steam trawler along the Atlantic coast is fully recognized in the Maritime Provinces. It will be recalled that when Mr. Hazen took this matter up soon after his appointment as Minister of Marine and Fisheries, he pointed out that many difficulties stood in the way of action on account of the lack of co-operation by Great Britain and France, which send steam trawlers in large numbers to operate on this side of the Atlantic. He held out hope, however, that as the result of informal negotiations with Washington, restrictions which would prohibit steam trawling might eventually be arranged. It is satisfactory to note in a despatch from Washington that Senator Jones, from the Senate Committee on Fisheries, made a favorable report, last week on a bill calling for an appropriation of \$5,000 to investigate beam and other trawling. In the ordinary course an investigation by Congress will follow, after which definite and concerted action may be expected.

The report of the Senate committee supports the action of the United States Commissioner of Fisheries, who says:

"It is most important that the influence of the trawling on the fish supply be ascertained and proper steps taken to offset its harmful effects. If any, before the industry has attained any large proportions on our

coast. There is a tendency toward a marked augmentation of the fleet of steam trawling vessels and the establishment of the fishery in new regions; and if Congress is to take any cognizance of the fishery and apply restrictive or regulating measures, this is the proper time to acquire the necessary information. Furthermore, the subject has assumed an international status (1) because of the appearance of foreign (European) steam trawling vessels on the ground resorted to by American fishermen, and (2) in view of the desire of the Governments of Canada and Newfoundland, as informally communicated to our Government, to make an investigation and to enact requisite legislation along the lines adopted by the United States."

After a hearing before the Congressional Committee on Fisheries last May the committee was prepared to offer a bill dealing with the matter at once. The report of the Senate committee to appropriate \$5,000 for an investigation is an amendment. Such an investigation is advocated also by the United States Department of Commerce and Labor. The immediacy of the question is recognized by the acting Secretary of Commerce and Labor, who points out that steam trawling is a young but growing industry, and that it is proved to be injurious to the fishing grounds the time to stop it is not after it has become a powerful vested interest, not after the mischief has been wrought on the sea bottom, but now.

The Boston Transcript, which all along has been a strong champion of the interests of the fishermen, pointedly sums up the situation as it presents itself. It says: "Both Canada and Newfoundland stand ready to see Congress in prohibiting the use of the otter trawl on our coasts. To them the issue means possibly more than to us. The Maritime Provinces would find it harder to finance the change from fishing schooners to steam trawlers than would we. Newfoundland must depend on the continued richness of her fisheries, which the otter trawl gear threatens to diminish. That great northern island, least of all, can afford to take this chance. Hence any remedial legislation passed by Congress would be supplemented by our neighbors. The method is simple: forbid the entrance into any of our ports of fish caught with an otter trawl. Then if England and France send their steam trawlers over to the fishing banks as thus protected, that trespass can be resisted by a concerted and consistent protest from the fisheries of North America."

"As for the investigation by Congress which seems to be pending, it will be easily self-convincing. The fishermen of Gloucester and Boston have said all along that they could willingly and safely rest their case on a thorough and impartial study of the actual conditions. Let the investigators see the situation as it is—a present mode of fishing which fills the market without trampling the garden, as against a new method which pulls up the plants by the roots—and the fishermen can well afford to abide the issue."

"But it is our fight which these fishermen are fighting. To them the otter trawl means a change of gear and equipment. They can go on earning their livings in some sort. But to us it means, in the end, a sure and steady increase in the price of fish."

THE FRANCHISE BILL.

The Franchise Bill which was recently introduced in the British House of Commons carries with it far-reaching changes. Aside from the possibility that it may become the vehicle for a woman suffrage amendment, such as Mr. Asquith has pledged himself to accept, the direct questions dealt with in the bill are of the highest importance. The abolition of plural voting is, perhaps, the most outstanding feature, but the removal of the property qualification and the reform of the registration rules will have a far broader effect. It is estimated that the bill would wipe out half a million plural votes. That makes about \$80 votes to a constituency.

By reducing the registration period from a year to six months, the Government experts believe that no less than two million voters will be added to the electorate, and that is only one-half of the adult males who are at present disfranchised. There are over 12,000,000 male persons over twenty-one years of age in England, and less than 5,000,000 names are on the register. So even the enactment of this proposed measure would leave the franchise something short of manhood suffrage. The advance, nevertheless, would be marked, and for that reason the Franchise Bill takes rank in the forefront of the Government's coalition programme.

Current Comment

(Hamilton Spectator.)
Royalty has invaded the realms of vaudeville, King George and Queen Mary having visited a London music hall the other night. Apart from bringing them closer to the hearts of the people, if that were possible, it would be well if such visits occasionally also served another desirable purpose—that of elevating the character of the entertainment. Too frequently such are tainted with vulgarity, even if in homeopathic doses. It is safe to say this particular one was entirely purged of any such objectionable feature. It were well if it were always so.

(Kingston Standard.)

Years ago, it was only too common to look upon playing children as little hoodlums to be suppressed, not to be indulged in, but to be encouraged in their play and games. There is nothing better for a city boy or girl than play of play. Let us encourage them in this by providing as many playgrounds as possible so that the streets may be left free for other purposes.

(Vancouver Province.)

The prisoners in the Leavenworth state prison are permitted to play baseball Saturday afternoons. The deputy warden officiates as umpire, and players objecting to his decisions are promptly returned to their cells. The gentlemanly manner in which the games are conducted is an object lesson for the big leagues.

(Toronto Star.)

Regina having been denounced recently on account of alleged immorality, the pulpits may be tempted to describe the hurricane as a vengeance of God. Before doing so, it would be wise to reflect that the chief buildings damaged were three churches, a parsonage, a public library, and a Y. W. C. A.

(Brandon Sun.)

The bicycle is coming back. Well, it sounds reasonable, too, at that. It never runs into draw bridges, never dumps people down 60-foot embankments, never breaks a guy rope or runs out of gasoline 1,000 feet up in the air.

(Toledo Standard.)

Toledo has struck it rich. The Toledo district has been demonstrated to be one of the best gas fields in the West. What Toledo will be in the near future not the wildest dreams of fancy can realize.

(New York Tribune.)

Beef is still going up. Pretty soon the cow will take its place with the horse and dog among the domestic companions of man, to be fed upon only in desperate emergencies.

(Toronto News.)

The Zoo has a sacred cow from India. All cows are sacred in these days, with milk selling at such a price.

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The News in Short Meter LOCAL.

Police Court.
Harry Schatz, the king of newbies, was arrested on Charlotte street on Friday evening, charged with making a disturbance. He was fined \$5 or 10 days in jail. James McGuire was fined \$5 or 50 days jail, for lying and lurking in a yard off City Road. Three drunks were fined \$5 each. Benjamin Smith, a sailor on the steamer Orthis, was taken from the water of the harbor half drowned on Saturday morning. He was arraigned in the police court on Saturday morning charged with drunkenness, and was fined \$5, but was informed that the fine would be allowed to stand if he returned to the steamer and sailed with her.

The Damaged Fountain.
Negotiations are now in progress between the city and Norton Griffiths & Co. in an effort to have the fountain on Haymarket Square reconstructed. It was badly damaged in the driving accident by which Mrs. Smith was injured a week or so ago.

Vital Statistics.
Twelve births, twenty marriages and nine deaths were reported in the city last week.

GENERAL.

Killed in Boxing Bout.
Yonkers, N. Y., July 6.—George Newson, 18 years, of this city, died in St. Joseph's Hospital late last night after having been knocked out in a boxing bout at the Getty Athletic Club with hours earlier. Death was due to a fractured skull. Newson was knocked out in the second round of what was to have been a four-round bout, by Jimmie Dragin, also of Yonkers. Dragin landed a blow that stretched Newson out unconscious for two hours earlier. Dr. Death was against the floor when he fell.

Grave Scandal Reported.
London, July 6.—Roger Casement sent by Sir Edward Grey to Peru to investigate alleged grave scandals connected with the cultivation of rubber has presented his report. The Daily Chronicle is informed that the document is of an appalling character, and that the publication of the story of human suffering and sorrow is certain to create an immense sensation.

Babies Bodies Found.
Montreal, July 6.—The carter who takes the boxes of dogs and cats from the medical faculty of McGill University took to the Westmount incinerator yesterday six infants in jars.

The police were advised and reported to Corner McMahon, who ordered that all the bodies be carried to the morgue, where an investigation will be held today.

OBITUARY

Walter H. Livingstone.

The death of Walter Hamilton Livingstone occurred at his summer morning, leaving three daughters, Miss Agnes and Miss Pauline at home, and Mrs. John Theal, of Paris, California, and one son, Colonel Colin H. Livingstone, of Washington, D. C. to mourn.

The late Mr. Livingstone was born in 1821 in the Livingstone household at Kilmory, in Stirlingshire, Scotland. This old homestead has been the home of the Livingstone family for the past three hundred years, and is the identical house at which Oliver Cromwell made his headquarters during his Scottish wars. The deceased came to St. John in 1846 to join his elder brother, Dr. Wm. Livingstone, and in company with him engaged in the drug business. He also carried on a milling and lumber business from which he retired a few years ago. The deceased will be sincerely mourned by his many friends, all of whom deeply sympathize with the bereaved family.

Harry Goldsmith.

The death of Harry Goldsmith occurred at the home of his father, George Goldsmith, 53 St. David street, on the 6th inst., after a long illness. The deceased, who was by trade a printer, was a very popular and bright young man, and will be sincerely mourned by his friends, all of whom deeply sympathize with the bereaved family.

Miss Essie M. Blair.

The many friends of Miss Essie M. Blair will learn with regret the news of her death, which occurred at her home 242 City Road on Sunday night, after an illness extending over a year and a half. She was a daughter of the late Hugh Blair, and leaves a mother, two brothers, Fred of South Bay, and Harry, of the I. C. R., and one sister, Anna, at home, to mourn. She was a member of St. John Presbyterian church.

Mrs. John E. Wilson.

The death of Mrs. Ida L. Wilson, wife of John E. Wilson, inspector of gas and electric lighting, which occurred in the Private Hospital on Saturday morning was a shock to her many friends.

Mrs. Wilson had been ill for some time, but about a week ago was thought to be recovering, and was able to be about the house. Complications set in on Monday last, and then all hope for her recovery was abandoned. The deceased was a native of Bedford, Vt. She was an active member of St. James' church and was deeply interested in the Natural History society's work. Besides her husband, for whom there is the deepest sympathy, she leaves one sister, Mrs. G. G. Bacon, in South Prairie, Vt., and a half brother, Wm. Grove, who resides in the Southern States.

The funeral will take place this afternoon at three o'clock from her late residence 165 Carmarthen street.

Maritime Board of Trade.

The Maritime Board of Trade will hold its annual meeting at Truro, N. S., on August 21st. It is not expected that St. John will be represented by delegates. Among the subjects proposed for discussion at the meeting are the double tracking of the I. C. R. from Moncton to Dartmouth, via Palmec, Pugwash, Westville and Musquodouit, and the diversion of traffic to Boston and Nova Scotia by the Grand Trunk Pacific.

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IN THE COURTS.

SUPREME COURT CHAMBERS.

In chambers Saturday, Mr. Justice White delivered judgment in the suit of Robin Jones and Whitman, Ltd., of Halifax, vs. Porter Manzer, Ltd., of Perth, in favor of the defendants.

This was an action tried on Thursday and Friday of last week in the adjourned June sittings of the circuit court before his honor Mr. Justice White.

Jury to recover \$4500 on an alleged breach of contract. The plaintiff purchased from the defendant 3000 bags of potatoes at St. John to be shipped to Havana. The plaintiff claimed that the potatoes were frozen when they reached Havana, and that they were frozen before they arrived at St. John. The defendants claim that if the goods were frozen, they became so after leaving St. John.

M. G. Teed, K. C., appeared for the plaintiff, and Frank B. Carvell, K. C., M. P., and C. H. Elliott, of Perth, for the defendant.

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