

# The Standard



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MANAGING DIRECTOR—Jas. H. Crockett.  
EDITOR—S. D. Scott.

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SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 4, 1910.

### TWO YEARS AGO.

It was two years yesterday since the Robinson administration was defeated at the polls, not so much on account of its own misconduct during its short life, as on the record of the Pugsley ministry in which the same ministers had served. The result of the election was also the popular verdict on the official and political character of the ministers then in office. Since March third, 1908, the opinion then expressed has been confirmed and deepened by many discoveries that the people have made. They did not then know of the Central Railway iniquities, or of the suspense accounts, or of the overdrifts, or of the short stumpage collections. But they know enough to send Messrs. Robinson, Sweeney, Lablillois, Farris and Barnes out of office, and some of them out of public life.

The ministry held on a fortnight and one day more, and then resigned. Mr. Hazen's administration was formed on the twenty-fourth of March, 1908. It was a strong and popular ministry when organized. It stands today as it did then, unchanged in personnel, more firmly entrenched in the confidence of the people, having already to its credit a long list of reforms, and a record of honest and competent administration. In every department better methods prevail. In all departments vigorous and progressive measures have been adopted. The public works department is no longer worked with a sole view to the patronage. The department of agriculture has been practically created. The crown lands department is not controlled by a specially selected group of lumbermen who take care of the elections and get their reward in short stumpage. The provincial secretary makes it his business to report rather than conceal the business transactions of the government. The law officers of the crown are able to separate private from public interests.

### SMALL CAMPAIGNING.

Mr. Borden as leader of the Conservative party at Ottawa, and as a member of the Canadian House of Commons, contends that the government naval programme is inadequate as a permanent scheme, and altogether useless for the present emergency. He has proposed an amendment, setting forth these views, and favoring immediate Canadian assistance to the Imperial navy. The issue of policy so raised has been discussed in parliament as well as on the platform and through the press of Canada, as a matter of national and imperial concern. It is a large question, which any public man charged with responsibility as a legislator, and especially any leader of a national party, would be expected to consider from the standpoint of the whole country, and not of the particular riding for which he sits in parliament.

Mr. Borden has in this matter, as in all others, risen to the responsibility resting upon him as a statesman, and as a leader acting on behalf of a great country. This is what any true friend of his in Halifax would require him to do. It is what any supporter or opponent in his constituency would have the right to expect of him. When the Conservatives of Canada made the member for Halifax a national leader, they paid a compliment to the man and the constituency. In accepting the leadership, Mr. Borden assumed the obligation to place his duty to the whole Dominion first, leaving his position as representative of Halifax to take care of itself. At the last election the Halifax electors, knowing this and despising the local demagogues who tried to make it appear that Mr. Borden had no special interest in Nova Scotia, returned Mr. Borden by an enormous majority.

Now the local demagogues are after him again. The government organs in Halifax try to show that the government naval programme means a new dock for Halifax, a shipbuilding plant in Halifax, a naval college in Halifax, the expenditure of two and a half millions a year in Halifax, an increase of ten thousand in the population of Halifax. For this reason Mr. Borden ought to vote for the government programme. It does not matter whether this money, to be taken out of the people of Canada shall accomplish anything for the purpose of defence, whether the plans are practical or wise, whether the Empire needs ships at once, whether the scheme commends itself to Mr. Borden's judgment and conscience. He ought to vote for it because it will bring money to Halifax. He is "faithless to his trust" because he does not vote for the government measure, for this one reason. That is the conception which the Halifax Chronicle and the Halifax Echo have of the duty of a public man.

Here is the language of the Halifax Echo, and readers can judge whether its position has been fairly stated:—

"Mr. B. L. Borden, M. P., in his capacity as representative of the best interests of the City of Halifax, is opposed to the construction and equipment of a Canadian Navy."

"He is, therefore, opposed to the construction and equipment of a shipyard in Halifax."

"He is, therefore, opposed to the establishment and maintenance of a Naval College in Halifax."

"He is, therefore, opposed to the renewal and maintenance of the dockyards in Halifax."

"He is, therefore, opposed to the expenditure of two and a half million dollars a year in Halifax."

"He is, therefore, opposed to the addition of probably 10,000 to our population."

"He is, therefore, opposed to this City to know where the money is going, and to the personal feeling of any single creditor, for it is well for the committee adjourned till tomorrow next, when the municipalities committee will be taken up."

"Interests of the people he has been elected to represent." It happens that Mr. Borden does not oppose the building of warships in Canada. That is a part of his plan, but not the whole of it. But if it were otherwise the ground taken by the Halifax organs of the government it would be discreditable. Sir Wilfrid Laurier introduced the navy measure. He did not say that there would be a dock and a shipbuilding plant and a naval college in St. John. The premier represents a Quebec city riding. If he is the sort of a representative that the Halifax organs maintain that Mr. Borden ought to be, he will secure all these things for Quebec, and leave Halifax bare. Failing that, Sir Wilfrid is opposed to a naval college in Quebec, and all the rest of it, and "is willing to sacrifice the best interests of the people" he has been elected to represent.

And then here is St. John. If there are to be docks and shipyards, has not the Department of Public Works something to do with it? Mr. Pugsley represents St. John. Is he opposed to shipyards in St. John? Is he opposed to a naval college here? Is he willing to sacrifice the best interest of the people he has been elected to represent? The logic of this appeal makes it necessary for Mr. Fielding, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Pugsley to fight each other and for two of them to be unfaithful to their trust. But if Sir Wilfrid is dealing with this question as nothing else but a representative of Quebec, Mr. Pugsley as a representative of St. John, Mr. Brodeur as a Montreal man, and Sir Fred Borden as the member for the port of Canning, who shall legislate for the whole country? Not one of the ministers would dare to look an honest Canadian elector in the face and say that he is dealing with this question on the grounds that the government organs propose to Mr. Borden.

### POPULATION AND MIGRATION.

The Minister of Agriculture has promised that the population of Canada will be 8,000,000 when the census is taken next year. That will be a good increase. But it will be safer to take the count of the sworn enumerators. In the meantime the department is making its estimates by counting as permanent residents all the immigrants reported, and by making no allowances for the exodus of our own people.

But in 1906, when the last census of the prairie provinces was taken, more than one-third of the reported immigrants were not there. They had either gone away or had never come to the country. As a matter of fact the immigration department is apt to count arrivals without taking note of the fact that they do not come for the first time. There are Canadians who frequently visit the United States and other countries, and some of them believe that they have each been counted as seven or eight different immigrants, whereas they have not been immigrants even once.

As to emigration from Canada, and the departure of immigrants who have been reported, the statement attributed to the United States commissioner of immigration at Montreal has a bearing on the question:—"Excluding the 12,730 aliens manifested for the United States in steamships coming to Canada, there 'sought admission to the United States in the fiscal year 1908-9, from Canada, 71,339 persons, of whom 24,689 were described as 'citizens of Canada entering the United States for permanent residence.'"

"The others were classed as alien immigrants to Canada, who had resided in the country for varying periods, most of them in excess of a year. On the whole some 3,100 were refused admission."

"Over 68,000 residents or natives of Canada, therefore, left the country in the year to make their living in the United States."

There is reason to hope that a considerable increase of population will be disclosed by the next census. But it will be a great mistake to send out exuberant official forecasts that cannot possibly be made good.

### THE TELEGRAPH AND SUN.

The announcement of last week by the Sun that negotiations for the sale of that paper to the Telegraph had been discontinued, was followed yesterday by well authenticated statements that the deal was likely to be completed. This will remove from Mr. Pugsley's way a journal which showed a disposition to be a too candid friend. It is not possible to remove all the St. John journals which criticize the Minister of Public Works so that the extinction of the Sun will not restore the condition that prevailed before the establishment of The Standard. St. John will still be pretty well supplied with newspapers, and both sides of political opinion are represented.

The London Pall Mall Gazette has not a high opinion of the Niobe which has been sold to Canada to become the flagship of our navy. She is a Belleville-boilered protected cruiser of the Diadem class, and this authority says:—"As fighting ships they are useless and always were, being inadequately armed and armored. Most of these cruisers have suffered badly from boileritis at one time and another, and have cost much in repairs." As we are not looking for fighting ships, and are quite accustomed to government vessels that cost much for repairs, the Niobe is quite the thing. Our admiralty department may be trusted to take care that the cost of the Niobe's repairs will be kept up to any former standard.

A bill has been introduced in the Rhode Island legislature restoring the death penalty for murder. Maine and Rhode Island are the only New England states which have given up capital punishment, and it is claimed that the state of Maine has six times as many homicides in proportion to population as the neighboring state of New Hampshire, while Rhode Island has three times the percentage of Connecticut and more than twice as many as Massachusetts. Iowa and Colorado which abolished capital punishment, have re-established the penalty.

The names are now produced of a group of Richibucto persons who say that the Sawdust wharf was worth \$5,000. Another lot have signed a statement that it was worth \$20,000. The group who think it is worth \$50,000 is yet to be heard from. For further particulars concerning the signers who spent the last two years refusing the chance to bag \$5,000 or \$10,000 worth of property for \$500 to \$1,000 see the auditor general's accounts.

"Why is Mr. Foster not satisfied with the Toronto verdict if it vindicates his conduct?" asks a government journal.

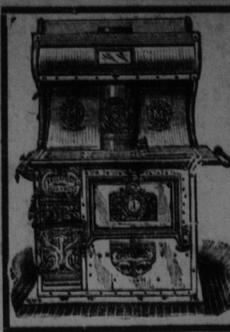
One would think that neither he nor Mr. Macdonald would be pleased with the verdict. Mr. Foster could hardly be satisfied with the finding that he acted honestly, but that the editor was justified in saying that he acted dishonestly. Neither would Mr. Macdonald be expected to be gratified with the declaration that he was justified in pronouncing Mr. Foster dishonest, but his statement was nevertheless false.

The Moncton Transcript, referring to Senator Parie's statement that the Scott Act is not well enforced in Westmorland, intimates that certain authorized vendors in Shediac town and parish are responsible for the illegal traffic. If the situation is, and has been, as the Transcript describes it, the Westmorland county council would seem to have been justified in dismissing the Act inspector and appointing another.

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### AT TENNIS

(Wafted from Palm Beach.)  
When Phyllis plays  
The high lights from the skies  
Lie active in her eyes—  
Her glances my stroke dismay—  
When Phyllis plays.

When Phyllis plays  
I always face the sun—  
By day or eve begun  
The court is all ablaze—  
When Phyllis plays.

When Phyllis plays  
And calls, "This fifteen, love,"  
I wonder can I prove  
That little word betrays—  
When Phyllis plays.

When Phyllis plays  
"And 'fault' I must confess,  
Dan Cupid's in distress,  
As faultless are her ways—  
When Phyllis plays.

When Phyllis plays—  
But hold! False muse depart!  
She's won both game and heart,  
And hope she also stays—  
When Phyllis plays!  
—George M. S. Horton.

### A Daily Short Story MARION

By B. S.

I sat one January evening at the window of my room contemplating the snowflakes the storm was flinging against the panes. They made me think of you in the storm of life—driven by irresistible forces low and lower, until they sink to earth, to be trodden by shoe and boot.

"Perhaps my interest was that of me; I was not thinking of myself at all. Yet, when my meditation had run its course I became aware of a painful weight within my heart—an aching bitterness commingled with a gnawing yearning for all that is no more, and much that never has been.

"Mechanically my eyes wandered to Martin's picture. The fathomless blue eyes gazed at me inquiringly. 'Why so joyless?' And the sweet, luring lips smiled. 'Come to me, I will give you a song, a violin solo—or a kiss.'

"The whole trinity," I answered, "beginning of course, with the kiss." Her father stirred; but he did not open his eyes. He merely adjusted his head to a more comfortable position, and slept on. Martin kissed me. Then she took up her violin. Soft and rich; rich with the sweetness of pathos; half-sustained outcry of a troubled heart, half-languid prayer of a weary soul, floated up, and spread, and fell, and rose (Chopin's "Nocturne" Number Two). She played with a master touch, and with passion, with intensity, determined by all means to shift to the strings of her instrument the charge, the care, the infelicity that were taxing the strings of my foolish heart.

I felt as if the violin were within my bosom playing of its own accord. It made me feel heart-beated. Another kiss from Martin and I was rather cheerful.

To make my cheerfulness complete she sang for me an aly little ditty, one of those foolish popular songs we call "hits," perhaps because they hit at the truth of the saying that men are nothing more than overgrown children. She sang kneeling on a cushion before my chair, her elbow on my knees, her chin on the palm of

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her hands, and her eyes looking straight into mine. When the song ended she said: "Why aren't you my brother, living with me in one home? Then you would be happy all the time; never would even a shadow of sadness touch you; I would sing it away, play it away, kiss it away—what wouldn't I do to make you happy?"

"And why, Marion," I asked, "would you do all that for me?" Her reply was the old stock answer to so many of life's painful riddles—the old, old refrain, "Because I love you!"

"Marion," I began, but stopped; for her father stirred. We watched him. He opened his eyes and greeted us with a sleepy smile. Then he stretched himself, sent the cigar into his slipper, George Eliot to the floor—and renewed his lease on Dreamland. "I said, Marion, when man and woman love each other do you know what they do?"

"They marry?" she answered in a matter-of-course tone. "But you must wait till I am 20. You wouldn't want a bride of—11, would you?"

### CHINA, TIBET AND ENGLAND

Continued from page 3.

frontier. The Chinese commandant retorted that Tibet was a Chinese province, and that its monks were trying to foment rebellion. Therefore he was justified in taking such repressive measures as he saw fit.

Chinese invade Lhasa. As these measures consisted chiefly in the sacking of monasteries belonging to the hierarchy over which the Dalai Lama presided, his reverence asserted that he was the supreme authority. A few more curt notes were exchanged, and then the Chinese Government ordered 2,500 troops into Lhasa. The Dalai Lama hastily enrolled and armed a few companies of "Golden Soldiers," who attempted to repulse the Chinese. Their fighting qualities and discipline, however, made a sorry showing against the trained Chinese warriors, and the Dalai Lama, accompanied by a few faithful priests, made his escape, leaving the soldiers to stop the Chinese bullets as gracefully and intelligently as was possible.

Who Owns Tibet? The question that is interesting diplomats at the moment, says the Toronto Mail and Empire, is the status of Tibet, and the interrogation of the British Charge d'Affaires at Peking is prompted by a desire to obtain China's opinion on the subject. It is recognized that China for long exercised a sort of suzerainty over Tibet; but it is also well known that her practical authority was discovered in recent times. When Britain protested to China, an suzerain, against the lawlessness of the Tibetans, and their refusal to abide by treaties, the diplomats at Peking politely shrugged their shoulders, and explained that they could do nothing. After years of argument and protest, the Younghusband expedition was fitted out, and the Dalai Lama brought to terms. China

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### CONTRACTS AWARDED FOR PUBLIC WORKS

Fredericton, March 3.—It was announced at the Board of Works office this morning that the following contracts had been awarded by Hon. John Mortley, Chief Commissioner of Public Works:—

Upper Manguerville low water wharf, to Edward S. Banks, of Upper Burford, about \$2,000.

Dugway bridge, parish of Lincoln, Sunbury, Whitman Brewer, St. Mary's about \$300.

Shenstone bridge, parish of Hillsboro, Albert, A. E. Smye, Alma, about \$4,000.

York Mills bridge, York county, Frank Boone, St. Mary's, about \$2,000.

Superstructure of Shediac bridge, Westmorland, Dominion Bridge Company, Montreal, about \$13,000.

Johnston's Cove, Charlotte county, arch culvert, Jos. McVey & Son, St. Mary's, about \$4,000.

### NOTICE

Application will be made at the present session of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick for an Act to incorporate the Saint John & Quebec Railway Company, with a capital stock of two million dollars and authorizing the company to construct a line of railway from the City of Saint John through the Valley of the Saint John River to the Parish of Andover, connecting at some point in the Parish of Andover, on the boundary line between the State of Maine and the Province of New Brunswick with a railway to be constructed across the State of Maine to the Province of Quebec, and thence to the City of Quebec, or to some point on the line of the Intercolonial Railway in the said Province of Quebec.

Dated this second day of March, A. D. 1910.  
\$5—11-45  
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