

The Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 22 Prince William Street, St. John, Canada.

TELEPHONE CALLS: Main 1723
Business Office: Main 1723
Editorial and News: Main 1746

SUBSCRIPTIONS:
Morning Edition, By Carrier, per year, \$3.00
Morning Edition, By Mail, per year, \$3.00
Weekly Edition, By Mail, per year, \$2.00
Weekly Edition to United States, \$2.50
Single Copies Two Cents.

Chicago Representative:
Henry DeClerque, 701-702 Schiller Building,
New York Office:
L. Klebahn, Manager, 1 West 34th Street.

SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 13, 1911.

AND STILL THE FARMERS' BANK.

The Farmers' Bank tragedy will not soon be forgotten, nor will its victims be easily assuaged. The fight has been, for the time being, fought out in Parliament, but a long drawn out series of contests still loom up before the courts. One man alone, so far, has been penalized, and is now in Kingston Penitentiary on a sentence remarkable only for its extreme leniency towards one of the most heartless financial wreckers whose history has been detailed in Canada.

The circumstances surrounding the application for and the granting of a certificate to the bank have been set forth in part in the discussions in Parliament, and the preliminary proceedings of the courts. In the latter the main trials are yet to take place, and in the former, though much was brought out, yet the main facts were not elicited because of the refusal of the Government to grant either a commission to investigate or a committee to inquire. Mr. Fielding was apologetic and clearly on the defensive, the prima facie case was dead against him, he met positive assertions of warnings given him by evasive and partial denials, but he resolutely opposed thorough examination. In this the Government supported him and the party as usual stood by the Government. But though Mr. Fielding was able to block investigation in Parliament, he is not likely to be so successful in the courts.

The victimized shareholders have determined to resist the double liability claim and have perfected their arrangements and secured able counsel to present their case. Their grounds are that the bank was in reality no bank, in that it never possessed a legal charter. The certificate was, they contend, illegally granted, and got by men who had violated every section of the Bank Act, which prescribes the necessary steps to be taken, and this illegality, they affirm, was made plain to and was known by Mr. Fielding before he granted the certificate. These are their grounds and on these the legal battle will be fought.

In these proceedings Mr. Fielding will be an essential and necessary witness. He will be put on oath and will be subjected to cross-examination. The Government, of which he is a member, will have no say in this examination. They cannot shut off evidence, nor influence the court, nor can an obedient party majority come to the rescue.

Was representation made over and again to the officers of Mr. Fielding's department, by reputable men, that Travers and his co-workers were raising the necessary deposit by notes and by borrowing? Yes or no and by whom?

Did Mr. Henderson, M. P., visit Mr. Fielding and personally explain to him that Travers was discounting notes and show to him samples of the same? Yes or no and when?

Did Mr. E. B. Osler, M. P., interview Mr. Fielding, and apprise him of the same fact? Yes or no and when?

Did Mr. Leighton McCarthy send certain letters and documents incriminating Travers in the same respects, did Mr. Fielding read them, did he understand what they meant, did he promise to lay them before the Treasury Board, and did he ever do so? Yes or no to all these questions, to be corroborated or otherwise by Mr. Leighton McCarthy and the members of the Treasury Board under oath.

Was any investigation ever made by Mr. Fielding into any of these allegations and evidence, and if so what was it and when was it conducted and what information did he obtain? All this subject to evidence of witnesses to be called.

Did Mr. Fielding ever call a meeting of the Treasury Board and lay before it the information he had and the circumstances as known to him? If so when was it summoned, by whom was it called, and when did it meet? And the secretary of the board and each member thereof can be called as witnesses. There can be no evasion and no refusal to answer.

Did Mr. Fielding on the day he issued the certificate, and before Travers had left Ottawa, receive any warning or visit from any member of the Bankers' Association in respect of the fake methods by which the application for the certificate was surrounded, and did he as a result thereof attempt to recover from Travers or any other person the certificate he had issued? Who was the party that warned or visited him, and what resulted?

When did Mr. Fielding receive the warning letter from Sir Edward Clouston, what action did he take, either alone or in conjunction with the Bankers' Association, at Toronto or elsewhere, to ascertain the truth of Sir Edward's allegation and to prevent the perpetuation of the fraud?

Could he have stopped the cheque given Travers for release of the deposit, or so rendered the cheque of the bank impossible, and why did he not do so, when the evidence of fraud was made plain to him after November 20, and before the bank was opened for business in January?

All these and many other kindred and searching questions can be put to Mr. Fielding, the officer in trust, which he must answer and from answering which he cannot invoke his party majority to his aid. When all this is done Parliament may have something more to say and the people of the country something more to think of. The issue is too grave, the interests involved are too important, affecting individuals in their pockets, and involving matters of public finance and the performance of public trusts which lie at the root of public confidence and security.

THE VALLEY RAILWAY.

The prospects of the governments of New Brunswick and of the Dominion reaching a basis of agreement that will bring about the immediate construction of the Valley Railway are good. Yesterday afternoon a committee of the Local Government, consisting of Acting Premier Fleming, the Chief Commissioner of Public Works, and Hon. Robert Maxwell met Hon. William Pugsley in conference over the details of construction of the railway, the route to be taken, and the subsequent operation of the road. Progress that was satisfactory to both parties was made, but the time was too short

to go into all the details and the meeting was adjourned until today, when another session will be held.

The points at difference are not many, but all are important and will necessitate further legislation; but if a satisfactory agreement is finally arrived at there need be no delay in starting construction during the present season. What both parties are aiming at is that the road built under the agreement will be first class in every particular, but concessions on both sides have to be made to secure this end.

The conference so far proves that Mr. Fleming has shown great wisdom in the suggestion which brought it about, and it is only fair to Mr. Pugsley to say that he also has shown wisdom in accepting the suggestion of the acting premier. Mr. Fleming has proved that the Provincial Government is sincerely desirous of getting the road built, and in operation with the least possible delay. He has realized all along that what the people of the St. John valley want is a railway as an outlet for their produce, and he is using every effort in his power to obtain for the people what they desire.

The construction of the Valley Railway is one of the most important questions any government in this Province has ever had to deal with. It involves a large question of finance. New Brunswick has already contributed very generously of its resources in assisting railways; in fact has about gone to the limit of its ability in this direction, and much as he desires the Valley Railway, Mr. Fleming may be depended on to see that the financial interests of the Province are properly protected.

THE BRITISH CENSUS.

Preliminary reports of the recent census in Great Britain and Ireland, are now practically complete, and assuming the figures to be substantially correct, the total population of the United Kingdom is as follows:

England and Wales	36,075,260—inc. 3,547,426
Scotland	4,759,521—inc. 257,415
Ireland	4,388,773—dec. 69,997
Total	45,223,558—inc. 3,764,847

Compared with the 32,527,843 of the 1901 census, the figures for England and Wales show an increase of 3,547,426, or 10.91 per cent. Greater London now contains almost 7,250,000 people, but the tendency of the population continually is to move outward. For instance, London City now numbers less than 20,000—a decrease of 26 per cent. since 1901. The County of London is practically stationary with 4,500,000, but the suburbs with 2,500,000 have increased almost 50 per cent. since the last census.

In the provinces, in strong contrast to Scotland's experience, there are practically no signs of rural depopulation. With the exception of West Suffolk and Cumberland, which are stationary, every county shows an increase, large or small. Monmouth has increased more than 33 per cent., Northumberland, West Sussex, Warwickshire, and Hampshire have an average increase of 17 per cent. Another striking fact is the expansion of the Welsh seaport and coal centres. Manchester is up 10 per cent., Liverpool with Birkenhead shows a still larger increase, Birmingham appears to be stationary, but the motor trade has added 50 per cent. to the population of Coventry.

The Irish figures show a decrease since 1901 of 69,997. Although the shrinkage of the population has been continuous since 1841, the percentage of loss for the last decade is the lowest on record. There has been an increase in the population of Leinster, but Munster, Ulster, and Connaught have decreased. In view of the Home Rule controversy, it is interesting to note that, of the total population of 4,388,773, 2,238,656 are returned as Roman Catholics—a decrease of 70,005; while 574,489 (a decrease of 5,000) are returned as Protestant Episcopalians, 429,875 (a decrease of 3,400) as Presbyterians, and 61,896 (a decrease of 200) as Methodists.

AERIAL LEGISLATION.

One of the first steps in the formulation of a law of the air has been taken in Great Britain, where Mr. Churchill has introduced a bill "for the protection of the public against dangers arising from the navigation of air craft."

The entrance of the airship within the domain of law has already been foreseen and discussed. But while the attention of legislators has been directed towards the property aspects of the question, primarily in connection with the maxim that the owner of real estate holds title to the air above his lands, the police aspect of the matter has come rapidly to the front.

Before the aeroplane has received consideration as a pleasure-vehicle or a common carrier, it claims our attention as a nuisance. Mr. Churchill's bill penalizes reckless or negligent driving in a flying machine. The maximum penalty is £500 or two years' imprisonment, or both. It also provides that in determining the question of danger to the public the amount of damage to persons or property likely to occur in case of a mishap is to be taken into consideration.

The bill is admittedly a temporary measure. It is aimed at reckless performances by airmen at public exhibitions and spectacular navigation over great crowds, such, for instance, as now fill London for the Coronation.

Current Comment

(Peterboro Review.)

The words of Le Canada, the Laurier French organ, are coming true. Le Canada persisted in saying that Laurier was going to the Conference to repel the aggression of those who would involve Canada in closer imperial bonds. Laurier seems to have succeeded very well in staving off any tightening of the bonds of Empire.

(Rochester Evening Times.)

A woman writer says that women are much more sensibly dressed for hot weather than men. Probably she is right. Yet when one thinks how some fat men would look in a peek-a-boo waist cut low at the neck, it is hard not to have doubts. Perhaps it would be better for each sex to cling to its own style.

(Regina Province.)

There are just two possible policies for Canada, one is commercial union with the United States, and the other is commercial independence. We are making our choice now. If we decide for commercial union we shall henceforth be dominated by the United States to the entire exclusion of British interests.

(Lethbridge News.)

The output of the Gordon Laid works increases as the promoter gets farther West. It was 20,000 kegs here. At Calgary it has jumped to 90,000 kegs. The Western spirit of optimism has got a strangle hold on Mr. McDonnell.

(Hamilton Herald.)

Sir Wilfrid's attitude throughout the proceedings at the Imperial Conference has made clear the fact that he does not truly represent the sentiment of the majority of English-speaking Canadians.

LAURIER'S ATTITUDE

To the Editor of The Standard.
Sir:—You were good enough a short time ago to concede me space in the columns of your paper for a few remarks on the reciprocity issue and with your permission I would like to supplement them further on this occasion.

We are told the issue before us is reciprocity in natural products with some trifling additions in the way of concessions applied to manufactures. The reduction of 2½ per cent. on farming implements appears at a casual glance to be a matter of little or no consequence, and yet I venture to say that President Taft regarded it as one of the most important concessions embodied in the pact, opening, as it does a door to great future possibilities of free and unrestricted trade in manufactured products with the resultant control of the Canadian industrial viewpoint, decide upon some principle is admittedly very important and small as is the change in tariff schedule of things all of those vacillating self-seeking opportunists who, without compunction, evidence a willingness to sacrifice every vital interest, when such a course promises a continued lease of power.

The reciprocity issue is the greatest issue ever submitted to the federal provinces of Canada and must not be measured alone by its election-eering value, but by its probable effect upon the future industrial and economic development of our country as well as by its influence upon Canada in her relation to the great Empire, her attachment to which has been a source of pride and gratification to her loyal citizens. I am seriously impressed with the belief that we can well afford to study closely the action of a government whose leader is being commended in some quarters for his jealous guardianship of Canadian autonomy, against the menace of imperialism, while on the other hand he is being commended for an attempted contemptible surrender of our fiscal independence to the executive head of a foreign power.

I believe there is no man in the apparent madness of our eloquent premier, and that it is not that he loves the United States more, but that he has been misled by a false view of when Canada stood in the forefront of the great movement looking to the unification and consolidation of the great British Empire with the promise of peace to the nations of the world. (But how hath the mighty fallen!)

The Canadian Courier of recent date, edited by Sir Joseph Ward was regarded as the greatest Imperialist among the colonial premiers and that Premier Laurier represented the other extreme in which attitude he is being supported by Louis Botha of the South African colony. Now what do you think of that Mr. Canadian voter? Are you satisfied that in his obstructive tactics Premier Laurier is correctly reflecting Canadian public sentiment? And do you feel flattered that as your representative he is being commended by Mr. Botha in an attempt to thwart the greatest and grandest movement of history looking to the progress of civilization and the promotion of the peace of the world?

If you are not satisfied with the attitude of the leader of our present government, then let the following which rushes to his support, regardless of the merits of his position, on each and every issue, take advantage of the opportunity which will soon be yours and strike a blow for Canadian national life and relegate to the impotent shades of oblivion those who "drunk with the sight of power" are gambling with the future of our great Canadian heritage.

Sincerely yours,
W. F. WASHINGTON.

Wolville, N. S., June 10, 1911.

ANOTHER AVIATOR FALLS TO HIS DEATH.

Vienna, June 11.—The first aviation fatality in Austria occurred today at Wiener-Neustadt. Vizez Wiesenebach of Luxemburg, was killed by a fall of fifty feet from a monoplane of his own invention.

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"OUR CORONATION ODE"

(From Punch.)

Uplift thee, Muse—
(By the way, I ought to have said at once that this Ode is going to be recited by Mrs. Bantling-Bate in our village on Coronation Day.)

The Vicar asked me to write it, and though I am not much good at poetry I couldn't very well refuse.)

Uplift thee, Muse, and sing us how and when
Beneath the shadow of the Larger Ben

The King of England and the Queen were crowned—
With lull-tum-tum-tum standing round—

(I have still to put the finishing touches to my Ode, but I want to make the scheme of it public before the other poets come out with theirs; so that no one can accuse me afterwards of plagiarism.)

Uplift thee, Muse, and sing us why and where
So many what-d'you-call-ems sit and stare

Uplift the King of England and the Queen
In toot-toot-umt-something sheen (You see the idea.)

With most uplift thee, Muse, to tell of those
Who, for the lack of necessary clothes Or else because they do not like a cab,

Remain behind at Bewdlay-on-the-Mush—
(Our village)—
Their hearts beat just as loyally as if, Clad in a something-unthing collar stiff,

Or in a lull-tum-tum harem gown They'd left the country for the stifling town.

Loyalty burst from every heart in spates,
But most of all, from Mr. Bantling-Bate's!

(Husband of Mrs. Bantling-Bate. He has very kindly lent his hill for the bonfire. There will be a pause here, while the Vicar leads the cheering.)

Lo, lightly dawn at last the day of Kings,
Of Pumps and Power and Pageantry and things,

When to the Abbey goes beloved George—
Per lull-tum-tum-tum forgo or gorge— (This line doesn't look very promising at present.)

Archbishop, Bishop, Dean, Archdeacon, every body in the Abbey—
Gathered from North and South and West and East,

Duke, Marquis, Earl, Baron and Baronet, and Viscount, too, in solemn conclave met.

Salute him, England's monarch—
"George the Fifth!"

(Tremendous applause led by Mr. Bantling-Bate. I hope it will go on long enough to hide the fact that we are going to use a line here, the fact is there is simply no rhyme to "fifth.")

And lo! the cheers break forth, both long and loud,
And everybody in the Abbey's crowd—

From Duke and Deacon, from The Daily Mail's
Correspondent and the Prince of Wales.

Still more they cheer (how much I cannot tell)
As soon as good Queen Mary's crown—

As well—
(Applause led by Mrs. Bantling-Bate, who inaugurated the Mary Fund in our village.)

The ceremony over, then they go Around the city in procession slow; In all the pageantry of pomp and power

They ride through London for about an hour—
(roughly.)

Let us, dear people, let us leave them there—
So kindly, quietly, noble and so fair.

(A pause while Miss Gathers of the Post Office presents Mrs. Bantling-Bate with a glass of water.)

So much for that. And now a solemn hush
Comes o'er us here in Bewdlay-on-the-Mush.

These scenes which I have tried to adumbrate—
The Coronation and the March in State—

These scenes are not for us—except, I hope,
Upon the Little Bewdlay bioscope.

But even here, remote from King and Queen,
How great our preparat-ions have been!

Some say the tale of it has darkly spread
From Upper Bewdlay down the Bewdlay Head—

(Two important towns in the neighbourhood.)
Who knows but what a rumor of the thing

Has even reached our gracious Queen and King?
How that a certain resident of fame—

(Mr. Bantling-Bate.)
Has nobly lent the place which bears his name—

(Bantling Place, Mr. Bate took the additional name of Bantling when he took the place. And, to be exact, he has only lent one hill on the Estate.)

That there a bonfire might be built and burnt
And lessons too of loyalty be learnt—

(I mean, of course, that the bonfire will in itself be a lesson. Not that any sort of continuation class will be held upon the ashes.)

Moreover, how the Vicar will assist Supported by his kindly wife, I trust—
(Not good—and might easily be misinterpreted. Will alter.)

Will all the children each receive a mug
Designed by Mrs. Welkington (neo Snugs)—

(An extraordinary bit of luck. I don't know what I should have done for a rhyme otherwise.)

Next, Muse, take out thy lyre and sing the song
Short-long, short-long, short-long, short-long

(A difficulty here being that the rest of the celebrations are not yet decided upon. However, I anticipate no trouble when once the facts are in my hands.)

Now let us turn our thoughts across the sea
To where the Union Jack is waving free

I breathe upon my magic harp and sing
The what's-its-name of what-d'you-call-the-thing—

(I want a good phrase for Empire.)
For lo! ter-umt-toot-toot-toot—
(This part is all a little in the rough at present. When polished

Water Pan Is Correctly Placed In The Sunshine

Few people realize the importance of the water-pan. Yet, without the moisture evaporated from the water in the pan, the warm air passing through the registers is harsh and dry. It is hard on your lungs and on your furnishings.

Now, the water-pan must be correctly placed to be of any real use. If it is placed near the bottom of the furnace (see lower illustration) the moisture has a long route (see arrows) to travel before it reaches the pipes leading to the rooms. It must pass alongside the fire-pot and radiator, and the terrific heat from these dries out nearly every particle of moisture ascending from the pan. Very little reaches the pipes or passes through registers.

Now, notice the location of the Sunshine water-pan. It is placed over the fuel door. The moisture takes the short, direct route to the pipes leading to the rooms. You can always have moisture-laden, healthful air passing through your registers, provided you keep the Sunshine water-pan filled with water.

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up it will take up about ten lines. After that it will finish up quite quickly like this:
And now, good people, one thing still remains
Ere we go out into the fields and lanes;
One thing before we leave this solemn scene—
Namely to cry "God Save the King and Queen!"

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