

# The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1912.

## GERMANY AND THE NEW NAVAL ALLIANCE.

Recent announcements indicating that Great Britain, France and Russia will in future act in concert to control the naval situation in European waters have been greeted by a storm of protest in the German press. The immediate cause of the agitation, which is being conducted from one end of the country to the other, is the decision of the French Government to concentrate their fleet in the Mediterranean. Germany sees in this move an iniquitous conspiracy on the part of the members of the Triple Entente to checkmate the naval aspirations of the Triple Alliance. France, it is declared, will keep watch and ward over Austria and Italy in the Mediterranean. Russia will in due course have a fleet in the Baltic. Great Britain, with the assistance of these Powers will be free to concentrate a more powerful fleet of battleships against Germany in the North Sea; hence Germany's indignation.

In describing the situation a recent despatch from Berlin states that the press of the entire country, under the leadership of the official press bureau, is engaged in a vigorous campaign, designed to expose the "perfidy" of France and awaken the Triple Alliance to "the new dangers" confronting it. The order for the fleet to concentrate in the Mediterranean, issued by M. Delcasse, the French Minister of Marine, who is still regarded as Germany's evil genius, is interpreted as the latest move on the part of her enemies to insure the annihilation of the Kaiser's fleet on the day when Great Britain and Germany clash for naval supremacy.

This arrangement, the despatch continues, is vigorously condemned as part and parcel of Great Britain's "diabolical project" to isolate the German fleet and compel it to meet the superior British navy without any help from Austria and Italy, whose fleets will be required to concentrate all their naval strength in the Mediterranean against France, leaving Germany to fight alone in the North Sea. Russia, which is also a party to the Entente Cordiale, is for the present, left out of consideration, but the press is not slow to remark that when the new naval programme is carried out the Russian fleet will also be pressed into service against Germany.

Italy and Austria-Hungary, but Italy in particular, are being urged to lose no time in grasping the significance of the Mediterranean menace. The Italians are assured that the French are trying to bully them into forsaking their allegiance to the Triple Alliance which comes up for renewal in 1913, and make them a party to the real salvation lies in a partnership with England and France. The German Foreign Office, says the despatch in conclusion, has identified itself with a striking editorial in the Frankfurter Zeitung, reminding the French that they still have land frontiers and not to imagine that the millennium is in sight because M. Delcasse has decided to station Dreadnoughts in the Mediterranean.

The wisdom of the new Anglo-French naval alliance which was announced a fortnight ago, is clearly demonstrated by these violent protests in the German press. In conjunction with the Franco-Russian convention of last August there now exists a naval understanding between Great Britain, France and Russia, as a counter to the Triple Alliance, which would be of the utmost importance in the event of a European conflict. The decision of the French Government to concentrate their squadrons in the Mediterranean will go into effect on October 15th. Six battleships of the North Squadron will proceed to Toulon where they will place themselves under the orders of Admiral Boue de Laperrere, who will then command in the Mediterranean sixteen battleships, including six Dreadnoughts, and in addition six large armored cruisers. One division of armored cruisers with flotillas of torpedo-boat destroyers will remain in the North.

Great Britain has not abandoned the Mediterranean in consequence of the understanding with France. Mr. Winston Churchill made this point clear when he said in his speech last July that the Admiralty had to provide a "force adequate to maintain our interest there in time of peace and a force well suited to the special duties which it would have to perform in time of war. In conjunction with the Navy of France this would make a combined force superior to all possible combinations." The understanding with France also permits Great Britain to concentrate her first line of defence against Germany in Home waters. Russia's sphere of action, it is surmised, will be in the Baltic to hinder the complete concentration of the German fleet in the North Sea. That the new Naval Alliance is an unlooked for and unwelcome reply to Germany's aggressive policy, outlined in the last Naval Act, is evident from the tone of the German press.

## AUSTRALIA'S NEED OF POPULATION.

Population is one of Australia's greatest needs. It is of interest to note that the Government of one of the States, South Australia, are working on similar lines to the Government of New Brunswick and have adopted the effective method of attracting the capitalist, the settler and the tourist by a series of cinematograph pictures illustrative of life in the State.

The views were recently on exhibition in Adelaide and are to be despatched to the Agent-General in England for the purpose of advertising in Great Britain the State's scenic beauties, industries and resources. They include pictures of Adelaide's streets, parks and gardens, fruitful orchards and vineyards, farmwork in a number of its branches, shipping and the Government produce depot at Port Adelaide, and at the outer harbor the ostrich farm near Port Augusta, Henley on the Torrens, work at the Wallaroo mines and many other interesting and beautiful representations. The views are reported to be of a high order of merit, and a striking manifestation of the wonderful progress made by the State during its short history of seventy-five years.

There is a general demand in all the States of the Commonwealth for settlers, particularly workmen, to keep pace with the development of the industries. In New South Wales, for instance, in spite of the influx of emigrants, the supply of artisans is quite inadequate in all trades. This fact is made clear by the annual report of the Department of Labor and Industry. The departmental head, Mr. C. J. Allerdice, states that the department has been "confronted with an almost universal outcry at the difficulty in procuring skilled labor in nearly every branch of the manufacturing

industries. Machines were lying idle in many places and although good wages and other inducements were offered, manufacturers found it almost impossible to obtain the necessary additional hands." All the States are awakening to the fact that a more active campaign must be carried on to meet the demands of industrial growth. South Australia has taken a practical step, not yet followed by the other States, to advertise her resources in Great Britain by means of cinematograph pictures. The exhibition in the Old Country will be in friendly rivalry with New Brunswick which is the first Province in the Dominion to adopt this up-to-date method.

## LIBERAL SECESSION IN SASKATCHEWAN.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

The charges made by the Hon. Robert Rogers in Montreal, concerning the illegality of the recent Saskatchewan election, could hardly be more grave or serious. He stated in plain terms that in the election the Dominion Naturalization Act had been abrogated, and men who had no vestige of right to vote were allowed to do so. Many counties were won, he declared, by the votes of those who were not naturalized citizens. They had no more right to take part in the election than the men of Mexico or the South Sea Islands. Reduced to its actual terms, this means secession of the worst kind. It means that the Province was deliberately turned over to an alien power by the political party that desired to win its ends at any price. It means that the privilege which constitutes the reality of power was allowed to fall into the hands of aliens, without even that show of resistance which in times past has taken some of the shame off such a surrender. Treason is not a word to be lightly used, but if this does not savor of treason there is at least no other word to suit it better. Had the unnaturalized men of Saskatchewan marched to the polls and demanded the right to vote at the point of their rifles, and the Liberals had allowed them to do so without protest or resistance, there would have been a shout of denunciation that would have shaken Canada to the very centre. It should be no less great because these same men were given the power for which they did not even have to fight.

This matter needs looking into. The charges would hardly have been made without sufficient grounds. A Minister of the Cabinet, speaking at one of the most prominent meetings of the year, would hardly make such charges if he were not perfectly sure that they were fully based upon fact. The conclusion to be drawn is not that Saskatchewan is disloyal, or willing to secede, but that a political party retained its power by means which are at direct variance with the most common conception of right and privilege. Is the Liberal party to become the party of secession?

## REVIVING THE CATTLE INDUSTRY.

Mr. Burrell, the Minister of Agriculture, has been devoting considerable attention to the declining sheep industry in Canada and as a result of his efforts there are already signs of a revival, particularly in these Provinces and in British Columbia. The cattle industry of the West is another industry which has been threatening to almost disappear in recent years. Formerly Western Canada shipped great numbers of cattle to England; today the export trade has dropped to nothing, while there are not even enough cattle raised in the Prairie Provinces to supply the home market. Recently a conference was held in Winnipeg which was attended by representatives of the railways, stock associations and packers to consider the situation. The Government also lent their advice and assistance, and a serious effort will be made by the Department to restore this declining industry, so that it will not only supply the home market, but again be on an exporting basis.

The first step has been the appointment by Hon. Robert Rogers, of a commission to investigate the whole question of the grazing leases in Western Canada, and to determine what lands can be set aside as suitable only for grazing purposes. One reason for the disappearance in recent years of Western cattle from the market has been the unsatisfactory condition of the grazing leases. Ranchers could never tell when they might be crowded out by homesteaders and settlers. The new commission will examine as to what lands are unsuitable for agriculture. These will be set aside for stock purposes and more permanency will be given the leases. This move has been demanded for some time and it is believed will go a long way towards reviving the live stock industry in the West.

## Current Comment

The Best Peace Policy.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Today, the chief security of peace is Britain's Navy. Had it not been for that, the controversies between Germany and France over Morocco would undoubtedly have led to war. The "big navy" promoters in Germany are making the utmost of Britain's friendship to France in that crisis, for the resentment thus kindled among the German people is of service in forming public opinion in opposition behind the navy programmes. The greatest menace to the world's peace at the present moment is the war spirit thus being fanned in Germany for the purposes of this navy-building enterprise. The Germans are being taught to look forward to a great struggle for the wresting from Britain of her naval supremacy. Hence the best peace policy is that for the making of Britain's naval supremacy a power beyond Germany's challenge.

A Timely Hint.

(Montreal Herald, Lib.)

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is showing a great deal of regard for beaten paths himself, for which no one can altogether blame him, but following them does not open up new vistas to delight the eye or fire the imagination of those who follow. He has been a splendid guide, but there is a big territory to be explored, and he might do a great deal worse than urge some of the more hardy of his followers to set about doing some exploring on their own hook. Or, rather, they ought to be doing it without being urged.

A Wise Old Editor.

(Kingston Whig.)

Nearly three thousand years of experience recorded in tales and histories proves that the more a girl is taught and educated to marry a particular man the more she doesn't do it. And who shall decide between what is the real man and what the imitation? Can any school teacher do it better than the school girl of marriageable age?

Oh, the Dickens!

(Toronto World.)

The Salvation Army is said to have 117,000 widows ready for export to Canada. Samvel, Samvel! Beware!

On Deck Again.

(Windsor Record.)

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## SUGGESTS CATCHING THE SETTLER YOUNG

St. John, N. B., Sept. 26, 1912

To the Editor of The Standard,

Sir—A good deal of thought has lately found expression in the press upon the problem of catching "the right settler," and the more we study the question the more certainly must we come to realize how limited the field now is from which we can draw experienced farmers in Great Britain.

The men from the countryside, whom we have most industriously sought, have come in generous numbers for years, until their ranks are now undeniably thinned; and a pronounced feeling of opposition may here and there be observed amongst the big farmers to our further encroachment in the villages where their labours live.

But there are still many thousands of men either in or adjacent to the country towns, because of their familiarity with outdoor employment in agricultural districts, would make desirable homesteaders in Canada—East or West.

They are men with families, and are all working at very moderately remunerative employment. For the purpose of this letter they may be divided into two classes, viz:

1. Those who, either from design or good fortune have been able to pay their way and perhaps put a trifle by, and who, having considered the matter, have decided not to emigrate—on the basis of the theory that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," and—

2. Those who, either through carelessness or misfortune, have not a penny laid aside for any emergency, and succeed only in living week by week from hand to mouth.

At present we get neither of these classes!

The first will not; the second cannot!

But, because we shall need neither children, we should now provide machinery for securing these men!

During the past few years we have been using a fine comb in England and Scotland, taking the very best for our purpose. Now, if we are to maintain the flow, we must make a bid for that body of men most nearly approaching in desirability those whom we have already been securing. The difficulties are not great.

To take the second case first, we might now, as a Dominion, do what the Province of New Brunswick alone is doing already—provide funds for the transportation of these families, and locate them with farmers, or others, who will sign to take them in to take them. We need the children!

In the absence of the necessary funds for the passages of these families it is futile to continue showing them lantern pictures, and unloading stacks of literature upon them. The fact of Canada offering them something better than they at present possess, stands for nothing. This big body of men needs assistance, which, as a Dominion, we have not yet arranged to offer.

We must offer it sooner or later, because we shall discover how much we need the children.

As regards the first named class—those who will not—here again we may as well conserve our store of letters and accompanying pictures, and go right after the child itself! The public schools in Great Britain are turning out each year thousands of lads and lassies between the ages of 13 and 16 years, who have no fixed purpose in life. They are let loose from school, and in the case of the boys, they just seize upon the first chance of employment.

They come their way. They cannot be allowed to remain idle at home, for whatever they can earn is needed; no great demand for them exists in any direction; consequently they migrate to the big cities in thousands, and swell the ranks of the underpaid. The fact of Canada offering them something better than they will probably find in their own land has never been put into their minds whilst at school, and it is not until they have spent years in uncontented, and ill-paid employment, often with repeated periods of idleness, that they stumble into the arms of a Canadian delegate and are made to realize the way of escape from the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune."

If these folk were taught in school the opportunities that Canada offers them, the lesson would take root in their minds, and we should have them put into their minds yearly—scheming to come across. We need them! Why do we not speak to them at their most impressionable age? Why do we wait for them until they are disappointed and broken spirited? Isn't the lad of 16 with all his hopes of the future, of more value to us than the man of 40, who only turns to us when he is financially ruined, or broken, and in need of help?

We shall have to help him, because we need his children. How much better, had we put the spell upon him at school!

Yours etc.,

JAMES J. WALKER.

IN APRIL

The wild sweet mustard inundates the glen,

A lawless flood the grasses cannot stem,

It washes higher with each hour of rain,

And rises where the hills with lifted hem

Wade out to meet it, laughing each to each,

Like children romping on a river beach.

Its rippled surface catches up the light

And flings it back in softened yellow spray;

The young bird dips to taste it in his flight,

The bee, a hardy seaman, steers his way

Athwart the waves, and piles his course between

Its live-oak shadowed banks of swarthy green.

I have my spirit in that fragrant tide

And lo, my winter stains are purified!

In August.

The gaunt and shrivelled must!

Frail skeleton of that fair girl named Spring

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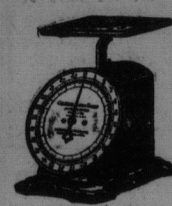
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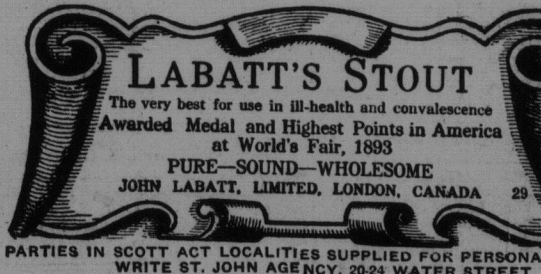
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"Whose transient beauty yesterday took wing

It clutches at the heat with bony hands;

It rattles in the wind, but may not sing.

Yet on those barren stalks the opal air

Has flung a garment of such matchless hue—

So wrought of gold and purple, brown and blue—

That each pathetic stem is almost fair.

And stirs the heart with wonder and new grace.

April! this strange, this subtle August grace

Is purchased at the price of thy loved face!

—Nellie Marquis, in Youth's Companion.

TO SYLVIA.

(From the French.)

These are the darling groves through which I moved,

Entranced with charming Sylvia beamed and loved.

What gladness moments; swift hours glided o'er

As I adored her. Ah! how fair was she!

Mh Heart! Why bearest thou? This should not be.

Hast thou forgotten that thou lovest no more?

—A. Francis Stewart in St. James's Gazette.

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"You never get what you want in this restaurant," said the irritable person. "You can if you know how to order," replied the sad, sarcastic man. "If I want something cool I ask for a cup of hot coffee, and if I want something warm I call for iced tea."—Washington Star.

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