

The Standard

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1912.

PROVINCIAL IMMIGRATION POLICY.

Premier Fleming took the opportunity at the banquet tendered him at Gagetown, on Thursday evening, of announcing the policy of the Provincial Government regarding immigration to this Province. It is the intention of the Government, as explained by the Premier, to pass legislation at the coming session which opens next month, authorizing the Executive to appoint a Commission for the purpose of acquiring desirable vacant lands, in different sections of the country, which already have been settled and for one reason or another abandoned by the original holders. There are many desirable farms of this character to be found in neighborhoods which are generally settled and where newcomers would not be isolated. Some of these farms still have buildings on them and a portion of the land has been cleared and ready for immediate cultivation. These lands will not be purchased at fancy prices, but at their actual market value. Sufficient funds will be placed at the disposal of the commissioners to make necessary repairs to buildings and put the land in condition for immediate working. A record will be kept of the initial cost of the property and the cost of the improvements put upon it. This will be the purchase price of the farm. All the settler will be asked to do is to pay over twenty-five per cent. of the cost and to give the security of the land for the payment of the balance within a reasonable time, plus five per cent. interest.

These lands will not only be available to immigrants from abroad, but to our own people as well, so that no young man, who desires to adopt agriculture as a means of livelihood, need search long for a suitable location. Care will be taken in selecting only lands that will be productive and give the settler a fair return for his labor. The annual instalments he will be called upon to pay, will, of course, be based upon the original cost of the property conveyed to him, but in no case will the burden be great as the principal idea is to resettle all the good agricultural lands that already have been partially improved.

This is better policy than that of placing settlers on Crown lands under lease to lumber operators. One of the greatest difficulties experienced by the Crown Land Department in dealing with applicants for farming land, situated within the boundaries of timber limits has been to ascertain whether the applicant really intended to become a bona fide settler, or was merely seeking an opportunity to acquire, at a small cost, the privilege of cutting the lumber on the land and then abandoning it. Only those who have an intimate connection with the management of the Crown Land Department are aware of the number of such cases that have to be dealt with annually.

To say nothing of the financial loss to the Province in granting such licenses the danger of forest fires is greatly increased by the existence of a few settlers in the midst of a forest. Millions of feet of lumber have been destroyed in the past by the carelessness of settlers in starting fires to clear their land. To avoid such scattered and dangerous settlements the Crown Land Department has surveyed several sections of the Province, into lots, for settlement purposes, but this has not prevented applications being made for lots under lease to lumber operators. The plan launched by Hon. Mr. Fleming to give the settler an opportunity of obtaining a farm at a low cost is the best so far advanced to increase the population of the rural districts and to encourage the development of agriculture.

Another portion of the plan outlined by Mr. Fleming to induce settlers to take up land in New Brunswick will be worked out in co-operation with the Canadian Northern Railway. As stated by the Premier the Province will give that large railway corporation permission to use as loans a certain amount of money to assist in the payment of the passage to this Province of worthy settlers. This plan has been worked successfully in Ontario, where of the sum advanced by the Government two-thirds have already been repaid. In addition to those who received a direct benefit from such loans over seven hundred persons were obtained as permanent settlers. Ontario, therefore, at a very small cost, added a thousand or more to its population.

Reference was also made by the Premier to the prompt manner in which the St. John Board of Trade had taken up the suggestion to form a family re-union club. The Standard has already given the details of the success attending the organization of a club in Manitoba and in other Provinces of the Middle West. In brief this organization advances to a qualified applicant a sufficient sum to enable him to bring his family to this country. If a man who has settled in the country and proved himself to be sober, industrious and thrifty, has employment, and saved a little money, the club advances a sufficient additional sum to enable him to bring out his family. This advance is to be repaid in instalments, as he earns the money. The result in Manitoba has been highly satisfactory, and there is reason to believe that it would also be so in this Province.

The construction of the Valley Railway and of the Fredericton-Minto road will not only open up a hitherto neglected section of the country and furnish the best means of transportation possible to the people residing in the heart of the Province, but many abandoned farms to be found in this district are sure to be settled under Mr. Fleming's plan. Greater interest than ever before has been developed in the agricultural possibilities of New Brunswick, mainly through the efforts of the Agricultural Department of the Province. It has been demonstrated to a certainty that fruit culture is very profitable in New Brunswick when properly conducted. The figures given in The Standard a few weeks ago of the actual results obtained from certain of the illustration orchards only recently planted, have already induced the investment of a considerable sum of money in fruit lands by St. John merchants, interested in the development of the Province. The number of inquiries being received concerning the fruit growing possibilities of New Brunswick by the Department of Agriculture are the direct result of exhibits of New Brunswick apples in Great Britain and in the Province of Ontario. Apple growing is an industry that is not over done. Even in the most productive seasons the supply of apples never exceeds the demand for this fruit. The nearness of New Brunswick to the British market, which is apparently never overstocked, gives the producers of this Province a decided advantage over those further West. The apple crop is harvested long before the close of navigation and can be brought to St. John very cheaply by water. With such excellent and cheap means of transportation to this port, the orchardists of New Brunswick have a great advantage. In all other lines of agricultural production the home market still offers splendid inducement for agriculturalists as the demand far exceeds the supply.

There never was a time in the history of this Province when the people were more optimistic as to its future than now and it may be truthfully said that from its first settlement of the country this optimism was never more fully justified. We are making better use of our timber resources; manufacturing is increasing and the trade of the Province expanding. With the completion of the Valley Railway and of the Grand Trunk Pacific, practically every section of the Province will enjoy the best of railway transportation facilities, and there is no doubt that immigration from the Motherland will increase and the next decade will show a larger population.

in New Brunswick and a higher percentage of increase than in any previous ten years.

Premier Fleming is to be congratulated on the policy of his Government as outlined in the Gagetown speech. It is based on common sense and is in every way practical. All classes of the community are behind the Premier in his efforts to secure more population and greater prosperity for the whole people, and the plans so far made public justify the hope that New Brunswick is about to secure her proper place among the Provinces of Canada.

THE TARIFF COMMISSION BILL.

The Government's bill to appoint a Tariff Commission, which is being given its second reading in the House this week, has caught the Opposition not only unprepared with any valid objections but plainly at loggerheads among themselves as to what policy to pursue. No clearer demonstration of these facts is needed than a comparison of speeches of Mr. Guthrie of South Wellington and Mr. A. K. Maclean, junior member for Halifax, who were put up by the Opposition to oppose the bill, and the utterances of the Toronto Globe, the organ of the Liberal party, which finds much to commend in the Government's legislation.

Mr. White, the Finance Minister, in explaining to the House the provisions of the bill, made a clear and explicit statement as to the duties of the Commission. It is to be appointed for the purpose of obtaining information in many ways—from reports of trade, and statistical returns of other countries, from investigations as to the cost of production carried on in connection with the industries of this country, by hearing those who desire to be heard with regard to grievances, and, if necessary, by summoning witnesses and calling upon them to testify under oath. The information thus obtained will be at the disposal of the Government.

The Commission will not in the slightest degree minimize ministerial or Government responsibility. "The Government," in the words of Mr. White, "is responsible and must continue to be responsible for the tariff; but the Minister should have, as a result of the work of the Tariff Commission a constantly increasing body of information which will be of the greatest possible service to him and his colleagues in coming to just conclusions on tariff matters. That has always been the great need, and it is to gain that knowledge, to obtain the information and data indispensable that we propose to create this Commission."

Mr. Guthrie, who followed Mr. White, in a speech bristling with inconsistencies, characterized the Commission as a "Yankee device," yet in the latter part of his remarks counselled the Government to follow the course of Mr. LaFollette and the American Congress. He declared that the appointment of a Tariff Commission had never been before the people, that it was a radical departure and that as a result a tariff would be brought in by "an irresponsible Tariff Commission," which would be acting as "a barrier" between the Government and the country. Following the clear and explicit statement of Mr. White as to the duties and limitations of the Commission, Mr. Guthrie's arguments were supremely ridiculous.

With reference to Mr. Guthrie's charge that there has been no discussion in the country with regard to a Commission, it is only necessary to recall that the appointment of just such a Commission was an important feature of Mr. Borden's manifesto before the last general election. Mr. Borden, who followed the member for South Wellington, dealt effectively with this argument: "I debated that question," said Mr. Borden, "on at least forty or fifty platforms, both in Eastern and Western Canada; and in every case, when I pointed out to the people that what we proposed to do was to gather absolutely necessary information for the purpose of making a reasonable tariff that would do justice, so far as justice could be done, to all the interests and to all the people, whether in Eastern or Western Canada, I found the people, whether in Eastern or Western Canada, fully prepared to support the policy of the Liberal Conservative party in that regard."

Mr. Maclean's effort to discredit the intentions of the Government were mainly devoted to quoting legal arguments which were not applicable to the objects set forth in the bill. Mr. Ames, Conservative member for St. Antoine, Montreal, summed up the results of Mr. Maclean's vivid imagination very effectively. He said: "We have listened for upwards of two hours to one of the best explications I think I have ever seen since I entered this House, of the good old fable of the wolf and the lamb. After endeavoring to criticize everything that was not in the bill, the junior member for Halifax has finally ended by saying that if all these things that he criticises were not there, he could still read into the bill sinister intentions, and that these sinister intentions alone were reason enough why the bill should be rejected."

The whole trend of the arguments advanced by Opposition speakers show that their objections to the bill are perfunctory. The difficulty which confronts hon. gentlemen on the left of the Speaker in opposing the appointment of this Commission on the lines laid down by the Government is effectively demonstrated by a quotation from their official organ, the Toronto Globe, which unmistakably refutes their own contentions. Early in January an accurate statement as to the scope and functions of the Tariff Commission appeared in the Toronto Mail and Empire in the following terms:

"The Canadian Commission will have no executive functions and will in no way usurp the right of Parliament to regulate imposed duties. It will report to the Government findings of fact and evidence upon which the same are predicated, and these will be laid before Parliament in justification of such fiscal changes as may from time to time be proposed by the Government."

So eminently fair and reasonable did this proposal appear, and it is confirmed to the letter in the speech of the Finance Minister, that even the Globe, the recognized organ of the Liberal party, could find no grounds for criticism. In its issue of January 6 it said, editorially, after quoting the above extract from the Mail and Empire:

"The Globe is not often able to express cordial approval of Mr. Foster's methods, but there can be no doubt at all that in refusing to attempt the impossible 'fact of taking the tariff out of politics' he has done the right thing. So long as tariff taxes are levied for protective purposes rather than with a single eye to revenue requirements, the responsibility for raising or lowering the tariff must be assumed by the Government of the day, and upon the Government must be visited the punishment of the electors for dealings with tariff of which they do not approve. When tariff changes are made, therefore, they will be made by Mr. Borden and Mr. White and Mr. Foster and not by some civil service bureau that has no direct responsibility to the people and cannot be disciplined by the electorate. Mr. Foster's decision is in the line with the principle of responsible Government and away from the new-fangled and entirely un-British idea that the country—or the cities of the country—can be governed better by irresponsible bodies called Commissions than by the elected representatives of the people. The tariff cannot be taken out of politics and it is encouraging to note that Mr. Foster will not try to dodge the ministerial responsibility of himself and his colleagues."

The sentiments expressed by the Globe are commended to the prayerful consideration of the Opposition. Sir WILSON and his followers, indignant by the line of argument presented in Parliament, are very much at sea.

NEWCASTLE CURLERS TO PLAY BATHURST

Choral Society Concludes Successful Season—Fashionable Wedding and Successful Carnival—Prize Winners.

Newcastle, Feb. 8.—The Newcastle Choral Society held a largely attended and enthusiastic rehearsal on Tuesday evening. Conspicuous progress was made with the season's work. All the members were much encouraged. The deferred business meeting was held at the close of the rehearsal, the election of officers resulting as follows: A. A. Davidson, secretary; A. E. Shaw, treasurer; K. C. honorary president; J. D. Creighton, honorary vice-president; Fred S. Henderson, president; Mrs. Wm. A. Hickson and James Calder, vice-presidents; Mrs. Osborne Nicholson, secretary; M. S. Bessie Crocker, librarian; Miss Florence Hickson, assistant librarian; Miss Nan Quinn, accompanist; Fred S. Henderson, conductor. Next Tuesday evening will be a social evening. In addition to the rehearsal there will be musical and literary numbers and refreshments will be served. The society is in a flourishing condition and indications are that its success this season will even eclipse that of last year.

Four rinks of Newcastle curlers left today for Bathurst and are playing with the curlers there this afternoon and evening. The Newcastle Club at a meeting on Monday night accepted an invitation from the Fredericton curlers to meet them at the capital. The arrangements of dates, etc., were left with the managing committee. Members of the managing committee of the Newcastle club met Fred M. Tweedie and George Watt, representing the Chatham club, yesterday. It was decided to play for the Highland Society trophy on Newcastle and Chatham ice on Monday next and that ten rinks be played. It was also decided that the match for the Lawlor medal between the Newcastle and Chatham clubs should take place on Tuesday, February 20th.

The Swedish Canadian Lumber Co. has purchased the steamship Neophyte and has also chartered two other large steamers for their lumber business during the coming season. Chatham Council Knights of Columbus is planning on the holding of an assembly on the evening of Wednesday, February 14th, in their hall at Chatham. It is probable that a large number from Newcastle will attend. An event of much local interest took place at the Roman Catholic church at Bathurst on Monday morning at 6 o'clock, when Arthur S. McKendry, of the Bathurst Lumber Co., was united in marriage to Miss Zita

Horse Distemper

Prince Edward Farmer Solemnly Declares Nerviline is a Specific.

"After fifty years' experience in raising horses I can safely testify that no remedy gives such good results for an all-round stable ailment as Nerviline." Thus opens the very earnest letter of J. J. Evanston, who lives near Wellington, P. E. "I had a very valuable horse that took distemper a month ago, and was afraid I was going to lose him. His throat swelled and hard lumps developed. His nostrils ran and he had a terrible

cough. I tried different remedies, but was unable to relieve my horse of his pain and suffering till I started to use Nerviline. I mixed a bottle of Nerviline and sweet oil and rubbed the mixture on the throat and chest three times a day and you would scarcely believe the way that horse picked up. Nerviline cured him. I also have used Nerviline for colic in horses and cows, and earnestly recommend it to every man that is raising stock."

For strains, sprainings, swellings, colic, distemper, coughs and colds, no liniment will prove so efficacious in the stable as "Nerviline"—it's good for man or beast, for internal or external use. Wherever there is pain, Nerviline will cure it. Refuse substitutes. Large bottle 25c., five for \$1.00, at all dealers, or The Catarhazone Co., Kingston, Ont.

Lordan, Rev. Henry O'Leary celebrated nuptial mass and performed the ceremony. The church was tastefully decorated for the event, while the centre aisle to the altar was carpeted. The bride looked charming in a travelling suit of navy blue and was attended by Miss Frances Lordan and Miss Daisy McKendry as bridesmaids. Jack Lordan supported the groom. Following the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. McKendry took the marriage for St. John en route to Montreal, Boston and other Canadian and American cities. A large assortment of beautiful gifts were received from the Knights of Columbus, of which the groom was an active member, a handsome silver tea service was received.

A. A. Davidson informed your correspondent that the deed of gift of the Highland Society scholarship to the University of New Brunswick was now being prepared. Much enthusiasm has been aroused over the coming convention of the supporters of the local government. The party was never stronger in Northumberland and the return of the whole ticket is assumed. A successful carnival was held at the Blackville rink on Thursday evening last. Following were the prize winners: Ladies, Misses Eddie and Tyne Vye, good old summer time; Gent's, S. Y. J. Quaker Oats; Most original, J. H. Dale, King George V., at the Durbar; Children's prize, Hilda Bean, witch.

KINGS COUNTY SCOUT CORPS ORGANIZED

Hampton, Feb. 8.—Last evening a good representation of the male residents of Hampton, assembled in the building formerly known as the butter factory for the purpose of organizing an association of boy scouts. E. A. Schofield was in the chair and introduced the subject which was at once taken up resulting in the organization of No. 1 Troop of King County Baden-Powell Boy Scouts. The following officers were elected:

President—E. Allan Schofield. Vice President—Rev. J. A. Crowfoot. Secretary—C. S. March. Treasurer—A. H. Chipman. Scoutmaster—E. A. Schofield, Rev. H. C. Rice, Rev. Geo. Parquhar, Rev. Mr. Gaskill and Principal J. A. Brooks. Mr. Schofield had hoped to have secured the presence of Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who is now visiting the United States and the Pacific coast, from where he sails to Australia. No. 1 Troop, of King county boy scouts, has been in existence for over a year and they have done some excellent work. Mr. Schofield placed the unoccupied butter factory at their disposal, and it is now intended to fit it up for their use, a committee for that purpose having been appointed at last night's meeting.

About sixty visitors from Sussex, came here last evening by the Halifax express and were entertained at bridge by Miss H. L. Barnes at her home, Linden Heights, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion. At the close of the games the guests partook of a dainty supper and returned home on the midnight express. The first prizes were won by Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Atherton, the second prizes by Miss Nellie Hoeg and Dr. L. R. Murray, and the consolation prizes fell to Miss Hazel DeBoo and Dr. G. N. Pearson. The whole party thoroughly enjoyed the visit.

The Hampton Bridge Whist Club were the guests on Tuesday evening of the Misses Alward, at the home of their mother on Main street, Hampton Station. Seven tables were occupied and the prizes fell to Mrs. Ora P. King of Sussex and Oily Barnes, and to Mrs. F. Barbour and Principal A. J. Brooks.

Gilmour's February Sale

Of men's ready-tailored clothing is a pronounced success. Men appreciate the unrivalled bargains of these half-price winter overcoats as well as the business suits at \$10 and \$12. Many of the suits are well adapted for spring and summer wear, being excellent shades of brown and grey. Only one suit remaining in most of the patterns; the price has been greatly reduced. Former prices were \$15 to \$22. They are a profitable investment. \$5 King street.

Going Him One Better.

Kitty—Tom says I grow younger every day.
Jack—That's a positive fact. Why I shouldn't be surprised to see your name soon among birth notices.

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