

# The Standard

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## AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The decision of the Privy Council allowing the appeal in the case of Lovitt vs. the King, finally disposes of a celebrated suit which has before the courts for five years and settles a question relating to succession duties which is of far-reaching importance not only to New Brunswick but to the other Provinces in Canada.

Great credit for the successful result is undoubtedly due to Mr. Hazen who, as Attorney General of New Brunswick, was entrusted not only with the interests of this Province but also with those of Ontario and British Columbia in the appeal to the Privy Council. The judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada, to the effect that succession duty on the deposit made by Mr. Lovitt with the Bank of British North America in St. John was payable to the Government of Nova Scotia, in which Province Mr. Lovitt resided, not only raised a point which had been previously settled in the courts of Ontario and British Columbia. Four Provinces were affected by the decision.

In allowing the appeal in the case which Mr. Hazen argued before the Privy Council in London last July, the highest court in the realm has finally disposed of a question of great public importance. The right of a Province to collect succession duties under similar circumstances has been clearly established.

## SHEEP FARMING.

Just now when so much attention is given to fruit culture in this Province, and there is evidence of a general awakening among the farmers as to the important position occupied by agriculture among the employments of its people, it may not be amiss to direct attention to sheep raising, a branch of agriculture which is being sadly neglected, not only in New Brunswick but all over Canada.

About a year ago the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion, through Dr. Rutherford, live stock commissioner to the Federal Government, appointed Mr. W. T. Ritch and Mr. V. A. Dryden special commissioners to enquire into the sheep industry of the Dominion. Mr. Ritch is not a Canadian, but as the representative of an English wool concern, has had extensive experience in that business, not only in Great Britain but also in Australia. Mr. Ritch's duty was to investigate the sheep industry from the standpoint of the production of wool. Mr. Dryden's duty being confined to the question of the production of mutton. Both of these gentlemen have travelled through every section of Canada making their investigations and have also visited the chief consuming centres of both mutton and wool in the United States. Their report has not yet been published but will appear at an early date.

In an interview in the Montreal Gazette, Mr. Ritch makes the statement that in twelve years the number of sheep in Canada has declined from three millions to a little over two millions, although the country could easily support eight millions of sheep.

Why sheep raising has been so neglected in this country is past understanding. The theory has been advanced that it is due to an improper selection of breeds, which are not adapted to the country. While there may be some force in this it is unreasonable to expect that the decline is due wholly to that cause. One thing is certain, however, and that is that sheep farming is not pursued to the extent that it ought to be. Although the percentage of decline in the number of sheep maintained by the farmers in New Brunswick is not so great as would appear in the statement of Mr. Ritch for the whole of Canada, still there has been a falling off.

According to the census of 1901 there were 152,254 sheep in New Brunswick. The report of the Agricultural Commission in 1908 gives the number as 156,628, and the Agricultural Report for 1910 147,489. This would show an annual falling off were it not that the figures for 1909 are given as 142,274, and are the lowest. Viewed from any standpoint the situation is not an encouraging one. For the matter of that the live stock statements issued by the Government do not show an increased interest in this branch of agriculture excepting in swine, which increased from 51,743 in 1901 to 59,923 in 1910.

There have been numerous importations of sheep for breeding purposes into this Province in the past twenty years, but the farmers do not seem to have taken any measures to increase their flocks, although the prices of mutton and wool have advanced very considerably during that period. There are thousands of acres of lands in New Brunswick which would maintain large flocks of sheep. On almost every farm there is sufficient pastureage for double the number of sheep at present kept. It has been said of some localities that if there were fewer dogs there would be more sheep. Some years ago the Legislature enacted a tax law and there have since been amendments to make it more workable.

Last year there was an importation of sheep by the Provincial Government which was disposed of by public auction in several centres, the object being to give every section of the Province an opportunity of purchasing thoroughbred stock for the improvement of that already in the Province. Unfortunately while the stock may be improved by these importations the number of sheep has not increased. This increase can only be brought about by the farmer himself or through some organization taking up the sheep industry as a commercial venture. This has been talked of more than once, but up to the present time has never got beyond that stage. There is no doubt of the profits in the business if properly conducted by experienced men and the wonder is that some of those exploiting capital have not taken the matter up and promoted a company having for its object the production of both wool and mutton.

## AN EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

At one of the meetings of the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association a resolution was passed requesting the Dominion Minister of Agriculture to take into consideration the establishment of an experimental farm in the Province of New Brunswick. When the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa decided to establish experimental farms in different sections of Canada, Nappan, N. S., was the site for the one allotted to the Maritime Provinces, the situation being generally considered as sufficiently central to serve all purposes. It cannot be said that this farm has been of great material benefit to the Province of New Brunswick, or even to Nova Scotia. In selecting a site for their agricultural college, the Government of Nova Scotia chose Truro and have there established the first agricultural school in the Maritime Provinces.

Two or three years ago the question of agricultural education was considered by the New Brunswick Govern-

ment and the Senate of the University of New Brunswick as well. The intention of the University authorities at the time was, apparently, the establishment of a Chair of Agriculture in connection with that institution, which is the owner of a considerable area of agricultural lands. The University had just added a Chair of Forestry and it was thought by some that the two subjects would greatly increase the usefulness of the University, particularly if the Dominion Government could have prevailed upon to establish an experimental farm convenient to the institution. No satisfactory answer could be obtained from the authorities at Ottawa regarding the experimental farm and the matter dropped.

There can be no doubt that great advantages would accrue to the Province if the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa could be prevailed upon to establish an experimental farm in New Brunswick giving attention, not only to horticulture in all its branches, but also to general farming and cattle raising. Whatever the outcome may be the fruit growers have done well to bring this matter up for discussion. There is certainly great need in this Province for wide dissemination of agricultural knowledge.

## IN TRIPOLI.

Those people who described Italy's advent into Tripoli as a campaign for civilization, were in a position a day or so ago to record the first decisive victory scored for civilization—namely, the indiscriminate massacre of thousands of non-combatant natives by the pan-strident Italian soldiery. It is not to be supposed that Italy entered upon her adventure in Tripoli without being prepared to pay a heavy price. Putting aside the disastrous experiences in Abyssinia, the Italian General Staff must have been fully aware that campaigning in the tropics is a very expensive bit of business. Even the model German army found that to be the case in East Africa, and Italy has paid the price of the French Government had to throw nearly fifty thousand troops into Morocco during the campaign that followed the occupation of Casablanca, and Italy must count upon severer opposition than the French encountered.

The Turkish army in Tripoli, while unimpressive in point of numbers, nevertheless constitutes a nucleus about which the desert horsemen may be brought into something like military discipline. And in the Turkish officers the natives will find leadership of a kind that the Bedouin tribesmen in Morocco were entirely without. That brilliant young officer Enver Bey, one of the pillars of the regime at Constantinople, is reported to have arrived in Tripoli, or to be on his way there. Ultimately, it is to be supposed, the Italians will make themselves masters of the country. The national honor is now so deeply engaged in the enterprise that any sacrifices necessary to the end will be forthcoming. But Italy will be fortunate if she comes out of the struggle with merely a heavy loss of men and money. The reaction upon conditions at home is one that the Government must look forward to with no little anxiety.

## WHERE WE LEAD.

That Canada leads the United States in progressive legislation that makes for stable conditions is the statement of Governor Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey, who may be the next president of the United States. Speaking recently at a meeting in his own state, he said:

"Do you know the real reason why reciprocity was voted down in Canada? Have any of you visited Canada recently? The present contrast between Canada and the United States is this, that in the United States, business is feverish and fretful and distrustful; in Canada it is absolutely buoyant with confidence and with hope.

"The contrast is extraordinary and the Canadians fear that reciprocity would be the opening lever to a very much closer commercial and industrial relationship with the United States, and they felt that their situation with regard to those matters was vastly superior to ours and they did not want to be pulled down into our distress.

"I do not take that to be conjecture, I take that from gentlemen in Canada who know what they are talking about, and the truth is that Canada is just about a generation ahead of us in the regulation of corporate business, in her banking system and in her currency system; she has got through all the deep waters we are in now, or rather she was never in them; she never let herself get into them. While we have been going on from one financial crisis to another, Canada has not had any financial crisis. Canada, if we must admit the truth, feels her economic superiority to the United States because she did some time ago, as a matter of course, the things now called radical in the United States, and which are making business men uneasy."

## Current Comment

(St. Thomas Times.)  
Rev. J. A. Macdonald, editor of The Toronto Globe, is certainly not a type of Canadian of whom Canadians should be inordinately proud of at the present time. He is meandering around in the United States telling the dis-appointed people over there that a million and a half dollars of American money was spent in giving his countrymen. Nice reputation to be giving his countrymen. Not only that, but in giving credit to the influence of American Canadian independence to the influence of American dollars he is doing what he can to eradicate the fact from the minds of the American people that Canada has enough gunpowder to make a patriotic play like that off her own back. It is not very flattering either to the thousands of Liberals throughout Canada who voted against reciprocity to have an editor of their leading party organ heralding abroad the assertion that they were bought by American money. The question naturally arises, what is the editor of The Toronto Globe proving around American cities for, anyhow?

(Ottawa Citizen.)  
The sisterhood of gentle Methodist deaconesses have gone on strike in Toronto because the cruel superintendent will not allow any of them to accept the escort of somebody else's brother on the street. It has been laid down by hard-headed economists that no strike can succeed without the backing of intelligent public opinion. In that case the strike of the deaconesses is as good as won. All the fair strikers have to do is to refrain from committing any overt acts of violence and the public is with them to a man.

(Milwaukee Sentinel.)  
The tumult and the shouting starts:  
The rampant quarterback imparts  
A wall-p to the foeman's ear.  
The rah-rah boys are with us yet.  
Lest we forget—lest we forget.

(Hamilton Spectator.)  
A new organization, termed the Housewives' league, has been formed in the United States, to combat the adulteration of food supplies and other methods of dishonest dealers, including short weight. Should it spread across the border, it is not likely wide of the mark to assert that it would cause not a few to amend their ways here.

(Guelph Herald.)  
The average wage paid in the manufacturing industries in Canada in 1908 was \$7.25 per week for all classes of workmen. In the same year the average wage of the British unskilled laborer was \$5.65 per week. These figures look low, but they are said to be official figures.

## HOW AN AMERICAN GRAYE NEWS PREMIER OF CANADA

Miss Laut writes of Mr. Borden in the Review of Reviews—Reasons of Success—A Message to the United States People on Canada's National Purpose.

Among the interesting contents of the American Review of Reviews for November is a sketch by Ames C. Laut, of Robert Laird Borden, premier of Canada. Among other things Miss Laut writes:

Three times Canada has come to great crises in her destiny. At the first crisis, Sir John Macdonald arose and blended the warring factions of disjointed sections in one Confederation. At the second crisis, Sir Wilfrid Laurier came to the top and grasped the reins of government and English interests in one national aim with preference for overseas. Now the third crisis comes, shall Canada work out her own destiny, or blend her fiscal policy with that of the United States? And R. L. Borden takes the helm to pilot Canada to a destiny of her own. What manner of man is he?

A quiet, strong, reserved, reticent man, a powerfully pre-lectioned man, unhampered by a single pre-election pledge; a man, who, when the western farmers heeled him and shouted for reciprocity, rose quietly and with quietness, he did not want the office. He had to have the premiership at the cost of sacrificing Canada's national policy, he did not want it. All through his leadership of the Opposition, the office has sought him.

There is an old proverb: "The dog that barks never bites." R. L. Borden never barks; but there is a suspicion if he gets a quiet building grip on the word of "arbit," he will let go. To begin with, he comes into the premiership at within two years of the same age as Laurier when he assumed the office of premier fifteen years ago—that is, a little past his fifty-sixth birthday. Like all the other Borden men, he is a descendant of the Maritime Loyalists, who were driven from the Eastern States after the Revolution. He was born at Grand Pré in 1854 and was called to the bar at the age of twenty.

It will be remembered in '96 the Conservative government of Sir John Macdonald, who died just in time not to see the downfall of his party, came to an end and a smash as the Liberals have suffered today. Sir John left some able lieutenants, but none so prepared to take the reins of leadership as Foster. He had the brains as trenchant and as shrewd as any man in the cabinet, but he was not a man of impertinent some ginger to his repartee. Sir John Abbott tried his hand at pulling the old cabinet together and died, and was succeeded by Laurier. Laurier was a man of moderate means, but he had amassed the strongest of all assets in those years—a reputation for clean living and clean thinking and clean methods, for quiet, non-partisan and integrity. Here was a man who considered his clients in a complete control of his own fiscal system, and in many important respects it would have constituted a reversal of the policy which this country has pursued for many years. Moreover, the interlocking of our tariff with that of any other country is undesirable from the standpoint of our fiscal autonomy. It should not be forgotten that similar arrangements made between the British colonies in South Africa have proved extremely unsatisfactory and irritating, and in the end they had to be abandoned. During the recent elections the opinion prevailed in Canada that in the interests of friendly relations it would be far better that each country should be absolutely free to frame and modify its own tariff in what it conceived to be the best interests of its people. We also consider that a tariff which must be accepted or rejected as a whole and which cannot be amended in any respect to meet the most obvious injustice, is an undemocratic and undesirable form of legislation; and we believe the Canadian people have proved this beyond question.

"Thus, the recent decision of the Canadian people was not in any respect unduly surprising, and it is friendly relations to the United States.

"Canada is an autonomous nation within the British Empire, and is closely and inseparably united to the Empire by ties of kinship, of sentiment, and of fealty, by historic associations and traditions, by the character of its institutions, and by the free will of its people. By the ties of kinship, by constant social and commercial intercourse, by proximity, and by mutual respect and good will this country is closely associated with the United States, Canada's voice and interests should always be for harmony and not discord between our Empire and the great republic; and I believe that she will always be a bond of abiding friendship between them. It is the anniversary of 100 years of peace will be commemorated in the two countries with a deep and solemn sense of national responsibility and that each will accomplish its destiny under the splendid inspiration of enduring and increasing friendship and goodwill."

**Message to the U. S. People.**  
The following statement, being the first utterance of the new Canadian Premier, in his official capacity, on the subject of the Dominion's relations to the United States, was made at Ottawa, on October 16, to Miss Agnes C. Laut, representing the American Review of Reviews.

"In 1875 Canada based upon her statute book a standing offer of reciprocity, which remained open to the United States for sixteen years, or until 1891, when it was repealed by the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The United States always declined to enter into this standing offer, and we never questioned their perfect and absolute right to take that course. In the meantime Canada had carried up to a policy which involved the development of her natural resources, the growth of her industries, and the preservation of her home market. Eight years ago, I declared in the House of Commons that a factory in Canada was worth as much to our Empire as a factory in Yorkshire. Our fiscal autonomy involving the complete control of our tariff had been finally completed, and it will never be relinquished. The reciprocity compact proposed by the late government would have interfered with Canada's complete control of its own fiscal system, and in many important respects it would have constituted a reversal of the policy which this country has pursued for many years. Moreover, the interlocking of our tariff with that of any other country is undesirable from the standpoint of our fiscal autonomy. It should not be forgotten that similar arrangements made between the British colonies in South Africa have proved extremely unsatisfactory and irritating, and in the end they had to be abandoned. During the recent elections the opinion prevailed in Canada that in the interests of friendly relations it would be far better that each country should be absolutely free to frame and modify its own tariff in what it conceived to be the best interests of its people. We also consider that a tariff which must be accepted or rejected as a whole and which cannot be amended in any respect to meet the most obvious injustice, is an undemocratic and undesirable form of legislation; and we believe the Canadian people have proved this beyond question.

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