

# The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1913.

## WESTERN FREIGHT RATES.

The action of Mr. William Martin, Liberal member for Regina, in opening up yesterday the question of the Western freight rates inquiry, while that case has only been adjourned for a short period, is to be deplored. Also, it might have been better if Mr. Martin had not allowed his Western antagonism to induce in covert insinuations against the present Dominion Railway Commission and the counsel employed by the Dominion Government. This is the second time within a very short period that the same member has been too precipitate in bringing up questions for discussion which should have been allowed to wait.

The discussion yesterday in the House of Commons upon Western freight rates serves to illustrate to the people of the East the ever lurking spirit of irreconcilability, which is to be found in the breast of some of the Liberal orators, who are to be found at Ottawa. Foremost amongst these are not only Mr. Martin and Mr. Frank Oliver, but also Dr. Clark, of Red Deer, who ought to have more sense.

The question of East and West bids fair to be accentuated and made more difficult of solution by the attitude which the Western followers of Sir Wilfrid Laurier are continually adopting in the House of Commons. The people of the West continually read of the fulminations of Western representatives like Messrs. Martin, Oliver, Neely, and Clark, who have but little stake in the country and indulge in hubbumping of the most vulgar kind. The defeat of September 21st, 1911, has pained them more than even the Eastern Liberals, if that could be possible. These members describe the Borden Government as the enemy of the workman and the farmer. These gentlemen forget that any change which has been made in the tariff since September 21st, 1911, has been for the consumer in the Prairie Provinces. These gentlemen also forget that a Liberal Senate killed the Highways Bill and the Tariff Commission Bill framed for the benefit of the people. The same Liberal Senate, at the direct instance of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, has impeded Government measures because they imagine that the Borden Government would receive the thanks of the people and be returned to power at the next General Election.

Mr. Martin deserves censure for his unwarranted action in trying to make the country believe that the Railway Commission was endeavoring to act in collusion with the Dominion Government counsel to postpone indefinitely the further inquiry into the question of Western freight rates. What other conclusion could be drawn from his statement that there were ugly rumors in the press that Government counsel were connected with certain corporations? Of course, in the language of Mr. Martin, he took no stock in such rumors, but why did he mention them, and why did he state that though the Dominion Railway Commission had the confidence of the people of the West, yet if the enquiry were much further postponed there might be a change in that confidence? All this would lead the ordinary reader to assume that the present Government were not willing to prosecute the inquiry because they were afraid of injuring the susceptibilities of the railway corporations.

It is another new trick of the Opposition to discredit the Government in the eyes of the community. Neither was it fair and just to the new chairman of the Railway Commission, Mr. Drayton, a gentleman who, since he succeeded the late Judge Jabebe, has earned the admiration of all classes, who have come before the Commission.

Mr. Martin is a young man, and should do well in Canadian politics. But, he must preserve a proper decorum in public life. He would be more effective if he could rest his cases on stronger grounds and wait for the real facts. He prejudices every cause he espouses by his haste.

The answer, which Hon. Frank Cochrane made for the Government was short but effective. Both he and Hon. Robert Rogers showed how ill grounded were the charges, and the House was satisfied. The Liberal Leader should exercise more control over some of his younger fry. They may injure him very mortally some future day. The country always demands the truth and facts before it judges.

## CAUGHT RED-HANDED.

In drawing the attention of the Government in the House of Commons yesterday to a despatch in certain Western papers and also in the Toronto Globe to the effect that the Admiralty thought it would not be well to force the Naval Bill through the House by Closure, Mr. R. B. Bennett, of Calgary, has effectively nailed the Liberal Leader.

another of the many false statements which are constantly in circulation in the Opposition press. Mr. Pugsley's organ, the Telegraph, has published this deliberate untruth more than once on its front page. It is not likely that any of its readers believed it, but a futile attempt to discredit the Government by foul means was in evidence.

On Monday, April 21st, an Ottawa despatch to the Telegraph contains the following paragraph: "As already stated, word has been received from the Imperial Government suggesting that it would not be wise to force things to a crisis on the Naval Bill under the circumstances, and there is serious doubt whether the Imperial Government would accept the naval contribution even if the Government succeeded in forcing it through both Houses."

Mr. Borden's reply to Mr. Bennett's statement, Mr. Pugsley's organ, among other opposition journals, of circulating a statement known to be untrue. "There is absolutely no foundation at all for this report," replied the Prime Minister. "No intimation of the kind has been received nor any suggestion of such a thing."

It was only a short time ago, it will be remembered, that the Liberals at Ottawa and their press were expressing themselves as unalterably opposed to any attempt on the part of the British Government to guide or in any way interfere in matters pertaining to the Government of Canada. It will be recalled what a howl went up when Mr. Winston Churchill, in response to a very proper request from the Government, gave information regarding the building of battleships. At that time such "interference" with Canada's "autonomy" was roundly condemned as little short of insolent. Mr. Emmerson so far forgot himself in the House of Commons as to read the "American Declaration of Independence." Mark the inconsistency. The opposition journals which featured these proceedings are now circulating with every sign of approval a report which would indicate that the Imperial Government are dictating to Canada as to what course to pursue in the House of Commons. This statement in the Telegraph and other opposition organs, which was published as a statement of fact, also recalls an incident with which Mr. Fielding was connected when he was in London. A member of the British House of Commons was induced to give notice of motion that no offer of Canadian battleships be accepted until the consent of Parliament had been obtained. Needless to say, the British Government declined to accept it. When the time came for putting the motion, it was formally withdrawn. The British House of Commons had more sense than Mr. Fielding and his spokesman, and refused even to discuss the possibility of any interference with Canada.

A majority of the opposition press appears to be laboring under the delusion that the circulation of deliberate untruths, not to use a shorter word, will embarrass the Government. These falsehoods, when exposed, but act as boomerangs, and demonstrate to a conclusion that scarcely a line in Ottawa despatches to these journals is worthy of credence. They are hoist with their own petard.

## CURRENT COMMENT

### Maritime Representation.

(Victoria Colonist.)

The question of parliamentary representation is being urged upon the attention of the Dominion Government by Premier Fleming, of New Brunswick. Speaking to a newspaperman at Ottawa, he said: "New Brunswick, as well as the other Maritime Provinces, is vitally interested in retaining its representation in Parliament, which promises to be cut down seriously unless steps are taken." Mr. Fleming will urge that a conference of Provincial premiers shall be called to deal with the question.

### Canadian "Movies."

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

It will scarcely be doubted that as the field of subjects becomes more thoroughly worked over, and the growth of Canada provides a large constituency to be catered to, there will be established a film-making service distinctively Canadian. Canadian are not so narrow as to wish to exclude entirely all pictures in which the Stars and Stripes appear, but they would eagerly welcome more recognition of their loyalty to the Union Jack.

### Badly Mixed.

(Winnipeg Telegram.)

A caucus seems imperatively necessary in the Toronto Globe office. What is the use of the editorial writers wading through the columns of argument to show Globe readers that Reciprocity means higher prices for a Western Canada wheat when the financial editor of the same newspaper, in the same issue, is refuting that argument with convincing facts, figures and logic?

### A Comparison.

(St. Louis Globe-Democrat.)

To a certain extent Great Britain and Japan are in a formal alliance. But it is to be remarked that neither Canada nor Australia is willing to admit any large immigration from Asia.

## DIARY OF EVENTS

### HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

#### MISS JULIA ARTHUR.

Hamilton was the birthplace forty-four years ago today of one of Canada's most brilliant theatrical stars, Julia Arthur. Her father was Thomas J. Lewis, and the future actress was christened Ida Lewis. It was from her mother, an accomplished Shakespearean reader, that she inherited her dramatic inclination, and when she went on the stage she adopted her mother's maiden name, Arthur.

At eleven, Miss Arthur played in amateur theatricals at her father's home, taking the part of Portia in "The Merchant of Venice," and the role of Gamora in "The Honeymoon." She made her first professional appearance in 1881 as the Princess of Wales in Daniel Bandmann's presentation of "Richard III." She remained with Bandmann, that "greatest of barn-stormers," for three seasons, playing Ophelia, Portia, Juliet, even Lady Macbeth. Even in her early teens Miss Arthur was a beauty and an accomplished actress. Later she studied dramatic art and violin music in England and Germany and, returning to Canada, joined a repertoire company touring the West.

She made her first New York "hit" in 1892, and soon afterward repeated her success in London as a member of Sir Henry Irving's company. She retired from the stage following her marriage to Benjamin P. Cheney, Jr., in 1898.

#### OTHER ANNIVERSARIES.

Today is the anniversary of the birth of George Oscar Alcock, a jurist, at Lennoxville, P. Q., 1850; of Joseph Henry George, president Drury college, Montreal, 1853; and of John Charles MacGill, eminent American educator, who graduated from McGill in 1881, at Cambrai, France, 1853.

#### FIRST THINGS

THE DISCOVERY OF JAMAICA. The first English settlement in Jamaica was established in 1655, the English Admiral Penn, aided by a land force commanded by Venables, having wrested the island from the Spanish in that year, just 253 years ago today, on the anniversary of the discovery of the island by Columbus, May 3, 1494.

Under the Spanish regime, and to some extent afterwards, Jamaica was a resort for pirates, and many of the famous buccanniers of the past had their headquarters there. In 1692 the island was destroyed by fire, and the city of Port Royal was utterly destroyed. Kingston was founded in the following year, and has since been the capital and metropolis of the island. In 1782 the city was almost destroyed by fire, and in 1815 the entire island was deluged by a tremendous hurricane, and over a thousand persons drowned.

Negro insurrections afterwards convulsed the island. Ten years ago another destructive hurricane ravaged the island, and in 1907 Kingston and other towns were almost wiped out by an earthquake.

#### THE PASSING DAY.

THE LONDON SEASON. Today, the Saturday previous to the first Monday in May, marks the formal and official inaugural of the London Season. It is true that the annual gratification to the world-metropolis began some weeks ago, but the Season is not officially launched until the Royal Academy holds its private view, which this year comes today.

Those who receive invitations to the private view will throng Burlington House today, but not for the purpose of looking at the paintings. It is a social function, pure and simple, designed to show, at the beginning of the Season, just who is who in London. The crush on private view day is too great to permit of anything but fleeting glimpses of the works of art on display.

It was King George III., who, back in 1757, founded the institution now known as the London Season. He chose to open the Season in January, of all times in the year when London weathers it at its worst. Queen Victoria changed the date to the first of May, and gradually, for no known reason, the Royal Academy private view came to be the real opening function. With the exception of not being private, and of affording no opportunities for a view of the pictures, the London Season beginning today will continue through May, June and most of July, when the social elect will begin to scatter some to the continent, others to their shootings in the North. The merchants of Piccadilly, the Royal Academy, the proprietors of fashionable hotels and the owners of houses to be let for the season, reap a rich reward during the three months of the Season.

#### THE HUMAN PROCESSION

JACOB A. RISS.

Jacob August Riss, senior member of the mutual admiration society of Riss and Roosevelt, will celebrate his sixty-fourth birthday today. Mr. Riss is a native of Denmark, and was educated in that country. He was 21 when he landed in New York, to seek fame and fortune in the New World. He acquired his knowledge of the English language by reading novels, and became a police reporter on the New York Sun. That work brought him into contact with the submerged tenth of the American metropolis, and thus was laid the foundation for his later labors as philanthropist and sociologist.

His famous books, "How the Other Half Lives," "The Children of the Poor," "The Making of a Citizen," "The Making of a Nation," "Children of the Tenements," and similar works, made Mr. Riss an international figure and attracted the attention and admiration of Theodore Roosevelt. "Theodore Roosevelt, the Citizen," is Mr. Riss's public appreciation of the man he has known so intimately. Mr. Riss recently acquired a farm and expects to spend his remaining years tilling the soil.

#### BARON ARMSTRONG.

Baron Armstrong, who formerly had a large interest in the great steel and shipbuilding works at Elswick, England, founded by his great uncle, John Armstrong of Craigside, was born just half a century ago today, May 3, 1863. He married a daughter of the late Sir John Ayrault and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge.

## OPHELIA'S SLATE



## IN LIGHTER VEIN

### THE QUOD ERAT DEMONSTRANDUM.

The Lady is a match (and how, we cannot ascertain). The lady lit a match and said in accents firm and plain: "A flaming mansion ought to show To any Man—or goat, That I have all the brains required To cast a silly Vote."

—Toronto News.

### 'Twas Ever Thus.

This is worth passing around. Some one has dug up the following from the Chicago Inter Ocean of December 31, 1863: "George M. Pullman, of the firm of Pullman and Moore, house raisers, is experimenting with what he calls a 'palace sleeping car.' The 'wise ones' predict it will be a failure."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Let the Thief Kneel. A Kweer thing us beppell last night, Our stock of eggs and Kuse Wwite disappeared—conceive our plight. Our Kwandary these to lose! Our Kwest thus phar has been in vain The theft is very odd— lph we phind out who pilfered them We'll land him Kwick in Kword. —Boston Transcript.

Far Enough. "And before we were married you said you would be willing to die for me." "I know it." "And yet you refuse to beat the rug?" "Sure. Dying is my limit."—Houston Post.

Models Inexpensive Anyway. Artist—I wish, my dear, that you would order some kindling wood and shingles this morning. Wife—What in the world do you want kindling wood and shingles for? Artist—I'm going in for Cubism and I want to construct a model.

Sorry She Spoke. She—I really believe you men think more of your automobiles than you do of your wives. He—Why not? We can get an improved make every year.

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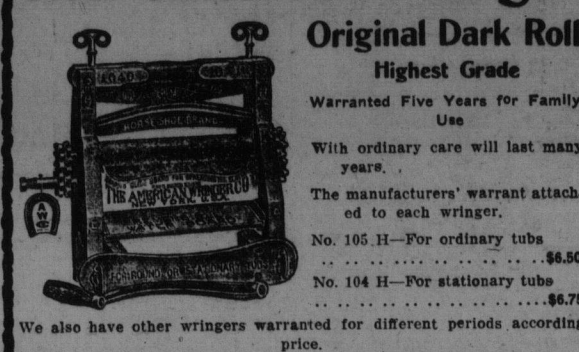
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## NEW MISSION HALL

## YESTERDAY AT 8

Built by Presbytery of St. John for city—Gymnasium and Moving in Equipment—A Handsome

The building erected by the Presbytery of St. John for the benefit of the workmen at Courtenay Bay was formally opened last evening.

During the afternoon it was open for inspection, and many went out from the city to examine the building and were well pleased with it. In charge of the supper were Mrs. Struan Robertson, Mrs. W. M. Angus and Mrs. A. R. McLeod.

In the evening at 8 o'clock when the official opening took place the spacious hall was filled with a large crowd of the workmen and others who drove out from the city.

An entertaining programme was carried out during the evening and a pleasant time was had by all who were present. The opening exercises, conducted by Rev. James Ross and Rev. Dr. McVicar lead in prayer. A short address was delivered by Rev. Gordon Dickie, chairman of the committee in which he referred briefly to the object of the Presbytery had in erecting the mission. A short musical programme was then carried out to which the following contributed: Douglas McArthur, Dudley March, Hugh Walker, Miss Thompson.

Three motion pictures were shown on the screen. After the programme many of the visitors took occasion to go through the building and expressed themselves as greatly interested in the place. The building, which has been under construction for the past month, is situated on a high level directly opposite the Municipal Home property. Both exterior and interior of the building have been attractively finished. About the building is a large cleared area which, during the summer, will be used for out-door sports. This adds greatly to the beauty of the structure which is neatly designed and tastefully decorated in painting with green and white trimmings.

The interior of the building is laid out remarkably well. The different rooms are cosy and the space is used to the best possible advantage. The building itself is supported by 28 concrete piers. An 8 foot cellar runs the whole length of the building. Here is contained a large furnace, from which the rooms above are heated by hot air. In this part of the building will also be placed the electric motor which will pump water from an artesian well sunk in rear of the building.

On the first floor above the cellar, entering from the front is the main room of the building. It is finished in hard pine and Douglas fir, the ceiling as well as the walls being sheathed. The room measures 40 x 40 feet and has a seating capacity of 200. It is well lighted and furnished with suitable electric light fixtures.

This part of the building will be used for different purposes as occasion demands it. It is the intention of those interested to have a room in this building as a place of recreation where the men

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