

The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1911.

THE FUTURE OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIES.

Mutual preferential trade between the Dominion and the West Indies is indicated in a despatch from Ottawa as part of a progressive commercial policy to which Mr. Foster, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, is giving consideration as a means to stimulate the external commerce of Canada. St. John, as a port, has a particular interest in improved relations with the islands of this kind. "It is understood," says the despatch, "that if the West Indies decide to grant Canada a preference the Dominion Government will give generous financial aid in the form of steamship subsidies for the purpose of providing more frequent service by a better class of ships between Canadian and West Indies ports, and thereby giving to Canada a portion of the trade which is now enjoyed by the United States." Efforts by St. John merchants to secure a better service have frequently been made in the past without success and the outlook appears to be decidedly more hopeful.

The step now contemplated may lead to far reaching developments. It will certainly not hinder but must tend to stimulate the movement to bring the British West Indies into the Canadian confederation. A strong and eloquent plea in favor of making the islands a new Province of the Dominion appears in the latest number to hand of the Standard of Empire from the pen of a correspondent who signs himself "Planter." In view of the proposals for improved commercial relations it is well worth careful consideration. After referring to Sir William Grey-Wilson, Governor of the Bahamas, before the Canadian Club at Ottawa, "Planter" proceeds:

"There is much to be said in favor of the transfer of the West Indian Islands, or at any rate such as desire it, to the political overlordship of Canada. There are difficulties in the way, but none which would be surmounted with the aid of that spirit of compromise which is commonly regarded as one of the stock virtues of the British race. In the first place, looking at the matter from a geographical standpoint, it is more fitting that the island possessions of Britain in America should be administered with the chief representative of the British Power in the Western Hemisphere. Commercial considerations point the same way. In fact, the argument is so strong that it cannot continue to be disregarded indefinitely. "Then there is a danger to be averted. It is pointed out in Sir William Grey-Wilson's remark about the recent imposition by the United States of a prohibitive duty on pineapples, which form so large a proportion of the West Indian exports. There have been whispers—so far they have been nothing more than whispers—that it might be to the advantage of the West Indies to transfer their allegiance to the United States. In fact, Sir William himself, at Montreal, said that the future of the islands was undoubtedly drifting towards the United States or Canada. The pineapple duty may well be a concealed attempt on the part of Washington to influence the direction of that drifting.

"It stands to reason that the West Indies cannot expect a great deal of consideration at the hands of the House of Commons, overlaid as it is with the affairs of the United Kingdom. Consequently it is to Canada that we must look to avert the possibility of the force of economic pressure bringing about a strong demand for the islands for union with the United States. In view of recent events in Canada we may rest content that she will not stand aside and watch such an eventuality gradually drawing nearer without taking those steps which she can take to retain the West Indies in the British Empire. "Difficulties in the way of the union with Canada have already been alluded to. None need be anticipated from the Imperial Government. The days when obstruction might be looked for in that quarter are gone for ever. The real difficulty is the character of the population. The Canadians would certainly not look with favor on a preponderance of white men, in the other groups the position is reversed. Yet even this difficulty is not insuperable. In fact, Sir William has himself suggested the remedy. A high franchise qualification would obviate the possibility of a large black voting population.

"Canada herself would gain by the opening up of new markets for her manufactures and commercial enterprise, while in return the islands would have a large market for their unique produce within easy reach, when the new lines of communication which would follow a political rapprochement were established.

"As already stated, the matter is beginning to assume urgency. There is a new partitioning of the ways looming in the distance. The decision of the territory concerned is infinitely decided to continue on the path of Empire, yet it is by no means to be ignored. His history is bound up with the early days of Britain's greatness on the ocean, and it includes the island (San Salvador, or Watling Island) on which Columbus first landed in the New World. Is the future of the islands to be under the Stars and Stripes or under the Union Jack? Canada may be trusted to see to it that the Union Jack gains the decision."

CONSERVATIVE OPPORTUNITY IN ALBERTA.

The result of the recent by-elections in Alberta is likely to have an important influence upon the political destinies of that Province. The gain of three seats by the Opposition, together with the return of a Conservative member for Calgary in place of Mr. R. B. Bennett will disturb the balance of the power in the Legislature and will render tenure of power by the Sifton Administration insecure in the extreme.

Under present circumstances a vote on a question of confidence in the Legislature would in all probability result in the defeat of the Government. The split in the Liberal ranks is still unbridled. The animosity between the supporters of the Government and the followers of Mr. C. V. Cross, the former Attorney General, and the champion of the notorious Alberta and Great Waterways Railway deal, is still acute and a vote of want of confidence would offer to the recalcitrant Liberals an opportunity for revenge that they would not be likely to neglect. If they decided, as they probably would, to vote with the Conservatives against the Government the doom of the Sifton Government would be sealed.

The only hope for the Sifton Administration lies in the possibility of patching up some sort of agreement with the disaffected Liberals, but that is likely to be a task of exceeding difficulty. Personal animosities, baffled ambition and disappointed greed, rather than matters of public policy, lie at the root of the Liberal disagreement, and a split of that kind is notoriously difficult to heal, as well might the lion and the lamb lie down together as

Messrs. Sifton and Rutherford, Cross and Cushing serve in the same Administration.

The difficulties of the Sifton Administration are the Conservatives' opportunity and if, as is not improbable, the Government is compelled to appeal to the people, the Opposition will enter the campaign with brighter prospects of success than at any time since Alberta became a Province. Not only will the Liberals be divided, but the Conservatives will have in their favor other circumstances that did not benefit them at the previous elections. The change of Administration at Ottawa will make Federal officials throughout the Province chary partisans of the Sifton Administration, and will remove an unfair handicap which has militated in the past against the success of the Conservative cause.

The question of the restoration of the natural resources of the Province to the control of the Provincial Government is also likely to play a prominent part in the campaign to the advantage of the Opposition. The Conservative party of Alberta has been a consistent champion of provincial rights and the electors are likely to realize that if they desire the natural resources of the Province to be speedily placed under provincial control it will be their duty to signify their wish by supporting candidates of the party which has made provincial control of Alberta's resources a plank of its political platform.

BANQUET REMINISCENCES.

Reminiscences of the Borden banquet in the Toronto Star afford a glimpse of the capabilities of the Ministerial speakers who were present to do honor to their leader and are not without interest. "Of the septet," says the Star, "Mr. Monk and Mr. Hazen divided honors as the most entertaining speakers. The Minister of Public Works, however, having the gift of an easy flow of words, enjoyed by most French-Canadians, had slightly the better of his colleagues, and his delicate eulogy of the Prime Minister was greatly appreciated by Mr. Borden's friends. Messrs. Hazen and Monk by their entertaining manner of speaking compelled rapid attention.

"Although not an orator and apparently one to whom public speaking is not an easy matter, Hon. Mr. Cochrane likewise was listened to with great attention. Interest in him was largely due to the fact that, previous to his being called to the Cabinet, he was but little known in Nova Scotia, and the people were anxious to weigh and judge him. His utterances were not those of an orator, but of a business man.

"The reception to Hon. Mr. Doherty was perhaps, the most unique. When the ex-judge was introduced a fellow Irishman called for "three cheers for the Irish," which enabled the Minister of Justice to get away to a good start, and which he took full advantage of."

"OF THE MAKING OF BOOKS THERE IS NO END."

Speaking at the opening of a new library in Glasgow, Lord Rosebery recently uttered a protest against the ever-increasing accumulation of books of little or no value in libraries. The utterance must find an echo in the thoughts of every one who has had occasion to consider the subject.

"I am filled with a hideous depression at this book-cumbersome—cumbersome because, after all, most of the books are dead," said Lord Rosebery. "There is no man who can grapple with the libraries of these days." He was right, in the sense that the rage for bookishness has become fashionable among librarians, few of whom present digests of the contents of their accumulations, in useful form, to their readers.

Why should every book that has been printed be included in a library? There are good reasons why very many books should be allowed to die a natural death, even after they have been included among "the six best sellers." The time has manifestly come for discrimination. Mr. Edmund Gosse, formerly assistant librarian in the British Museum, and now librarian in the House of Lords, has pronounced himself in favor of "an enormous destruction of printed books." His words will find favor with many a user of libraries.

Current Comment

(Hamilton Spectator.)
Memphis, Tenn., not so long ago, instituted an advertising campaign. It was done so thoroughly that every corner of the United States was made aware of the fact. Incidentally it cost \$20,000, but seems to have been money well expended. As witness, no less than sixty-five manuals were sent to Memphis. Careful investigation has revealed that these plants employ, on an average, eighty men apiece. This would give a total of 5,200 new citizens within a year. Statistics have figured that for every man there is at least one other dependent on him to be counted, and this would mean a total of 10,400. Thus is there hope and comfort in the thought that thousands spent by Hamilton along similar lines during the past few years are reaping, and will continue to do so, substantial interest on the investment.

(Calgary Herald.)
According to an English paper, which publishes a prose poem having a duty show as its subject, the up-to-date answer to the question, "Where are you going to, my pretty maid?" is "I am going, sir, to sterilize my hands, after which I shall superintend the operations of a patent mechanical milker, the product of which I shall put into a sterilized refrigerator, which will be cooled down by a sterilized refrigerator. . . ." and so on. Now we know why that extra penny a quart has been added to the price of milk.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)
Whether newspapers should accept advertisements from candidates whom they oppose in their editorial columns is a question that was recently debated by Buffalo newspapers in the course of the New York state elections. The general opinion of the papers concerned was in the negative. It can hardly be a newspaper's business to prevent the other side in any controversy from being heard. So we venture to submit the opinion that the Buffalo precedent will not be generally observed.

(Kincaird Review.)
A committee sits down for several days to find complaints against the Ontario Government, and Mr. Rowell is handed his brief. One would think that this gentleman who could sanction all that the Ross and Laurier Governments did would find no fault with the Whitney Administration, but he does.

(Bangor News.)
Our dear friend Miss (kindly notice the "Miss") Laura Jean Libby now tells the girls how to manage a society man; which reminds us that the only people on earth who know just how to "manage" a husband or wife, like the only people who know how to bring up children, are those who never had any experience.

(Regina Leader.)
Regina is no longer a rival with her sister cities in Saskatchewan. Her rivalry now is with the really big ones—Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal. We are in that class.

(Louisville Courier-Journal.)
An Indiana woman is suing for divorce because her husband refuses to take a bath. Maybe she's using the tub to grow her winter geraniums in. Some women are capable of almost anything.

American's Report On Canadian Fruit

Activities of Co-operative Industry Outlined in Interesting Form by Consular Official—36 Associations in Ontario—Combines Excluded Under Existing System—Organization as Yet Somewhat Loose.

The American consul at Kingston, Ont., has prepared an interesting report on Canadian Co-operative Fruit Associations, which contains much information that should be of interest to New Brunswick fruit growers.

Mr. Johnston writes: "There are 36 so-called co-operative fruit associations in Ontario. These may be divided roughly into three classes: Apple associations, shipping mainly to distant markets; general fruit associations, concerned with shipping apples, pears, plums, peaches, cherries, berries, etc., to home and distant markets; and small fruit associations, engaged mainly in shipping berries to home markets. Nearly all the small-fruit and some of the general fruit societies are rather loosely organized, but truly co-operating. The others have all organized with co-operative intent, but in some instances have fallen short of their ideal through lack of knowledge.

Federation of Fruit Associations.
As the individual societies in Ontario began to get in touch with one another, the need of closer relations was felt by the co-operative leaders. The fruit branches of the department of agriculture at Toronto and Ottawa, in their endeavors to encourage the fruit industry in the provinces, soon found that these societies offered one of the best mediums for reaching the individual grower. One of their great difficulties in the way of advocating better quality had always been the fact that improved quality in many cases did not bring proportionately greater returns to the grower, because most buyers paid only a flat price regardless of quality. The co-operative societies, however, paid to each member the full amount due him, according to the quality of the fruit.

In 1906 active steps were taken to unite the scattered societies into a loose form of federation and 13 societies became affiliated under the name of the Co-operative Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, with head office at Toronto. An annual fee of \$5 for each association was fixed.

Primary Object.
In the beginning the objects of the federation were to discuss forms of organization and means of securing a higher grade of fruit, to keep the associations in touch with the prices being offered by buyers and prices received in the home and export markets, and to secure a more uniform distribution of the crops.

The secretary gathers from various inspectors and correspondents a report of conditions in the various fruit producing areas of the province and Canada, and during the selling season the condition of the markets, the quality of the fruit, and other items of interest are sent to each society in a weekly report. Before the apple associations make sales in the fall, a meeting of the federation is held at which a range of prices is suggested as a basis of sales. This is adhered to as nearly as market conditions will permit.

As improved methods of production became general among the members of the associations, large quantities of spray materials, machinery, etc., came into use. These were always high in price because they were sold only in retail quantities by a few local dealers. In 1908 the federation determined to arrange for the purchase of supplies for all societies. The savings in this way is immense, as carload lots of chemicals can be bought at a time of year when prices are at their lowest and held until wanted for use. Each society is asked to send to the head office an estimate of the amount of supplies required, which serves as a guide in buying.

Other supplies, such as packages and spray machinery, are bought in the same way and a great saving has been effected. Buying co-operatively has made it almost impossible for a combine of manufacturers to control prices, as was witnessed with fruit baskets a few years ago. The makers of baskets from whom the St. Catharines society had been buying the prices of baskets so high that the society determined to place their order in the United States. Their order was very large and the prices so favorable in the United States that they have since been able to make very favorable terms with Canadian concerns.

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Our choice assortment of gift glasses, well merit your inspection, particularly our diamonds, ranging from \$7.50 upwards.

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IN STOCK.
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One carload AMERICAN ONIONS, 75 pound bags.
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PILES

Nothing known to Science is better for this painful ailment than Zam-Buk. It reduces inflammation, stops bleeding, ends the agony. Easily applied and cleanly. Why go on suffering? Why not try it? Read the following cures.

Some Proofs of Zam-Buk's Power.

MR. THOMAS J. HOGAN, Champion Clog Dancer of Canada, 69 Chamboard Street, Montreal, writes: "For some time past I have been troubled with Piles, but this year I suffered so much that I was obliged to cancel a number of engagements. I tried all the so-called remedies that were recommended, but they seemed to do me no good. Having been advised to try Zam-Buk, I purchased a fifty-cent box and after applying it a few times I felt marked relief. I continued with the Zam-Buk treatment and the relief was extended into a permanent cure.

MR. WILLIAM KENTY, of Upper Nine Mile River, Hants Co., N. S., says: "I suffered terribly from Piles, the pain at times being almost unbearable. I tried various ointments but all failed to do me the slightest good. I was tired of trying remedies when I heard of Zam-Buk, and thought as a last resource I would give this balm a trial. I procured a supply, and after a very short time Zam-Buk effected what several other ointments and medicines had failed to effect—a complete cure."

Zam-Buk also cures: ECZEMA, BLOOD POISON, ULCERS, COLD SORES, CHAPPED HANDS, SCALP SORES, CUTS, BURNS, BRUISES, SCALDS and all SKIN INJURIES AND DISEASES. All druggists and stores, or Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, post free for price. Refuse harmful substitutes.

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For every occasion, with the Kootenay Steel Range, without "driving" the fire or wasting fuel. The generous firebox is built so that the water heats very rapidly as it passes through the water front, and gives a plentiful supply. One bath usually empties the boiler heated by an ordinary range with the result that the rest of the family must wait for more water to heat. Not so with the boiler attached to the water front of a

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because the Kootenay never fails to heat as much water as is required and as fast as it is used. The nearest McClary Agent will make clear to you the reasons why you ought to own a Kootenay.

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Important! Big Discounts!

PICTURE FRAMING—All branches 10 per cent. cash discount. **WALL PAPER**—All grades 20 per cent. cash discount. 200 remnants at half price.
Great Bargains in FRAMED PICTURES. UNFRAMED PRINTS 10 per cent. off.
Big assortment of NEW BOOKS. REPRINTS at 60c each.
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LEATHER GOODS of all kinds, Best Value.
TOYS, GAMES, FANCY GOODS, XMAS CALENDARS, AND BOOKS. LETS, now ready for inspection.

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1912 Office Diaries

Now Ready
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84 Prince William Street.

Y. M. C. A. Announcements.
This evening there will be a meeting at the Y. M. C. A. for all intermediates interested in Bible study. The subject will be served at 6.15. The supper will meet for Bible study Triangles will meet for Bible study day evening.

This evening Mr. Menzies will lead the Pathfinders in Bible study this winter. The Glens and Pathfinders will meet Friday afternoon for formation. The leaders of the different Bible study classes will meet on Thursdays.

Agents, St. John, N. B.

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FROM MONTREAL AND QUEBEC
Lake Champlain. . . Nov. 23
First Cabin. . . \$92.50
Second Cabin. . . \$50.00
Third Cabin. . . \$32.50
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St. John, N. B.

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ALL RAIL ROUTE TO BOSTON
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TWO TRAINS EVERY WEEK DAY.

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