

# The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, MONDAY MORNING, JULY 24, 1911.

## THE FIGHT IS ON.

The United States Senate on Saturday passed the Reciprocity bill. The centre of interest now changes to Ottawa. The fight is on, and by present indications will be a fight to a finish. As far as Canada is concerned, one thing is certain, the Government will not be permitted to force the Taft-Fielding Agreement through Parliament in defiance of the rights of the people who are entitled to be consulted on a measure of vital importance to all classes in the Dominion. Since the day these far-reaching changes in the tariff were made public, the Opposition have taken the reasonable ground that the Agreement ought not to be acted upon until the sense of the people had been obtained. The Laurier Government faces a solid and determined body of opponents who will not budge their convictions and are strengthened in their attitude by the knowledge that they have the great majority of public sentiment in Canada behind them.

The Opposition are further justified in their fight for the rights of the people by the knowledge that the Taft-Fielding pact is a radical departure from the fixed policy of the country. For a dozen years Reciprocity has not entered into the plans of either political party. Canada has secured markets overseas, transportation systems East and West have been built with these markets in view and prosperity has followed the development of Empire trade. The President of the United States has declared that a reciprocal agreement with Canada will prevent the Imperial consolidation which a British preferential arrangement might effect. He has declared that Canada is at the heart of the world. The issue is not only now, but it is vital to the future of the Dominion. Why should the Government refuse to allow the people to vote on it?

Liberal organs raise the cry that the Opposition are "obstructionists." While the Opposition are anxious that the business of the session should proceed and that the West should have the full benefit of redistribution at the earliest possible date, the Government bar the way by their efforts to force Reciprocity through the House. On this point the Opposition are not eager to escape the charge of obstruction.

The Toronto News well expresses the attitude of the party when it says, in discussing the situation: "It is understood that the intention of the Conservative party is to prevent Parliamentary ratification of the trade agreement until the country has had an opportunity to express its judgment in a general election. The country knows that only by obstruction can ratification be prevented. Nothing is to be gained, therefore, by concealing the true character of the contest, or by denying that the ultimate object is to force an appeal to the people. In preventing premature ratification of an agreement, which reverses the National policy under which the country has become powerful and prosperous, Conservatives deserve gratitude and applause. They need not shrink from the charge that they are obstructionists. In degree as they retard and obstruct the Taft policy they will be esteemed and regarded throughout the Dominion."

## EVENTS IN PERSIA.

The sudden appearance of Mohammed Ali Mirza, the deposed Shah of Persia, in his former kingdom, threatens a revolutionary movement which may result in a setback to the reforms which are being carried out under the new government. Asterabad, capital of the Province of Esterbad, has declared for the deposed Shah, and the Deputy Governor of Kermans has sent his submission to Salar Ed Dowich, brother of the ex-Shah, who is at the head of the revolutionary faction in Kurdistan. Reports, however, indicate that disaffection is mostly confined to a few northern tribes who have risen in rebellion.

Upon his deposition, two years ago, Mohammed Ali Mirza went to southern Russia. A pension was granted him by Persia, and it is said Russia agreed to restrain him from making any effort to overthrow the constitutional Government and also to prevent any uprising in his favor within the sphere of influence. Much to the surprise of Europe he appeared last winter in southern France. The charge was then made that he met a party of malefactors and that a conspiracy was formed to restore him to the throne. He denied this and said that he had received permission from Russia to make the journey on account of ill health. At the various other European resorts at which he appeared there were similar charges of conspiracy. Representations were made to Russia in the matter, but unofficial reports say that Russia replied the exile was "merely a sick man" and that there was no reason to compel him to remain at home.

Under the regency of Nasr-ul-Mulk the Government has just begun to make effective some of the reforms for which the revolution of two years ago that overthrew Mohammed Ali Mirza and established a constitutional Government was undertaken. A stable Ministry of men of some capability has been formed, and the finances of the country, which were among the serious problems of the new government are in process of reorganization with the apparent support of both the Ministry and Parliament. The recent difficulty with Great Britain over the protection of the trade highways of southern Persia within the British sphere of influence has been settled by the Government's promise of more effective police patrol.

The Persian Government may prove strong enough to put down the rebellion unless it is more extended than the reports would indicate. The loyalty of the Bakhtiari, the best organized fighting men of the country is assured, and the Minister of War threatens a vigorous campaign. There is less interest, apparently, in the rebellion itself than in the backing that made it possible. That is a matter which Great Britain, a loyal supporter in recent years of the Russian policy in Persia, may feel it incumbent upon herself to inquire into.

## IN ULSTER.

The People, a London weekly, discussing the prospects of Home Rule for Ireland, intimates that the resistance on the part of Ulster will be something to be reckoned with.

"At the back of the Constitutional crisis, as everyone knows," says the People, "stands the spectre of Home

Rule, and it is only when the Parliament Bill has become law that the country will pass into the really intense phase of the struggle which now engages it. The Parliament Bill itself is but the axe which is used to cut a pathway for separation, and Mr. Redmond and his American allies stand ready to plunge into the gap that they see opening before them. If there is any danger of this being forgotten in England there is none in Ireland where the Loyalist and the Protestant await with grim apprehension the triumph of the politician, and the moonlighter.

"It is significant that whenever the danger of a Home Rule Parliament threatens to become a reality, the fierce resistance determination of Ulster flames up into a brighter and stronger glow. So it was in 1886 and in 1893, and so it is today, when the veto of the English people is being wrested from their hands and the Constitution is being laid prostrate at Mr. Redmond's feet. The great gatherings with which the Orangemen celebrate the Battle of the Boyne were never more impressive or enthusiastic than last week, and when 150,000 people can be mustered upon one spot to declare that they will never sell or surrender their allegiance and their liberty, it is a stern and solemn warning to those who would barter away the integrity of the United Kingdom. The industry of Ulstermen has made their province the garden and the treasury of Ireland, and they are resolved to defend it. All that makes life worth living, they are well aware, depends on the Union Jack flying over the seat of Irish Government—and most, and dearest of all, that religious liberty which is the very breath of political freedom. When the Nonconformist Radical proposes to hand over the Irish Protestant to the tender mercies of his inveterate foe he commits a treachery to which the history neither of Churches nor of States can afford a parallel, and a crime that must inaugurate all the horrors of civil war."

## Laurier's Imperial Attitude.

When it was proposed at a colonial conference some years ago that the Dominions over the Seas should bear some share in the defence of the Empire to which they belonged, Sir Wilfrid Laurier objected. He pointed out that this would mean taxation without representation. Canada and the other Dominions would have to fight British battles without a voice in British policy. "Call us to your councils" was his appeal. This was taken to mean that Canada was ready to share in the defence of the Empire if she might share in the councils of the Empire.

We know how for years this phrase of the Dominion Premier has done duty in England and throughout the realm as a proof that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was a patriotic and devoted friend of the Empire. The message of Canada through the Premier has been cited in many a company and many a leading article as an encouragement of the movement for the closer organization of the British nation.

But now the phrase is obsolete. Sir Wilfrid has himself cast it on the scrap heap with many another of his older declarations. At the conference which has just closed it was proposed that the colonies should hereafter be consulted before the Empire should be committed to such agreements as the Declaration of London. Australia asked for such a consultation. The Foreign Minister approved the idea. It was left to Sir Wilfrid to lead the opposition. The greatest surprise of the conference was the Canadian Premier's objection to such a consultation on the ground that if the colonies were consulted on foreign affairs they might have to share the responsibility of the event of war. So Canada has been placed by her Premier in this position. We will not share the burden of Imperial defence because we are not called to Imperial councils; we will not share in Imperial councils lest that should involve a call to Imperial defence—Vancouver News-Advertiser.

There is a sad want of unanimity on the part of Mr. Pugsley's Reciprocity organs as to the attitude of the Conservatives at Ottawa. The Times denounces them as "obstructionists" and prophesies that as a result of their tactics the Government may have to go to the country before passing the Agreement. As the Times understands the situation the Conservatives are doing their best to force the Government to appeal to the people. Turning to the Telegraph, we read: "The simple fact is that Conservatives fear Reciprocity as an election issue as they have feared no issue for many years." There must be a screw loose somewhere. The editors had better get together.

## Current Comment

(Edmonton Journal.)

It must grieve those supporters of the Government who have had so much to say about the support which it has been receiving over its trade policy from the organized farmers of the West to learn that the agricultural unions of the Edmonton district held a meeting the other day to consider the advisability of placing a farmer's candidate in the field against the minister of the interior. Evidently something more in the way of accession to the farmers' demands is required than the government considers it has granted by its actions in playing into the part designed for it in Mr. Taft's tariff programme. Besides there are other things as well as tariffs that the farmers are interested in.

(Calgary Herald.)

"Is anybody looking for a widow; It's a most deserving case." Postmaster King has received a letter from a widow in Spokane asking him to place her amongst the men of the Canadian West. Any man under sixty and over sixteen will do. One with a little real estate would be preferred to one addicted to drink. Whiskers are not necessary nor is an automobile if the victim has a loving disposition. The widow has a certificate for pie-making, and would like to assist in the development of the West.

(Boston Post.)

Of course we all know that the sea serpent does really and truly exist and that he is second cousin to the Jabberwock. But to say that the Maine fishermen are "scared" of the critter is to tax credulity and betray the unscrupulous of the whole statement. Maine fishermen see a good many worse things than sea serpents, on occasion, and as a matter of fact if one were to be sighted off Gunguit or Mackerel Cove, they would hustle out at once to get him for the exhibition money he would represent.

(Guelph Herald.)

Mr. Borden and his followers in opposing Reciprocity realize full well that the ratification of the agreement will necessarily mean future agreements, all tending to complete commercial union. The opponents of Reciprocity in the United States are fully seized with this fact, and regard the struggle on in that country as a struggle between the principle of protection and the principle of free trade.

(London Free Press.)

The list of candidates already nominated for the Commons in Ontario shows that in the 86 constituencies there are as yet but twenty Conservatives and sixteen Liberals in the field. Should an election be brought on in the near future there will be a season of boiling political activity getting the full complement of candidates in nomination.

## THE TELEGRAPH AND SIR JOHN THOMPSON

To the Editor of The Standard.

Sir:—Permit me to make use of a small portion of your space to make some comment on the article that appeared in the columns of the Telegraph recently in connection with the fact that at one time Sir John Thompson, premier of the Dominion for a term, expressed himself as favoring reciprocity.

This certainly is very old news, as at that time the trade necessities of Canada as then situated, made it apparent that a fair measure of reciprocity would be of benefit to the Dominion. The overtures made were promptly rejected, and since then the commercial relations of Canada have so materially improved, independent of the United States, that at the present day Canadians as a whole need not give any thought to this outcry in favor of the Fielding-Paterson overtures in this direction, inspired thereby by the serious requirements of Taft et al to bolster up their political ambitions.

But the main point to be taken note of by every true Canadian citizen who has the genuine welfare of the Dominion at heart, is that Sir John Thompson made use of the following words in the statement which the Telegraph so gleefully published in its editorial columns:

"We have made to the government of the United States, through the government of Great Britain, proposals for reciprocity in trade, etc."

Contrast this statement with the fact that Messrs. Fielding and Paterson opened up, and negotiated with the government of the United States the present reciprocity proposals without reference in any manner or form to the government of Great Britain.

In this you have the keynote to the whole situation. The people of Canada have reached a stage when it is expedient to call a halt in the blind and partisan attempt to make the people of the Dominion of Canada "beavers of wood and drawers of water" for Uncle Sam. This will be the consequence if this ill-considered measure be forced upon the people of Canada.

Every intelligent Canadian voter can easily answer the question. The time has arrived when Canadians should look into the honest requirements of composed of those nations which have the greatest measure of freedom and civilization. Those nations are only to be found under the British flag. The natural tendency for nations, as we are inclined to say, is to unite. The small atoms unite to form the globe, the grains of sand unite to form the mighty rock. Drops of water combine to form rivers and seas, and the sexes unite and form families; a combination of families form a community, and so the thing goes on. Just in proportion to the wisdom we display in forming a national combine, or merger, an Imperial Federation, so mer will be the result, for better, for worse. While we have the choice of decision let our choice for our National destiny be the very best possible—Imperial Federation under the British flag.

W. H. BRAMLEY.

Bath, N. B., July 20, 1911.

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## CONFEDERATION OR SEPARATION.

To the Editor of The Standard.

Sir:—Everyone knows there exists in Canada a policy in favor of separation. Is it a wise policy? The question is one which concerns us all. Individually, emphatically against it for several reasons. We have been told repeatedly, in connection with this policy, that Canada is to be compared to a ripe fruit, ready to drop from the parent stem! I venture to question this, some of us do not think that the fruit is matured just yet. We have not yet arrived at the parting of the ways. It is at present a fact that Canada is under the control of Great Britain, however distasteful it may be to certain separatist gentlemen, who would like it to be otherwise. To my mind it would be greatly to our advantage, as a people, to remain under that control and protection, indefinitely.

As matters now stand, we are practically our own masters in all matters that pertain to national and individual liberty and happiness. At the same time we have the additional advantage of sheltering under the wings of the mother country, free from the fear of annexation by any country that might wish to annex Canada; the fear of the British lion is a great protection for us. The main issue to be decided at the next election, whenever it may come, should be—Separation or Confederation. These two words contain the present situation in one phrase. That should be the battle cry. Which is the better policy can be shown by historical facts. When Great Britain was divided up among several kings, there was continual strife, and national misery. Directly the various parts were merged into one United Kingdom, the strife ceased, and the country ever since has marched along in the forefront of civilization and progress.

The same thing would happen if Canada were to separate from the United States. Previous to Confederation, her progress was slow, but since that event, she has progressed by leaps and bounds. The same would be true if she were to separate from the United States. Then look at our own history, when did the era of prosperity begin for Canada? No one will dispute the fact that it commenced with Confederation. Now, if we must decide upon separation, or confederation, surely we have here the proof which is the better policy to pursue. The old Latin one: "In Unio is Strength."

It may be asked, With whom should we confederate? Since we are already a Confederated nation, that is true, but we are only one nation composed of several provinces; we should strive to attain a confederation of composed of those nations which have the greatest measure of freedom and civilization. Those nations are only to be found under the British flag.

The natural tendency for nations, as we are inclined to say, is to unite. The small atoms unite to form the globe, the grains of sand unite to form the mighty rock. Drops of water combine to form rivers and seas, and the sexes unite and form families; a combination of families form a community, and so the thing goes on. Just in proportion to the wisdom we display in forming a national combine, or merger, an Imperial Federation, so mer will be the result, for better, for worse. While we have the choice of decision let our choice for our National destiny be the very best possible—Imperial Federation under the British flag.

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## RECIPROCITY AT WASHINGTON.

Jan. 7, 1911.—Conference of Canadian and United States negotiators on reciprocity holds first meeting at Washington.

Jan. 22.—Official announcement made that negotiators have reached an understanding.

Jan. 23.—President Taft transmits message to congress accompanied by details of the reciprocity agreement.

Jan. 25.—The McCall bill (named from the chairman of the ways and means committee in 61st congress), embodying the agreement, is introduced in house of representatives, and referred to ways and means committee.

Feb. 11.—McCall bill favorably reported.

Feb. 14.—House of representatives passes the bill.

Feb. 15.—Bill reaches senate and is referred to finance committee.

March 4.—Term of the 61st congress expires without senate having reached a vote on the bill.

March 4.—President Taft calls the 62nd congress in special session for April 4th to deal with reciprocity agreement.

April 4.—First meeting of the new congress. McCall bill introduced again.

April 5.—President Taft urges that new congress pass the measure.

April 12.—Reciprocity bill, now known as the Underwood bill (from the chairman of the ways and means committee in the new congress), introduced in house and referred back to the committee.

April 21.—Underwood bill passes house of representatives.

June 13.—Finance committee of senate, after weeks of haggling, reports the Underwood bill.

June 26.—Root amendment regarding pulp, which had passed the senate, is rejected by the senate.

July 22.—Senate passes the bill.

## UPPER CANADA COLLEGE CHANGES IN STAFF.

W. S. Jackson Will Be Vice-Principal—More Accommodation Provided.

In preparation for the fall term a very considerable reorganization of the staff of Upper Canada College has been effected. W. S. Jackson will be vice-principal and dean of residence. W. McHugh will be senior mathematical master and head of the mathematical department. J. F. Ross, B. A. Toronto, will be second mathematical master. Mr. Ross is highly recommended by Professor Baker, a former master of Upper Canada College, by Dean Pakenham, of the faculty of education, and by the chairman of the Hildown education committee where Mr. Ross acted as temporary principal of the high school. Miss Carr succeeds Miss Ardagh as lady superintendent of the main building. Miss Carr has lately been in charge of the Epworth hospital, South Bend, Indiana. She is a graduate of Toronto and of Johns Hopkins, and sister of Dr. Carr, head of the science department of Upper Canada College. J. L. Somerville, recently dean of residence in the main building, becomes dean of residence in the preparatory school, and Miss Ardagh becomes lady superintendent. Additional classroom and

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W. G. M. SHEPHERD, MONTREAL, SOLE AGENT FOR CANADA.

## OBITUARY.

Mrs. R. E. Willott.

Her many friends in St. John and elsewhere will read with regret announcement of the death of Mrs. R. E. Willott, at Stockton, California, on Friday last. Mrs. Willott had a large circle of relatives and friends here, and she was liked by them all for her gentle heart. Col. John Tilton, of Ottawa, and Charles F. Tilton, of Lancaster, are brothers; Mrs. L. H. Noss, of Woodman's Point, is a sister, and there is a sister, Mrs. Robert Clark, in Boston, and several other relatives in this vicinity. Mrs. Willott was occasionally a summer visitor to St. John, and had ever a warm welcome from her friends.

Dennis Daley.

Dennis Daley, an old resident of Musquash, passed away Saturday morning at the residence of his nephew, Thomas Daley, Milford. He had been an invalid for some years, but

changing room accommodation is being added to the preparatory school at a cost of about \$5,000. The swimming bath is being enlarged and improved at a cost of about \$2,000. All these changes are made on the recommendation of the principal, Henry W. Auden, M. A., and have the hearty support of the board of governors. It is believed that the changes will contribute greatly to the efficiency of the institution.

James Johnston, a life-long resident of this city, and a well known carpenter and builder, died on Saturday the 22nd inst., after a long illness. He leaves a wife, two sons, William in the States, J. C., of the C. P. R., and a daughter, Mrs. Fred McCready, of New York; also a brother and sister, John, of this city, and Mrs. J. Barker, of New York. The funeral will take place today at 2:30 to Fernhill cemetery, from his late residence, 54 Elliot Row.

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