

# The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 8, 1911.

## SIR WILFRID HAS RECONSIDERED.

Sir Wilfrid has at last made up his mind to attend the Imperial Conference which is called to meet in London on May 22nd. No more important consulting body exists within the Empire than this Conference, and no more important questions have ever been to the front as respects the Empire than those scheduled for discussion thereat.

It is to be remembered that this is the first meeting of this Conference under its present constitution, and that this constitution is largely the result of the stand taken by Canada in 1907, and which was supported by the British Government. That constitution has been in full effect for the last three years, and under it a great body of useful work has been carried out, and full information and data prepared for the session of 1911.

The Conference is composed of the Prime Ministers of Great Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, together with such other colleagues of these Prime Ministers as may be selected by each to be present. But these are limited to two for each Dominion, and for purposes of discussion only. They have no vote. India is represented by a high official. It will be seen that if the Canadian Premier were absent Canada would be practically unrepresented, and her voice eliminated.

As to the serious questions to be considered in this critical period of the Empire's existence, they are many and some pressing. That of defence comes first. Since the Defence Conference of 1909 the situation has materially changed. Australia and New Zealand then met the views of the British Government in regard to naval defence, but both have since completely revolutionized their methods of land defence and adopted the compulsory system. This entails a large expense, but promises much greater efficiency and strength. They have also covered upon the advisability of close cooperation with the British Navy, and at the coming Conference they will present that subject for consideration with a view to uniting all in a common policy. Where Canada shall stand, whether segregated and weak, or united and strong is a question of prime importance.

Then there is the question of trade. The whole Empire is stirred with interest to which anxiety is added as to the possibilities concealed in the Taft-Fleeting agreement. Does it hold within it the seeds of future disintegration for the Empire? If one Dominion can leave the Imperial orbit and propel itself in close conjunction with a foreign system, another and still another may follow. One defection would weaken the whole system, but if others follow, it will in the end be destroyed. Shall the trade of the Empire be more closely correlated, or shall it be detached in sections and weakened in the whole, and what will the effect be on the Empire itself? Is there not a way to avoid this and cannot the Conference aid to its discovery?

Then there are the questions of naturalization and the migration of population within the Empire. What we want is a common citizenship, and the retention of its own citizens within the great wide bounds of the Empire, whilst at the same time giving world wide scope to the spirit of adventure, the desire for change, the love of enterprise and the search for betterment of conditions. These two subjects are slated for serious consideration and are urgent.

But along with these are many others only less important to the consulting dominions. Today all the Premiers and their colleagues are either already in London or on their way thither, and we are glad to know that the Premier of Canada has at last decided to join them. His sole reason for absence, as given by himself, was that he must stay in Ottawa until the Taft-Fleeting agreement was passed. He was pledged to Taft. To have done this would have been tantamount to declaring that he was so loyal to this new found friend that he forgot or subordinated his fealty to the King, and his duties to the Empire. Or if he put it on the ground of Canadian interests, that he conceived that it was more important that he should spend the next month superintending the passage of this measure at Ottawa than spending it in London participating in the urgent affairs of Empire, in which Canada was vitally interested, it would also have intimated that he could not trust Mr. Fleiding and Mr. Patterson and his majority of over fifty to carry on the debate in Ottawa for four short weeks.

There was little probability that the United States Senate would have passed the pact by the end of June and certainly the House at Ottawa would not pass it until it saw what the Senate did. The debate on the principle of the bill is not nearly concluded at Ottawa, and the three hundred terms will consume a great deal of time. Sir Wilfrid could, if he were so disposed, go to London and perform his duties, and return before any decisive action was possible at Ottawa. He could therefore have accepted Mr. Borden's offer, taken the supply necessary, and adjourned the House for two months. Then we should probably know what the United States Senate had done, and could take up the discussion again. No reasonable man could discover any objection to that course from the party legislative standpoint.

Or he could have done still better. He could have accepted the offer of the Opposition to quickly clear off the pressing business and have prorogued Parliament. No Canadian interest would have suffered. The Empire would have halted the postponement of the Taft agreement with delight. And we doubt not a large proportion of his party in the House and in the country would have been heartily glad to be rid of this ill-advised bantling of Mr. Fleiding's. Sir Wilfrid would have suffered in pride and prestige, but he could have consoled himself with the thought that his cross was the country's crown. However he has made his choice and abandoned a hastily taken and untenable position.

It is evident that Sir Wilfrid was driven to change his mind by the logic of the situation, strengthened by the pressure of public opinion. He could not deny that a way was opened up for him and he could not face the consequences of his refusal. He should have seen this from the first and not have placed himself in a position from which he has had to retreat without honor to himself. However, we repeat that we are

glad matters are so arranged that Canada will be represented at the Conference. We wish the Premier bon voyage with the caution that he will in the work of that Conference show himself in full accord with the best spirit of Canada and the Empire. If he will in good faith represent that spirit he will earn forgiveness for many of his transgressions.

## TAKING THE CENSUS.

Some humors of taking the census have been gathered by the London Morning Leader. There was a common anxiety in every household of the country last evening, the Leader remarks in a recent issue. The census paper had to be dealt with. The head of the family, forced at last to fill it up, came to the moment when, pen in hand, the awful fact must be faced that, though he knows whether his children were boys or girls, he does not know the exact date of their birth; and that the only one who could tell him was the wife. The blunt request, for personal data for the census paper was surprising to many who have long forgotten many simple facts concerning their own affairs.

That the old antagonism to confiding to the State facts concerning personal matters has not died out since Mr. Thornton, the member for York, said in the House in 1753, concerning a Census Bill: "I hold this project to be the total subverting of the last remains of British liberty," and "the annual register of our people will acquaint our enemy abroad of our weakness," is still shown by the way the enumerators have been met at some houses during the present census.

The most wild and improbable reasons have been given for objecting to some questions; the idea being that in some subtle way there was a trap set. The straight question as to age arouses some feeling still. Every census reveals the fact that there are more women with ages ranging between 20 and 25 than there were girls with ages between 10 and 15 at the previous census. Another difficulty now is that question which seeks information about infirmities. Many persons and school teachers in poorer London districts have had this puzzle put to them in different ways. "My wife drinks; is that an infirmity?" "Should I put in that I'm bald?" "How about Mary Ann's squint?"

The question as to trade has been a poser to many—and will equally puzzle those who have to analyze the papers. "I ain't done a stroke since I swept snow last winter," one perplexed man in East London said to an official, "and my wife does a bit on Mondays taking neighbors' bundles to the pawnshop. I dunno what to put down." Another man could not read or write, but said he was a clerk. He explained this to the astonished enumerator by saying he kept the gate of a yard in which vans entered, and made chalk marks on a wall as they went in and out.

## BRITAIN'S TRADE.

The feature of the Board of Trade returns for March is the influence which the cotton trade has had on the figures. Imports of cotton formed more than 25 per cent. of the total import of raw materials, and showed an increase of £1,690,020, as compared with March, 1910. In exports of manufactures cotton goods accounted for £3,102,766 out of the total increase of £5,728,781.

The chief figures for the month are:—  
March imports .. £58,543,022  
Increase over 1910 .. 434,075  
Increase over 1909 .. 6,529,567  
March exports .. 40,863,912  
Increase over 1910 .. 6,472,354  
Increase over 1909 .. 8,959,239

The small increase in the total of imports is due to a falling-off of nearly £2,240,000 in arrivals of articles of food and drink.

In exports of manufactures there was an increase under every heading except electrical goods, which showed a decline of £489,562. The principal increases, apart from cotton, were:—

Woolens .. £438,137  
Machinery .. 416,273  
New ships .. 364,484  
Chemicals .. 329,814  
Iron and steel .. 226,619  
Apparel .. 237,419

This year last year fell in March, so that the month this has two more working days than it had in 1910. This makes the comparison more favorable, but the figures for the first three months show that good trade continues. For the quarter imports increased over £12,000,000 (due entirely to cotton), and exports over £13,000,000 as compared with last year—the record year for Britain's foreign trade.

It is evident the organizers of the tour which is now being taken through New Brunswick in defence of the pilgrimage to Washington failed to realize that in Dr. McAlister, M. P., this Province already possessed a champion of the Taft-Fleeting agreement whose prowess would throw such lesser lights as Mr. Guthrie of South Wellington, Dr. Clark of Red Deer, and Dr. Neely of Humboldt entirely in the shade. Judging by the entertainment which the member for Kings-Albert provided at the preliminary meeting at Sussex on Saturday there was no need for imported talent. Dr. McAlister's line of argument that this agreement is but the forerunner of free trade with the United States indicates that in spite of his confessed ignorance of the subject he has fallen on a great truth. His efforts at enlightening the people are worthy of every encouragement and his performance has all the charm of novelty.

## Current Comment

(Woodstock Sentinel.)  
If the people are to continue to govern themselves in any real sense they must study carefully and intelligently the business of government. They must keep themselves enlightened in regard to at least the leading questions before the country. It is not enough that they shall show themselves to be zealous partisans during the heat of an election campaign. There is little chance for sober judgment at such a time. The appeal is then to party zeal, party loyalty and party prejudice. The people must give attention to public questions at other times, when their minds are free to judge an issue upon its merits.

(Calgary Herald.)  
Mr. Fleiding committed a tactical error when, in order to rally the Liberal forces behind him, he committed the life of the Government to the success of the treaty; and the Opposition in Parliament is fulfilling its highest duty in not hampering the administration of the Dominion, while at the same time it expresses its determination to oppose this suicidal policy to the limit.

(Vancouver News-Advertiser.)  
Representative Madden of Wisconsin is another frank American who speaks out in Congress what he thinks and hopes. He supports Reciprocity expecting that some day the relationship between the two people "may blend in one harmonious whole" and "the territory north of us may become part of the United States, as it should be."

## THE WESTERN UNION AND ANGLO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH COMPANIES

London, May 6.—It is stated that the guarantee which the Western Union Telegraph Company proposes to make to the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, is equivalent to 34 per cent. on the total share capital of the latter of 7,000,000 pounds (about \$35,000,000) and this guarantee is to be in perpetuity. This involves an obligation on the part of the Western Union of 262,500 pounds (\$1,312,500) per annum. Mr. Carson, the general manager of the Anglo Company, was reported a few days ago in the London Times to have said "We do not think the rates are reducible."

## THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The Canadian postal authorities have arranged for improved service to Great Britain, and expect to land the mails by the Canadian steamers in the Old Country, 24 hours earlier than heretofore. Details of the arrangement are not at hand, but a letter received Saturday by Postmaster Sears from the deputy postmaster Dominion Line steamers are to be despatched to connect with the I. C. R. train No. 33, leaving Halifax on Thursday at 10 p. m., arrangements having been made for the mails provided by these lines to be landed in London approximately 24 hours earlier than formerly. Outgoing British mails conveyed by the White Star Dominion Line steamers are to be despatched to connect with the I. C. R. train leaving Halifax on Fridays at 8.10 p. m.

In accordance with these instructions, the English mail will close at the post office at 5 p. m., and the parcel mail at 4 p. m. on Thursdays.

## HOTELS.

Victoria.

J. A. Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. S. Traher, New York; B. W. Russell, W. Pelletier, Halifax; A. M. Dawson, Hartland; Miss E. Crotty, A. L. Hoyt, McAdam; P. Anderson, Lawrenceville; J. Maher, Brownville; J. H. Holmes, Truro; E. Carriker, Francisco; G. McAdam, Plinio; D. Buyn, Sydney; L. A. Michaud, Montreal; L. A. Young, Truro; Miss E. Harmer, N. Y.

Royal.

Capt. C. O. Allan, Kentville; A. H. Dixon, M. A. Reid, R. A. Chalmers, M. R. O. Bowls, Montreal; H. P. Connett, Chatham; Eng. W. H. Peaslee, Boston; Geo. Mortimer, Quebec; G. S. Smiley, Halifax; W. G. Shaver, Chicago; D. Fraser, Fredericton; H. E. Caskey, J. M. Coyne, Toronto; W. M. Sanderson, Leith; R. G. A. Beck, Montreal; E. J. Walsh, Ottawa; Mrs. B. A. Hunt, Miss L. Burdell, South Nelson; A. Brown, Fredericton; G. Shute, Jr., Boston; C. C. Rance, Clinton; B. Bishop, Montreal; V. P. T. H., Fall River; H. C. McIntyre, La. C. H. Ross, Montreal; W. M. H., Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Potherie, Hudson; F. H. Ritchie, N. B. Hotel, L. Swartz, Toronto; H. C. Stevens, Wallingford; W. C. Hawey, Halifax; E. Regensburg, R. Thompson, New York; C. R. Carman, St. Martins; H. Guthrie, Guelph, Ont.; G. King, Chippawa.

Dufferin.

Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Oliver, Brownville; J. C. L. Tracy, Truro Station; W. R. Finson, Bangor; E. J. Hubbard, Boston; Mrs. W. B. McKay, Mrs. Hatfield White, Mrs. Scott, Neale, Sussex; E. R. T. Woodcock, C. G. Fraser, Parrsboro; P. H. Dawson, Montreal; R. S. J. Freece, Sussex; Wm. Croft, Toronto; J. D. Blisset, North Sydney; J. A. Lapres, Montreal; J. C. Turner, Amherst; M. B. Foster, Philadelphia.

## The Schooner Romeo.

Captain Peter McIntyre, the owner of the schooner Romeo stated last night that he did not think the vessel had been seriously damaged by the collision in Pellicot Bay. She Thursday last, as he had received no word as yet from Capt. Scott. A despatch from Chatham, stated that the Romeo had her mainmast torn, her boat damaged, stern smashed and planks started. The schooner left here on April 19 bound to Vineyard Haven for orders with 130.975 feet spruce plank, etc., shipped by Stetson, Cutler and Co.



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## SATURDAY FULL DAY IN THE MARKET

New York, May 6.—Trading fell off decidedly in the stock market today. It was characterized by the same hesitating tone that had ruled during the greater part of the week. Operations apparently consisted for the most part of an evening of accounts by the professional. Prices declined somewhat and then recovered. Net changes for the most part were insignificant, and there was an absence of anything approaching initiative on either side.

A decline of more than 3 points in U. S. Hubber was attributed to the showing in the annual statement of the company revealing a considerable loss in profits. After the first sales, however, this stock developed a firmer tone, and recovered part of its loss. Northern Pacific was one of the strongest stocks, rising in response to statements that earnings for the current year will be more than sufficient to meet dividend requirements.

The Mexican situation took on a new phase with the announcement that telegraphic communication with some of the rebel states in the republic is now completely cut off. Advice, official and private, which reached Wall Street indicate that there is little hope of immediate adjustment of the difficulties, and the possibility of further complications is recognized as a restraining influence.

The weekly trade reviews were disappointing. They indicated that the improvement which apparently had begun in some lines of trade had been checked. The dry goods trade in particular felt the effects of cool weather. The fortnightly report of the American Railway association was of the same tenor, showing an increase in the number of idle cars, although the two previous statements reported decreases.

Interest in the foreign markets centered largely in the report from Paris, that one of the most influential French financial institutions is negotiating for the listing of American Telephone and Telegraph shares on the Bourse. As a result of the plethora of money at London there is talk of a possible reduction next week in the bank rate. Inasmuch as private discounts at that point have been below the official rate for some time, such a move would hardly exert more than a sentimental effect. The conspicuous feature of the weekly bank statement was the fairly large decrease in actual loans. For the sixth consecutive week non-member banks and trust companies reported a loan increase, that item this week approximating \$9,000,000. With local money conditions almost embarrassingly easy the bank statement exercises little influence.

Bonds were irregular. Total sales, par value, \$1,851,000. United States 2's declined 1-4 on call for the week.

## CORNS CURED FOR 25 CENTS.

A guarantee of painless cure goes with every bottle of Putnam's Corn Extractor. The Putnam's and your corn goes. Beware of substitutes.

## MONTREAL AND BOSTON CURB.

By direct private wires to J. C. Macintosh and Co.

## Montreal Curb Sales.

C. P.—50 at 52; 5 at 52; 25 at 54; 25 at 54.  
Canners—25 at 65 1-4; 65 at 65; 25 at 65.  
Nor. Ont.—1,000 at 7.15.  
Hollinger—35 at 12.00; 50 at 12.75.  
W. C. Power—75 at 87 1-2.

## Bid and Asked.

C. P.—52—1-4.  
Nor. Ont.—7.13—7-8.  
Hollinger—12.73—12.75.  
W. C. Power—57 1-4—1-2.

## The Boston Curb.

Zinc .. .. . 24 3/4  
East Butte .. .. . 11 3/4  
North Butte .. .. . 28 3/4  
Lake Copper .. .. . 32 3/4  
Boston Ely .. .. . 13 1/2  
Franklin .. .. . 9 1/4  
First National Copper .. 19 1/2  
Trinity .. .. . 3 3/4  
U. S. Mining .. .. . 3 1/2  
Davis .. .. . 1 3/4  
Granby .. .. . 3 3/4  
Isle Royale .. .. . 13 3/4

## Bad Accident at Apehuqui.

At Apehuqui on Saturday afternoon Isaac Gaunce, of Carletonville, was the victim of a very severe accident, which will confine him to the house for some time. A. Intercolonial freight blocked the crossing and after waiting for a time, Mr. Gaunce decided to climb between the cars. While doing so the train started and the jarring of the cars threw Mr. Gaunce so that his foot was caught between the couplings. It was terribly crushed and Mr. Gaunce suffered intensely. He was taken to the residence of David Little and Doctors Burnett and Murray were summoned. It was found necessary to amputate the foot and the operation was performed at once. Mr. Gaunce will remain at Apehuqui for some time.

## C. P. R. Suburban Service.

Commencing May 18th, and daily to and including June 3rd, suburban train will leave Wexford at 6.45 p. m. arriving in city at 7.55 a. m. This is for the accommodation of suburbanites wishing to reach the city early. For the same period the Boston Express leaving St. John at 6.40 p. m. will stop at Grand Bay, Moncton and West. Commencing June 4th, full suburban service will be inaugurated, and will be practically the same as that in effect last season. On May 24th, special train will leave the city at 9.30 a. m. for Wexford, and returning leave Wexford at 7.30 p. m.

## For a Few Weeks

Until the Bell Building is completed, our friends will find us at the Congregational Church, nearly opposite our old quarters.

We will have ample accommodation. Come and see us.

S. Kerr, Treasurer.



## A Larger Warming Closet

than ever, in the Kootenay Steel Range, because the improvement in the operation of the door adds nearly five hundred cubic inches to its capacity. Every inch inside can be used—and you can always depend upon it for keeping your food piping hot while you wait for some special dish to finish cooking. Made of heavy polished sheet steel, durable and easily cleaned. Besides this important feature, there are many exclusive advantages for you in the

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We will have ample accommodation. Come and see us.

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St. John to Boston  
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Complete Win  
Equi  
Leaves St. John  
Mays for Eastport  
and Boston, and  
for Boston 6  
Returning,  
Boston, Mon.  
land at 5 p. m.  
and St. John, and  
for St. John via  
Portland.  
City Ticket Off  
L. R. THOMPSON  
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### PICKFORD

ST. JOHN, N. B.  
S.S. Cruise  
muda, Montserrat  
cent, Barbados,  
S. S. Luristan  
Barbados, Trinida  
Barbados, Trinida  
S. S. Ocampo  
muda, Montserrat  
cent, Barbados,  
S. S. Sobo sail  
Ma, St. Kitts, Ant  
badon, Trinidad,  
For passage an  
WILLIAM THOM  
St. Jo

### MANCHES

From  
Manchester  
Apr. 12 Man. C  
May 14 Man. C  
May 26 Man. C  
June 8 Man. C  
June 29 Man. C  
July 13 Man. C  
July 27 Man. C  
Aug 17 Man. C  
These steamers  
Philadelphia  
WILLIAM THOM  
St. Jo

### Furnes

From  
London  
Apr. 12, Shen  
Apr. 26, Kan  
May 13, Rapp  
and fortnightly  
to change.  
Steamers have  
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bers.  
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S. S. Yarmouth  
leaves daily at 7  
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of navigation on  
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connection is m  
DIAN PACIFIC  
MUNDSTON  
TEMCOQUAT  
FOR GRAND F  
PERTH, WOOD  
ICTON, ST. JO  
POINTS, Aft  
and cheapest  
LUMBER, SHIP  
PRODUCTS, fr  
EURS and R  
POINTS to th  
EASTERN STA  
BELLTON con  
trains of the  
RAILWAY.  
with superior  
passengers, is  
daily, each we  
BELLTON and  
end, in addit  
freight trains, t  
tar accommodations  
passengers and  
each way on  
The Intern  
Company of  
January 3, 19

### HAVANA

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Steamer June  
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June 14 and 28  
July 12 and 26  
Aug. 9 and 23  
Sept. 6 and 20  
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Two Months  
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