

The St. John Standard

Published by The Standard, Limited, 83 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B., Canada.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1913.

MR. COULTER'S TELEGRAM.

Whatever else may be said of the message from Deputy Postmaster-General Coulter to Hon. J. D. Hazen, which is published elsewhere in this issue, it is, at the least, entirely reassuring. Aroused by the fact that the steamer Tunisian's mail was forwarded from St. John to Montreal by the Intercolonial, instead of by the shorter Canadian Pacific route, Mr. J. M. Robinson, president of the St. John Board of Trade, laid the case before Mr. Hazen, asking that our claims as a mail port receive consideration from the post office department. Mr. Hazen at once got in touch with the department in charge of the matter and the telegram referred to is the result.

It is evident that the department intended no discrimination against St. John. The Tunisian's mail, according to official advice from Ottawa, was composed entirely of newspapers and parcels. The Montreal following Ottawa despatch dealing with the matter:

It is learned from a responsible official of the post office department that the Allan liner Tunisian, which arrives at St. John tonight, has no letter mail; only newspapers and parcels, and that is the reason arrangements were not made for a special train to meet the boat to run to Montreal. This is only done in the case of boats arriving with letter mail. The Tunisian is the first boat to arrive at St. John for the winter season with mails, but apart from this the official could not understand the reason for any complaint about the absence of a special train. The newspaper and parcel mail matter are not considered as requiring special facilities, and will come on the regular I. C. R. train tomorrow.

Judging from the Mail's despatch, as well as the message from the Deputy Postmaster-General, all first class mail matter coming to St. John this winter will be rushed by the shortest route and by special trains. This arrangement is what St. John has contended for and is eminently fair and right. There is no great hardship to anyone by reason of a few hours delay in newspapers or parcel mail, and as long as all first class matter is forwarded with the utmost despatch, both as regards route and train arrangements, there is no ground for complaint.

Meanwhile it is not unwise for us all to consider whether we in St. John have not, to some extent, permitted ourselves to become agitated without much cause. There are those who, for political reasons alone, seize upon every pretext to write the city and port down as hostile to the administration at Ottawa when in reality St. John has no reason to blame the government. Of course there are other citizens, and fortunately they are in the vast majority, who are ready to give credit where credit is due, and they realize that the Borden government have done more for the port of St. John in two years than the preceding government did in fifteen.

The trade returns of the port for the season 1913-14, when completed, will show we have not suffered by reason of the substitution of the Canadian Northern steamers for the C. P. R. Empresses; the British mails, according to Mr. Coulter's telegram, will be carried direct, and St. John will be given every opportunity to make a record in this line. When all this has been done, when the winter port statement shows that we have had more business than ever before, will the Liberal political agitators of today then be prepared to praise the government they now blame? If they are fair they will do this, but will they be fair?

We know that the Telegraph has gone to the length of publishing a misleading story in an effort to magnify the loss of trade to St. John. If the Telegraph were sincere and honestly attempting to boost this city they would, if actuated by a desire to play for the Liberal opposition first and the port second, it is just such a newspaper trick as would find favor. With evidence at hand that such tactics have been adopted by the Pugsley organ is it not natural to suppose that in the matter of the Tunisian mails they are still playing the old political game?

HOW SOUTH BRUCE WAS WON.

To Liberals of New Brunswick who have been shouting from the housetops that the election of Reuben E. Truax, Laurier candidate in South Bruce, Ontario, was a victory won purely on the merits of the great party to which they claim allegiance, the news that more tangible methods were used will come somewhat as an unpleasant shock.

On Friday of last week reputable residents of the riding of South Bruce presented a petition asking that Mr. Truax be appointed the next senator to Mr. Campbell, the Conservative candidate, or else that a new election be held. The Toronto newspaper in

commenting on the election protest do not express surprise for, apparently, it was quite generally known in the vicinity that the most corrupt practices were indulged in by the Liberals in their efforts to capture what was, at most, an uncertain seat.

In their campaign the Liberals resorted to the race cry to influence the German-Canadian vote and it proved a most effective weapon in those portions of the riding where they were not satisfied as is shown by the charges in the petition of protest. There are 150 of them, of which about fifty are personal. These charges, it is understood, cover the whole field of election rascality. Commenting on the petition the Toronto Mail and Empire says:

"After Chateaugay the word was sent out that the Opposition campaigners in South Bruce must leave no stone unturned to win. They obeyed orders. They were so intent on getting votes as to be forgetful of the risk of exposure. Very few of them seemed at the time to be with their whiskey, and among the charges now made are a number relating to the distribution of whiskey and beer and to the treating of voters. This latter practice appears to have been very largely indulged in. Mr. Truax himself is accused of it, and of sending kegs of beer in to the outlying parts of the riding. A very large sum is said to have been expended in the purchase of whiskey for the Opposition candidate, who himself is charged with paying for votes. The bribery fund was disbursed both before and after nomination day. Money was paid down in some cases, and in others not until after the vote had been delivered. Voters to whom it seemed inadvisable to give cash had orders from storekeepers. Election tricks learned and practised in the palm days of Laurierism were turned to use in this contest. If a title of the charges are established Mr. Truax can scarcely escape disqualification."

In the light of all the facts it would now appear that the hysterical claims made by the Telegraph and the Times in connection with South Bruce, are about as foundationless as most of the other political fodder dished up to the readers of those newspapers.

HOW ABOUT THE SPUG?

Because Mrs. Woodrow Wilson has consented to head the Society for the Prevention of Useless Giving, an organization unpopular, or popularly as the case may be, known as the "Spugs," that body now pretends to have national significance and makes the claim that their cherished plan to reform Santa Claus should be made a national measure. This "Spug" movement has two sides to it. Those who know their Dickens will remember how in "Hard Times," the practical utilitarian did not shine in comparison with the player folk who, though vainglorious, were dictated to by their hearts more often than their heads. The Spugs rail against "useless" gifts, but that which brings joy to a child at Christmas, or lightens even momentarily the sorrow of those who do not find happy memories in yuletide, cannot be called "useless," even though it is of no practical value. Christmas is a sentimental festival after all. When we seek to reduce it to a level standard of utility, then it ceases to be Christmas. At the same time the Spug movement has something to commend it, if not carried to excess.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

There has always been a striking contrast between the very small number of persons killed by railway accidents in Great Britain and the heavy toll from the same cause in the United States. The same rule seems to hold good in street traffic. The New York American says: "In 1912 there were killed by automobiles in London twenty-one persons; in New York City 234. In ten months of 1913 to October 26 last, there were slain in New York 231 persons—more than six times as many as in London in three years."

In New York the use of motor busses and taxicabs is but a fraction of that in London. Yet the fatalities are far more numerous. The difference must be in the police and the way people are accustomed to obey their signals. The report from South Carolina is that the health of Hon. Mr. Cochran, Minister of Railways and Canals, is improving, and it is expected that in a short time he will be able to return to his duties. This will be accepted as good news, says the Montreal Gazette. Mr. Cochran as a minister has worked hard to make the services he controls what they ought to be. More than most of his predecessors he has sought to acquaint himself with the works under his control and has travelled much and studied hard on the problems presented. His success on the lines he laid down would be a success for business methods and in the interest of the country.

A Montreal man has been punished for attempted smuggling by being forbidden to ever enter the United States again. It is not so bad a fate as to be banished to Canada.

DIARY OF EVENTS

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

CARDINAL O'CONNELL, 54

His Eminence, William, Cardinal O'Connell, the distinguished Archbishop of Boston, will pass his fifty-fourth birthday today, having been born in Lowell, Mass., Dec. 8, 1859. He is numbered among the "babies" of the Sacred College, and is the junior by a quarter of a century of Cardinal Gibbons and Parley, the Archbishop of Boston is of Hibernian descent. He was educated at Boston College and the North American College in Rome. His ordination to the priesthood took place in the Eternal City in 1884. After a decade of faithful work in the priesthood he was appointed rector of the North American College. In 1901 he returned to America as Bishop of Portland, Me. Early in 1905 he was named assistant to the Pontifical Throne, and later in the same year he was chosen as special papal envoy to the Emperor of Japan. He was cordially received by the Emperor and conferred upon him the Grand Cordon of the Sacred Treasure as a mark of imperial esteem. Upon completing this mission, fruitful of results to the spread of Catholicism in Nippon, he was named Archbishop of Constance and Co-adjutor of Boston, succeeding to the See of Boston upon the death of Archbishop Williams in 1907. He was raised to the cardinalate in 1911, and enthroned early in 1912.

THE PASSING DAY

BIRTHDAY OF "UNCLE REMUS."

"Don't Brer Rabbit pull his mustache, on say: 'Yo ain't got no calamus root,' is you, Brer Fox? I done got so now I can't eat no chicken 'ceptin' she's seasoned up wid calamus root."

This paragraph will recall to hundreds of thousands one of the dearest delights of their childhood, when they read or listened to the thrilling tales of Brer Fox and Brer Rabbit and the other entertaining characters that figured in the "Uncle Remus" stories of Joel Chandler Harris. The kindly, shy, gentle-bearded Georgian who created "Uncle Remus" was born sixty-five years ago today. He is dead, but far from forgotten, and the Uncle Remus Memorial Association has been formed to purchase and preserve for posterity the home that long sheltered the simple, loving, gentle genius.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

The whole Catholic world will celebrate today the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, one of the most important festivals of the Church of Rome. This observance was appointed in 1853, but it was not until Dec. 8, 1854, that Pope Pius IX. promulgated a bull which raised the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady from the status of a pious belief to the dignity of a dogma, and charging with heresy those who should doubt it or speak against it.

ANIMAL PROTECTION DAY.

This is "Animal Protection Day," marking the gathering in Washington of a great international Animal Protection Congress. The question of the abolition or restriction of vivisection will be discussed by the representatives of the various anti-cruelty societies of the world. The movement represented by this important gathering had its origin in England in 1824, when the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was launched. In 1860 the society announced its opposition to vivisection, and called a congress on the subject two years later, when delegates from many European humane societies were present. As a result of the society's propaganda, a commission including Prof. Huxley, Viscount Cardwell and other scientists inquired into the nature and extent of physiological and fermenting food gently recommended its regulation by law. Although the measure was strongly opposed by the medical profession, a bill regulating vivisection was passed by parliament in 1876, whereby vivisection was required to have a license.

A HAPPY CHILD IN

JUST A FEW HOURS

If cross, feverish, constipated, give "California Syrup of Figs."

Mothers can rest easy after giving "California Syrup of Figs," because it is a few hours all the clogged-up waste, sour bile and fermenting food gently moves out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. Children simply will not take the time from play to empty their bowels, and they become tightly packed, liver gets sluggish and stomach disordered. When cross, feverish, restless, see if tonight's dose, then give this delicious "fruit laxative." Children love it, and it cannot cause injury. No difference what all your little one is full of cold, or a sore throat, diarrhoea, stomachache, bad breath, remember, a gentle "inside cleanser" should always be the first treatment given. Full directions for babies, children of all ages and grown-ups are printed on each bottle.

Beware of counterfeit fig syrups. Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," then look carefully and see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Company." We make no smaller size. Hand back with contempt any other fig syrup.

The Tide of Time.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men," said the man who habitually quotes Shakespeare, "which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

"Yes," replied the man who had married an heiress. "I remember the tide that led to my fortune well."

"It was an even tide, and we were sitting in the garden."

IN LIGHTER VEIN

THE UNWISE CHRISTMAS.

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the house
One creature was stirring; and that was a mouse.
The stockings that hung by the chimney with care,
He'd nibbled the toes of them, pair after pair.
He ate all the candy, six candy canes, too;
Not a morsel was left when that mouse had got through.

The moral of which—if you know what a sight is
A mouse that has perished of acute gastritis—
That Christmas itself may be called into question
If carried so far it creates indignation.
—Harper's Magazine.

"Do not jest with me," he said.
"Now tell me, have you a trade?"
"Of course I have!"
"Then what is it?"
"I earn my living waiting. You see, I'm a waiter!"

Following His Trade.

Speechless with wrath, a little man was ushered into the dock. An ornament of the police force had found him loitering about and had arrested him as a suspicious character. "What were you doing at the time of your arrest?" asked the weary magistrate.
"Simply waiting!" spluttered the prisoner.
"What were you waiting for?"
"My money."
"Who owed you the money?"
"The man I had been waiting for!"
"What did he owe it to you for?"
"For waiting!"
The magistrate took his glasses off and glared at the prisoner.

Exchange No Robbery.

Young Robinson had been kept somewhat late at the office on Saturday, and so, without wasting valuable time getting a meal, he bought some current buns at a bakery and set out for the football match immediately.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH POWDER 25c.
is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. Heals the ulcer, cleans the air passages, stops drops, plugs in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. See a box blower free. Accept no substitutes. Sold by all druggists. **Edmondson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto.**

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He was much distressed to find that the first bun he tackled contained a fly, and his annoyance was increased, no doubt, by the fact that the home side suffered a heavy defeat.
On his way back from the match, therefore he returned to the bakery and made an indignant complaint, demanding another bun in place of the inhabited one.
"I'm sorry, sir," said the saleswoman, with a bewitching smile, "but that, I am afraid is impossible. However, if you care to return the fly, we shall be only too glad to exchange it for a current."

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relatives and friends, without too heavy a drain upon their time and purse. The problem is easily solved if you attend Arnold's great Christmas sale of Dolls, Toys, China Holiday Fancy Goods.

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Bronchitis cold caused clement weat inflammatory tubes. Nigle the most gen so cure it at Norway Pine Mrs. N. G writes: "Ous to severe bron different doctor to relieve it. He advised us to Pine Syrup, a the third day, so kept on wit were enough Now we are and give it to him troubled disappears as mend it to al just as good a Price, 25 c Be sure an Wood's" whe n a yellow w made mark, F. M. Bruce C