

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY MAY 13, 1913.

A RECORD OF PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY.

If there are still Liberals misguided or foolish enough to believe that the sun of Canadian prosperity rose and set with the name of Laurier, they will be under stress to explain such a financial statement as that which Hon. W. T. White was able to present to Parliament in his annual budget speech in the House yesterday. Not without cause did the Minister say that the Dominion was clearly at the highest point yet attained in its prosperity, for, in a year when Canadian trade for the first time went beyond the billion dollar mark, the Government have a surplus over all expenditure of more than twenty-three millions, and this despite the heavy capital expenditure that has been necessary in this period of the country's development.

Truly, no Finance Minister in Canadian history ever had the privilege of presenting a statement so reflective of the country's boundless prosperity or more notably showing forth the growth and development now under way. That the Dominion, in a year when the money markets of the world have been under severe stringency, should be able to show a clear surplus of \$23,000,000 is a fact that will not be without great influence upon the standing of all Canadian securities abroad. The Borden Government may well feel that businesslike management is in no small degree responsible for the progress of the country. It is a tribute to those who in 1911 predicted that the country would suffer dire ills from the rejection of Reciprocity with the United States. Those predicted ills are not apparent, nor do they even show in the smallest cloud upon the horizon.

The budget statement is always an occasion upon which the Finance Minister presents on behalf of the Government such changes in the tariff as may be regarded wise. This year there are several important changes that will be popular throughout the country and that further rebuke Liberal aspersions on the Government. The larger number of changes in the tariff arise out of the West Indies Trade Agreement, the most important being that on sugar. The Minister of Finance estimates that it will mean a loss to the revenue of the country of about \$600,000 a year but this amount will go into the pockets of the people of Canada who are the consumers.

A popular reduction is that on the duty on cement. This was somewhat of a surprise although the duty was cut in half last year to meet a special exigency. The almost universal use of cement in every part of the country will make this reduction general in its benefit. Two other boons that are included in the tariff changes come in placing on the free list traction ditching machinery and typesetting and typesetting machinery. The first of these will be of great benefit to the farmers and will advance the drainage movement, so important in modern farming. The reduction on printing machinery will be distinctly advantageous to the newspapers and printing trades.

The statistics which the Finance Minister presented with regard to the general development of the country form a remarkable assemblage of figures of progress. With trade above the billion mark, immigrants coming in at the rate of 1,200 a day, foreign capital being brought in for development in millions every month, the present condition and prospect of the country stand unparalleled. The Minister had good reason to be optimistic, to predict that the year now under way would meet all consolidated expenditure and to announce a policy of continued effort on behalf of the country's interests.

The presentation of Mr. White's second budget clearly shows the affairs of the Dominion to be in the hands of men who are bringing business methods into all they do. The people of Canada entered upon a new era when in September 1911 they chose Rt. Hon. Robert Laird Borden to be head of the Government. Events like those of yesterday are the milestones of the road of progress along which he is leading them.

FIRE PROTECTION ON RAILWAY LINES.

Commission, the Journal of the Commission of Conservation, calls attention to the systematic work now being undertaken on railways in all parts of the Dominion to provide adequate fire protection. It is satisfactory to note that this Province is taking definite steps in the establishment of a protective system to prevent destructive fires on the transportation routes. The provisions of the Fire Regulations of the Railway Commission, it is pointed out, which were in effect only in the West during the summer of 1912, have now been extended to Eastern Canada and the Maritime Provinces through the completion of cooperative arrangements

with the Provincial Governments of Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick, for handling the details of local inspection of the work of the railway companies. Mr. John McGibbon has recently been appointed Provincial Fire Inspector for New Brunswick. The appointments of Mr. W. C. J. Hall and Mr. E. J. Zavitz as Provincial Fire Inspectors for Quebec and Ontario respectively, were made during the winter.

The Government of Nova Scotia have definitely agreed to co-operate with the Board and the appointment of a provincial fire inspector to supervise this work in the Province is expected to take place in the near future. The forest fire situation is especially serious along railway lines in New Brunswick and an effective system of fire patrol has been agreed upon, to be established along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Similar plans are in course of preparation covering other lines in the Province.

Serious fire danger exists along the lines of the Intercolonial and National Transcontinental Railways in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and the establishment of a fire protective system along these lines, similar to that required of privately-owned railways by Order 18570 of the Board of Railway Commissioners, is under consideration by Hon. Frank Cochrane, Minister of Railways and Canals. Action along these lines, says this Journal, is essential in order to prevent the occurrence of numerous and destructive fires during the summer. The large amount of timber along the National Transcontinental between Moncton and Edmundston is particularly in need of efficient protection.

The work in the Western Provinces is now well organized under a plan of co-operation with the Forestry and Parks Branches Department of the Interior and with the Forest Branch of the British Columbia Department of Lands. Under an order of the Railway Commission, special patrols are being prescribed by the Chief Fire Inspector along portions of the lines where the fire danger is serious. In sections where special patrols are not considered necessary, the issuance of special instructions to all regular employees with regard to reporting and extinguishing fires, as required by an order of the Commission, should furnish very efficient protection.

THE NAVY'S GUNNERY TEST.

A report recently issued by the Admiralty giving the results of the test of gunnery in the British Navy with the heavy guns of the Fleet, is regarded by naval authorities as of a particular interest as the new 13.5-inch gun figures for the first time in the list. The battleships Orion, Thunderer and Monarch and the battle-cruiser Lion, which were placed in commission last year, and are armed with this weapon, took part in these tests. The battleships mentioned are of 22,500 tons displacement, more than 25 per cent heavier than the Dreadnought of 1906, and have a designed speed of 21 knots with 27,000 horse power. The main armament consists of ten 13.5-inch guns in five centre-line turrets, giving a broadside fire of 12,500 pounds, while sixteen four-inch guns are mounted for defence against torpedo craft.

In the test, H. M. S. Orion, showing what could be accomplished with the new gun, headed the list by securing 24 hits out of 35 rounds. The honor of being the most accurate gunlayer in the Fleet was secured by Petty Officer Brady, who had the remarkable record of four hits with four rounds from one turret. The Orion scored nearly 70 per cent of hits. On the other three vessels the average was lower. The Admiralty's report gives the average percentage of hits to rounds fired with other big guns in the Fleet, twelve classes in all, from the 12-inch to the four-inch quick-firing gun.

In the average of marksmanship of squadrons in the Navy the best result was that of the Mediterranean Fleet, followed by the Australian Squadron, and the First Battle and Cruiser Squadron returned the third best average score. The percentage of hits to rounds fired from the 12.5-inch light quick-firing guns of the Fleet showed a marked increase as compared with 1911. The destroyer flotillas supplied 198 vessels for the gunlayers' test, and many excellent scores are reported by the torpedo craft. This gunnery test is held annually by the Admiralty and a record is kept for comparison of the results from year to year. In 1912 the percentage of hits with the 12-inch gun was much higher than in previous years, and with other guns the average was well maintained.

Wise Legislation.
(Toronto Justice).
The Minister of Justice is taking the right course in proposing legislation against white slavery. Great Britain and the United States are thoroughly aware of the danger, and Canada should get into line.

DIARY OF EVENTS

FIRST THINGS

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The first step toward the organization as a collective body of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, the American branch of the Church of England, was taken at a meeting held in New Brunswick, N. J., 122 years ago today. Clergymen were present from churches in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and a temporary organization was effected. The doctrines adopted were the Apostles' and Nicene creeds, and the Thirty-nine Articles of the Church of England, with a few changes. Of late years there has been much agitation of the subject of a change in the name of the body, many leaders recommending the dropping of the word "Protestant" in the legal title of the church. This matter will be brought up at the general convention, the governing body of the church, at its meeting next October. The Rev. Dr. William T. Manning is the leader in the movement which has for its object the elimination of "Protestant" from the name of the church, declaring that its use "puts the church in the light of a modern denomination instead of in its true light as a part of the ancient, historic Catholic Church." Others are as outspoken in their determination to retain "Protestant" as a part of the official title of the body.

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

GABRIEL FAURE.

Gabriel Faure, known to music lovers the world over as the composer of "The Birth of Venus," will pass his sixty-eighth birthday today. The composer recently took part in one of the most remarkable concerts ever given in Paris, being one of five masters who personally supervised the performances of their masterpieces. M. Faure, of course, chose "The Birth of Venus" as his offering, while the venerable Saint-Saens, under whom Faure studied music and who is ten years the senior of Faure, directed the performance of his "Phaeton." Claude Debussy directed his "Afternoon on the Water." The concert was given at the Salle Pleyel, and was a triumph. M. Faure was born on May 13, 1845, in the little city of Pamiers, France, and from his boyhood was devoted to music. He studied at the School of Sacred Music directed by Hiedermeyer under Saint-Saens and Dietrich. For many years he was the organist of the famous Church of the Madeleine.

THOMAS REES.

From the printer's case to the ownership of a great newspaper is the life record of Thomas Rees, publisher of the Illinois State Register of Springfield. Mr. Rees was born in Pittsburgh sixty-six years ago today, and at the age of three moved to Iowa with his parents. Beginning his journalistic career as a "devil," he worked his way up until at twenty-six he was the proprietor of the Keokuk Constitution. In 1881 he went to the Illinois State capital to assume the publication of the State Register, one of the leading Democratic organs of Illinois. Mr. Rees has found time to travel about the world, and is the author of "Sixty Days in Europe" and "Spain's Lost Jewels, Cuba and Mexico." He is an enthusiast on the subject of highway improvement, and was the author of the law creating the Illinois Good Roads Commission.

WILLIAM B. HORNBLOWER.

William Butler Hornblower, who was appointed to the United States Supreme Court twenty years ago by President Cleveland, but who was not permitted to take a seat on the bench because of the opposition of New York senators, is sixty-two today. The distinguished New York barrister is the only member of what is perhaps the most distinguished walking club in the world, and which includes former Ambassador Choate, Mayor Gaynor, John E. Parsons and Andrew Carnegie. The purpose of the likers, who have organized the Pedestrians' Club, is to encourage the finest of walking among the elderly men of New York. Mr. Hornblower is a native of Paterson, N. J., and is the son of a clergyman. For many years he has been one of the leaders of the American bar.

PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLY IN THE STATES.

Religious history will be made in Atlanta, Ga., this week, where three great divisions of the Presbyterian system will hold their annual general assembly. The United Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church, North, with 1,380,068 communicants; the Presbyterian Church, South, with 1,022,245 communicants; and the United Presbyterian Church, with 178,601 communicants will be represented in this epochal meeting. The purpose of the assembly is to foster the theological differences that have arisen between the liberals and higher critics on one side and the defenders of the "old time religion" on the other. The Atlanta convention inaugurates a series of general assemblies and synods to be held in May and June, including the sessions of the Presbyterian churches of Canada and Mexico, the Reformed Presbyterians, the Christian Reformed Church, the German Reformed Church, and the Dutch Reformed Church.

Of the three bodies meeting in Atlanta, the Northern and Southern churches have been divided since the Civil War, while the United Presbyterian church is a descendant of the old Scottish "secession" movement, commenced two centuries ago. While all the purely secular associations of the United States have long since buried the hatchet, the Presbyterian and Methodist denominations have maintained separate organizations, and the Atlanta gathering will determine whether this spirit of sectional animosity has died out. The Presbyterian church is not alone in facing possible division as the result of doctrinal differences, and the conflict between liberalism and conservatism. The American branch is divided between those who want to drop the word "Protestant" from the official title of the Episcopal church, and those who desire to retain it.

OPHELLIA'S SLATE



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IN LIGHTER VEIN

Improved.
He was renting a small house which the landlord had refused to repair. One day the owner came to see him. "Jones," he said, "I shall have to raise your rent."
"What for?" asked Jones, anxiously.
"Have the taxes gone up?"
"No," the landlord answered, "but I see you've painted the house and put in a new bathroom. That, of course, makes it worth more."

A Winning Hand.
No matter what the sages say, When life is rough and full of bumps There's nothing that can smooth the way Like holding hands when hearts are trumps.

Locator.
Heller—Holmes gets a gigantic salary from that mining corporation.
Skelter—Able to locate sold mines, is he?
Heller—Not much. Able to locate stock purchasers.—Life.

Over Charged.
A gentleman had been dining with his wife in a restaurant in a South Australian town, and when his bill was brought to him, remarked to the waiter: "Waiter, one item is wrong here. We didn't have three plates of soup. We only had two."
"Pardon me, sir," replied the knight of the napkin, "you forgot the plate which I spilled over the lady's dress!"

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Shop Talk.
"I tell you, pard, it pays ter be polite. A 'Thank yer' never hurt nobody."
"It did me. I said it to a lady without thinkin' when I had me deaf and dumb card on, an' she had me arrested for an impostor."

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RETURN OF MR. SHEA TO THE OPERA-HOUSE

"The Vendetta" Presented Last Evening - Company Gave Delightful Production of the Story.

Thomas E. Shea and company returned to the Opera House last night, opening a week's engagement, and the announcement of his return will be hailed with pleasure by theatre patrons generally; by those whom he delighted on his last appearance and by those who had not the pleasure of witnessing their work inasmuch as they are given an opportunity to see an old time favorite again among his own, and after successes achieved during the ten years he was away from St. John.

For this engagement Mr. Shea has an elaborate repertoire, including as it does some of the pieces in which he does some of the pieces in which he won triumphs. The week's engagement was inaugurated last night with "The Vendetta," and the piece provides, not only for Mr. Shea, but for the entire company an opportunity to do exceptionally strong work throughout.

The story of "The Vendetta" in book form is familiar to many, and in the dramatization while there is necessarily considerable condensation, and a good deal of elimination, the story does not suffer as dramatized. The most powerful scenes remain and the story preserves its original strength and force.

Those who were familiar with the story in book form realize the vast possibilities which the piece affords for dramatic display. The characters are all well defined, each demanding careful handling. All of them, in fact, are exacting and call for unusual ability. As presented by Mr. Shea and his associates last night, however, nothing was left wanting. Throughout there was evidenced the same intimate knowledge of the possibilities of the piece and in the interpretation of each role these were well brought out. From a dramatic viewpoint, the production was perfect.

While the work of the evening was well distributed among the members of the cast, the major portion fell to the lot of Mr. Shea, Charlotte Burckett and James J. Cassidy. The role of Count Fabian Romani, played by Mr. Shea is one of exceptional strength requiring unusual play of the emotions. In his rendition of the role, Mr. Shea gave a most artistic performance. In the earlier scenes of the piece he was good. As the story progressed, however, and the perfidy of an unfaithful wife is revealed, he excelled, and in the concluding scenes revealed the true ability which has won him laurels. His whole performance was a treat, and one that thoroughly delighted his audience.

As the unfaithful wife, Miss Burckett had a difficult role, but showed a mastery of the situation, and shared honors with Mr. Shea. James J. Cassidy, as the pseudo friend, who under the guise of friendship, steals the wife's affection and wrecks the husband's happiness, gave a good rendition. The other roles were carefully handled, and the members of the cast gave able support, making the whole performance a most artistic one, and one that delighted the audience.

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ACUTE PAINS IN THE BACK

Caused by Lumbago, a Form of Muscular Rheumatism.

Lumbago is sudden in its attacks and is so intensely painful that even the sufferer is often unable to move, even to turn in bed or rise from a chair. The trouble chiefly occurs among working men, among whom it numbers thousands of victims. As the attacks come on quite frequently and are so torturing, this disease means much loss of time and money as well as the endurance of much suffering. No victim needs to be told that lumbago will not cure the disease. This kind of treatment is merely a waste of time and money. The trouble is really a species of muscular rheumatism, and is due to poor blood, and can only be cured through the blood. It is for this reason that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are so successful in curing this trouble, and those who are afflicted by it should lose no time in giving the Pills a trial. If the treatment is persisted in the disease will be driven from the system and the cure be made permanent. In substantiation Mrs. Alfred Derby, Elyville, Ont., says: "A few years ago I was attacked by excruciating pains in the back which the doctor called lumbago. I was not able to do a bit of work about the house, and when I went out every time I moved about, I took the doctor's medicine all winter, and used liniments, without getting any relief. In a thoroughly exhausted condition I began using Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. After using six boxes I was better and able to do all my own work, and have not been afflicted with the trouble since. I now always recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to those afflicted."

These pills are sold by all medicine dealers or may be had by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.