

# The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 27, 1911.

## THE MEANING OF IT.

After the Taft-Folding Agreement had passed the Senate at Washington one of the first to express his views on the situation was Mr. J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway and as he has been justly termed, one of the pioneers of the present movement in the United States towards reciprocity with Canada. Just as President Taft said in the agreement an instrument to effectively prevent Canada forming "part of an Imperial Commercial Band, reaching from England around the world to England again by a system of preferential tariffs," so Mr. Hill accurately gauges the situation. "It is not what we have gained by the Reciprocity treaty that is most important, but what we have prevented," is his significant declaration, and he openly glories in what he regards as the now certain defeat of "Imperial Trade Federation"—a federation, that is, of the nations within the British Empire which, as Mr. Hill bluntly expresses it, would have shut the United States out.

When President Taft pointedly referred to the impetus a system of Imperial preferential tariffs would derive from the rejection of the treaty, he left no room for doubt that the Reciprocity movement was conceived with the fundamental object of separating Canada commercially from the rest of the Empire. Since his outspoken declaration at the Press Banquet in New York there has been no effective answer forthcoming from organs of the Laurier Government. Mr. Hill's confirmatory statement has been received in chilling silence. No one has a greater interest personally than the president of the Great Northern in seeing Canada's trans-Atlantic trade diverted South. It means extension and development of his branch lines now touching the border and a corresponding increase in freight receipts. He does not, however, dwell at length on the trade benefits which will accrue from free access to Canada's resources. These benefits are well known and recognized south of the boundary. Mr. Hill desires to impress upon the people of the United States that a bloodless victory far reaching in its consequences is in sight—a victory which will crush for ever the aspirations of the British Empire to secure Imperial preferential trade.

In the course of the interview, Mr. Hill says: "It is not what we have gained by the Reciprocity treaty that is most important, but what we have prevented." In the comment on the treaty when it was pending "nearly every argument for it spoke of the good it would bring, and it will bring good. My views in favor of Reciprocity are so well known that I need not repeat them now that the Senate has acted favorably. But the good that it will bring is only the smaller consideration of the question. WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF WE HAD NOT PASSED THE TREATY? THAT IS THE BIG QUESTION. THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A REVIVAL OF A MOVE FOR IMPERIAL FEDERATION, AND IF WE HAD REFUSED TO TRADE WITH OUR GOOD NEIGHBOR, OUR SECOND BEST CUSTOMER, AND FOR OUR MANUFACTURERS THE BEST CUSTOMER WE HAVE, WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BOUND TO IT IN YEARS TO COME. FOR THE OPPORTUNITY WAS BEFORE US TO MAKE A FAVORABLE AGREEMENT WITH CANADA AND IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN BEFORE US AGAIN FOR MANY YEARS IF WE HAD REFUSED IT THIS TIME. THERE IS NOT THE SLIGHTEST DOUBT THAT THE SITUATION WAS SUCH THAT HAD THE VOTE IN THE SENATE BEEN AGAINST IT, THE REPORT WOULD HAVE GONE OVER THE WORLD AND WOULD HAVE STIMULATED ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE FOR OBTAINING TRADE THAT WE ARE IN THE BEST GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION TO HANDLE, AND IN ENGLAND IT WOULD HAVE MEANT THE BEGINNING OF ACTION FOR SUCH IMPERIAL TRADE FEDERATION AS WOULD HAVE SHUT US OUT."

The issue is clearly defined. Canada now at the parting of the ways, must decide between two prospects—an Imperial trade federation or commercial union with the United States. Continentalism or Imperialism sums up the situation as seen by such men as President Taft and Mr. Hill. The difference between United States Continentalists and the Canadian Continentalists, says the Toronto Mail and Empire in commenting on Mr. Hill's interview, is that the former do now and then blurt out the truth as to their motives and objects, whereas the latter manage to keep up the deception. Champ Clark openly declared his annexation sentiments, and the Laurier wing of the Continentalist party straightway hastened to assure the Canadian people that he was only joking. President Taft showed his hand in the speech to the newspaper publishers, and in his Chicago address as to the trifling matters dealt with in "schedules and statistics," as compared with the great national ends that would be accomplished by the agreement, but the Canadian Continentalists seek to hush all misgivings in the minds of our people by insisting that there is no thought of political union in the heart of anybody in the United States.

President Taft publicly thanked the Democrats for assisting him to get the agreement through Congress. He ought to be equally grateful to the Canadian Government for its fidelity to the engagements it entered into with him at Washington. It is doubtful if any Government ever before entered into so foul a conspiracy against its own country as this betrayal of Canada by the Laurier Administration.

## THE WOULD-BE DRAMATIST.

To the uninitiated there seems no more royal road to fame and fortune than that which is highly illumined by the glow of the calcium lights. Tales of the fabulous earnings of successful playwrights who, after writing a single play, have been able to exchange the dingy surroundings of a third-rate lodging house for the palatial apartments of a millionaire, act as a powerful stimulus to dramatic authorship, with the result that theatrical managers receive a never ending flood of manuscripts of all degrees of badness.

The first steps of the amateur playwright are both easy and inviting; they involve no expense; all that is required is a pad of paper and a few steel pens. The novice attends a performance at the theatre. A play, he sees, is nothing but talk. An actor comes on and

talks and retires. His place is taken by another, who also talks and retires. At intervals the curtain is dropped so that the audience may relax and chatter, about the play or the women's gowns. What could be simpler than to write a play? The hopeful author has been talking all his life; it will be odd if he cannot make a set of characters talk for two hours. And so he sets himself to the task of writing a play. But his manuscript is unaccountably returned with a curt note from the manager. It seems that the manager is stupidly prejudiced against taking on any new talent. The amateur tries again and is again unsuccessful. Finally he begins to wonder whether there may not be something wrong with his play. That, it is to be noted, is the critical period of dramatic authorship.

It is usually at this critical period, when the first doubts as to his own transcendent genius have assailed the author's mind, that he receives from a School for Dramatic Authors a most alluringly worded pamphlet. The school evidently has friends at court who furnished the names of aspiring young authors. The school, it seems, is thoroughly equipped to turn out future Ibsens, Shawes and Pineros to order. Is the writing of plays a science or an art, asks the pamphlet with an air of great profundity. Are playwrights born or made? In the benighted past—the past of Sophocles, Shakespeare and Molière—authors trusted to act alone. They are not to be blamed for this, for science had not then been invented. But art is long and life is short. To master an art is an affair of years of patient and loving application. It is scarcely worth the effort. The school has substituted science for art; the writing of plays is now as exact a science as mathematics itself. All the playwright has to do is to master this science, which is an affair of a few simple lessons; he will then be in a position to turn out masterpieces on his own account, and as many as he likes.

But to turn out masterpieces is not necessarily to succeed financially, says the hopeful author, thinking possibly of the unpopularity of Ibsen. Well, here, too, the school is prepared to help. It is the design of the school not merely to teach a man to produce masterpieces, but to teach him also what the public wants. It might be supposed this was a more difficult matter. Not at all. It is involved in the science. The instructors have sounded the depths of human nature in all ages and are prepared to say with absolute certainty what the great theatre-going public, which puzzles even the shrewd and experienced commercial managers, will greet as a long felt want.

With a final resounding call to the great untried author to rise up and step into his heritage, the school concludes its prospectus. The initiation fee is pretty stiff, to be sure, and it is payable in advance, so that, in case the playwright doesn't turn out to be a Pinero after all, the school will not have to sue for breach of contract. But what is an initiation fee, however stiff, when compared to the profits of the successful playwright?

Some years ago, when the short story business was not so crowded as it is today, a number of schools whose function it was to turn out "Maupassants by mail" did a flourishing trade. They had evolved the science of the short story. No more guesswork, no laborious apprenticeship to the art of writing. For a small sum and in a few months the schools for short story writers would turn out masters by the hundred who could make their fortunes in that difficult art. Most of the ambitious amateurs who gave up their dollars probably didn't pause to wonder why it was that a man who had the science himself should turn aside from the practice of it and thereby forfeit a possible fortune to instruct others.

It was a stupid and inexplicable blunder on the part of the master of the science of the short story how much more so in the master of the science of play-writing, for plays are vastly more remunerative than short stories, even if the short stories are written by Mr. Kipling. Only on the hypothesis of blind altruism can such self-denial as that involved in both cases be explained. Grammar, some of the fundamentals of construction, the co-ordination of parts—these things such schools may inculcate. They ignore entirely, as the amateur usually does, too, the primary necessity of the creative instinct. Without this there can be neither play nor short story. The schools may teach the amateur a little about how to say a thing; they cannot teach him what to say. The last is the crux of the whole matter.

## A NEW VIEW OF IMMIGRATION.

The question of immigration in South Africa seems to be looked at in a very different light to that in which Canadians are accustomed to regard it. It may be judged by a speech recently made by General Hertzog, who is the leading reactionary in Botha's cabinet. He expressed the opinion that immigration would be welcomed only by those with purely selfish interests in view, such as large land-owners who foresaw an enhancement of the value of their land by closer settlement, and mine owners, who desired to see white labor cheapened. The cheapening of labor and a rise in land values, he maintained, could not possibly be good for those in moderate circumstances, nor for the immigrants themselves, and consequently could not be good for the country at large.

The worth of the argument can scarcely be judged from this distance, as it depends entirely upon local conditions. If South Africa is really suitable for intensive farming and close settlement, immigration should certainly be a good thing for the country, for closer settlement means bringing the comforts and conveniences of civilization to the community as a whole. But the land must be able to support a large population, and possibly South Africa is not adapted to such settlement. General Hertzog may be speaking from prejudice, that prejudice of the early settlers against newcomers which is common in all new lands. The pioneers are always very apt to resent having others crowd in upon their heels. Perhaps they, having found a wilderness, found peace also, and do not wish to be disturbed in their meditations. Possibly mankind always produces a certain number of "throwbacks" whose atavistic tendencies go back to the pastoral age, and who are always seeking frontier lands where they can feel at home.

The Boers were essentially a pastoral people, and were satisfied to be so. The invasion of the English was resented not because the newcomers were English but because they were newcomers, and did not leave enough elbow room. There is a certain tendency toward lotus-eating which always develops in new lands; a disinclination for change. Indeed, the most progressive countries can show the same thing; it is the brake of custom on the wheels of change. Possibly it is this which inspired the general, unconsciously, in his speech.

But there is also the possibility that he spoke not only in good faith, but from accurate knowledge and true inference. He said that large industries were based upon the poverty of the people, and the close association which at present almost invariably exists between the two lends plausibility to the statement, and explains a certain reluctance to see South Africa transformed into an industrial country. If it must come, said the speaker, it must come; but he for one could see no reason why the money of the state should be used to hasten that condition and further the ends of individual capitalists bent upon exploiting the country and the immigrants together. The crux of the argument, he previously remarked, depends upon the suitability of the land for, small farms. Prosperity and happiness for any country spring from the soil. It will be generally conceded that in Canada close settlement is to the advantage of everyone, and that the general's arguments do not apply.

## HE WENT THROUGH FALLS IN BARREL

Niagara Falls, Ont., July 26.—Bobby Leach went over the falls yesterday in a barrel and survived with nothing worse than a number of painful cuts. The exploit was witnessed by hundreds of people and when the reckless navigator was at last rescued from his iron cigar-shaped barrel, there was a cheer and a feeling of relief that showed how impossible the feat had been regarded.

It was 1 o'clock when it was reported that Leach would really attempt the perilous feat of going over the Horse-shoe Falls in his barrel. At 2:55 o'clock the launch which had Leach in tow cut the barrel adrift a short distance below Hog Island, Chippewa. The course had been well chosen for the barrel kept in the channel and gradually drew towards the power house.

Opposite the forebay of the Ontario Power Company the rocks drew away suddenly and Bobby got a nasty shaking as the barrel was rolled over rapidly, but his worst experience next to the actual drop over the falls was after leaving the top of the gorge where and when in a direct line for the Horse-shoe barrel struck a rock with such force that the cigar-shaped barrel was split in two. The head was knocked against the side of the barrel and badly bruised, and his right arm cut.

At exactly 3:12 p. m. the crowd saw the barrel reach the brink of the mighty cataract and disappear in the depths, to reappear minus the other wooden end, in the scething cauldron below the falls.

Contrary to expectations, the barrel did not enter the eddy, which carried the others in, but fell, but swept past the Ontario Power house, and then washed around too far out for those waiting to reach it, until Frank Bender took a rope, sprang into the water, fully dressed, and quickly reaching the barrel, pulled it in with the assistance of those on shore.

All this time the watchers and the people on the top of the gorge were anxiously awaiting news of how it had fared with the intrepid navigator. Many believed he must be dead. As soon as the barrel touched the shore, a man tapped on it with a hammer and a great shout went up as an answering tap came from the man inside.

The iron machine was quickly removed, and Leach was found to be in fairly good shape. He was assisted from the barrel. It was thought he had broken his left leg. A stretcher was quickly procured and the injured man carried into one of the shanties near at hand, where oxygen was administered. A few minutes later Dr. Wilson, after an examination, declared no fracture had been sustained, but the knees were badly cut. In explaining the injuries, Leach said he had proper protection for his head, and was using his feet as a wedge, but in going over the falls he went feet first, and the far he got when the barrel struck threw his knees against the side.

One of the first things he said after being laid on the floor of the shanty was, "Somebody send me my wife and tell her I'm all right."

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## WHY NOT TEACH BOYS AND GIRLS TO SWIM?

To the Editor of The Standard.  
First—Lifeguards are not open water, both in the city and country resorts, where bathing and boating are so generally indulged in, is it not time some effort was made to teach the boys and girls among us the art of swimming? Not only for their own pleasure and safety but for the benefit of others who may be in distress at some time in the water?

I would suggest that a competent instructor be engaged who would take charge of the work, and who would be compensated by some public spirited citizen or association. That this free swimming instruction idea can be carried out here successfully, I feel sure. Why should it not be introduced? An article which is of interest along these lines recently appeared in a health league pamphlet and contains many practical suggestions. It says:

"The South Parks Playground system, the Lincoln Park system, the City Park system and the West Parks system will co-operate with the Chicago Young Men's Christian Association in bringing Mr. Coran, the swimming expert, to Chicago during the first week of July to teach the instructors, leaders, life savers, and attendants of all of the twenty-six pools and beaches of the city. As the daily attendance at these pools runs into the hundreds of thousands at times, and as the vast majority who use them are unable to swim, it seems well worth while to plan a campaign whereby all of these leaders, numbering over one hundred, will take instruction in this simplified method and then go to their places to teach the many thousands how to swim. Incidentally, the system will relegate the greatest of the physical education for beginners to the scrap heap."

"A campaign to teach boys of the Northwest Side, Chicago, to swim was conducted during the week of May 1 to 6 at Division Street Department Y. M. C. A. One thousand six hundred and sixty-five applications, signed by the boys, and 905 different boys presented themselves for the first lesson. In the effort to make the instruction as thorough as possible, a large corps of instructors was used, including the physical directors, swimming instructor, or older high school boys. In order to give at least three lessons to each boy, he was subdivided into groups of four for half-hour periods in the first lesson and kept three groups in motion at the same time; one group in the shower rooms, one in the pool, and one group in the locker room corridor taking the 'dry' instruction. In order to finish within the week it was necessary to cut the time for instruction in the second lesson to twenty minutes, and to fifteen minutes in the third lesson. On the last day all present were subjected to the test of swimming the width of the pool, twenty-five feet, without a rest or the aid of the water wings. Quite a severe test to impose on beginners after barely an hour's instruction.) Three hundred and eighty-one boys took this test and 155 succeeded in passing it, or 41 per cent. The best testimonial to the efficiency of the method of instruction used in the Young Men's Christian Association was that given by one boy on his second visit, when he said to the director: 'Gee, mister, swimmin' is easy, the way you learn us.'"

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for your valuable space, I am,  
Yours truly,  
SAFETY.  
St. John, N. B., July 26, 1911.

## WEDDINGS.

Roderick-Toohay.  
Friends in this city will read with interest of the marriage of Francis J. Roderick, who took place at St. Peter's church, New Haven, Conn., on the 22nd inst., with Rev. Father Early officiating. The groom is a son of Joseph J. Roderick, who is a well known resident of this city, and the bride was Miss Elizabeth Toohay, of New Haven. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Roderick left on a short honeymoon trip to New York, and on their return will reside at Boston.

## OBITUARY.

Mrs. Mary Haviland.  
The death occurred yesterday of Mrs. Mary Haviland, widow of Capt. John Haviland, who was a well known pilot here. In, probably 1869, shortly before Christmas, Capt. Haviland, then a large vessel belonging to Capt. William Lovett. It was cold, stormy weather. He left her some distance down the bay, and in order to be home to spend the holidays with his wife and children, attempted to row ashore. As we remember, he was never seen afterwards. The last supposition was that he was carried to England in the ship, but this was disputed. A few months later the frame of his boat was found on the shore above Lepreau's. Capt. Haviland was long regretted, for he was a man liked by everybody here, and was in his day and generation, one of the most competent pilots of the port, whose sad death created a public loss. One of his daughters, was the first wife of Pilot B. Rogers; another was Mrs. F. Quinn, of Boston, and with her Mrs. Haviland resided at the time of her death.

## FUNERALS.

Peter Harding.  
The funeral of Mr. Peter Harding took place yesterday morning at 8:30 o'clock from his late residence, Long Wharf, to Holy Trinity Church, where Requiem High Mass was celebrated by Rev. J. J. Walsh. Interment took place in the new Catholic cemetery. Relatives acted as pall-bearers.

## WOMEN'S PERIOD OF PAIN.

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Women's Patent Oxfords, were \$2.25, Now \$1.75  
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## WILL ENTER HORSES IN MAINE RACE MEET

H. R. McLeellan, of St. John, has entered in for the big racing meet at Augusta, August 8, 9, 10, and 11, and will be up against some of the fastest stock in New England.  
Some of the greatest horse racing ever seen in New England, outside of Readville, is expected to be witnessed there. There is a big list of entries for all the different races, and the meeting will undoubtedly be attended by every horseman from this section of the state who can leave his business duties for the time being.  
The opening day of the racing carnival is to be Mayor's Day and all the municipal executives of the state have been invited to be present and attend the races that day. The \$1,000 purse stake race for 2 1/4 pacers will be held on this day and as there are Bangor horses on the entry list local horse men will want to see the race.  
August 9 is to be Governor's Day and Governor McLeod and staff will probably be present. A feature of the programme for this day will be the aeroplane flights of St. Croix Johnstone. Other interesting features have been arranged for the two succeeding days.  
Mr. McLeellan's entries follow:—  
Stake No. 3—2 1/4 pace or 2 1/2 trot, purse, \$300.  
Gracie Todd, b.m.—Fred S. b. g.  
Stake No. 5, 2 3/4 pace or 2 1/2 trot, \$300—Jerome Boy, chg.  
Stake No. 6—2 1/4 trot, \$300—Peter Reed, ch.s.  
Stake No. 7—2 1/2 trot, \$300—Peter Reed, ch.s.  
Stake No. 12—2 1/4 pace or 2 1/2 trot, \$1,000—Bon View, b. g.  
Stake No. 16—2 1/4 pace, \$300—Orala, b. m.  
Among the horses known here against which Mr. McLeellan will compete will be the Pipe Tree string from Lewiston, Me., and F. R. Morrell's racers from Brunswick, Me.

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Saturdays at 6.15, 9.4  
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a. m., 2.30 and 6.15  
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