

The Standard

Published by The Standard Limited, 22 Prince William Street, St. John, Canada.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.
Morning Edition, By Carrier, per year, \$5.00
Morning Edition, By Mail, per year, \$5.00
Weekly Edition, By Mail, per year, \$1.00
Weekly Edition to United States, \$1.50
Single Copies Two Cents.

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New York Office:
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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, AUG. 10, 1911.

THE DEGRADATION OF THE BENCH.

What The Standard protested against some months ago, as a possible outrage upon the administration of justice in Canada, seems now to have been consummated. Mr. Brodeur is to be, or has already been appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada. A man, who should never have been made a minister, and whose administration as minister was contributory to and emblematic of one of the worst exhibitions of graft, corruption and incompetency ever unearthed in a Government department, has at last to be got rid of.

Never a lawyer of any consequence, always known as a come and go in ward and political party contests, constantly depending, in default of more reputable equipment, on appeals to sectional prejudice, to race and creed susceptibilities, the bludgeon and the dollar bill for his political triumphs, and never suspected of any unnecessary fealty to fact or truth in or out of the House of Commons, Mr. Brodeur's training has certainly not been conducive to improvement in either his law or his practice. Discredited as a minister and broken in health, a place has at last to be provided for him, and, of all places, a seat in the highest court of the land is designated to hold him for the remnant of his life, be it long or short.

If Mr. Brodeur was of the right order of manhood, he would for his own comfort decline to be placed in such a position. A sensitive man would be sensible of his shortcomings and hesitate to enter a company where there would be so much in evidence to the public and so ever present with himself. A man who properly understood the meaning of the high service required and the high trust imposed, would shrink from seeming to undertake what he should well know he could not adequately perform. But Mr. Brodeur is neither sensitive nor troubled with extremely high ideals of service. He will take the position and wear the robes, and draw the salary. Fortunately there are yet men on the bench who can do the work they are so well able to perform, and overtake the margin which Mr. Brodeur cannot do. But they can never make up for the loss of one adequate and helpful factor, and the injection of another who promises to be neither.

We beg to sympathize with the distinguished elder brethren of the Bench in their present affliction. But what of the Premier who is responsible for the appointment? He has degraded public office by many an appointment notorious for ineptness and inefficiency. He has degraded the Senate by making it a scrap heap for disused party heifers, and in this present appointment he has cynically informed the people that he holds the Supreme Court Bench as none too good for a resting place for his political incapacity.

The Premier, who is capable of no higher ideals, and who considers the Supreme Court worthy of no better treatment than the appointment of Mr. Brodeur as one of its members, has surely finished his work and should be forthwith dismissed from responsibilities.

COMPETITION FOR THE FARMER.

It has probably never occurred to the New Brunswick farmer to take any interest in so distant a country as Argentina as a possible competitor in his home market. Secure within the safeguards of Protection, he has grown to look upon this market as exclusively his own. Should the Reciprocity Agreement with the United States become operative, the new conditions will prove a disagreeable surprise. Argentina is one of the twelve favored nations which will have the free run of the Canadian market. Any tariff advantage granted by Canada to the United States must also apply to the following countries: Argentine Republic, Austria-Hungary, Bolivia, Columbia, Denmark, Japan, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela.

Recent reports leave no doubt that the farmers of the Argentine will make active competitors when opportunity offers. Mr. Jules Hurst in a recent number of the Paris Figaro gives some interesting facts about Argentina and calls attention to the great progress which that South American republic has made in the last few years. Argentina, according to this writer, owes her rapid increase of wealth recently to the Italians, who have come into the country in large numbers and whose ancient genius for agriculture has done wonders in the transformation, from cattle keeping to crop raising. The Spaniard was inert and wedded to methods of farming that were centuries old; the descendant of the Caesars has become a modern agriculturist and uses the latest improved American machinery.

The land under cultivation in Argentina has increased ninefold in the last twenty years and the country is being developed by means of railways constructed with British capital. It will provide in the near future not only a large share of the world's meat supply, but also a considerable proportion of the grain supply. Mr. Hurst foretells the time, not far distant, when the country will be one of the controlling factors in the world's markets.

The free entrance of farm products from this great food exporting country alone will provide the Canadian farmer with a formidable competitor in his home market. Besides the advantages given to the twelve favored nations, already mentioned, and to the United States, the privilege of free entry extends to Great Britain and several of the British Colonies. Can the Canadian farmer see any advantage coming to him under Reciprocity, while thus placing himself open to world-wide competition?

"Larger markets in the United States" is the inducement held out to him. Let us see what the United States farmer is doing now with the tariff against him. In Ontario, where conditions are much the same as in New Brunswick, and the farmers are engaged in dairy, stock raising and fruit growing, a striking instance of what will happen under Reciprocity recently developed. The Toronto World publishes the photographs of two great droves of animals which had just arrived from Buffalo at the Toronto live stock market. In one case the animals were sheep, in the other lambs. These animals had come in to compete with the Canadian farmer upon his own market, and to lower the prices which he could demand for his lamb and mutton. They came in, too, despite the fact that there is a duty of 25 per cent. upon them.

Reciprocity will remove this duty. Will that bene-

fit the Canadian farmer? Yet the advocates of Reciprocity ignore this feature of the deal. They would have the Canadian farmer believe that it is his mutton which will go into the United States market, not the American mutton which will come into his own.

Or take the question of horses. Hear the opinion of Senator Beveridge addressed to the farmers of the United States, and let the Canadian farmer who reads judge for himself. He said: "Take horses and mules, we now ship to Canada every year thousands more of horses and mules than Canada ships to us. Canada has an under supply of horses and mules. Comparatively we have an over supply. So the free interchange of horses and mules between this country and Canada means an enlarged market for horses and mules raised by our farmers. And our farmers want that enlarged market do they not? Why then should we make it hard for them to enter the market with their horses and mules?"

Senator Beveridge spoke also of cattle. His view is that the advantage is all with the American farmer. Dealing with the question of the home market the Senator declared that at no point could the American farmer be hurt by Reciprocity, but that on the contrary he would be helped in every way. And he gave another example. He said that though the United States were not able to get most of their manufactured products on the free list, as they earnestly desired to do, yet they did secure very heavy reductions in large numbers of them.

Taking automobiles as an example, and pointing out that the tariff on automobiles was cut down one-third, he continued: "The Canadian market for all of these of course, will be increased accordingly. An increased foreign market for American manufactured products means the employment of thousands more of American laborers and the paying of millions more in American wages and what does this mean to the farmer? Why, of course, this means that these thousands of additional American laborers must buy more of what our farmers raise with these additional millions of wages that are paid to these laborers. Simple, is it not? It is the same argument we protectionists have been preaching to our farmers for years and it is as true now as ever it was."

But this side of the issue from the standpoint of the Canadian farmer is carefully concealed from him. The fact cannot be denied that Reciprocity will open his home market to the competition of the millions of farmers in the United States, and make it a dumping ground for the farmers of the twelve countries under the favored nations clause. Does the experiment seem a safe or an inviting one?

WHAT WIT!

The Standard wildly demands:—"Do Canadians want to lose the greatest market in the world? Do Canadians want to sever their connection with the Empire? Do Canadians want to sacrifice their Canadian nationality? Do the people of New Brunswick and the citizens of St. John want to see the winter port of Canada sidetracked for Boston and Portland?" One important question appears to have been omitted from this fearful list. "Why is a hen?"—The Times.

The following extract from Aids to Editors of Grafters Organs may help to explain the distressing situation: "When arguments are advanced by your opponents which cannot be disputed and the evidence is dead against you, don't be discouraged. Refer to the subject lightly, taking care not to make your opponents' statements intelligible, and wind up by asking some such question as 'Why is a hen?' The brilliancy of this repartee is calculated to send your readers into paroxysms of mirth and the want of an effective answer may be overlooked. N. E. This method will be found particularly useful in dealing with troublesome arguments against Reciprocity."

PLAIN TRUTHS FOR CANADIANS.

(Chicago American Miller.)

In a letter to Senators Clapp and Nelson of Minnesota, the millers of Minneapolis give some facts and opinions in regard to free wheat that are worth pondering. They say, for instance, that Minneapolis mills have a capacity to grind 100,000,000 bushels of wheat per year and that last year, an exceptionally good one, they ground only 70,000,000 bushels or practically two-thirds of their capacity. They assert that free wheat will mean \$1,000,000 MORE IN WAGES EACH YEAR IN MINNEAPOLIS; THAT FREE WHEAT WILL GIVE MINNEAPOLIS MILLS A CHANCE TO RECOVER THEIR FOREIGN TRADE AT NO COST TO THE GOVERNMENT, and state their belief that Reciprocity will not materially affect the price of wheat in the United States except possibly along the boundary. AT THE SAME TIME THE MILL OFFAL FROM THE 30,000,000 BUSHELS OF FREE WHEAT WOULD FEED MORE THAN 5,000,000 HEAD OF STOCK.

It might be suggested to Mr. Pugsley that he should arrange to supply free railway tickets to the farmers on occasions when they would prove more acceptable than as a bait to attend Liberal Conventions and listen to his arguments in favor of Reciprocity. The New Brunswick farmer appreciates the value of a protected home market and knows when he is well off, but transportation costs money.

Current Comment

(Ottawa Journal.)

What can a decent man either in Canada or South Africa who does not desire to consult racial prejudice or sectional selfishness think to himself candidly of the proposition: "We are British. We take every advantage of the privileges of the British flag. We reserve the right not to help if the British flag gets into a row." Advocacy of Canadian independence is a decent thing. Separation for both peace and war would be honorable. The other is a pitiful thing, taking a contemptible refuge under the plea that Britain might indulge in an unjust war—an insult to the honor and the fairness and the common-sense of the Mother Country.

(Providence Bulletin.)

Disabled by fifty per cent. of its fighting strength through the bad luck of the second-hand cruiser Niobe in going on the rocks, the Canadian navy is in no condition to defend the Dominion against anything more formidable than the Swiss navy or perhaps Hayti's.

(Toronto Star.)

In Port Arthur loaves of bread must be covered when delivered to customers. The handling of uncovered bread by men who are continually handling horses and who have no facilities for washing their hands, is a filthy practice, and ought to be forbidden in Toronto.

(Minneapolis Journal.)

It is claimed that there are as many microbes on a dollar bill as on a fly. But the dollar bill does not make such desperate and continuous efforts to alight on you.

(Chicago Tribune.)

In the past Americans have given little thought to Canadian elections. They will take a deep interest in this year's.

No Partnership With Uncle Sam

In the United States to be the middleman-nation through whom Canada's surplus products are to be disposed of in the consuming markets of the world?

Are the grooves in which Canada's external commerce has now become settled to be switched, and brought into connection with the channels in which the United States' external trade runs?

Are we to efface our national trade mark, haul down our commercial flag, obliterate ourselves as a separate trading community, and lose our commercial identity in that of the United States?

If so, we shall not long retain any other identity. Once a trade merger is formed with the United States, a political merger will not be long deferred.

What is it that gave Britain her marked individuality and conspicuousness among the nations of the world but her commercial enterprise and her commercial fame?

The British name was brought into respect no less by trade than by arms.

But the British name was kept to the front. It was not covered by the label of some other nation acting as Britain's selling and buying agent.

Must keep up her own sign-board, must continue to carry on business as a great mercantile establishment doing a growing trade on its own account, and upon its own resources.

Then Canada can hope for a career like that of the Mother Country—Maid and Empire.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION

Baptists of Maritime Provinces are Planning Attractive Programme for Convention in Bridgetown Next Week.

The programme of the United Baptist Convention to be held at Bridgetown, N. S., on August 18-22, is as follows:

The institute—Friday, August 18th.

Morning session:—

9.30 Devotional exercises; opening business.

10.15 Paper, The Efficient Pastor, Rev. J. M. Smith, Yarmouth, N. S.

11.15 Paper, The Ever-Living Facts and Factors of Christian Experience, Rev. H. T. Cousins, Ph. D., Newcastle, N. B.

Afternoon session:—

2.00 Devotional exercises; business resumed.

2.45 Paper, The Supernatural Christ in Preaching, Rev. M. S. Richardson, M. A., Truro, N. S.

3.15 Paper, Belief and Faith, Rev. C. Goodspeed, D. D., L. L. D., Paradise, N. S.

3.40 Echoes from the World Alliance, The Place and Preparation, Rev. J. H. Jenner, M. A., North Sydney, N. S.

4.15 Paper, The History and Purpose, Rev. E. D. Webster, B. A., Wolfville, N. S.

4.45 Paper, The Outstanding Topics, Rev. F. H. Beals, M. A., Canard, N. S.

5.15 Paper, The Outstanding Personalities, Rev. J. D. Spidle, M. A., Kentville, N. S.

5.45 Paper, The Delegate and Their Work, Rev. E. E. Daley, B. A., Truro, N. S.

Saturday, August 19th.

First Session, 10 a. m.—Devotional exercises. Rules of order. First report of committee of arrangements.

Appointment of nominating committee. Conference of visitors. Important correspondence. Report of Foreign Mission Board.

Second Session, 2.00 p. m.—Obituary. Hymn 454. Prayer. First report of committee on nominations, nominating officers, etc. Installation of president. Foreign Mission report resumed. Treasurer's report.

Third Session, 7.30 p. m.—Report of committee on correspondence. Minutes pastored. Addressed by Rev. J. W. Brown, Ph. D. Report of board of governors Acadia University.

Sixth session, 2.00 p. m.—Reception of fraternal delegates. Report of board of governors resumed. Treasurer's report. Report of committee on temperance and moral reform. Report of Historical Society.

Seventh Session, 8.00 p. m. Acadia University; Addresses by Rev. Prebendary George Barton Cutten, Ph. D., D. D.; Rev. Principal Henry Todd De Wolfe, D. D.; Rev. Principal William Laird Archibald, Ph. D.—Business resumed. Report of committee on hand book. Unfinished business.

Tuesday, August 22nd.

Eighth Session, 9.30 a. m. Report of Board of Ministers' Annuity. Ministerial Education Board. Report of Home Mission Board. Report of N. B. Board submitted. Report of Committee on S. S. Instruction. Motion concerning S. S. Board. (Year Book, page 15). Motion to Amend Articles of Constitution. (Year Book, page 15).

Ninth Session, 2.00 p. m. Reports of Treasurers of Denominational Funds. N. S. N. B. P. E. I. Addressing Committee on Finance. Board of Western Missions. Grande Ligne Board. State of Denomination. Unfinished business.

Tenth Session, 7.30 p. m. Addresses by Rev. I. W. Porter, B. A., Superintendent of Home Missions; Rev. D. B. Harkness, M. A., Representing Western Mission; Rev. G. G. Gates, D. D., Grande Ligne Mission. Report of Committee on Resolutions.—Business resumed. Report of Treasurer of Convention. Unfinished business. Adjournment.

Hotels.

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Mrs. L. W. Jones, Pleasantville, N. Y.; Miss May Lingley, Westfield; J. W. Jenkins, Norfolk, Va.; L. H. Hicks and wife, W. Hicks, Pittsburg; M. A. Reid, A. H. Dixon, Montreal; J. W. Ziegler, wife and child, Allertown, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Strong, Boston; V. T. Williams, B. A., B. S., D. D., B. Sc., Belfast; J. W. Hubbard, Sheffield, Eng.; C. J. Scudder, New Brunswick, N. J.; C. Lang, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Jaques, A. McEneaney, Dr. Bryson, New York; Dr. Gillmor, St. Martins; Mr. and Mrs. D. Watters, Toronto; Wm. A. Found, Ottawa; C. J. Grace and wife, John J. Dubonay and wife, Frank Madigan and wife, Boston; L. W. Lehar, Waterbury; H. Horseman and wife, Adam F. Smith, Toronto; H. R. Rust and wife, C. F. Leonard and wife, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; L. C. Wilson and wife, Washington, D. C.; A. T. Neely, E. K. Neely, Springfield, Mass.; H. J. Maynard and wife, H. P. Gray and wife, P. P. Hatch and wife, Harry A. Townsend, C. M. Baker, Boston; Miss H. M. Adams, Miss A. Johnson, Illinois; C. C. Ferguson, Winnipeg; C. C. Chestney, Macon, Ga.; R. Gibson, J. R. Gibson, Mrs. H. G. Haller, Miss H. Hallett Newark; J. T. Hallisey, Truro; I. B. Dunn, Houlton; Art A. Marks, Montreal; E. G. Murphy, St. George; R. A. May, Montreal; A. Patterson, Toronto; T. A. Snider, Sr., R. Burton and chaperon, Meddy Mumps, Me.

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