

## The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, SATURDAY MORNING, NOV. 20, 1909.

## THE LORDS AND THE PEOPLE.

Mr. Lloyd-George is making the most of the charge that the Lords, who represent only themselves, are interfering in financial matters with the Government and the Commons, which represent the people of the Kingdom. But the answer will be that the Lords are only interfering by way of appealing the budget from the representatives of the people to the people themselves. The people are more than their representatives, and they have not as yet had opportunity to instruct their representatives on this issue. There was no such budget in sight when the existing House of Commons was elected.

There is no sign that the Lords propose to obstruct or oppose the will of the people. They and not the Commons seek an expression of the will of the people on this subject. Should the election that the Lords demand result in a Government majority, the Lords have nothing more to say. This is what one gathers from the declaration of Lord Lansdowne.

It will be bad for the Lords if the people endorse the budget. The decision will be taken as approval of the declaration of Mr. Lloyd-George that the power of the Lords must be curtailed. Lord Lansdowne and his friends will come out of the contest discredited and condemned if it is found that the Government is reflecting public opinion in the financial programme.

If, on the other hand, the Government and its budget should be defeated, it would appear that the Lords rather than the Commons are the popular and representative body. The threats of the Chancellor of the Exchequer would fall very flat, and the verdict would seem to mean that the Lords were needed to control the speculative tendencies of irresponsible members of the other chamber. If this should happen the campaign which Mr. Lloyd-George and Mr. Churchill are making against the Lords will greatly strengthen the Upper House instead of weakening that chamber.

Something like this happened the last time the Lords sent the House of Commons to the country. This was on the last Home Rule bill. When the Lords rejected the measure, Mr. Gladstone and his party spoke of them much as the more radical of the Liberal leaders are doing now. But when the people were heard from, the new House of Commons, representing the majority of the electors on the question, was found to be in harmony with the House of Lords. It was not the House of Lords that was either mended or ended. It was the ministry that came to an end.

It may or may not prove so on the present occasion. But at least it cannot be said that the country is any great constitutional danger when the people are called in to say what they want.

## THE FRENCH TREATY AND DISCRIMINATION.

Mr. Fielding declines to wait for the view of the United States on the question whether the French treaty is an "undue discrimination." He proposes to go on with the treaty bill and leave the United States to take such action as may be found advisable. The Minister of Finance observes that the Government is pledged to France to give effect to the treaty as soon as possible.

When the treaty was arranged the Government of France was under a similar implied contract to give legislative effect to the convention. But it was found in France that there had been a mistake on the part of the representatives of that country as to the effect of the treaty on the trade with Switzerland. On that account the treaty was held up by the French senate for a year. In fact it was killed altogether, and Mr. Fielding had to go and negotiate a new one, giving France better conditions, and cutting out several articles from the list of Canadian goods which might be sent to France on favored terms. It is this second treaty which is now presented to the Canadian Parliament for adoption.

Since last year the United States has adopted a new tariff system. It is part of this system that the duty is greatly increased on goods from all countries which give other countries better terms than they give the United States. The question is whether the Canadian treaty with France would be held to be such a discrimination. If it is it will affect our exports to the United States, amounting to \$100,000,000 a year, whereas our exports to France have never reached \$4,000,000.

There is another question connected with the United States tariff law. It is not quite certain whether the United States will consider our preference to British goods to be discrimination against the United States, calling for retaliation. But as this is a tariff within the Empire, and not an arrangement with a foreign country, it seems unlikely that it will be construed as a discrimination. If the United States should so interpret the situation, it would be a strained interpretation. The people of Canada would support Mr. Fielding in disregarding the United States point of view, and going on with the British preference. This is a domestic matter with which foreign countries have no concern.

But the United States and France are both foreign countries. In tariff dealings with one or both we have but to consider our own advantage. If we choose to endanger a trade of a hundred millions with one country for the sake of a trade of four millions with another, we have a right to do it, so far as any outside authority goes. There is no question of dignity involved that we can see. It is purely a question of business. So far our Government has not made a great record for itself in dealing with France. France has not thought it improper to hold up the treaty with Canada and to cause it to be changed, when business reasons were pre-

sented against it. If confronted with a situation such as is now presented to Canada, France would probably repeat the performance.

Mr. Fielding has been constrained to wait a year and then to modify the treaty to please France. He does not think he ought to keep France waiting until we see where our advantage lies. And yet his own colleague, the Minister of Trade and Commerce has practically admitted that the treaty with France is not likely to be of much benefit to Canadian trade.

## IS THE SENATE REFORMING?

The Senate is taking up the insurance bill this year before the House of Commons. This may be a sign that the leaders of that chamber are disposed to allow the Senate to resume its usefulness. When Sir Alexander Campbell, Sir John Abbott, and Sir Oliver Mowat led the Senate it took some initiative, and performed a substantial share of the original legislative work. Later by the Upper House has waited for the Commons to provide legislation. When none was ready the chamber adjourned from time to time until bills were sent up. Odd periods were filled in with academic discussions. The insurance bill now before the Senate was passed by the Commons last year, but it must be treated as a new measure, and the Senators may give it such form and character as suits them. They will give the measure pretty full consideration, and as some experienced insurance men are in the chamber the bill will be thoroughly examined. This should furnish the Senate with useful occupation during the period usually covered by the first long adjournment.

It may be noted here that the number of sitting days in the Senate last session was 49 and in the Commons 84. In each chamber 15 days absence were allowed without loss of indemnity, so that 34 days' attendance were exacted of Senators and 69 of members of the Commons. In each case \$15 per day is deducted for non-attendance beyond the fifteen days. The result is that if a member of the Commons was away every day but one last session, he would lose \$1,035, while a senator in the same position would lose only \$340.

## THE PULPWOOD QUESTION AGAIN.

On several occasions the Canadian House of Commons has discussed the question of prohibiting the export of pulpwood, or of imposing an export duty. Mr. Lewis of Huron has given notice of such a motion. The proposition is more likely to have a favorable hearing this year than ever before. The strongest speech against export restriction when the subject was last debated was Dr. Beland, a Quebec member, who has since then been prominently identified with the conservation movement. He took the ground that the United States market for pulpwood was the only one available for some of the border counties of Quebec, remote from Canadian pulp mills, and contended that much of the wood shipped for this purpose was cut in clearing land and would otherwise be wasted.

Mr. Beland's political leaders in Quebec are about to prohibit exportation of pulp from crown lands, as Ontario has done, and as New Brunswick doubtless will do. This will increase the demand and probably the same reasons which move governments to prevent the export from their lands are good against all exportation. The best value will in the end be got out of this wood by having it manufactured at home.

It is the policy of the United States to take our pulpwood in its native state, and give Canadians no chance to manufacture it for that market. That is a good enough plan from their point of view. But it does not seem necessary for Canadians to subscribe to it. As they have the wood they are the right people to say where it shall be made into pulp and paper.

## DR. BARR.

The House of Commons will miss the genial and kindly member for Dufferin, Dr. John Barr, who was found dead in his room yesterday morning. Dr. Barr was an experienced public man. He represented Dufferin in the Ontario Legislature four terms between 1875 and 1894, and was twice afterward returned to the Commons for the same strong Conservative riding. Dr. Barr was a fluent and easy speaker, having strong views and no hesitation in expressing them. He was always ready to take his share in the class of debates that arise when strategy requires that supply shall not be voted without satisfactory explanations. Dr. Barr managed to do his duty to his party without displaying or exciting hard feelings.

Richard Watson Gilder, whose sudden death is announced, was among the best known of the poets and men of letters in the period following the departure of Emerson, Lowell, Longfellow and Walt Whitman. He was an editor of magazines, a critic, essayist, lecturer and story writer. In his later years, he took a strong interest in educational, social, and municipal reforms, and at all times he stood out among the representatives of culture and had an honored place among men of letters.

The record of the Defence Conference which the Government has brought down is only a partial record. It does not contain a report of the discussion, and therefore does not give any idea of the attitude of Canadian representatives at the conference. It is impossible to know how far the plan recommended represents British admiralty opinion, and how far it is a compromise to meet Canadian objections to original admiralty opinion.

The new telegraph and telephone merger will practically control both services in the United States, and will have large interests in Canada. This combination is probably the largest financial deal since the organization of the United States Steel corporation. It comes just at the time when the Steel and Coal people are arranging the largest consolidation ever made in Canada.

We have not yet observed an expression of opinion by the Sun on the appointment of the New Brunswick chief of the Marine Department. This last exhibition of the might of the "buccaneer" element seems to have left the Sun without language equal to the occasion. The stunk story might be told again, but probably it is not strong enough.

Senator King has come from British Columbia with the startling intelligence that the Liberals have "a fighting chance" against the McBride Government. It is greatly to the credit of the Opposition that they are putting up a good fight on such a chance. "A fighting chance" generally precedes "a moral victory."

The refusal of the French jury to commit the woman generally believed to be guilty of murder, will probably prove the strongest inducement to change the system of prosecution in that country. There is little doubt that the violent prosecution by the judge drove the jury to the other extreme.

Hon. George E. Foster is on deck so soon as parliament opens with a series of pertinent questions and resolutions. Talk of him as they will, Mr. Foster's enemies will have to admit that he has the brains and business capacity.—Halifax Spectator.

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## AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT HARVEY STATION

An Interesting and Instructive Evening Spent Under the Auspices of the Provincial Government.

Harvey Station, Nov. 19.—Last Saturday at half past two, a representative gathering of farmers and farmers' wives met in the Agricultural Hall to hear the lectures sent by the Provincial Government to instruct the rural communities on the principles of successful farming. Rev. Mr. Daggett, who was to talk on Poultry Raising, was unable to be present, consequently a treat on the interesting subject was missed. Mr. Elliott, of Galt, Ont., who has been a successful farmer and stock raiser, was an encyclopaedia of information on all phases of farming, such as enriching the soil, rotation of crops, and dairy farming. A valuable feature of his lecture was the opportunity afforded for asking questions on subjects of practical value to farmers. Many queries were put to the lecturer and all were satisfactorily answered. Mr. Robert Thompson, councillor for Manning-Sutton parish, presided.

On Monday evening in the same building the annual meeting of the Agricultural Society of Harvey and vicinity took place. Mr. Robert Little, president, was chairman and Mr. Henry P. Craig, secretary. A successful year's work has been accomplished. This society imports several carloads of Holstein and owns a well bred bull. Tweddside has seen the erection of two new comfortable homes owned by Messrs. Samuel McFarland and Harry Swan. Sam's is nearly completed and he expects to eat his Christmas dinner there. He has not told his friends yet whether a lady shall assist him. Large game have been quite plentiful this season and several moose and deer have been shot by local sportsmen.

On Tuesday as Mr. King, of Magog, was driving to Harvey Station he was held up on the Lake road by a large moose who was blocking the road and eyeing his Christmas dinner. He had not told his friends yet whether a lady shall assist him. Large game have been quite plentiful this season and several moose and deer have been shot by local sportsmen.

Mr. Fuller, head agent of the International Harvester Co., at Woodstock, spent the week end with his wife at the Holliston Hotel.

Lumbering operations on a large scale are being carried on in the vicinity of Routh station under the management of John Scott, of Fredericton. About eighty men are engaged in the work there. A mill is being erected to saw the lumber and then it will be hauled out by teams to Routh Station. The Scott Lumber Company who had two large camps on Magog Lake last winter, are not operating this winter. They intend however, to get out what logs were tied up last year. The mill has been closed down, but the planing mill is still working. Mr. Robert Moffat, of Little Settlement, died quite suddenly on Tuesday night. Much sympathy is expressed for Mr. Moffat and his young family.

Mr. Wesley Hay and wife, of McAdam, came here yesterday to attend the funeral of Mrs. Moffat, his sister, whose maiden name was Isabella Hay.

Mr. Wilbert Coburn, flour dealer, has a carload at the station which is being unloaded and sold to local merchants. Threshing is the chief employment of the farmers these days. Good returns are being realized from the different grain crops.

## TARANTULA CROPS UP IN DEAD LETTER OFFICE

Washington, D. C., Nov. 19.—The Dead Letter Office of the Post Office Department belied its name today when a tarantula threw the clerks into a frenzy which for a moment threatened to become a stampede. J. A. Davis, an experienced clerk, tore the cover from a mysterious looking package addressed to Dott Hugo Verdy via Lord V. Pincen, Florence, Italy, and found a box pierced with small holes. Placing it in his ear he shook it to ascertain whether or not it contained an infernal machine and the lid came off.

"Jumping Jehoshaphat!" exclaimed Davis, when he found a big tarantula roosting on his shoulder. He knocked it to the floor where it promptly began manfully retreat. Women clerks climbed on desks and fell over one another to escape the spider. Never, said a veteran employee of the Dead Letter Office, were so many silk stockings seen in the office before.

The box was mailed in New York and because of its foreign destination and its suspicious appearance, was sent here for examination.

## PROBATE COURT.

Estate of W. J. De Mill. In the probate court yesterday the estate of William James De Mill, retired farmer, came up. Before changing his residence to St. John he lived at Upham. He was a son of Henry De Mill and a grandson of John De Mill, one of the Loyalists. He died intestate. He was never married. He left one sister.

Besides numerous collateral heirs whose parents are living, he left the following: In addition to his sister—by reason of their ancestors have predeceased, namely: John De Mill, eleven nieces, eight grand-nephews, six grand-nieces, five great-grand-nephews and two great-grand-nieces, forty-two in all.

All of these resident within the province who are of age, with the husbands of the females who are married, in all forty-one, have signed a renunciation in favor of William H. De Mill, of Upham, farmer, who was sworn in as sole administrator. There was no real estate; personal estate consists entirely of money on deposit in various banks, amounting to \$4,500. Geo. O. Dickson, Esq., is proctor.

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## THE WEEK IN ST. JOHN

Continued from page 3.

Mrs. Thos. Pugsley was hostess at a delightful tea on Wednesday afternoon in honor of her guest, Miss Kerr of Charlottetown. Mrs. Pugsley received her guests in a gown of pale green silk. Mrs. Haycock and Miss Kerr received with her, the former in a gown of cream lace, and the latter in white crepe de chene with bands of red velvet. Mrs. David Pidgeon in a pale pink silk and white fur hat ushered the guests to the tea room. The tea table with white chrysanthemum decorations was in charge of Mrs. Daniel Pugsley in marine blue silk, and Mrs. Russell in a black satin gown, assisted by Mrs. J. B. Carlette in a Dresden silk with black beaver hat. Mrs. Jewell in white crepe de chene, black hat, Mrs. Percy Thomson in pale blue broadcloth and blue hat, and Mrs. Frank White in pale blue cowl with black hat and white plumes.

Another fashionable tea this week was that given by Mrs. Frank Peters. Mrs. Peters gown in cream colored silk received her guests in the drawing room which was artistically decorated with chrysanthemums. Red was the color scheme in the tea room, which was presided over by Mrs. Shirley Peters in cream colored satin and Mrs. H. Robinson in mauve, assisted by Mrs. Beverly McAulay, Miss Hutchinson, Miss MacAulay and Miss Logan.

On Friday afternoon Miss Vera MacLachlin was hostess at one of the smartest teas of the week. Miss MacLachlin in a gown of pale blue silk cashmere with black velvet trimmings received with her mother, who wore a handsome gown of amethyst velvet. The color scheme being yellow, the tea table was prettily decorated with a large vase of yellow chrysanthemums, and large silver candlesticks with yellow shades. Mrs. Russell Sturdee who presided at the tea hour was gown in pale blue cowl with black beaver hat, with black plumes and was assisted by Miss Hazel Grimmer in a white lingerie frock with a white willow plume.

At Miss Frances Hazen in a pale blue toulard with black beaver hat, Miss Winifred Raymond in a princess gown of pale grey muslin with large grey and violet hat, Miss Elna MacLaren in a white empire lingerie gown with black hat Miss Gertrude Seely in a gown of cream serge trimmed with bands of cream silk and black hat. Among the guests were the Misses Helen Church, Emily Teed, Jean Trueman, Ruth Knight, Ethel Emerson, Madeline de Soyres, Lydie Imball, Alice Walker, Edith Magee, Clara Schofield, Susan MacAulay, Bertha MacAulay, Nancy Kingston, Portia MacKenzie, Rita Burton, Jonetta Bridges, Mary Trueman, Ethel Heggen, Louise Best, Francis, Ethel, Mary Gilchrist, Ritchie, Ball, Mabel, McAvity, Jessie Likely, Beatrice Frink, Gladys Foster, Marian Bevan, E. Mills, Mary Harrison, Edith Fairweather.

Captain C. W. W. McLean, son of Col. H. H. McLean, who is stationed in Borden, Hants county, England, is in the city the guest of his parents. Mr. B. Hardman, who was the guest of Archdeacon Raymond, and Mr. Raymond for a few days last week, has returned to his home in Fredericton.

Miss Louisa Humphrey, who has been the guest of Mrs. MacAvity, left for her home in Chicago on Thursday evening.

Dr. Murray MacLaren returned from Montreal on Wednesday, where he had been attending a medical convention.

Mrs. Byers of Windsor, Nova Scotia, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. C. A. Gray, Mecklenburg street.

Mr. C. W. Byers and Mr. Hugh MacKay left on Thursday evening for Boston to attend the Harvard-Yale football game.

Col. H. H. McLean and Mrs. McLean and Capt. Weldon McLean, returned home from Baltimore on Wednesday.

At the semi-annual meeting of the Thistle Curling Club on Thursday evening, the Rev. Archdeacon Raymond was presented with a pair of curling stones in appreciation of his work as chaplain of the club.

Miss Marjorie Lee spent the week in Fredericton, the guest of friends. Miss Kerr of Charlottetown, P. E. I., is the guest of Mrs. T. Pugsley.

At a meeting of the committee of St. Andrews Society, the following programme was arranged for "Scottish Night." It includes the usual number of songs and addresses. In all probability the soloists will include Mrs. A. P. Crockett, Mrs. F. C. McNeil, Mr. D. B. Pidgeon, Mr. F. McKean. The feature of the evening will be an address by Lieutenant Governor Fraser on "The Day and the Night."

Dances have also been arranged for the older as well as the younger members. At a meeting of the committee of St. Andrews Society, the following programme was arranged for "Scottish Night." It includes the usual number of songs and addresses. In all probability the soloists will include Mrs. A. P. Crockett, Mrs. F. C. McNeil, Mr. D. B. Pidgeon, Mr. F. McKean. The feature of the evening will be an address by Lieutenant Governor Fraser on "The Day and the Night."

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PITHY PARAGRAPHS OF LOCAL INTEREST

St. Mary's Band. The annual meeting of St. Mary's Band was held on Thursday evening. The following officers were elected: Rev. Dr. Raymond, president; Richard Doo, sergeant; H. J. Barton, secretary; W. H. Knowles, Geo. Lynch, H. W. Barton, Geo. Wilson, James Rafferty, managing committee; Charles Williams, bandmaster; R. Doo, librarian. It was decided to hold an anniversary at home on Monday, Nov. 29. The reports submitted showed the year had been a successful one, and that there is a small balance on hand.

Art and Life. Dr. Edward Waldo Emerson will lecture on Monday evening at 8 o'clock under the auspices of the Institute

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of Archaeology in the Assembly rooms of the High school. No admission will be charged, and a cordial invitation is extended to all. Dr. Emerson is a descendant of Ralph Waldo Emerson, the Sage of Concord. The subject of the lecture will be "Art in Relation to Life." He will also give a brief introductory account of Professor Eliott Norton, the founder of the American Institute of Archaeology.

Taken to Provincial Hospital. Mrs. Richard Scott, of Queen St., was taken to the Provincial Hospital yesterday. She was declared insane by Dr. James Christie. The family have had a hard time to get along lately and have been in desperate circumstances. Mr. S. M. Wetmore of the Municipal Home, is now looking after the family and doing what he can for them.

## In the Police Court.

In the police court yesterday Mr. E. S. Ritchie made application to the Police Magistrate that the 35 deals which his client, Clay Crook, was arrested on suspicion of stealing be returned to him. The application was granted. Thomas Evans, who was arrested on Monday last and placed in the Brussels street lock-up, from which he escaped, gave himself up to the police yesterday morning.

## ROBT.

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