

The Standard



Published by The Standard Limited, 52 Prince William Street, St. John, Canada.

SUBSCRIPTION.

Morning Edition, By Carrier, per year, \$5.00
Morning Edition, By Mail, per year, 3.00
Weekly Edition, By Mail, per year, 1.00
Weekly Edition to United States 1.52
Single Copies Two Cents.

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SAINT JOHN TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 26, 1910.

THE LORDS AND THE COMMONS.

One of the latest suggestions of a device for solving the problem of the reconstruction of the House of Lords is that a legislative committee of the Lords shall be formed partly by election by the Lords themselves and partly by appointment by the government of the day, and that this committee shall discharge the functions which have hitherto been discharged by the House of Lords. The idea is that equal numbers on the committee shall be elected by the Conservative peers and the Liberal peers respectively, and that the government of the day shall appoint a dozen additional peers. Such a committee would be a revising upper chamber which would not wantonly kill measures passed by the House of Commons, because its political complexion would accord with that of the Commons.

The formation of such a legislative committee of the House of Lords would, as the Manitoba Free Press points out, not be in violation of any precedents; and it is becoming evident that the Lords themselves have paved the way for it by passing resolutions declaring that hereditarily ought not to be the basis of legislative functions and that Reform of the House of Lords is necessary. But it remains to be seen how the idea will be received by the large class of Conservative peers who are spoken of as "backwoodsmen,"—the Lords who are so rarely seen at Westminster that the doorkeepers and other attendants of the House of Lords do not know them when a measure like the first Lloyd-George budget draws them to their places as hereditary legislators to aid in throwing it out.

The election of legislative peers in equal numbers by the two parties in the House of Lords as it stands at the present time would throw out a great many able Conservative peers and keep in practically the whole body of the Liberal peers. But a reform of this sort would tend in the long run to make the peerage less one-sided in politics than it has been for a long time. It would help to restore the old-time conditions when the Whigs and Tory families were more or less evenly balanced in the House of Lords. Whether that suggestion will be acted on or some other method arrived at of solving the constitutional problem, the chances for a settlement being arrived at seem, by all accounts, to be improving.

A powerful factor towards settlement is the triumph of Radical finance. Without imposing a new tax or modifying any feature of his first budget, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has simply announced, in making his second budget speech, that the Finance Act in operation will be continued in operation. The Lords will not attempt to throw it out again. It has falsified the predictions of its opponents by providing such abundant revenues that Mr. Lloyd-George is able to report surpluses, and that, too, though the expenditures are greatly increased, the two main sources of increase being naval construction and old age pensions. He must upset the calculations of his opponents completely; and not only has he succeeded in financing old age pensions under free trade, but he is now forecasting invalidity pensions, sickness funds and insurance against unemployment, with the help of free levies upon millionaires and the great land-owners.

In view of all this, it is not strange that the Tariff Reformers are making no concealment of their anxiety for a settlement of the constitutional question. They want the field cleared, so that the next election can turn upon their own issue, and, in the event of their winning, a Conservative government be empowered to deliver their friends from Radical taxation.

FIGHTING THE WHITE PLAGUE.

One of the most interesting developments in recent years in the fight against tuberculosis has been the system of supplementing the open-air treatment by setting the patients at suitable work. A writer in the British Medical Journal, boldly declared recently that the rest cure will be in future, to a great extent, supplemented, if not replaced, by the work cure.

On the other hand, a correspondent of the Lancet strongly attacks the system, on the ground of its unsuitability for consumptive patients. Any great expenditure of physical strength, says this writer, should be carefully guarded against in treating a disease in which the patient is constantly losing tissue.

The idea of putting consumptive patients to work was started by the Primley Sanatorium, an adjunct of the Brompton Hospital, London, some five years ago; and inquiries at the hospital elicited the opinion that the system had been eminently successful. It was pointed out that the correspondent who attacked the system had fallen into the error of supposing that in the treatment referred to the patients were put on to the full work of an ordinary man. As a matter of fact, the work is most carefully graduated. If the patients are unfitted for active exercise most of their time is spent in resting, or they make mops and mats, sew, and do basket work. When fit for active exercise, the first thing they are set to is walking from a half a mile to six miles a day. The next stage is such very light work as carrying baskets of mould, weeding a garden, or watering plants. The third grade consists of light garden work, such as trimming borders and attending to flower-beds. In the fourth grade of work implements of greater weight are employed, but only ground already cultivated is dealt with. The fifth grade consists of excavating unbroken ground.

Other classes of employment which the patients are given according to their fitness include carpentering and soap-making, while in the last two years the patients

have built a reservoir for the collection of surface water. This means that they have excavated 5,000 tons of sand and used 1,000 tons of concrete in constructing the walls and embankments. The secretary added that the giving of these different kinds of employment has never led to any injury to the patients. On the contrary, the result has proved most beneficial to them. "We know that," he remarked, "because we keep in constant touch with the patients after they leave the sanatorium. They continue well, and, as a matter of fact, quite 80 per cent. are enabled to return to their former occupations."

The system of assigning suitable work to consumptive patients is now adopted in most of the sanatoria in Great Britain. At Primley it has proved so successful that beds have recently been added for those who can afford to pay \$5 a week for maintenance.

A SAD PREDICAMENT.

Under the heading of "Canada's Railway Predicament," The Detroit News makes some comment on the extraordinary features of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's bargain with the Grand Trunk Pacific Company. The government, it says, made the hazardous experiment of compromising with a public service corporation. It backed the ambitious Grand Trunk Pacific enterprise with government capital and government credit.

"The division along the height of land in Northern Ontario and Quebec was to be financed by the Dominion and will revert to the colony eventually. It now appears that this is the very portion of the road that the Grand Trunk Pacific does not care about, inasmuch as it proposes to divert the grain traffic by way of Chicago to tidewater at Portland, Me., and Providence, R. I., over Grand Trunk lines all the way. In such a case the Dominion would be left in possession of the lonely stretch of unused road between Cochrane and Moncton.

The article continues: "So unfortunate an outcome for Canada may never be realized. Nevertheless, the possibilities for abuses where a government yokes itself unequally with a private exploiter become apparent. The good-will of the exploiting company is the only security Canada has for a happy consummation of the attempts at quasi-public ownership."

The Detroit News is under mistake in one instance. The Grand Trunk Pacific project is not even quasi-public ownership. It is private ownership aggravated by the fact that the public funds have created the property. Of all contracts, this agreement with the Hays-Morse company is the most astounding. Canadian credit guarantees are building the Western section, Canadian cash is building the Eastern section. The company will own the one, and promises to lease the other for one hundred years. What the country will get for all the treasure it has poured out can be in no way commensurate with the burden it has undertaken.

In the meantime, the Grand Trunk Company is getting additional seaboard facilities in the United States. Our hope for an all-Canada line will prove to be an unfulfilled one, despite the "guarantees" the company has given the government. No power can force the company to take over the National Transcontinental Railway if it desires to do otherwise. The cost of this section, moreover, has been so enormous that the company may find the lease unprofitable. What then? Canada would be burdened with another railway ending in two fields. It would have a second government line with a deficit as big as its name, the one competing against the other for local traffic.

The railway policy of the government has been thick-headed and extravagant. It has nothing to commend itself to the minds of reasonable business men. The country gets nothing, and a corporation gets everything at public expense.

WHERE THE WORLD'S MONEY COMES FROM.

Every now and again, says an American exchange, we become enthusiastic over the prospect that New York is soon to be the financial centre of the world. Then some startling episode, like the panic of 1907, reminds us that England and France are yet the great investing nations.

"Nothing could illustrate this more clearly," says The World's Work, New York, "than the simple fact that the American bond market a little while ago turned upon the success or failure of negotiations to sell in Paris nearly, if not quite \$100,000,000 worth of American railroad bonds. Already this year some scores of millions of dollars of our bonds have gone to Paris; and the English buyers have taken from our markets \$107,000,000 worth of securities in the first four months of the year.

"Again, more than \$9,000,000 a month was subscribed by the English from January to May for American enterprises other than railroads; and about \$2,500,000 came from England to take away American city bonds and stocks, to build our streets, to equip our fire departments—to help us live. Yet, not one out of ten American investors owns or ever did own, any security that represented anything outside of the United States. Even the bonds of Japan, brought here by our own bankers, were never scattered widely; and we have less than \$200,000,000 in all Canada.

"This is something to think about. In one small country whose centre is London, investors in 1909 subscribed for securities worth \$1,070,000,000. Nearly every dollar of it went to work, either in the peaceful pursuits of British commerce, or out on the firing-lines in Canada, the United States, South America, South Africa, or Asia—where the armies of commerce fight wars of conquest. We are not the only people under the sun, and the long-accumulated and well-managed wealth of England is simply prodigious in comparison with our smaller, newly-acquired capital."

CURRENT COMMENT

(Toronto Star.)

It is a mistake to imagine that a man's whole nature is criminal because he has fallen once or twice, or even three times. The government's parole officer is of the opinion that only fifteen to twenty per cent. of Canada's prisoners are genuine criminals. A realization of this fact has led to a reform in prison methods. It was found that the tendency of the old system was to make a man "once a criminal, always a criminal." The new ideal is to give the prisoner a chance to start afresh.

In only two cases out of one hundred where this chance has been given to Canadian prisoners, has the parole been broken.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The English Wesleyan Methodist governing body has decided that women shall be admitted as members of the Church's annual conference. In the early days, when Methodism was gaining its hold on the English masses, women were prominent among its workers, and even in Canada there are women ranked among the founders of its strength. It may be natural that Methodists should first establish the right of women workers to sit in their Church's councils as well as in the pews.

(Regina Standard.)

The test of the man is not in the professions of the associations with which he is identified, in religious declarations or humanitarian platitudes, in his assertions of a partnership with the Lord, or in his displays of self-idolatry, but, in his personal conduct.

THE OTHER DAY

By Clarence Hawkes, in The Outlook.
The other day we played upon the sea
Where 'neath the grass a nimble
river ran;
But now I hear the murmur of the
sea.
And we are turning home as we
began.
The other day we dreamed of things
afar,
But now we hear the breakers on the
bar.

The other day we grew to manhood's
strength;
Its hours were long and full of
anxious care,
But then we toiled and gloried in
their length,
And laughed at wrinkles and at sil-
ver hair,
When we were young, with strength
to toil and plan.
But, oh! my friend, how swift the
river ran!

Now, bowed by years, we stand be-
side the gate;
The golden hours have passed by,
one by one.
In youth, alas, for time we could not
wait,
But now, in truth, our little day is
done.
The other day life was an endless
span,
But, oh! my friend, how swift the
river ran!

THE NATURE OF DEATH.

"Not even death is to the wise man
a thing to dread; like birth and all
that the seasons bring, it is but one
of the things which nature wills. For
as to children masks appear terrible
and fearful from inexperience. We
also are affected in like manner by
events for no other reason. What is
death? A tragic mask. Turn it and
examine it. See, it does not bite.
The poor body must be separated
from the spirit either now or later,
as it was separated from it before.
Pass then, through thy little space
of time conformably to nature and
end thy journey in content, just as
the olive falls off when it is ripe,
blessing nature who produced it, and
thanking the tree on which it grew."
—Epictetus.

Good Stories

An absent-minded German profes-
sor discovered the other day that he
had lost his umbrella somewhere. As
he had visited three shops, he thought
it must be one of them, so he started
back and called at all three in
turn.

"No umbrella has been found here,"
the professor was told in the first
shop. The German shrugged his
shoulders and went out. At the next
shop the same response was made;
whereupon the professor shrugged his
shoulders once more, and went to the
third establishment. There he found
his umbrella awaiting him.
"I must say," said he to his family,
on returning home, "they were more
honest at the last place than at the
other shops."

HELPING HIM



George:—What kind of candles do
you love best, Miss Muriel?
The Girl:—The kind that comes to
me in gift boxes.

JOSH WISE SAYS:
"The secret of right living is right
living in secret."

Policeman (to thief climbing into a
window by an apple tree):—"What are
you doing up that tree?"
Thief:—"I was trying to get an ap-
ple or two."
Policeman:—"Apples in April?"
Thief:—"Excuse me, sir; I had for-
gotten that."

"Why don't you try one of those
tobacco cures on your son?" asked
Gaddie.
"That wouldn't have any effect on
him," replied Popley.
"Oh! yes; they simply kill all appe-
tite for tobacco."
"But he smokes cigarettes."

Lily:—"I've gone to a surprise party
tonight, Miss Sally."
Miss Sally:—"What will you take
for a present?"
Lily:—"Well, we didn't call late on
takin' no present. Yo' see, we don't
want to s'prize 'em too much."

Maud:—"How stout poor Miss Waite
is getting."
Belle:—"Isn't she? She says she
can't even skip in reading a dull
novel."

Maud:—"Do you believe that there
is danger in kissing?"
Jack (cheerily):—"Danger for the
other fellow if I catch him kissing
you."

Fuddy:—"I understand there is some
talk of removing the name of Pytha-
goras from the front of the Boston
Public Library."
Duddy:—"Why so?"
Fuddy:—"Someone has discovered
that he wrote: 'Have nothing to do
with beans.'"

CHICAGO CATTLE MARKET.

Chicago, July 25.—Cattle receipts,
38,000; market dull, mostly 10c lower.
Hogs receipts 34,000; market 10 to
15c lower; light 855 to 895.
Sheep receipts 30,000; market 10c
lower; native 260 to 440; Western 250
to 440; yearlings 425 to 540; lambs,
native 440 to 740; Western 450 to
750.

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ber you have eyes—
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feel strained and tired,
only when you
take your glasses off.

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inconspicuous that
they are hardly notic-
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that combine with
these that other
indefinable quality
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RAILROADS WIN
LUMBER RATE
FIGHT

St. Paul, Minn., July 25.—Frederick
N. Dickson, master in chancery in the
lumber rate suit begun in the fall of
1908 against the Interstate Commerce
Commission by the Great Northern,
Northern Pacific, Union Pacific and
Chicago, Burlington and Quincy rail-
roads, served his preliminary findings
on the attorneys of both sides today.
In his findings the railroads win a
substantial victory.

The railroads contended for a rate
of 50 cents a hundredweight on lum-
ber shipped from Portland, Ore., to
St. Paul and for 60 cents from Port-
land to Chicago. The Interstate Com-
merce Commission allowed 45 cents
from Portland to St. Paul and 55 cents
from Portland to Chicago.

U. S. BANKERS
ARE GLAD TO
CO-OPERATE

Washington, July 25.—The Acting
Secretary of the Treasury received
letters today from bankers in St.
Louis, Louisville, Pittsburg, Philadel-
phia, Boston and New York announc-
ing that they would be glad to co-
operate in the organization of emer-
gency currency associations.
The responses to Secretary Mac-
Veagh's suggestion for the creation of
these associations, which would pro-
vide an issue of additional notes in
financial crises, have been enthusias-
tic, the elimination of the withdrawal
obstacles furnishing impetus for a de-
cided boom in this direction.

Wrist Watches

We have received a new lot of WATCH BRACELETS in gold
(Spring Link and Mesh) from \$30.00 to \$80.00. Also gold watch and
leather strap \$18.00 to \$30.00. Silver and Gun Metal with Leather
Straps, \$6.50 up.

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corner. No orders taken for less than 5,000 at this price.
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