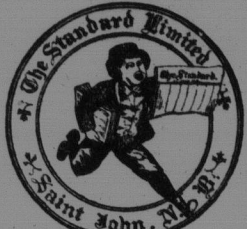


The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 10, 1909.

DR. COOK'S NEW TROUBLE.

It will be difficult to awaken the popular interest in Dr. Cook's claim that was felt some two years ago, but the statement issued by the New York Times is a promising attempt. Two men, one of them reputed to be a skilled navigator, have made affidavits which are taken to mean that the men were hired by Dr. Cook to fabricate statements of observations determining his latitude during his march to the pole and back. The charge now is that Dr. Cook had no data by which he could establish his claim and these men were engaged to provide him with a record that would stand the test of examination. The claim is made to say that Dr. Cook did not pay them the large sum of \$4000 agreed upon in advance, but gave them only \$200. The chief expert was employed four days and his companion two. It is stated by the accusers that they are making these facts public in consequence of Dr. Cook's refusal to pay them the \$4000. With no further proof than these statements Dr. Cook would not be seriously discredited had his previous record been clear. He is perhaps not an expert navigator like Commander Peary. He may not be so well skilled in handling figures as to be able to present his statement in approved form suitable for publication. He might easily require help in drawing a map or chart of his journey, and of relating it properly to the maps of those Arctic regions which have already been charted. Captain Cook says that he provided Dr. Cook with a chart of the journey with his assumed positions marked on it, observations for time and chronometer rate, diagrams for compass error, calculations for longitude, observations as they would be taken at the pole, nautical tables, almanacs, calendars and admiralty charts. To a layman it would seem reasonable that Dr. Cook, though satisfied that he had been at the pole, might in preparing his report for a scientific society find the need of all these things. They might be required for illustration, or for verification. Those who remember Napier's "Fastest North" may recall the fact that Lieut. Hanson took the management of the astronomical and magnetic observations, and that it was he who prepared the chart of the voyage, the tables of observations, and the other records connected with the journey of the Fram.

If Dr. Cook had been free from suspicion, the affidavit of the captain might not be taken seriously. As it is the scientific people who sit in judgment upon his work, and who demand the original records, Dr. Cook would expect them to find it impossible to suppose that he would expect to land in charts, tables and records written by Captain Cook, as records made by himself in the Arctic ice. But the work of Captain Cook might be of assistance to him in proving his case. On the whole it would appear quite reasonable that Dr. Cook if he is honest, might need and use this assistance, and that if he is dishonest he might need it still more and use it still farther.

NOT AT ALL UNANIMOUS.

Some reasoning should be taken with the statement that the recent Government caucus at Ottawa revealed a condition of perfect harmony on the navy project. The Montreal Herald, Liberal, has an interview with a well known member who reports that the Quebec and Maritime Province deputations will vote like one man for the Government proposal. The Ontario representation was divided in opinion, for while all were in favor of assistance in naval defence, they were not agreed as to the way it should be given. The Herald's informant states that some "will oppose the building of a navy even to the point of voting against their party."

The Ottawa correspondent of the Halifax Herald understands that several Quebec Liberal members will oppose any appropriation, and that twelve will follow Mr. Monk in that direction.

All this confirms The Standard's opinion that this is not a question on which party lines will be closely drawn. There are ways to whip Government supporters into line which are not available to oppositions, but these means may not be effective with the whole Liberal party in the House.

TAFT IS A SOOTHER.

President Taft is congratulated on the sanity and calmness of his message. But one notices that most of the commendation is of a negative character. The great wealth of available disturbing matter which the President did not use would have made his message more like that of his predecessor. Instead of a series of shocks Congress received a lullaby.

Thus the New York Sun expresses relief and gratitude for a "message unpermeated with consternation," and not accompanied by "a yellow supplement." To the Sun it is an impressive fact that "it was read and heard without starting a series of concentric waves of vague terrors, gradually to reach every quarter where the stability of business conditions can be affected by high official divagations." Our New York contemporary trusts that "the evil opportunity which has been so deliberately rejected today is not postponed to another date." And again it thanks the president "for the restraint and moderation of utterance which he has shown on the present occasion." * * * when he "took his pen in his large tranquil fist" * * * re-moving from the calendar a sinister date in the first week in December that for several years has been "marked in indigo."

These remarks are a carefully adjusted mixture of praise of Taft and censure of Roosevelt.

A QUESTION OF INTERFERENCE.

The Ottawa Free Press pays compliments to the London Times, but advises that it should not interfere with the politics of Canada. With this the Toronto News agrees, to the extent of saying that the Times ought not to be the mouthpiece of either Canadian party, adding that Canadian Journals should not interfere with the political conflict in Great Britain.

Why should these self-denying ordinances be suggested? The London Times is not an official publication. It is a medium for the collection and circulation of news, and for the expression of opinions. Both functions may properly be exercised in respect to Canadian affairs, as freely as if they were the domestic concerns of the Empire. The limitations to be expected result from the lesser interest on the part of the Times readers in the affairs of a distant country, and from the fact that the Times' staff writers do not know so much about the Dominions over the sea as these countries do about themselves. Exactly the same restraints affect the Canadian press in discussing British politics. A British Journal on the eve of a British election, may offer advice to the British electorate. It would be stupid for a Canadian editor to do so through a paper circulated among people who have no votes in the British election. That kind of interference would seem to be gratuitous.

We are all one Empire, and as the Toronto News says, none of us are obliged to conceal our opinion on any public issue that affects the whole realm. But as we are all one Empire, there is no reason why any of us should conceal his opinion on public issues that affect any part of the King's dominions. A Toronto or St. John Journal has the same right to comment freely on a political matter exclusively concerning Great Britain as it has to pass opinions on the politics of British Columbia and Quebec. We must get over the idea that there is some sacred barrier between this Dominion and the Mother Country, or between the dominions which compose the Empire, and that all discussion concerning each other must have the reserve and reticence of a diplomatic message. The relations between us and Great Britain are domestic, not international. There is no necessity for establishing within the Empire the cautious and guarded relations of long separated relatives testing each other with a view of a possible renewal of relations.

GIVE THE CITIZENS A CHANCE.

The Telegraph assures Mr. Hazen that the city of St. John is quite prepared to pay one-third the cost of the Navy Island bridge, whatever that may be, and that everything is waiting for the Provincial Government to promise another third. Also the Telegraph announces that when the bridge is built the ferry may be stopped. These assurances would perhaps come better from some source authorized by the city to give them. Those citizens who are regularly transported by the ferry boats might be allowed a chance to assent to the Telegraph's kindly offer on their part to walk over a long bridge, or take a five cent car trip in its place. It is not long since the Telegraph took charge of a city council campaign. Is there any special reason why the council then elected should be excluded from the privilege of saying a word on a matter involving a cost of thirty dollars for each St. John family?

From the Montreal Star parliamentary report:—

Mr. Pugsley declared that he had given no contract to the Logie firm except by tender.

In reply Mr. Crockett read this telegram, with the explanation that the dredge Hayward is owned by A. and R. Logie:—

Dalhousie, October 14, 1908.

Eugene L. Laflair, Ottawa.

Kindly authorize resident Engineer Stead to put dredge Hayward at work at Bathurst at same price as Caraque, to be certified fair and reasonable by Mr. Stead. Work not to exceed five thousand dollars.

(Signed) WILLIAM PUGSLEY.

"Next item," said the Minister, and soon after the House rose.

Lord Advocate Ure, one of whose statements was recently described by the usually courteous Mr. Balfour as a deliberate and calculating lie, has more recently made a speech in which he said: "The taxing of food (in Great Britain) never has been done, never will be done." (In Great Britain) never has been done, never will be done. The Halifax Herald gives a list of taxes showing that Mr. Lloyd George now collects \$48,000,000 a year from taxes on tea, coffee, cocoa, sugar and fruits. Whether the taxation of food ought to be a fair question, but it has existed, is now, and will continue, whichever party may win.

Two or three days ago The Standard gave a partial list of Dr. Goldwin Smith's contributions to the press during the first few weeks after he announced his retirement from journalism. Since then a letter to the Toronto Globe on the effect of the Provincial Government's hydro-electric policy, and one to the New York Post on British politics have appeared. When the Bystander gave up the Weekly Sun he took up at least six other journals.

The president of Harvard University and the chief football coach of that institution have been holding a conference with the president of Yale and his associate, Walter Camp. The purpose is to reform football so that it may be more economical of human life. It is believed that the two experts can accomplish the task and the presidents are ready to act as assistants in the great scholastic enterprise.

Dr. Bell's airship works near Baddeck are well located for that particular business. At this stage the experiments are best conducted with the least advertising. The Bell shops are some distance from Baddeck town, and Baddeck in winter is well isolated. The Governor General has found his way to the scene of the McCurdy operations, but in general the works are not next to reading matter.

The verdict of the jury that sat on the victims of the Nash's Creek collision is very severe on the railway management. It is to be hoped that it will persuade the Government to appoint night operators, in place of those who were dismissed, and thereby guard against further disasters of the kind that cost so many lives at Nash's Creek.—Chatham World.

The Lunenburg county Conservatives are first class fighting men. They opposed Attorney General MacLean when he sought election after taking office, and have now nominated an opponent for the federal by-election. This second attempt may or may not be successful, but it is good politics and a good example.

New Brunswick fruit comes out even at the Amherst fair with the Nova Scotia product. That is a good record. When this province raises and ships as many apples as Nova Scotia, our farmers will come nearer doing justice to themselves.

THE HEAT FEELS GOOD.
These are the days when you begin to worry about your heating apparatus. Don't worry. Phone 1986. WILLIAMS. 18 Waterloo Street.

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AMERICAN ANTHRACITE
SCOTCH ANTHRACITE
OLD MINE SYDNEY
RESERVE
Delivered in bulk or in bags, Prices low.

R. P. & W. F. Starr,
Limited

Escaped Fine.
Toronto, Dec. 9.—Because he was conveying a raving lunatic from Hamilton to the insane asylum here, 4-30, Cloyer, a chauffeur, escaped a fine in the police court yesterday for exceeding the speed limit on Queen street. Detectives in charge, he claimed, "could hardly hold the lunatic and they therefore urged him on."

Gentlemen:
I have just received and have opened a most beautiful line of first class Gold and Gold Filled Case Watches at \$14 to \$35 Gold and Gold Filled Chains and Bobs at \$2 to \$25 Gold and Gold Filled Lockets, at \$2 to \$20 Gold and Gold Filled Pendants at \$2 to \$20 Gold and Gold Filled Rings at \$2 to \$25 Diamond other Precious Stone set Rings as Birthday, Friendship, Engagement, Wedding Gifts on hand or set to order on short notice. —Is sold at the factory and a printed ticket attached. Let us show you these watches.

W. TREMAINE GARD,
Goldsmith and Jeweler
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Call Early and Make Your Selections
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Diamond Importers and Jewelers, 41 KING STREET

LAMENTS PLUNGE INTO NAVAL MAELSTROM

Mr. Archibald Hurd Writing in the Fortnightly Review Has Something To Say of the Race For Armaments.

Mr. Archibald Hurd, in the Fortnightly Review, laments what he calls the Colonies' plunge into the maelstrom of competing navies. He points out that the separate navies will cost the Colonies more, for Britain is still the cheapest market for material. He gives the following interesting table:

	Cost per ton
Great Britain	£ 94.77
Germany	100.86
United States	109.51
France	155.73
Italy	96.5

The cost of maintenance of the baby fleet will probably follow the standard of American outlay, which is very high. He adds these tables:

	Not Cost of Fleet Maintenance
Great Britain	\$21,139,206
Germany	8,353,761
United States	18,763,676
France	6,893,391
Italy	4,133,990
Japan	4,873,937

The relative cost of naval power may be thus summarized, taking a British unit of £100 and its corresponding equivalents in Germany, the United States, Italy, France and Japan:

Great Britain	£100
Germany	109.51
France	155.73
United States	109.51
Italy	96.5
Japan	100

He thus succinctly states his case in pursuit of a national instead of an Imperial policy the daughter nations under the British flag are about to buy their naval power, not at the rate which enters in the United Kingdom, but at a rate fixed by local conditions, and 50 or more per cent. higher than in the United Kingdom.

The recent Conference had an opportunity of giving to the world an object lesson. It might have reached an agreement for the maintenance of one combined fleet—a challenge by an Imperial policy to the world—instead of a competition in naval armaments by each individual people is an antiquated method of reaching the goal. Any combined world-movement is, and must remain for many generations probably, an Utopian dream; but the formation of one fleet for all the peoples under the British flag would have marked an advance in the history of the world, and from being drawn slowly or swiftly into the vortex of the present ruinous competition.

Instead of one fleet the future holds out only the prospect of the British fleet, still compelled to hold its traditional supremacy, whatever the cost, with "baby navies" in distant parts of the all-embracing sea—in association with the mother navy, it is true, and yet distinct from it. It is not the best solution.

COUNTY COURT CHAMBERS.
Rubber Co. vs. Taylor.
In the county court chambers yesterday morning before His Honor Judge Forbes Mr. C. S. Hanington, acting on the plaintiff in the case of the Merchants' Rubber Co., Limited, vs. C. Humphrey Taylor, applied to have the defendant's appearance and plea set aside and judgment entered for the plaintiff. On a prior day Mr. Hanington obtained a summons calling upon the defendant to show cause why the appearance and plea should not be set aside and summary judgment signed, as the action was on a promissory note, Mr. Marvin L. Hayward, for the defendant appeared to show cause. Mr. Hayward read several affidavits which disclosed that the plaintiff company, being an extra provincial corporation, have not now had at the time the action was commenced taken out a license to do business within the province as required by law.

Mr. Hanington asked for further time in which to procure affidavits in reply. His Honor adjourned the hearing until the 21st instant.

McAvity and Sons vs. Brewer.
Final judgment was signed in the case of T. McAvity and Sons vs. Whitman Brewer for costs only.

AT THE HOTELS

Royal.
W. S. Morris, London; C. A. MacDonald, Sydney; C. J. Jones, A. J. MacIntyre, M. C. Collingwood, Halifax; J. H. Porter, Antwerp; C. E. Taylor, Moncton; W. H. Bell, Toronto; J. K. Flemming and wife, Hartland; F. Lister, McAdam; H. E. Turner, Maymount, Sas.; W. Walker,

Victoria.
Fred J. Boyer, Victoria, N. B.; W. J. Dickson, Halifax; A. M. Dunn, Hampton; D. V. Landry, M.P., Buctouche; F. W. Johnson, Truro; H. E. Grass, Moncton; W. W. Hubbard, Fredericton; W. S. Stevens, St. Stephen; H. D. Porter, Antwerp; C. E. Taylor, Moncton; W. H. Bell, Toronto; J. K. Flemming and wife, Hartland; F. Lister, McAdam; H. E. Turner, Maymount, Sas.; W. Walker,

Funerals.
Mr. James Donohue.
A large number of citizens attended the funeral of Mr. James Donohue, held yesterday afternoon at 2.30 from his late residence, Brussels street. The body was taken to the Cathedral, where Rev. Wm. Duke officiated at the burial services. Interment was made in the New Catholic cemetery. Members of the family acted as pallbearers. They were the four sons, William, Leonard, Kenneth and Harry

Funerals.
Mr. Warren C. Bell.
The body of Mr. Warren C. Bell was taken to Hampton by the C. P. R. at noon yesterday, where the funeral was held on the arrival of the train. Services were held at the grave.

Christmas Offerings
SILVERWARE
Salts and Peppers, 75c to \$3.50
Napkin Rings, 50c to 2.00
Children's Mugs, 1.25 to 1.75
Butter Dishes, 3.50 to 7.50
Pickle Dishes, 2.00 to 5.50
Cake Baskets, 3.00 to 15.00
Toast Racks, 1.75 to 4.50
Bon-bon Dishes, 1.75 to 5.00
Bread Trays, 2.25 to 3.75
Gravy Boats, 4.00 to 8.25
Entree Dishes, 7.00 to 8.50
Baking Dishes, 5.25 to 9.75
Etc., Etc.

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The finest compliment you can pay a man is to give him a Howard Watch.
It shows that in your opinion the best is none too good for him.
He knows the Howard is the finest American watch made, and he appreciates your decision as to quality.
The price of each watch from the \$1.00 in fine gold-filled case at \$2.00 to the 23 jewel in a 14k solid gold case at \$150.00 — is fixed at the factory and a printed ticket attached. Let us show you these watches.

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