The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 24, 1909.

STUMPAGE UNDER TWO GOVERNMENTS.

One significant result of the change in the Provincial Administration is the increase in crown land revenue. The amount of this increase and how it is obtained are shown elsewhere. This year, with the lumber industry less active than usual, the province has an income from stumpage alone at least $45,000 and perhaps $50,000 larger than last year. But last year's income was largely swelled by the change of Government. Mr. Grimmer got about $10,000 in one lump over the amount which the officer of the previous administration had arranged to accept from one operator. No one knows how many scalers' returns were raised after the March election above what they would have been if the votes had gone another way.

The average stumpage revenue for seven years previous to 1908 was about $140,000. It would have been at least double that amount if full lawful stumpage had been paid. The average amount for the four years from 1904 to 1907 inclusive, with the present stumpage rates ostensibly in force, was $165,000. If full lawful stumpage had been paid the amount would doubtless have been one-third greater than the revenue of the current year. That is to say it would have been $320,000 a year. If the scaling of 1909 had been done as it was before the change of Government the stumpage revenue would have been $120,000 instead of $240,000.

Now this remarkable change has been accomplished by a very simple process. It was effected by the honest and fair administration of the law. All that was needed was a disposition to do right. The scalers are just as willing to return the full quantity as half or one-third. It is easier work to do it right because the old method required a different system for each lumberman, so that each might be treated according to his political qualifications, his campaign contributions, or his "pull." These were elements which the average scaler would prefer not to estimate. It is easier to measure lumber.

Mr. Grimmer is simply a capable and just administrator. He is no respecter of persons, but treats all men alike. To have one standard for all operators and all parts of the province, and for all scalers, the Surveyor General appointed a supervisor of scalers, thus establishing uniformity. This officer, who is a Liberal in politics, was chosen because he was the best man for the position.

Now we have this state of affairs: While the lumbermen are paying into the treasury very much more than they did before they are not miserable. They do not even have a grievance. They are justly treated and all served alike. They know it and accept the situation without discontent. Some of them always had to pay about the full rate. Those who got off at half or one-third the lawful charge did not gain the difference. One reason why they are not complaining is that it is no harder to pay stumpage than to pay toll. No one supposes that this $100,000 or $200,000 or more a year was a free gift to the lumber operator. He had to pay tribute to the proper persons, and the proper causes. If he did not pay quite so much as he got, he never knew what the claim against him was, or when it would be made, or how often, or by what agent or politician. He was always under obligation, with the additional anxiety that he could not dispute the levy made upon him, was obliged to keep the whole transaction secret, and never felt that he owned himself. Now the lumberman has got back his self-respect and independence. Those who set a fair value on these compensations consider that they are worth what they cost.

The province is a great gainer. It gains the moral advantage of having honest crown land administration. It gains a great and growing financial advantage. The Surveyor General will find himself in a position to accomplish some things which he greatly desires. A part of what he gains by the honest administration of the public domain, he may devote to the development and protection of the public domain. There are many good uses for any additional revenue which the Government obtains, and every resident of the province has cause to be thankful for this reform. The increased subsidy from Ottawa is paid for by increased federal taxes, but amounts that are rescued from the political toll-taxes are clear gain.

A VARIOUS MINISTER.

While at Quebec Mr. Pugsley was the guest at a luncheon given by Sir George Garneau at the Hotel Frontenac. The minister made a speech which is thus reported:

"Mr. Pugsley spoke highly of the advantages of this "port, and stated that in future the Premier and his "colleagues would devote their attention to the port of "Quebec, which he considered, was the natural terminal "port for the important railway and navigation lines. "When the Transcontinental was terminated this would "be a road which would bring the Western traffic to "Quebec in summer and to Moncton in winter. This "port had necessarily to be equipped, so as to meet all "demands which would be felt within the next few "months. The C. P. R. have their main terminus for "their Empresses, and the White Star-Dominion line "would also have their terminus here, he said. As "Minister of Public Works his duty was to work for "every province, but this did not prevent him devoting "his attention to the port of Quebec."

With the Grand Trunk Pacific carrying western traffic to Quebec in summer and to Moncton in winter, where does Courtenay Bay come in?

But that was two days ago. Mr. Pugsley is now at St. John and has varied his policy to suit the locality.

LIBERALS CANNOT DEFEND HIM.

Yesterday The Standard re-printed the declaration of the Liberal Sackville Tribune, announcing that Sir Fred Borden must institute proceedings against Rev. Dr. Pringle. The New Glasgow Eastern Chronicle which has for a generation and more been a sort of Liberal oracle in Eastern Nova Scotia, speaks in the same emphatic way in the same sense as follows:—

"Regarding Dr. Pringle's accusations against the Min-"ister of Militia, they may be as false as hell; but we "don't know and therefore have nothing particular to "say to the reverend muckraker on the subject. How-"ever, the minister should clear himself of the charge or "resign his seat in the Government. We confess that "he was not ready to meet his accusers in the supreme "court at Kentville. That looked bad. His accusers were "there, they declared, with the evidence to convict the "minister on a very serious charge; but he dodged the "issue at that time and put it off to a more convenient "season. That action did not give his Liberal friends "confidence in his innocence of the charge made against "him. Until he meets and refutes the charge made "against him in Kentville, and its renewal by Rev. Dr. "Pringle, the minister cannot expect Liberals to defend "him."

And then comes the Amherst News, a younger, but equally firm Liberal paper, which says:—

"Sir Frederick Borden must face his accusers at the "earliest possible date. Dr. Pringle's statements before "the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church can-"not be overlooked."

HOW MANY ARE LOST.

The census bureau figures out that the population of the three prairie provinces has increased 300,000 in three years. In 1906 the population showed by enumeration was 800,000. It is now computed to be 1,100,000. This return is made by adding the yearly immigration to the natural increase. But unfortunately this system does not stand the test. The enumeration of 1906 showed that 40 per cent of the immigrants reported as having settled in the prairie provinces were not there. According to the immigration returns, 382,208 persons had come to the country and settled in these provinces in 5 1-4 years, before June 1906. The census of 1906 gave the number then living in the west who had arrived in the previous 5 1-2 years to be 233,457, a shortage of 148,751. Allowing for deaths there is an error of 135,000 to 140,000. Probably it will be safe and correct to make a similar discount in the alleged increase of the last three years. So long as the Government pays a bonus on settlers we shall have generous counts.

AUTONOMY AND THE NAVY.

Mr. Brodeur has decided that there shall be no Canadian contribution of money to the Imperial navy. He has also reached the conclusion that there shall be no Canadian offer of Dreadnoughts. But Mr. Brodeur proposes to begin building a Canadian navy. If it has been all settled, it is hardly worth while for Mr. Brodeur to go to the Imperial Defence Conference. In spite of all the autonomy talk that has been heard the true doctrine is that whatever help Canada gives ought to be such as will do the Empire the most good.

We have the constitutional power to give or withhold aid to the Empire. We can give without sacrifice of autonomy and we can withhold without maintaining our liberties. Why did not Mr. Brodeur discover that when we voted a grant to the earthquake sufferers in Italy and San Francisco, we yielded some part of our precious autonomy?

A TEST.

Mr. Butler, Deputy Minister of Railways, and Chairman of the Intercolonial Managing Board, has been explaining some of the proposed economies. One is the matter of advertising. Mr. Butler says that hereafter intercolonial time tables will appear in only two leading papers in Toronto. "In advertising throughout the "Maritime Provinces the Board will choose the best ad-"vertising medium regardless of politics."

This process will be watched with interest. It is easy to see that if the principle as adopted is applied to St. John, the time cards will be printed in one Liberal and one Conservative morning paper. The best medium in Halifax is undoubtedly the Herald. Will that paper be selected for Government announcements in preference to others?

ONLY TWO YEARS.

It is pleasing to see the smiling face of the Minister of Public Works once more, and hear again his cheerful predictions. Usually things do not seem to happen as he promises, but his words are music to the ear.

Still we beg Dr. Pugsley to remember that in two years from last October ships of 10,000 tons are to be taking and discharging cargo at Grand Trunk Pacific wharves in Courtenay Bay. More than one-third of the time is gone and nothing done yet.

Journals opposing Mr. Hazen do not say when the St. John by-election will happen, but they have decided that any time within the next six weeks will be wrong because the farmers will be busy. It is to the credit of the St. John county farmers that they are busy most of the year, but they will be able to spare the time to go to the polls whenever the election takes place. The late Government brought on the last Provincial election in March when the roads were quite bad, but the people got out in sufficient numbers to bring something to pass.

It is rather singular that Mr. Brodeur should be the minister and this the time for the announcement of the future preferential policy of the Dominion Government. But if the preference should hereafter be limited to goods imported direct through Canadian ports, it will do what it should have done from the beginning. Direct importation is a natural and logical condition of such a tariff, for a country which has sea ports.

Booker Washington, the apostle of practical instruction for the negro, hit upon a smart illustration in addressing a vast meeting in Suffolk, Virginia, this week. After advising his people to follow industrial pursuits rather than academic studies, he said: "While negro bootblacks are away learning Greek, the Grecian lads are capturing the shine business."

The Glace Bay, Cape Breton, Standard, a new Conservative weekly, shortly to be made a semi-weekly, is a calm but vigorous exponent of the party doctrine. The establishment of Conservative journals in all parts of the Dominion where the party needed them, is a wholesome sign of active and determined purpose.

The Province of Ontario has done pretty well out of the Kerr Lake mine. This area was sold by the Government two years ago for $178,500, and has since paid in royalties $69,295.

The Times is quite wrong in saying that The Standard printed "in an obscure corner" the news of Mr. King's re-election. There are no obscure corners in The Standard.

Would the Telegraph and Sun say what they consider the right time for the St. John by-election?

Superior Dentistry

Emerson puts the POINT pithily:—
"If a man can write a better book, preach a better sermon or make a better mouse-trap than his neighbor, though he build his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten track to his door."
See the POINT?
Our fillings, crown and bridge work are the best.
It will pay you to have your teeth put in good order, painlessly and at reasonable charges.
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PERSONAL

Mr. A. R. Wetmore, of the Provincial Department of Public Works, is at the Dufferin.

Mr. J. D. Ward and wife, of Moncton, are in the city.

Mr. Reid McManus, of Memramcook, is at the Dufferin.

Messrs. G. G. McKay and F. H. White, of Sussex, were at the Victoria yesterday.

Mr. W. Jones and wife, of Bridgetown, N. S., are at the Victoria.

Mr. W. I. Fraser, of Pugswash, was at the Royal yesterday.

Mr. Morris Scovil, of Gagetown, was at the Victoria yesterday.

Mr. David Mitchell, of Maccan, N. S., is at the Royal.

Mr. George Andrews, of Cristobal, Panama, accompanied by his wife, who was formerly Miss Ella Holder of this city, arrived yesterday on the Montreal express. Mr. Andrews has a six weeks' leave of absence as chief clerk to the master mechanic of the Panama Railroad. Three weeks of this period will be spent in St. John, the balance in travelling to and fro. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews travelled from Cristobal to New York by steamer, thence to St. John by rail.

Mrs. Gebhard Willrich, wife of Judge Willrich, American consul, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Hilda, returned home Wednesday from an extensive visit to Europe. Mrs. Willrich and her daughter have been absent since last September and have spent much of that period in Germany.

Dr. T. H. Lunney and Mr. Victor Lunney arrived home yesterday on the Montreal express after a trip to Germany, England and Ireland. They visited all the principal points of interest and returned on the steamer Montezuma.

Miss Agnes Ramsey left yesterday morning for Plaster Rock to visit her sister, Mrs. Fred. Kilpatrick.

Mr. James F. Murphy, formerly of St. John, but now of Tacoma, Wash., is at the Dufferin.

Miss Florence Munro, daughter of Mr. W. A. Munro, who during the past year has been studying nursing at Worcester, Mass., is expected home today.

STREET PAVING.

To the Editor of The Standard.

Sir:—Discussion on the question of street paving and footpaths in the city has been waxing fast and furious for a considerable time past, and experiments are being tried now and again. A proposition has been made by the residents of one of the principal streets, which does not appear to have reached the decisive stage. Now sir, are the humbler class of ratepayers living in less pretentious streets to be treated as beggars at the hands of the Council? It would appear so from the class of footpaths which is now being laid on Delhi street without the sympton of a gutter. This is a scandalous waste of the ratepayers' money and the alderman of the ward concerned is most certainly lacking to his constituents in that locality if he does not take immediate steps to have this glaring defect remedied.

Thanking you for space in your valuable paper,

Yours,
ONLY A WORKMAN.

TROUBLE IN FRENCH CONGO.

Paris, June 23.—Advices received here from the governor of the French Congo state that patrolling parties recently had two sharp engagements with tribesmen, in which the French lost five killed and nineteen wounded. The tribesmen were dispersed with heavy loss.

Funerals Yesterday.

The funeral of the late Mr. Frederick L. Robinson took place from his father's residence, 22 Courtenay street at 2.30 yesterday afternoon Services were held at the house and grave, Revs. James Crisp and Samuel Howard officiating. Interment was in Cedar Hill cemetery.

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DEATHS

Mrs. Mary Vaughan.

Newcastle, June 23.—The death of Mary Nee Vaughan, widow of Walter J. Elliott, occurred about two o'clock this morning. Last night Mrs. Elliott had planned to leave on the express for Minot, North Dakota, to visit her children there, thence to visit another daughter in Vancouver. Her ticket was bought, her luggage sent to the station, where part of her family were awaiting her, and she, with hat and gloves on, was waiting for a coach. Suddenly she felt a pain in her breast and took some potassium bromide to steady her nerves. Two minutes afterward she took a terrible pain in her head, reeled and exclaimed to her sister, Mrs. Pallen, that she was blind. She then became unconscious. This was about 12.30. She died shortly before two, continuing, except for one brief space, unconscious till the last. Death was probably due to hemorrhage of the brain, hastened by the excitement of the journey. Ten of her thirteen children survive. They are: Mrs. James Smallwood, Minot, N. D.; Mrs. John Robinson, Newcastle; Mrs. Rev. Frank Atkinson, O'Leary, P. E. I.; Charles, Perth; Mrs. Fred Chesman, St. John's, Nfld.; Mrs. Charles J. Stewart, Umzumbi, Natal; Bertha, Minot; Mrs. Graham Jardine, Vancouver; Rita, at home; Osborne N., Minot. Miss Hazel Crabbe, of Newcastle, is a grand-daughter. Surviving brothers and sisters are: Mrs. Joseph Hodgins, Belledune; Mrs. James M. Tray, Newcastle; Mrs. Charles Ferguson, Moncton; Mrs. Herbert H. Pallen, North Sydney; Robert Vaughan, New York; Allan, North Dakota; George and Daniel, San Francisco. The deceased was sixty-two years old, very respected and a well known member of the Baptist church. Her death has cast a gloom over the community.

Edward Burke.

Death came with awful suddenness to Edward Burke at his home, corner of Winter and St. Paul streets yesterday. He was talking to those of the household and was stricken with heart failure while seated in a chair, expiring immediately. Mr. Burke had not been well during the past two weeks but was able to be around and was out yesterday morning. He is survived, besides his wife by one son, George Burke and two daughters, Misses Mary and Cecelia.

W. H. Clark.

W. H. Clark, of Manawagonish road, passed away at 9.30 Tuesday night at the age of 86 years. His death was due to the infirmities of old age. Mr. Clark retired from business forty years ago. Up to that time he operated a foundry in Carleton, and conducted a flourishing business. He purchased a farm on the Manawagonish road, and by his industry and ability he made it one of the most productive farms in the province. He was a man of good character, and many will regret to learn of his death. His wife, who was a Miss Thomas, of England, died some years ago. There are five children living: Alfred H., on the farm; Dr. Arthur W., of Earnest, Pa., and Misses Hannah, Cora and Lillian at home. Miss Lillian Clark is a trained nurse.

GOOD FOR THE EMPLOYES.

Montreal, June 23.—The Lake of the Woods Milling Company is not to be outdone in the matter of patriotism and national defence by any rival concern. Robert Meighen, the president, announces that his company will allow members of the militia in their employ two weeks holidays with full pay to attend annual drill in addition to their other holidays if entitled to any. A short time ago the Ogilvie Milling Company announced that its employes would get an extra week with pay to attend the annual camp drill. The Lake of the Woods Company now goes the Ogilvie people one week better.

Card of Thanks.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Robinson and family wish to express their thanks to all who were so kind to them in their recent bereavement, including friends at Westfield and in the city. They also wish to thank those who aided in the service of song at the house before the funeral.

DEATHS

Clark—At his residence Manawagonish Road, on June 22nd inst., W. A. Clark, in the 86th year of his age, leaving three daughters and two sons to mourn their loss.
Funeral from his late residence, Friday, June 25th, at 2.30.

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Arr. St. Stephen.. .. .. ..12.00 p. m.
Lv. St. Stephen.. .. ..1.30 p. m.
Lv. St. Stephen.. .. .. ..1.30 p. m.
Arr. West St. John.. .. ..5.40 p. m.

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