

The Standard



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ST. JOHN, N.B., WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 10, 1909

PARTY FREEDOM OF OPINION.

Members of the Conservative party have different opinions on the question of Canada's contribution to the marine defence of the Empire. This is mentioned as a reproach and a weakness to the federal opposition. The government press appear to think that the proper attitude of the members of a party is to have no opinions that they dare express until some leader tells them what they must think or say.

Speaking the other day in the Middlesex election campaign, the Minister of Railways declined to discuss the question of defence. He observed that the government policy had not been announced and therefore it was not ripe for discussion. That is to say, it is not right for a Canadian Liberal to have an opinion on this great question until he hears what the government intends to do, and then it is his duty to express that opinion at the beginning of the South African war. He tried to command silence until parliament met, and stated that in the meantime nothing would be done. But the premier counted too much on Canadian complacency. Before parliament met he had himself sent a contingent to Africa.

Again the order has gone out that the government party and press is to say nothing except to commend the policy of the government without knowing what the policy is. This command has been pretty well observed. Those who do not like the policy, so far as they know it, are grumbling privately, but as yet making no outcry. The machine system is working as well as can be expected. All the free expression of individual opinion that one hears comes from the Conservatives and Independent Liberals.

There was a time when the Liberal party contained men of prominence who did not hesitate to speak their minds. Mr. Richardson was one of the Manitoba leaders. He was a member of parliament and editor of the leading Winnipeg Journal of the party. But Mr. Richardson did not like the Yukon railway deal. He spoke and voted against it in the House of Commons. He also condemned the Crows Nest deal. Mr. Richardson was driven out of the party. A machine candidate was nominated against him in his constituency and he was beaten. He still claims to be as much a Liberal as ever, but because he holds to the platform on which the Liberals took office, his party now calls him a Tory.

Mr. Bourassa was a Liberal member with a fine prospect of promotion. He and Mr. Lavergne took the liberty of expressing in public the opinions that many of their fellow members expressed in private. They were condemned for it. They favored investigation of charges. They were both practically expelled from the party.

Mr. McInnis, of British Columbia, joined with Mr. Richardson in condemning deals and grafts. He was not expelled from the party but only suspended. The Globe was turned loose to attack him in its most brutal fashion. So disciplined Mr. McInnis was partially subdued. The conquest was completed by his appointment to a Yukon commissionership. He is now said to be a good party man, who never makes protest.

Mr. Oliver, of Edmonton, went to Ottawa as a free Liberal. He was more violent than any other member in his attack on the government's Yukon and Crows Nest policy. No other member of the party was so outspoken as he, or had so fine command of the language of abuse. He was brought into line by the most favored member of the party. His friends left him. In time he got office himself. And the first thing he did was to put through a land grabbing deal that Mr. Sifton had under way. It is only half the truth to say that Mr. Oliver has not fulfilled the promise of his first days in parliament. The other half is that he has fallen still farther short of fulfilling the threats of his first term.

Mr. Bourassa had a few outspoken comrades when he started on his career of criticism. Three especially were found at his back in some of his demands for investigation. The voice of these few speakers is heard no more at Ottawa. Two are judges in Quebec. One has been driven out of parliament by government opposition.

When the converted to forgive his enemies before he passed away, he replied complacently: "I have no enemies, I have killed them all." If Sir Wilfrid were asked to prepare for criticism from some of the stronger men of his following, he might perhaps say, "I have no Liberal critics. I have destroyed them all by expulsion or appointment to office."

WHERE WILL IT END.

A Washington authority gives an instructive sketch of the process by which international competition makes battleships grow. In 1905-06, the British programme included the ship now known as the Invincible, an improved Dreadnought. This was a ship of 17,250 tons displacement, 530 feet in length, having engines of 41,000 horse power, a speed of 25 knots, and carrying eight 12-inch guns for her primary batteries. Three ships of this class are in commission.

The German programme of 1907 included the Von der Tann, of 18,700 tons. She is 550 feet long, has engines of 45,000 horse power, 25 knots speed, and carries twenty 11-inch guns. This ship is launched.

Then Britain laid down the Indefatigable, 19,000 tons, 555 feet long, 45,000 horse power, 26 knots speed, with eight 12-inch guns. This ship is in the water, but not in commission.

The German programme of 1909-09 provided for a class of 23,000 tons. Two of these ships are under construction. They are to be 570 feet long, and will be driven by engines of 53,000 horse power. Their speed will be 28

knots. They will carry ten 12-inch guns, twelve of 6 inches and sixteen 3.4 inches. The last word, so far, comes from Great Britain, with the programme of 1909-10. The battleship *Ironclad*, or perhaps *Orion*, is designed and materials ordered. Her displacement is to be 26,350 tons, her length 700 feet, her horse power 70,000, speed 28 knots. Her largest guns are 13½ inches. Eight of these and forty 4-inch guns comprise her armament. The larger guns throw a shot weighing 1250 pounds, while the weight of the 12-inch German shot is 850 pounds.

Of course there is more to be said yet. These larger ships are called cruiser battleships on account of their great speed. The thickness of the armor on those under construction is not disclosed. But probably they are not so heavily plated as the original Dreadnought.

As will be remembered the announcement that the Dreadnoughts would cost \$10,000,000 each, produced a considerable shock. The cost of the *Orion* will be \$15,000,000. This is probably more than the original cost of the fleet with which Nelson won the battle of Trafalgar, plus the cost of all the French and Spanish ships which he fought.

CANADIAN TARIFF COMPARISONS.

Mr. J. S. Willison, speaking at Detroit yesterday, pointed out the serious consequences which would follow a possible United States interpretation of the new tariff. The retaliatory clauses of the Aldrich Act give the President power to decide whether the tariff of any other country discriminates against the United States. If it is found that there is such discrimination, high additional rates are imposed upon the products of that country.

It is thought possible that the Canadian preferential tariff may be regarded as a discrimination against the United States, though the fact that it is a tariff within one empire, seems to rule it out of that category. Should the President decide that it is a case for retaliation we may expect a tariff which practically prohibits Canadian exports to the United States. In taking this course the United States would follow the example of Germany.

The next step would be that Canada would reply as she replied to Germany. We also have a surtax system, and the application of it would be the addition of one-third duty on all goods imported from the United States. This would make the duty on similar imports from Great Britain. As Mr. Willison says the effect of these mutual surtaxes would be the concentration of Canadian trade into east and west channels instead of north and south.

It would appear to be a violent interpretation of the United States act to make it apply to the relation between different parts of the empire. This class of tariffs is mentioned in the bill as exceptional.

The Canadian treaty with France is much more likely to cause a complication. France is a foreign country, and the tariff does give France better rates on certain articles than are allowed on similar products of the United States. It will be remembered that the treaty with France is not yet in operation. France rejected the original treaty, on the ground that the Canadian plenipotentiaries had made certain incorrect statements. Mr. Fielding then agreed to a new treaty, giving France much better and Canada much worse terms. This treaty has been accepted by the Senate of the United States. As the treaty now stands it is of very little value to Canada. This much Sir Richard Cartwright has admitted. It is certainly not worth the risk of a complication with a country whose trade is a matter of serious concern to Canada. Therefore it is quite possible that the measure may be postponed or withdrawn.

DR. COOK LOSING CREDIT.

When Dr. Fred Cook landed in America he had an audience more than prepared to do him justice. Commander Peary's treatment of him had created a decidedly bad impression, and Dr. Cook's more dignified behaviour gave him a decided advantage. But the situation is now reversed. Confidence in Dr. Cook is melting away. His story does not seem to stand the test of analysis. He is more or less discredited by reason of the Mt. McKinley episode as now understood. He is obviously on the defensive. There is impatience over his long delay in preparing his notes and evidence, which should be worth more without much preparation. The other day a leading member of the board of geographers, which passed on Peary's claim, delivered a public address in which he asserted that Dr. Cook was a thorough fakir, and that he had never been within four hundred miles of the pole. That declaration was not in good taste at this stage of the inquiry. Even if it is just it could wait, for it will be just as true next March as it is today. But this declaration does not cause the indignant remonstrance that it would have produced a few weeks ago.

WEST MIDDLESEX.

The federal by-election in West Middlesex takes place today. It is caused by the appointment of Mr. Calvert to the Transcontinental Commission. The candidates are Mr. Duncan Ross on the government side and Mr. R. McLachlin, Conservative. Mr. Ross is a lawyer, and a son of Senator Ross, ex-premier of Ontario. The opposition candidate is a farmer, and has been on that account pronounced by Mr. Mackenzie King, Minister of Labor, to be unsuitable for a representative of the constituency. Mr. King contended that the people needed the services of a man trained as an advocate, who could meet and deal with other professional men on equal terms. The government majority in West Middlesex last year was only 12. In 1904 it was 206, and it was supposed that Mr. Calvert failed in some way to hold the party vote at the last election.

THE HESTIA INQUIRY.

If the Marine Department intended to hold a full and thorough public inquiry into the wreck of the Hestia it would be held at St. John or some other Bay of Fundy port, and not in Montreal. The survivors of the wreck were at St. John until they were ordered to Montreal for this inquiry. Pilots and navigators and officers of the department acquainted with the condition of the light and alarm service, are at or near this place. This is the place which has the largest interest in the inquiry, and here the proceedings would have fullest publicity. Here is where the inquiry ought to be. The investigation at Montreal will be only partial, and it will not be satisfactory.

The radical or advanced party in Norway has had control of the government in recent years. The result was that women were in the general election of this month admitted to the suffrage for the first time. It is stated that the female vote was small in the country, but that in the cities and towns where they have been educated in the matter, women went to the polls in force. One result of the poll is that the government which introduced this change has been defeated. This would seem to show that the women did not allow gratitude for the right to vote to efface other issues before the country.

One of the stained glass windows of Guildhall has been sacrificed to the cause of votes for women. And yet the nation and its rulers are likely to remain for a little longer unconvinced.

THE HEAT FEELS GOOD.
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PITHY PARAGRAPHS OF LOCAL INTEREST

In the Police Court.

In the police court yesterday George Sumnick charged by Eldon M. Wilson with aggravated assault by kicking him on the head in Sperryday's pool room on Monday evening was fined \$50 with the alternative of three months in jail.

The Free Kindergarten.

The Free Kindergarten Association acknowledges with thanks the following donations: From Mrs. Bullock, clothes; Mrs. Pritchard, Hampton, cake; Mrs. Humphrey, biscuit; Port-cake; Mrs. Humphrey, church, fruit and candy; Centenary church, cake; Hampton friends, forty pots of flowers; Mrs. H. G. Rogers, cake and apples; Mrs. P. R. Hanson, clothes; Mrs. Henry, clothes; Brown Box Factory, fancy papers; Thanksgiving offering for clothes for one little girl, \$3.75; Messrs. Clark, Bear River, \$2; Miss K. Turner, \$1; Mrs. W. F. Hatheway, \$1; a friend, \$3; Westfield friends, \$3.75.

King's College Law School.

King's College Law School will reopen this evening. Dr. Silas Alward, K. C., the Dean, will deliver the first lecture on Sales to the three classes. The only change this year in the curriculum is the retention of Dr. A. O. Earle, K. C., Dr. Earle was the first dean of the school, and for many years has been a lecturer. Judge Armstrong, of the Probate Court succeeds him.

The Evans' Estate.

Robert D. Evans, a native of West Beach, St. John county, who died in Boston in July last, left an estate of \$10,000,000. His wife, Marie Antoinette Evans, is executor of the will and receives the most of the estate. She has filed with the tax commissioner the following inventory of her husband's estate: Real estate, \$13,275; personal, \$10,404,282; total, \$13,438,103. The principal items are \$1,499,488 of the Yuba Consolidated Goldfields Company, valued at \$2.65 a share, having a total valuation of \$2,735,143. Mr. Evans died childless and numerous relations in St. John city and county expect to come in for a large part of the estate in time.

Civil Service Examinations.

The preliminary examinations of the candidates for entrance to the civil service were commenced yesterday morning in the post office building, conducted by Dr. G. U. Hay. There are eighteen candidates taking the examinations. This morning at 8 o'clock the qualifying examinations will take place. Some twenty candidates will take the examinations. The subjects for today are composition, arithmetic and spelling; for Thursday, geography, history, translation, typewriting and shorthand. The last two are optional subjects.

PROBATE COURT.

Will of William I. Whiting.

In the probate court yesterday morning, the will of Mr. William I. Whiting, late of New York, was proven. He left all his estate to his nephew, Mr. Isaac H. Northrup of this city. The property bequeathed to Mr. Northrup consists of a lot of eight feet on the corner of St. James and Waterbury streets, a lot on the South Market Wharf, six lots on the western side of Prince William street, near Reed's Point, and a freehold lot at Rothsay, with a dwelling house. These are subject to mortgages, the value of the property over which is placed at \$1,500. The personal estate is \$200. Mr. Northrup was sworn executor. Barnhill, Ewing and Sanford are proctors.

DeBEC JUNCTION.

DeBec Junction, Nov. 8.—James Johnson, now of Boston, Mass., who was at one time a popular resident of this village, is spending some weeks in this county, visiting relatives and friends.

Mrs. C. G. Crawford, of Limestone, was calling on her friends at DeBec on Thursday.

Now that George Flemming, the popular teacher here, has gone out of business, Fred Yerxa, of Green Road, has commenced operations in that line.

W. J. Craig, who has been absent from this village for some months, has returned home once more and has resumed his duties as C. P. R. foreman.

The family of Joseph Golding are to spend the winter here. John Kennedy of Kirkland, is spending some time with his son, Wm. Kennedy, of DeBec.

Mrs. Yerxa, of Green Road, is so far recovered as to enable her daughter, Mrs. George Sanderson, of this village, who was nursing her, to return home.

Joseph Benn, who has written the history of Methodism in Richmond, has had that article printed in pamphlet form, which presents an attractive appearance as well as containing interesting reading.

The Presbyterian W. M. S. met at Mrs. Howard Lavery's on Thursday, Nov. 4th. It was well attended.

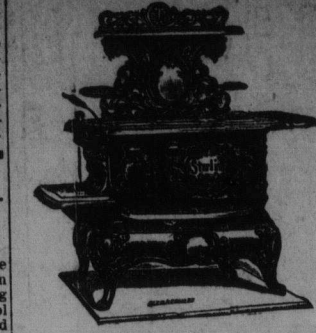
Miss Lida Deakin, sister of Mrs. F. K. Blair, of this village, who is a graduate nurse of the Lawrence hospital, is spending a well earned vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Deakin, of Benton.

Elder Kirkpatrick, C. P. R. agent at Fitchville, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kirkpatrick.

Edward Scott of Elmwood, was fortunate to shoot two fine deer one day last week.

Notwithstanding the very disagreeable weather last Wednesday, Nov. 3rd there was a large attendance at the Methodist W. M. S., which was held at the home of Mrs. A. Kirkpatrick, Elmwood.

The Richmond agricultural society will hold its annual meeting Tuesday, Nov. 9th. A public meeting of an interesting nature will be held under the auspices of this society, Nov. 13th.



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METHODS OF I.C.R. SPOTTERS

Several conductors of the Intercolonial Railway have recently been dismissed, and in, at least, one case and probably more, the circumstances leading to their discharge have been peculiarly sinister.

The "spotter" chosen to obtain evidence pursued tactics into which the meaneast kind of treachery entered.

Alleging himself to be a representative of a Montreal newspaper, one detective pretended to have lost his ticket and so played upon the sympathy of the conductor that eventually he was carried to his destination. In order to give cohesive qualities to his falsehoods, the alleged "newspaperman" promised to send at once a conductor a free copy of a paper, if the latter would step aside from the strict path of his duty. On arriving in this city the detective went to a newspaper office and paid a year's subscription, with instructions to send the paper to his victim, the conductor.

What subsequently happened was that the railway man was "suspended indefinitely," without any reason being assigned by the railway people. It is easy to trace the course leading to this result: The alleged newspaperman reported to headquarters that he had successfully "beaten his way," and the victim of his wiles was forthwith capitulated. Comparisons were then made between several of the victims led up to the same method on the part of the detectives, and it is safe to say that uninitiated "newspapermen" hereafter will encounter rough treatment at the hands of intended victims.

From Nova Scotia comes a story of methods equally despicable. The Truro Citizen relates that a conductor about to go out on his run was walking up and down the platform. A man of respectable appearance approached him and begged for a ride down the line, at the same time pleading he had had hard luck, having on pay day, the previous Saturday, received just sufficient to pay his board. The conductor replied that much as he would like to help him, he could not grant his request, as it was against the rules. The man persisted, saying that he had received a telegram that his wife was dying in Halifax, and urging him to come to her as quickly as possible. He even produced the telegram. That was too much for the big hearted railway man. He said: "Well, that's tough, my man, but say, the second class fare to the end of my run is four dollars and ten cents. Here is a five dollar note; go buy a ticket."

The man quickly accepted the money, went and bought the ticket, returning ninety cents change. In checking up his train after leaving the terminal the conductor of course in due time came to the man he had befriended, but judge of his surprise when he not only handed out the ticket but the four dollars and ten cents as well, remarking that just before leaving he had met a friend who let him have the money. "Now don't you think that man was a spotter, and that his methods were too mean, too contemptible, for anything?" queries the writer.—Montreal Star.

FUNERALS.

Mr. James Barker.
The funeral of Mr. James Barker took place this afternoon at 3 o'clock from his late residence, 102 City Road. The burial services were conducted by Rev. W. O. Raymond. Interment was made at Fernhill.

IN THE HOTELS

Royal.
Mrs. C. J. Osman, Hillsboro; Willard Kitchen, A. E. Hanson, Fredericton; John Underwood, New Glasgow; H. Lindsay, Liverpool; W. C. Rankine, Toronto; J. S. Folsom, New York; F. Lockhart, Montreal; Chas. H. Harvey, Halifax; R. P. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Killen, Toronto; D. B. Donaldson, Toronto; Chas. Harpey, Montreal; J. G. Forbes, Toronto; W. G. P. Pickles, Annapolis Royal; Miss Edna Pickles, Annapolis Royal.

Victoria.
J. E. Anderson, Fredericton; A. H. Comeau, Metekhan River; A. B. Sim, Woodstock; Howard Murdoch, St. John; G. C. Towers, Moncton; U. B. Killey, River Hebert; Allison Hooper, Hadeque, P. E. I.; N. Steele, Rotneay; L. D. Bettles, Rochester, N. Y.; D. H. McLeod, Montreal; Allison Rankie, St. Martins; J. P. Sherry, Memramook; F. D. Seeley, Greenwich, N. B.; J. Lavender, Boston; J. W. Comeau, Cowansville; F. W. Logan, Moncton; A. M. Dunn, Hampton, N. B.; Mrs. E. H. Freeze, Shediac, N. B.; John P. Ryan, Boston; F. H. Wilson, Montreal; E. R. Wishart, St. Martins.

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S. S. Teachers' Association
The Church of England S. S. Teachers' Association held its last bi-monthly meeting for this year in St. Mary's S.S. room last evening with an attendance of about eighty teachers. Rev. G. A. Kuhring presided and the secretary, Miss Winnifred Raymond was in her place. The Association under Mr. Kuhring's vigorous teaching has had a good year. The paper of the evening, by Mr. J. Arthur Coster was an able and inspiring one and aroused an interesting and animated discussion in which many of the lady teachers participated. The annual meeting of the association will be held in January in Trinity church school house.

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7 and 10 a. m. and 3.45 p. m. Sun
day at 9.30 a. m., 4.15 p. m. Return
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What's the matter
"I dunno, but I think it
"That fellow seems to
"Hopefully. He spends
ment's."—Courier-Journal.
LOO
Mrs. Quince—No, Mr.
daughter. It makes her loo
Photographer—Oh, wa
another picture of her fat

"Is Brown's place in
"Secure? I should thi
prove that he doesn't de
Willie—Papa, there's
Papa (busy reading)—
Transcript.
During the first day at
the letter A on the chart at
"What letter is that?
The tot rubbed his brow
"Why, don't you know
"Your remarks don't
"No," answered Senat
getting smart fellows to in