# The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 5, 1910


## A DEFENCE OF MR. PUGSLEY.

The Toronto News, which was one of the first Canadian journals to take the political measure of Mr. Pugsley after he entered the arena of Dominion politics, devotes some attention to an attempt by the Fredericton Mail to bolster up Mr. Pugsley's provincial record. Needless to say the News handles its subject fearlessly and without gloves. One by one the specious arguments put forward by the Mail in defence of the Minister of Public Works are taken up and answered. As an exposure of Mr. Pugsley's more recent activities in the field of local politics the reply of the News, which follows, is convincing and complete:—

"The slight attention which from time to time the News has devoted to Mr. William Pugsley, the agile and oleaginous Minister of Public Works, has awakened the resentment of one newspaper in Canada. Only one amid all the cohorts of Liberal journalism has attempted to answer the accusations of the News. The Fredericton Mail, therefore, has a unique distinction. Its defence of the Minister shows all the brazen assurance and all the wriggling which has distinguished the public utterances of the man himself. Moreover, it is as heedless of facts as Mr. Pugsley himself when he rose in the New Brunswick Legislature and, as a Minister, gave the House false information with intent to influence a money vote for the benefit of the Coal and Railway Company.

"The article begins by stating the Central Railway report to be 'a false, scandalous and malicious document, the sole purpose of which was to make political capital for the Tory party.' Judge Landry, the chairman of the Commission, needs no certificate of character from the News. He is too wellknown. Moreover, the report was a fair deduction from the sworn testimony of numerous witnesses, nearly all of whom were friendly to Mr. Pugsley. If Mr. Pugsley is right in his description of the report, then nearly every man who gave evidence before that Commission is a perjurer. The mind falters at the extent of the conspiracy against the simple word of a New Brunswick gentleman!

"The News has said that Mr. Pugsley handled slightly over $900,000, the money that went from the Province to the New Brunswick Coal and Railway Company. This statement is challenged. It is said that the only money that went into his hands was $5,000, the repayment of a loan which he had made to the company. But evidence was submitted to prove that the directors of the company were nearly all dummies, that Pugsley and Tweedie were the active managers. If the company got $900,000 it must have come through these men. How else would the money get from the Treasury to the company?

" 'There has been no accusation made against the Minister that he could meet.' Thus says the Mail. This, undoubtedly, is true, but not in the sense intended. The Mail would intimate that the charges were indefinite. On the contrary, they have been so definite and so well buttressed with sworn testimony that Mr. Pugsley cannot disprove them, though he denies and denies with all the recklessness of a second-storey man caught on the ladder. On the word of the Mail, 'Dr.' Pugsley has been able to show just exactly how all the money voted for the railway was disposed of; but, as the statements he has made on the subject were made unofficially, they have not been accorded prominence.

"This is a curious statement. Mr. Pugsley spoke in the House of Commons, the most prominent, deliberating and deliberate body in Canada. He attempted in that speech to account for the $134,000 lost. One instance: The Legislature voted $180,000 to purchase the Central Railway from Evans and Elkin. Evans and Elkin swore that they received only $141,000. Mr. Pugsley later falsely informed the Legislature that $180,000 was paid for the property. The discrepancy of $39,000 was mentioned by Mr. Pugsley in the House of Commons. He said it was used to buy stock held by other persons. But sworn testimony before the Commission proves that only $500 was used for this purpose. Mr. Pugsley's mental bookkeeping is as extraordinary as his record as a trustee of public funds.

"One more complaint. The Fredericton Mail deals with the charge that while Mr. Pugsley was a Provincial Minister his salary account was constantly overdrawn by thousands of dollars. 'At the time,' says the Mail, 'the Province was indebted to him for work done in a professional capacity outside the scope of his duties as Attorney-General.' There are no legal duties which, by right, could come outside the scope of the office. The Province pays the Attorney-General a salary. He must not make additional charges, as if the Province were his private client. The man who surrenders a lucrative practice to become a King's Minister at a fixed salary must serve the King and rest content. But, even if New Brunswick permitted such pettifogging attorneyism on the part of the man who is responsible for the administration of justice, why should these 'legal charges' be hidden from the Legislature by a Suspense Account which did not see the light for seven years?

"When this sort of defence is the best that Mr. Pugsley can make it is better for him to keep silent. The News has no apologies to make for its attacks upon this man. He is a proved falsifier of official records, a man who is careless with public funds, and a 'practical politician' of the worst type. While he retains office in the Federal Cabinet the Liberal party is disgraced and the good name of the country dragged in the mire."

## MISTRESS OF THE SEAS.

In the British naval manoeuvres which began yesterday, Vice-Admiral Sir William H. May has under his command a fleet comprising three hundred and seven warships with a total displacement of a million and a quarter tons, and which cost approximately half a billion dollars. Forty-five of these ships are in the battleship class, ten being Dreadnoughts and the most powerful squadron afloat. Twenty-five are classed as armored cruisers, and fifteen as protected cruisers. No such fleet has ever been gathered together before at any one time.

Of these three hundred warships, the ten Dreadnoughts, the Dreadnought cruisers, and the submarines alone represent the last word in naval construction. By setting a new standard, Great Britain has condemned to the ranks of the inefficient all of her great squadrons of older battleships and cruisers. They need not be dropped at once from the first fighting line. The naval construction of her rivals, even Germany, is not competent to turn out new model fighting machines at more than a very moderate speed, but the day of their degradation is, nevertheless, close at hand.

No other power is within measureable distance of Great Britain when it comes to a question of naval supremacy. Her traditional policy, since the navy became her first line of defence, of building and designing warships, is costly, but the interests at stake are too great to allow of any playing with economy at the expense of efficiency.

## THE "PACIFYING" OF KOREA.

Despite the lack of disturbing news from Korea recently, it would appear that the grim work of pacification there is being carried on vigorously by the Japanese, and is by no means near its end yet. It is one of the curiosities of national character that a people so notoriously lacking in courage as the Koreans when it comes to open fighting at fair odds, should show such determination and steadfastness in carrying on a guerilla warfare against their Japanese masters, when the odds are so hopelessly against them.

Japan's methods of maintaining peace and order are described in an official report issued by the Japanese Resident-General's office in Korea. It is entitled "Second Annual Report on Reforms and Progress in Korea." It appears from this report that the Japanese have a system of military police covering Korea like a network. But in spite of the Japanese military force in Korea and the police, and such up-to-date devices as "political telephone lines" for use in operations against the Korean insurgents, the latter persist in holding the field; which makes it seem fair to conclude that their ranks contain others than "brigands, pirates and forest robbers," as the report asserts.

With Japanese precision a detailed table of the casualties in the campaigning against the Korean insurgents is given in the report. It shows that from July, 1907, to the end of 1908, the Japanese lost 179 soldiers and policemen, and the number of wounded was 277. Of the insurgents 14,566 were killed, and 8,728 surrendered. The figures bear striking testimony to Korean courage.

## THE PRIZE FIGHT AT RENO.

Apparently, to the confusion of the prophets and the disappointment of the many, Mr. John A. Johnson won the heavyweight championship yesterday, and perhaps gave a new impetus to the reaction against the professionalism of sport which has been going on for some years.

Time was when old John L. and the fighters who pitted their strength against him were regarded almost as Homeric heroes by the people who watched their battles from the sporting page if not from the ringside, but to the more sophisticated generation of today the performances of professional pugilists with their perpetual war of words have come to assume something of the character of comic opera. And when the people begin to see the ridiculous side of it, the professionalism of sport is doomed.

College faculties deplore the hold of the sporting spirit upon young men, and sporting editors appear to be growing cynical about the future of sport. But the reaction from professionalism, which is likely to be hastened by the result of the fight at Reno, though it may lessen interest in sport as a spectacle, should develop a clearer conception of its true spirit in the modern world, and direct greater attention to the fact that the real function of sport is to provide means of physical development and enjoyment.

## A PARTY DILEMMA.

The Liberal government at Ottawa is said to be in a quandary as to just which is the best time to bring on the elections, having particular reference to the west.

It is figured out that soon after the tour of Sir Wilfrid Laurier would be a good time to work the spell on the infatuated westerners. But there is one great drawback. The population of the west is rapidly increasing and its proportion of representation in parliament is becoming annually stronger. If the election is held before the next census there will be a big protest from the west, which would offset the good of the premier's tour. The party is afraid of the west. Something in the nature of a guilty conscience is bothering them.

Leaving the election until after the tour of Mr. Borden will be very poor business from a Liberal point of view. Holding it previous to the western trip of the Conservative leader will be equally disastrous. The general outlook for the Liberal party in the west is not at all favorable.

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At the meeting of the Common Council yesterday, the Bills and Byelaws Committee submitted a report recommending what purported to be an amendment of the street byelaws abolishing certain street nuisances. It transpired that this first offspring of the labors of the new committee involved the repeal of the byelaw fixing the street lines, and proposed to permit householders to erect porches, balconies, signs, and many other things projecting over the street line. The recommendation caused such a storm in the council, that the chairman of the committee hastened to withdraw it. The Bills and Byelaws Committee should look before it leaps. St. John's streets are too narrow already, and the city fathers should be considering plans of widening instead of narrowing them.

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In discussing the operations of Gouldthrite, who prevailed on the agents of firms in the stationery trade to purchase stock in his Baby Food Warmer Company in return for orders, which resulted in the Government Printing Bureau receiving the poorest quality of goods, the St. John Globe points out that Gouldthrite was not the originator of this kind of scheme. "He merely applied to his personal use," remarks the Globe, a method somewhat similarly operated by a much more influential person a few years ago, but what was then sold was not stationery." Now who could it have been? And what was the transaction which the Globe so delicately refers to?

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In placing on record their unanimous appreciation of the Teachers' Pension Bill, the members of the Teachers' Institute gave a complete answer to the local opposition press which claimed that the measure passed by the Hazen government was not needed. It was a strong endorsement of the government's policy. As Mr. W. J. S. Myles, in moving the resolution pointed out the teachers got more than they expected and the act compares very favorably with others in operation elsewhere. The old government made no genuine effort to benefit the teachers of the province. It remained for Mr. Hazen and his colleagues to recognize that long service in the cause of education constituted a just claim on the community.

## MORNING IN THESSALY

(From the Oxford Magazine.)

God of the white sun!
Here's thy race begun;
And thy fiery horses
From the sea courses
Champing, uprearing.
Draw thy sword, mist clearing;
O Sun, my Lord,
Draw for me thy sword!

Give me this day
Strength to laugh and strength to play;
And strong deer meat
For my mouth to eat.
And let that fire of thine
Flush the red wine
In the vines that tumble
Where the mountains crumble—
Where the boulders lay, things
For a giant's playthings.

God of splendors, shed
Benediction on my head;
Till the dew's spent—
Dew that holds the scent—
Up and up the hill
Leads and lures me to the kill;
And my hands are wet
With blood and sweat.

Then keep thou cool
The circle swinging pool,
Where the waters, mountain leaping,
Lie forever sleeping.
Then—when my two hands hold
Another day of gold—
Then to thee I sing,
Io—Io—Sun, my King!

### The Summun Bonum.

Perhaps it seems a truth which is generally admitted, that happiness is the supreme good; what is wanted is to define its nature a little more clearly. The best way of arriving at such a definition will probably be to ascertain the function of Man, what then, can this function be?. It is not life for life is apparently something which man shares with the plants, and it is something peculiar to him that we are looking for. There is next what may be called the life of sensation. But this, too, is apparently shared by Man with horses, cattle, and all other animals. There remains what I may call the practical life of the rational part of Man's being.

—Aristotle.

## Good Stories

The doctor was telling how he came to lose one of his best-paying patients.

The man was a hypochondriac, who was always imagining that something terrible was about to happen to him, and the doctor, who was a great jollier, was kept busy trying to reason him out of his morbid condition.

"You have worried yourself until you are bordering on a nervous collapse," said the doctor to him one day. "You shouldn't think about your symptoms all the time, but just attend to your affairs as if there was nothing the matter with you."

"All right, doctor," replied the patient. "I'll do as you say. You needn't come to see me any more."

## Then it Happened

Little Harold, mother's darling and papa's joy, was frolicking along the railroad track.

Suddenly he noticed a small, round tin object fastened to the top of the rail, left there evidently by some careless trainmen.

"To the unthinking this would appear to be a harmful, explosive railroad torpedo," mused little Harold, "but the best way to decide this is to find out."

Carefully springing high in the air, little Harold came down upon it with his bright new heel plates.

(The End.)

### JOSH WISE SAYS:

"If you see trouble ahead bridge it."

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You say Miss Van Gubbs inherited that lovely complexion?

Yes, her father was a painter, too.

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James, can I trust you with a key

James can I trust you with the key to the wine cellar?

The New Butler (stiffly)—Certainly, sir. I have seen all the labels.

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Mabel—Is she such an original girl?

Marie—Oh, very! She let the dressmaker write her graduation essay, while she made the dress herself.

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Do you think your husband died happy?

I haven't any doubt of it. He was killed by a foul ball from the bat of his favorite player.

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Here is a man who made his will in poetry.

What of it? Will it hold?

No matter. Do you suppose a poet left enough to make any difference?

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What do you think of my acting? asked the confident but untalented youth.

That wasn't acting, replied the stage manager. That was misbehavior.

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Young man, said the home grown philosopher, it is always best to begin at the beginning.

Not if you want to go upon a river it isn't, answered the wise youth.

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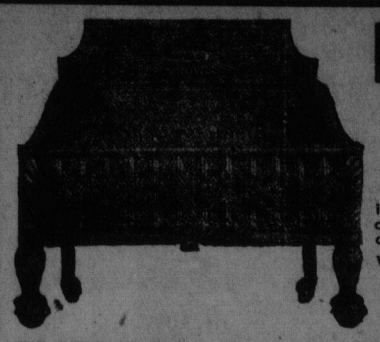
There was a man whose life was perfect, said the Sunday school teacher. Who can tell me who he was?

Mary Jane's hand went up. "Please ma'am, she said, he was my mamma's first husband.

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## SECRETARY OF THE KAISER

### Vigorous Change of Policy is Expected Through Appointment of Kiderin-Walchter---Caused Russian Coercion.

Berlin, July 4.—German foreign policy is likely to experience a vigorous change through the retirement of Baron von Schon as Foreign Secretary and the appointment in his stead of Herr von Kiderlen-Wachter.

The new minister ranks as one of the most shrewd and forceful men in German politics. He was acting Foreign Secretary during the Balkan crisis in the spring of 1909, and is understood to have been personally responsible for the policy which resulted in Russia's recognition of the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria under direct coercion from Germany. Von Kiderlen-Wachter, who is popularly known as "the Dumpling," owing to his fondness for that famous South German specialty, has been stationed at Bucharest as the German Minister for the last ten years, but had many special assignments in the meantime, including frequent representations of Baron von Marschall von Bieberstein as Ambassador at Constantinople.

The new secretary ranks as an expert on affairs of the Near East, and German interests in that region of conflict are certain to be actively looked after under his regime.

Von Kiderlen-Wachter's pugnacious individuality was manifested a few years ago, when he challenged the editor of the Kladderadatsch, the comic weekly, to a duel. The editor was left bleeding on the field of honor from a bullet wound in the shoulder.


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