

# The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1912.

## MR. COPP AND HIS POLICY.

The new leader of the Local Opposition, Mr. A. B. Copp, has been heard from through the medium of a Liberal gathering in Kings County. Somewhere about two years ago the Local Opposition then under the leadership of Mr. Robinson, decided to assume an aggressive course against the Hazen Government and to organize the Liberal party in such a manner as to secure its whole support. A convention was held in Kings County and two candidates were placed in the field in order that they might become acquainted with the electorate and be ready when it was decided to hold the next general election. This convention was for Federal as well as for Provincial purposes and the guiding hand of the then Minister of Public Works was easily recognizable.

No difficulties arose in Kings County of any particular moment and the convention was regarded by the Liberals as a magnificent success. The next county to be organized and brought into line was St. John. The party was called together and primary elections held, but the results were so far from what the gentlemen who thought they were leaders of the Liberal party had expected that no attempt was made to further organize the party in the Province until the general elections for the Dominion were announced. Then conventions were rapidly held and nominations made.

No mention of provincial candidates has been made in any county since the St. John primaries. The reason for this was that in St. John a cold-blooded attempt was made to turn down Mr. Edward Lantulum, an old time Liberal, who had always remained true to his colors and was possessed of a strength within the Liberal party much greater than the new aspirants for political preferment had expected. The results of the primary were so little to the liking of these Liberals that they were afraid to call the delegates together until they had been "seen" by the new party leaders and when they were called together it is an open secret that Mr. Lantulum, if he had chosen, could have been nominated despite the wishes of those who thought he would not make as good a candidate as Mr. Lowell.

While the Liberals of St. John were awaiting a favorable opportunity to call the delegates together to make nominations for the Local House, an election for the Legislature became necessary in York, through the death of Mr. Thomas Robinson. The Legislature was in session during the campaign to fill this vacancy and every member of the Opposition did his level best to secure the return of Dr. Atherton, the Liberal candidate. They also had the assistance of Mr. Frank Carvell, the representative of Carleton County in the Dominion Parliament.

The policy of the Local Government was ferociously attacked by the Opposition speakers, who were representatives in the House of Assembly, while Mr. Carvell devoted himself, exclusively, to a discussion of the Valley Railway project. After one of the liveliest campaigns in the history of the Province, a campaign which the Opposition and their press boldly asserted would result in their favor, Dr. Morehouse, the Government candidate, was returned by a majority of over 1,400. Notwithstanding the predictions of the Opposition that the popularity of the Local Government was waning, the result of this election went a long way to show that the Opposition was as dead as Julius Caesar, so far as the County of York was concerned, and that the vote in York County was only an indication of what would happen when the elections of other counties got an opportunity to speak their minds on the policy of the Opposition as compared with that of the Government.

Mr. Copp's speech at the Kings County gathering on Tuesday last contained nothing new. He went over the same ground that he has covered in every speech he made during the past four years. He claimed that the Government had failed to carry out its platform respecting public highways, the letting of public works by tender and to live within its income. This speech of Mr. Copp's should be stereotyped, as it is practically word for word what he said in every speech he has made since the defeat of the Government of which he was a prominent supporter.

The Government has introduced a new highway act, which places the control of the highways of the Province directly in the hands of the Municipal Councils of each parish in the Province. So far as the letting of public works by public tender is concerned, this, too, has been carried out wherever it was possible to do so, but instances constantly arise in the Public Works Department where it is impossible to have the work done by contract. No one would undertake the repairs of the Suspension Bridge, for instance, by contract, as the character and cost of such work could only be ascertained on its completion. Such works must of necessity be carried on under the direct supervision of the department, but every precaution is taken that all accounts are properly vouched for and sworn to before any money is paid.

So far as Mr. Copp's assertions that the superintendence of repairs on small bridges has frequently cost more than the labor performed thereon is concerned, Mr. Copp has omitted to mention that in the past materials purchased in connection with such repairs were frequently placed in the accounts under the heading of superintendence, as the work was done by permanent employees of the department. A change in method has taken place by which the cost of supplies furnished is given as a separate item. In dealing with these expenditures Mr. Copp is only playing on the credulity of the people. The whole amount of such expenditures is infinitesimally small as compared with the total expenditure of the department. Neither Mr. Copp nor his supporters have as yet been able to demonstrate that there has been any extravagance in the management of the Public Works Department or to prove that the Province is not receiving better value for the money spent in road and bridge repairs under the present Administration than ever before in the history of the Province. It is true the expenditure has been large but this was chiefly due to the almost criminal neglect of the preceding Administration of which Mr. Copp thought so highly.

Again Mr. Copp has raised his hands in holy horror because the Government over-expended in 1911 on account of public works. This is getting to be an old story now and one with which the electorate are becoming thoroughly familiar. When the Government which Mr. Copp supported for seven years was retired from office they left a legacy for the new Administration of broken bridges and badly kept roads, notwithstanding that they had added over \$600,000 to the permanent debt of the Province for alleged repairs to the roads and bridges. Had the old Administration pursued the same policy as that adopted by the present Government they would have had an annual deficit of \$60,000 on public works alone.

Since the new Government came into power the expenditures for public works have been enormously increased through a sincere desire on the part of the Administration to improve the roads and to make every bridge in the Province safe. Every dollar of their expenditure on this account has come from current revenue. Nothing has been hid away in suspense accounts as formerly, because such accounts, under the new Audit Act, introduced and carried through the Legislature by the Hazen Government during its first year of office, made such accounts impossible. By an honest collection of the revenue the Government has been able to make these expenditures without adding to the permanent debt. The old Government might have done the same thing if they had made the license holders of the public domain pay full stumpage on the timber cut each year. Mr. Copp did not touch this branch of the subject in his King's County speech. He made no explanation whatever concerning such matters. What he justified while he was supporting the old Administration which every now and then put a handsome fee into his hands for professional services, he now denounces as extravagant and wrong, although in one case the over-expenditure was added to the permanent debt, while since the change of Government it has been paid out of current revenue.

Mr. Copp explained that he had no policy to offer the electors at the present time, but would have after a convention of the Liberal party had been summoned. The electors will look forward with interest to his new policy for some of the gentlemen who will be called upon to assist in framing it are the same persons who controlled the affairs of the Province for ten years prior to 1908. It would be interesting if one of the planks of the platform furnished Mr. Copp would be to repeal the Audit Act and a return to the policy of good old days in the Public Works Department when political favorites were given advances long before entering upon the work they had tendered for and when suspense accounts kept the people in ignorance of the actual conditions of the finances of the Public Works Department, until a bond issue of upwards of two hundred thousand dollars was necessary to pay the overdraft which should have been paid out of the revenue; or to take a portion of the money voted by the Legislature for permanent bridges to pay for repairs on bridges already constructed. Another plank respecting the collection of territorial revenue might also be added authorizing the Government to collect only fifty per cent. of the stumpage from political friends. These are all things Mr. Copp stood for from 1901 to 1908, and any change that may be made by the convention would be an abandonment of former principles. It looks as if Mr. Copp will have to eat a very large dish of crow if the new platform condemns the policy under which the affairs of New Brunswick were conducted by the Government which he so ardently supported.

## A FASTER TRANSATLANTIC SERVICE.

There are rumors in the air, which seem to have some foundation in fact, concerning an improved transatlantic service between Canada and Great Britain. The subject is not a new one to the country, as it has been under consideration at one time and another for nearly a quarter of a century. It was one of the great questions advanced by the Conservative Government before its defeat in 1896, and it was also before the Laurier Administration on more than one occasion since that time. Nothing, however, was accomplished during the years Sir Wilfrid was in power to secure a fast Atlantic service. As the question now comes before the people it would seem that there is a possibility that the project may be dealt with finally at a comparatively early date, though no official announcement from any of those directly interested or from any member of the Government is attainable.

No Canadian Atlantic port is named for the fast service, but as the time given for the ocean trip is stated at four and a half days, it is evident that an ocean port would have to be selected instead of either Montreal or Quebec. In the history which he wrote of the Intercolonial Railway, Sir Sanford Fleming favored the selection of a port on the Gulf of St. Lawrence or falling that Sydney or Louisbourg for the ocean passenger travel he expected the Intercolonial to develop. Conditions have greatly changed since Sir Sanford Fleming penned his interesting story of the history and construction, aims and objects of the Intercolonial. His idea apparently was to draw the European travel of the Western States away from New York, by the allurements of a shorter ocean voyage. Faster steamers and better accommodations on the New York route have continued its popularity. In the meantime it has been demonstrated that in the winter season it would be impossible to have anything like a regular service from any port on the Gulf. Such an objection would not apply to Louisbourg, however, and Sir Sanford's dream of deflecting the Western travel from New York over Canadian railways and through Canadian ports may yet be realized.

In the years that have intervened since the fast Atlantic service was taken up as a practical question, there has been a great development in Canada and the Canadian traffic alone would be very large if such a service were put into practical operation. We will soon have three transatlantic railways connecting the Atlantic with the Pacific. The development of the West that has followed the construction of these railways and settled the country with a happy and prosperous people, many of them from the old land, makes easily practicable the scheme of twenty years ago. There has been much improvement in the class of steamers trading between Canada and Great Britain since a fast line was proposed and the time in making the voyage has been reduced, but nothing like the radical reduction proposed by the service now being talked about in the newspapers on both sides of the ocean has taken place. St. John will follow with interest the development of this scheme, for while this port has secured recognition as the best available winter port of Canada there has been no direct test of its advantages as a mail port.

## Current Comment

(Vancouver Province.)

The Brockville Times suggests that stenographers be provided for ministers in the large churches, thus relieving the pastor of the details of routine work and enabling him to give more attention to other duties. The engagement of a typist would furnish occasion for an emergency meeting of the ladies' aid.

(Vancouver World.)

A man who kept fowls at Minnitonas, Manitoba, found nuggets of gold in their crops. Farm is now staked out in gold claims. We always said there was money in the poultry business.

(Hamilton Herald.)

Many newspapers have ridiculed that New Jersey judge who sentenced a wife-beater to kiss his wife in open court and then let him go. But it should be considered that the newspaper writers didn't see the wife.

(Mail and Empire.)

We should be in favor of the Bahamas joining Canada, one of the conditions being that the two countries should pool their climates.

(Edmonton Journal.)

It is said that milk is short in Saskatoon. To make it longer they should drink it through a straw.

## "SALT RHEUM" REBELS SUFFER

Had It On Hands For Two Years.

ITCHED SO DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO.

Tried Three Doctors and Went to Hospital.

All skin diseases are more or less occasioned by a bad state of the blood, and no one can expect to be free from some form or other of skin trouble unless the blood is kept in good shape. All skin diseases can be very easily cured by the wonderful blood cleansing properties of Burdock Blood Bitters.

This is due to the unrivaled purifying action of Burdock Blood Bitters on the blood, coupled with the thorough manner in which it cleanses and expels the impurities from the body.

Mrs. Richard Costine, White Head, Que., writes: "I have been bothered with salt rheum, on my hands, for two years, and it itched so I did not know what to do. I tried three doctors, and even went to Montreal to the hospital without getting any relief. I was advised to try Burdock Blood Bitters, so I got three bottles, and before I had the second used I found a big change, and now to-day I am cured."

Burdock Blood Bitters has been on the market for about 35 years and is manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

## ST. ELMO

Young-Adams Company in Southern Play.

"St. Elmo," the ever popular story of the South was presented at the Opera House last evening by the Young-Adams Company. H. Wilmet Young made a splendid "St. Elmo," his professional personality seeming to fit the part perfectly. His fine acting and delivery carried the audience to many actors playing this role on the stage today. Miss Marjorie Adams was charming in the character of Edna Earle. The scenery was an outstanding feature and added greatly to the pleasure of the evening. Hundreds of music lovers who attended the Opera House last night expressly to hear the Rombold trio were amply rewarded by the really artistic work of these Italian singers. Their numbers were as follows: "The Troubadour" song from Carmen, sung in solo and trio, and the Sextette from Lucia, one of the greatest of operatic favorite selections. The enthusiastic applause was well deserved by the singers who graciously bowed their acknowledgements. The vaudeville numbers were: "The Three Gregorys" in hoop rolling and juggling; the Groom Sisters, the dancers, and Kings Cole in burnt cork comedy. The performance will be repeated this afternoon and evening, including all the specialties.

## HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Royal.  
M. Silver, Jr., Montreal; W. McCoy, F. M. Meek, Waterloo, Iowa; R. C. Mann, E. E. Bishop, Halifax; H. M. Clark, Ottawa; F. W. Hoyt, Halifax; F. H. Buffum, Providence; C. O. Doyle, F. V. Luddon, Banter, Me.; Nor. man Mather, W. H. Irvine, E. Riley, H. S. Throckold, Toronto; H. A. Corbett, Brockville, Penn.; W. R. Eakin, A. Glickley, wife and child, J. H. McAfee, Montreal; J. Murphy, Halifax; T. P. Charleson, Ottawa; J. W. DeWolfe, Halifax; E. M. Gilmore, New York; S. C. Garker and wife, Berwick; A. C. Starr and wife, Starr's Point; J. B. Smith, Montreal.

Park.  
W. S. Perron, Louis Stonge, Edmonds-ton, N.B.; W. R. Campbell, Moncton; M. Michelson, Halifax; A. M. Bonnyman, Amherst; R. L. Bell, A. S. Hubley, H. B. Hanes, Jas. Steele, G. M. Hulsean, Halifax; Jas. Lawlor and wife, New York; J. Tweedle, G. Harrison, Calgary; F. Taylor, G. Mann, H. L. Wortley, Winnipeg; J. McLeal, New York; H. Bentley, Boston; G. L. Robb, Boston; R. Thomas, Portland.

Victoria.  
F. G. Robertson, Halifax; A. L. Hoyt, McAdam, Jct.; W. M. McLeod, Fredericton; J. L. Chalmers, Halifax; Percy Keith, Petticoat; James McKee, Moncton; S. S. Wetmore, Clifton; Harry Peko, C. H. Scott, H. V. Chase, S. S. Calvin Austin, D. Throll and wife, Calgary; F. C. Ebbett, Fraser R. Fox, Gagetown.

Dufferin.  
G. W. Parker, St. Louis; F. J. Brown, S. H. Allen, Boston; W. F. Walsh, T. W. Foster, Geo. E. Jenner, Montreal; W. Crotty, Fredericton; Chas. S. Perkins, Boston; E. L. Blain, Toronto; J. T. Dolan, Milltown; H. A. Frye, J. R. and Mrs. Gunn, Amherst.

MAHOMET WINS.  
Moncton, Feb. 21.—Young Mahomet tonight won from Young Pietro in wrestling bout, catch-as-catch-can, in two straight falls, first fall secured in 32½ minutes; second in 13 minutes.

## Eurache, Toothache!

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From Port Hope, Ont., Mr. W. T. Greenaway, of the Guide newspaper staff, writes: "For twenty years we have used Nerviline in our home, and not for the world would we be without it. As a remedy for all pain, eurache, toothache, cramps, headache and disordered stomach, I know of no preparation so useful and quick to relieve as Nerviline."

Let every mother give Nerviline a trial; it's good for children, good for old folks—you can rub it on as a liniment or take it internally. Whenever there is pain, Nerviline will cure it. Refuse anything but Nerviline, 25c. per bottle, five for \$1.00, all dealers or The Catarrhoe Co., Kingston, Ont.

TESTIMONIAL NO. 4398

## REBELS SUFFER SEVERE LOSSES FROM FEDERALS

Cuernavaca, Mex., Feb. 21.—The rebels suffered a loss of 37 dead and 6 taken prisoners, while 11 rural guards were killed and 9 wounded as the result of three sharp encounters between a force of rebels from the state of Guerrero and a body of federal troops yesterday.

## AGED LADY MEETS DEATH FROM FIRE

Special to The Standard.  
Shelbourne, Feb. 21.—Particulars have been received of a sad event at Roseway. An aged lady named Mrs. Deborah Hagar while lighting a fire had her clothing catch. She was burned so badly that she died a short time after. She was 84 years old.

## DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH POWDER 25c.

is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. Heals the ulcer, clears the air passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. 25c. Blower free. Accept no substitutes. All dealers or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

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