

# The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1912.  
MR. HAZEN GETS THE CREDIT.

It is quite evident that Mr. Pugsley finds that his course regarding the Courtenay Bay improvements has not met with the hearty approval of the people of St. John. In this view Mr. Pugsley finds that the Courtenay Bay improvements would be undertaken immediately and were to have been completed in three years. Now when another Government with which Mr. Pugsley has nothing to do has made arrangements to go ahead with the work Mr. Pugsley interviews himself in the Telegraph and tells what he has done for St. John. Mr. Pugsley gives the whole credit to Mr. Pugsley for the construction of the Courtenay Bay works and also has the temerity to assert that the transforming of Courtenay Bay into a harbor originated with himself. Considering that the Legislature had discussed the transforming of Courtenay Bay into a harbor before Mr. Pugsley was known, there is no desire on the part of anyone to withhold any credit that may be due to Mr. Pugsley in his connection with this great project.

Mr. Pugsley is one of those politicians who like to deal with large projects. It has always been his policy to dazzle the people with the immensity of the proposition. Mr. Pugsley is most anxious that he receive all the credit, not only for its origin but also for what has been done since the change of Government.  
It is unfortunate that Mr. Pugsley had not shown a keener desire to improve Courtenay Bay three years ago. Had he done this the work would have been so far advanced that no one could have got any credit away from him. But this is not the method under which Mr. Pugsley works. His idea is to prolong such works to the very last limit in order that all the political gain should be derived from the bargain. Perhaps he was playing this game with the Courtenay Bay works, but most likely the delay in this case was due to the fact that he was unable to make arrangements with his colleagues to sign the contract. Everyone who knows Mr. Pugsley knows that he would have signed the contract before the election of September 21 last had he been authorized to do so. The real facts are that Mr. Pugsley was playing rather a desperate game. He had not the full confidence of his leader and was only sustained by a portion of his colleagues. He did the best he could, but had there been no chance of Administration there would have been no Courtenay Bay works. To Mr. Hazen belongs the credit.

### THE IMPERIAL TRADE COMMISSION.

After a great deal of pressure the Asquith Government has carried out the suggestion of the last Imperial Conference and has appointed an Imperial Trade Commission, the duty of which will be to inquire into all phases and all possibilities for the development of trade relations between the various portions of the Empire. There is, it need not, perhaps, be pointed out, almost unlimited scope for the energies of this commission, and on its report much depends. The finding of the commission should demonstrate the possibility of the realization of the vision, in which President Taft, at the time of the Reciprocity discussions last year, saw such danger to the United States, that of a tariff wall, an Imperial band, stretching from England around the world to England again.

In view of the importance, from an Imperial standpoint, which attaches to the work of this commission, it is regrettable to note that there is strong dissatisfaction among the leaders of the Unionist party, the advocates in the Old Country of closer Imperial trade relations, with the personnel of the commission so far as the appointments of the Asquith Government are concerned.

The Pall Mall Gazette, complains, among other things, that there have been appointed to this commission three, if not four, avowed enemies to Imperial Preference. This complaint of the Pall Mall Gazette is tantamount to a charge that, so far as the Asquith Government dared, the commission has been framed with a view to excluding the possibility of a finding in favor of such a policy for the Empire. This is a serious charge against the Government and one that it is to be hoped the result of the commission's labors will show to have been unwarranted.

There is one name among those of the British members of the commission which is entirely satisfactory to the advocates of Imperial Preference, that of Sir Rider Haggard. The personnel of the representatives of the various Dominions beyond the sea also gives satisfaction to those who would like to see Great Britain linked to the colonies and the colonies linked to each other by a preferential tariff chain.

It would, of course, be unwise to attempt to prejudge the work of the commission and it is impossible to prejudge its report. The personnel of the representation from the Dominions beyond the sea may provide a counterbalance to the alleged anti-Imperial trade tendencies of the majority of the Asquith Government's nominees, and the fact that there are men of opposite views on the commission may result in a more thorough sifting of the various matters that will come up for investigation, and consequently a more instructive and authoritative report than would otherwise have been the case. The commission has a great work before it, and all well wishers of the Empire will look for the outcome of its labors with more than ordinary interest.

### MR. COPP'S RESOLUTION.

Just what Mr. Copp means by the resolution he moved in the House of Assembly yesterday is difficult to understand. For instance what does he mean when he says "That this House views with alarm the growing evil of using taxpayers' money to pay tribute to political party, thereby causing waste and extravagance." This is a mere jumble of words which means nothing and bears a close resemblance to the remainder of Mr. Copp's speech. In four days Mr. Copp spoke several hours and closed with this absurd and meaningless resolution. The speech was not a credit to the leader of the Opposition and its point was lost on the House, because Hon. Mr. Morrissey was able to make some startling exposures of the manner in which the monies of the Public Works Department were expended under the Administration of Mr. LaBillico.

The end of the budget debate will come tomorrow and further exposures of the financial methods of the old Government are likely to be made. Now that Mr. Copp has challenged the comparison it opens the door to show not only the extravagance and incapacity of the old Government but very many questionable financial acts which prominent members were connected.

### ELECTRIC COOKING.

Six months ago the electricity committee of the Marylebone (London) Borough Council equipped the catering department of the Marylebone Lane Power Factory with complete electric cooking plant. The kitchen is now used for preparing dinners and teas for the staff of about 400 employees, but the catering is not done by the firm itself, but by an independent company, the London Home Delicacies Association, which had to make its profit out of dinners supplied at from eight cents to ten cents per head. The problem offered was therefore whether electrical cooking could be introduced and allow a sufficient margin of profit to be earned. After six months' trial the caterers are satisfied with the result, although the conditions were not altogether favorable. One of the more notable features is that although the kitchen was not originally planned for ordinary purposes and is confined in area, the atmosphere was never oppressive and the decoration as clean as when it left the hands of the tradesmen.

In a report on the six months' trial of the installation the caterers say that their first estimate for the cost of current was based on the assurance that the cost would not exceed the cost of gas. "The actual cost of electricity used in practice," they say, "proves to be lower than our estimate, even at the price of a penny per unit, and we are satisfied that it would not be possible to work this kitchen, taking all things into consideration, at a less cost by using coal or gas as the heating agent." They also state as a fact that meat cooked in an electric oven does not shrink to nearly the same extent as meat cooked by other methods and they put the saving weight at approximately one pound in twelve pounds.

### CHINA'S CONSTITUTION.

The draft of the provisional constitution of the Republic of China, presented to the National Assembly at Nanking on February 29, but which has to be adopted by the permanent Parliament when elected, is a document containing seven articles and fifty-five clauses as follows: Article II, under the heading "The People," reads as follows:

- (5) There shall be no distinction of race or religion, all being on an equality.
- (6) They shall have the following liberties: (a) No infliction of punishment without judicial trial; (b) No confiscation of house and home without judicial sentence; (c) Freedom in the possession and use of property and the printing, assembling and forming societies; (d) Privacy of correspondence; (e) Freedom of dwelling and removal elsewhere; (f) Freedom of religious belief.
- (7) They shall have the right to petition the National Assembly.
- (8) They shall have the right of appealing to the Executive.
- (9) They shall have the right of submitting all cases to the judiciary for settlement.
- (10) They shall have the right, when officials violate the law to the injury of popular rights, of appealing to the Administration Court.
- (11) They shall be eligible for Government examination.
- (12) They shall have the right of voting and of standing for office.
- (13) They shall pay taxes according to a fixed tariff.
- (14) They shall give due respect to the military.
- (15) The above rights must be limited by legal provision when demanded by public advantage, the maintenance of peace, or times of special emergency.

It will be observed, incidentally, that the liberty of the citizens and the liberty of the press are guaranteed under the new constitution.

### Current Comment

(Montreal Witness.)

The Senate is, in matters of contentious politics, not an independent legislative body, but a partisan body, serving the Opposition in the beginning of a new Administration, and then after its complex changes, which, owing to maturity and consequent mortality, does not take long, giving effective support to the party in power. It is therefore desirable as a check on legislation only for the period during which it retains its opposition majority. In so doing, however, it does not act according to its wisdom, but each Senator according to the will of the party that gave him senatorial rank, be it whatever the merits of his decision, they are no merits of his own.

(Montreal Gazette.)

Following the convention of dressmakers at Chicago, an active demand has sprung up for "incandescent hats," and an electric light company is getting out designs by which lighted flowers are operated from small dry batteries in the crown of the hat. The electricians should make the power extra strong and try and shock some brains into the wearers. The attention of the militant suffragettes should also be called to the lighted head coverings. A glass head is more deserving of destruction than a shop window. And it is worth less.

(Vancouver Sun.)

A city is as clean as its back yards and vacant lots. In the spring a city dweller's fancy gently turns to thoughts of the bedding of his front yard. His back yard is very often neglected. The hypocrisy of cities lies in the fact that their front yards are clean and their back yards are dirty. The front yards are spread over with emerald grass shaved smooth by a lawn mower, and are often attractive with flowers, rich markets for the bees. The back yards are slatterly with ash heaps and refuse and many of them are never cleaned up.

(Canadian Courier.)

So far as the government of cities goes, democracy has proven itself an abject failure. We are now going back to an enlightened oligarchy known as a commission. The commission may be elected for a term of years or appointed for a definite period of time. It may be subject to the direct vote of the people or subject to the legislative control of an elective council. The practice varies in different communities. But in every place there is but one aim, to get away from government by the mob and to get back to government by the best and the wisest.

(Huron Expositor, Liberal.)

Hon. T. W. Crothers' use of the big stick against the Grand Trunk seems to have given that corporation cause for thought. Not only is it now willing to consider the cases of the men who have not been reinstated since the strike of 1910, but it has agreed to confer with its employees as to the proposed rearrangement of wages on branch lines. The big stick is evidently an effective in Canada as in the States.

(Canadian Finance.)

The municipal bonding fallacy is gradually passing. Ontario associated boards of trade last month passed a resolution condemning the practice of municipal bonding of industries. Winnipeg's city council decided not to include a clause in its revised charter allowing for tax exemption to new industries—the reasonable ground being taken that such exemption would be unfair to existing industries.

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## PROGRAMME OF COMPETITION

Thirteen Productions will Compete for Earl Grey Dramatic Trophy—Loyalist Dramatic Club on the 19th.

Ottawa, April 11.—The program is announced for the Earl Grey musical and dramatic competition in the Russell Theatre next week. There are thirteen productions for the six nights and the entries from outside cities are billed to go on thus:  
Monday—The Hamilton Operatic Society, The Montreal Theatians.  
Tuesday—Brookville Presbyterian Church.  
Wednesday—Stroller's Dramatic Club of Winnipeg.  
Thursday—Bonayne Amateur Players, Montreal.  
Friday—Loyalist Dramatic Club, St. John, N. B., Edmonton, Dramatic Club.  
Saturday—The London Dramatic Club, Captain Pridematt Company, Kingston.

## ARCTIC STORES WERE BARTERED IN FUR TRAFFIC

Ottawa, April 11.—The government has appointed Travers Lewis, K. C., and J. P. Smellie, barristers, of this city, as commissioners to investigate the grave charges of graft in connection with the northern cruises of the government steamer Arctic. The allegations set forth that furs were purchased in exchange for ship's stores and that certain politicians received handsome gifts of furs.

## CHINESE FAMINE FUND.

Previously reported \$819.72  
April 10, 1912.

Pearsonville, Kings Co., N. B., April 6.—I am a little girl, twelve years old. I was sorry for the children in China and I thought I would see if I could get some money for them. Enclosed please find an order for \$12.50. Yours respectfully,  
JEAN CUNNINGHAM.

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- Miss Hattie Thompson.....10
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- Mrs. William McFarland.....25
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- Stanley Sharp.....25
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- D. H. Rees.....25
- Mrs. O. W. Kierstead.....10
- Mrs. George W. James.....25
- E. Gouher.....25
- Mrs. E. A. Kelly.....25
- Mrs. W. J. Jones.....25
- C. H. Horton.....25
- C. Chamberlain.....25
- Mrs. O. W. Kierstead.....10
- Mrs. W. A. Kierstead.....25
- Ambrose Higgs.....25
- Mrs. A. K. Creelock.....25
- Mrs. Fred P. Long.....3.00
- Total.....\$12.50
- Already remitted to China.....\$545.00
- Cost of cable transfer.....6.10
- Balance on hand.....281.12
- Total.....\$832.22
- J. CLAWSON, Treasurer.

## Most Anything

Cheer Up, Ladies! Woman's suffrage is gaining some in Massachusetts. It was defeated by 20 majority in the house on the last day, which is a less majority than last year. At this rate we shall get it when Roosevelt is elected for a third term.

For the Skin, From the Skies. Was it raining rain yesterday to you or was it raining daffodils?—Boston Globe. Rained snowshoes about here.



THE DEMON TURK WROTE A NOTE AND THEN LIGHTED THE FUSE FOR THE LAST TIME. THE NOTE READ AS FOLLOWS, "IN CASE TAFT'S CAMPAIGN SHOULD NOT PROVE FRUITFUL, WILL TEDDY BEAR?" THE DOCTOR CAME TOO LATE.

## Shiloh's Cure

Be not, in active days like these, A dreaming slumberer; One needs to use his utmost powers When all the world's astray.

## WRIST WATCHES

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