

The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1912.

ULSTER'S SOLEMN COVENANT.

A tendency to minimize and make light of the opposition which exists in Ulster against the Home Rule proposals is a noticeable feature in a section of the British press supporting the Government. Occasionally the other view is taken and the Irish Unionists are depicted as preparing for a campaign of aggressive violence and bloodshed in support of their cause. As a matter of fact neither of these surmises is correct. The forces in Ulster are not yielding a step in their opposition to Home Rule, neither are they organizing for an "armed rising," involving attacks on public property and general lawlessness. The men of Ulster will not accept Home Rule if the bill becomes operative two years hence. They are already preparing, if their citizenship is taken away, to organize to govern themselves provisionally—until normal conditions of freedom are restored. If there is any force to be employed the Liberal Government will be the aggressors.

That this is the fixed and unalterable policy of the Unionists in the North of Ireland is made clear by the nature of the pledges in the solemn covenant to resist Home Rule which will be signed by hundreds of thousands on "Ulster Day," September 28. It is understood that the Ulster Unionist Council will meet five days before this great demonstration, which will be held in Belfast, and finally settle the terms of the covenant. These terms, which are outlined by the Parliamentary correspondent of the London Times, will amount to a declaration that, in the event of the Home Rule Bill becoming law, the Covenanters will not acknowledge the Dublin Parliament, nor obey its laws, nor pay the taxes it may impose. This correspondent states:

I am able today to explain the nature of the solemn covenant to which Ulstermen will pledge themselves on Sept. 28. The actual terms will be passed by delegates of the Ulster Unionist Council at Belfast on Sept. 27, and proclaimed throughout the province, but in the meantime it may be stated that the Ulster Unionists will pledge themselves, if a Home Rule Bill becomes law, not to acknowledge the Parliament in Dublin, not to obey its laws, and to pay no taxes to it.

It is expected that the Privy Council will present itself first sign of the covenant, and that the Covenanters who take the pledge will number from a half to three-quarters of a million. There is reason to believe, moreover, that at the great meeting at Belfast the Irish Unionist leaders will announce, contingently on the passage of a Home Rule Bill, the heads of the Constitution which they will set up, with separate judiciary as well as assembly.

This is the step forward which Ulster Unionists are about to take. The stories of an armed rising, of the seizure of the Belfast post office, and the like, which are current in Liberal circles, have no truth in them.

It is regarded as doubtful by some of the London journals whether, as the Times correspondent states, the Unionist Leaders will announce at the Belfast meeting the heads of the Constitution to be set up in the event of the Home Rule Bill becoming an act of Parliament. Such a course, it is pointed out, would result in prematurely disclosing their plans. The proposal to form a Provisional Government was made public some months ago. The outline of the pledges to be signed by the Covenanters is generally accepted as accurate.

It is an interesting circumstance in connection with this movement that the Irish Unionists have entered into possession of the old town hall of Belfast, which may become the seat of government in certain eventualities. The Belfast Corporation let the building to the Ulster Unionist Council at the beginning of the year and the Union Jack was hoisted as a sign that the Council had entered into occupation on the day when Mr. Winston Churchill held his meeting under military protection in February. The following important organizations, working for the defeat of the Home Rule Bill, now have their headquarters in the old town hall: Ulster Unionist Council, Ulster Clubs of Ireland, Ulster Women's Club, Council, Provincial Grand Orange Lodge, United Associations of Ireland, and the Union Defence League.

The position which the Ulster Unionists are taking is likely to cause more embarrassment to the Asquith Government than any other course which might have been pursued. A violent resistance would have been more spectacular but it would have constituted a direct invitation for reprisals. The men of Ulster are not out to attack but to preserve their freedom. A clear and concise statement of their attitude is embodied in the following extract from a manifesto issued by the Ulster Unionist Council: "We would remind the British elector, 'ate that Ulster's claim, in the disastrous event of Home Rule being imposed upon Ireland, is plain and intelligible. It is not a request for a distinctive Ulster Parliament. It is simply a demand made in the interests of our fellow Unionists in all parts of Ireland, as well as of our own, that our northern province shall 'continue to possess the exact Constitutional privileges and rights which, in common with her British fellow-citizens, she enjoys today as an integral part of the United Kingdom, and that she shall continue to be represented on equal terms with Great Britain in the Imperial Parliament."

"Should this claim, based on the most elementary principles of British justice, be refused, the only alternative consistent with our rights as subjects of the King, 'is the Ulster Provisional Government to come into operation on the appointed day, and this once established, 'we are resolved we shall see it through."

ADVANTAGES OF THE HOME MARKET.

Following its comparisons of grain values in Minneapolis and Winnipeg, the Winnipeg Telegram publishes facts and figures as to the prices of produce generally in these two centres which are equally embarrassing to the Reciprocity newspapers which are in the habit of demanding "wider markets." It appears that it is not only in wheat and other grains that the Winnipeg market shows such striking superiority to the Minneapolis market. What is true of grain is true also of hay, dairy products, vegetables, and, in fact, nearly everything that the Western farmers produce.

At the present time, according to the quotations published by the Telegram, the wholesale price of butter in Minneapolis is 12 to 24 cents; in Winnipeg it is 18 to 29 cents. In Minneapolis eggs are quoted at from 14 to 21

cents; in Winnipeg 20 to 21 cents. New potatoes in Minneapolis sell for 60 cents per bushel; in Winnipeg \$1.20 per bushel. Hay in Minneapolis is selling at from \$9.00 to \$15.00 per ton; in Winnipeg, \$10.00 to \$18.00 per ton. In the light of these market comparisons it remains for the Reciprocity newspapers to explain to the farmers of Western Canada what they have to gain by giving away the substance of their own market for the shadow of a foreign one.

The Canadian home market is great in its present advantages; it is greater still in its possibilities. Only a few days ago it was estimated by a public man who is not given to extravagant calculation, that in fifteen years, Canada will have a population of 25,000,000 people. This is no idle dream; it is a practical probability. To turn from their own opportunities, great and potential as they are, to share the Canadian market with a nation which exports practically everything which the Canadian farmers produce would be an act of wanton and colossal folly.

REVISION OF THE U. S. PATENT LAWS.

A recent decision of Congress ordering a revision of the Patent Laws of the United States is a matter of vast importance to the industrial interests of the country, to the wage-earners and consumers as well as to proprietors and security holders. The significance of the revision lies in the fact that the new and stringent regulations, outlined in the report of the committee accompanying the bill, will, if carried out, have a far-reaching effect upon trusts and combinations, whose activities are largely dependent on their control of patents in all branches of industry.

The report of the Committee of Patents says on this point:

There is widespread dissatisfaction with the operation of our patent laws. The statutes now in force directly affecting patents have remained practically unchanged since the revision of 1870. Meanwhile changes fundamental in character have occurred in the rapid growth of the trusts and combinations whose business rests largely in patents, and whose financial and industrial power exercises a dominating influence over many branches of trade. There is an insistent demand for a revision of the existing laws affecting patents which shall remove the evils found to exist and make our laws conform to the industrial needs of the present time.

Among the evils found to exist and against which it is presumed, special regulations will be directed, the following are specifically reported by the committee:

First, The evils arising from the vendor of a patented article fixing the price at which the article must be resold to the public.

Second, The evils arising from the vendors of patented articles prohibiting their use except in connection with other unpatented articles purchased from them.

Third, The evils arising from owners of patents suppressing the same or prohibiting their use in order to prevent competition with other patented or unpatented articles sold by such owners of patents.

In commenting upon the bill and the effects of revision, the New York Sun expresses the opinion that "the results of its approval in the form in which it is submitted are beyond any possible estimate or prediction." In support of this view it points out that there are few commodities of convenience or necessity in the daily life of the people that do not somewhere in their progress from a raw to a finished state encounter patented devices. This is true of farm products and mill products, of food and clothing and housebuilding, of transportation and communication.

Current Comment

Not Wanted Here.

(Montreal Star.)

There is no class of idle women in Canada—who have plenty of money but little to do—to finance and lead a suffrage agitation. All the conditions which feed the folly in England are absent here; and we can afford to discuss the extension of the franchise in a sane and reasonable manner. The suggestion that they might turn English emigration to Australia and New Zealand and away from Canada, if we neglected woman franchise, is precisely the sort of argument which would incline us to make our neglect definite and pointed. The variety of emigration which "suffragettes" could influence on this issue would be exactly the kind of emigration we would like to confer on someone else—preferably someone in the antipodes.

The Great Pretender.

(Boston Transcript.)

Of course Colonel Roosevelt will not accept his Canadian invitation to join in the royal and semi-royal hunt party that has been planned to take place in October. At the head of the list of guests is the Duke of Orleans, a mere pretender to the throne of France. And then come in order minor dukes and duchesses, marquises and barons before the name of the greatest pretender in the world is reached. These Canadians need to be shown the true order of rank among pretenders as well as among great hunters.

Another Example of "Free Trade."

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

The notion that Free Trade is a panacea for trusts is recalled by the announcement that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company may purchase the Peninsular and Oriental Company. The Packet Company is an English concern, and controls more shipping than any vessel trust ever built up under a system of Protection.

Which is the Better Judge?

(London Free Press.)

The Minister of Marine, who has just been to Europe, says that there the German peril is a very lively issue. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who has spent the summer at Ottawa and in Virginia, says that there is no German peril. Which is more likely to know best?

A Fleet of Flyers.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

Within the last four months a national subscription in Germany, to purchase a fleet of aeroplanes for the Kaiser, has reached \$1,500,000. Of course these are intended merely for the protection of her trade routes also.

The Bright Side.

(Hamilton Herald.)

Even the cool wet summer has its compensations. Have you ever before seen the grass so fresh and green at the beginning of September as it is today?

Ought to Know.

(Christian Guardian.)

A man is either his own best friend or his own worst enemy, and he ought to know which.

Less Risk.

(Hamilton Herald.)

That Montreal woman who found a snake in the milk should advise her milkman to use tap water in future.

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Continued from page two.

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Indian Runner, drake—1st, E. C. Campbell.

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White Muscovy, duck—1st, F. M. Merritt.

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Colored Muscovy, duck—1st and 2nd, E. C. Campbell.

Best breeding pen ducks—1st, Maritime Supply Co.; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

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Toulouse, young gander—1st, A. D. Boswall; 2nd, B. Goodspeed; 3rd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Toulouse, young goose—1st, A. D. Boswall; 2nd, B. Goodspeed.

African, aged gander—1st, Albert Boswall.

African, young gander—1st, Albert Boswall.

African, young gander—1st, Albert Boswall.

Emden, young gander—1st, Albert Boswall; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Emden, young gander—1st, Albert Boswall; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Emden, aged goose—1st, Albert Boswall; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Emden, young goose—1st, Albert Boswall; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pigeons.

Pair White Pouters—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Carries Dun—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Dragons—1st, Robt. Romney; 2nd, F. M. Merritt; 3rd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Tumblers, short-faced—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards; 2nd, Robt. Romney; 3rd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Tumblers, any other variety—1st, 3rd and 4th—Robt. Romney; 2nd, Bert Evans; 5th, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Fantail, Blue—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Fantail, white—1st, Maritime Poultry Supply Co.; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards; 3rd, Robt. Romney.

Pair Fantail, any other color—1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th, Robt. Romney; 2nd, Maritime Poultry Supply Co.

Pair Jacobins, any color—1st, Maritime Poultry Supply Co.; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Antwerps, short-faced, any color—1st and 2nd, Robt. Romney.

Pair Swallows—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair pigeons any other variety—1st and 2nd, Robt. Romney.

Pair magpies—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Homers—1st and 2nd, Maritime Poultry Supply Co.; 3rd, Robt. Romney.

Ornamental and Miscellaneous.

Pair Guinea Fowl—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards; 2nd, F. M. Merritt; 3rd, Maritime Poultry Supply Co.; 4th, Mrs. Wm. Mullen.

Pair English Pheasants—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Pair Golden Pheasants—1st, Maritime Poultry Supply Co.

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Pair Guinea Pig—1st, Herbert Tracey; 2nd, H. B. Purchase.

Pair White Rats—1st, Robt. E. Kerr.

Pair Rabbits—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards; 2nd, Josselyn and Young.

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Heaviest dozen brown eggs—1st, B. Goodspeed.

CLASS 46—POULTRY.

Black Hamburg cock and hen—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Black Hamburg cockerel—1st, F. M. Merritt; 2nd, 3rd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Black Hamburg pullet—1st, F. M. Merritt; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Golden Pencilled Hamburg hen and pullet—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Silver Pencilled Hamburg cock, hen, cockerel and pullet—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Silver Spangled Hamburg cock, hen and cockerel—1st, F. M. Merritt.

Silver Spangled Hamburg cock—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards; 2nd, F. M. Merritt.

Silver Spangled hen, cockerel and pullet—1st and 2nd, F. M. Merritt.

Red Cap cock, hen, cockerel and pullet—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Single Comb White Leghorn cock, cockerel and pullet—1st and 2nd, F. M. Merritt.

Single Comb White Leghorn hen—1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th, F. M. Merritt; 4th, I. D. Vanwart.

Rose Comb White Leghorn cock, hen and pullet—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards.

Rose Comb White Leghorn cockerel—1st, Hartland Poultry Yards; 2nd, F. M. Merritt.

Rose Comb Brown Leghorn cock—1st, 4th, and 5th, Scott and Warren; 2nd, Hartland Poultry Yards; 3rd, F. M. Merritt.

Continued on page five.

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