statement as to the result of the negotiations now pro-ceeding with the Imperial Government will be publicly made until the Ministers return to Canada should have a made until the Ministers return to canada simola have tendency to quiet the nerves of fractious and impatient Liberal organs that have been clamoring for inside information. The Conference is still in session and it would never occur to anyone of a reasonable turn of mind that a report of the progress of such important negotiations, involving the future Naval Defence policy of the Empire. never occur to anyone of a reasonable turn of mind that a report of the progress of such important negotiations, involving the future Naval Defence policy of the Empire, would be handed out piecemeal. Ignoring this fact, and having no valid grounds for criticism, Mr. Pugsley's organs have been assuming an attitude of justifiable impattence, demanding to know why Mr. Borden did not speak. "The naval policy is still indefinite," remarks the Telegraph, and calls attention in a reproachful tone to Mr. Borden not having yet arrived at a decision. The Times goes further and announced recently that Mr. Borden had no naval policy. He was marking time. And again: "Mr. Borden do. That is what the Empire, and especially Canada, wants to know."

It was to be expected that the Express Companies in the United States would not be backward in entering a protest against the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission for a reduction approximating 15 per cent in rates and prescribing drastic reforms in the methods of operation. In a statement, which is given out as coming "from all the Express Companies," after a meeting held in New York, the contention is put forward that if the order goes into force there will not be enough revenue to cover the cost of business.

The statement says in part:

"The report of the Commission relates to rates and practises of the Express Companies, The vital thing to the companies is the question of rates. The report recommends a basis of express voil.

The explanation of this partisan attitude is not far lek. Unlike many other Liberal journals possessed of a modicum of fairness, the Telegraph and Times have never been known to do even common justice to a politi-val opponent. Mr. Borden is not in London on a mission or the Conservative party, but as the Prime Minister of Canada with a mandate from the people. The enthusi-astic welcome he received from the British nation and the unanimous support accorded his declaration in favor of the Dominions participating in the Empire's naval cy, are sufficient evidence that his position is every-

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier, as Prime Minister of the When Sir Wilfrid Laurier, as Prime Minister of the Dominion, attended the Imperial Conferences his representative position was never called in question. He was not invited to the counsels of the Empire as the leader of the Liberal party. Mr. Borden is entitled to the same measure of justice and fair play on his present mission.

This line of defence takes on a rather dinerent aspect when the financial standing of these carrying concerns it considered. The American Express Company has paid vividends of 12 per cent, since 1906. It has a surplus of more than \$20,000,000 today. And its equipment is seminature of justice and fair play on his present mission. There will be no announcement as to Canada's naval policy until Mr. Borden and his colleagues return to Canada. every share of stock annually. It has a surplus of over it will be time enough then for Mr. Pugsley's organs to \$25,000,000. Its equipment is rated as \$2,607,090, while indulge their desire for partisan criticism and to invite its total assets are \$70.097,953. The Wells-Fargo pay comparison between Mr. Borden's proposels and the late dividends of 10 per cent. per annum and in 1910 distrib Liberal Government's naval policy—exemplified in two uted an "extra" of \$300 a share. Its equipment reposselete cruisers rescued from the scrap heap, even now sents about \$2,000,000 out of assets of about \$34,000,000 in the hospital, and familiarly known as Canada's "tin pot

A FEATURE OF THE CENSUS.

The decline of the small town and village community is a feature of the movement of population as indicated by a comparison of the census reports of 1901 and 1911. In an instructive review of the situation the Montreal Gazette points out that the larger cities in eak of energetic and successful business enterprise. Comme

The majority have better than held their ground.

There are in all parts of the country, however, places which are on the decline, whose business has suffered collapse, or which from some cause or other, have failed to fulfil their people's earlier hopes. Prominent amons these is Rossland, B. C., which in 1911 had 3,430 people less than in 1901. The collapse of the mining boom is less than in 1901. The collapse of the mining boom is and decaded also in the falling away in population of Greenwood, Sandon and Phoénix in the same Province. Considerable declines are also recorded in the case of Desertonto, Ont., which in ten years lost 1,514 people, and of Valleyfield, Quebec, which had 1,606 fewer inhabitants last convicts. The Italian Government is to be commended for its success in bringing those men to justice. It has

From these figures the losses in individual cases run down through the hundreds to a few score or a dozen or less. Some places are on the down grade. Some are only standing still. The number of these communities is in its way the possible thing. only standing still. The lamber of these constants is in its way the notable thing. Of the towns and incorporated villages there are recorded decreases of population in 1911 compared with 1901, in a hundred and ten cases in Ontario, in thirty cases in Quebec, in eight cases each in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and in seven cases in Manitoba, as well as in three cases in Prince Edward Island. Alberta and Saskatchewan are practically too young yet to figure in such a list; but their day will come, without doubt.

(Buffalo News.)

It is the law tha no foreign vessel can transport goods between ports of the United States, what is called the coastwise trade. Other nations have similar rules with respect to their own countries. There is no quarrela about that. But to build a canal at a cost of millions and make that free to our vessels under the plan that they are engaged in coastwise trade, seems very like an evasion of treaty compact.

The experience is one known to all communities. It is an accompaniment of development, and follows the concentration of industries and improvement in the processes of production of merchandise, which, making it impraccentration of industries and improvement in the processes of production of merchandise, which, making it impracticable for the small manufacturerer and the handicrafts.

It is time for war to stop. And it never will stop until the strong nations of the world agree with each other to submit all justifiable causes, bar none, to the man to meet the competition of the specialized factory, works to centre production in certain localities and draws by the boycott and embargo in all attempts of the strong away from the smaller or unfavorably situated commun. ity both trade and population

"A Loyal Citizen" write to The Standard in reference

"Honoring a Flag," in which attention is drawn to the King being photographed beneath the Stars and Stripes, after the inspection of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, and to other incidents including His Majesty's saluting the fiag. The Globe, by way of comment, expresses the opinion that "in these few news items thus grouped together there are statements which must interest gentlemen who are perturbed over the appearance of the United States flag as a holiday decoration. When His Majesty the King is photographed under the United States flag as a holiday decoration. When His Majesty the King is photographed under the United States flag as a holiday decoration. When His Majesty the King is photographed under the United States flag no man can get very far astray who pays honor to the flag which the King of England honors. It is well to keep this in mind."

The Standard's correspondent takes exception to the slobe's view and protests that it displays worful ignor—nee of both military and international customs and is no argument at all in favor of flying the American or any where foreign flag in the British Dominions. He continues: "The editorial, and one last week in a similar strain, seems to have been inspired and the ire of the Globe aroused because someone who fiew an American flag during Old Home Week was respectfully asked to take it down, as it is certainly bad taste, to say the least, by a foreign flag. In regard to the subject matter of the Globe's article, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston are visitors to England and of course they are American colors, and of course the King would into them at the March Past, just as he or anyone else that the wasted fles?

In California the farmers gather the grasshopper copy and sell it for evaporated chicken food, Whywaste the swatted fles?

There is nothing extraordinary in these facts any more than the fact that when the 62nd Fusiliers visited Boston last year they carried their own regimental colors and the King's color. I am quite certain those flags were saluted by many American citizens, and further, as His Majesty consented to be photographed with the American visitors, what is there unusual in the colors also being shown and photographed? The Globe has a poor case and must learn that it will be many years before the American flag flies over Canada, although we respect that flag in its proper place."

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANIES.

"The report of the Commission relates to rates and practises of the Express Companies. The vital thing to the companies is the question of rates. The report recommends a basis of express rates on a zone system, which is entirely new, totally replacing the present basis of rates and tariffs. According to the Commission's report it is conceded that the average net earnings of the large Express Companies from present rates, is not in excess of six per cent, on the business done, in some cases even less. The probusiness done, in some cases even less. The pro-posed rates would drastically reduce the companies revenue. It is, therefore, obvious that the proposed rates would not produce enough revenue to cover the cost of business, especially as the changes in the method of business to be adopted will increase the

This line of defence takes on a rather different aspe

The object the Interstate Commerce Commission had of food commodities and the consumer by distributi equitably to the weight and distance, the burden of The decline of the small town and village communicost of transportation." It was from the pockets of t Canada generally have grown, some of them in a notable the companies should now be forthcoming. That at all events appears to be the ground taken by the Interstate speak of energetic and successful business enterprise. meeting with general approval.

Current Comment

A QUESTION OF FLAG LORE.

A Loyal Citizen" write to The Standard in reference a editorial in last evening's Globe under the heading loring a Flag," in which attention is drawn to the heady and the paper and single specific cent to keep it out of the poor house.



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Most **Anything**

The News in Short Meter

LOCAL.

The members of the Grand Lodge f the Ancient and Honorable Fre ernity of Free and Accepted Masons will attent service on Sunday, July 8th. The rector of Trinity church

PROVINCIAL.

Moncton, July 19.—It is understood that W. A. Cowperthwaite, who was offered a position on the staff of the Winnipeg High School, has decided to remain here. He has been offered \$1,500 by the Moncton School Reard

Work Commenced on Albert Wells Moncton, July 19.—The new oil and cas drillers, T. E. Harrlibargth, E. Rifford and W. Stevens, have arrived from Shinglehouse and begun work his morning at the Albert wells.

Canadian Municipalities Union.

Fredericton, July 19.—J. W. McCready, city clerk, has announced that the 12th annual meeting of the Union of Canadian Municipalities, of which he is president, will be held at Windsor, Ont., August 27 and 28. It is expected that Mayor Frink, of St. John, and ex-Mayor Rellley, of Moncron will attend. Mr. Rellley has been invited to read a paper on Natural Gas in New Brunswick.

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Foresters in Session.

Fredericton, July 19.—A meeting of the high standing committee of the Independent Order of Foresters in New Brunswick is being held this afternoon at the Queen Hotel. This meeting will take the place of the meeting of the high court, which hereafter will only be held bi-annually. The accounts and other routine business is expected to make up the programme for the meeting. The members of the high standing committee are: Judge M. N. Cockburn, high chief ranger; Lt. Col. G. W. Mersereau, past high chief ranger; Judge F. W. Emmerson, high secretary; M. E. Grass, high vice chief ranger; J. V. Russell, high treasurer; Dr. B. A. Marvin, high physician, and E. A. McKay, high councillor.

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Truro Woman Found Dead.

Truro, July 19.—The death took place suddenly on Thursday night of the late Rev. Ebenezer Ross, at her residence, Queen street, Truro, Deceased was a maiden lady, who for a number of years has lived in the family residence alone. Thursday evening a friend calling to see her found her lying on the floor, and Dr. Patton, arriving soon after, found her past human aid, death evidently having come man hours previously. The funeral will take place on Saturday afternoon at 1.30 o'clock.

OBITUARY

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