

The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 20, 1909.

WORSE THAN MONTREAL.

The middleman has been making great hauls in Montreal street contracts. Mr. Brunet's achievements have been enumerated and classified by the Montreal Herald into separate transactions.

The St. John Telegraph's despatch thus describes one of these contracts: "It was shown that Belanger & Brunet, the paving company who did no paving, were paid \$2.45 a yard, while they sublet the contract for the work at \$1.85."

Judge Cannon who is holding the investigation, describes Belanger and Brunet as "a kind of middlemen between the contractors and the city." The transactions will remind the St. John reader of a certain dredging contract in which the middleman obtained \$35,933 by standing between the contractor and the Department of Public Works.

CANADA AND NAVAL DEFENCE.

The cable announcing the result of the Imperial Defence Conference in its application to the navy, is not sufficiently definite to be discussed in any but general terms. All the reports have emphasized the difference between the Australian and Canadian Government attitude. These reports present our Government alising at every stage the question of autonomy, while those of Australia and New Zealand emphasize the desire to be of assistance.

GENERAL FRENCH FOR CANADA.

The former Sir John French, who has been designated to lead out the Canadian portion of the Imperial Defence programme, is a soldier tested in many ways. He is now fifty-seven years old and in the thirty-fifth year of his military service.

After the war General French returned to take command at Aldershot and in 1907 succeeded the Duke of Connaught as Inspector General. This is about as high a position as the army has to offer, so that General French comes on what is probably a temporary mission with a brilliant record as a commander in the field and as an organizer at headquarters.

If the Canadian militia were a force maintained for military purposes, we would expect that General French could give the authorities valuable information and assistance. But if the Toronto Globe is right in contending that the militia is entirely a civilian institution, intended to be displayed in time of peace, but expected to be useless in war, General French should profit by Lord Dundonald's experience and remain in England.

In congress the advocates of the New England fishing interests are in the habit of representing Gloucester as a nursery of United States seamen. The deceptive character of that claim is shown whenever an examination is made into the personnel of the fishing fleet. The loss of the Oronoco on Wednesday furnishes evidence in point.

EQUAL RIGHTS IN THE HARVEST FIELD.

In Nebraska the farmers are solving the harvester problem by hiring those city and village girls who are strong and willing. Kansas set this example a few years ago and it seems to be spreading. If a girl can do anything near the work of a man she can earn a good deal more money in the harvest field than she can in handling the crop in a more advanced stage as water in a restaurant.

Harvesting is not new work for women. They used the sickle in England and Scotland so long as grain was cut that way. Burns had his first love affair with a lass who worked in the harvest field brought up on New Brunswick farms have raked hay and grain, and picked potatoes. Many of them have been reapers. Occasionally one now sees in this province a girl operating a horse rake and seeming to enjoy it as she would a drive in a sulky. It is easier than rowing a boat.

A WEEK OF AIR RACING.

The historic cathedral city of Rheims with its ancient associations of coronations and of Joan of Arc, will next week be the scene of the most modern of all spectacles and contests. All the week long, beginning on Sunday, the competition between flying machines will continue, ending on Saturday with the final contest for the Bennett Cup. One of the first trials will be a speed contest for a distance of something over twenty miles, and for shorter flights. Monday's competition for the Grand Prix and six other prizes will be a distance contest to determine which ship can sail the farthest without recharging. There is another cup for the competitor covering the greatest distance in a closed circuit, with the condition that the distance made by Wilber Wright be exceeded. At last reports, thirty-five aeroplanes had been entered for the competition, of which twenty-three are bi-planes and fifteen monoplanes.

THIS FRANCHISE IS GRANTED.

Professor Richard Burton, of the University of Michigan, has told a Chautauqua assembly that "the country is flooded with cheap literature, unfit for reading." This is true enough, and it is also true that the country is stocked with cheap literature that is exceedingly fit for reading and even for careful study. Professor Burton looks to women to cure this evil of cheap "scrub-book literature." He seems to think that it is an undertaking for the problematic future.

But why should this reformation wait until women enjoy the electoral franchise? They already exercise as much control as men over the literature that comes into the home. Fully one-half of the cheap literature which is unfit to read, because it is not worth reading, comes for their entertainment. They enjoy to about the same extent as their husbands and brothers the privilege of voting for and electing good books and good periodicals for the home. Professor Burton should not suggest to them that the present time is too soon for the exercise of this valuable franchise, and that they must wait for some far-off divine event before taking action.

The Whitney Government of Ontario and the Laurier ministry are in collision over the charter of Dufferin Park at Toronto. Under this charter operations went on which were regarded in Ontario as the worst kind of gambling. Through the action of the Ontario Government, the charter was annulled and the objectionable practices brought to an end. Then the proprietor applied to the Government at Ottawa for a charter and this has been granted. The course of the Laurier Government in giving this authority to a concern which was closed as immoral by the Ontario Government has caused an unpleasant feeling among the law-abiding and moral people of Toronto.

Two months and a half from the time that Colonel Wylie and Dr. Lalaca were killed their assassin had been tried, convicted and hanged. Nothing was done in a hurry, but the murderer was not allowed the privilege of playing the leading part in a series of spectacular trials extending over several years.

Schools Reopen

In a couple of weeks and the chances are that many parents have neglected giving their children's teeth proper attention.

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PITHY PARAGRAPHS OF LOCAL INTEREST

A New Residence.

Mr. F. S. Thomas, the North End furrier and latter, has sold his cottage at Brown's Flats and is now having a large house built at Martinon.

Military Veterans' Outing.

The outing of the Military Veterans to Baywater was postponed yesterday on account of the wet weather. Weather permitting they will go to Baywater today, or falling in that, on Tuesday next.

Saw Mill at New River.

A saw mill is to be erected and put in operation this fall at New River near the bridge on the New Brunswick Southern Railway. Mr. L. B. Knight of Musquash will supervise the work in the interest of the Ingleswood Pulp Company.

Sailings for Havana.

William Thomson & Co. have received advices from the Munson Line that, as requested by exporters, they will make their first sailing from St. John to Havana September 20 to 25, with successive sailings about the middle of October and the middle of November.

A Timely Rescue.

Ald. J. B. M. Baxter was instrumental in saving the life of a bather at Beatty's Beach yesterday afternoon. The man when some distance from the shore was seized with cramps and his cries attracted the attention of the Alderman, he went at once to his rescue. Being a powerful swimmer he was able to bring the stranger to the beach without much difficulty.

The New Judicature Act.

Copies of the new Judicature Act have been received in the city, and it is understood that it is to go into effect in September. The new act is similar to that in force in England and in most of the Provinces of Canada and its adoption has been urged in this Province for many years. The practice is regarded as simpler and likely to be appreciated by the lawyers.

A Carleton Fire.

Early yesterday afternoon an alarm was rung in from box 112 for a fire in Mr. Samuel Sewell's house, 112 Duke street, Carleton. The firemen played two streams upon the house for an hour and a half before the fire was finally extinguished. The house, which is two-storied and self-contained, was badly gutted. It is not known where the fire started, but it is thought that it originated in the basement or cellar. The furniture is insured in the Quebec for \$500.

Fredericton Exhibition.

Owing to the demand for space for exhibits in the Fredericton exhibition which will open on September 14, it has been decided to make some changes in the buildings. Among these an addition of thirty-five feet will be made to the poultry house. The outside attractions this year will take up a great deal of space. The Wild West show will need a space of 150x100 feet, while the Ferris wheel, which will be seen for the first time, will also need much room.

Branch Banks to Be Opened.

La Banque Provinciale du Canada is building a handsome three-story edifice in the city which will be the central office for the Maritime Provinces. The new building will be ready for occupation about the first of December. The bank has already opened a new branch at Caraquet, N. B., on the Baie de Chaleur, and this will be followed by the opening of five or six additional branches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, as soon as the new central office building is completed.

Equity Suit Settled.

In the equity suit of Boynton et al. vs. Given et al. yesterday by consent His Honor Chief Justice Barker made a decree that the defendants be ordered to transfer to the plaintiff Boynton all the property of the Empire Coal Company mentioned in the bill in this suit and subsequently acquired property on the payment of \$45,000 to the defendant Sherry within two months from this date; on failure to pay within that time the bill in the suit is to stand dismissed without costs. Dr. L. A. Currey, K.C., appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. W. B. Candler, K.C., and Mr. H. A. Powell, K.C., for defendant.

Furs valued at \$145,000, shipped from Fas Mission to the Hudson's Bay Company, London, England, were expressed from Saskatchewan on the 16th. The furs were transported 90 miles by eight Indians, making the trip in twenty hours.

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SCENIC ROUTE

STEAMER MAGGIE MILLER leaves Millville for Summersville, Kennebecasis Island and Baywater daily, except Saturday and Sunday at 6 a. m., 2, 4 and 6 p. m. Return from Baywater at 4, 7, 9 and 10:30 a. m., 2, 4 and 6 p. m. Returning at 9:45 and 11:15 a. m., 2 and 4 p. m. Saturday at 6:15 and 9:30 a. m., 2, 4 and 6 p. m. Returning at 5:30, 7, 9 and 10:30 a. m., 2, 4 and 6 p. m.

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COLLINA.

Collina, N. B., Aug. 16.—Prof. Miles Kierstead of McMaster University, Toronto, preached two able sermons here Sunday.

Miss Nettie Chamberlain of Campbellton, is spending her vacation here with her mother, Mrs. C. Chamberlain.

Miss Beth Addison left for her home in Hillsboro today.

Most of the farmers in this vicinity have finished haying.

Master Charlie Boyce, of St. John, is the guest of his uncle, Mr. Jacob Holmes.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Penwick, of Berwick, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Kierstead.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Titus, Passakeag, are congratulating them on the birth of a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Weaver, of Sussex, are spending a few weeks with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. McKnight.

Miss Wavie Schofield has been visiting Dr. and Mrs. Bumdege, of Berwick.

Miss Marguerite Chamberlain, of Fort Fairfield, Me., is expected here tomorrow to spend a few weeks with her mother, Mrs. C. Chamberlain.

Rev. Dr. E. M. Kierstead, of Toronto, leaves for his home tomorrow.

Miss Ida Maboe is visiting her uncle, Mr. Abraham Maboe, in Markhamville.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Gamblin, of Cady's spent Sunday with Mrs. Hannah Gamblin.

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