

# The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1912.

## CANADA'S FINANCES.

The Dominion's finances were never more prosperous according to the half-yearly financial statement which has been issued. A striking feature of the statement is the decrease in Canada's debt by ten million dollars as compared with a year ago. The revenues for the six months from March 31 to Sept. 30, amounted to \$31,378,650. This is an increase of \$1,309,126 over the same period in 1911, at the rate of 27 per cent. It is expected that the revenue for the year will reach the record-breaking total of \$170,000,000 if the present rate of increase is maintained.

The revenues for the half year and the half year of 1911 were made up as follows:

	1912	1911
Customs .....	\$54,485,146	\$42,284,555
Excise .....	10,152,014	8,799,535
Post Office .....	4,850,000	4,150,000
Public Works, Railways ..	6,720,578	5,873,637
Miscellaneous .....	3,200,911	2,961,816

The expenditure upon consolidated fund for the six months was \$45,931,539 as against \$55,933,459 in 1911. The expenditure on capital account shows a reduction of some nine hundred thousand. The expenditure was \$11,671,983 as against \$12,318,027 in 1911. The most noteworthy decrease is in the Transcontinental. Although the work is being rushed by the Government, the expenditure was nearly three million less than 1911.

The net debt as compared with a year ago was reduced nearly ten million and a half dollars and now stands at \$315,508,376 as against \$325,558,768 at the same date in 1911. During September the revenue was nearly fourteen and a half millions, the exact figures being \$14,475,482. In September, 1911, it was \$12,032,908. The increase, therefore, was nearly 20 per cent. Customs stood at \$9,902,687; excise at \$1,778,111; post offices at \$1,050,000; public works and railways at \$1,004,535; and miscellaneous at \$739,128. The corresponding figures last year were—Customs, \$7,802,026; excise, \$1,691,295; post offices, \$900,000; public works, \$1,116,892; and miscellaneous, \$521,693. All the departments show large increases with the exception of public works and railways, where there is a drop of about \$112,000. Under the guiding hand of Mr. White, the Finance Minister, it is evident a careful and progressive policy is being pursued.

## SWITZERLAND UNDER PROTECTION.

A rather striking example of the advantages of Protection is to be found in Switzerland, a country which lives at peace with all the world, and enjoys the fruits of commercial prosperity. In a recent issue of the London Globe, a letter from Sir Frederick St. John, who was at one time British Minister at Bern, the capital of Switzerland, throws much light on the change which has come over the country. He writes as follows: "When I first knew Switzerland, over 40 years ago, it was the poorest country in Europe, with scarcely an industry except agriculture, which, owing to its very limited area of arable land, hardly sufficed for the sustenance of its inhabitants. In proportion to population, the largest exporter of manufactured goods in the world. I was induced by these circumstances to write and ask a very prominent Swiss friend how he accounted for the present prosperity of his country."

The former British Minister appends the information he received. It appears that "Switzerland had to raise its tariff three times in order to have a sufficiently strong weapon to enforce acceptable commercial treaties with neighboring countries." The tariff has since been modified through commercial negotiations with Germany, France and Italy. "If Switzerland had not exchanged the former modified 'Free Trade' continues his informant, 'our industries would have been killed by the dumping of German and other foreign goods. I used to be a convinced Free Trader, and fought the first new tariff 'tooth and nail' by many newspaper articles; but finally hard facts overcame my theories, and I am now convinced that, taking things as they are, the only salvation for an industrial country is a carefully thought-out fighting tariff, which enables it to strike a favorable bargain with other nations."

By far the most important of the Swiss industries is the manufacture of embroideries, which, while its controlling centre is the city of St. Gall, employs a large percentage of the working population in other cantons. During 1911 the value of the embroidery exports was \$42,816,500, while employment was found for 28,506 persons. Silk exports were valued at \$40,530,000 and 21,537 persons were employed. The export of the Appenzel hand embroideries, the most exquisite the world can produce, increased \$10,750. A recent consular report states that "the working people have shared in the general prosperity of the country, steady employment and fair wages having been the rule."

## AUSTRALIAN COMPULSORY SERVICE.

The working of the Universal Training Defence Act in Australia is coming to be better understood and appreciated in the Commonwealth. The first year of the operation of the Act shows, according to a recent report, that 81 per cent. of the cadets complied with its requirements. Considerable opposition developed at first against compulsory service, but the conscientious objector has discovered that he is invited to participate in such work as engineering, cooking, or first-aid.

Legal proceedings have been impending against cadets who failed to perform the requisite number of compulsory drills last year. The Minister of Defence has now decided that where cadets put in at least 54 hours' parade, and have agreed to make up the hours neglected, no legal proceedings will be taken, and they will be classed as efficient. The lads who failed to drill for at least 54 hours will, however, be proceeded against, but the Minister will ask the prosecuting officers to urge the magistrates not to impose the monetary penalty, and that the cases of those who promise to make good their deficiencies be adjourned for two months. If the deficiencies be made good the magistrates will be asked to dismiss the informations, and the cadets' efficiency will be granted.

Consentation is said to exist amongst sport lovers and sporting bodies owing to the disastrous effect which compulsory service is having, and will have, upon Australian sports. Now that the Commonwealth system of

training is getting into full swing it is found that the ranks of the cricketers, footballers, athletes, and sailing men, are being depleted, competitions are being disorganized, matches are being spoiled, and the whole world of sport is threatened with chaos. This phase of the situation is, of course, only a side issue. The Government of the Commonwealth regard compulsory service as imperative for the defence of Australia and have no doubt as to its ultimate success.

## THE AFTERMATH OF THE BY-ELECTION.

In view of the disastrous result, the insistence of Western Liberals, lead by Mr. Frank Oliver, to fight the Macdonald by-election with Reciprocity as the main issue, is likely to lead to a clean up in the ranks of the Liberal party between the Reciprocity and anti-Reciprocity sections.

It is well known that many prominent Eastern Liberals have been anxious for some time to relegate the Pact to the background. They are not unmindful of the truth of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's admission "the people do not wait as I offered it" and were strongly opposed to the attempt to revive Reciprocity in the recent campaign. Mr. Oliver and his friends, however, were so confident that they could sweep the West on this issue that wiser counsels were over-ruled. The crushing defeat of the Reciprocity candidate by an increase in the Conservative majority from 161 to 337, indicating that the Laurier trade policy is five times as unpopular as it was thirteen months ago, will serve to strengthen the contention of Eastern Liberals that as an election cry the "wider market" appeal is no good.

In the West Mr. Oliver and other leaders of the party are strongly committed to Reciprocity and they cannot retreat. In the East the folly of attempting to resurrect the Pact is more generally realized. Mr. Guthrie, for instance, one of the most prominent members of the party, has openly stated that "this Reciprocity proposal is dead." Future developments of the Liberal party's policy on this question promise to be very interesting.

## FREE TESTING OF FARM SEEDS.

During the season 1912-13, the Seed Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture will test free of charge samples of seeds of grasses, clovers and cereal crops. This has been the policy of this branch since the passing of the Seed Control Act. As a guide to growers, dealers and others who desire to have samples tested for purity, grading and germination, a leaflet of instructions has been prepared which describes the method of preparing and packing samples of seeds of various kinds.

Useful notes are also given on qualities affecting the value of seed. It is pointed out that injury to wheat from frost or dampness is usually apparent in the color and shrunken condition of the grain. While a hulled kernel of sound oats is usually semi-transparent and not brittle a frosted kernel is dark and mealy, particularly at the tip, and is usually brittle. Instructions are given for cleaning grass and clover seeds, but growers whose farms are not clean are recommended to sell their seed in an uncleaned condition to a wholesale merchant who has special power cleaners.

Farmers who desire to have seed tested may procure a copy of this circular by applying for it to the Publications Branch of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

## COLONEL ROOSEVELT.

Col. Roosevelt, according to the latest report, is making excellent progress towards recovery. The insanity of his assailant appears to be beyond question. In the United States political differences have faded away for the moment and the press of all parties is united in paying tribute to the pluck and endurance of the Progressive candidate under the trying circumstances.

Typical of the general feeling is the expression of sympathy in the Boston Post. "The conduct of Colonel Roosevelt," says the Post, "under the sudden stress laid upon him must arouse admiration. He is a brave man; none has ever questioned his possession of that quality; but in this extraordinary situation he carried himself in a manner that may without exaggeration be called heroic; the sympathy of the entire American people goes out warmly to the distinguished victim of this dastardly attack. There is no division of sentiment; partisan considerations do not exist; the shot that struck Theodore Roosevelt has wounded every man who prizes manliness."

## Current Comment

### Professional Baseball.

(London Free Press.)

The sporting world has not witnessed a struggle fought with greater evenness between contending forces than are the contests between the Red Sox and the Giants. And to the credit of professional baseball, be it said, that never did Titans better exemplify the true spirit of sport than do these men, who are engaged in the nerve-racking fight for the world's championship.

### Too Many for Lloyd George.

(Ottawa News-Advertiser.)

Chancellor Lloyd George has found more than his match in the British doctors. They refused to accept the fees and duties that the Insurance Act provided. The Minister met their protest with certain contemptuous references and contradictions of their statements. But he has at last sanctioned a new scale of fees.

### Canadian Brains.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

Harvard College has just secured the services of three Canadians to fill important professorships in that leading United States seat of learning. They are but additions to a long list of their fellow-countrymen who have proved that in brain, as well as brawn, the men of the northern zone fear no competitors.

### The Boston Hero.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

"I do not touch liquor of any kind, and do not drink tea or coffee when playing ball," said Joe Wood, hero of the Boston baseball team, to an interviewer a few days ago. It seems enough to have an effect on thousands of hero worshippers who would lightly disregard the advice of philosophers.

### Deadly Weapons.

(Montreal Gazette.)

Fears are being expressed in Liberal quarters that the announcement of the Government's naval policy will be made the occasion for flag-waving and drum-beating. The fear of flags and drums seems to have spread wonderfully of late. What is a flag for if not to wave, or a drum if not to beat?

### Appropriate.

(Ottawa Journal.)

The farmers of Manitoba's constituency, Manitoba, have placed a sheaf of wheat upon the grave of Reciprocity.

### After the By-election.

(Toronto World.)

Again we have to repeat that Reciprocity is especially objectionable to the bulk of Canadians.

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## NEWS IN SHORT METRE

### LOCAL

**Plan Skating Rink.**  
The members of the Young Men's Society of St. Joseph are planning to build an open air skating rink on the lot adjoining St. Michael's Hall, on Leinster street, if permission can be obtained from the church authorities who own the lot.

**An Interesting Relic.**  
A model of the sailing vessel New Lampedo, built in the early 60's, by the McLeods in Carleton and in her time one of the best known of the vessels sailing out of this port, has been presented to the Seamen's Institute.

**Police Court.**  
John Melanson, charged with stealing a suit case from Isaac Williams, a second hand dealer of Pond street, was sentenced in the police court yesterday morning to a term of six months in jail with hard labor. One prisoner charged with drunkenness was fined \$2 or five days in jail.

**Examined by Commission.**  
At noon yesterday the examination of Charles Campbell, a witness in the case in which the relatives of William Ryder, who was killed last December on Main street, sues the Street Railway for damages, was held in the offices of Weldon and McLean. It was held under an order by Judge McKewen and counsel were present. F. R. Taylor for the defendant company, and D. Mullin for the plaintiff, Mr. Campbell at the time of the accident was bar-tender on the Allan Line Corsican and was the first witness at the coroner's inquest. He was brought by consent from Montreal and his evidence will be read at the trial of the case at the forthcoming sitting of the Circuit Court. Mrs. Isabel Smith, court stenographer, took the evidence.

**Action for Damages.**  
Thomas J. Fitzgerald, carpenter, has entered action for damages against C. H. Hutchings. Fitzgerald was badly hurt by being struck with a bale of excelsior which fell while being hoisted into Mr. Hutchings' building, some months ago.

**A Medal Winner.**  
Master James Manning, son of Dr. James Manning, is the winner this year of the medal offered to the High School student writing the best English essay. The subject was "The Future of St. John, and the judges were unanimous in declaring Master Manning's essay the best of the five submitted. His elder brother was last year's winner of the medal.

**Popular Nurse Leaves.**  
Miss Sparkhall of the Victorian Order of Nurses left last evening for Peterboro, Ont., where she will engage in district nursing under the Ontario Medical Association.

### PROVINCIAL

**Small Boy Was Shot.**  
Woodstock, Oct. 16.—Walter Estabrooks, aged 7 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Estabrooks, was with some companions playing in the barn yesterday afternoon with some rifle cartridges, when one exploded, badly wounding the fingers of his left hand. The wound was dressed by Drs. Rankin and Grant.

**Royal Bank Buys Fredericton Property.**  
Fredericton, Oct. 16.—The Royal Bank of Canada has purchased the Cranberry Point property at the corner of Carleton and Queen streets. The price is about \$15,000. The bank now occupies the lower portion of the building but will move to other quarters to allow for improvements.

**Marketing Grand Lake Coal.**  
Fredericton, Oct. 16.—The first car load of coal from Sir Thomas Tait's new mine at Minto for commercial use reached Fredericton this morning, the commencement of the marketing of the product of the Minto Coal Company's operations. The shipment was made via the Central and Intercolonial Railway, which route will be used for all shipments until the completion of the Gibson and Minto railway. Just how soon the new line will be ready is as yet unknown, but the exception of unfavorable weather conditions of the season have delayed the work to some extent. However, the contractors are taking advantage of the weather now and the work is being rushed along as rapidly as possible. The coal is of a fine, bright variety, and besides being used to the extent of more than 100,000 tons annually by the C. P. R., promises to supplant Nova Scotia coal for steaming and general purposes hereabouts.

**Moncton Man Promoted.**  
Moncton, Oct. 16.—George McSweeney, formerly of Moncton, now of the Dominion Coal Co. staff here, has been appointed assistant superintendent of the company's Springhill district. He has been playing fine football for the M. A. A. team.

**Has Relatives Here.**  
Gardiner, Me., Oct. 16.—The funeral of Miss Sadie A. Hemphill, a native of New Brunswick, and wife of Samuel H. Hemphill of Webb's Mills, Me., took place yesterday at St. Dresden avenue, Gardiner. She was 33 years of age. She leaves a husband, a son, Kenneth, and a sister, Milligan Rogers, of St. John. She died at Webb's Mills, but the funeral was at another sister's, Mrs. Dana Wagg, at Gardiner.

**E. A. Lancaster Injured.**  
St. Catharines, Oct. 16.—E. A. Lancaster, M.P., father of the famous marriage man, will be confined to his home for several days, as a result of stepping upon a rusty nail, which went through the sole of his shoe and entered his foot.

**Marconi May Be Blind.**  
Rome, Oct. 16.—Another consultation was held yesterday on Signor Marconi's sight between Prof. Bayard, from Turin, officials from the military hospital, and Dr. Pastega. The examination lasted several hours and resulted in a bulletin causing serious anxiety regarding the sight of the patient. The bulletin said: "The examination demonstrates that the diminution of the visual faculty of the patient, observed on Oct. 10, is increasing, accompanied by shrinking from light, neuralgic pains, rendering diagnosis always more doubtful."



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**ORDER NEAR IN NICARAGUA.**  
Washington, Oct. 18.—According to a report from Rear Admiral Southern to the navy department Friday, United States marines and sailors in Nicaragua can be withdrawn within a month with order restored.

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