

The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N.B., AUGUST 1, 1908.

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LEGISLATION IN AUSTRALIA

The London Standard prints a very interesting review by its Melbourne correspondent of the legislation adopted at the recent session of the parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, which was in session almost continuously for more than eleven months. The tariff, a bounty system, the income tax on civil servants, federal finance, old age pensions and naval defence were among the matters dealt with, and important measures were adopted. Canadian will read with interest the following portion of the review:—

"The outstanding feature of the session has been the tariff, which the attorney general, Mr. L. E. Groom, says 'will lead to the establishment of new industries in Australia, the investing of fresh capital, and the employment of additional hands, besides giving that diversity of employment so requisite in Australia.' The new tariff is a striking manifestation of the desire of Australia to develop her own resources and to depend upon her own powers. At the same time, it recognizes that many of the goods which her people require must come from abroad, and indicates the preference which Australians feel for Great Britain as the source of supply. Parliament also passed a Bounties Act, which provides for the expenditure of £330,000 in the encouragement of agricultural (largely tropical or semi-tropical) industries, fishing industries, and the manufacture of wool tops. The federal power to legislate upon the subject of quarantine has also been exercised. The term 'quarantine' has been interpreted in the most extended sense, and it is hoped the uniformity resulting from the collection of all powers under a single control will greatly facilitate the movements of shipping.

"The celebrated income tax cases have left their impress upon the statute book. The practical result of these cases was that federal servants were relieved from all liability to pay state income taxes. This creation of a privileged class raised a storm of objection throughout the Commonwealth. The federal authorities stood strongly by the principle (which the High Court had established) that federal instrumentalities and agencies were not subject to interference or impediments by the exercise of the taxing powers of the states. But they were wise enough to see that no good object could be gained by insisting upon what the general public regarded as an improper application of this constitutional rule. An act was accordingly passed which makes the federal servant pay the same income tax as his fellow citizens.

"The Old Age Pensions Bill was passed last week; its main provisions have already been indicated by cable. New South Wales and Victoria introduced old age pensions some years ago. Queensland has just followed suit, but the other three states possessed no such legislation. The states in which the system was in operation required naturally enough, a residence qualification of a considerable term of years. Thus a man (or woman) who migrated from one state to another after childhood might lose the benefit of all the state schemes, even though his whole life had been spent in states which made provision for the declining years of their aged citizens. This defect has been removed by the federal act, which, recognizing an Australian as distinct from a state citizen, enables a person to qualify for a pension by continuous residence in Australia, not in any particular state. This act makes no reduction in the total amount of pension in the case of married couples, and does not adopt the much criticised Victorian law, which requires relatives to contribute where they are supposed by a court to be able to do so.

"Finance has been a big question during the closing months of the session, and has brought the Commonwealth into direct and serious conflict with the governments of all the states. The proposals made by Mr. Deakin and Sir William Lyne excited the most violent hostility. These, however, cannot come into force before 1911, and many things may happen before that time. One practical financial change has already been made by the

Surplus Revenue Bill. The Commonwealth is entitled to 'apply' one-quarter of the customs revenue towards its expenditure, and, until 1911, must return three-quarters to the states. Since the establishment of federation the Commonwealth has not taken the whole of its share, but has returned some £6,000,000 in excess of the obligatory three-fourths. The Commonwealth now contemplates a largely increased expenditure in connection with defence, old age pensions, the post office, transfer of the northern territory and the trans-continental railway (the survey of which was authorized during the session). The Surplus Revenue Bill provides for the establishment of trust funds, into which moneys appropriated for each prospective expenditure may be paid, and enacts that moneys so appropriated shall be deemed to be 'applied' to federal expenditure. Strong objection was taken to the bill by the state premiers and by the federal members who uphold 'state rights,' but the measure passed through both Houses with good majorities. The passage of this act has enabled the Government to set aside £250,000 for purposes of naval defence and £177,000 for old age pensions from the revenue of the year ended June 30. It is proposed to provide in this way £750,000 for the latter object during this and the next financial year, so that a beginning with the pension scheme may be made not later than July 1, 1909. The £250,000 for naval defence is not to be spent until the House has had an opportunity of considering the whole naval and military problem. Defence will form the principal issue next session, which is expected to begin in September."

CHEERING OUTLOOK

All reports from the west agree that there is a great crop and there seems to be a bright outlook for harvesting and moving the grain. The Calgary Albertan quotes one authority whose views will be regarded as worthy of general acceptance. Mr. T. C. Irving, general manager of Bradstreet's said to the Albertan that there could be no better outlook for the country. What he had seen during the past couple of weeks would surprise even the most optimistic, and he has so reporting to his principals in New York. His further comment is thus reported:

"The failures throughout Canada for the first six months of this year had been slightly greater than for the corresponding six months last year, but this was not to be wondered at in view of the comparative crop failure of 1907, and the financial depression. The merchants, especially in the west, were showing a wise discretion in the matter of buying goods, until they see for a certainty how the crop is going to pan out. The banks, too, are, in his opinion, pursuing a wise policy in the matter of loans, but the general feeling throughout the country is that the danger point is past. In consultation with Mr. Whyte, second vice-president of the C. P. R., in traveling over the country, they had estimated the crop at from 130,000,000 to 140,000,000 bushels, which is more than double that of last year. Of course there is a greatly increased acreage under cultivation, but the average yield promises to be very high. This cannot fail to attract attention to Western Canada from all over the world, and be the cause of a great influx of the best class of immigrants and capital for the development of the resources of the country."

Friends of the playgrounds movement will read with interest the following from the Toronto World: "The playground movement is becoming popular in all parts of Canada, and future generations of children will certainly have much to be thankful for in consequence. J. J. Kelso received a letter yesterday from Edmonton, stating that the first playground had been opened there and that others would follow. London, Ontario, has also made great progress in this direction, and has obtained for the children of the city free access to the mineral baths on the River Thames."

The Government steamer Arctic, Capt. Bernier, has sailed from Quebec for a two years' cruise in Ungava Bay and in Baffin Sea. Capt. Bernier has been charged to take possession, on behalf of the Canadian Government, of some extensive islands in that vicinity. There will be joy among the Eskimos when the Arctic arrives. They doubtless remember the tea parties and other delightful social functions which marked the last visit of the Arctic to that region.

A Halifax despatch announces that Hon. G. E. Foster is to make a tour of Nova Scotia during August. He will address meetings at the following points:—August 10, Springhill; 11, Truro; 12, Digby; 13, Windsor; 14, New Glasgow; 17, Sydney Mines; 18, Sydney or Glace Bay.

The announcement that two Brooklyn bank officials have spent \$44,000 of the bank's funds in speculation does not arouse much interest. The sum appropriated is small, and indicates that these men were amateurs.

Mrs. Talker—Diamonds are becoming more expensive every year.

Mrs. Shorty—Yes, and judging from what Henry says, so are hearts, clubs and spades.—Syracuse Herald.

Stores open till 11 tonight.

St. John, August 1st, 1908.

August Means Bargains at Harvey's

It has always been a rule with us to use the month of August for a clearing up sale of all odds and ends in Clothing and Furnishings. This year we are cutting the prices deeper than ever. See our windows. Call at the stores tonight; they are open till 11 o'clock.

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\$6.50 Suit	Sale Price \$4.95	\$7.50 Suit	Sale Price \$5.85
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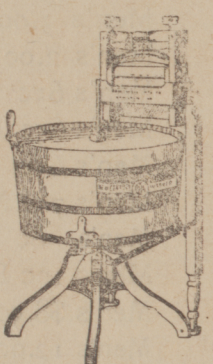
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New 1907 Model 4 h. p. F. M. Engine \$125.00

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Sell a whole lot of it, because people know when they buy candy from us they get it fresh. Got a nice assortment of Moir's Chocolates in day-before-yesterday—great for Sunday munching. Drop in to-night for some.

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Spring and Summer Wear

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WEAKEST AND STRONGEST

Which is the weakest thing of all? Mine heart can ponder? The sun, a little cloud can pall? With darkness yonder? The cloud, a little wind can move? Wherever it listeth? The wind, a little leaf above, Though ere, re-liteth?

What time that yellow leaf was green, My days were gladder? But now, whatever spring may mean, I must grow sadder. Ah, with a sad sigh can wring My lips asunder! Then, in mine heart the weakest thing, Itself can ponder.

Yet, Heart! when sun and cloud are pined And at a blast which is not wind, The forests wither. Thou, from the darkening deathly curse, To glory break!—The strongest of the universe, Guarding the weakest.—Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

IN MODERATION. "Do you subscribe to the platform of your party this year?" "Not so much as the managers wanted," replied the financier.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

IN THE COUNTRY.

Country Landlady to her guests—"Gentlemen and ladies, you will have fresh laid eggs every day. Peter, run to the hen-house and bring six eggs at once. Why don't you go?" Peter—"Mother, the groceryman says he won't trust us with eggs any more."—Ellegende Blatter.

SHOULD HAVE NERVED HIMSELF.

Beatrice, aged five, spent the day playing with Tommy, her little four-year-old neighbor. When she was ready to go home she hugged and kissed Tommy, against his tearful protestations. Reporting the matter to her mother, she concluded with, "But, mother, Tommy should have nerved himself to let me go."—Lippincott's.

AN INCOMPLETE SUMMARY.

Mrs. Maloney was before the judge, charged with assault on Policeman Casey. She had been unusually attentive throughout the proceedings, and now the judge was summing up the evidence. Reporting the matter to her mother, she concluded with, "But, mother, Tommy should have nerved himself to let me go."—Lippincott's.

A DELPHIC RESPONSE.

(The Congregationalist.) "It's hard," said the sentimental landlady at the dinner table, "to think that this poor little lamb should be destroyed in its youth, just to cater to our appetites." "Yes," replied the smart boarder, struggling with his portion. "It's tough."

TRULY LIBERAL.

(Ellegende Blatter.) Professional Pastor—I would like to undertake a fast of four weeks in this show of yours. How much will you pay me? Showman—I can't give you any salary, but I will pay for your board.

AN IMPORTANT DIALOGUE.

(Memphis Sentinel.) A mountaineer, intimating that he knew a great deal about a moonshiner on trial in a Kentucky court, and thereby got free transportation to Louisville to testify for the state.

"What can you tell us about this man?" asked the district attorney. "Waal," he answered, "dwelling with importance, 'I seen this feller riding along the road in the heat of a hot day on a pacing roan nag, and a-waving of a flag and a blowing of a horn; and I ax him if that was a Blue Grass horse or a Chittin' breed, and he said it war.'"

TERRIBLE TALES OF CANNIBALISM

Horrible Murders and Looting by Natives of the Bismarck Archipelago.

Victoria, B. C., July 31.—News of murders and cannibalism in the Bismarck archipelago, followed by a German punitive expedition, in which some villages were burned and the capture of a trading schooner and murder of Oliver Burns, a Sydney trader, in the Solomon group, was brought by the steamer 'Aorangi,' which arrived tonight from Australia via Honolulu. Three mission boys were victims of the cannibalistic affair in the Bismarck group, which is under German control. The Rev. W. Dank's mission station was attacked at Baining, and three boys, who were captured, were killed and their bodies carried to the hills, where a feast was held. The remains were roasted and devoured. Evidence of the feast were found by an expedition sent to punish the natives. One of the party, a German trader named Schmidt, was mortally wounded by a spear. The same mission was the scene of a massacre in 1904, when the mission was rushed and five missionaries and teachers and five Sisters were massacred.

Oliver Burns, victim of the natives in the Solomon group, had a trading station at Marova Lagoon. His trading schooner anchored off the shore, was seized and looted and he was murdered. Two blacks boarded the schooner, to trade, and while Burns was stooping to pick up some goods, he was struck from behind with an axe. The trader's rifle was seized, and the natives then looted the schooner. Kerosene was found in the vessel, and it was scattered about and the schooner set on fire, after being looted. The natives then robbed the dead man's store of everything and burned it. Marova Lagoon is the headquarters of several traders, being a large copra base, and was formerly headquarters of bands of head-hunters.

Arrivals at Sydney say that the repatriated islanders from Australia have reverted to savagery, having taken back the vices of the white man without his redeeming points, and the settlers in the South Seas have had to arm themselves for protection in consequence. It is estimated that a thousand rifles have been secured by the blacks within a short time.

PAROLE GOOD PRISONERS TO HARVEST THE CROP

Suggestion of the Immigration Inspector of Manitoba—36,000 Men Wanted.

Winnipeg, July 31.—"The demand from all parts of the province for harvesters at the present time," said Provincial Immigration Agent Burke this morning, "is enormous. I can place at least 1,000 men at the present moment."

He says 10,000 will be wanted in Manitoba and 17,000 in the west and adds: "This would be a proper time for releasing the better class of prisoners from the jails on parole to assist in the harvest. There will be work for them all. This system has been adopted more than once in the United States and has proved most successful. Of course the men would have to be weeded out as you would weed good weeds from bad weeds, by selecting the best. There is no doubt that this would have a good effect, as the men would rather work than return to the cells."

As an instance of their demand, Mr. Burke said at the Village of Strassburg, Sask., a new settlement, there is at present demand for 100 men.

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We are clearing out six different styles in

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All new lasts and shapes.

\$4 and \$5 Boots selling at

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Every size in the lot.

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It will pay you to buy now rather than wait till the rush in the fall.

Come in and see us or write for prices.

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