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LONDON, FRIDAY, MARCH 20

WHITE OR YELLOW?

Rev. Dr. Johnston's address to the Canadian Club yesterday was a plea for the unrestricted admission of Orientals. He would "swing open the gates of Canada east and west, and allow the nations of the world to come in." He saw no menace in the fact, which he admitted, that "the struggling peoples of China and Japan are looking for an open door for their millions," and that the door could open in only one direction—the east; in other words, this continent.

These sentiments do credit to his heart, but his faith in the power of this young country to absorb, with safety to itself, an unlimited number of Asiatics, will not be shared by the majority of Canadians.

In British Columbia already one in every four male adults is a Chinaman or a Japanese. In a few years, but for the existing restrictions, the Asiatics would outnumber the whites in the Coast Province. They would overflow into the other provinces and it is conceivable that in the not very distant future they would comprise more than half the population of the Dominion. There are 450,000,000 Chinese and Japanese in a territory no larger than the habitable part of Canada, and they could easily swamp the 7,000,000 of whites in this country if they could enter as freely as the Europeans.

The presence of Asiatics in great numbers would create grave social, political and economic problems. They could not be assimilated by intermarriage or otherwise; they could not be admitted to political or social equality under a form of government which they do not understand, and which depends for its efficiency upon the quality of the individual citizen. Democracy is government not only for but by the people.

Cheap labor is less important than the character of the laborer, and it will be better to allow our material development to proceed more slowly than run the risk of impairing the standard of Canadian citizenship. Canada can best contribute to civilization and moral progress by remaining a white man's country.

THE I. C. R. PROVIDENT FUND.

While by wise management the present Dominion Government has succeeded in raising the Intercolonial Railway from a losing investment to a profitable one—the surplus for the past year, as stated by the Finance Minister in his budget speech, amounting to over \$218,000—the result has by no means been achieved at the expense of the employees of the road. On the contrary, every consideration has been given the workers; "scale" wages are paid in all departments, and the best of feeling prevails between the employees and the management. More than that, the department of railways has adopted means for providing for men who have been in the service of the Government for many years, and also for abolishing such positions occupied by older men as can be dispensed with without injury to the service. This has been accomplished by the establishment of a provident fund.

Under the system, which is now in full operation, the employees, at their own request, in order to have the right of assisting in the government and management of the fund, contribute a certain sum each year, and the Government contributes a share not exceeding \$100,000 annually. The fund is administered by the minister, through a board of five persons, one being the general manager, two appointed by the minister from among the chief officers of the railway, and the other two elected by the contributing employees. As explained by the Minister of Railways, the employees who receive the benefits of the fund are divided into five classes—first, those who have attained the age of 70 years, after being 15 years in the service; second, those who after being 15 years in the service become physically or mentally incapacitated; third, those who have attained the age of 60 years after being 15 years in the service and request to be retired; fourth, those permanently disabled as a result of injuries received while on duty; fifth, those who, previous to the establishment of the fund, entered the service at such an advanced age as to cause them to reach the age of 70 years before being 15 years in the service, provided they have been in the service at least 10 years. Persons who retire and are placed upon the fund are given a monthly allowance of 1 1/2 per cent of the average monthly pay received for the eight years immediately preceding their retirement for each year of their

service, and the amount so ascertained is paid monthly to the retired employee during the remainder of his life. To gain an idea of how the system works out, let it be supposed that a man who for the last eight years, or 96 months, prior to his retirement, has earned \$5,425, or an average of \$56 51 per month, and that the time of his service is 40 years. At 1 1/2 per cent for each year of service he would receive 60 per cent of \$56 51, which would give him a monthly allowance of \$33 90. At the same time the minimum monthly allowance is \$20.

The scheme is both businesslike and humane, and will tend to improve the morale of the service.

ROSS AND WHITNEY.

Ex-Premier Ross comes back at Premier Whitney in a second letter on the power question. He reiterates that the Whitney Government must share the responsibility for the Electrical Development Company's contract, because it ratified the agreement in 1905. Mr. Ross adds that Mr. Whitney "missed the golden opportunity" which came to him a few weeks ago in the shape of an offer of sale from the company.

Mr. Whitney has not yet retracted his assertion, made in hysterical language, that the action of the Ross Government prevented the purchase and operation of the Electrical Development Company's plant by the present administration. This declaration was deliberately made for dramatic effect and was echoed sensationally by the Conservative press. If Mr. Whitney had admitted that he rejected the company's offer from motives of public policy, he would have been given credit for straightforwardness, but it was an unworthy evasion to claim that his hands were tied by his predecessors. He has not ventured to meet this point in his controversy with Mr. Ross.

Our Conservative friends refuse to recognize a surplus unless it has a Tory label.

Wouldn't the Ontario Minister of Power like to have one William Gray in the electric chair for a few seconds?

It was 14 below zero in Winnipeg yesterday. When the mercury climbs to zero the Winnipeggers will begin to look for spring.

Those who say that the Government should educate blind Trooper Mulloy are not prevented from contributing to that purpose.

The Albert County (N. B.) Liberal-Conservative Association has passed a resolution calling upon the Hazen Government to dismiss all who were appointed to office in New Brunswick by the lately defeated Government. The Conservative Blues have been infected by the example of the Whitney Government.

Is it useless to look for a little common honesty from the Conservative press in the discussion of Mr. Fielding's budget statement? He estimated a surplus of \$19,000,000 for the year ending March 31 next, being the excess of ordinary receipts over ordinary expenditures; but nearly every Conservative journal announced in glaring headlines that his statement showed a deficit of \$12,000,000. It is a different story today with the Provincial budget. Receipts have exceeded expenditures by \$606,000, but if the money advanced to the Temiskaming Railway were included in the expenditures there would be no surplus. The Conservative press could have the money spent on the Transcontinental Railway with the federal expenditure so as to represent that there is a deficit in the federal budget; but it omits including the expenditure on the Temiskaming Railway with the ordinary Provincial expenditure. The Provincial Treasurer can honestly claim a surplus of \$606,000, but the Conservative press denies Mr. Fielding's equally honest claim to a surplus of \$19,000,000.

YOUR TROUBLE.

[S. E. Kiser.]

Who says the times are out of joint? Who thinks the way is growing steeper? Who fears the worst is yet to come and that the gloom is getting deeper? Cheer up, you that expect no joys along the path as yet untraveled; Your trouble probably is due to something you have lately eaten.

Who says that men grow worse and worse? Who sits alone in darkness grieving? Because there are no heights to gain, no honors that are worth achieving? Cheer up, you that in sadness sit, robbed of the hope you had of rising; The trouble with you probably is that you need more exercising.

NEW SOURCE OF REVENUE.

[Toronto Star.]

It is with a view of relieving the Provincial Treasurer from prospective difficulties that this article is written. There is in Ontario one unfailing possible source from which taxation may be drawn without hardship to anyone; indeed, the imposition of a tax such as we are about to suggest would prove a source of infinite relief to thousands. The levy proposed is one on after-dinner orators. Such an impost should be based on a sliding scale. Commencing with a modest tax of say one dollar on the man who remains on his feet for five minutes, the rate should move steadily upward until a twenty-dollar tax would be collected from the man speaking for half an hour. For the one who holds the floor beyond the thirty-minute limit the assessment should be not less than two dollars a minute up to forty-five minutes, and a dollar a second for anything beyond.

EVERY SCHOOL MUST BE SAFE.

[Philadelphia Telegraph.]

It is so customary, after a holocaust, for a community to momentarily clamor for protective measures and then to fall into inaction, that the present earnest effort of the authorities in systematically proceeding to guard the lives of the children in our schools from fire is a necessary and a prompt recognition of their responsibility. At whatever cost of money and labor, the work should be recognized as an imperative duty, nor cease until every schoolhouse shall be provided with every needful safety appliance. This is an undertaking which must not be delayed by any financial consideration. What sort of economy will it be to stint needful expenditure and sacrifice even one life that is passed into the keeping of the municipality?

AN AWFUL SPECTACLE.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]

The second and concluding volume of "A Staff Officer's Scrapbook During the Russo-Japanese War," by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton, of the British army, is fully as brilliant and readable as its predecessor. We find the author boldly preaching the doctrine that war is the school of all the virtues, and peace the breeding place of all the vices. Yet he gives us this picture of 30-Meter Hill a few days after its capture by the Japanese: "At a glance it springs to the eyes that this is no ordinary hill. It has been fairly battered out of its shape by human agency, and on its blasted and shot-seared surface there is not so much as one dried blade of grass; nothing to break the hardness of the devil's plover to which it has been subjected, but here and there the faded color of a woman's gown or petticoat, which has been used to make sandbags, or the leprous yellow splashes left by the bursting of the high explosive shells. The manner of the devil's plover is thus: First the hill has been sliced into numerous deep gashes, and then these trenches and their dividing walls have been smashed and pounded and crushed into a shapeless jumble of stones; rock splinters and fragments of shells cemented liberally with human flesh and blood. A man's head sticking out of the earth, or a leg, or an arm, or a piece of a man's body lying across my path, or sights which custom has enabled me to escape without blanching. But here the corpses do not so much appear to be escaping from the ground as to be the ground itself. Everywhere there are bodies, or portions of bodies, flattened out and stamped into the surface of the earth, as if they formed part of it. The very walls are built of alternated layers of frozen corpses and sandbags."

Despite his careful and unceasing study of the Japanese, they remained an enigma. They never swaggered or boasted after a victory; they had expected it all the time. Their "demeanor" concerning themselves were modest, even deprecatory; they had "so much yet to learn from the west." Yet Gen. Hamilton detected evidences of an actual feeling of superiority on their part.

THE BELLS OF SHANDON.

[Francis Mahony, "Father Prout."] The intelligence that the bells of the Shandon Church, near Cork, Ireland, are to be taken down and sent to London to be remodeled, recalls Rev. Francis Mahony's popular poem:

With deep affection and recollection
Of often thinking of Shandon bells,
Whose sounds so wild would, in the days
Of childhood,
Piling round my cradle their magic
spells.

On this I ponder where'er I wander,
And thus grow fonder, sweet Cork, of
thee;

With thy bells of Shandon that sound so
grand on
The pleasant waters of the River Lee.

I've heard bells chiming full many a
clime in
Tolling sublime in cathedral shrine;
The while at a gift rate brass tongues would
vibrate;
But all their music spoke naught like
thine.

For memory dwelling on each proud
swelling
Of thy belfry knelling its bold notes
free,
Made the bells of Shandon sound far
more grand on
The pleasant waters of the River Lee.

I've heard bells tolling old Adrian's Mole
in
Their thunder rolling from the Vatican;
And cymbals glorious swinging uproari-
ous
In the gorgeous turrets of Notre Dame.

But thy sounds were sweeter than the
dome of Peter
Pinging o'er the Tiber, pealing solemnly;
Oh, the bells of Shandon sound far more
grand on
The pleasant waters of the River Lee.

There's a bell in Moscow; while on tower
and kiosk O,
In Saint Sophia the Turkmen gets,
And loud in air calls men to prayer
From the tapering summits of tall
minarets.

Such empty phantom I freely grant them,
But there's an anthem more dear to me;
The bells of Shandon that sound so
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AN EATING ULCER.

Ulcers are a skin disease, and are more or less directly occasioned by a bad state of the blood, which produces acid humors and corrupts the secretions.

No one can expect to have a skin free from disease when the blood is in a disordered condition and the stomach and bowels acting feebly in consequence.

Through its wonderful cleansing, purifying powers on the blood, and its renovating action on the entire system, Burdock Blood Bitters has made thousands of cures of different skin diseases during the past thirty years it has been on the market.

Mrs. Joseph Robinson, Hallerton, Que., writes: "I had an eating ulcer on my ankle. I took two bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters and it worked like a charm, cleaning out all the impurities from my system and improving my appetite. While taking the B.B.B. internally I used it externally to cleanse the sore, and it helped a lot."

QUEEN'S TO BE INDEPENDENT

Agitation for Separation From Presbyterian Church Still Alive.

Kingston, March 19.—The agitation for independence of Queen's, begun by the late Principal Grant, will not down, and it is said on good authority that the subject of separation from the Presbyterian Church, will again be brought to the attention of the general assembly in June.

The endowment scheme of half a million is not reaching a finish as desired, the \$100,000 being very slow in coming.

To Open or Not to Open Nelson St.? Question Before Board of Works

Deputations For and Against Heard at Meeting Last Night.

Considerable business was up before No. 2 committee last evening, but not much of it was finished.

A deputation from Nelson street appeared before the committee to urge the opening of the Wellington street entrance to the street. Mr. R. Lucas and Mr. R. E. Davis appeared on behalf of those who wanted to open the street, and Mr. G. J. Carly opposed it. Mr. Lucas pointed out that there could be no sewer water, gas connections or sidewalks, as the street was at present, and urged that the Wellington street should be opened. This should be done, especially in view of the fact that Waterloo street would probably be closed.

Engineer Says No.

City Engineer Graydon pointed out that it would be impossible to give them sewer connection on Nelson street, as the property was too low, and there could be no outlet. A large part of Nelson street, especially at Wellington street, was in the river, a big section of it having gone into the stream this year with the flood.

Mr. Lucas, "The bank should not be allowed to fall into the river. We should be protected. A breakwater was built to protect West London, and we have as much right to be protected as West London."

Opposed the Opening.

Mr. Carly opposed the opening of Wellington street, as it was not necessary. These men had an outlet even were Waterloo street to be closed. He had his rights also in that neighborhood, for if the street were opened a large portion of his property must be taken in order to do so, and he wanted his rights protected.

Ald. Saunders declared that the committee was all in the dark regarding the matter, and moved that the city engineer be instructed to survey the property and give the committee a report on it at the next meeting. This motion carried.

A Nuisance.

Mr. Wm. Dufosse complained of a nuisance on Wellington street north. The water had been backed onto his property from a defective sewer.

City Engineer Graydon explained to the committee that the drain had been

put down under the ditches and water-courses act, and an award had been made as to the maintenance of this drain. He did not know what portion of the drain the city had to maintain. The award had been filed with City Clerk Baker, but it has been impossible to find it lately. There was no doubt the drain needed fixing, but it was necessary to have the award for access to the drain.

On motion of Ald. Stewart, the matter was left with the city engineer to report on at the next meeting.

Claim for Damages.

Mr. R. M. C. Toth, barrister, made a claim for damages on behalf of Mr. Wm. Adams, of 140 Clarence street, who was injured by falling on an iron door entering into the cellar of the Dominion House.

Engineer Graydon reported that the iron door had been laid by a former proprietor of the Dominion House, on condition that he assume all liability for accidents. He said the door could do was to defend the suit, and make Mr. J. J. Cox, the proprietor of the Dominion, co-defendant.

Ald. Saunders moved that this be done, and the motion carried.

City Engineer Graydon was instructed to initiate a walk on Sydneyham street, between Richmond and St. George streets, and a cement curb and gutter on Waterloo, between Princess and Central avenues.

The reports of City Engineer Graydon and City Architect Nutter on the Askin Street Church, were laid over until next meeting.

Local Improvements.

The petitions for cement curbs and gutters on north and south Hamilton road, between Horton and Adelaide streets, and on east and west William street, between Hill street and Ottawa avenue, and on west Adelaide street, between Hamilton road and Grey street, were reported sufficiently signed, and will take the usual course.

The petition for a cement walk on Renwick avenue, between Victoria and Cheapside streets, was sufficiently signed, and will take the usual course.

The petition for a cement walk on west Wharfcliffe road to the Cove was sufficiently signed, and will take the usual course.

M. Topping offered \$100 for the rental of the sewage farm for the former year, and it was recommended to be accepted.

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