



The budget introduced into the British House of Commons by the Chancellor of Exchequer, Mr. David Lloyd-George, on April 29th, includes some of the most daring innovations ever brought forward in the history of the British Parliament. It proposes to make up the deficit of nearly £16,000,000, induced by the amount necessary for old-age pensions and building of Dreadnoughts, chiefly by increased taxes on liquor and accumulated wealth. The tax on unearned incomes will be increased from 2 pence to 1 shilling 2 pence on the pound, and that on earned incomes of over £2,000 will be raised by 1 shilling. Upon incomes of over £5,000 a supertax will also be imposed; also taxes on urban, undeveloped land, undeveloped mines, etc. "We ought to avoid taxes on the necessities of life," said the Chancellor, "and tea and sugar are necessities of life." Hence, the expected rates on these commodities will not be realized. Upon whiskey, however, the duty will be increased by one-third, and that on tobacco by 8 pence per pound. There is also an increased tax on motor cars, while that on all the transactions of the Stock Exchange will be doubled. . . . In addition, many new measures for the benefit of the working classes are foreshadowed, among them a State insurance against loss of employment by deserving workmen, and a grant to persons earning under £500 a year of a special new abatement of £10 for every child under 16 years of age.

Naturally, the wealthy classes of all kinds, the brewers, distillers, motor manufacturers and stock-exchange speculators are practically all in arms against the budget, which, Sir Frederick Banbury declared, includes "every fad on the face of the earth." The Labor Party alone gives praise. But the Chancellor, with his keen vision, has not taken the step without counting the cost. He has foreseen the opposition, tremendous as it is, but he has dared to be a man, and to free himself forever from the ranks of the mere parasite. "He has kept faith with the nation."

The Governors-General sent to Ottawa may not at all times meet the unqualified approbation of this democratic Dominion, with its youthful ambitions and leanings towards common sense, even to the undoing of conservatism, but none but golden opinions are likely to be held in regard to the present Governor, and the way in which he has filled the office.

The secret, perhaps, of Earl Grey's popularity is his genuine interest in humanity. He is no snob; he possesses a goodly share of sound, practical sense; he is not selfish; and he is not lazy. Even in England, that land of aristocracy, he took an interest in the common folk, and exerted himself to bring about measures for their good. In Canada he has broader opportunities, and nothing escapes him. He considers it no more beneath him to investigate or regard to securing better home for workmen, or to advise a more general care as regards ventilation (he sees too many windows shut, he says, as he travels from place to place), than to form plans for a national policy for this land, in which for a little time he stands as king. "Earl Grey has told the Canadian people," writes a Canadian

correspondent to London Times, "that the highest wisdom consists not in the frenzied or restless pursuit of wealth, but in the foundation of character. He has declared that the chief immediate requisites for Canada are: (1) Such measures as will lay firmly and securely the foundations of a trade with the Orient; (2) as will perfect our system of transportation east and west, and secure to Canada the full benefits of her geographical position; and (3) as will increase the supply of labor."

The wisdom of Earl Grey's conclusion that, for the immediate prosperity of Canada, it is necessary to build up a trade with the Orient, would seem to be borne out by a recent article in the Review of Reviews, written by a gentleman who, through long residence in the Empire of China, knows it thoroughly. China, he states, is becoming so fully alive to the importance of her resources, and to the necessity of developing them, that it will not be long until she has entered into keen trade competition with other countries. Whereas, thirty years ago, the single railway in the country, and that built by foreigners, was torn up out of superstition, there are now over 1,000 miles laid and operated by Chinese, while as many as 37,000 tons of iron have been exported by a Chinese company in a single year. China is bent on Occidentalization, and the greatest

children, thousands of whom were burned to death in their homes, or killed on attempting to escape.

The Moslem believes that the killing of a Christian is a virtuous act, insuring for him who kills additional joys in the future life. He also is a fatalist, believing that the time of death is irrevocably set for every man, and that it can neither be incurred by rank exposure to it, nor avoided by ever so much care. His religion, therefore, makes him a most formidable agent of destruction of the most devilish order, and religion only could exert such a power over men as far removed from the natural savage as is the Moslem—men who wear woven clothes, and live in houses and cities, who cultivate land and carry on manufactures, who possess an organized system of Government and commerce, and worship. No people under the sun need the beneficent influence of Christian religion more than the vast horde forming the ranks of Mohammedanism, and no people is harder to reach with such influence. For the Mohammedan has already heard of the Christ, but he believes there is one yet greater, whose words and commands are to be taken, rather than His. "There is but one God, and Mohammed is His prophet."

Local optionists appear to be taking up in earnest the matter of providing first-class accommodation for the travelling public. The latest news in regard to this comes from



"A perfect day whereon it is enough for me Not to be doing, but to be."

statesmen are behind the movement. As a result, she is introducing with amazing rapidity Western telegraph, telephone, postal and military systems; mines are being promoted, the sale and cultivation of opium suppressed, and education, on Western methods, encouraged in every Province.

The marvellous power which religion, even if of a kind bordering on that of the heathen, exerts over human kind, is again exemplified by the recent massacres in Adana and the surrounding towns and villages of Asia Minor, where the death-roll for the past few weeks records an estimate of 30,000 men, women and

the Village of Wellington, where the Citizens' League have applied for a Government charter for the "Wellington Hotel Co., Limited," and have purchased the Hotel Wellman property, valued at about \$15,000. The hotel, which will be known as the "Hotel Alexandra," will be renovated and re-furnished, and will be run on strictly temperance lines.

Reply to "Nemo."

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate": In your issue of April 22nd I see that "Nemo" takes exception to my article of April 1st. Now, in the first place, I would advise Nemo to hunt up that issue of "The

Farmer's Advocate," put on his spectacles, and read the article again, then possibly he may be able to see where he has misrepresented me. It certainly would have been presumption on my part to have accused "Nemo," or any of his family, of being drunkards, not having any personal knowledge of them whatever. What I did say was this: "If 'Nemo' were a drunkard, or one of a drunkard's family," etc. It makes all the difference in the world whether that little word IF is put in or left out. I have no doubt but that "Nemo" and his family are quite respectable, temperate people, but I have not seen anything yet in either of his articles in condemnation of the liquor traffic. A man must be either on one side or the other, and if he is not willing to do something, and make sacrifices, if necessary, in the cause of temperance, he has no right to consider himself a temperance man. We do not claim that local option will stop all drinking, but it will stop some of it; it practically does away with the open bar and the treating system. Of course, old toppers will sneak in at the back door, but respectable people will not descend to anything like that, and it takes the temptation out of the way of boys and young men.

If "Nemo" thinks we are justified in carrying on an abominable liquor traffic in this country, simply to provide accommodation for travellers, he is very much mistaken. What I objected to in "Nemo's" first article was the slur which he cast upon temperance workers and preachers.

Now, I am not one who goes around the country blowing my own horn, but I have no doubt but those who know me will be able to judge whether my temperance principles are worthy of confidence or not.

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Another Opinion.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Your correspondent, "Nemo," is, evidently, like a good many others, not very well informed on the great temperance reform. He says "Local option may be all right, but around here it is the means of producing many proficient liars and sneaks." We will suppose "Nemo" has a hog fenced into a lot of rather barren pasture, while just over the fence is another lot of most luxurious hog-feed. That hog will quite readily consent to being a liar, sneak, or any other mean thing, if it can only get beyond that fence. Place the liquor party in the place of that hog, and the analogy is complete. In many districts in Ontario the people have found it to their advantage to fence the liquor "hog" out of the rich license "pastures," and not allow him to tear and wallow around among the rich heritage of boys and girls that is ours. The liquor "hog" has got very mad about this. He will readily degenerate into a "liar" or a "sneak," if only he could get into such rich pastures again; but the people of those districts are usually content to allow him to fume and fret, so long as their heritage is protected. It is the liquor "hog" that produces the liars and sneaks, and not local option. Anyway, it is much better that a few liars and sneaks should be produced, than a few old toppers should be compelled to sneak around back alleyways, and down dark cel-