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LONDON, THURSDAY, FEB. 10.

A GROSS ELECTION ANOMALY.

One of the first duties of the Asquith Government, if it retains office, will be the reintroduction of the bill to abolish plural voting. This measure of simple justice and political fair play has been twice rejected by the House of Lords.

The present law permits a man to vote in every constituency in which he has property. It was a source of peculiar strength to the Unionists in the recent election, when the landed classes were overwhelmingly opposed to the Government. It is estimated that the results in at least 50 constituencies were determined by "out-voters," so called because they are non-residents. English newspapers record the case of a man who had 24 votes in the recent election, and succeeded in polling 18 of them, thanks largely to the practice of spreading the election over a fortnight. Yet a man who had equal wealth in the form of stocks, or cash in the bank, or whose property was situated in one constituency alone, would have a single vote. Mr. G. M. Trevelyan, the son of Sir George Trevelyan, Lord Macaulay's nephew and biographer, declares that plural voting gives the Unionists a start of 500 to 1,500 votes in every constituency in Great Britain, adding that "if the House of Lords is the prop of every corrupt interest in the country, the plural vote is the prop of the House of Lords." A correspondent of the London Daily News cites the following glaring examples of the injustice of plural voting, the figures in the first column being the Unionist majorities and in the second the number of out-voters.

Cheshire (Eddisbury).....	658	1,827
Cumberland (Cockermouth).....	941	1,719
Devonshire (Tiverton).....	792	1,111
Dorset (North).....	149	1,242
Gloucestershire (Tewkesbury).....	952	4,252

Another correspondent of the Daily News writes: "In the recent general election I voted in West Newington, the City of London, Kingston, Ealing, Tunbridge Wells, and Wimbledon. I am also entitled to two more votes, but my name was omitted from the register. This makes eight votes in all. I do not reside in any of these divisions. In each case I voted for the Liberal candidate, but, of course, the vast majority of out-voters support the Conservatives." The plural vote is a device for multiplying the electoral weight of one kind of wealth—the land—which already exerts a controlling interest in politics through the medium of the land-owning peers. The militant Liberals have good reason for urging the Government to refuse to retain office unless there is some assurance that the House of Lords shall have no longer the power to perpetuate such injustices, and to destroy the work of the House of Commons.

THE HUDSON BAY RAILWAY PROJECT.

There is a difference of opinion as to whether Churchill or Nelson is the better harbor for the terminus of the proposed Hudson Bay Railway, but the Government is determined to lose no time in getting the enterprise under way. The location of the line for 260 miles from the Pas to Split Lake will not depend upon the choice of harbor. The Pas has been selected as the starting point because it is the nearest to the existing railway system, as well as to Hudson Bay. The Minister of Railways has promised to bring down an item for construction in the supplementary estimates, and make a statement as to whether the road will be constructed by the Government or by a private corporation. In order to save time a bridge is to be constructed across the Saskatchewan at the beginning of the line, which would have to be done whether the work were given to a company or carried on by the Government.

The Government will send a ship with an expedition to make an examination of the channel, of the passage through the Hudson Straits, and of the entrance to the outer harbors of Churchill and Nelson. When that is done, the Government will be able to take up in a more practical way that part of the project at the harbor end. It is found that Chief Engineer Armstrong's claim that Nelson harbor is superior to Churchill is correct. Nelson will be chosen as the terminus of the railway. The distance from the Pas to Nelson is 410 miles, and from

the Pas to Churchill 477 miles. Even if Nelson is no more than as good a harbor as Churchill, the Government will be justified in choosing the Nelson route on account of the saving of 67 miles of construction.

The engineer, in his report, asserts that by the construction of this railway, five cents per bushel can be saved to the people of the west on the grain they produce. This cannot be demonstrated until the road is built, but the prospect justifies its speedy construction.

MORE LIGHT WANTED.

The naval debate at Ottawa ought not to close before a clear definition of the Opposition's policy has been furnished. The country knows, at least, what the Government intends to do. The Government intends to provide shipbuilding plants, shipyards and docks for the construction and accommodation of a fleet of eleven vessels. The initial outlay will be between \$11,000,000 and \$13,000,000, and the annual cost \$2,000,000.

The leader of the Opposition says this project should not be begun until the Canadian people have been consulted; but he does not say how the judgment of the country is to be ascertained. A plebiscite, proposed by Mr. Monk, would be impossible, as a test of public opinion. One section opposes any expenditure upon naval defence. Another section wants a larger Canadian navy than is proposed for the present. Another section favors a money contribution to the British Admiralty. All these sections would unite against the Government's policy, but from different reasons. Similarly, if Mr. Borden's proposal were put to the people, those who are opposed to any expenditure for naval purposes, and those who favor the Government's plans, would unite in voting negatively. There is no formula which would permit every shade of opinion to express itself by means of a referendum.

Mr. Borden owes it to the Government and the country to explain his position. Does he propose a gift of \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000 in cash to the British Admiralty without consulting the country? If so, why does he ask that the country be consulted upon an expenditure of \$11,000,000 to \$13,000,000 for a Canadian navy? What does he mean by the phrase, "consulting the country"? Why has he abandoned the position he occupied in October, when he declared for the immediate construction of a Canadian squadron?

There are too many politicians in this country who profess to regard "God Save the King" as a party tune, and you can't make out its real shape.

Only 20 Conservatives remain in the Senate. In 1895 only 11 Liberals were there. Neither party can reproach the other, but each ought to feel some self-reproach.

The London Chronicle says the next governor-general of Canada will be a statesman of personal prestige. This would be a compliment to Canada, but a statement of prestige has more important work in Great Britain than in Canada, where he must abjure politics.

The Toronto News has the temerity to complain that Canadian Liberal journals helped the Liberal cause in Great Britain because they favored the British Government and were freely quoted during the election campaign. The News itself was an aggressive champion of the Unionist party. The Liberal journals favored a good cause and the News a bad one. That is the only difference.

A scientist has discovered that Hailer's comet carries poison in its tail, which may snuff out life on the earth. The comet has been a regular visitor, at 75-year periods, probably since the solar system took its present form and the morning stars sang together. Why should it misbehave at this late date? Besides, the world has grown better and more deserving.

TUBERCULOSIS CHICKENS.

On Saturday last a St. Thomas lady purchased a three-pound chicken from a woman on the west end market. The fowl was only partly drawn; the heart, liver and gizzard remaining where nature placed them. In dressing the fowl the purchaser discovered the liver to be abnormally enlarged, weighing, in fact, half a pound, or one-sixth of the entire weight of the bird. Moreover, the liver was covered with ulcerated white spots. Meat Inspector Shaw unhesitatingly pronounced the disease to be tuberculosis. There are several peculiar questions arising out of this. As the fowl was sold under the seal of the market, the presumption being that she was not aware of the diseased condition of the bird, if, as some authorities say, avian tuberculosis, or the disease as affecting fowl and fish, is not communicable to man, how could the seller be subject to prosecution, even had she known the fact of disease and the nature of it?

TARIFF "REFORM" IMPOSSIBLE.

It is perfectly legitimate to dwell, as Mr. Lloyd George has done, on the favorable results to the Government of the doubling of the tariff on the large industrial districts in the north, and it must be recognized that to carry tariff reform in the face of these constituencies is impossible.

MILLIONS IN IT.

Although the complaint is often made that literature does not pay large returns, Rev. C. W. Gordon (Ralph Connor) is placed as eleventh on the list of Winnipeg's twenty millionaires. If this proves to be so a number of Canadians will doubtless drop their present occupations and take to novel writing.

A QUAIN CUSTOM GOING.

In the poorer districts which, we understand, fills the foreign visitor with admiration for English strength of mind, is threatened with extinction. It appears that a feeling is growing up against the displaying of coffins in the windows of the undertakers' shops. "Of course, coffin-makers

can show samples of their wares with as much reason as butchers show their beef," remarks the Daily Dispatch; "but a number of people who do not like to be reminded that they will die have taken objection to the practice."

HE OUGHT TO HAVE KNOWN.

"Do you love me well enough to marry me, dear?"
 "How can you ask that, Henry, when I love you well enough to risk my life in your machine?"

A BAD START.

"A man always looks foolish when he proposes," said the frank young woman.
 "Yes," answered Mr. Meekton, "and I have evidently failed to overcome the absurd impression I made on Henrietta on that occasion."

THE REAL THING.

"Talk about your realism, this show looks awful natural to me."
 "How now?"
 "Six months have elapsed since the play started, and the housemaid hasn't done any housework yet."

COULDN'T WALK.

Wife—"You told me the other day we must avoid all luxuries and confine ourselves to absolute necessities only."
 Hubby—"That's so, my dear."
 Wife—"Well, last night you came home from the club in a cab."
 Hubby—"Yes, but that was an absolute necessity."

WHY HIS MOTHER MOURNED.

William M. Fogarty has a story about a good old Irish woman whose son was about to start for a trip around the world. She had watched him prosper with pride. To her he was a great man. In her fond vision she could see all sorts of terrible things coming to him, but she held her peace until he had started for the journey. Then she began to cry. A neighbor tried to console her, but to no avail. "I'm afraid he hasn't the money to get back," said the mother, weeping. "He's got the money to go and the world all right, but how will he ever get back?"

TIME FLIES.

"How about your cook?" When I saw you last month you were quite dissatisfied with her."
 "Was I?" responded the hostess, wearily. "I've been dissatisfied with five or six cooks since then."

QUITE SAFE.

"They say," remarked young Saphleigh, "the death of a shining mark, don't you know?"
 "Oh, well, don't let that worry you," rejoined Miss Sharp. "You are not so brilliant."

GOOD TIME TO LIE LOW.

"I fear I shall not be able to attract much attention," said the new Congressman.
 "Don't worry," answered Senator Northington. "In this era of accusations and investigations it is sometimes a luxury not to be noticed."

THE MAN WHO SULK.

The world has little pity and few favors to be spent
 For the man who is disgruntled and sits
 Sinking in his seat.
 If your venture does not prosper, do not
 Idly curse your luck,
 But get out and make the people wonder
 At your manly pluck.

Men will never come to coax you if you hang back in despair.
 To have courage and keep trying to put off the frown you wear.
 They will give you new chances to replace the ones you lose
 While you haunt a gloomy corner clinging to a case of blues.

They are foolishly self-cheated who keep harping on their woes.
 After they have been defeated, thinking all men are their foes.
 And the praise the world is willing to bestow
 For the man who is disgruntled and sits sulk in his seat.

A FIND.

"See what I got," cried Bobby, a city-bred boy, as he came running in from the chicken coop, holding in his hand a china egg.
 "Oh, to put it back!" exclaimed Mabel, his 6-year-old sister; "that's the egg the men measure by."

NEEDED A SUBJECT.

Mother—"What do you mean by pushing your baby brother down that flight of stairs?"
 Dorothy—"Why, mamma, I've just joined the society for first aid to the injured at school, and I want a subject to practice on."

NOTHING DOING.

Saphleigh—Each night before retiring I write down my thoughts in a little notebook, don't you know?
 Miss Cutting—Indeed! And how long have you been doing that?
 Saphleigh—About three years.
 Miss Cutting—Then you must have had the first page nearly filled by this time.

FARM LABORERS COMING

Also Domestic Servants, Says Ontario Department of Agriculture.

Toronto, Feb. 10.—The provincial department of agriculture, in order to supply the pressing demand in Ontario for competent farm laborers and domestic servants, have in addition to their regular staff of emigration agents in Great Britain, secured the services of a number of special representatives in England, Ireland, Scotland and the Channel Islands, who are now actively engaged in the work of promoting emigration of these classes to Ontario. The department have now definite assurance that there will be a very large number of men accustomed to farm work arrive here during the next few months.

Farmers wishing to engage any of these should forward their applications to the director of colonization, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, who will endeavor to see that their requirements are supplied.

THREE CHILDREN BURNED.

Ogdensburg, N. Y., Feb. 9.—Three young children of Albert Dunster were burned to death last night in a fire that destroyed the Dunster home. Mr. Dunster was absent over night. Neighbors rescued Mrs. Dunster and three of her children, but in the excitement the three other children were at first overlooked. Later they were found unconscious and huddled together in a corner of their room.
 Efforts were made to rescue them, but the upper floor fell upon them before the rescuers could reach them.

DEFENCE OF DR. FRITCH

BASED ON AN ALIBI

Declares He Was With Friends at Hour Supposed To Be at Eccore Creek.

Detroit, Feb. 9.—The defense of Dr. George A. Fritch will be an alibi. This became apparent from a conversation with the defendant's attorneys this morning. The doctor will endeavor to show that at the time Joseph Leach, the chauffeur, alleges that he drove him and the body of Mabel Hillman to Eccore Creek, he, the doctor, was with friends in this city.

Leach's testimony is the hub of the whole case. If it can be successfully punctured by an alibi, the accusation falls flat. The defense's guns are trained on Leach and his assertion. The alibi is to be the breakfast room. Before the noon recess today Judge Pheasant took the jury to the office of Dr. Fritch, at State street and Washington avenue. Prosecutor Van Zile, Attorney Lodge, Sheriff Gaston, Detectives Allen and Parker, Martha Henning, Court Stenographer Gieffel and newspaper representatives went along. Dr. Fritch, visibly nervous, but impressively polite and irreproachably correct in his demeanor, did the honors. He explained the layout of the office—a small waiting room, a larger waiting room, cozily furnished, an operating room with medicine closet and back of it, a small room furnished with a screen and an old-fashioned, somewhat rickety bed.

The jury eyed the premises and the surrounding city with interest, and then hastened to their dinner at the Belmont Hotel.

THE MUNICIPAL ACT

WAS UNDER DISCUSSION

Deputation of Mayors Submit Proposed Amendments to the Provincial Ministers.

Toronto, Feb. 10.—For the purpose of asking that several amendments be made to the municipal act, the executive committee of the Ontario Municipal Association interviewed the Hon. W. J. Hanna yesterday to discuss the proposed legislation which will be asked for by the association. Among the deputation were Mayor Geddes, of St. Thomas, president of the association; G. W. McKay, county clerk of Elgin; the secretary, Mayor Hopewell, of Ottawa; Mayor Kyle, of Brockville; W. Lane, of Huron; Mayor Hann, of Berlin; Mayor Wood, of Brantford; Mayor McLaughlin, of Hamilton; Mayor Beattie, of London; W. J. Evans, city solicitor of Hamilton; W. C. Mickle, of Belleville, and several others.

Liability Question.

The Municipal Association, together with other influential bodies throughout the province, want some further legislation on clause 605 of the municipal act, asking clear the question of the liability of municipalities in damage actions following accidents caused by defective roadways. Further powers to regulate signs, both electrical and boards all through the province, was discussed. Mr. Evans, of Welland, introduced a bill to give municipalities the power to regulate the signs, but it was killed in committee. Legislation along the line of Mr. Nickle's bread bill also will be asked, and the present McNaught bread bill will be thoroughly discussed. Municipal autonomy in the matter of the sale of bread will be asked.

Additional power to deal with mad dogs in cases of emergency will be asked of the Legislature, following the recent case. Mr. Mickle presented the question of petitions to local authorities from the point of view taken by Mr. Finlay Macdonald's proposed bill. Mr. Mickle's idea is to prevent spurious petitions by legislation, stating that in all cases every signature must be accompanied by an affidavit proving that the signature is bona fide.

Municipal government in all its branches also was discussed, with a view to the presentation, in concrete form, the different systems in use in England and in America. It was a fact that agitations have been started in several municipalities to have government by commission, special attention will be paid to the latter subject.

Hon. Mr. Hanna drew attention to the fact that all the proposals would have to be discussed in committee, but stated that the Government would take them into consideration.

Man's Misery Promptly Banished

[From "Man's Maladies."]

A certain sort of misery which comes to a man, and which is a real, not a fancied, misery, is a nervous, timid, suspicious, and jealous without warrant, can be readily banished by a systematic nerve treatment, which can be followed out in the privacy of home and restoration of a normal or natural condition of mind and body. A man feels and knows when he is not getting out of life all that he is capable of, and this knowledge makes the misery which occurs with such symptoms as unsteady gait, weak and lolling eyes, cold extremities, loss of flesh, loss of self-control, lack of self-esteem, pains in the head and back part of head, shooting pains, heart palpitation, nervousness, sleeplessness, yellow eyes, smoky vision, colorless lips, dizziness and trembling.

The requirement to overcome these things is the effort to overcome the nervous system, which has been poorly nourished or abused by thoughtless living, drinking or social duties, perhaps superinduced by over-work. Keen strong, sensuous nerves which carry a sensation of emotion to the brain centres of consciousness can and should be brought into a state of living individual. Let this prescription be used and the results will surely reward the effort. Outlets of any good drugstore three ounces of syrup sarsaparilla compound, of compound fluid balm, shake and let stand for two hours, then add one ounce of compound calomel compound (not cardamom) and one ounce of compound essence of cardol. Mix, shake well and take one spoonful after each meal, and one when retiring. The three last-named ingredients are specially prepared and powerful concentrations, much used in various prescriptions, but contain no opiates to harm the system.

CHAPMAN'S

Stock-Taking Sale News

FRIDAY SALE OF DRESS GOODS

The Dress Goods Section has a group of fabrics selling regularly at \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50, marked for clearance Friday and Saturday at 85¢ a yard. They range all the way up from short coat remnants to dress and suit lengths, and on up to "bolt ends" of 20 and 30 yards, including Tweeds, Suitings, Tweed Coatings, Covert Coatings, Cheviots, Venetians, Broadcloths, Striped Panamas. A few costume lengths of spring suitings, colors and black.

\$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 Values, on Sale Friday and Saturday, 85¢ Choice, Yard

The Embroidery Tables 3c to \$2 Yard

People gather around the Embroidery Tables at all hours of the day. They are the magnet that irresistibly draws women who are busy at their spring sewing, because it doesn't take long to learn where to come when they want dependable Embroideries at small prices.

J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128 1/2 Dundas St.

BUILDERS' BANQUET A BIG SUCCESS

Witty Speeches and Good Fellowship Mark Event at Local Hotel.

EX-MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Were Given Enthusiastic Greeting Last Night—Some of the Speakers Who Were Listened to by the Guests.

The banquet tendered by the local exchange to the delegates to the Canadian National Builders' Association convention, which was held in the City Hotel last evening, was a brilliant affair. There were some 130 present, and enthusiasm ran rampant. A large number of bright and witty speeches made the evening an unusually pleasant one.

In the absence of the president, Mr. George Everett, Mr. John Jones acted as toastmaster.

The Toast List.

The first toast, "The Legislature," was responded to ably by Capt. T. E. Robson. The speaker expressed his pleasure at being present on the occasion, and stated his belief that the business of the Legislature in whose honor the banquet was being held, was most closely connected with the growth of the country at large.

In welcoming the members to the city, he expressed a hope that they would be so pleased with London that they would help to carry on the boosting propaganda here.

Speaking of the Legislature, the speaker stated that people tended to think too lightly of the duties of the Legislature, and he urged the wisdom of a sympathetic undertaking of the work being done, and that there was doing its share in molding a great nation.

"The Village Blacksmith."

"Three cheers for the village blacksmith," called someone, as Ald. J. H. Saunders arose to reply to the toast of "The City of London."

Mr. Saunders went on to speak of the beauties of the city, which, he claimed, could not be beaten in any city with which he was acquainted.

"Ald. Saunders and I," said Ald. Stevenson, "are simply in the council as a representation of that great Darwinian theory, the survival of the fittest. (Laughter.)"

Those Present.

W. E. A. Best, London; R. W. Blake, George Gander, Toronto; Gilbert B. Healey, London; S. S. Macdonald, London; C. E. Fuller, city; E. E. Nobbs, city; W. H. Wood, Toronto; J. Banks, London; T. Pace, Chas. Dyson, Geo. C. Young, E. Sunderland, G. N. Ker, John R. H. Smith, Robt. J. Webster, J. E. McGuffin, W. T. Brown, Thomas Redge, J. A. Page, John Aldridge, H. C. McBride, Ald. Saunders, Ald. W. J. Dinning (Toronto), Fred Armstrong (Toronto), Donald Ferguson (London), G. A. Lorah (Saskatoon), Wm. Tyler (London), J. Jones (London), E. T. Nesbitt, president C. N. A. B. (Quebec), J. H. Lauer, general secretary C. N. A. B. (Montreal), R. W. Wright (London), G. J. Jones (Montreal), E. H. Purdon (London), J. H. Moran (London), E. W. Brocklebank (Arthurs), A. Burnett & Son, G. W. Stark, C. Wm. Day, H. H. Barrett, J. Evans, J. S. Isaac, Sargent, A. H. Sergeant, S. E. Jeffery, Jos. Sargent, John Whitaker, T. A. Jones, F. L. Jones, J. M.

English Cretonne

Three pieces Imported English Cretonne, with border and reversible. Pretty delicate shades of green, brown and yellow, 45 inches wide, suitable for bedroom drapes, box covers or door curtains. Clearing these few pieces, per yard 29¢

Wool Blankets

All this month Scotch Blankets of finest wool, each blanket finished separately.
 7 lbs., \$5.00, for, pair.....\$3.98
 8 lbs., \$6.00, for, pair.....\$4.78

Mill Ends Lawn, Cambric, Nainsook

Two lots of Mill Ends of fine Cambric Lawns and Nainsooks that women will find many uses for at this time of the year. Come quickly for them as there is a crowd around their counter continually.

1 to 10 yard ends Cambric, Nainsook and Lawn, worth up to 20¢ yard, at a yard.....15¢
 White Lawns for waists and dresses, 2 to 10 yard lengths, worth up to 12 1/2¢ yard, at.....9¢

Boys' Suits

Stock clearing of small lots. Norfolk and Double-Breasted Wool Tweed Suits, cut roomy, with good strong linings, sizes 9 to 15 years, worth to \$3.50, choice \$2.19

WAR VETERAN DEAD.

Chicago, Feb. 9.—Frederick Wentworth Mercer, who reached the rank of sergeant-major during the civil war, died today. He was born at St. John, N. B., in 1838. The interment will be at Providence, R. I.

Colds Affect the Kidneys

MOST PAINFUL AILMENTS FOLLOW—THEIR HEALTH AND ACTIVITY RESTORED BY

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills

When you catch cold there is nothing better to do than to take a dose of Dr. Chase's Kidney and Liver Pills at bedtime.

Colds often settle on the kidneys and are followed by the most painful and fatal results. By quickening the action of the kidneys at this time you enable them to carry off the lurking poisons and prevent serious disease.

Keep the back warm, avoid sitting with the back in a draft and regulate the kidneys by the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney and Liver Pills. These rules are worth following, particularly at this season of the year.

Mr. W. Ferguson, blacksmith, Trenton, Ont., states: "In my work I am handling over a great deal, and this, together with the constant strain on all parts of the body, and the sudden change of temperature when going to and from the forge, brought on kidney disease and backache. At times I would suffer so that I would have to quit work to ease my back, and felt so miserable most of the time I did not enjoy life very much."

"At last I decided that I would have to get relief in some way, and having heard of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills as a successful cure for backache and kidney disease, I began using them. To my surprise and pleasure they helped me at once, and a few boxes entirely removed my troubles."

Dr. Chase's Kidney and Liver Pills are a safe, sure, and reliable remedy. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box, all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Toronto.