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VOL. XXXI—No. 11,428

**\$15,000 Investment**  
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Senate Reading Room

## ASQUITH MAY BE FORCED TO RESIGN

### Herculean Task of Uniting Followers on Reform Bill Likely to End in His Retirement—Momentous Questions of Foreign Policy to Be Decided.

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 17.—A Special Cable to The New York Tribune says: Liberal members of the house of commons confess that they look forward to the coming session with grave apprehension. The supremacy of the house of commons has been established, but the coalition is breaking up, and nothing may be accomplished. There is a general expectation that Mr. Asquith will retire from sheer weariness after a futile attempt to concentrate the factions upon the reform bill.

This may bring on a sharp contest between the supporters of Sir Edward Grey and David Lloyd George for the succession. Neither rival is so strong as he was a year ago. Sir Edward has lost the support of a considerable body of radicals by adhering to the entente diplomacy introduced by Edward VII, and by lack of firmness in dealing with Italy and Russia. Mr. Lloyd George's reputation as a financier and a social reformer has been fatally impaired, when the country is in revolt against the insurance system and the benefits of his land revaluation and taxes are not yet evident.

Unionists, on the other hand, are heartily reunited after their dissensions over the parliament bill. If the lords neglected to render patriotic service to the country by holding up the insurance bill, thereby demonstrating the utility of double chamber government, they have left the Radicals to stew in their own juice. If they have not been acute patriots, they have been acute partisans. The reaction against the government has set in, and the return of the Unionists to power, with a leader definitely committed to tariff reform, cannot long be deferred.

Leaders Working Hard.  
Meanwhile, the curtain having been rung down at Westminster, oratory will continue for two months outside. Already campaigns of exposition and denunciation have opened for the benefit of the constituencies; Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Lloyd George are joining hands in a woman suffrage meeting. Sir Edward Carson is rallying Scottish Unionists against home rule. F. E. Smith is denouncing Lloyd Georgeism at Plymouth and Lord Willoughby de Broke is talking in a strident key at Banbury as a "die-hard" of most desperate character. J. Ramsay MacDonald will open the Labor campaign next week by discussing the rights of democracy in foreign affairs, and John Redmond will proclaim Ireland's coming home rule triumph.

Policy in India.  
There will be an unrestricted debate outside parliament, yet many of the most important subjects will escape observation. The far-reaching constitutional changes adopted in India will not be discussed until the King's return, and even then with bated breath. It is not yet known how far His Majesty acted on his own initiative nor to what extent Lord Morley is responsible for what promises to be a large measure of home rule for India. Lord Curzon of Kedleston has been credited with being the King's confidential adviser respecting the Durbar, but he could not have been consulted when the changes proclaimed at Delhi run counter to his own policies when viceroy.

Not Inspired by Kitchener.  
Lord Kitchener is also one of the King's intimate friends, and he would not have urged any premature action for undoing his own great work in India, which was the redistribution of troops for the sake of security; maximum protection at any threatened point at minimum expense. It is not yet clear that military arrangements will be changed by the revocation of the partition of Bengal and the restoration of Delhi as the capital. A commission headed by Sir William Nicholson will go to India early in the spring to investigate this problem. A more difficult question will be the discovery of the real attitude of Indian Mahometans toward the reforms. The radicals are hoping that the new policy worked out by Lord Crewe and Lord Hardinge will be as salutary a peace measure as was the grant of self-gov-

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## The Esplanade Railway Improvements And the Harbor

Toronto wants the Esplanade improvements—elevated tracks, a big, up-to-date station, quick movement of trains and the speedy handling of freight cars—but she wants the harbor at the highest state of efficiency also.

The board of trade, as representing the whole business interests of Toronto in its two-sided aspect—rail and water transportation at its best—are insisting on York-street being kept open clear from the wharves. By some oversight it appears consent to the closing of York-street was agreed to in the former hearings.

It is absolutely essential that York-street be carried thru under the raised tracks to the water front, and the city and business community look to Chairman Mabee and his associates to have the agreement now being concluded so adjusted as to permit of this change.

It will cost some money, but in the long run it will be cheaper than the closing of the street. To close it will entail heavy claims for land damages by property owners south of the tracks!

There is no street to the front now in this locality but John-street. There is a great industrial center developing in the square bounded by Spadina-avenue, Queen, Bay and Front-streets, and York will be the only and natural artery to the boats for this district, as well as the city further to the north.

The World trusts, therefore, that the board of trade representatives, as well as the city representatives, will press for an open York-street on the chairman of the commission. We believe the chairman will see the equity and the necessity of readjusting the uncompleted plans in this direction.

We want an efficient boat service as much as an efficient railway organization.

Let us have it.

## CRIMINAL TO ENFORCE DECREE

### Strong Sermon on Roman Catholicism By Methodist Is Loudly Applauded By Congregation.

"After a man and woman have been united in marriage, according to the laws of this country, for any church, organization, or individual to deny their legitimate union or attempt to separate them is a crime against the laws of this land, and they (who attempt to separate them) shall be hereafter treated as criminals. By this, I mean no sweeping denunciation of the Roman Church, but I do mean that that church must not assume any rights, powers or privileges, which are not possessed alike by all other churches. The Roman Church may advise and discipline her own people, but she must not say that they are not married when the law says they are."

The congregation of Queen-street Methodist Church applauded, tapping their feet and clapping their hands, when Rev. C. O. Johnson, the pastor, made the foregoing statement last night, near the conclusion of a sermon in which he verbally castigated the Roman Catholic Church, Father Vaughan, and one of his apostles, Father Vaughan. He called Father Vaughan a "fascious Romanist." Some of the outstanding remarks and questions of his sermon are, in brief, as follows: "Father Vaughan shall not stand here and say pretty things and leave the impression that he has told all that he stands for. I am here to uncover his apostasy. If this decree—the No Temere—and other decrees are allowed to prevail in Canada it will demoralize Canada and will throw thousands of legitimately born children."

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## LABOR PARTY SORE ON MR. FOY

### Used Bad Taste in Contemptuously Referring to Oratorical Abilities of Mr. McNaught's Opponent.

Hon. J. J. Foy came in for many scathing remarks from the Independent Labor Party, who met for their regular Sunday afternoon meeting yesterday, in the Labor Temple.

The whole thing was started thru the member-elect for B seat, North Toronto, saying after his election was assured on Monday evening, that he had had no fear for his own constituency, but he had feared for McNaught after hearing the oratory of his opponent, the labor candidate, Mr. Stephenson. It is claimed by the labor men that this remark was passed in a very sarcastic manner. Several of the members present had expressed their very candid opinion of Mr. Foy and the opinions were not very complimentary.

One member remarked if Mr. Stephenson could not speak any better than Mr. Foy, then God help the labor party. The following resolution was passed: "Resolved that this meeting does most emphatically condemn the language used by the Hon. J. J. Foy after the declaration of the poll in which he referred in the most contemptuous manner to the lack of oratory on the part of Mr. McNaught's opponent, Mr. Stephenson, and further we are of the opinion that the bad taste displayed by Mr. Foy on that occasion does not reflect any credit to him as a cabinet minister and a gentleman."

After the meeting had got this disquieting matter off their mind, they attacked the problem of organizing to support the aldermanic labor candidate in ward one, and J. G. O'Donoghue, their candidate for controller. Extra efforts will be put forth to elect their men.

## TEDDY'S MOTOR-CAR TROUBLES ROUSED WRATH OF MOTORMAN

### Ex-President in Quest of Conveyance After Addressing Labor Meeting Blocked Trolley and Was Sternly Reprimanded—Crowd Cheered Roosevelt as He Departed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—(Can. Press.) Col. Theodore Roosevelt, emerging from the Labor Temple on 14th-street, this afternoon where he had an unscheduled speech, could not find his motor-car, and while looking around for another, caused a crowd to collect that blocked street traffic and brought down upon himself the imprecations of a motorman.

Somebody shouted, "There's Teddy!" and in a moment he was surrounded by a throng that grew larger as the colonel strode along 14th-street looking for a taxicab. When two policemen forced their way into the throng to find out what the trouble was, the colonel good-naturedly explained the situation and they held up a passing automobile. It was a private machine and the driver was for going on until the colonel took a hand in the conversation himself. Meantime a trolley car had come to a stop behind the automobile.

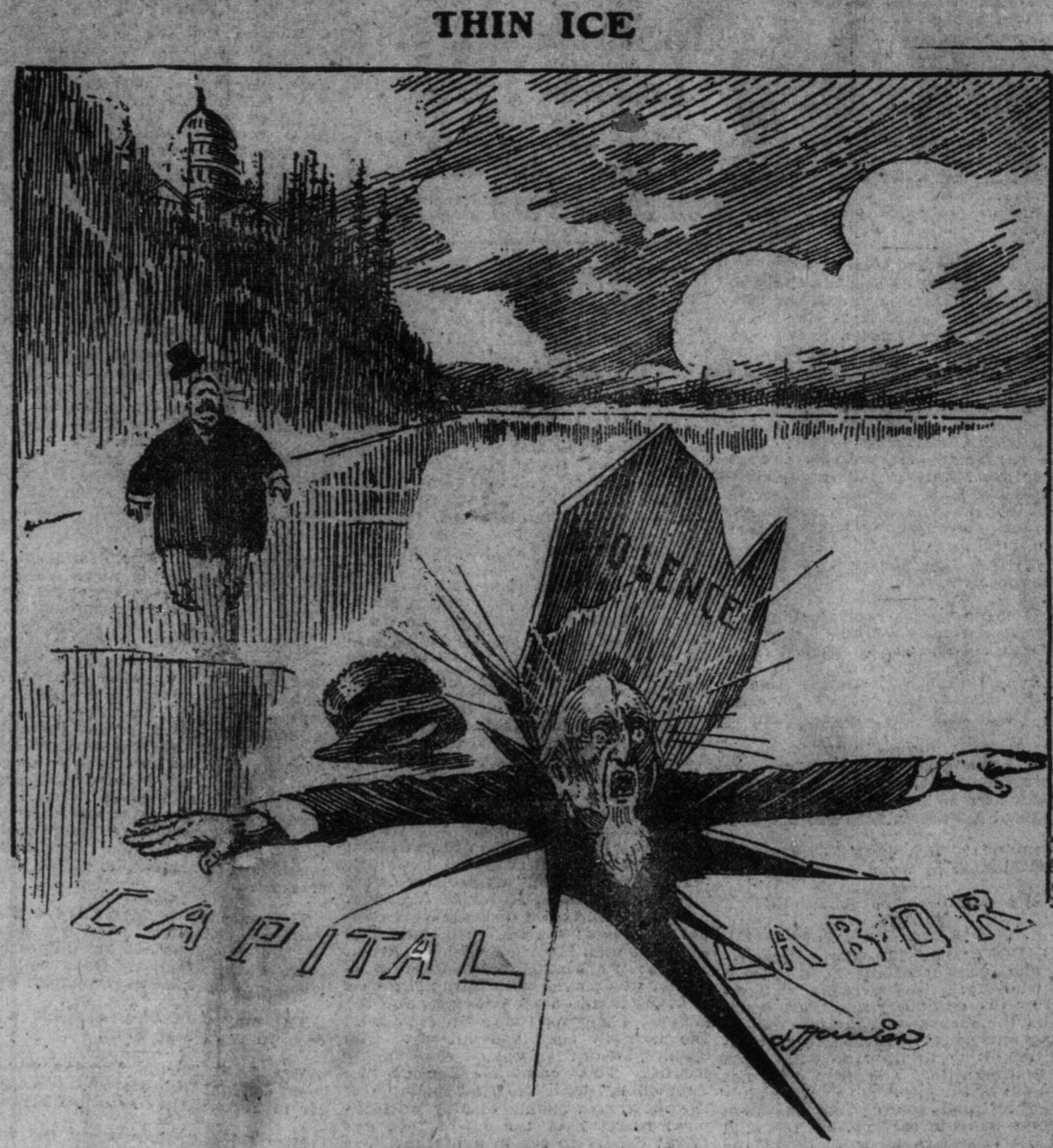
"Here you," the motorman shouted to the ex-president, "run your blamed

machine up against the curb if you want to get in. Don't you know anything? Get off the track!" With a grin for an answer Mr. Roosevelt hopped into the trolley and the machine bolted off amid the cheers of the crowd.

Col. Roosevelt's speech at the Labor Temple was mainly of a religious character. The Rev. Charles Stebbins was down on the program to speak on "What about the McNamara Case?" but on the unexpected arrival of the ex-president, cut short his address and invited Col. Roosevelt to succeed him. About half of the audience were Hebrews.

**AIR CLEARER IN PERSIA.**

PARIS, Dec. 17.—(Can. Press.)—The Temps says that the Persian minister at Paris has informed the foreign office at Teheran that the attitude of M. Sazonoff, the Russian foreign minister, during his recent visit to Paris, leads to the belief that a conciliatory solution of the Russo-Persian question is highly probable.



UNCLE SAM: Help!

## ACCUSES BRITAIN OF PLANS TO BLOW UP GERMAN HARBOR

### German Paper, Said to be Organ of War Material Trade, Makes Sensational Allegations of Betrayal of Secrets—London Declines to Credit Story.

COLOGNE, Dec. 17.—(Can. Press.)—The Rhenish Westphalian Zeitung publishes a story of an alleged discovery of a plan on the part of Great Britain to blow up Wilhelmshaven. The Zeitung professes to have received its information from one of the best informed officers, who said that the postal authorities, becoming suspicious of repeated money orders in favor of deck officers and chief mates, finally seized some of the letters passing thru the postal department. These showed that the plans to the entrances to Wilhelmshaven war harbor, as well as plans of the water supply and the contents of the secret code book had been betrayed to the British admiralty.

The paper points out that with such information at its command, Great Britain could blow up the entrances to the war harbor at the decisive moment, rendering the harbor utterly useless and Germany at the very beginning of war helpless to defend herself at sea. To prevent the threatened danger, the Zeitung continues, a German squadron remained for weeks on patrol duty. Recent conferences between the emperor, the minister of marine, the chief of the admiralty staff, and the chief of the marine department, dealt with this danger.

**Just a Romance?**

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The story that the British admiralty has secured plans of the locks and water supply and the secret signal codes of Wilhelmshaven, with the idea, in event of war of blowing up the harbor entrances, and thus bottling up the German fleet, is regarded here as a mere romance. It is further alleged that to avoid this supposed danger, the German fleet kept for weeks to the open sea during the recent crisis. These stories are supposed to have been betrayed by German officers to the Rhenish Westphalian Zeitung, which is strongly anti-British and the organ of the war material trade.

**SIR CHARLES TUPPER VERY ILL.**

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 17.—(C.A.P.)—Sir Charles Tupper's condition is critical.

**Ringless Phone in Stratford.**

STRATFORD, Dec. 17.—(Can. Press.)—This city has now the ringless phone. Last night when the calls were at a minimum the change from the bell system was made quickly and successfully. The new switch board was thrown into operation and the operators took up the new posts in the fine new offices immediately west of the armories.

## No Durbar Effect For Militia

OTTAWA, Dec. 17.—(Special.)—The minister of militia is putting into effect a new rule with regard to the selection of uniforms for the militia. Under the old system the cloth for the uniforms was purchased without any stipulation as to color standards, the result being that different regiments wore varied hues of red or of green, and this has caused comment on review days. Hereafter, the cloth will be manufactured in Canada specially for the militia under the supervision of a textile expert.

## Lloyd-George Nearly Lost Eye

### Frenzied Male Suffragist Struck Chancellor in Face With Heavy Box.

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 16.—(Can. Press.)—David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, was seriously injured while leaving a Women's Liberal meeting here this evening, at which he had just made an address. A male suffragist hurled a brassbound box at the chancellor, which struck him full in the face, cutting his lip and badly injuring his eye. A doctor who attended the chancellor's injuries, said that he had a narrow escape from losing the eye.

Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Lloyd-George both addressed the meeting in favor of including female franchise in the government's suffrage bill next year. The police had taken extraordinary precautions to exclude militant suffragists from the meeting, but evidently some of them forced their way thru the barrier.

**ALFRED AKERS LOST**

Believing that their little boy, Alfred, had climbed on one of the department store delivery rigs and had been carried out and lost in the country, Mr. and Mrs. Akers of 13 Wilmet-avenue, are much worried over his absence.

**Since Thursday noon, when he was seen on Parliament-street, on his way to Dufferin School, which he never reached, his parents and friends and the police have been seeking him.**

The boy, who is 9 years old, was wearing a navy blue coat with brass buttons, a red sweater with three white stripes around neck, black and white tanned pants and brown toque. He is fair complexioned and dark eyed. Naturally his parents would be greatly overjoyed to hear of him.

**"A NIGHT OUT."**

This is the title of the new play which the favorite comedienne, May Robson, will present to-night at the Princess. As a laugh producer it is said to be equal to Miss Robson's "A Night Out." The critics have endorsed it.

## MAYORS ARE SILENT ON CHANGE IN HYDRO

### Awaiting to Learn How Closely Interests Would Be Affected by Departmental Control.

Sir James Whitney's declaration that he hopes to have legislation passed at the coming session of the legislature, replacing the hydro-electric commission by a government department, at the head of which will be a cabinet minister, is being received in silence by most of the municipalities which will be affected by the change. Most of the mayors of the municipalities are waiting until Sir James becomes more explicit as to the details on which the department will be run, before they express their views thereto.

To The World last night Mayor J. H. A. Beattie of London said: "It is too early as yet for me to give an opinion on the matter, as I am not acquainted with the details of the scheme on which Sir James plans to run the department. Of course, we cannot tell as yet how it will affect London, so any statement now would be premature."

Mayor George G. Thorpe of Guelph, however, last night expressed himself to The World as personally in favor of the plan, altho he would not talk for the municipality.

"Personally, I have the utmost confidence in Sir James and his cabinet," he said, "and I am convinced that what they will do will be thoroughly satisfactory to the people at large. This is solely my personal opinion."

J. W. Lyons of Guelph, who, when hydro-electric was being established thruout the province, was secretary-treasurer of the Niagara Power Union of all the municipalities taking hydro at that time, is heartily opposed to Sir James' plan. "I believe the commission idea the better one," he said over long distance. "I believe that the commission should be kept out of politics. I feel it would suit Hon. Mr. Beck better to have the body remain a commission as now constituted." Mr. Lyons was for years actively engaged with Hon. Mr. Beck in hydro commission work. At present he is president of both the Guelph Junction Railway and the Guelph Radial.

**McNaught Won't Talk.**

W. K. McNaught, M.L.A., 2nd member of the hydro commission, would express no opinion last night. "I shall have to have more details as to what is planned," he said. His Worship Mayor Geary is also waiting for further light on the matter.

The department proposed by Sir James will, in a general way, take care

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**MORE TROUBLE FOR ITALIANS.**

PARIS, Dec. 17.—(Can. Press.)—The Temps correspondent with the Turks, telegraphs from Azizia, under date of Dec. 15, that thousands of well armed Arabs have been concentrating there during the last two days. A body of noted Arab fighters arrived at Azizia on that date, after 48 days' march.

## FEARS FOR KING IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES

### His Majesty is on Hunting Bent, and Meantime Keen Anxiety for His Safety is Felt—No Criticism of Removal of Capital Until His Return.

DELHI, India, Dec. 17.—(Can. Press.)—King George, who yesterday left for Nepal on a shooting expedition, was notified before his departure of the death of Maharajah of Nepal, Shamsah Jang Bahadur, on Dec. 11. Before his death the maharajah expressed the wish that his illness would not interfere with the King-Emperor's visit. The succession of his son, Hari, has been announced and the mourning ceremonies will be hastened. The King has decided to fulfil his engagement.

(Special Despatch to The New York Sun.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Apprehension for the safety of King George in India is now voiced openly in official circles. The rumor of the King's assassination on Friday was the natural outcome of the apprehension felt in London and shows how keenly the nerves are on edge of those who realize the danger of the crisis which would be precipitated if harm came to the sovereign. Every effort was made to persuade the King to abandon his visit, but he was obstinate in the face of evidence presented to him of Indian unrest which was now seeming an opportunity such as the royal presence would afford to demonstrate its strength. Those whose advice he did not heed now feel justified in saying "I told you so!"

Genuine Uneasiness.

An appreciation of the danger of the situation, as shown by parliament in its present treatment of the announcement of the removal of the capital from Calcutta to Delhi and the readjustment of the boundaries of Bengal and Assam, it was a stroke of genius for the ministry to induce the King to make the announcement. This fact in a measure stifled criticism on account of the desire not to reflect on the King-Emperor. But the main consideration causing the present reticence is that which was implied by Bonar Law, the leader of the opposition in the house of commons, when he said that it would be dangerous to the King's safety to agitate the subject while royalty is in India. The first bitter outbursts of the Marquis of Lansdowne and Lord Curzon, both of whom were former viceroys, were frowned upon in the press and elsewhere, and there is evidence that the would-be critics until the King has started for England.

While the reports that the burning of the durbar tents was caused by incendiaries have been discontinued by the press, the belief is widespread that the fires were purposely set as a protest against British rule. The ministry will breathe a sigh of relief when the Indian excursion passes into history.

**TORONTO MUST NOT HALT.**

Toronto is "moving rapidly forward to a city of a million."

She must not halt on the march. She must deal with each question as it arises. To put them back is to stagnate and to allow pressing needs to accumulate.

Clear off the slate each year of each year's problems.

This year we have to settle for tubes, for the Bloor-street viaduct, for hydro-electric extensions, for Danforth-avenue and for a harbor commission.

Let us put all these things thru on New Year's Day!

Don't let "the interests" or the pessimists hold the city back.

Toronto has more business than she can do, and she will have more, much more, in the coming years.

Be for a Big Toronto, and be for it now.

**HOW CAN TORONTO GROW WITHOUT GOOD ROADS?**

Toronto must grow in every direction, the north included. The city cannot get north without three north streets well paved and under city control. There are Yonge-street, the street east of Yonge thru the cemetery and Avenue-road. But we can't have these without annexing North Toronto. Then we'll have six miles of paved Yonge-street. Annex North Toronto now.

Then we can take up the great thoroughfare that the Civic Guild is planning, by Teravay-street, Teravay-street extended to Davenport-road, by Davenport-road to the Vaughan road and by Vaughan-road. But the city has jurisdiction here now. We want them both, and we want Yonge-street first and the other as fast as we can get it.