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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN UNION.

The English papers just to hand give a much clearer idea of the terms upon which the South African colonies are to be united than was afforded by the outline cable to this country.

In the opening sentence of the constitution, as drafted by the convention at Cape Town, it is intimated that the South African colonies are to be united under one government in a legislative union. Federalism finds no place in this constitution—neither the modified federalism of Canada, nor the rigid federalism of Australia. The colonies thus united are Cape Colony, the Transvaal, Natal and the Orange River Colony, under the name of "South Africa," and the union is to go into effect within a year of this union act passing the Imperial Parliament.

The machinery of government is to consist of a governor-general, a senate and a legislative assembly, the latter with powers similar to those of the Canadian House of Commons. Each of the contracting colonies will be converted into a province of the union under an administrator and a provincial council. These provinces will be equally represented in the senate, which will be elected, in the first instance, by the present colonial Parliaments, and thereafter by the provincial councils. The legislative assembly will be elected on the basis of the white male adult population of each province. For instance, a district with 50,000 whites and 50,000 blacks would have the same number of seats as one with 50,000 whites and 500,000 blacks.

The principle of proportional representation is adopted, and provision is made for a quinquennial census, and for automatic redistribution according to population, every five years. Only Europeans or whites are eligible for membership in the senate and assembly. Unless parliament otherwise provides, existing colonial franchises will hold good for the union elections, and the Cape colored franchise cannot be altered except by a two-thirds vote of the assembly and senate, and even then no native can be disfranchised solely on account of race and color. The franchise and electoral machinery are the same for the union assembly and the provincial councils.

Pretoria is to be the seat of the union government, Cape Town the seat of the union legislature, while the seats of the provincial executives will be at Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Pretoria and Pietermaritzburg, respectively. The union takes over all assets, debts and civil servants of the contracting colonies.

The provincial councils are to be more like English county councils than Canada's provincial legislatures, will pass ordinances instead of bills, and will not have any exclusive field, however small, of legislative authority. In fact, they will have no true sovereignty whatever. Their ordinances will be confined to "matters which in the opinion of the governor-general in council are of a merely local or private nature," or which "parliament shall delegate" to them. The executive body for the provinces is to consist, not of a governor, assisted by a party ministry, as in Ontario, but of an administrator, to be appointed by the governor-general in council, assisted by a non-partisan executive committee. The latter is to be chosen by the provincial council from among its members, or otherwise, "according to the principle of proportional representation, with the single transferable vote." The provincial councils will sit for three years, and will be dissolved by the effluxion of time. To make its subordination to the South African Government complete, the latter strictly controls provincial finance, and has a veto on provincial ordinances. For purposes of private bill legislation, however, the provincial councils are given practically the authority of a joint committee of both houses of the imperial Parliament.

Some of the other clauses of the constitution are interesting to Canadians. For instance, the Senate is definitely denied the right of amending money bills (which must originate in the Legislative Assembly), or any other bills "so as to increase any proposed charge or burden on the people." The Government is also given exclusive right to suggest the appropriation of money or taxation. Full provision is made against a deadlock between

the two houses, for when the Senate amends a bill sent up from the Assembly, and the latter disapproves of the amendments, the two houses are to hold a joint sitting and the majority is to decide the fate of the amendments and the bill.

There are two features which are entirely new in British parliamentary practice. First, there is the adoption of the French custom, which allows ministers, though members of but one House, to sit and speak in either chamber, the object being to give Government measures the strongest possible advocacy before either. The other feature is the ease with which the constitution can be amended. Except for certain provisions relating to the nations, such amendments can be made by the South African Parliament by the ordinary process of legislation. To his majesty is reserved the veto power, while the appellate authority is reserved to the privy council. At the head of the judicial system of the union will be a court of appeal, from which only can appeals be made to the privy council.

English and Dutch will both be official languages, and will enjoy equal rights and freedom of use, but no civil servant is to be retired on account of his ignorance of either language.

The railways, ports and harbors of the united colonies are to be vested in three commissioners, and a cabinet minister, who are to promote, by means of cheap transport, the settlement of agricultural and industrial populations in the interior.

While the union parliament may amend the constitution, the dual language provision, the basis of representation, and the Cape colonial franchise, can only be amended by a two-thirds majority.

The protectorates are not to be taken over by the union at once, but the King may, by the advice of the Privy Council, and an address from both South African houses, transfer to the union the government of any such territories. Meanwhile, the administration of the protectorates is to be under the special superintendent of the prime minister of South Africa, who is to be assisted by a commissioner with powers modelled on those of the India council. Lands of the territories are not to be alienated, existing native assemblies are to be maintained, the revenues of the territories are to be spent on the territories, and no liquor is to be sold to the natives. There is reserved to the Imperial Government a veto on all amendments or alterations in the provisions relating to the native territories.

CUT-THROAT CIVIC COMPETITION.
The Attorney-General should wake up and get after the municipal corporations which are illegally bidding for industries. Municipal law-makers should not be law-breakers.—London Advertiser.

People who live in crystal palaces should not throw stones. The Attorney-General might well look after London's application to raise \$100,000 by debentures for the purpose of bringing manufacturers to locate in that city at the expense of other municipalities.—Brantford Expositor.

The city of London will be quite satisfied to see the law enforced all round. Within a few days after the destruction of the local casket works by fire, the company was flooded with special inducements from other Ontario municipalities. The majority of these offers involved a violation of the Provincial statute. It is a scandalous state of affairs, and demands the attention of the Attorney-General.

CANADA AND HER DESTINY.
Speaking of the steadily increasing area of Canada's powers of self-government the Toronto Globe says:

"The answer to those who are impatient for 'independence' is that our direction is that way, but that it is on the whole better that it should be so slow as to attract little attention and to cause no irritation."

The whole tendency of the evolution of the British Empire is toward decentralization and local autonomy. It seems that the time is approaching when the only political tie between the mother country and the daughter nations will be the crown. But whether nominal as well as real independence comes to pass, it is certain that Canada at least will always be a British nation in spirit, ideals and sentiment. The ties of affection, which are the only ones that can permanently bind free nations together, will never be severed by the sword. There will be no repetition of the tragedy of the American revolution.

Fishery Inspector Walden is to be commended for his vigilance. If there were more officers like him there would

be more fish in the River Thames for the honest anglers.

The man who works on the city stonepile wants to work. The city council made no mistake in appropriating another \$600 for this object.

The New South African constitution is different from Australia's or Canada's. Australia's is also different from Canada's, and that of the mother country resembles no colonial constitution. The British Empire is a very elastic organization.

The grandson of Sir Robert Peel has been elected to Parliament as a tariff reformer. It is enough to make Sir Robert turn in his grave. He was a great tariff reformer in his time, but his idea of reform was to remove taxes from food, not put them on.

The Earl of Dudley is the latest notable to be assigned by rumor to the governor-generalship of Canada. He went to Ireland as a Unionist lord lieutenant, and returned a convert to home rule. Evidently he is a man who keeps his eyes and ears open in a new country, and who would profit by a sojourn in the Dominion.

An English suffragette recently attempted to distribute pamphlets in a prohibited area by dropping them from an airship. Yesterday two of them delivered themselves to the postoffice to be "mailed" to Premier Asquith, but the Premier ungraciously declined to receive the human yares. These women are not the inferiors of men in ingenuity.

HER HAPPY END.
[Chicago Record-Herald.]
"Ah, well, we may at last be reasonably sure that she died happily."
"How did her end come?"
"She was crushed, with her arms full of bundles in a department store."

VERSATILITY.
[Advertisement in Du Quoin, Ill. Call.]
Alex White, Killing Hogs, Setting Out Shade Trees, Digging Wells, Staying for Bedding and Carpets, and Preaching on the Sabbath my Specialties.
Leave orders at Geiger's Bakery, Dunn's Store or at my home on McLean and Wells street.

DODGING OBSERVATION.
[Washington Star.]
"Do you mean to say you are going back to the bicycle?"
"Yes," answered the speed maniac.
"The police are watching you. Remember that a man on a bicycle ought to be able to scorch as much as he chooses these days."

THE MORE THE MERRIER.
[The Sketch.]
The Lady—Well, I'll give you two-pence—not because I think you deserve it, but because it pleases me.
The Tramp—Thank yer, mum. Couldn't yer make it a tenner, an' thoroughly enjoy yerself?

GETTING READY FOR IT.
[Catholic Standard and Times.]
"And how is that pretty young widow?" asked Mrs. Brown. "Is she reconciled to her loss yet?"
"No," replied Mrs. Malaprop. "She ain't exactly reconciled yet, but they do say she has the man picked out."

VILLAGE WITHOUT A DEATH IN 1908.
[London Standard.]
Higham-on-the-Hill, a South Leicestershire village with about 600 inhabitants, is a singularly healthy locality, not one death having occurred there in 1908. The parish churchyard is a testament to the number of octogenarians buried there, including seven of one family.

UNFAIR TO CANADA.
[Winnipeg Free Press.]
The National Review, the most aggressive "Tariff Reform" monthly in England in its latest issues observes: "Recent articles and telegrams in the Daily Mail have vividly demonstrated the critical outlook of Canada should the Mother Country continue to flout her standing 'offer.'" Here again we have evidence of the settled policy of the "Tariff Reformers" to make an improper, unparliamentary and unscrupulous use of the good names of Canada's position on the question of inter-imperial preference. The misrepresentation is being persisted in because it is thought to be a vote getter. Politicians are pretty much the same, the world over.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN LEAVES FOR CANNES.
[Manchester Guardian, Feb. 8.]
Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, accompanied by Mrs. Chamberlain, started yesterday for Cannes. He arrived at Dover in the afternoon, and embarked on the turbine steamer Victoria for Calais. He appeared to be in rather better health than when he was last at Dover, but he still walks with considerable difficulty, and had to be assisted from the train to the steamer by members of his party. He was travelling as Mr. James, and with his party occupied a deck cabin on the voyage. They had a delightful passage across the channel, the weather being like that of a summer day. Mr. Chamberlain is expected to make a prolonged stay in the south of France.

A WILY WIDOW.
[Hamilton Spectator.]
The Merry Widow Company took \$18,000 out of Toronto last week. Beats all what pulling power these merry widows can exert when they start out to separate a man from his money.

MORE USEFUL.
[Montreal Star.]
A London inventor has perfected a device for telling the sex of eggs. A machine which would reveal the sex of eggs would be more to the point.

VERY PLEASANT.
[Harper's Weekly.]
"It must be very nice," said the caller to the author's wife, "to have your husband at home so much of the time."
"Yes," replied Mrs. Richard Darlington Sprigles. "It gives me a chance to go out."

ONE ON CARNegie.
[Hamilton Herald.]
An unkind but not altogether inappropriate term has been coined by the New York Sun to describe the attitude of Dr. Andrew Carnegie, the laird of Skibo. "Skiboish" is a word that is likely to stick.

IS HE ORTHODOX.
[Hamilton Herald.]
What is to be done with the Rev. George Jackson, pastor of the Sherbourne Street Methodist Church, Toronto? Mr. Jackson, in the course of a lecture at the Y. M. C. A., repudiated the traditional view of the narratives in Genesis, including the story of the creation and the story of the

food. These, he said, should not be regarded as history, but as myths, legends and allegories—"part of the heritage of thought which Israel brought with it from its cradle in the east." And Mr. Jackson thinks it is time to stop deceiving children by teaching them that these old stories are true. Such deception, he says, is cruel. Clearly, the New Theology has found lodgment in the Methodist Church, and the theologians who recently disciplined Rev. Dr. Workman for expressing opinions not nearly so radical as these of Mr. Jackson, undertake to convict the Toronto pastor of heresy. There would be danger in that, for Mr. Jackson is recognized as the most scholarly Methodist minister in Toronto. It would be a fatal mistake to encourage the view that superior scholarship is necessarily heretical, and to associate ignorance with the traditional theology.

AN EXAGGERATION.
[Chicago Record-Herald.]
"They say his wife leads him around by the nose."
"They are mistaken. She doesn't have to go to such an extreme as that. It is only necessary for her to crook her finger."

TAKING NO CHANCES.
[Washington Star.]
"You always speak kindly to your wife," said the prying friend.
"Always," answered Mr. Meekton. "I never think of giving Henrietta a harsh word."
"Because you believe in ruling by gentleness?"
"No. Because self-preservation is the first law of nature."

A FEW CLARKLETS.
[Kincardine Review.]
Lieut. Governor Gibson says he would rather climb a tree than make a speech. Those who want to make a speech don't need to climb a tree. All they have to do is to go on the stump.
We understand that the Government will build every armory they promised just as soon as it is decided how the word is spelled.
Judge Riddell says that in his boyhood days he drove cows. We learn that, later on, he drew a conveyance.
King Edward and Kaiser Wilhelm embracing and kissing each other recalls that historic meeting which did not take place in October last between George E. Foster and the editor of The Globe.

PLAY FESTIVAL WAS RARE TREAT

Youth of London Danced and Played Old Games.

LARGE AUDIENCE AT THE GRAND

Entertainment of the Local Playgrounds Association Proved a Success.

The Grand Opera House was filled practically to capacity last evening, when the play festival of playground games and folk songs and dances, was given, under the direction of Miss Mari Rufus Hofer of New York. The Playgrounds Association are to be congratulated on the excellent programme. The entertainment was unique in many ways. Miss Hofer, in her introductory remarks, traced the history of many of the modern dances, showing that they have descended from degenerated, rather than from the old folk games of years ago. The object of the festival was to revive these dances and games, and interest the children in them, for their physical development, as well as culture. And the children entered into the games enthusiastically. They were on some occasions, timid at first, but this soon wore off, and they played their parts with a grace and abandon that were a delight to witness.

Of Every Age.
The programme was a most extensive one, and embraced games and dances of almost every age and many nations. There were pantomimic games, social games, gymnastic games, and all sorts of games. There were English dances, Scotch dances, Swedish dances and games, Danish, Finnish, French, Dutch, and many more, all of them interesting, many of them difficult, but all well and gracefully done. There was scarcely a slip in the whole performance. Miss Hofer's skill in drilling the youngsters to such a state of perfection in so brief a time was really remarkable.

The children seemed to take as much delight in them as the spectators—perhaps more. It was their enthusiasm, their joy in the play, that impressed the spectators, and made the dances so thoroughly enjoyable.

The Games.
The first part of the programme was devoted to games. They were illustrated by a group of 30 or 40 children from the down-town schools. A group of sixteen girls from Victoria school also executed some of these games. Miss Hofer gave some May songs in excellent style.

The second half of the programme consisted of national games and dances. All were of European origin, and were decidedly interesting from every standpoint. Some of the older public school girls and some girls from the Collegiate Institute took part in these, among them being Misses Stively, Belton, Greer, Croden, Ellwood, Ferguson and Tune.

Social Games.
The social games included greeting game, "I See You," and Kull Dance. The pantomimic games were Nigarepote, Cag the Fool, Hey, Little Lassie, the gymnastic game, black-and-ox dance. These are all Swedish games. Of the industrial games, the harvest game, the linen weaving and the wool weaving, were Swedish, while the green mill was Finnish. In the May games, the German twining the wreath, the Danish king game, the English Maypole, and the Norwegian mountain march, were given.

Bronchial Troubles

ALMOST INSTANTLY RELIEVED



MISS EVA CARTER

Anyone whose bronchials have been weakened by frequent colds will rejoice with Miss Eva Carter, of Denver, Colo., who was subject to bronchial trouble for years, but finally found a remedy that affords quick relief.

Miss Carter's Letter

"I have been subject to bronchial trouble for years, and never found anything that gave me the almost instant relief that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy does. Every cough or cold I would contract seemed to affect the bronchial tubes. The phlegm was very disagreeable and troublesome, and before used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy would hang on for months at a time. Now a bottle or two of this remedy is all that is required to rid me of this unpleasant bronchial trouble. I am only too pleased to recommend it."

EVA CARTER,
1120 Adams St., Denver, Colo.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

This remedy has been in general use for almost forty years. Its great value in the treatment of coughs and colds has been proven in many thousands of households. From a small beginning its sale and use has extended to every part of the United States and to many foreign countries. People in almost every walk of life have testified to its valuable properties. It can always be depended upon and is pleasant to take.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been a favorite with mothers of young children for coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough to which children are so frequently subject. They have found it contains no narcotic or harmful drug, that it can be given with implicit confidence, and that it always cures. Price twenty-five cents, large size fifty cents.

The Patronesses.
The patronesses were: Mrs. Adam Beck, Mrs. Boomer, Mrs. Coffey, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. C. B. Edwards, Mrs. C. M. E. Graham, Mrs. J. L. A. Hunt, Mrs. C. S. Hyman, Mrs. J. G. Inkster, Mrs. F. E. Leonard, Mrs. H. Marshall, Mrs. F. W. C. McCutcheon, Mrs. Radcliffe, Mrs. W. L. Rutledge, Mrs. Samuel Stevely, Mrs. Westervelt and Mrs. Yarker. Inspector Edwards made an efficient chairman.



Kathryn Osterman Tonight.

Supported by a company of unusual ability, Kathryn Osterman, who made such a hit in "The Girl Who Looks Like Me" last season, will return to the Grand Opera House this evening in her delightful comedy of love and laughter, "The Night of the Play." Her new offering is an adaptation from the German by Augustin Daly, and is said to be not only the best vehicle which Miss Osterman has ever had, but one of the best on the stage.

The play tells of a young wife who writes a play in collaboration with an author, whom she has never seen. She is obliged to keep her work secret from her husband, because of his prejudice against the theatre, and the secrecy leads to many amusing complications, including the husband's pursuit of the "other man."

"Florodora."
On Saturday, afternoon and even-

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE SICK HEAD.
Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing their good effects on the bowels and those who are afflicted with these little pills value in many cases that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all, head-

ACHE

is the name of so many ills that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.
Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not grip or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them.
-THE CHAMBERLAIN MEDICINE CO., NEW YORK.
Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price.

FREE!

THE STARR HOCKEY SKATES

To every boy and girl in London who will bring two of the following orders to

The Advertiser Office

I hereby state that I have not taken THE LONDON ADVERTISER regularly for the past 30 days, and in consideration of The Advertiser furnishing a pair of Hockey Skates free to

(Boy's or Girl's Name)

I order The London Advertiser and agree to pay for the same at the rate of 10 cents per week for at least twelve (12) weeks.

Signed _____
Start Paper _____ Address _____

SPECIAL NOTICE

Start Today to Earn a Prize

Bring in each order as soon as you get it, and it will be placed to your credit.

- A Bone-Handled (2 blades) Knife for one order.
- A Pearl-Handled (2 blades) Knife for two orders.
- A Gunmetal Watch for three orders.
- A Waterson Fountain Pen for one order. Better ones for two or three orders.
- Hockey stick for one order.
- A long list of prizes to select from. See the

Circulation Mgr., London Advertiser

ing, the Grand will offer as the attraction the much favored musical comedy, "Florodora." The company presenting this noted play will be composed of the same favorites who were seen here a short time ago in "San Toy," and includes Agnes Calne, Brown, Harry Girard, Hailen Mostyn, Sabery Dorsell, Laura Christopher, Elvia Crox Seabrooke, W. L. Doyle, W. H. Pringle, Harry St. Clair, Florence Burdette and Herbert Sallinger.

Agnes Calne-Brown will be seen in the part of Dolores, and it is safe to say that this particular role will be handled in a masterly way by this charming little lady. Florence Burdette will portray Lady Holyrood; Harry Girard will sing the role of Frank Abercrombie, and the comedy part of Anthony Tweedlephun will be in the hands of that noted comedian, Herbert Sallinger.

At the mainline children will be admitted to any seat in the theatre for 25 cents.

THE BROWNVILLE AFFRAY.
Washington, D. C., Feb. 23. — President Roosevelt is authorized to ap-

point a court of inquiry to determine the qualifications for re-enlistment of discharged negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry Regiment, who were accused of shooting up Brownsville, Texas, on the night of Aug. 13-14, 1906. The Aldrich bill for this purpose was passed by a party vote of 56 to 25, except that Senator Teller voted with the Republicans for the passage of the bill. The bill is a compromise measure approved by Mr. Roosevelt. Senator Foraker and all of the Republican members on military affairs.

The court of inquiry will act as a board to consider applications for re-enlistment, and recommend restoration to duty of such soldiers who are not found guilty of complicity in the affray.

The Senate also passed the fortifications bill, with appropriations aggregating \$32,111, and the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill carrying \$13,646,386.

The population of New South Wales in 1907 was 1,573,324. The increase of population for the year was 42,240, representing 115 males to every 100 females. It was a record year for births.