

(ESTABLISHED 1863.)
FOUNDER AND MANAGER, John Cameron.
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Failure of a Noteworthy Experiment in Communism.

A remarkable experiment in communism has failed in Ohio, after a trial extending over eight years. The "Separatist Society of Zoar" originated in religious differences in Wurtemberg, Germany, in the last century. They strongly objected to all religious and marriage ceremonies; declined to remove their hats or bend the knee in the presence of man; addressed all with the word "thou"; favored celibacy; declined to send their children to the clerical schools of Germany, and refused to serve in the army. They were persecuted, and in the early part of this century 225 of them came to the United States. They were received there by sympathizers, and helped by them to establish the colony at Zoar. The region was still densely populated with red men. A purchase of 6,000 acres of the most fertile land was made, and in the spring of 1819 the famous society was formed. The constitution was signed by 25 people. This constitution that still governs the town of Zoar is rather an interesting one. It gives the women the same power as the men. It also provides that everything shall be in common. No one is permitted to have any more than another, and money among the Zoars is an unknown quantity. They know what to do with it when "king." He never seems to spend any there. It is not necessary, for all of them get all they desire from the common supply-houses to keep them. At the time of the adoption of the constitution it was expressly stipulated that in case members should withdraw from the organization they were to forfeit all their belongings. They could not take anything away with them. Under the agreement all their property was to revert to the society. It was also stipulated that there could not be any division as long as three members objected. Three women, it has been said, in these latter days, have held out against the Separatists until now.

In the early days, the colony had a leader, whose name was Joseph Blinzer, and he was made "king." He had a disposition so autocratic as to border on cruelty. King Joseph prohibited marriage, though he took himself a wife. After ten years of this prohibition the law was changed, and the Zoars were permitted to marry, but only among themselves. At that time the children were placed in a general nursery. Here they were taught the rudimentary branches of learning until they were 14 years of age. After that they were put to work, and toiled for the common good. Through rigid habits of industry, the Zoarites have prospered, and after the loss of \$500,000 in bad investments of surplus earnings, there is over \$1,000,000 worth of property to be divided among one hundred and twenty-five members that have adhered to the principles of the community until now.

Those good people who have been inclined to believe that a state of society such as Bellamy foreshadowed in "Looking Backward" could be permanently carried on without friction will not find much to reassure them in the collapse of the Zoarites. Despite their origin and the rigid nature of their constitution, these communists seem to have run up against the rocks that most people expect to find in carrying on a society having everything in common. Most of the young men in Zoar did not take kindly to a life of humdrum hard work, for a mere living, assured though it was as long as they lived, and foretook the home of their ancestry as soon as they were able to do better elsewhere. Then it was found difficult to please everyone in the distribution of the work, to be performed. For instance, a hard-worked telegraph operator kicked because he had to turn the results of his intelligently directed energy into the common fund every month, while some of his fellows got just as much consideration if they loafed away the greater part of their time in idleness. The younger generation of women, too, were no longer contented to live the simple lives of their mothers. They felt and were influenced by the distracting influences of modern gaieties and stylishness in costume, and when restraint was laid on them they simply left Zoar.

Let it be said for this communistic experiment that though it has proved a failure in point of continuity, it had one decidedly noteworthy feature. It was maintained free from crime, and the policeman was unknown. In that respect it may be said to have vindicated its continuance, for of no other ordinary American community can the same favorable comment be made.

Today's Election.

The election for the Ontario Legislature in Russell county, postponed because the returning officer got stuck in a snow storm on nomination day, is taking place today. This is the day when Opposition newspaper editors are informing their readers that the swing is with Mr. Whitney, and that his candidate is certain to carry Russell. We are contented to await the verdict of the electors. Then our friends the enemy will probably have another tale to tell.

No Sunday Papers in Canada.

Mr. Charlton's bill against Sunday newspapers has been passed through committee of the House of Commons, and unless the Senate interferes with its provisions the measure will become law. There was some disposition to regard the subject of restriction in this regard as rightly being the prerogative of the provincial governments, as a municipal regulation, and Mr. McLean (East York), and others, strongly urged that liberty to print, so long as it did not buy newspapers on Sunday should not be restricted. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier gave his aid to the measure as one that fairly came within the scope of the Criminal Code, and the majority of the members agreed with the Premier.

It is a very proper thing for the people of Canada, through their representatives, to set their face against the establishment of the Sunday newspaper. In Britain, whose great newspapers are the best and most influential in the world, publication on six days of the week is regarded as quite sufficient, and the Rest Day is not interfered with by the plying of this big industry. To establish a contrary order of things in Canada would be distinctly demoralizing. We do not need Sunday newspapers, and Parliament does well to voice public sentiment in saying so, and in providing reasonable means for restraining those avaricious men who would like to see a similar order of things to that prevailing over the border.

But if Canada can and ought to dispense with the Sunday yellow journal of its own manufacture, it can, with much greater propriety refuse to circulate on Sunday the pernicious literature that has been shipped into this country from the United States every recurring Sunday. Many of these foreign sheets are not only low in moral tone, but distinctly anti-British. In prohibiting the sale of such papers on Sunday, Parliament will have the aid of the great mass of the people of Canada, whose views of liberty are that it should not be allowed to degenerate into indiscriminate license.

Mr. T. Frank Paterson, B.S.A., representing the Vancouver, B. C., World, county boy, who went to British Columbia after graduating from the Guelph Agricultural College, at the invitation of the British Columbia Government. He has interested the people of the Pacific Provinces in Farmers' Institutes, and is a writer on agricultural topics of ability. He is full of enthusiasm over the future of the great province by the Pacific.

A New Army for London.

The late Dominion Government refused to build a new army in London, and only a short time before it left office it proved what its intentions were by leasing for five years the Carling homestead, in which to hold military stores, contracting to pay \$720 a year for it, and agreeing to make extensive repairs and improvements on the building. By undertaking this new responsibility, the late Government benefited a political friend, but it tied the hands of the military authorities in the new Cabinet. However, Col. Leys, M.P.E., has within the past week given effective aid to Mr. Hyman and other leading citizens, who have been urging the Government to reconsider the whole military situation in London, and as soon as possible to concentrate expenditures as to provide for a modern up-to-date down-town armory, that would afford all the accommodation needed for headquarters for the several forces, as well as room for the stores of the district. The late Government had had any intention of proceeding with the erection of a new armory, as the Free Press now says it had, surely it would never have decreed the taking over of the Carling property at a big rental for a term of years, and the repairing of it at the expense of the taxpayers. To build an armory, while so arranging, is even more wasteful of public money than has ever been charged.

Canadian manufacturers are this year shipping large quantities of agricultural implements to Germany. Our manufacturers are much sought after once they are known.

The Insolvency Bill.

An insolvency bill has been introduced into the Dominion House of Commons by a private member. It is the desire of the Government that it shall be regarded by all sections of the House as a non-contentious measure—that its provisions shall be discussed and amended as the united wisdom of Parliament shall agree—and that an earnest effort shall be made to have as perfect an act as is possible. It is felt by business men generally that an equitable insolvency law is a necessity from the point of view of those trading with the various sections of the Dominion. But it is maintained that a measure for dealing with the estates of insolvents is even more necessary if our trade with Great Britain is to be increased, at its recent meeting in Ottawa, endorsed this view. Strong evidence of the necessity for legislation on the subject was given by the president, who last year spent six months in England investigating the best means to promote business between the two countries. He returned with the conviction that Anglo-Canadian trade would be vastly increased were there a suitable insolvency law, applicable to

all parts of the Dominion, on our statute book.

The question is not an easy one. Again and again, in the last fifteen years, it has been approached by Parliament, but for one reason or another its settlement has been postponed. There now seems to be a general disposition to give earnest consideration to it. Mayhap, a fair, workable, comparatively inexpensive act can be devised by Parliament.

It is hard to satisfy everyone, but an honest effort will no doubt be made to deal justly with both debtor and creditor, whether at home or abroad, and that is all that law can be expected to accomplish.

A London, England, correspondent of the Country Gentleman gives an insight into the immediate prospects with regard to wheat. He says it is generally recognized that if anything untoward happened to the crop of 1898, nothing could stop very high prices in the future, because the world's reserve stocks have seldom been so greatly reduced as they will be by the end of the season. The markets, in fact, will be hungry for new wheat by Aug. 1. Meanwhile, the opinion of traders is summed up in the following prices now quoted:

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes London spot wheat, Liverpool, March option, Walla wheat cargoes, etc.

Outlook for Canadian Cattle.

Mr. G. F. Frankland, the expert authority on cattle, writes to the Toronto World combatting the view that "the outlook for the Canadian export trade for the coming season is not the clearest hopeful." Mr. Frankland declares emphatically no country can produce cattle of such character as can compete with Canada. The United States has, from its abundance of cattle and corn, sent thousands of rugged cattle that have helped to lower the prices in Britain. And South America, with its half wild stock, has filled the markets with low-priced meats, but, if the Dominion will take courage, and with the admirable breeds she has in her possession continue to feed and produce well-developed cattle, finished as they know well how to do, no country can surpass it, either in price or quality. Canada stands first today in its quality of hogs, and for twenty years it has proved both by price and quality that its beef and mutton were far ahead of any other country among the nations of the earth. Canada, geographically, is very close to Britain. A few days of steam simply separates us from the leading markets of England, and there are no people on earth today that know better than Canadians how to breed or to feed for the best markets that offer.

Mr. Frankland's advice is: Let Canada do her best, be careful of age present breeds and feed well. Let her cattle weigh from 1,300 to 1,500 pounds, finished as they can be in our Dominion, and depend upon it no cattle from any country can outsell or receive a better price.

What say our farmers to this? Are they prepared to toe the mark, and reap the benefits? President McKinley of the United States is suspected as being anxious to keep the dispute with Spain dragging along till the baseball season opens. Then the belligerent spirit of the people could be vented on the umpires.

EGGED BOTH WAYS.

[Harvard Lampoon.] The sock and buskin he would don— His own ambition egged him on. The sock and buskin he did don— The ribald public egged him off.

SEAMY SIDE OF SPRING.

[Litchison Globe.] There is another side to this glorious spring business. If a man's clothes are old and worn he can't keep it a secret in spring. Lawns look unattractive, houses show up their lack of paint, the worn places on the carpet fairly shine forth, and people who looked comfortable and prosperous in winter show the effects of poverty when the sun shines in spring.

A SURE SIGN OF SPRING.

[Chicago Record.] "Any signs of spring out your way?" "Yes; I have had to buy a new stepladder because my old one recoiled who borrowed our old one last fall."

RETURNING OFFICERS PAIR.

[Kingston Waig.] As a rule, in both Conservative and Liberal cases, the returning officers have been fair in the performance of their duties, and that the few changes affected have been such as might reasonably be left to the decision of the judges.

ANGLO-AMERICAN SODALITY.

[Philadelphia Record.] Whatever may be the official European view of a possible British-American entente, unofficial Europe seems very much agitated over the suggestion of a combination between the two nations for the protection of their mutual interests and the assertion of their common rights. The apprehensions are dispelled by the mere discussion of a British-American sodality is an indication of the strength that would reside in such a union.

Where Specialists Failed Dr. Chase Cured Catarrh.

James Spence, Clachan, Ont., writes: "I had been a sufferer from Catarrh for 15 years. It became chronic, and I had given up hopes of ever being cured when advised by a friend to try Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure. I at once started, and am pleased to state three boxes effected a complete cure, and I heartily recommend it to anyone suffering from Catarrh."

SAY THEY MEAN BUSINESS.

Children's Hospital Committee Will Assist the Hospital Board if a Children's Ward Be in the Plans.

As a result of the communication from the hospital building board to the children's hospital pavilion committee, asking what action they proposed taking in regard to the new hospital, a meeting of the latter was held in the city hall yesterday afternoon, with the following members present: Mrs. Yarnall, Misses Graydon, Rose Bryan, Figgot, Loughheed and Mr. Shaw-Wood. The amount of cash on hand was reported to be \$2,000, and a permanent committee will be appointed to carry on the work, raise funds and render all possible assistance to the hospital building board, provided the children's pavilion and to Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Smallman, who entertained Sir Squire Bancroft.

The report of the Sir Squire Bancroft evening committee was received, showing the net proceeds to have been \$253 38, one-half of which goes to the children's pavilion and the other to the Victorian Order Nurses.

The great value of having the support of the ladies of London at the back of the hospital scheme was pointed out. No representative was appointed, but the ladies to the hospital board, but one of them chosen if an invitation be extended.

Notes of thanks were passed to Mr. A. D. Holman for his generous services, and to Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Smallman, who entertained Sir Squire Bancroft.

THE BIGGEST BABY.

Brussels, March 18.—The heaviest baby known is reported from a village near here, where a farmer's wife has just given birth to a child weighing 21 pounds, which is declared by experts to be the heaviest on record.

FACE HUMORS.

Pimples, blotches, blackheads, red, rough, oily, moist skin, itching, scaly scalp, dry, thin and falling hair, and baby blemishes prevented by CUTICURA SOAP, the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery.

Cuticura

EVERY HUMOR From Pimples to Scalds cured by CUTICURA SOAP.

HIGH-GRADE STORMERS

With Boston Rims and Dunlop Tires, Price—

\$35 Cash

BE SURE YOU GET DUNLOP TIRES.

\$60 Stormer Bicycles, with Dunlop Tires at—

\$45 Cash

London Hardware Company

KLONDIKE

START FROM VANCOUVER BECAUSE . . .

- 1. VANCOUVER is the best outfitting point on the coast, goods being considerably cheaper than in the United States.
2. VANCOUVER is the nearest port of departure for the Yukon.
3. VANCOUVER is the terminus of the C.P. Railway, where steamers will start from VANCOUVER for the Yukon.
4. All north-bound steamers call at VANCOUVER.
5. Direct steamers to Yukon ports have now commenced to run from VANCOUVER.
6. VANCOUVER is the only Canadian port where passengers transfer direct from train to steamer.
7. KLONDIKE is in CANADA, OUTFIT IN VANCOUVER. SAVE 20 PER CENT CUSTOMS DUTY. W. GODFREY, President of the Trade, Vancouver, B.C.

Ask for Eddy's

when you order matches. Then you will be sure of having the best.

Advertisement for Pearlline baby bottles. Includes illustration of a baby bottle and text: "This is what a prominent physician says: 'I have given my own children the benefit of very careful study in the matter of absolute cleanliness in bottle feeding. I have studied the so-called easily-cleaned nursing bottles, and I long ago came to the conclusion that a little Pearlline would render ordinary nursing bottles the safest utensils of them all. I firmly believe that children properly fed and cleanly fed will avoid the majority of the difficulties which they encounter during the first two years of life. I believe that if every feeding bottle was washed with Pearlline, many innocent lives would be saved.' Surely, this is a matter to interest every mother. Nothing so thoroughly cleanses as Pearlline."

THE EVENTFUL DAY

Tuesday, March 21

Our doors will be opened to the buying public of London:

The Spittal & Co. Bankrupt Stock of

High-Class Drygoods

We promise you that this will be the bargain sale of the season.

We have everything you want, and at prices that other merchants would be glad to buy at—but we won't sell to them; the bargains are for our customers, not for the trade.

SHOP EARLY IN THE DAY. DOORS OPEN AT 9 O'CLOCK.

MACLEAN & CO.

Quality

Should be the first consideration in the purchase of a piano.

The Matchless Bell

is built upon scientific principles and fully guaranteed by a company that is entirely responsible and takes pride in keeping its production up to the highest standard of excellence.

SEE THE NEW SCALE, NEW DESIGNS OF CASES AND ORCHESTRAL ATTACHMENT.

BELL WAREROOMS, 167 Dundas St. L. G. Mercer, Manager, London District.

HANDY INVENTIONS.

In a new bicycle alarm, a revolving friction wheel is mounted on a plunger with a whistle on the upper side of a casing, which is blown by forcing air through it as the friction wheel turns on the tire. Oil cannot be spilled from a recently designed can when it is tipped over, the cap over the filling aperture being mounted on a jointed rod, which closes the valve at the base of the outlet nozzle when it is screwed down. A neat device for holding pens so they will not mark a desk or book consists of a flat base, supporting a small well in the center, with a flaring mouth and a projecting shoulder part way down the opening, against which the holder sets.