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London, Thursday, Jan. 18.

## The Nine Dominion Bye-Elections Yesterday.

Nine bye-elections for the Dominion House of Commons were held yesterday. To sum up at once, the result is that the Laurier Government gain one seat—West York—which gain means two additional seats for the Government on a division; and, if West Durham is counted, it means four on a division.

Two Opposition constituencies, Addington and West Hastings, yesterday returned candidates of the same political complexion as formerly.

St. James' Division, Montreal, gave a Liberal majority for Ald. Brunet (Liberal), of 720, notwithstanding differences among friends of the Government. All's well there ends well.

Quebec, also in Quebec Province, goes into the right column; as does Laval (Quebec), and as did Beauce (Quebec), by acclamation, a week ago. In Kingston Mr. now Judge, Britton, is succeeded by Hon. Wm. Hart, until a few weeks ago a member of the Ontario Government. His opponent, Mr. Metcalfe, formerly represented Kingston in the Dominion House, and possessed many elements of strength. But Mr. Hart comes in ahead with the majority of 753. A recount will not be necessary.

Down in Prince Edward Island, the Laurier Government holds its own by electing Hon. D. Farquharson by an increased figure.

West Durham again chooses Robert Beith (Liberal).

West York is redeemed by Mr. Archibald Campbell, our old Kent fighter, after a most interesting campaign. This was the seat held at the time of his lamented death by Hon. Clark Wallace, and the seat for which the late Conservative member was elected by a majority of 752. Mr. Campbell's opponent yesterday was the late Clark Wallace's brother, who, on sympathetic and other grounds, was conceded to be the strongest man the Opposition could bring out. Mr. Campbell yesterday turned the former adverse majority of 752 into a Liberal majority of 158.

The net results of yesterday's numerous bye-elections—a little general election, as it were—is that Sir Wilfrid Laurier not only holds all he held before, but his majority is four votes greater than before on a division. The constituencies have thus again spoken words of cheer to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues, bidding them go on with their great task of upbuilding, uniting and developing our prosperous and happy land.

## "The French-Canadian."

Mr. Byron Nicholson, of Toronto, has in preparation an important book under the above title. Mr. Nicholson is a sympathetic observer and capable writer, and his book will be well worthy of a place in the library. Perhaps we cannot do better than give a few extracts from the author's prospectus:

"The only apology which the author wishes to offer the public for the appearance of this little work is the earnest hope and sincere desire which he entertains that it may help to correct some misapprehensions, and to soften, if not remove, some prejudices which, unhappily, prevail all too extensively amongst a certain class of English-speaking people in various parts of Canada concerning the French-speaking people of the Province of Quebec. He himself, born and educated in Ontario, once had similar misapprehensions, and was subject to the same prejudices. But actual intercourse with the people of the Lower Provinces, during a residence amongst them of some twelve years, has convinced him that he was mistaken; and he is persuaded that these people are much misunderstood, and are accused of holding certain obnoxious opinions which they have never entertained, and are not given credit for many a virtue which they undoubtedly possess.

"Believing that the continuance of this state of things, particularly if fomented by unprincipled partisans for unworthy purposes, must be followed by disastrous consequences in the not distant future, he determined to do what he could towards correcting it, thus helping to supplant feelings of racial strife and bitterness, by those of national brotherhood and a common citizenship between the two great peoples to whom Providence seems to have committed the shaping of the destinies of this wide Dominion.

"In so doing he has tried to avoid giving his readers an unduly favorable opinion concerning those of whom he writes, or to represent them as being in every way the most admirable and lovable people that can be imagined; for, indeed, human nature, as seen in them, is very much like human nature as seen in others—and, besides, the millennium is still in the future. But he has made an honest effort to sketch the French-Canadian as he is seen to-day in the Province of Quebec, feeling assured that if the man were only better known than he is, he would be more fully trusted and more highly esteemed by a not inconsiderable portion

of his English-speaking fellow-subjects.

"The writer has also endeavored to ignore everything of a purely partisan character, to eschew partyism of every description; for his desire is to obtain an unprejudiced hearing from all fair-minded people—no matter what their politics, their nationality, or their religion—who may do him the honor to read what he has written."

The author's object is a patriotic one and deserves support. Orders for copies of the book, or requests for further particulars, may be addressed to Mr. Byron Nicholson, 571 Ontario street, Toronto.

## The Senate Rapidly Becoming Liberal.

It is now stated that when the Dominion Parliament meets, the Liberals will number 38 votes in the Senate, as against 43 Conservatives. This is a nominal majority for the Opposition of five only; but it is little more than a nominal majority, as a number of the Conservative members are of an age so advanced that they are equally likely to be absent than present. For practical purposes, therefore, the Liberals will control the Senate during the coming session. Throughout the term of the previous Dominion Liberal Administration, Mr. Mackenzie never had a fair chance to govern the country to the best advantage, nor to fulfill his various pledges, because of the hostile majority in the Senate. Many of Mr. Mackenzie's most important measures were ruthlessly destroyed by partisan opponents in the Second Chamber. What it amounted to was this—Mr. Mackenzie was in power in the House of Commons, while Sir John A. Macdonald, through his Conservative majority, retained blocking power in the Senate. Even since the accession to power of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, on more than one occasion the Opposition Senators have made it awkward for those entrusted in 1896 by the country with the responsibility of governing. The startling changes wrought by time are shown in the fact that in five years and a half, the Laurier Government have made 30 appointments by Conservative Ministers in eighteen years.

An effective Liberal majority in the Dominion Senate is of importance to the smooth working of the machinery of government and therefore to the well-being and advancement of Canada. An effective Liberal majority in the Dominion Senate is of importance to the smooth working of the machinery of government and therefore to the well-being and advancement of Canada. An effective Liberal majority in the Dominion Senate is of importance to the smooth working of the machinery of government and therefore to the well-being and advancement of Canada.

## The Language Question in Greece.

We read a little time ago of riots in Greece over the translation of the New Testament, but brief telegraphic reports do not give a full and satisfactory account in matters of that kind. The outburst is a thing that has been prepared for and involves a variety of motives and interests. Mr. Walter Leaf, who writes to the Times, takes sides strongly against the academic leaders. Here is his account of the three languages of Greece:

"There are in Greece three languages—first, the ancient classical Greek, which is as dead today in Athens as it is in Marsigli or Naples; secondly, the spoken vernacular, differing from ancient Greek much as modern Italian differs from Latin; and thirdly, a strong and flexible tongue, spoken by all Greeks, with the differences of dialect inseparable from all living languages—the tongue of the home, and of that rich treasure of popular poetry which Greece is second to no other country; and, thirdly, there is a strange bastard jargon, a thing to set a linguist's teeth on edge, founded on the classical Attic, but altered in many of its grammatical forms, and hopelessly deprived of its vitality. This is the official language. It is facetiously called the 'literary' or 'pure' language—'literary' because it has practically destroyed Greek literature, 'pure' because it is an artificial mixture of the classical and the vernacular, adapted to modern use by the liberal infusion of French phrases badly translated. It is only intelligible to the modern Greek so far as he has been laboriously taught it at school; it has been produced, not by any process of natural development, but from the inner consciousness of pedantic professors."

According to this authority, the conflict was one between the real natural language of the people and the 'jargon' of the professors. One would think that such a question would settle itself quite quietly by the natural and irresistible development of the people's life. But we are told the professors abandoned argument and appealed to prejudice; riot was called in to crush reason. Well, if that is a true statement, these so-called learned men will have to pay the penalty of misleading the people, when, as the result of their action, Athens was shed and the Prime Minister nearly assassinated. But how could this happen over a legitimate dispute? Note the points: (1) Mr. Pallos, a wealthy and patriotic Greek, published in the Acropolis of Athens, a translation of St. Matthew's gospel in the vernacular. (2) The Queen, finding that the wounded soldiers in the last war were wholly unable to understand the gospels in the original Greek, interested herself in a modern version. (3) But the Queen is a Russian princess, and hence, in doing this pious thing, she was working for Pan-Slavism and would destroy Hellenism. Further, it was said that Mr. Pallos was a paid agent of the Queen in this nefarious scheme. But note on the other side, Mr. Pallos is a partner in one of the wealthiest firms in the world, and better able to pay the Queen than she is to pay him. The translation in which the Queen interested herself was not in the vernacular, but in the 'literary' dialect, which Mr. Pallos has for years been attacking. Hence, there was no need to

mix the Queen up in the business. But when people, professor or others, forsake the path of calm reason and appeal to passion, things always get worked up. But it will be the duty of the leaders in Greece to straighten them out and to see that intellectual battles are fought by intellectual weapons alone.

## Another Vindication of Free Trade.

We cannot here discuss the work of the international conference on sugar bounties, or examine the whole question of bounties, but we may point to the instructive fact that this business of sugar bounties has worked itself to such a pass that the different European powers feel that something must be done. The lesson is that governments should hamper as little as possible trade in the people's food. For example, in France the tax on home-consumed sugar is very near six dollars per hundredweight. This tax is levied on a certain estimated yield. The increasingly rich yield from the beet greatly reduces the actual proportion of excise paid, but the manufacturers base their prices to the public on the full rate of excise. This gives them an extra profit, which comes under the head of 'indirect bounty.' Besides they receive a bounty on the sugar exported. Other countries in Europe have something similar, so they must have a conference to straighten matters out. It is this state of things which leads the Times correspondent to say, 'Free traders will see a triumph of their doctrines in the labyrinth of complexities and inconsistencies which have gradually grown up under an attempt to stimulate by artificial means a particular brand of industry, and to force trade into a certain channel because there is sufficient capital embarked in it to warrant, in the protectionist's eyes, state intervention. As in most movements of this kind, experience seems to show that the consumer has had to suffer without corresponding benefit to the producer. If exports have risen in countries adopting the bounty, other trades have had to suffer in proportion. A homely illustration is seen in the fact that English jams made with Belgian bounty-fed sugar are purchased in Belgium at actually a lower rate than the ordinary household sugar. Yet to the average workman the former is a mere luxury, the latter a necessity.'

A great many illustrations of this kind might be given, but it takes something stronger than illustrations to bring people to their senses who think that they can improve upon the order of nature and turn trade into any fantastic course that pleases them. A bill was recently introduced into the United States House of Representatives for the purpose of giving mechanics and factory employees an opportunity to vote on election days without loss of time. The bill provides that on election days, the hour for beginning work shall not be earlier than eight o'clock, and that not more than eight hours labor shall be required of any person on such days. The right to vote is now an inalienable right of every citizen, and the new bill, should it become law, makes the opportunity of exercising such a duty consonant with the right.

## Hugh John Enters No Protest.

[Brandon Examiner.] If Mr. Hugh John Macdonald has entered any protest against the disrespect which his successor in the premiership of Manitoba is showing his prohibitory liquor act, the fact is not so recorded.

## A Sensible View.

[Hamilton Times.] Speaking of the absurd objections of some egotistically 'self-respecting' sheets to Canadian cities accepting library donations from Mr. Carnegie, the London Advertiser says: 'Mr. Carnegie's gifts are cosmopolitan, and go out to all parts of Great Britain as well as the United States. His splendid recent gift to the Scottish universities will be recalled by all. If Great Britain is willing to accept large gifts from Andrew Carnegie, why should not Canada accept them? The kick usually has been that rich men do not do enough in the way of benefactions towards public objects.' That is a very sensible way of reviewing the matter. And it is dollars to doughnuts that the same persons who affect to regard the acceptance of Carnegie's donations to libraries as 'degraded' would snap at the offer of a few thousands to them personally.

## London's Scare.

[Boston Herald.] The reports published yesterday of the excitement in London on account of an outbreak of smallpox in the metropolis are possibly exaggerated, but no doubt there is much anxiety. Nine hundred cases in the city are quite enough to emphasize the need of active precautions, especially if at ordinary times the city is virtually free from the disease. We do not see why, even if there be a considerable increase of cases, the fact should prevent persons who have been vaccinated within a reasonable time from going to London to behold the spectacles that will occur at the time of the coronation. What is vaccination worth if it does not practically make one immune to such dangers? We had supposed that, despite the great population of London, its sanitary forces were so ample and had so large authority that they could be depended upon to prevent a contagious disease of this kind from getting the upper hand. Further reports will be watched for with interest.

## Morphine is used extensively in the town of Juana Diaz, Porto Rico. It is estimated by the Insular Board of Health that out of the 2,500 inhabitants, 1,000 are victims of this terrible habit.

## PERISHED IN THEIR HOME.

Caradoc Man and His Wife Burned to Death.

Suicide of a Young Woman in Peterboro—She Was Scandalized by Gossips—Terrible Tragedy in Pittsburgh.

BOTH BURNED TO DEATH. St. Thomas, Ont., Jan. 16.—The Journal's Melbourne correspondent writes under date of Jan. 14: 'A telegram arrived this morning containing the sad intelligence that Mr. and Mrs. Thompson had been burned to death in their home in the Western States. Mr. Thompson was a son of George Thompson, Longwood road, Caradoc, and Mrs. Thompson was formerly Miss Mabel Saxton, daughter of Mr. Erret, of this neighborhood. They were married a little over a year ago and went west to make a home for themselves. The young couple were highly esteemed by a large circle of friends, and the awful news will carry sadness to many hearts.'

Peterboro, Ont., Jan. 16.—Word has been received here relating to the death by suicide of Lottie Taylor, the fifteen-year-old daughter of Taylor, recently attended a social gathering, and having been escorted home by a young man who was said to have been the worse of liquor. A dose of self-destruction, took a dose of strychnine, and died last night, and left a note beside the spoon and bottle containing the poison, which indicates that she was wounded by talk, having taken a dose of strychnine, and having been escorted home by a young man who was said to have been the worse of liquor. A dose of self-destruction, took a dose of strychnine, and died last night, and left a note beside the spoon and bottle containing the poison, which indicates that she was wounded by talk, having taken a dose of strychnine, and having been escorted home by a young man who was said to have been the worse of liquor. 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