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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY (Limited), LONDON, ONTARIO.

London, Tuesday, April 30.

Lessons From Amsterdam.

In the city of Amsterdam, Holland, you will find a large area, three or four acres, certainly, in the midst of the entraining public park, set apart exclusively for the amusement of children.

Here are swings, merry-go-rounds, tables, and pike, bricks, play-houses, simple gymnastic apparatus, and above all the thick foliage of magnificent trees.

All the children of the city can come here and play and romp to their heart's content. The city provides everything, even to the attendants, who see that nobody gets hurt or overdoes the playing. The wholesome Dutch housewife, the most careful of mothers, can let her children go to the park for an outing with perfect confidence in their safety as well as in their happiness.

The city of Amsterdam does all this and has done it for years in addition to maintaining of free admission two of the most magnificent art galleries in Europe, a system of beautiful parks, clean streets, and, best of all, admirable schools of all grades.

Most of us are accustomed to think of the city of Amsterdam, Holland, as a slow old place, the metropolis of an effete monarchy, in the grip of the stultified European methods, and all that sort of thing. Some of us have probably thought with pity of the unfortunate Hollanders compelled to live so far from the blessed centers of American progress.

Yet to tell the truth there is not one city in America that can compare for a moment with Amsterdam in intelligent care for the interests and welfare of its people.

There is not even a city in America, so far as we know, that has a children's playground.

In every great city of this country thousands of children grow to maturity, with all its sordid and indurating cares, and never know an hour of childhood, a breath of fresh air or a happy moment.

These are good facts to remember whenever we feel a certain tendency to swell the chest and draw up the chin over the superiority of our proud native land.

It is, therefore, all the more interesting to note the young Mr. Palmer, the new alderman from the American ward, has taken this matter in hand, so far as his ward is concerned, with intent to better conditions.

Recognizing the forlorn and hopeless state of poor children in all American cities, and particularly in this city, he has obtained from his father two vacant lots which he proposes to turn into free playgrounds.

For this is the worst part of the situation, that while the children have no place to play half of the territory in the city limits is unoccupied and useless.

We are very glad to see that Mr. Palmer has begun so early to justify the good opinion the American expressed of him before his election. It is evident that the people of his ward made no mistake in their choice. Here seems to be an alderman with other ideas than those of a ward politician.

We shall go further and venture the prediction that if Mr. Palmer will observe closely the results of his benevolent enterprise he will become a strong and indefatigable champion of similar enterprises by the city.

For the city should do all these things and a great many more. It is not less the city's duty to provide fresh air and healthful exercise for the children than to provide schools. It is not less the city's duty to care for its citizens than to protect them.

That is what civilized cities are for.—Chicago American.

There are many lessons this country can learn from older ones, and no lessons it would be wiser to follow than those contained in the foregoing. We are glad to notice that Chicago is being stirred up. The Toronto Globe is vigorously pressing for playgrounds and squares for Toronto. New York city at an expense of millions, is making spaces at various points on the East Side, and along the East River, where children and the poor can breathe. It is very sad to try and pick your steps along the crowded streets of the poor on the East Side on a hot summer's night; men, women and children by the thousands sleeping outside and on the sidewalks. Surely fresh air ought not to be so scarce that the poorest may not easily obtain it in abundance. But in these crowded places humanity is cheap; as Dr. Parkhurst says, the supply is greater than the demand. It is the plain duty of the municipal rulers of every place to provide parks and playgrounds for the people.

We agree heartily with the article quoted. We hope the ideas will be carried into effect. Towns and cities in England, Scotland and Ireland have their cricket fields, their parks, their common haunts, and the people are fond of out-door sports.

We have on several occasions pointed out what our municipal rulers should do in this respect. We hope Mayor Rumball will not let his term expire without securing several of the places still available for such purposes. It is a phase of public education to which too little attention has been given. We quite understand that conditions exist in large cities that do not exist in London, but that does not justify the condition of affairs here. To the extent that the same conditions prevail, it is wrong, and our rulers are blameable. There is no excuse for their existence in London. London can be made an ideal city, and parks and playgrounds are an absolute necessity if it is to be even tolerable. We hope the mayor will take the matter up.

Good Old Days.

[Washington Star.]

Oh, for those good old days gone by—We'd take them back on any terms—When people ate just what they liked, Without the slightest fear of germs!

"The Queen's Birthday."

In the House of Commons yesterday, Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced that Dr. Horsey's bill, declaring the 24th of May a permanent public holiday, be transferred to government orders. This was agreed to without dissent, and the bill will be put through as a Government measure. In taking this action the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier are embodying public opinion. For all time to come Victoria Day will be celebrated in Canada in memory of the great and good Queen. By about the 24th of May people are fairly ready for a holiday, and the time of the year lends itself to outdoor enjoyment. There used to be a good deal of argument against too many holidays, but with the increasing pressure of a rapid age, the argument today seems rather to lie on the other side. As for the King's birthday, that will doubtless be celebrated in some sort, though the season is not so favorable for outdoor enjoyment. Perhaps Thanksgiving Day might be combined with the King's birthday.

Col. Leys and Fishing in the Thames.

Col. Leys' threatened resignation has been the subject of several articles in the papers, and the fact that he has vigorously protested against what he thought had been done has been the subject of some adverse criticism from some of the journals. It does not seem to be open to the slightest doubt that the facts and right are on the Colonel's side. The old dam is an illegal structure, and ought to be removed. Those at the dam have no right to a corner on all the fish in the Thames, and if the Colonel's suggestions are carried out the Thames may be a good fishing ground some day; as good, perhaps, as the farmer told about who said he had spent his lifetime in clearing the farm. In his early days when he was young, he could go to the river and catch in a few minutes all the fish needed for the breakfast; but now that the farm was cleared, and the sons grown up, if they ever took a notion to have some fish, the boys might take the whole day at it, and in the end bring home two or three suckers no bigger than his thumb.

If the fishing in the Thames is as poor as this man describes it, and if by removing the dam what is claimed will occur and good fishing be restored all along the river, the people owe the Colonel a debt of gratitude.

We do not suppose the Colonel desired anything other than the public rights, and as there appears to have been misapprehension as to the facts, we believe there will be no difficulty with reference to the threatened resignation. Col. Leys has been a very valuable member of the House in many ways; no member is personally more popular; no member with a better all-round knowledge of the requirements of the people of his Province. As member for London, he brought to the work of the Legislature a long and varied experience, which, with his unquestioned ability and acknowledged large-heartedness, has been very valuable to his constituents and to the country.

We are glad the fishing difficulty was due to a misapprehension of the facts, and that all the Colonel contends for will be accomplished.

Drumtochy In France.

It is interesting to note that in the March number of one of the most important French reviews—Revue des Deux Mondes—there is a story entitled "Lachlan," which, upon examination, turns out to be one of the most striking chapters in Ian MacLaren's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush." We believe that this is not by any means the first contribution of that kind. The name of the English author is given and also of the translator. This is not the place for minute linguistic criticism, but the impression made upon us is that the translator has done his work well, and that the intelligent French reader can catch the real atmosphere of the story. The stern Lachlan Campbell; his defense of orthodoxy; his sorrow over his daughter, at first bitter and then tender; the young monitor, Carmichael, plunging into the heart and heat of pentateuch controversy, and shocking old traditions; Margaret Howe, thoughtful, kindly, discreet, all these are as real here as in the English original. We are glad to note this, as by means of a good, wholesome story, French and other continental people will get a better insight into English and Scottish life, and they may learn that it is essentially the same life as their own. Circumstances are different, and the outward assumes many forms, but the great problems and the real struggles of life are the same. There would be less petty jealousy, and less likelihood of war, if the different nations of the world learned to look at that which is best and deepest in each other's life. It seems strange that in these enlightened days, two nations separated only by a channel about 21 miles wide, should, notwithstanding all their commerce and travel, know so little of each other, and as we have been reminded on good authority, such ignorance is dangerous.

Longing for Companionship.

[Washington Star.]

"Why do you insist on persecuting that literary man?" inquired the intimate friend.

"Because," answered the czar, "I get lonely once in a while and want to feel that there is somebody else just as scared and uncomfortable as I am."

Parliamentary Speakers.

The British Weekly parliamentary correspondent has evidently watched the speakers in the House of Commons very closely. He can tell how the different orators make their pauses and transitions. "There are many conventional parliamentary phrases—stiles to enable the debater to pass from one argument to another, or resting places where he can collect his thoughts. For example: Mr. Dillon, 'I say, sir, and I say it deliberately.' Mr. John Redmond, 'I confess, sir, for my part.' There is no question about it," declares Mr. John Ellis, with an air of sagacity. "I have yet to learn," says Capt. Norton, "of what is not worth knowing in military matters." And now, Mr. Speaker, "is a very common phrase, while 'I venture to say, sir,' is frequently on the lips of members. Mr. Lloyd George uses, 'I say with confidence, Mr. Speaker,' before many a sharp assertion. The following picture may be commended to young men who wish to command influence in Parliament or any other important assembly: 'Take Mr. Lloyd George as a type. Is he likely to be in the next Liberal Government? He is industrious, his special study is politics, he attacks the strongest opponent of his party whenever possible, he has a good voice, a clear style, and a biting tongue, and he goes straight at the vulnerable point in the Government position. The Speaker recognizes him as one of the principal debaters of the House. Sitting at the corner of the second bench below the gangway, and resting his manuscript on the arm of the seat, he makes his notes and apparently writes whole sentences. His strength is shown by the fact that he does not always use his notes. The Speaker usually calls on him when he rises, but he does not always rise after he has made preparation. He never says 'ditto,' and he never addresses an empty house. There are few who compete with him below the gangway.' That is the picture of a man who knows his business, and who does not trifle with others, or mean to be trifled with himself. Those who are always rushing to their feet in any deliberative assembly, very soon destroy what little influence they may have had."

Prize For Picture.

[Exchange.]

A curious effort in behalf of temperance is noted on the part of the Belgian Government. A prize has been offered for the best picture showing the evils of drunkenness.

Lucky For Her.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]

Good luck simply thrusts itself upon some people. A New York society girl got married recently to a man who claimed that he was a French count, and who now turns out to be a horse doctor.

Eminently Fitting.

[Philadelphia North American Review.]

The governor of Colorado proposes to appoint two pretty young women as colonels on his staff. The proposition is in every way commendable, and it is strange that the eminent fitness of women for such military positions has not been recognized before. The sole duty of a colonel on governor's staff is to wear gorgeous clothes, and it is obvious that a pretty woman can do that much better than a fat politician.

The Late Governor Cameron Cannot Answer.

[Toronto Globe.]

It ought to be distinctly understood that the vindication of Sir Richard Cartwright does not depend on any theory which asperses the character of the late Mr. Cameron. Mr. Cameron's name was not brought into the controversy by the minister. Sir Richard simply says, "I know nothing of any corrupt transaction in regard to the senatorship." That is as far as it is necessary for him to go. He is

Smile and Suffer.

That's the motto of many a woman's life. She manages the house, receives friends, entertains company, with a moan in the mouth which is stifled and a smile on the face which is a mask to cover up her pain. Only those who note the dark, aged eyes, the lined lips, the occasional pallor of the cheek, know the real story. Such women are among the most grateful for the cures performed by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. To smile and not to suffer is something wonderful to them. Women suffering from female weakness, inflammation, ulceration or the drains that so weaken the body, may take "Favorite Prescription" with almost absolute certainty of cure. It's sure to help. It's almost sure to heal. It has cured ninety-eight per cent. of those who gave it a fair and faithful trial.



Mrs. H. A. Alsbrook, of Austin, Loneoke Co., Ark., writes: "After five months of great suffering with female weakness I write this for the benefit of other sufferers from the same affliction. I doctored with female pills, and without any good results, so my husband urged me to try Dr. Pierce's medicine—which I did, with wonderful results. I am completely cured. I took four bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, four of his 'Golden Medical Discovery' and two vials of his 'Pleasant Pellets.'"

Sick women are invited to consult Dr. Pierce by letter free. All correspondence confidential. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

THE RUNIANS-GRAY CO

208, 210, 210 1-2, 212 Dundas Street, London.

White Piques Shoe Section

The decree has gone forth that White Piques are to be revived this season. A leading trade journal says: "They have started in the east and are slowly working west and will be a big feature in the demand for the coming season."

And why not? They are inexpensive, attractive, durable, and make up stylishly. We are showing a fine range in both corded and figured effects.

They start—A nice cord, fairly heavy, at, per yard12½¢ And then on up15¢, 20¢, 25¢, 30¢, 35¢, 40¢, 45¢, 50¢

Hosiery

Boys' Heavy Ribbed Cotton Hose, sizes 6 to 9½; very special, at, per pair10¢

Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, fast black, spliced seamless feet, sizes ½, 9, 9½; very special at12½¢

Boys' Extra Heavy Ribbed Cotton Hose, fast black, regular 20c pair; special at15¢

Ladies' Plain Cashmere hose, seamless feet, spliced soles; special at, per pair25¢

Ladies' Plain Cashmere Hose, fine quality, spliced seamless feet; special at, per pair35¢

Ladies' Plain Cashmere Hose, with ribbed top, spliced heel and toe; special, per pair50¢

Ladies' Oxford Shoes

At \$2 a pair, in all seasonable shapes and leathers, swell styles \$2 00

Ladies' \$1 50 Low Shoes, Lace and Button Boots, Trilly Two-Button Shoes, every pair the perfection of the shoemaker's art, worthy style and reliable wear; our price, special\$1 50

\$1 25 Low Shoes, patent Leather, Trilly button; also Strap Slippers and Oxford Shoes, all sizes and widths\$1 25

Our Line of Misses' and Boys' Shoes is complete with useful, seasonable goods. Don't forget our ideas of selling goods always warrants prices below the usual.

Ladies' Long Sleeve Cotton Vests, white or unbleached; special at25¢

Ladies' White Vests, with short sleeves; special at15¢

Ladies' Unbleached Vests, shaped, with short sleeves; special12½¢

Ladies' White or Unbleached Vests, with short sleeves; special at10¢

Ladies' Long Sleeve Vests, unbleached; special at15¢

Special line English Tapestry Carpet, well covered, new colorings, and designs, regular price 65c, our special price, per yard50¢

Special line Balmoral Carpets, well covered, new colorings and designs, almost the appearance of velvet carpet; our close price, per yard75¢

Special line Body Brussels Carpet, well covered, new designs and colorings, worth regularly 90c, our close price, per yard75¢

Special line Heavy Body Brussels Carpet, border to match, new colorings and designs, worth regularly \$1 10, special, per yard85¢

Extra fine line Best English Body Brussels Carpet, border to match, new colorings and patterns, our special price, per yard\$1 00

Japanese Mattings, in great variety. We show you:

A special line, at, per yard12½¢

A special line, at, per yard15¢

A special line, at, per yard20¢

A special line, at, per yard25¢

A special line, at, per yard35¢

NEW BLOUSES. NEW BLOUSES.

Ladies' Shirt Waists, in navy and white stripe, bias fronts, new bishop sleeve, sizes 32 to 38. Special, each75¢

Ladies' Shirt Waists, in fancy figured muslin, in colors of navy, pink, heliotrope, buff. Price\$1 25

Ladies' Shirt Waist, in newest shades of striped zephyrs, blues and greens, strap of insertion on shoulders, tucked back. Price\$1 50

Chambray Shirt Waists, in shades of old rose, heliotrope and blue, trimmed with embroidery insertion, new bishop sleeve and buttoned cuff, sizes 32 to 38. Special, each\$1 25

Ladies' Shirt Waists, in fancy striped and figured percales, tucked fronts, new sleeves with pointed cuff. Price\$1 50

Ladies' White Blouses, of very fine all-over embroidery, new bishop sleeve with insertion cuff. Price\$2 90

Ladies' White Blouses, very fine muslin, hemstitching and embroidery front, vest effect. Price\$1 75

Ladies' White Blouses, fine muslins, trimmed with embroidery or lace insertion. Special, each\$1 00

Ladies' Chambray Shirt Waists, in pretty shades of pale blue, cadet blue and pink, fancy white vest, front of tucks and insertion. Price\$2 50

SHOE BALANCE



HE shoe of choice upper leather, with fine appearance, and poor insole or outsole, is only as good as its worst part. The life of a shoe depends as much upon the invisible portion—the hidden material and labor—as upon that which is visible and showy.

Yet all shoes are made primarily to sell, and the manufacturers' temptation to add to selling effect, by subtraction from wear is great, and rarely resisted.

A direct responsibility from Maker to Wearer is the only check upon this extravagant tendency.

That responsibility is easily crept out of, unless the Maker (not the Dealer) sets the price, and stamps it on the sole, with his trade mark.

Thus priced, it is a distinct "promise to pay" so many dollars worth of shoe value, and pledges shoe-balance, uniformity of material, wear, permanent satisfaction.

No Canadian shoe but "The Slater Shoe" is thus pledged.

When you buy "Slater Shoes" you can rely on their being just as good as they look—inside and outside.

The Slater Shoe Makers dare not make superficial "window" shoes.

Goodyear welted, and priced on the sole, in a slate frame.—\$3.50, \$5.00.

"The Slater Shoe"

—For Sale Only in London at—

The SLATER SHOE STORE
146 DUNDAS ST.

RUN ON A HAMILTON BANK.
Hamilton, Ont., April 30.—A foolish and unfounded rumor to the effect that the Traders' Bank was in difficulty caused a slight run on the local branch of that institution yesterday. Depositors were accommodated as fast as it was possible to pay the money. The local manager assured inquirers that the annual report of the bank for the past six months is the best in its history.

New York State lunacy commission is alarmed at the increase of lunacy. In the various hospitals there are now two thousand more patients than can be properly accommodated, the rate of increase being \$700 a year.

PATENTS PROMPTLY SECURED

Write today for a free copy of our "Patent Law" and "Patent Office" book. We have extensive experience in the intricate patent law of 50 foreign countries. Send sketch model or photo for free advice. HAMILTON & MARSH, Experts, No. 125 1/2 Building, Montreal, Quebec, and Washington, D.C.