

London Advertiser.

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Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

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The Street Railway Situation.

The latest situation as to the street railway difficulty seems to be that each side has proposed arbitration to the other.

But arbitration about what? As we understand it, the Company wants an arbitration as to whether or not it has kept the past understanding with the men; whereas, the men want an arbitration on all matters of present and future interest as well.

Particularly, the men want the question of the recognition of the Union to be included. The men have the idea that, no matter what the Company says, it is hostile to the Union, and wants to break it up. Yet according to the men, the Union is their only protection. If they do not hang together, they say, the Company would hang them separately—that is, would harass and dismiss Union men as opportunity offered.

It must be admitted that the Company's side has been adroitly presented to the public by the Company in such manner as to take possession, as far as possible, of public opinion, to the men's disparagement. This has been done partly by anonymous letters in the columns of contemporaries; and by paid columns of advertisements as pretended interviews, in question and answer style, in which the management easily scores a victory by preparing both the questions and the answers!

As our readers are aware, The Advertiser does not admit anonymous letters to its columns, considering them unfair to those attacked, holding them fairly exposed to the suspicion of being fictitious, and regarding them as an insult to readers who are intelligent and courageous. As to any such pretended interviews, paid for as reading advertisements by the line, no such interviews can obtain insertion in The Advertiser for love or money.

While The Advertiser, without hope of reward or expectation of gratitude from any quarter, will endeavor in the future, as in the past, to present with fairness all sides of all controversies, it does not conceal that its general sympathies lie with the men rather than the Company. The men evidently strike the root of the situation when they assert that, were the Company to succeed in its endeavor to destroy the Union, they would be simply so many defenseless units confronting one of those corporations which, according to the proverb, are without souls.

A Canadian Mint Not Needed.

There is no burning necessity for a Canadian mint. No one pretends that it is demanded by our currency, the elasticity of which is one of the finest features of our banking system. Canadian banks at any time could, with perfect security, increase the volume of note circulation beyond any possible requirements of the country. The inflexibility of the American currency is notorious, and American bankers invariably hold up the Canadian system as a model. By the wise issue of bank notes, large and small, gold has been driven out of ordinary circulation in Canada, the people preferring paper for its convenience. It is different in the old country where the yellow coin circulates extensively, because the Bank of England is not permitted to issue notes of less than five pounds. This has been denounced as a stupid policy by financial experts, as the use of small notes would send the gold into the bank coffers, where it is most needed. Besides, a considerable quantity of gold must be lost every year by the abrasion of coins in circulation. It is easy to see that a Canadian mint would merely throw off gold coins to be swallowed up by the banks, while the temporary effect would be a derangement of the currency, for which the mere profit of operating the mint would not compensate. Advocates of a mint claim that if it were established at Vancouver it would attract returning miners from the Klondike, who wish to have their gold stamped as coin. But the miners know they can sell their gold at the highest rates to Canadian banks. Many of them prefer to exchange it for paper before they leave the Klondike.

The Galicians.

A good deal has been written, not always complimentary, by the Opposition press, in regard to the Galician settlers in the Northwest. It is true that these people of Central Europe were encouraged to locate in the Northwest when the Conservative party were in power in Canada, under precisely the same regulations as those now in force, but since a certain event in June, 1896, it has been deemed wise and patriotic by a portion of the Conservative press to denounce almost every agency adopted to promote the settlement of the praefices. The Galicians, however, are a class of immigrants that the United States, with all their recent stringent laws regarding new-comers, are inclined to welcome. We learn from the Evening Post that the officers of the Immigration Bureau at the port of New York assert that the Galicians are particularly satisfactory as immigrants, because, unlike the Italians, Poles and Slavs, they do not crowd into the large cities. The Galicians are farmers, and accordingly make at once for the country. This is the habit of those who come to Canada, and it is fortunate. Here we have plenty of city population. We need no immigrants now who do not intend to go on the land.

The Redistribution Bill.

The closing session of the Dominion Parliament, prior to adjournment for the Queen's Birthday recess, was made interesting by Sir Wilfrid Laurier's presentation of the bill providing for the undoing of the gerrymanders which on two occasions divided the constituencies with the deliberate intention and effect of giving the Liberals less than their fair share of representation in Parliament. We direct attention to the speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in another column. The principles of the bill can be very shortly stated:

1. County boundaries will not be violated. For example, what is now known as "West Middlesex," electorally, contains the township of Euphemia, which is a part of Lambton municipality. Hereafter any Middlesex constituency will consist only of Middlesex municipalities.

2. To show its fairness, and its lack of wish to replace one gerrymander (or unfair distribution) by another gerrymander, the Government, in its bill, simply decides the number of members to be allowed to each county, or city, leaving the task of fairly mapping out the actual constituencies to a commission of Superior Court Judges.

Nothing could be more equitable than the plan proposed. Naturally enough, Sir Charles Tupper denounces the proposition, but experience teaches that, strike high, strike low, it is difficult for the successful Laurier Administration to please the wordy baronet, no matter how earnestly they attempt the difficult achievement.

Under the new bill, London will have one member for the whole city, as at present municipally constituted. London is almost populous enough for two members. If not today, our showing ought surely to be sufficient for the next census. Middlesex will furnish three ridings, but each riding will be composed only of Middlesex material.

It may be said, O, but the partisan Senate will throw the bill out! We do not think so. It has no legitimate right to interfere with a redistribution measure relating to the other House, especially a measure so non-partisan, one in which no attempt whatever to obtain party advantage can be shown. If the Senate throws such a House of Commons bill out, so much the worse for the Senate. But we do not believe it will do so.

The C. P. R.'s Nest Egg.

Few people who take into account the remarkable progress that has overtaken Western Canada are astonished to find that the stock of the Canadian Pacific Railway has risen above par for the first time in the history of that great national highway. Indeed, even the most sanguine, a few years ago, did not dare to hope for the steady and strong development witnessed in the last two years in every branch of business throughout the country. The land is the backbone of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the more prosperous the settler, the greater will be the influx of new-comers, and the more valuable the assets of the railway. The original grant to the Canadian Pacific Railway was 25,000,000 acres, but in 1886, when the terms were rearranged, 6,793,014 acres of this quantity were surrendered to the Dominion Government. This left 18,206,986 acres in the possession of the company. To this was added the Souris land grants of 1,601,520 acres, making 19,818,506 in all. Up to Dec. 31, 1898, the company had sold 3,921,756 acres of these lands, leaving 15,896,750 acres of the C. P. R. land grants unsold. In addition to this, however, the C. P. R. authorities, having taken over the Manitoba and Southwestern Railway, have 1,069,637 acres of land grant for its construction unsold. It has 187,792 acres, obtained for a similar purpose, for the Columbia and Kootenay, and it will receive through the British Columbia Southern Railway about 3,350,000 acres, or 20,504,179 acres in all.

It must be remembered that the 15,896,750 acres of the original grant unsold consists of the choicest lands in Manitoba and the Northwest, for by its charter the company was given sections along the route of its line where the land was up to the standard, but it was also given the power to choose blocks elsewhere in all cases where it was not satisfied with the quality of the soil. As to the value of the land and the prospect of selling it at a paying price, the recent great increase in immigration into the Dominion has told in a marked degree on the disposal of the company's lands. The number of acres sold by the company out of its original land grant up to Dec. 31 last was 3,954,849, and of this 348,608 was disposed of last year, or almost double the quantity sold in 1897. The company has not raised the price per acre, being more anxious to increase its traffic by the effective settlement of its lands than to obtain fancy prices for them. The lands sold last year averaged \$3.22 per acre, as against \$3.33 in 1897.

Some idea may be obtained of the territorial possessions of the C. P. R. by contrasting them with the cultivated area of this great Province of Ontario. In this Province, according to the last report, there are assessed 22,174,899 acres, of which 12,971,851 are cleared, 7,264,167 acres are woodland, and 2,338,980 acres are swamp or marsh. From this statement it will be seen that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has yet to sell good land to the extent of over 4,000,000 more than the entire area of cleared land in the Province of Ontario. This is a nest egg which will become more valuable as the years roll by, and shows how much reserve force the company possesses. It has been said that the C. P. R. is the largest land-owning corporation in the world, and the evidence seems to warrant it. It

is fortunate for Canada that the amount of good land available for settlement and ready to be given out in free grant lots in 160 acres to every adult male, far exceeds the possessions of the company. This will keep the price of the company's holdings at a moderate figure for many years to come. The company, indeed, as we have pointed out, is more anxious to sell to desirable settlers, who will cultivate the soil, and thus make traffic for the road, than to hold for a rise. In this view, we think, it exhibits wisdom.

Importing Pulpit Talent.

The Stratford Beacon protests against the practice of Canadian churches calling pastors from abroad. The Beacon has special reference to St. Andrew's Church, Toronto. The implication that no Canadian is strong enough to fill that pulpit is, it says, in striking contrast to the action of the people from the United States in seeking Canadian clergymen.

The Beacon is right in saying that there are ministers in active work and students coming out of our theological colleges capable of filling any Canadian pulpit, but we do not think matters would be improved by interfering with the free choice of congregations. The question is to be brought before the General Assembly by the Stratford Presbytery. We think this is a mistake. Were a religious body in the United States or Great Britain to put itself on record as opposed to the admission of foreign clergymen, the sentiment would be regarded here as selfish and illiberal, and rightly so. The fact that our neighbors are always seeking Canadian pulpit talent shows that they are not animated by that spirit. Free trade is the proper principle; the Canadian ministry cannot demand protection at home while so many Canadian clergymen take advantage of the open door abroad. At the same time a congregation has no moral right to discriminate against native talent merely because it is native. There is often an unfounded preference for foreigners, but we do not think it is strong or widespread enough to work to the prejudice of the Canadian ministry. We never knew a Canadian minister of genuine power who was not in demand somewhere and who did not eventually reach his level.

The case of St. Andrew's is an isolated one. That congregation deserves little sympathy in its affectation of superiority. Its last imported pastor made the church a stepping stone to a higher salary in the United States. The people of St. Andrew's should have had some better warrant for calling him than the mere glamor of a reputation. Now they are again giving Canada the go-by and have lines out for an English celebrity. Still the judgment displayed in this one church does not justify outside interference or dictation, or the assertion of a narrow principle such as the Stratford Presbytery evidently favors.

No Gerrymander.

The Redistribution Act is a remedial bill of the right sort.

The new Redistribution Act is based on Sir John A. Macdonald's first principles. But the Act avoids Sir John's later practices.

If the apple of discord is thrown among the delegates at the peace conference they will probably find it labeled Alsace-Lorraine.

From an artistic point of view the new electoral map of Ontario will be a distinct improvement. The act of 1882 left it like a crazy-quilt.

The City Council last night voted to send six aldermen to Ottawa in support of a private electric railway scheme. Provided the cost of the trip is paid by the aldermen themselves, or by the promoters of the scheme.

TO TENDER SKINNED MEN

Shave with CUTICURA SHAVING SOAP, and before cleansing the face gently rub a bit of CUTICURA (ointment) over the shaven part. Wash all off with CUTICURA TOILET SOAP and hot water.

This simple and inexpensive treatment will make shaving a pleasure and prove a great comfort to those with tender, easily irritated skins.

Sold throughout the world. Price, CUTICURA SHAVING SOAP, 1c.; CUTICURA TOILET SOAP, 2c.; CUTICURA (ointment), 10c. For Sale by ALL DRUGGISTS, Grocers, and Dealers. "All About the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," free.

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THE RUNIANS, GRAY, CARRIE CO.

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Store Open Tonight Till 10.

CLOTHING AND SHOES

If cheaper goods are wanted we can satisfy the demand; but in the long run the best are the cheapest. In these departments the stocks are new; styles are the latest; and qualities the best obtainable for the money. That's what we mean by absolute command of the market. These items for today:

Underwear

Men's Light Balbriggan Underwear; regular 90c per set. Special, per set 50c
Men's extra fine quality Balbriggan Shirts and Drawers, warranted double thread, all sizes, 34 to 46. Very special, each 50c
Men's Flannellette Shirts, all sizes; regular 25c. Special at 18c

Hats

Five dozen Men's Fine Fur Felt Fedora Hats, black, latest style, silk band and binding, Russian leather perspiration band; regular \$1.50. Extra special \$1.00
Boys' Caps, in plain and fancy, ranging in price from 10c to 35c
A special range of Boys' Caps, in navy serge; regular 25c. Very special at 18c

Basement

You can get D. M. Ferry & Co.'s Yellow Globe Mangold Wurzel Seed for 5c per pound.
Also Steele & Briggs' Selected Purple-Top Swede Turnip in 1 pound packages for 15c; regular price 25c. 28 only do, in 1/4-pound packages for 4c.
One pound packages of Improved Short White Carrots, regular price 50c. Saturday, 25c per package.
Six pounds of Redpath's Granulated Sugar, and one pound of Black, Mixed or Japan Tea for 50c.
Three pounds Rice and three pounds of Tapioca for 25c. Corn Starch, 5c per package; two pounds Currants for 15c; two pounds Raisins for 15c; three pounds Washing Soda for 5c; Laundry Starch, 5c per pound. Butter, Eggs, Lard, etc., a specialty.

Neckwear

In Knots, Bows, Strings. Four-in-Hands and Puffs. Regular 25c and 30c. Extra special at 15c.

Clothing and Furnishings

At \$5—Men's Sack Suits, in light and dark colors, plain and fancy, all-wool tweeds, Italian linings, silk sewn, etc. Very special at \$5.00
At \$7.50—Men's Sack Suits, in fine all-wool tweeds, fancy patterns, Italian linings, silk sewn, perfect fitting; regular \$10 goods. Very special at \$7.50
At \$10—A most complete range of Men's Suits, in all the newest patterns, in extra quality, all-wool tweed; also in fine blue and black serges, single and double-breasted, with best quality of Italian linings, etc., equal to any custom-made goods, and considered good value at \$12 and \$14. Our price \$10.00
Boys' Fancy Vestee Suits, latest styles, all bright, new goods; sizes, 22 to 25. Very special at \$2.25
Men's Odd Pants, an immense assortment, all sizes, light and dark colors, ranging in price from 75c to \$2; you can get in this assortment what will surely please your fancy and fit your purse.

Boots and Shoes

New Shoes are constantly arriving and being passed into stock. We buy direct from the manufacturers, and have each line made to suit our trade; and sell them direct to the wearer at the closest possible margin of profit. We sell reliable shoes. We sell them at the price many houses get for stuff made for sale. OURS ARE MADE TO WEAR. Our increasing sales indicate growing confidence.

A few quotations for comparison. See the goods—New Oxford Ties, New Laced and Button Boots, New Women's Shoes, New Misses' Shoes, New Boys' Shoes, New Men's Shoes—Department full of new goods.

Women's Fine Dongola, kid-tipped, turn sole, leather lined, new shape toe, Oxford Shoes. Special \$1.25
Women's Fine Dongola, two-button, Trilby Low Shoe; in chocolate or black; beautiful \$1.25
Women's Kid, turn sole, fancy shaped vamp, cloth top, Southern Tie; very fine \$2.00
Women's Fine Chocolate Dongola, machine sewed, flexible soles, new shape; Balmorals \$1.50
Women's Very Fine Dongola, laced and button boots; at \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2, \$2.50, \$3 and \$3.50
Reliable Makes, New Styles, Quick Sellers.

Boys' Chocolate Whole-Foxed, channel standard screw soles, new shape toe. Very special \$1.25
Men's Dongola, whole-foxed, extension soles; laced and Congress Shoes \$1.50
Men's Box Calf, whole-foxed, laced and Congress. Very special value \$2.00
Men's Kid and Box Calf, Goodyear welt, Balmorals and Congress. Extra fine goods; \$3 and \$3.50

The Runians, Gray, Carrie Co.

IMPORTERS,

208, 210, 210½, 212 DUNDAS STREET.

Montserratt
LIME FRUIT JUICE

Is a delightful drink when used with Claret, Aerated Waters, or even with plain water sweetened to the taste.

It Is Cheaper Than Lemons.

no one will object, but any attempt to charge the city with the expenses should be stopped by injunction.

What a freak the county of Middlesex is for Dominion purposes! It takes in a slice of Huron on the north, Lambton on the west and Elgin on the south. No decent fair-minded man can defend this butchery. The Government have done well to decree that the natural county lines shall be restored.

The Canadians we find a little hard to trade with, and a little close in a bargain, but it is good to have an English-speaking people, so much the masters of their destiny and affairs, close at hand, and in the main well disposed toward us.—Washington Star.

The Americans we find almost impossible to trade with, and very close in a bargain, but it is good to have an English-speaking people close at hand who are at last well disposed toward the British race.

The late Prof. Drummond, the distinguished Scottish author, was a warm friend of the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen, and if we mistake not visited them in their vice-regal home at Ottawa shortly before his death. They have now received the sanction of the town council of Glasgow to place in the public gardens of that city a memorial fountain to the memory of the Professor. The fountain will have a profile of Dr. Drummond in bas-relief. This is a very appropriate memorial to set up in a thirsty city like the Scottish commercial metropolis.

subject till after the next general election. In the House of Commons the other night, Mr. Asquith sarcastically charged the colonial secretary with breach of promise in having given the electors to understand prior to last general election that he had an old-age pension scheme ready for use as soon as his party was returned to power. Mr. Chamberlain replied, greatly to the amusement of the House, that he had not made a promise, only a proposal. How keen the member for Birmingham is at hair splitting when it suits his purpose!

What Others Say.

Quite Another Matter.

[Detroit Tribune.]

It is easy enough to elect honest men to office as Gov. Roosevelt suggests; but it's often another matter to keep 'em honest after they're elected.

A Tower of Language.

[Toronto Telegram.]

Oh, why will not Sir Hilbert Tupper learn to briefly hit the Laurier Government on the head with the grievances which he now uses as a foundation for a babel tower of language?

The Nine Points of Law.

[Kingston News.]

The nine points of the law are thus concisely, if somewhat cynically given: (1) A good deal of money; (2) a good deal of patience; (3) a good cause; (4) a good lawyer; (5) a good counsel; (6) good witnesses; (7) a good jury; (8) a good judge; (9) good luck.

Light and Shade.

The Smiths.

Witner (shortly after the introduction—I beg your pardon, miss—I didn't catch your name? Miss Smith—That's strange. Why, it's epidemic!—Brooklyn Life.

Cornish Wisdom.

An old Cornish woman, who had prospered from small beginnings, was

asked how she got on so well. "Ah, you see, sir," said she, "most people be allus thinking of what they do want; but I and my old man, we be allus thinking of what we can do without."

His Measure.

"Pa," said little Tommy, "what does the paper mean by calling Mr. Jones an eight-by-ten politician?"
"I think, my boy, it means he is not exactly square," replied Tommy's father.

An Old Habit.

"Why on earth," said the Billville subscriber, "does the editor of a newspaper say 'we, instead of I'?"
"I don't know," replied the managing editor. "It is an old custom; but I think it dates from the time when the first newspaper editor got married—Atlanta Constitution.

Safest Plan for Hiram.

"Well," said the mother of the family, "the ball game must be over. Here comes Hiram through the back alley."
"Through the back alley?" echoed the caller. "Then the club he belongs to must have lost the game."
"That's no indication. He always comes home that way. He's the umpire."—Chicago Tribune.

Not With Safety.

Primus—Dynamite is the most wonderful invention of the age.
Secundus—Why?
Primus—There's nothing in the world can hold a candle to it.—Yale Record.

CANCER.

FOR TWO STAMPS.

A. L. Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont., will give you full particulars of a painless method for curing cancers and tumors.

NO KNIFE. NO PLASTER.

[Mention Advertiser.]