

PURITY ON ELECTION DAY IN THE OLD COUNTRY

There Are All Sorts of Entertaining Ways by Which the Act is Dodged--Mysterious Charities That Suddenly Spring Up in a District That is Holding a Parliamentary Campaign--Candidates Who Hold Back Their Official Nominations in Order to "Nurse" a Constituency.

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London, Oct. 22.—English politics are supposed to be entirely free from bribery and corruption, and British newspapers delight in pointing to American elections as examples of civic dishonesty. Recent political events in England, however—and particularly the Haggerston bye-election, which was won by a careful "nursing" of the voters by a wealthy candidate—demonstrate the fact that the old country has little to boast of in matters of this description. In fact, England might be able to give a few pointers to such American politicians as believe that the barrel full of "boodle" counts most in

winning votes from free and independent citizens.

There is considerable talk in England now of another general election coming off before long, and readers might be interested in being taken "behind the scenes" at an English parliamentary contest. Recently the writer had the opportunity of conferring with several English agents intimately acquainted with the "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain" for winning votes; and there is ample evidence which will be admitted in the course of this article—that "money talks" in England quite as loudly as it does anywhere else in the world.



EXCITING ELECTION INCIDENT AT DUNDEE.
Winston Churchill is shown speaking while a woman suffragist is being taken to the use of a ball. The "Suffragette" has become a picture of all election contests.

Of course, in England there does not exist what is known as the corrupt practices act; but as a famous lawyer once said, however, there is no law through which one cannot drive a coach and pair; and so it is with this enactment for preventing bribery in English elections. According to the corrupt practices act, election expenses must not exceed a certain sum of money in proportion to the number of voters in a given constituency. For instance, if there are 8,000 voters, the candidate must not spend more than the statutory sum of \$5,500; while if there are 15,000 voters the sum allowed by law is \$7,180. Moreover, the expenditure must be for definite purposes, strictly specified amounts being allowed for such items as salaries of agents, sub-agents, clerks, messengers, printing, advertisements, stationery, postage and telegrams. Every candidate in England by the way, is supposed to pay his own election expenses; no running for parliament in a big constituency with 30,000 or 40,000 voters costs the aspirant for political honor a tidy sum of money.

So rigid—at least, supposedly—is the law on the point of election that candidates must submit vouchers for all their outlay and these accounts are scrutinized carefully both by government officials and by the political opponents of the officeholder. If a flaw is found the candidate may be unseated, and even prosecuted.

But—and the "but" in this case is a good deal stronger than most "its" and "buts"—usually the candidate has a hundred and one, or perhaps a hundred and two, ways of keeping quiet within the statutory limit, and yet spending unlimited thousands on vote-coupling.

Foremost of these methods is what is known in England as "ground-baiting." It works admirably in congested areas where poverty abounds. The would-be candidate practically buys the constituency by becoming, as it were, a sort of "special providence" to all the poor whose votes he desires to influence. Various organizations—not directly connected, of course, with the candidate—are formed under such titles as the Coal Consumers' League, the Licensed Victuallers' League, the Bookmakers' Legal Aid Association, the Charity Mission Society, and similar concerns. Through these there begins at election time a perfect shower of "good things" in the district. Tickets on these various societies are freely distributed, and coal, food, beer, blankets, milk, clothing, shoes, firewood and groceries are given away to "deserving" persons. Strangely enough, the beneficiaries find their way into the homes of those who hold the franchise. Quite as

"I don't want to look at her," said the boy, weeping louder than ever, "I want my penny!"

Wives of prospective candidates make it a point to call on most of the mothers whose husbands happen to have votes; and they order the distribution of free milk to infants who seem to require it. Not infrequently, also, sipping children even are sent to the seaside on the country for a much needed change of air, entirely at the expense of the political good Samaritan. Curiously enough the "money talks" in the course of this article—t "money talks" in England quite as loudly as it does anywhere else in the world.

Another favorite dodge in "ground-baiting" is the giving of "entertainment dinners." The Corrupt Practices Act distinctly forbids "entertainment," and so, in order to avoid the law, tickets for these dinners are marked "2 shillings." For this sum a really splendid dinner, including wine, is provided. Expert caterers figure that you could not duplicate some of these "entertainment dinners" for less than \$1.50. While a good many tickets are sold, hundreds are given away by persons who have a right to buy the tickets and give them to whomsoever they please. Friends of the candidate thus acquire most of the tickets, and hand them out where they will "do the most good."

open and oft-repeated boast from one party or the other.

The ground-baiting of a district may involve two or three years of constant expenditure on it before it is "ripe" for working. Candidates often are defeated in a district simply because they did not begin spending soon enough. They "nurse" the constituency for another year or two, and then often, on a re-contest, the defeated man gets into Parliament with flying colors. Very often the various "leagues" and organizations engaged in "fixing" a district will meet at different saloons, where "free drinks" are given away by the chairmen. On these occasions the conversation turns on politics, and, of course, the member who is behind the ostensible "league" comes in for unflattering praise.

At election times in England considerable direct influence is brought to bear on voters through the channel of "patronage." Many customers of tradesmen signify their intention to withdraw their orders if the tradesmen do not vote in the "right" manner—that is, according to the wishes of the particular customer. If a tradesman comes out into the open and displays any of the handbills or literature of the opposing candidate the customers promptly withdraw their trade. As a consequence you seldom find a shopkeeper with an opinion which he is willing to express openly at election times, especially if his views incline toward radicalism.

Not only are shopkeepers brought under this stricture, but large factories, works and other institutions employing numbers of men usually manage to make it known that they expect their employees to vote at election times, especially if their views incline toward radicalism. Foremen usually are able to ascertain the views of their men by "nomination papers" which—just before an election—are frequently made out by the firm. Foremen usually are able to ascertain the views of their men by "nomination papers" which—just before an election—are frequently made out by the firm. Foremen usually are able to ascertain the views of their men by "nomination papers" which—just before an election—are frequently made out by the firm.

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Practices Act could not be brought to bear. The "present" in this case did not come from the successful member who had won his seat in parliament, but from a local "league" of his friends, over whose generous action he could not of course exercise any control. With "volunteers" working as a candidate's sub-agents there is no way of checking the money these men might spend. In the annexed case, though about \$15,000 was spent, the actual accounts only showed the legal sum of \$6,250 for legitimate election expenditure.

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ELECTRIC FARMING WINS THE FARMERS

How Commodore Lee, on His Electrically Operated Ranch, Cuts Down Expenses

THRESHES WITH MOTOR

Can Do 1,500 Bushels a Day--Pioneer "Lightning" Agriculturist Sets a Pace Which Others Are Eager to Follow.

(New York World.)

A few weeks ago the World published the story of Commodore Tom Lee's electric farm, the pioneer electric farm of the world, near Rigby, Idaho. The story was reproduced all over America and in Europe and is now being published in Australia and translated for publication in foreign languages.

Commodore Lee, until a short time ago, was general passenger agent of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, with headquarters in New York.

Farmers all over the country have been so anxious to learn how an electrically operated farm is conducted that the commodore has sent East a general description of his methods, which astonish by their simplicity and set the example for imitation by progressive and economical tillers of the soil.

The Iowa Railroad, of Chicago, of which Andrew Stevenson is manager, has already arranged to sell light, heat and power to farmers along its line.

Applying the Current.

Leaving Rigby, a private pole line carries the power wire and a two telephone wires, leads direct to the Bungalow, which is the name of Commodore Lee's farm of more than 2,000 acres, the entire circuit of which is sixteen miles. The power wires turn at the ranch station and go directly east to the section line, while away out across the broad acres runs another line north and south. To these lines, across the fields, are attached the feed wires that run the motor.

At the mansion is a small terminal house where the power wires are controlled. In the power house is a motor for the operation of all machinery required at headquarters. The motor can even furnish water pressure in case of fire and, in fact, anything that is necessary in carrying out the general work of the ranch. Electric lights are all over the place. At night the yard lights may be seen for miles. Wires are everywhere.

Commodore Lee runs the Bungalow on the same business principles that he applied to his department in railroading. Wonders have been accomplished in two years. Sage brush land has been transformed into acres of laughing harvests. A boulevard four miles long leads out to the place from Rigby. It was built at the owner's own expense. On the ranch is all the most up-to-date machinery the market can furnish from the most reliable and intricate weather gauge to the best automatic hay lifter.

Great Benefits Result.

All the social, business, industrial and mechanical arrangements on the farm are carried out on a scientific basis. Order and method are the watchwords.

The electrical power is generated in Idaho Falls, fourteen miles away, and carried to the ranch by a line of iron poles. For \$750 the Commodore bought an old wagon with stout wheels. He put the rear wheels forward and the front wheels back, and he placed a fifteen-horse-power general electric motor.

Attached to the framework on one side of the vehicle behind the motor is a starter. On the other end of the wagon are a couple of transformers. Stretched over a simple frame there is a canvas cover. A detachable mast, bearing a yard, rises from the rear of the wagon. This short pole carries the wires above the heads of the engine and workmen.

The feed wires are strung out to the nearby power line and connected with a simple switch. The switch is turned on upon the wagon.

The Commodore has threshed this season, with a small separator, 1,500 bushels of wheat a day, and with oats has turned out a detachable mast, bearing a yard, rises from the rear of the wagon. This short pole carries the wires above the heads of the engine and workmen.

There were fifteen deaths in the city last week from the following causes: Consumption, four; premature birth, three; senile decay, three; marasmus, diphtheria, heart disease, pernicious anemia, intestinal perforation, and accident, one each.

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Also Makers of Hewson Pure Wool Tweeds.

SEVEN-YEAR-OLD BOY DIED OF LOCKJAW

Son of James Desmond of Lock Lomond Road Cut Forehead by Fall in Field.

Lawrence Desmond, the seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. James Desmond, of Lock Lomond road, whose funeral was held Sunday from his parents' residence, died of lockjaw.

About two weeks ago, he was playing in his father's field when he fell and cut his forehead slightly. Nothing was learned from the injury, which seemed of a trifling nature but some days later inflammation set in and signs of tetanus developed.

A doctor was at once called in but in spite of all he could do the lockjaw caused death. General sympathy will go out to the bereaved parents in their sorrow.

The funeral was held yesterday at St. Joachim's church, Silver Falls, where Rev. A. J. O'Neill read the prayers.

JAPAN'S NEW ISLAND

Found About 280 Miles East of Formosa, and Named Nishigawa.

The Japanese report the discovery of a previously unknown island about 280 miles east of Formosa. The discovery is somewhat surprising at this late date.

The Japanese flag has been raised over it, and the name Nishigawa has been given to the island.

A Japanese agent, Mr. Nishigawa, is very enthusiastic over the discovery. He says it has great natural wealth.

He found in the waters between the surrounding flat reef and the shores of the island several kinds of marketable shells and mother of pearl in abundance.

There are also inexhaustible supplies of commercial coral; and better still he found enormous quantities of calcium phosphate on the reefs, that will afford the best of artificial fertilizer, and he thinks the supply is sufficient to keep miners busy for 50 or 60 years.

As his vessel approached the island Mr. Nishigawa saw a cloud of birds hovering over it, and he found later that they were of a species which the Japanese call osadori. These birds abound there in great numbers and are counted among the valuable resources of the island, as there is a good market for their plumage in Europe, particularly in France.

The flora is tropical, but the island seems to be fairly healthy. No reptiles or venomous insects can be found, and the only quadruped that the island seems to possess is a variety of rat about the size of a rabbit.

This addition of a few score of square miles to the known land surface of the earth is fair to add a little to the world's wealth—New York Sun.

TWO PORTLAND MEN IN BANKRUPTCY

Portland, Me., Nov. 7.—Virgil H. Conner, of Portland, and Thomas H. Fairfield, giving their aggregate liabilities as nearly \$100,000, filed petitions in bankruptcy in the U. S. District court today. Mr. Conner is a well known lumber man operating under the firm name of V. R. Conner & Co., and also is manager of the Summit Spring Water Company. He is one of the six Maine Republican electors of President and Vice-President elected Tuesday. Mr. Totman conducts a hardware business.

Mr. Conner's liabilities were given as \$43,967, of which \$41,800 is unsecured, and his assets are said to be \$16,301. Mr. Totman's liabilities were given as \$52,000, on which \$13,615 is unsecured and his assets are \$38,000.

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