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JOHN CAMERON,
Pres't and Managing Director.

God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.
—Browning.

London, Thursday, May 23.

A NOTABLE ANNIVERSARY.

The subjects of the Queen of Great Britain in all parts of the world will celebrate the 76th anniversary of her birth tomorrow. Her Majesty has had a long and eventful reign, and every year adds to the events which will make it a most distinguished epoch in the history of the English-speaking people. Queen Victoria has reigned longer than any of her predecessors on the throne of Great Britain. If we except George III., who was king for the long period of 59 years and 4 months; but if we take into account that for nine years before he died George III. was hopelessly insane, and that for a portion of those nine years he was blind and deaf also, the present sovereign, who will celebrate the 57th anniversary of her accession to the throne next June, has really broken the record.

It is noteworthy that the only three sovereigns of the British people who have celebrated their jubilee held away in times when remarkable advances were made by the English-speaking people. The reign of the third Henry is memorable from the fact that the people then forced the concession of the Great Charter. While the third Henry held away, the knell of medieval chivalry was sounded, and the completion of the process of fusion was accomplished, which resulted in the modern English people. The mother tongue entirely superseded French, and English got its first strong hold on all classes of the community. The reign of George III. was an era of invention. The spinning jenny, the steam engine, and other manufacturing contrivances and labor-saving agencies were brought into use. Britain added to her colonial possessions in all parts of the world, though the stupidly lost the American colonies through the folly of the king and the blundering of his Ministers. In this reign, too, the newspaper editors compelled Parliament to give up its secret discussions of public affairs, and the press became an increasingly great power for the advancement of the public welfare. Despite these improvements, through the unfair system of taxation then prevailing—a "protective" tariff it was—the condition of the great mass of the population was deplorable.

Nor had the condition of the workers much improved at the time when the future Queen and Empress was born. In the years immediately preceding her birth there was inflated prosperity produced by lavish war expenditure, undertaken by the agency of borrowed money. Then came the years of peace and reckoning, and with them, as in the reaction following the Franco-Prussian war in our day, the collapse of industry and the sudden throwing on the labor market of vast numbers of regular soldiers, militia, sailors and others engaged in the wars. A period of great suffering and want ensued, which was aggravated by the "protective" taxation then and for over twenty years afterwards levied on the necessities of the people. Illegal societies sprang into existence all over the country, furious riots and outrages took place among the starving population in the manufacturing districts, and the agricultural laborers were driven by despair of finding employment to commit many offenses of a criminal character. The jails, the historian tells us, were filled with treasonable conspirators and other criminals; numerous trials and executions took place, and it seemed at times as if the very foundations on which society rested were to be given assunder.

Though the population of Great Britain was not much over a third of what the country now sustains, in far greater comfort than was then dreamed of as possible, there were serious discussions as to whether or not the country had not reached the limit of its ability to sustain life, and the problem was presented of an ever-increasing population and no apparent livelihood for it except through expatriation. The British people have sent abroad millions of their sons and daughters to colonize and control new lands in every part of the globe; Britain has increased its own population to over 33,000,000; its inhabitants are now increasing at the rate of 1,000 a day; yet it is able to provide for their wants than were the forefathers in the days of Queen Victoria's childhood. Who shall say that the British people are in their decadence, or that they need ever decay if they cultivate those virtues which alone exalt a nation, and of which Queen Victoria, unlike many of her predecessors, is a noble example?

But if previous long reigns were epoch-making, what shall be said of that of the present sovereign? In her time the common people have been emancipated from political disfranchisement. By three successive reform bills—in 1832, in 1867 and again in 1885—they have evolved into fully recognized

citizens, and but a few finishing touches to the electoral law are needed to give Great Britain her proper status. These are coming. The British people have removed the political disabilities under which the Roman Catholics and Jews long labored. They have asserted, though they have not yet passed into law, the right of Ireland to that measure of local self government which we possess in Canada. They gave us responsible government in this country, though that fair measure was resisted by a Family Compact till the rebellion of the exasperated people forced a reform. British money has built the Suez Canal, and now controls that great water-way. The English-speaking people have made a Dominion of Canada possible; they have established Australia, New Zealand and many South African colonies. They have provided an intelligent rule in India, and they have given justice to Egypt for the first time in modern history. All this has been done since Queen Victoria was born.

The industrial development has been even more marked. By her policy of trade freedom Great Britain has made herself more and more the mistress of the seas, the great trading, money accumulating, money lending nation of the world. All countries turn to her for financial aid in their distress. She is debtor to none, but there is not a nation possessed of responsible government which is not a borrower from her, beginning with the United States with hundreds of millions of borrowed capital, and ending with the Hawaiian and Samoan Islands, whose borrowing powers are limited by their needs as a semi-civilized people. Since the Queen was born steamships have been sent going, and so have railways. The electric telegraph was not invented till long after the Queen had reached womanhood, and she had reigned nearly 40 years before the telephone—that great time-saver—was brought into general use. In her reign, too, the use of gas, petroleum and electricity as agencies for illumination have been first turned to account. Iron and steel manufacture have been revolutionized by British inventions, British science has discovered chloroform, and the value of vaccination was first sustained by British medical men. The fast printing press for the printer, the mower and reaper for the farmer, the electric motor for everyone, are among other inventions that have come in Queen Victoria's day. Truly in no previous reign, long or short, have the English-speaking people achieved so much. There is still complaint that with all these improvements the lot of the worker is not so satisfactory as it ought to be. Let us hope that in that respect the good sense and fair-mindedness of the race will find means for still further improving the condition of the populace, though we must not forget that much depends on the prudence of the people themselves.

UNTAXED IMPLEMENTS FOR FOREIGNERS ONLY.

The present Government at Ottawa taxes the iron, coal, and every other necessary article in the production of agricultural implements. That is, if the implements are to be used by Canadian farmers. But if the implements are to be sent to the Argentine Republic, or any other foreign country, where they are to be used to compete with Canada in the world's markets, the manufacturers are repaid the taxes.

Is this fair treatment of the Canadian taxpayer, and particularly of the Canadian farmer?

Surely the Canadian farmer and not his most ardent competitor in the British markets, should have the untaxed implements.

But the present Ottawa Government says, No, the foreigner must have the preference.

THE SALUTARY LIBERAL RULE IN ONTARIO WILL BE DUPLICATED AT OTTAWA.

Sir Oliver Mowat has another Ontario case to argue before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, where he has won fame as a constitutional lawyer, and this week he leaves to look after it. Sir Oliver is in need of recreation after the labors of the session, and when he returns three or four months hence, we trust it will be with renewed vigor to carry on the affairs of state. Sir Oliver is now in the twenty-fourth year of his premiership, and he bids fair to round off more than quarter of a century. Twenty-four years of unbroken Liberal rule of Ontario; yet certain newspapers never tire of saying that the Liberals have no capacity to govern! After the next Dominion election they will very likely see the beginning of a quarter of a century of Liberal rule at Ottawa also.

GREAT ONTARIO LAWYERS.

In the trial now going on at Toronto one is reminded of the days when great criminal lawyers like John Hillyard Cameron and Matthew Crooks Cameron were pitted against each other in the courts, one for the Crown and the other for the prisoner at the bar, in almost every important case. Alert, skilful and eloquent, the two Camerons were beyond most criminal lawyers who have adorned the Ontario bar; yet we think it may with fairness be said that in all the qualities which go to make up the great advocate there has never been a greater in this country than Mr. B. B. Osler—perhaps never his equal. He displays wonderful generalship in the conduct of a case, in presenting and eliciting evidence, in arguing questions of law, in laying the facts before a jury. Yet he never appears to press a case against the accused, never seems to take an advantage, but always creates the impression that his one object is to get at the truth. As a tactician he rarely makes a mistake, and what will strike more observers is that he is more judicial than the judge on the bench. There has been some outcry against the employment of Mr. Osler as counsel for the Crown, but we do not understand why there should be. The Crown is almost always at a disadvantage, for

usually it is working in the dark, and all the evidence upon which it depends has to be collected piecemeal. On the other hand the accused, whether guilty or innocent, has the advantage of knowing all the facts in so far as he may be concerned, and a lawyer of ordinary skill, directed and instructed by one who best knows all the facts and circumstances of a case, has the odds strongly in his favor. For these reasons, if for no other, the Crown does no less than its duty when it secures the services of the best counsel, instead of leaving him to be employed by the accused; and in the person of Mr. Osler we think it may be confidently said that no innocent man is likely to suffer the pains and penalties of the law through any selfish desire of winning a victory.

It happens, however, that in the great trial now going on, the accused are defended by counsel who are showing themselves to be masters of the advocate's art. Mr. Lount has had large experience in the criminal courts, and may now be classed as a veteran. Mr. Johnson is a much younger man, but has already given proofs of great ability. In conducting the defense of Clara Ford a few days ago, and getting her free, he suddenly found himself famous. We shall not be surprised if he soon takes rank with the foremost criminal lawyers of the country.

EDITORIAL POINTS.

Haggart's ditch may yet ditch Haggart.

The Mail-Empire says: "A story, 'The Tip That Failed,' is already being extensively circulated." Our esteemed contemporary surely doesn't refer to the tip some of the sugar refiners got before the duty went up.

A good many sneers at the Patrons of Industry have been indulged in from the ranks of the high tax party in the Dominion Parliament. The Patrons are spoken of as "illiterate," and are otherwise belittled. How differently did these same Conservatives treat the Patrons so long as they believed that they could use the organization to defeat

House and Lobby

The British Columbia Penitentiary Scandal—
Another Non-Paying Railroad Operated at the
People's Expense — Tariff Fallacies Further
Emphasized.

(Specially telegraphed by our own Representative.)

Ottawa, May 22.—The report of the commissioner, Mr. Justice Drake, appointed to investigate, shows that the British Columbia Penitentiary was in a deplorable condition, the warden giving orders which were disobeyed by instructions of the deputy, Fitzsimmons, and the officers all quarreling among themselves. Discipline was gone, rules violated and escapes and attempts were frequent. The commissioner convicts Deputy Fitzsimmons of removing large stores and supplies from the prison; much of it he gave to the Roman Catholic orphanage in New Westminster. He is also convicted of obtaining over \$300 for the keep of Justice McCreight's horse at the penitentiary, and making a credit of only \$80 to the department. He also took convicts and guards to work on the orphanage, and gave them coal, cement, lumber and other public property without making any entries on the books. He and the warden also used the penitentiary provisions and produce of the farm. This precious deputy warden was discharged by Sir John Thompson on receipt of this report, but recently Sir Hibbert Tupper reinstated him in office, and the British Columbia members are going to raise a big row over it in the House when Mr. Tupper returns next week from Lakewood, N. J.

The afternoon was void of any interest except for a very good speech on the tariff by the member for Stanstead, Mr. Rider. Mr. Casey asked what the effect would be of Judge Desnoyers' decision in the St. Louis case, and what further proceedings would be taken. Mr. Haggart replied that the effect of the decision was a legal one, and that the honorable member could draw his own inference. The question of further criminal proceedings is being considered carefully by the Minister of Justice. The civil proceedings were still going on, one case being before the Supreme Court and one in the Exchequer Court.

Mr. McMullen was anxious to get statistics to show the condition of the Cape Breton Railway, but the Railway Department have adopted a scheme which hides the fact that the road is being operated at a loss to the country. The gross amount of capital expenditure up to the 1st of April was \$3,868,000, but the gross receipts Mr. Haggart could not give because, he explained, the figures are not kept separate from the other sections of the Intercolonial.

Mr. Kenny resumed the tariff debate, making a fighting speech. He defended the policy of taxing sugar, and claimed that protection was needed by a sugar refining industry with which he was connected is not paying dividends, and he offered an amount of stock to the members of the House at 60 cents on the dollar.

Mr. T. B. Rider, Stanstead, made an excellent speech in reply to the member for Halifax. A system of economy carried out vigorously and on business principles, not a vigorous system of economy, allowed to drop and be piecemeal, would, he said, meet the deficit much better than a scheme of fresh taxation. The stated object of the policy of high protection was to develop the natural resources of the country, but an examination of the tariff showed that it was designed to extract taxation from the people for the purpose of enabling the occupants of the Treasury benches to maintain themselves in power. The welfare of the farming class at heart, but there was a wide divergence between promise and performance, and it seemed that it was votes rather than welfare the Government were thinking

Sir Oliver Mowat. Let the opponents of class legislation get together in every constituency. The country needs a change.

In the new Chinese trade, England starts with an immense advantage, as she carries two-thirds of the total tonnage of all the trade with the Eastern nation named.

China gets out of Formosa. Japan enters into possession. So the panorama of history unrolls.

It has been said that Mr. Foster, Minister of Finance, is overworked. Those who know best tell us that it is not overwork so much as overworry that is injuring Mr. Foster. In the present condition of public affairs, with a huge deficit and thousands of clamorous applicants for office, for bonuses, or something, the real leader of the high tax party is being worried as never has been Canadian Government head in modern times.

One result of the present upheaval in Newfoundland will be enforced economy in government. That is not a bad thing. There will also be less buying on credit and incidental private improvidence on the part of the people. This outcome, like that flowing from a better system of national government, will be welcomed by honest men as decidedly salutary. What Newfoundland needs is freedom to buy and to sell from her best markets. In this she resembles Canada.

Poor Mr. Foster could find no better answer to the charge of employing a manufacturer spy in the United States than to prompt the Speaker to reprove the Opposition for bringing up the subject under the rules of the House. It is getting too frequent, he said, and the occasions are too frivolous. But Sir Richard Cartwright and D'Alton McCarthy may be trusted to know the right way of bringing questions to the notice of Parliament as well as Mr. Foster. It is not the manner in which subjects are brought up which vexes the Government, but the indefensible nature of the subjects.

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All colors, sizes and styles, worth \$1 25, for \$1 10; \$2 50, for \$1 75; \$2 75, for \$2; \$4 25, for \$3 25; \$5, for \$3 75; \$6 50, for \$5; \$7 50 and \$8, for \$5 50; \$12, for \$10; \$15, for \$12; \$20, for \$16. These are the garments you need for the cool evenings. See them, you will be charmed at the reductions.

Ladies' Duck Suits and Street Dresses

These are the prettiest and neatest fitting costumes seen in the city. Some few are wearing garments called street suits, cut with straight lines that do not even fit where they touch, but hang like a flag on its staff on a sultry day. We wish the ladies to understand such garments were not purchased from

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My heart goes back to the days gone by,
When I had no trouble or care;
And I see the pretty lilac gown
That my darling used to wear.

It had frills of lace and a wattleau pleat,
And the fit was what charmed me;
But some of the gowns we see on the street
Would give one a fit to see.

But when you get a gown at Chapman's store,
You may bless your lucky stars;
For it will wash and wear beyond compare
And prevent all family jars.

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We have a very pretty line of Infants' Pelisses and outdoor robes in cream cashmere, silk embroidered, very fine, nice goods, different styles and sizes. These are very desirable garments. The dresses are in challie, gingham and print, all sizes, and we are selling them from 80c to \$1 50; lace trimmed, nicely finished. A visit to our well-appointed establishment will be very gratifying to us.

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