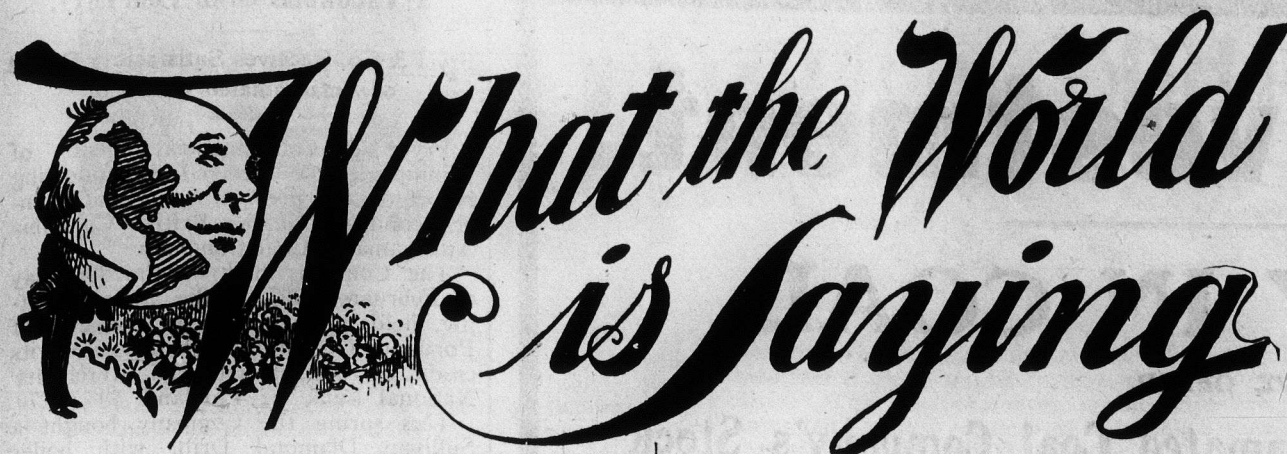




The Ways of the Stock Market.

Two Toronto brokers, members of churches, went down to their offices one morning. One called up the other over the telephone, and asked him how many shares of Lake Superior Consolidated he would take. The reply came that he would take a block at a certain advance figure on the closing price of the night before. The two exchanged messages again and again, each one taking shares each time at constantly rising prices. When the market closed it was given out to the press that a good number of shares of this stock had been sold at big figures. Not one share was bought or sold by these men, but the trick was played to make the gullible public bite. It did so, and when it bit, the men unloaded their holdings. This is a story which the Rev. Dr. Chown gave his congregation at Bowmanville on Sunday.—Monetary Times.

Sir Archibalds' Flow of Language.

Reading an account of T. G. Bowles' speech at King's Lynn on Tuesday, we wonder how it was he did not do better at Billingsgate when he stood against Mr. Balfour. The fishwife has yet to be born that could improve on the expletives which Mr. Bowles hurled at Mr. Balfour in this King's Lynn meeting, which it is said was attended by his old supporters. We cannot say this is the first time Mr. Bowles has recalled to us Sir Archibald Macdonald, M.P., who took the part of the revolting American Colonists, but he has never before reminded us quite so much in his adjectives of Sir Archibald, who called Lord North "lazy, indolent and incapable, evasive, shuffling, cutting and deceptions, plausible, artful, mean, insolent, confident and cowardly, a poor, pitiful, sneaking, snivelling, abject creature".—London Saturday Review.

Victims of the "Green Goods" Lure.

Those charged with counterfeiting bank notes at Lindsay are described as men of standing and respectability. This is not a matter of surprise. Counterfeiting and forgery, which accompanies it, are not crimes of the ignorant and poverty-stricken. They require intelligence, and such position in the community that parties taking part in them can, without attracting suspicion, be known to be in possession of considerable sums of money. The green goods faker knows how to catch the crooked men of the class in question, and does it with fair regularity. The same greed the faker appeals to evidently worked the undoing of the Lindsay respectables who forged.—Montreal Gazette.

Britannia Rules the Waves.

There is food for thought in the coincidence that on the very day that the United States launches a so-called scout cruiser, the Chester, whose business is not to fight but spy, and whose speed is 24 knots, England launches a first-class fighting ship, the Inflexible, with a speed of 25 knots. A scout vessel with less speed than a fighting ship she might be called to spy upon is somewhat of an absurdity. It would be cheaper to haul the Chester up on the mud flats than to send her scouting an Inflexible. The coincidence illustrates two things; The extent to which England is advanced over the rest of the world in warship building and the millions which are wasted on ships that are obsolete when launched or soon after. A merchant vessel which falls behind the record of the day in speed is still useful, but a war ship that once becomes obsolete represents little more than so much junk.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The Extreme Partizan.

To a deputation of his supporters who waited upon E. D. Smith, M.P., the popular member for South Wentworth, to endeavor to persuade him to again become their candidate, he regretted that he could not alter his resolve to leave public life. Mr. Smith is getting up in years and is one of the largest fruit farmers in the Niagara peninsula and while still in good health he does not feel that he can stand the added strain of attending to his public duties in Ottawa. Incidentally Mr. Smith voiced the sentiments of a great many level-headed men like himself in the course of his remarks to the deputation. The discussion of the

affairs of the country was one of the most interesting and useful matters to which a man could devote his time, and while he was always fond of a contest in the political arena, he thought that when politics were carried so far that one side or the other was ready to sacrifice public interest to party consideration it was going too far. He believed in a party, but if there was less partizanship the country would be governed better.—Ottawa Citizen.

Failures of Memory.

At a recent matinee in London Lewis Waller, the eminent actor, essayed to recite the famous speech of Henry V. before Harfleur, one of the most thrilling passages in Shakespeare. In the middle of the speech, however, his memory played him false. He stopped dead, and it was not until he was prompted by someone in the audience that he was able to continue. It is altogether probable that Mr. Waller has recited the passage in question hundreds, if not thousands of times, yet his very familiarity with the lines was a foe to his memory. It is important to note this incident because of the frequent lapses of memory brought to light in the election courts of Canada. There have been cases when a witness has forgotten everything, when he has been unable to recall the name of the organizer, or of the local chairman of Mr. Blank's committee, or of the principal speaker at Pike's Corners. Often he has forgotten whether or not he had money given to him. He cannot recollect whether or not there was an election fund, and if there were he cannot recall the name of the treasurer. Yet counsel for the petitioner have information that this witness was in the thick of the fray. Perhaps familiarity is the foe of memory more often than we imagine.—Toronto News.

Politicians and Politicians

Politicians are of many kinds, and every student has his own idea of classification. Not all the politicians are bad; nor are they all good. Politics mean the science of government; politicians are the scientists, of government. Many of these scientists, some of the best of them, are never heard of in the cities. They spend their days in tilling the soil, and their evenings in thoughtful discourse with their fellows. They are the inglorious Solons, whose ideas and ideals, some way or another, get up finally to the big men in authority. Perhaps, the big men send out their scouts to get into touch with these real politicians. Not all the men who pose as politicians in the picture part of newspapers are real politicians; they are for the most part papier-mache politicians. And very sad it is that the man whose classic brow affords great scope for a two-column halftone in the newspapers, can't make even half a vote among the people. You can't blame the newspapers for all the exploded politicians, but it is a fact that the picture part of newspapers is responsible in many, very many instances, for the ruining of what otherwise might have been fairly contented and prosperous lives. All of which further complicates the classification of politicians and makes us fall back on the dictum, "By their works ye shall know them."—Toronto World.

The Importance of Tree-Planting.

In a discourse upon "Making Calgary a Beautiful City," the Calgary Herald proposes that the government should make an important alteration in the settling duties of the free western homesteader, and include in the work to be performed on each homestead the planting of a certain number of trees. The Herald is engaging in the good work of urging the improving of the appearance of Calgary by the planting of trees, making lawns, and the cultivation of such flowers as may be found suitable to the climate of Alberta, and in this it has already had gratifying assistance from property owners, who are determined to assist in making beautiful Calgary more beautiful still. All this is in the right direction and Calgary should soon be a city to be proud of, if the plan for boulevards and other mooted improvements are carried out, as doubtless they will be. As for the planting of trees generally in the province, it will be found a necessity, apart from the aesthetic effect upon the landscape. Trees ensure a regular supply of moisture, add to the productiveness of the soil, and would doubtless ameliorate the severity of the climate.—Montreal Witness.

There Never Was a Lynching in Canada.

Many Canadian newspapers are worrying about an alleged dangerous tendency towards the lynching spirit in Canada. Some of them seem to think that there was a good deal of such a spirit in the crowd which went after Greenhill at Richmond last week. Even if it were true that the number of persons accessible to the lynching mania is growing in Canada, of which there is no visible evidence, there would still be no immediate danger of its being put into practice. Lynching in practice involves not merely a lawless spirit on the part of the lynchers, but cowardice on the part of every law-abiding person in the vicinity at the time, and particularly of those officers whose duty it is to preserve order and enforce law. We believe that the vast majority of constables and sheriffs in Canada would to-day give their lives in defence of the prisoner for whom they were responsible, no matter what the charge against him. We believe that in any crowd that could be got together in Canada there would be a percentage of private citizens who would risk their lives if necessary to save the community from the stain of lawless vengeance. And above all we believe that the courts and prosecuting authorities of every country and every province of Canada would pursue to the utmost limits of the law the slayers of even the most debased criminal, and would have the support of all Canada in so doing.—Montreal Herald.

A "Strong-Minded" London Lady's Dress.

One evening at a recent performance of Votes for Women the attention of the entire house was concentrated upon a box for some time at the entrance into it of a remarkable looking elderly French gentleman in evening dress of a rather pronounced kind. He leaned forward with a severe and criticizing expression through the first act, though a peculiar expression of triumph now and then dawned in his eye at the emphatic heroine's tirades. But on the lights going up, to every one's intense astonishment it was found that this elderly Frenchman had a knot. Glasses were levelled at and bets made upon this figure until it hastily crammed a felt hat upon its head and left the box. Then behold the elderly Frenchman also had a skirt—or should we say a very scant amount of black cloth depended about his knees. This, then, was strong-minded evening dress. It consisted of a black cloth dress coat and waistcoat, a soft-fronted white evening shirt and sleeve-linked cuffs and a large bow—the softness and the bow gave the impression of the French origin, and the most retiring knot seemed entirely out of keeping with what was in every other respect a massive elderly gentleman. One felt distinctly inclined to send round to the box a large feather and a bunch of pin curls. Would he—or she—have resisted them?—London Morning Post.

A Tendency in England.

No one who diligently studies the signs of the times can fail to observe that the conditions of modern life in England are producing a change in the character of the people, a change which is especially noticeable among the middle classes in our large towns. Men are becoming more shrewd, more prudent, more businesslike, and in a negative sense more correct; they are becoming less courageous, less impulsive, less emotional, and in a word less human. This is largely due to the increasing complexity of the mechanism of life. Owing to the strain of competition, the professional man must work longer hours than formerly, he must give more attention to his business, he must put more of his soul into it. He tends to be first a man of business, and, secondly, a human being, and his standard of conduct, his methods of thinking, are formed accordingly. There is a mechanical spirit abroad, mechanical qualities of mind are being developed, the breath of a sirocco is withering up the ordinary human feelings. Routine and the dull details of business occupy the individual and tend to encroach more and more on the margin of time and energy requisite to the development of the higher qualities of mind and heart.—Westminster Review, (London).

Sir Wilfrid on the Manitoba Boundary.

In the early part of the year 1905 the Dominion government received from the provincial government of Manitoba a memorandum praying for the extension of the boundary of that province to include a portion of the districts of Assiniboia and Saskatchewan, and northward to Hudson's Bay. On March 21, 1905, a minute of the council, approved by his excellency, the governor-general, was adopted as follows: The committee are likewise of the opinion that the desire of the province of Manitoba for an extension of its boundary to the shores of Hudson's Bay is not an unreasonable one, and they suggest that when the measure now before the parliament for the formation of the new provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan are disposed of the subject of such an extension of the boundary of Manitoba might profitably be considered.