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LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 17.

ENEMIES OF PROGRESS.

The Earl of Wemyss, who is 88 years of age, and whose political principles are much older than himself, tells the Property Defence League of Great Britain, of which he is president, that the world is going back as fast as it can to the dark ages. "Socialism," he added, "is aiming everywhere at liberty and property. Mr. Asquith is only manuring the seed sown by Mr. Balfour." He explained that the league was formed in 1881 in consequence of the Irish land bill, and since then both parties had brought in an increasing volume of legislation to which the league was opposed.

Men like the Earl of Wemyss are doing more to promote the growth of Socialism in Great Britain than all the Socialists from John O'Grada to Land's End. The Irish land bill of 1881 was the beginning of the series of enactments which are lifting the curse of absentee landlordism from Ireland and transferring the soil to the men who cultivate it. There has been no confiscation; the landlords have been paid a fair price for their property. Without such legislation Ireland today would still be steeped in wretchedness and poverty, and smoldering with rebellion. The country is being lifted out of the slough of despond, where it has been kept for centuries because it has been ruled by the ideas which still survive in the Property Defence League.

The enemies of social progress are found at opposite poles. The one class, typified by the Earl of Wemyss, opposes in the name of property and of personal liberty, and stigmatizes as Socialism, every effort of the state to improve the condition of the people. The second class is composed of the Intransigent Socialists, who refuse to work with other political parties in bettering the present social order because they wish to destroy it. All Socialists are not of this kind; many leaders of the movement in Great Britain are opportunist reformers, but on the continent the Socialist parties act on the revolutionary principle, and as the result that reactionism is in the saddle, as in Germany, or liberalism makes little headway.

In Great Britain a really progressive government is trying to use the power of the state to remedy the evils of poverty and unemployment. It is confronted on one side by the forces of privilege and class selfishness, entrenched in the House of Lords, while on the other hand the Socialist party puts candidates in the field against the Government, and divides the progressive vote to the advantage of the reactionists. If British Liberalism is crushed between these upper and nether millstones, as German Liberalism has been, the cause of reform will be abandoned while Toryism and revolutionism fight to a finish.

CANADA AND TREATY-MAKING.

A recent discussion in committee of supply at Ottawa revealed some misconception as to Canada's share in the making of treaties affecting this Dominion. Some members appeared to think that all such treaties should be submitted to the Canadian Parliament before they are ratified, a power which is not possessed by the Imperial Parliament.

The question came up on the item of the salary of Professor Prince, who has been appointed international commissioner under the fishery treaty. Formerly, as Hon. Mr. Brodeur pointed out, commercial treaties were made without the concurrence of the Canadian Parliament or the consent of the Canadian Government. In the case of Switzerland, for instance, a treaty was declared to include Canada, although Canada had nothing to do with the negotiation of it in 1855. Later on, when commercial treaties were being negotiated Great Britain gave Canada a plenipotentiary on the commission. Then she gave us the advantage of negotiating them ourselves. In political treaties, where negotiations have been carried out entirely by Great Britain, there is a clause providing that Canada is not to be affected by the treaty without her consent. It must be remembered that we are living under the principles of the British constitution, and that in Great Britain all treaties, with the exception of those involving expenditure or taxation, become law without the sanction of the British Parliament. The Canadian Government was asked for and gave its assent to the fishery treaty, and assumes responsibility for it, and while the Canadian, like the British, Parliament cannot interfere where no expenditure or taxation is

involved, it may, if so inclined, pass a vote of censure on the Government for having agreed to it.

In the United States, which is party to the fishery treaty, it is different; the President and his ministers are not responsible to Congress. The constitution of the United States provides that a treaty may not be made by the President and his ministers alone, but must be made with the advice and consent of the Federal Senate, not Congress. The House of Representatives, the popular assembly, is not called upon to express any view of a treaty; that is left to a body elected not directly by the people but by the state legislatures.

In the case of the fishery treaty Canada is allowed an important privilege. The Dominion Government appoints one of the international commissioners to whom is left the making of regulations and restrictions under the treaty, and these regulations and restrictions cannot be put into operation until the Dominion Parliament has passed the legislation necessary to enforce them.

THE ATTACK UPON MR. PUGSLEY.

The Mayes-McAvity affidavit was the "piece de resistance" of Thursday's performance in the House of Commons. Perhaps Mr. Borden's absence explains the amazingly maladroit course taken by the Opposition. The intention was to pillory Mr. Pugsley, but the debate gave him an opening and he completely routed his assailants.

The affidavit, as read by Premier Hazen at a St. John's meeting on the eve of the federal election, accused Mr. Pugsley of taking \$2,000 from a dredging contractor named Mayes in 1907, as payment for exerting his "pull" with the public works department. Mr. Pugsley was in that year minister of public works. Mayes afterwards admitted that the date in the affidavit was a clerical error, and that the year of the payment was 1905, before Mr. Pugsley had entered the Federal Parliament. The theory that a lie will travel seven leagues before the truth gets its boot on was illustrated by the publication from one end of the country to the other of the story that Mr. Pugsley, while Minister of Public Works, had taken a contractor's bribe. Mr. Hazen maintains that he made the correction at the meeting at which he read the affidavit, but it is significant that not a single St. John newspaper reported him as doing so. Dr. Daniel, who led the attack upon Mr. Pugsley in the House, was challenged upon this point, and could only answer that he "thought the reporters had failed lamentably in their duty," a remark that naturally brought derisive laughter from the Liberal benches.

The fact that Mayes gave Mr. Pugsley a note for \$2,000 for legal services before Mr. Pugsley had any connection with the Federal Parliament or the public works department is the simple and legitimate transaction upon which the Opposition reared its filthy edifice of scandal. Mayes had promised \$35,000 to his partner in the dredging concern, McAvity, and claimed the payment was for McAvity's influence with the public works department, a charge which Mr. Hyman, then minister of public works, absolutely denied. In the affidavit Mayes also accused Mr. Pugsley of declining to pay him for dredging until he had settled with McAvity, but the official correspondence shows that Mr. Pugsley not only paid Mayes all that was due him, but flatly refused to interfere in McAvity's behalf, taking the proper ground that he had nothing to do with the business relations between the two men.

When Mr. Pugsley turned upon Dr. Daniel and accused him of playing an unmanly part in attacking the integrity of a public man without making a charge, Dr. Daniel instantly beat a retreat, and protested that he had made no insinuation against the Minister of Public Works. This unconditional surrender completed Mr. Pugsley's triumph, and the Opposition pushed the fight no further than to perfunctorily divide the House.

LIFE ASSURANCE BILL: BENEFITS OF FREEDOM.

Prof. Irving Fisher, of Yale University, and president of the committee of one hundred on national health, recently delivered an address before the association of life insurance presidents on the economic aspects of lengthening human life. His first sentence was: "Concerted action by life insurance companies to lengthen human life would mark, I believe, one of the greatest steps, if not the greatest step, ever yet taken toward the improvement of human longevity." His facts and arguments are very interesting and practical.

After pointing out that human mortality does not follow a nearly inviolable law, but is very much affected by the hygienic state of the community, he gives some statistics. In India, the duration of life for males is 23 years, and for females 24 years, being less than half the span of life in the advanced countries of Europe. Europe itself has probably doubled in the last 350 years, and is today lengthening more rapidly than ever. The life tables for different periods for England, France, Prussia, Denmark, Sweden, and Massachusetts, show that during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries life lengthened four years per century, while for the first three-quarters of the nineteenth century it was at the rate of nine years. At present in Europe it is lengthening at the rate of seven years per century. In Prussia, the rate is twenty-seven years, while in Massachusetts it is fourteen years.

Sanitary conditions affect the length of human life; the insured poor have a mortality rate 50 to 80 per cent

higher than the insured rich or well-to-do. "A fall of the death rate always promptly follows sanitation." "Human life in America could be by the adoption of hygienic reforms already known and entirely practicable, be lengthened by over one-third—that is, over fifteen years." He then points out that the degrees of preventability or postponability of death due to various causes of death in America are very large. "It shows that over a third of all deaths which now occur could be prevented—that is to say, deferred." As to the practical effect, "actuaries' tables show that a reduction of one-third in mortality would enable the premium to be reduced by over 15 per cent. Even if only a third of this possible reduction were obtained, or only 5 per cent, the insured in the United States would be saved many millions annually." He adds:

"The conclusion seems safe that there is a rich, unexploited field for saving money. And the beauty of it is that these gains bring with them gains far more precious to the nation than dollars—immeasurable gains of longevity, vitality, efficiency and happiness. Life insurance is not philanthropy, but it is beneficent business. Though at first glance it might seem that to prevent the pollution of streams, to improve the milk supply, to obtain pure foods, and freedom from accident, is no part of the business of life insurance, yet it is easy enough to see the very vital connection. By far the larger part of the cost of the insurance business is not management, nor agents' fees, but cost of mortality. It is the right, in fact, it is not the duty, of any business, to reduce its cost. To pare down salaries might not save the policyholder 1 per cent of his premium, but to reduce mortality cost might save him many per cent."

There is here food for serious consideration. Prof. Fisher believes the very fact that life companies proposed to improve health conditions would convince millions that if there was not merit in it, life companies would not attempt it, and that the mere announcement would spur the various health officials to reform. The success which fire companies met with in the effort to reduce fire risks is pointed out, in some cases reaching as high as 70 per cent.

In the bill respecting life insurance before the House of Commons there is an attempt being made to limit the expenses of the business, but a consideration of the facts referred to will convince anyone that much greater good will result from freedom. The progress of life insurance should not be bounded by the enterprise of a Government official. Life insurance companies have a direct interest in the health and welfare of the community. It is only desirable citizens that are insurable. Self-interest is sometimes a great help to reforms. One very notable example of this was when the railway companies determined to employ no man who drank, and to discharge any man who drank on or off duty. Philanthropy did not dictate this course. It was self-interest, but it gave the temperance cause a great forward movement. While the bill introduced is intended to do good by limiting the expense, it is likely to do ten times more harm by limiting the efforts possible to be made to bring about an improved condition and length of life.

Other arguments against this limitation have already been pointed out, among others the absurdity in a country where the protective principle prevails of applying a restriction clause to life companies, and allowing every protected industry to tax the rest of the community. It would be more consistent to bonus life companies to encourage thrift and an observance of the laws of health among the people, until in time the whole people would become insurable.

The clause is neither right nor necessary. It belongs to the same class as the 99th clause, which seeks to force stock companies to give representation on the boards of directors to policyholders, even though the policyholders have never asked for it. The charters were granted and investment made without such representation. It should remain optional. Both clauses should be struck out.

CHINA'S NEW ARMY.

A scientifically trained Chinese army is a new portent of world-wide significance. The Chinese empire is no longer "the yellow corpse," the prey of every culture. Hitherto China has been protected by the rivalries of western powers, but the sleeping giant is awakening and preparing to protect himself. This is one lesson "civilization" has taught him. When he is fully awake and has copied western military organization, the nations that once despised him will fear him as they fear his Japanese brother. When the teeming millions of brave and hardy people learn to use their power, the Chinese empire will be potentially the strongest nation in the world.

The Government at Peking is now engaged in working out its new military programme, which was ordered by imperial edict in 1907, and it is expected that the year 1912 will see its completion. It is regarded as significant that military activity is most marked in the provinces where the Japanese were most in evidence, whereas in spheres of Russian influence no special efforts are being made.

At the close of 1907 the Chinese army consisted of eight divisions, 16 mixed brigades and three regiments, giving a total of 155,252 officers and men. Of these bodies very few could be brought up to war strength, owing to an insufficient supply of reservists and equipment. The completion of the new programme, however, will result in an army on a peace footing of 402,600 men, and on a war footing of 1,011,300. The highest unit in peace will be the division, with an establishment of 748 officers and 10,436 men, and the highest unit in war the army corps, which will consist, in addition

to the peace division, of a reserve division, a reserve brigade and three reserve battalions. In this manner each of the 36 peace divisions will be brought up to war strength.

Our different classes of military schools are to be established, and only graduates will in future be eligible for the position of officers. The lowest class will be formed by the preparatory schools, which are being established in all the provinces, and will be responsible for instruction in elementary general knowledge. From these candidates will, in three years, pass to the military schools, where general education will be extended and a beginning made in military instruction. After two years' theoretical and four months practical training, students will pass into the war school, where teaching is to be of a purely military character, and where students remain one and a half years. If they pass a satisfactory examination they will then become lieutenants, and the best of them, after two years' service, will be drafted into the staff college, which is entrusted with advanced professional education. Only to men who have graduated at the staff college will the higher positions in the army be given. It will thus be seen that the Chinese officer of the future will be a person of quite different calibre from that of his predecessor.

The newly-organized war office is divided into a central department, a military council and ten sections. To the war office is attached a general staff, consisting of five departments, sub-divided into fifteen sections. The main duties of the staff are the working out of plans of military operations, the training of general staff officers, the supervision of the study of officers sent abroad and of those drafted into the staff college. At the head of the general staff is a major-general, with a colonel as vice-chief. The whole military budget will amount to \$55,000,000.

The Optimists' Club of New York has elected Sir Wilfrid Laurier a member. The New Yorkers had probably heard of his sunny ways.

How long will Londoners be able to boast of the city's parklike appearance if they have city councils that don't like parks?

Four hundred and eighty-five cars of United States' settlers' effects entered Canada in March on the Soo line alone. Hurrah for the American invasion!

The tax rate has been cut half a mill, chiefly by sacrificing manual training in the schools and the upkeep of the city parks. A 24-mill rate would have been true economy in the end.

Although reserving judgment in the London power case, Mr. Justice Riddell says that the Legislature has power to validate the power contracts. His lordship in a previous case declared that the Legislature had power to over-ride the eight commandment. It would be interesting to have his private opinion of a Legislature that thus interferes with the regular process of the courts.

The Hamilton Herald says that it is the Quebec school of thought which dictated the resolutions on imperial naval defence concurred in by both political parties. The idea of a Canadian navy, manned by Canadians, and controlled by Canadians, is a Canadian, not a Quebec, idea, but unfortunately for this country Canadian ideas don't appeal to some people who call themselves Canadians.

Winston Churchill says that there is no conceivable combination against the peace and freedom of the British people which would include the American navy. This is peace talk, and it is the kind of talk that makes for peace. Great Britain cannot maintain a two-power naval standard against such wealthy countries as the United States and Germany, and it will make for better relations with the United States if she does not attempt it. A navy greatly superior to any other, she must and will have always, and the daughter nations will help her to do it.

PREMATURE.

Randall—Hallow, old man. So you're here in New York. Have you been to the Museum of Art Yet?

Rogers—Nope. You see, we've only lived here fifteen years.

THE LIMIT.

Stoute—It's very depressing to have a rival who is an invalid. Pettymann—Imagine what it is, then, to have one that is perfectly healthy!

IT COSTS NOTHING.

[Woodstock Sentinel-Review.] Whatever we are lacking in the matter of Canada's contribution to imperial defence is compensated for—so far as quantity goes—by the willingness of Canadian editors to give advice to the people of Great Britain as to how they ought to manage their affairs.

ADVANTAGES OF COLLEGE TRAINING.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.] "Do you consider a college training an advantage?"

"Unhesitatingly yes. At the same time some of our best ball players have learned the game on back lots."

AT SECOND SIGHT.

[Boston Transcript.] "A case of love at first sight, eh?" "No, second sight. The first time he saw her he didn't know she was an heiress."

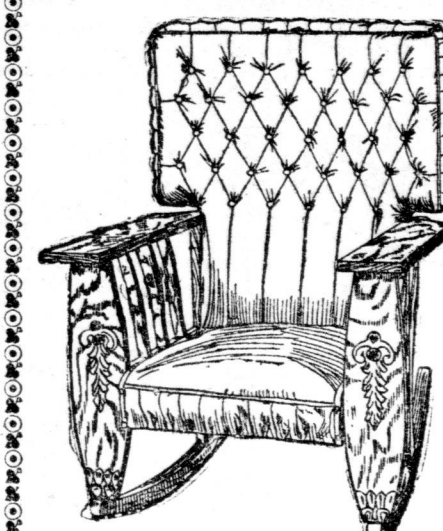
AN ORGANIZED SCORE.

[Goldwin Smith, "Bystander," in Weekly Sun.] By a perfectly trustworthy observer in England the Bystander is assured that this score was organized. The interest in which it was organized, we can hardly doubt, was protection. It was in a commercial interest, that of a mining com-



REBUILDING SALE

Our Rebuilding Sale is still in full swing. Every day our stock is getting dustier and dirtier, but you won't mind the dust, which comes off easily, when you get our prices. We are determined to have an entirely new stock when we open up our new store. Every day more people realize the tremendous reductions we are making, and they are helping us greatly each day to reduce our stock. If you need furniture, etc., this spring, come now and save one-third to one-half.



\$7.50

Buy this handsome Rocker, solid oak frame; upholstered in Bradley leather, deep spring seat, tufted back. A big, handsome, comfortable Rocker that is worth \$15.00 regularly. We have 200 of these to clear at once.

Lace Curtains

Our entire stock of Lace Curtains is being closed out at one-third to one-half off. If you need Curtains, don't miss this great chance.

75c Curtains for 50c
\$1.50 Curtains for 95c
\$2.00 Curtains for \$1.35
\$3.00 Curtains for \$1.95
\$5.00 Curtains for \$3.25

Go-Carts and Carriages

Over 150 different styles. Surely you will see this great display before buying. Everything that is new and novel is here. All our carriages and folders are reduced during this sale.

Iron Beds

Over 100 different styles to choose from. All being cleared out at factory prices.

Springs and Mattresses

\$12 Mattress	\$9.00	\$5.00 Springs	..\$3.25
\$6.00 Mattress	\$4.50	\$4.00 Springs	..\$2.75
\$4.50 Mattress	\$3.00	\$3.50 Springs	..\$2.50
\$4.00 mattress	\$2.50	\$3.00 Springs	..\$1.95

Dressers, \$5.00 up.	Couches, \$3.50 up.
Sideboards, \$7.00 up.	China Cabinets, \$8 up.
Hall Racks, \$3.00 up.	Parlor Suites, \$12 up.
Dining Tables, \$4 up.	Buffets, \$9.00 up.

The Ontario Furniture Co.

London's Largest Housefurnishers

pany, craving for the mineral wealth of the Transvaal, that the Boer war was got up. The machinery of organization is the press, which having formerly been in the hands of proprietors individually is now largely on a purely speculative footing and a strong sensational tendency. Such acts are condoned when done by men, probably already wealthy, to increase their wealth and luxury. We condemn the rapacity of the workman who organizes a strike to get himself a rise in wages, and add little to the comforts of his lowly home.

WILLING TO TAKE A CHANCE.

[The Sphinx.] Mother—"And when he proposed did you tell him to see me?" Daughter—"Yes, mamma; and he said he'd seen you several times, but he wanted to marry me just the same."

A NARROW ESCAPE.

[Ottawa Free Press.] The "truly loyal party" came perilously near to disloyalty yesterday when Mr. Blain, of Peel, spoke of "Great Britain and other foreign countries."

OESA, AT 12 TO 1, COPS AT OAKLAND

Four Horses Make Pretty Finish in Fifth, Heads and Noses Apart.

Oakland, Cal., April 16.—One of the finest finishes of the season resulted in the fifth race at Emeryville today, four horses being heads and noses apart. Oesa won from Schleswig in a drive.

Tomorrow ends the racing season. Following are the results:
First race, futurity course—Birth, 2 to 1; Zalta, 8 to 1; Dorothy Ledgett, 9 to 2. Time 1:12 1-5.
Second race, 4 furlongs—Galvesca, 9 to 5; 1; Paichiqueto, 25 to 1; 2; Transatlantic, 9 to 1. Time 48 1-5.
Third race, 6 furlongs—Duke of Milan, 16 to 5; 1; Aunt Kit, 20 to 1; 2; Altamar, 13 to 19. Time 1:15 2-5.
Fourth race, 6 furlongs—Fairford, 8 to 5; 1; Corrine, 6 to 1; 2; Yankee Daughter, 10 to 1. Time 1:14 2-5.
Fifth race, mile—Oesa, 12 to 1; 1; Schleswig, 11 to 5; 2; Little Siss, 3 to 1. Time 1:42 4-5.
Sixth race, mile and 20 yards—Import, 16 to 5; 1; Boggs, 3 to 2; 2; Husky, port, 16 to 5; 1; Boggs, 3 to 2; 2; Husky, 7 to 2. Time 2:2 3-4.

Entries for Saturday:
First race, 6 furlongs, selling—Marwood, 113; St. Francis, 111; Hereafter, 109; Pinkie, Canadian, 108; G. Berio, Native Son, Jim Gaffney, 108; Anna May, 106; Adena, Marian Casey, 103.
Second race, 6 furlongs, selling—Meelick, F. Nugent, 110; Tony Faust, 106; Sewell, 114; Early Tide, 112; Gemme, 111; Ketchmike, John H. Shee-

han, 110; Julia Powell, Fordello, 109; Belle Kinney, 106; Gypsy King, 104.
Third race, 5 furlongs, the Travers Handicap—Turret, 115; Penn, 110; Coppertown, 108; Edin Beau, Charles Hargraves, 103; Pretend, Judge Quinn, 100; Old Mexico, 98; Quality Street, Intrinsic, 95; Asabel, Sonia, Eddie Graney, 90; Lewiston, Fusilier, Mary Genevieve, Galengal, 88.
Fourth race, mile and 70 yards, the Rutherford Handicap—Restigouche, 122; Dandelion, 113; Stanley Fay, 112; Wood Craft, 97; The Peer, Cressina, 92.

Fifth race, mile and 50 yards, selling—Cabin, 107; Celester, Joe Nealon, Election, Tommy Ahearn, 106 Taunt, Blanche C. Mabel Hollander, 104; Col. Bert, 103; Rockstone, 102; Billy Watkin, 98; Tennessee Boy, 95.
Sixth race, mile and 50 yards, selling—Eduardo, Rubric, 110; Collector Jessup, 109; Don Enrique, 107; Boggs, Fantastic, Hush Money, A. Muskoday, Ban Posal, 104; Captain John, 99; Yankee Daughter, 98; Varden, 91.

Seventh race, 5 furlongs, the Hasta Lugo Handicap—King James, 132; Restigouche, 125; Blagg, Booger Red, 104; Bellweather, 103; Rose Queen, 100; Jeanne D'Arc, Wood Craft, 98; Bubbling Water, 97; Madman, 95.

BENENATTI AND MCINTOSH TO RACE.

Mr. Vincent Benenatti, a local roller skater, will stack up against J. McIntosh, a St. Thomas man, in the caboose

town, Friday evening, in a ten-hour endurance contest.

Benenatti made a little over 107 miles in a match in a local rink last summer, finishing 9 laps behind the winner. A return match will probably be held here.

REGINA HAS FIRST CALL.

Ottawa, April 16.—Mr. P. D. Ross, Minto Cup trustee, announced tonight that the Regina Capitals would be given first chance to lift the Minto Cup from the New Westminster Lacrosse Club this season.

THAT MEXICAN TRACK.

New York, April 17.—Matt J. Winn, manager of the Empire City track, and also one of the prime movers in the establishment of racing in Mexico, is in town and says the new track at Juarez, across the Rio Grande from El Paso, will open on Thanksgiving Day for a meeting spread over the next two years racing will be conducted on a large scale there. There will be racing on Sundays, by the way, and there will be no restrictions on open gambling. The Mexican Government, incidentally, will get a substantial rakeoff. This will be welcome news to the many horsemen who have been deprived of a chance to win purses and stakes in the winter months at New Orleans and in California.

AN INTERESTING DECISION.

Montreal, April 17.—An interesting decision from a sporting point of view was rendered today by Judge Dorion, in the circuit court, who decided that any spectator who interferes in a horse race places himself in the position of a player and has no legal redress for any injuries he may sustain.

London Life

Save Four Payments.

Our 16-20 Reserve Dividend Endowment has larger guarantees than the ordinary 20-year Endowment. Yet last four payments remain in your pocket and your policy still shares in surplus earnings.

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