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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19.

MR. HYMAN AND HIS CRITICS.

The London Free Press professes to
know that an "indecent scramble" is
going on at Ottawa for the post which
Mr. Hyman offered to relinquish. It
says:

"That the unseemly scramble con-
tinues is seen in the fact that the
being made by ambitious partisans
upon Mr. Hyman's administration of
the public works department. It is
observed that he left too much to sub-
ordinates, and that a strong man is
needed to restore discipline, and see
that the work is done as it ought to
be."

The Advertiser's observation, which
covers a fairly wide range of Canadian
newspapers, has discovered these at-
tacks in only one quarter—the London
Free Press. With all due respect, we
submit that this is not conclusive evi-
dence. Our contemporary is apt to be
myopic, likewise strabismic, in viewing
Mr. Hyman and all his works, public
works included.

Mr. Hyman's illness has elicited a
flood, not only of sympathy, but of
genuine admiration for his ability as an
administrator from friends and op-
ponents—generous opponents—alike. If
Mr. Hyman had any falling as a de-
partmental head it leaned to virtue's
side. It is curious that he should be
accused of leaving too much to sub-
ordinates, whereas he broke down his
constitution by attempting to do too
much himself. Had Mr. Hyman dele-
gated more of his work he would not
now be in search of health. The crime
of being too zealous in the performance
of his duties is one which the public
will readily forgive. It has at least not
prejudiced him in the eyes of his chief,
who refuses to accept his resignation
of his portfolio. There can be no
scramble for a post which is not
vacant; and if "ambitious partisans"
are making covert attacks upon him
they are not Liberals.

THE CRISIS IN GERMANY.

The English mail brings the report
of the debate in the Reichstag which
explains the opposition of that body
to the Government's demand for a
larger appropriation with which to deal
more effectively with the rebellion in
German West Africa. The Socialists
and the Centrists, or Catholic party,
usually far apart, united to defeat the
Administration. The speech of Herr
Bebel, the Socialist leader, was a ter-
rible arraignment of the colonial office,
and of German military methods in
Africa. He charged that acts of the
grossest barbarity had been committed
by officers of the colonial forces.

One of these, after capturing a vil-
lage, slaughtered all the inhabitants
except the children. These children, to
the number 52, were placed in wicker
baskets made by the soldiers and were
thrown into the Nachtigall Rapids,
where they perished miserably. Herr
von Puttkamer, the governor, is un-
derstood to have been informed of
what took place, but to have taken no
steps in the matter. Native soldiers
were ordered to cut off the ears of the
dead slain in battle in order to attest
the number of the fallen, but it was
discovered that they were cutting off
the ears of women, who were alive, in
order to add to the number of these
ghastly trophies, and deceive the au-
thorities as to the extent of their vic-
tories. Herr Bebel also charged that a
vast system of concubinage, of which
"native women were the victims, had
been established by the German offi-
cers.

Herr Roren, a Prussian Judge, and
one of the leaders of the Centrists, de-
scribed the way in which natives were
flogged without trial, and produced one
of the rods with which the chastise-
ment was inflicted. He detailed other
brutalities which the press could not
report. The worst case of all was that
of a district official in Togoland named
G. A. Schmidt, who had come into
conflict with the Catholic mission on
account of the way in which he de-
bauched and maltreated native women
and girls of tender age. This Schmidt
began his official career by officially
commanding all the native girls of the
village to come and dance during the
night at the station under a penalty
of a fine of 20 marks (shillings), to be
paid by their mothers in case of re-
fusal. The missionaries forbade the
girls who were Christians to obey this
summons, whereupon Schmidt forbade
all the natives to prefer any further
complaints at the mission. Further,
Schmidt had actually conferred upon
his black concubine and procuress offi-
cial powers of jurisdiction, and pro-
claimed that she was queen. As an

emblem of her office he conferred upon
her a sword. Although the colonial
administration had long ago been in-
formed of Schmidt's conduct it had
continued him in office. Schmidt had
also kept a harem of young girls of
tender years, and scoured them of the
missionaries. Because of the protests of
the missionaries, the latter were
thrown into prison for 21 days. Schmidt
had been continued in office by the
colonial administration.

The charges of Herr Bebel and Herr
Roren were virtually admitted by the
spokesmen of the Government in the
Reichstag, excepting the alleged
drowning of 52 children, as to which
figures had been instituted. The
Chancellor, Prince Buelow, declared
that the Government was firmly re-
solved to remove abuses, and punish all
offenders, and had twice changed the
head of the colonial office. General in-
structions had been issued by Prince
Buelow that German troops should ob-
serve the precepts and practice of
civilized warfare in operations against
the natives. The officers, moreover,
had been instructed strictly to super-
vise the native troops under their
command and to prohibit the mutila-
tion of the dead, whether such mutila-
tion was practiced in order to estab-
lish the number of the slain or for
any other purpose.

The Government was defeated by a
vote of 173 to 168, and the Kaiser has
administered punishment by dissolving
the House. The election will be held
on Jan. 25, and the new Reichstag will
meet two weeks later. The adminis-
tration is leaning upon the Conserva-
tives and the National Liberals, and
will appeal to the patriotism of the
country. In the dissolved House the
Centrists numbered 102, the Socialists
79, the Conservatives 72, the National
Liberals 52, and the Radicals of all
types 26. There is a sprinkling of
Poles, anti-German Alsatians, anti-
Semites, agrarians and independents.
In the general election of 1903 the So-
cialists, or Social-Democrats, as they
prefer to call themselves, polled over
3,000,000 votes. They are by far the
largest political group in the country,
but are not represented in the Reich-
stag in proportion to their numerical
strength outside its walls, by reason of
inequalities in the distribution of
seats. Berlin, which is entitled to
twenty seats on the basis of popula-
tion, has only six. The city of Ham-
burg, which should have eight seats,
has only three. Other great industrial
centers, in which the Social Democrats
predominate, are under the same dis-
crimination. Poor men are also dis-
courage from entering the Reichstag
by the non-payment of members, and
it is illegal for any party to raise sal-
aries for its representatives by volun-
tary subscriptions. The Government's
only hope is to make a breach in the
ranks of the Socialists, or the Cen-
trists, or both, wide enough to give it
a clear majority, or humble either of
them into submission. Its colonial pol-
icy has been costly and disastrous, and
even ignominious, and it is question-
able whether the German people will
agree to shoulder a heavier burden. A
defeat in the country would be a blow
at the Kaiser, and might drive him to
arbitrary measures.

PARTISAN COMMISSIONERS.

(Toronto News.)

We do not like these investigations by
partisan commissioners into the conduct
of public officials. Is it necessary that
such inquiries in Ontario should always
be conducted by Conservative commissions
with Conservative counsel? It is best not
to involve the judiciary in these proce-
dures, and yet it is difficult, if not impos-
sible, for a Liberal official to get justice
from a board appointed at the demand
of Conservative partisans and constituted
of Conservative partisans. Moreover, its
action is bound to be challenged even when
substantial justice is done. Surely it can-
not be disputed that what we need is an
independent, non-partisan civil service
board, before which any official can get
a fair hearing, and whose judgment will be
accepted by the general community.

A HINT FOR LONDON.

(Hamilton Times.)

The G. T. R. is to spend a quarter of
a million on its property in Stratford. Ham-
ilton was once an important point on the
line, but our municipal representatives did
not think G. T. R. good-will worth culti-
vating.

DINKELSPIELERS.

(George V. Hobart, in N. Y. American.)
To dem dot had lemons shall lemons
be given.

It is hard work for a stammering man to
make a bluff.
Success never shakes hands with a man
dot has a lay arm.

Be sure you are right, den go ahead and
ask your vife about it.

If you don't took any chances you
don't got many advances.
Some people start out to do right, but
Fate hands dem a transfer.

Figures nefer lie, because if dey dit ve
could all make a bluff at being rich.

Books was a great helpfulness to man-
especially a bank book.

It amounts to a big grocer's bill ven a
man tries to feed his vanity.
Van half der world is afraid it vill nefer
get der chance to do der udder half.

ARTLESS FINANCE IN GERMANY.

(Pittsburgh Dispatch.)

The Krupp Company has decided to in-
crease its capital stock \$5,000,000, and will
keep it within the family. This shows how
backward Germany is. Over here they
would increase it \$500,000,000 and do their
utmost to unload it on the public.

THE PRESIDENT FORGOT HIMSELF

(New York Sun.)

When Mr. Roosevelt betrays such heat
and impetuosity as to spell correctly,
which he does in his letter to Secretary
Root, it should be a sign to him that he
is running past his signals.

CURE FOR PROFANITY.

(Concern N. E. Patriot.)

The cure for profanity—reformers and
educators please make a note—is merely
wit enough to handle your words so that
swearing will seem like baby talk in com-
parison.

GREAT LAKE TRAGEDIES.

(Toronto Star.)

Every year we hear of these tragedies on
the great lakes. Can nothing be done to
mitigate the evil? Are our laws and those
of the United States sufficiently strict as
to the seaworthiness of vessels and the
loads they shall carry? Can we do nothing
more to provide life-saving stations and
apparatus and supplies of food and other
comforts on the shores and islands of our
lakes? Danger there must be, if naviga-
tion is to be continued through November
and December, but we ought to leave no-
thing undone to minimize the danger.

A CLOSE FORTH.

(Pittsburgh Post.)

"My wife thinks a good bit of me."
"That's nice."
"Yes; next to the baby and the poodle
and the rubber plant, I'm all to the mas-
ter with her."

WORSE YET.

(Chicago Daily News.)

Schoolma'am—Now, tell me the truth.
Jones. You know what will happen if you
tell a lie, don't you?
Schoolma'am—Yes, ma'am. I'll go to the
bad place.
Schoolma'am—Yes, and that isn't the
worst of it. You'll also be expelled from
school.

TOO SHORT.

(Pittsburgh Post.)

"I thought the young woman you're
smitten with was tall and willowy. I saw
her today. She's quite short, isn't she?"
asked Jigley.
"Exceedingly short," replied Lovett. "She
simply said, 'No.'"

**STRAIGHT TALK
TO CALIFORNIANS**

Mr. Roosevelt Warns Them of
Trouble if Violence Is Shown
Towards the Japanese.

Washington, Dec. 18.—In a special
message to Congress today the
President transmitted the report of
Secretary Metcalf on the Japanese
situation in San Francisco. The report
deals with three matters of controversy:

1. The exclusion of the Japanese chil-
dren from the San Francisco schools.
2. The boycotting of Japanese res-
taurants.

3. Acts of violence committed against
the Japanese.

As to the first matter President
Roosevelt calls special attention to the
very small number of Japanese chil-
dren who attend school, to the testi-
mony as to the brightness, cleanliness
and good behavior of those Japan-
ese children in the schools, and to the
fact that, owing to their being scat-
tered throughout the city, the require-
ment for them to go to one separate
school is impossible of fulfillment, and
means that they cannot have school
facilities.

"Let me point out further," says the
President, "that there would be no ob-
jection whatever to excluding from the
schools any Japanese on the score of
ability."

"The question as to the violence
against the Japanese is most admirably
put by Secretary Metcalf, and I have
nothing to add to his statement. I am
entirely confident, that as Secretary
Metcalf says, the overwhelming senti-
ment of the State of California is for
law and order, and for the protection
of the Japanese in their persons and
property. Both the chief of police and
the acting mayor of San Francisco as-
sured Secretary Metcalf that every-
thing possible would be done to protect
the Japanese in the city."

"I authorized and directed Secretary
Metcalf to state that if there was
failure to protect person and property,
then the entire power of the Federal
Government within the limits of the
constitution would be used promptly
and vigorously to enforce the observ-
ance of our treaty, the supreme of the
land, which treaty guaranteed to Japan-
ese residents everywhere in the United
States full and perfect protection for
their persons and property, and to this end
everything in my power would be done
and all the forces of the United States,
both civil and military, which could
be lawfully employed, would be done."

HANGED TO TREES

How Russian Political Prisoners Are
Now Being Executed.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 18.—The ice in
the Neva prevents the conveyance of
political prisoners to the fortress of
St. Peter and St. Paul, and a similar
state of affairs prevents them from
being taken to Cronstadt by water. So
the scene of putting them to death
has been transferred to Sestretsk, a
dozen miles outside of St. Petersburg,
on the Gulf of Finland.

To that place the two youths who
made an attempt upon the life of Vice-
Admiral Doubasoff last Saturday af-
ternoon were conveyed at 6 o'clock this
morning, escorted by Cossacks. They
were hanged to trees and then their
bodies were placed in sacks and buried
in quicklime.

The same method was carried out in
the case of the Terrorist leader Soko-
lov, alias Nedviedy, who died crying,
"Vive la Revolution!"

BIG GEM ROBBERY.

New York, Dec. 18.—Jewels valued
at more than \$4,000 were stolen from
the residence of Joseph Veiga in Cen-
tral Park West, on Dec. 5, and a re-
ward of \$500 has been offered for their
return, and the arrest of Gabriel Hilt
and Louis Louis, who were employed
as servants in the Veiga home. Hilt
and Louis had been in Mr. Veiga's
employ only a few days. They disap-
peared about the time the jewelry was
stolen.

R. S. Woodward has computed that,
assuming the average density of the
earth's crust to be 2.75, the density at
the center is 10.74 and at 100 miles depth
it is 3.08.

**UNION DISCUSSED
BY PRESBYTERY**

Nearly Every Member of London
Body in Favor of the
Movement.

That all important question of church
union was discussed for three hours by
the London Presbytery yesterday af-
ternoon.

Rev. W. J. Clark, as a member of
the joint committee, was asked to open
the question. He pointed out that the
only report yet passed by the general
committee was the one of doctrine.
None of the other reports are yet final-
ly passed. The meeting last week sat
longer as a whole than any of the for-
mer meetings. The unity of the whole
movement was remarkable. He regarded
the Lord's Prayer was for spiritual
unity. But, for his part, there were no
differences of doctrine or government
sufficiently great to keep these three
great churches, the Presbyterian, the
Methodist and the Congregational-
ist apart. These divisions in the past, he
felt sure, were justified. The object,
however, for which these divisions were
necessary, had passed away. There
were what losses at present from
overlapping. The waste was wrong and
there was nothing yet in sight to hin-
der the consummation of this great
union.

Mr. Robert Woods, elder of London
Junction, related his experiences in re-
gard to the union of 1875 of the dif-
ferent Presbyterian churches. There
were great fears of that union, he
said, but it had turned out the greatest
blessing conceivable. He thought in
some way the union proposed would
come, and would be an untold blessing.

Rev. S. Lawrence thought union look-
ed beautiful in theory, but it would not
work out so well as some imagined.
Large churches were sometimes the
most selfish. As to union doing away
with rivalry, he believed there would
be as much as before. As to presenting
a united front, it only needed Presby-
terians and Methodists and Congrega-
tionalists living right lives. Then there
would be a few families here and there
who would form little sects. So he was
opposed to union, but his mind was still
open.

Rev. Dr. McDonald, of Moss, regard-
ed this as the greatest question since
the Reformation. Some might be sur-
prised to find him so strongly in favor
of union. He founded his strong view
on his interpretation of the Lord's
Prayer for union. He had been brought
up in the strictest Presbyterian faith,
but that training did not shut his eyes
to facts. The great west was in need
of more money than Presbyterians
could raise. Presbyterians could not get
men enough. The union of the churches
would in some measure remedy this.

Rev. Dr. McCrae held that this move-
ment was of God. The statement of
doctrine was practically the chief
statement of doctrine adopted three
years ago by the Presbyterian Church
of the United States North. The Meth-
odist Church was in reality Presbyter-
ian in church government. The new
government would be in essence Pres-
byterian. The different types of char-
acter would supplement and strengthen
each other. Each church would bring
into the union some elements needed
by the others. Presbyterians would
not give up their past history; they
would take it with them into the great
church of the future.

Rev. James Argo, of Ivan, a new
member, strongly supported the union.
Rev. D. Kelso, of Wallace town, criti-
cized strongly the articles of doctrine.
He considered the doctrines not Calvin-
istic enough. He was not, however,
opposed to union.

Rev. Dr. Munro counseled the
churches to make haste slowly. In Scot-
land there had been too much haste.
"We are becoming more homogeneous."
Time would help to bring the differ-
ences of type nearer together. We are
traveling in the right direction. Let
us go forward, but with great care,"
said Dr. Munro.

Rev. A. Stuart, the oldest minister in
the bounds of the presbytery, was in
favor of union. He considered that
there were greater differences among
different persons in the same church
than among the churches themselves.
In Northern Ontario and in Prince Ed-
ward Island, where he had labored since
his retirement, he had seen the great
advantage that union would bring.
He strongly favored this great move-
ment, and the sooner it was brought
about the better.

Rev. T. A. Watson, Thamesford, be-
lieved that Christ's prayer was for an
outward, visible union.

Rev. J. Currie, of Belmont, held
that organic union might exist without
unity. He was in favor of the princi-
ple, but he could not yet see that the
way was open. Those who could not
see their way at present were not to be
supposed as opposed to the fulfillment
of the Lord's prayer for unity. Uni-
formity was not necessarily unity.

Mr. Elliott Grieve, of East London,
saw great difficulties in the way, but
he felt all difficulties were melting
away. He believed all three churches
were leading men to Christ and doing
God's work, and united, a marvelous
impetus would be given.

Mr. Sutherland, of Thamesford, a
gentleman trained under the late Don-
ald McKenzie, of Zorra, told of a union
Sunday school in Zorra, and how the
different churches worked together and
the good that was done. He had been
in the great west, and he said, union
would be an untold blessing. There

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS
CURES ALL KIDNEY DISEASES
BRONCHITIS, RHEUMATISM, GRAVEL, DIABETES, GOUT, CALCULI, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, SCIATICA, LUMBAGO, PAIN IN THE BACK, NECK, SHOULDERS, WRISTS, HANDS, FEET, AND JOINTS. THE PILLS ARE SOLD EVERYWHERE.

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO**A HOST OF HAPPY BUYERS**

Have been enjoying the facilities this store offers in China, Books, Fancy Goods and other lines, and what a host of happy people will be enjoying the beautiful gift things that have been going out of this store—never so many in the history of the house. The public have appreciated our unusual preparations—and no wonder. Come and see for yourself.

8:30 in the Morning

We are ready for business at
8:30 in the morning. Come then
and avoid the crowds that gather
later in the forenoon. Help us by
taking small parcels with you.
Be as patient as possible in the
crowds.

OPEN EVERY EVENING

Plaid Ribbon
6-Inch Scotch Plaid Silk Ribbon,
just in. Special a yard 50c

Evening Cloaks
What is finer for a gift than an
Evening or Opera Cloak, and
especially when the styles are
so irresistible? Light shades of
brocade, beautifully lined,
some richly embroidered, some
with high collar of white Thibet
A charming gift for \$20, \$25, \$30

Wool Shawls
Heavy Wool Shawls, in Shepherd's
checks, black and gray mix-
tures, Scotch plaids; all black
and all gray; large sizes, \$1 25
to \$4 50; shoulder shawls, 50c
to \$2 50

Sable Ruffs \$8.50
Bring the friend in to whom you
think of giving a Fur Ruff and
see these at \$8 50

Open Every Evening

Everybody still has some buying to do—some more and some less—let
us give you a few suggestions, but first a little advice. Shop early in
the day—early in the morning—early in the afternoon—early in the even-
ing—is when there's a breathing spell, and good opportunity to see all
our Christmas goods.

Silk Dressing Robes

From fair Japan come these dainty Quilted Silk Dressing Robes and
Short Sacks. They are made of silk outside and inside, with light-
weight filling. The quilting and silk embroidery has been done by
the nimble fingers of the Japanese. The collar, cuffs and fronts
are embroidered in silk; all colors. The long robe at \$9, \$10 50
and \$12 50; the short sack at \$4 95

Books for Gifts and Prizes

Still a splendid assortment of Books for Sunday schools and gifts.
Bound books, library size, from 15c up; large 25c and 35c tables. Complete
range of titles.

Dolls

Largest Dressed Dolls in the city
for the money—hurry, for the
25c ones; our 40c French Dressed
Doll is easy worth \$1, and so on.

Fancy Vests

Men's Fancy Vests, a splendid
Christmas gift for father; worth
\$3 and \$4, at \$1 95

Filled Work Boxes

A necessity for every woman—
have you seen our assortment?
Priced from 19c to \$3

Good Gloves

As Christmas gifts they are al-
ways acceptable, but they must be
good. You can buy here in safety.

J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128½ Dundas St.

Suits, Overcoats
Underpriced for Christmas Week

We desire to say to those who intend
giving useful and serviceable gifts for
Christmas, we are going to help you by
giving you more for your money than you
can get elsewhere. Some splendid lines of
Suits and Overcoats at bargain prices for
this week.

One line fine Black Beaver Overcoats,
the long box coat, very latest models, all
sizes 36 to 44. Regular \$14.00, this week,
special \$12.00

A line of those rich, dressy, comfort-
able black Nap Overcoats, all sizes, long
stylish coats. Regular \$15.00, special this
week \$13.00

A line of genuine Irish Frieze Overcoats,
silk velvet collar, heavy, warm, very rich
coat, all sizes. Worth \$20.00, sale price
..... \$16.00

Also a splendid variety of the very
latest models in black, gray and dark
shadowy tweeds, in French back and box
styles, at \$7.50, \$8.50 and \$10.00

Boys' Overcoats, \$3.95

We have about twenty Overcoats for ages
5 and 6 years, the long, stylish coat in
black, gray and fine mixed tweeds; sold
as high as \$5.50. Choice this week only \$3 95

**Men's Sovereign Brand
Suits, Special \$13.95**

Three styles, in Sovereign Brand Suits, that
your tailor would charge you \$25 for; all
sizes, this week \$13 95

**Store Will Be Open
Every Night This Week.**

Our Furnishing Department is just over-
flowing with prett yand useful Christmas
presents for man or boy.

The Home of Good Clothing

OAK 154 Dundas St
WM. GIBSON, Manager.

GERMANY'S ELECTIONS

Blacks and Reds Allied Against All
Other Parties Combined.

Berlin, Dec. 18.—It is already begin-
ning to appear clear that the coming
election will resolve itself into a pitched
battle between the "Black" (the
Centrists), the "Reds" (Social Demo-
crats), and all the other parties com-
bined. The National Liberals will fight
on the Government side, but, on the
other hand, the National Liberal elec-
torate will largely join the Social
Democratic campaign. At present,
however, only the creaking of the elec-
tion machinery can be heard. As
yet it has not got into anything like
working order.

As was to be expected, the alleged
telegram from the Kaiser to the chan-
cellor, saying, in reference to the Cen-
trists, that he would "blow the whole
gang to hell," is semi-officially declared
to be a pure invention.

The Dutch Government has brought
in a bill providing that all meat for
export from Holland shall bear an offi-
cial stamp as a guarantee of quality.
Any infraction of the law will entail
severe penalties.

PERE MARQUETTE**Christmas and New
Year's Holiday Rates**