

"There is a pleasure in being mad which none but madmen know."—Dryden.

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MOST convincing proof of the strength of the German Emperor's character has been given to the world during the past week. William has been pounding away at the first personal pronoun ever since infancy, and thus he has contributed in no small measure to the humor of the world. This is no mean triumph for a man of his capacity; but he has had a greater. His uncle, the King of England—and of those poor "Dominions beyond the seas"—a man heretofore noted exclusively for his modesty, has fallen a victim to the example of the German handy man, and has adopted his abridged vocabulary in its entirety.

When His Majesty of England visited his city of London last week, a speech that fairly rung with I's, Me's and Mine's, was exacted from him by the plaudits of his subjects.

Yankees, and some others, sometimes profess to wonder why free and independent citizens of a country should be styled subjects, and why anyone should say to them: "You are mine." "Your proper love for me." "Your land, which is mine," etc. Such persons cannot understand; they have not the accommodating self-effacement, nor the easily-adjusted, double-acting, expansionable-collapsible self-respect, which are the essentials of a perfect British Imperialist.

LIBERALISM in Canada is doomed simply because it has no longer any reason for existence. It has committed political suicide by eliminating its distinctive features and adopting the least worthy and elevating of the ideals of Conservatism. Old-time Liberalism stood stoutly up for popular rights and liberties, for the improvement of the condition of the masses, and justice and humanity in international relations. The new Liberalism thinks of nothing but "interests." It knuckles to the great corporations, that it may carry elections by their aid, and panders to jingoism. In a word it is Tory in all but the name. Apart from personal and selfish interests, why should any man care to uphold such a party? No wonder the old enthusiasm is dead. The policy of trying to catch every temporary breeze of public opinion that blows, regardless of principle or consistency, may bring immediate success, but it is short sighted and

suicidal in the long run. It damps the enthusiasm of the better element. By falling in with the craze for Imperialism—or toadyism—and by trying to jockey both free trade and protection, Laurier and Ross have disgusted thousands of genuine Liberals of the old school. As for the younger generation who are being educated by these misleaders, and the venal press which takes its cue from them, to venerate the ideals which their fathers detested, they will naturally find themselves more at home in the Conservative ranks than in a party composed of such incongruous elements as the Liberal organization. The sincere, thorough-going Imperialism of Toryism will appeal to them more strongly than a weak and hypocritical imitation.

THE *Toronto Star*, in referring to the Tarte troubles in the Cabinet, makes the statement that the English papers are almost unanimous in their commendation of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's action in accepting Mr. Tarte's resignation. The English papers state that Mr. Tarte's conduct was unquestionably bad form, don't you know! In other words, a cabinet, which is supposed to be a body of men formed for the serious purpose of governing the country, is, in reality, a social gathering, subject to the rules of *chic* society.

This is very delightful. We Canadians should be deeply gratified to learn that we are keeping up a set of social leaders in Ottawa—a set such as they have at home.

Mr. Tarte has dared to have an opinion—a dangerous thing in *society*—and, worse yet, he has dared to carry his opinions into his group of Beau Brummell colleagues. Such beastly form! One might as well expect to find opinions at Buckingham, or at Rideau Hall!

Now that we have been told definitely, by the English papers—which are authorities on everything antique and respectable—that a cabinet is a social organization, the members of which must make the public believe that they are confident of their policy, no matter how rotten they may know it to be, we shall see to it in the future that none but honor-graduates of the five o'clock tea-tables shall be put in positions where they will be eligible for the dainty office of Cabinet Minister.

JOHN D. ROCKFELLER has just offered to present to the Teachers' College \$500,000, as a "thank offering" to Almighty God for the preservation of his family and household, on the occasion of the destruction by fire of his country home. The wisdom of Mr. Rockefeller, in parting with so small a portion of his fortune, is a splendid lesson for the young men of his country. It is wise not to part with all one's resources, when there is every indication that one is likely to be in need of the great bulk of it later. For being saved from a small household fire, Mr. Rockefeller pays \$500,000. At this rate it will take quite the remainder of his fortune to save him from the great conflagration to which he, no doubt, looks forward with dread.