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40TH YEAR. NO. 17075 THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1903. PRICE TWO CENTS.

FIRST BIG GUN OF THE CAMPAIGN

Sir Richard Cartwright Addresses Great Gathering.

PROGRESS UNDER THE LIBERALS

By Stastistics and Limelight Views He Shows How the Country Has Prospered.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—Sir Richard Cartwright, the Nestor of Canadian politics, never stood higher in the estimation of the people of Toronto than last night, when, after delivering one of the greatest of many great speeches illuminative of the history of Canada, he sat down amid the ringing cheers of an audience that taxed the capacity of Association Hall. For almost an hour and a half he discussed domestic affairs, Canada's expansion under Liberal rule, the reasons for and results of increased Government expenditure, the census frauds of 1891, the national debt, and the Government's great railway policy; then for half an hour he spoke of Imperial trade issues, advocating an Anglo-American alliance to be brought about by a British zollverein and its consequent tax upon American farm exports.

He introduced the novelty in political meetings of limelight views, throwing on a large screen figures and diagrams to emphasize and illustrate the unprecedented expansion of Canada during the Laurier regime. This was the first of a series of meetings to be addressed by Dominion ministers. Sir William Mulock presided.

TALKED ABOUT TARTE.

Sir Richard opened his address by paying particular attention to Mr. Tarte. He noted the change since his last visit to Toronto, when the air was blue with denunciations of Mr. Tarte, who was denounced as the evil genius, and also as the master of the Laurier administration. But at an important meeting in Montreal, recently, Mr. Borden had fallen on his neck and kissed him, and the prodigal son had returned. It was known that there was great joy over one sinner that repented, but there was also the story of a devil being cast out who had joined himself unto other devils. He would not say where Mr. Tarte belonged, but, for himself his estimate of him had never varied, and he had always liked him. Mr. Tarte was erratic and impulsive, but he was a man of action and a worthy journalist, and the excellent service he had rendered a dozen years ago when he had revealed the corruption that then existed could not be forgotten.

Turning to the subject matter of his speech, Sir Richard said that the present was a time for instituting comparisons between the records of the present Government and that of the Conservatives, which had been in power 18 years. In 1896 Canada was in a condition of stagnation and depopulation, dishonored and disgraced in the eyes of the world, while today she had reached the very highest point in her history. While the burden of taxation had been reduced, the gross revenue had been doubled, and the increase in trade had been greater than in the 30 years preceding. While Canada had formerly been ignored and slighted abroad, now she led the van and occupied a high place in the councils of the empire, and her opinion might solve the difficulties that are now besetting it.

Showing a diagram illustrating the increase in the trade of the country, he said that some people ascribed little importance to that, but it indicated that the people were getting value for their money, that the taxes were going into the public treasury and that there had been a great increase in the general prosperity. The speaker also showed charts indicating the increase in the volume of exports, in the value of farm produce and manufactured products, and that the percentage of the growth of trade in Canada was far ahead of that of any other country. This growth in material wealth was of great value, and it was very satisfactory that the increase in population was keeping pace with that in trade.

CENSUS FRAUDS.

In this connection he said that the census of 1891 was in almost all respects a deliberate fraud. It had been shown in the House that in twenty constituencies in Quebec there had been registered 40,000 people who were never there, and he had reason to believe that this work was duplicated all over the country. The population of Canada was unduly increased in 1891 by 250,000, and the Liberal party had been defrauded of the credit for that much of the increase that had taken place since 1896.

Speaking of the free imports from the United States, the speaker said that there had been admitted over $5,000,000 worth of settlers' goods, which he considered a mere fraction of the wealth brought in by the settlers, the total of which would more than represent the whole profit made by the United States out of their trade with us. Within four years there has been imported $17,000,000 worth of settlers' effects, and they had expended on the immigration department $2,500,000. This is would not admit was an extravagant expenditure for the people had received value for their money.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

Speaking of the national debt, Sir Richard said that with a stagnant population and an impoverished country the increase would have been bad, but he asked how much of the increase is nominal, how much has the population increased from 1896 to 1903, and how much has the cost of labor and material increased? If he could show 50 per cent of the increase was merely nominal, that the population had increased 25 per cent, and labor and material a similar amount, the Government could not be charged with extravagance. From 1867 to 1873 there had been added to the debt $33,000,000, or 40 per cent, while in the last six years the increase had been but 35 per cent, one-half of which was nominal.

The increase in population had been so great that there were now 6,000,000 people in Canada, of whom 1,000,000 were west of Lake Superior, and this was an increase of 25 per cent over six years ago. To show how the burden of the debt had been altered by the increase in population, in 1896 each family was responsible for $271, which was now reduced to $218, and the cost of administration was reduced by 50 cents per head. The results of the last seven years might have been obtained from 1878 to 1885 if reasonable common sense had been used. If the electors in 1878 had been true to their trust and not discarded Alexander Mackenzie, one of the most upright public men Canada had ever known, they might long ago have attained the results of today. They made a big mistake and have paid the penalty.

THE G. T. PACIFIC.

The ends and aims of the Government

Continued on page 4.

PANAMA AND U. S. SIDE BY SIDE

Gunboats of the Two Countries Will Give an Object Lesson to Colombia.

Panama, Dec. 11.—The principal work of a political nature now occupying the attention of the Junta consists in preparations to call a convention and to proceed with the election of members of the House of Representatives, etc. Efforts are being made to hold the convention Feb. 3. Several of the Panamian scouting parties have already left here and others will leave Panama shortly to watch the movements of the Colombians. No reports have yet been received from the parties in the field, and there is no news tending to confirm the report from La Guaira of the landing of Colombian troops at the mouth of the Atrato River, on the Gulf of Darian.

A Panamian gunboat and a United States gunboat have proceeded together to David (near the western end of the Isthmus of Panama) for the purpose of giving the people of that district evidence of the fact that the United States forces are co-operating with those of Panama in maintaining peace on the isthmus. The gunboats are expected to return here on Sunday.

HIS CUE FROM SOLOMON

Pittsburg Magistrate Calls for Sword and Then Picks Mother.

Pittsburg, Dec. 11. — Magistrate Vichenstain went back to King Solomon Wednesday for a precedent in deciding which of two women was mother of a disputed child. Mrs. Angelina Williams, a cook on a river boat, said she had left her infant with a Mrs. Catherine Moore, who had refused to return it when called for.

"Bring me a sword," called the magistrate, when he had heard the stories of both. "I shall divide the child between you."

"No, do not murder my child," at once cried Mrs. Williams.

The magistrate decided in her favor.

Baby Millionaire.

Providence, Dec. 11. — Four-year-old John Nicholas Brown, the $20,000,000 descendant of the philanthropic Browns, of Rhode Island, laid the cornerstone of the new memorial gates to be erected at Brown University as a memorial to his father.

ANTI-SEMITISM RIFE IN RUSSIA

The Provincial Governors Ask That They Be Expelled From the Empire

London, Dec. 11.—The Times' Russian correspondents say the St. Petersburg Government sent a circular to the governors of the provinces asking for their opinions on the laws relating to the Jews, and as to what alterations should be made. The greater number of the replies are unfavorable to the Jews, some governors even asking that the Jews be expelled from their provinces. A minority of the governors would abrogate all special laws aimed at the Jews. This is the opinion of Prince Urusoff, now Governor of Bessarabia, in which province Kischeniff is situated. The prince insists that there is no real antagonism in his province between the Jews and the Christians. He attributes much of the prevailing prosperity in industry to the Jews. Only, he says, because oppressive laws weigh on them too harshly do some Jews meddle in politics. A commission has been appointed to deal with the replies and codify the laws relating to the Jews.

HEART THROBS IN PICTURE

Scientists Will Exhibit Novel Motion Photographs.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 11. — The human heart running its race of life will be exhibited in motion pictures shown on a screen just like the picture of a racehorse in action. The cerebations of the brain may be similarly noted, according to the assertions made before the national convention of the Roentgen Ray Society, by the sidograph experts, Mihran H. Kassabin, of Philadelphia, and Henry Hulst, of Grand Rapids. They aroused general attenion by declaring those anatomical movements may be recorded by changing shadows thrown on a screen. It even is suggested that by character thought, shadows good thought shadows may be distinguished from bad thoughts.

Found Murdered.

Pittsburg, Dec. 11. — Anna Cypress, the young wife of an Austrian coal miner, of Federal, Pa., was found dead at her home, today with a gunshot wound in her breast. The husband is under arrest pending an investigation.

BOUNDARY POST IS MOVED BACK

First Change Made in Conformity With Alaska Award

NEW POST IS ON DALTON TRAIL

But Survey of Next Spring May Drive the Post Still Further Back.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 11. — A dispatch to the Post-Intelligence from Dawson says: Major Zachary Taylor Wood, who has returned to Dawson, announces the first change of Canadian outposts in conformity with the findings of the international commission which arbitrated the boundary dispute between Canada and the United States.

Major Wood, who is the commander of the Northwest Mounted Police, moved the police post at Wells, on the Dalton trail to Pleasant Camp. It is possible that the latter may ultimately have to be changed also, but this will depend on the international survey which will be made next spring.

Major Wood became famous as collector of customs at the summit of White Pass during the rush to the Klondike, and at that time forced the Canadian line forward 17 miles from Lake Bennett to the summit by advancing his detachment. He is a nephew of Gen. Taylor, former President of the United States.

COBRA SWALLOWS MATE IN FIGHT

Two Great Snakes Battle in the New York Zoo.

OVER A RAT ONE HAD EATEN

Made No Efforts to Inflict Fatal Bite—Each Intending to Make a Meal of the Other.

New York, Dec. 11. — Locked in deadly embrace two giant specimens of the Cobra de Capello, fit types of the fatal viper, the scourge of India, that slays twenty thousand persons a year, according to official statistics, fought yesterday for the mastery in the Bronx Zoo. They made no effort to inflict the fatal bite, for an antidote to which the British Government offers a reward of $100,000.

It was not the purpose of either of the giant reptiles to thus tamely end the battle. Each meant to eat the other alive. They were the only specimens in the Zoo.

It was a struggle in which none of the attendants dared interfere. To attempt to separate the combatants meant death to the one who tried it.

Twisting this way and that, but ever facing each other, the two cobras fought on. Their heads, so rounded and innocent looking in repose, had taken on the hooded appearance that gives them their name. Their scales blistened. Their eyes seemed to fairly flash sparks so glittering and deadly were they in the intensity of their gaze.

Each waited a chance to strike. The first one to close his jaws on the other's head must win the battle. The watchers, breathless, as the two little sinuous bodies twisted and turned in a chance to get the advantage, saw the slightly larger snake make a sudden dart. His jaws closed over the other.

By what process he avoided inflicting the bite that meant instant death by poison, those who looked on, wondered. The weaker snake seemed to swell to almost double its size. The circulation of the arteries had been cut off for a moment. The victor loosened his hold a fraction and the next instant his jaws slid along and took in a [illegible] of more than six inches of his defeated foe's body.

The tail of the latter still lashed in impotent fury. He was being swallowed alive. In spite of the struggles, slowly, inch by inch, the body of the vanquished snake disappeared down the other's throat.

When the tip of the tail, giving still a feeble wiggle, had passed out of sight and the victorious cobra, swelled to abnormal proportions by his meal, realized that all was over, he sought a secluded corner of the snake house and went to sleep.

In his lethargic state his jaws were forced open and wedged and his foe dragged forth again, still alive but dying. It is now one of the exhibits of the museum.

MILTON'S PARADISE LOST

MSS. of the Famous Poem To Be Sold at Auction.

London, Dec. 11.—It is announced here that the manuscript of Milton's "Paradise Lost" is in the market and will be sold at auction by Sotheby in March next unless previously disposed of at private sale.

NEEDLE'S LONG TRIP

In 19 Years Journeyed From Hip to Foot and Out by Hand.

Lockport, N. Y., Dec. 11. — George Badgley sat down on a cushioned chair nineteen years ago and a needle penetrated his hip. It gave him no trouble until three years ago, when his left ankle began to trouble him. He visited various specialists and submitted to the X-ray without results and eventually the pain passed to his left side. He was putting on his glove recently when he pulled the long-buried needle out of his hand.

ELGIN COMPANY ASKS DAMAGES

Wish To Recover From Liquidators of Atlas Loan.

THE CASE AT OSGOODE HALL

Mr. George C. Gibbons, K. C., Presents Argument for Plaintiffs—Details of Transaction.

Toronto, Dec. 11. — The adjourned argument in the suit brought by the London and Western Trust Company, as liquidators of the Elgin Loan Company, against the National Trust Company, liquidators for the Atlas Loan Company, was heard this morning by Chancellor Boyd at Osgoode Hall, George C. Gibbons, K. C., of London, who appeared for the London and Western Trust Company, briefly reviewed the facts of the case. At the time when the Atlas Loan Company went into liquidation they had in their possession 525 shares of Dominion Coal and 100 shares of Dominion Iron and Steel, held by them for the Elgin Loan Company. On the 6th of July a demand was made on the National Trust Company for the delivery of these shares, but this was refused, on the ground that the Atlas Loan was interested in them. Subsequently an action was brought by the liquidators of the Elgin Loan to recover these shares, and they were given up, after having suffered a shrinkage of about thirty points (representing a total of about $18,000) in their value since the first demand was made.

Mr. Gibbons contended that the National Trust Company was liable for this loss of $18,000. "The National Trust Company," he said, "undertook to hold for the plaintiffs, for pay, this stock, and they undertook to deliver to the people for whom they held on demand. They asked an additional price on account of the guarantee they gave."

The liquidators of the Atlas Loan Company, Mr. Gibbons said, put forward two excuses for their conduct, that they were acting under the direction of the court, and that they ought to be received under the trustee act. "The National Trust Company," he said, "knew all the facts of the case; they had discussed the matter with Mr. Wallace; they knew that all the money was advanced by the Elgin Loan Company selling at par; and that the Atlas Loan Company was bankrupt." Not only was Home Smith an officer of the company, but so, he contended, was Mr. Hunter, the solicitor, and the National Trust Company were responsible for the acts of their solicitor.

Referring to the proceedings before the master-in-ordinary, Mr. Gibbons said: "Here is a property involving $75,000 or $80,000; they go to the master for instructions; and they get no written instructions; we are asked to rely on memory. It is most extraordinary for a man to get a process of court to restrain himself from doing what it was his plain duty to do, and to protect himself from the consequences of his own improvident and senseless acts. Why should not we have our script? Is a mortgagee not entitled to his mortgage because there is a mortgagor. It was most unreasonable to refuse to deliver over our shares."

In reply to a question of the chancellor as to the measure of damages, Mr. Gibbons considered that they should be allowed $30 a share on the Coal, and $20 a share on the Steel. This was the difference in value between the price of the shares on the 6th of July when the first demand was made, and the price at the trial of the action. As the refusal to deliver when the demand was made was absolutely indefensible, they were entitled at least to these damages.

Shirley Denison also addressed the court on behalf of the plaintiffs. The contract undertaken by the defendants, he contended, amounted to a contract of insurance, and carried their liability as far as they could carry it.

S. H. Blake, K. C., addressed the court on behalf of the National Trust Company at the resumption of court at 2 o'clock.

Biggest December Snowfall in 50 Years.

Montreal, Dec. 10. — Last night's snowfall here was the biggest for December since 1859, being fifteen inches.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Tomorrow—Cold.

London, Friday, Dec. 11.

Sun rises..7:40 a.m. Moon rises..12:00 mid.
Sun sets...4:41 p.m. Moon sets...12:37 p.m.

Toronto, Dec. 10—8 p.m.

The storm mentioned last night has moved rapidly over the Maritime Provinces and Quebec, accompanied by heavy gales, with rain in the former district and snow in the latter. Scattered snow flurries have occurred in Ontario and the Northwest Territories, but the weather has been generally fair from the Rockies to Quebec.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, zero—10; Victoria, 36—42; Kamloops, 32—38; Calgary, 26—30; Qu'Appelle, 6—26; Winnipeg, 4 below—14; Port Arthur, zero—10; Parry Sound, 8—18; Toronto, 17—30; Ottawa, 16—18; Montreal, 18—24; Quebec, 16—26; Halifax, 32—50.

FORECASTS.

Friday, Dec. 11—8 a.m.

Today—Strong southwesterly and westerly winds, with occasional snow flurries.

Saturday—Westerly winds, and continued cold weather.

Temperatures.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	16	16	Cloudy
Winnipeg	— 2	—10	Snow
Parry Sound	16	2	Cloudy
Toronto	26	14	Cloudy
Ottawa	4	2	Fair
Montreal	10	8	Fair
Quebec	10	10	Clear
Father Point	18	18	Fair

The sign — indicates "below zero."

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather continues cold throughout Quebec and Ontario, with no indication of any change to milder conditions. A cold wave now spreading over Alberta will probably bring lower temperatures in the Northwest Territories than yet experienced this winter.

Local temperatures: Thursday—Highest, 30°; lowest, 15°.

WORSHIP SKULL AND CROSS-BONES

Scandal Over Erotic Mysteries in France.

COUNT AND A BARON INVOLVED

One of Them Attempts Suicide—Physicians Declare the Pair To Be Degenerates.

Paris, Dec. 11.—It is announced in a telegram from Mulhouse, Alsace-Lorraine, that the so-called Baron De Adelsward, who with Count De Warren, was found guilty here on Dec. 3 of inciting minors to debauchery, attempted suicide there today, injuring himself dangerously. The attempt was made near the residence of the girl to whom Adelsward was engaged before the scandal in which he was involved become public. Adelsward was sentenced to six months' imprisonment at the trial here, but was immediately released as he had already been imprisoned for five months. Following his release he suddenly disappeared from home, leaving letters which were enigmas to those to whom they were addressed.

Baron De Adelsward and Count De Warren in their defense before the Paris courts, said that the immoral acts with which they were charged were incidental to the performance of erotic mysteries, including the worship of idols, skulls and cross-bones, symbolical of the devil. The prosecution, however, contended that it was a simple case of depravity and several doctors testified that the accused were degenerates.

MURDERER CHASEL HAS ESCAPED

Locks Three Guards in His Own Cell at Calgary

WAS TO BE HANGED TUESDAY

Is Supposed to Have Started for the United States—Only Twenty-One Years of Age.

Winnipeg, Dec. 11.—Ernest Cashel, who was under sentence of death to be hanged on Tuesday next for the murder of Rufus Belt, escaped from the police barracks at Calgary at 6:30 p.m. Constable Piper, who was on guard, ordered the prisoner out of the cell until he should make a search. On the outside were Constables Leslie and Phillips. Cashel walked out and sat on a bench in front of a window facing the street. Piper, after the search, ordered Cashel back to the cell, whereupon the prisoner suddenly flashed two shining revolvers in the face of his guards and ordered all three into the cell he had just vacated. He took their revolvers and locked them in, and then walked in his shackled feet to the place where the keys were kept, unlocked the shackles, and after taunting the guards, kissed his hand to them by way of adieu and left the barracks. Fifteen minutes later the night guard came in to find the three mounted police in Cashel's cell. Cashel is supposed to have started for the United States. He was 21 years old yesterday.

MONARCHS EMBRACED

King Alfonso Visits His Royal Brother of Portugal.

Lisbon, Dec. 11.—King Alfonso of Spain arrived here yesterday, and was welcomed at the railroad station by King Carlos and a striking gathering of princes, ministers, peers, deputies, and naval and military officers. The monarchs cordially embraced, and the official introductions followed.

After visiting the palace King Alfonso visited Queen Amelia at the Necessidades Palace, and the Dowager Queen Maria Pia at the Adija Palace.

A state banquet was held in the Ajuda Palace which was attended by 70 guests, including King Alfonso, King Carlos, Queen Amelia and all the members of the Portuguese royal family, with their suites.

The city is brilliantly illuminated.

FOUGHT TURKS WITH CANE

Another Story of the Alexandretta Fracas.

Constantinople, Dec. 11.—The United States legation's latest advices regarding the Alexandretta affair confirms the reports of the violence of the police and the attack on Consul Davis, who had only used his cane in self-defense.

It appears that Attarian (the naturalized American, who had asked for the consul's assistance, in order to enable him to embark for Egypt), was arrested as a subterfuge. After he had embarked on the consular boat with Mr. Davis, Attarian was invited to land, in order to undergo fumigation, whereupon the man was suddenly seized by three policemen, and promptly locked up. Mr. Davis, in attempting to interpose, was assaulted by the police and was obliged to defend himself with his cane.

Attarian is still a prisoner.

The report that the United States cruiser San Francisco had left Beirut for Alexandretta was premature.

MR. FOSTER INTERVIEWED

Talks to the Americans About Tariff and Wheat.

New York, Dec. 11.—George E. Foster, former finance minister of Canada, has just returned from England. He declares that within five years the Dominion will be able to supply England with the wheat now sent from the United States.

"Last year," he says, "we raised 60,000,000 bushels of wheat, and more than 100,000,000 bushels of grain. We have now under cultivation 3,000,000 acres of wheat land, and still have 200,000,000 acres just as good, which will be grain producing land in the near future. Your people are the best in the world, but we do not look upon your Government as the broadest-minded in the world. We import from the United States a large number of agricultural products, but from us the United States imports very little. In manufactured goods our tariff runs about 29 per cent, while that of the United States is about 49 per cent. The disparity seems too great. If you won't let us in on a fair tariff we'll have to raise the tariff against you.

"We think our country is just as good as the United States. There was a feeling of disappointment among us concerning the Alaskan award, but that is passing away. You see, the United States stretches its carcass across our front door. We've got to step over you people when we want to get out to sea—that is, if you will let us."

THE SIX DAYS' RACE

Seven Teams Are Now Tied for First Place.

New York, Dec. 11. — With seven teams tied for first place, Root and Dorlan having withdrawn last night, and Moran and Keegan still a lap behind, but making occasional desperate spurts to make up that distance, the riders in the six days' bicycle race kept up their weary grind today, all the men except Breton appearing in shape to continue to the end. Breton, when relieved after a hot sprint, coughed up a quantity of blood and seemed very weak, but his trainer stated that he would finish the race.

During the early morning John Bedell and Floyd Krebs, by an unexpected spurt, gained three-quarters of a lap on the leaders, but were finally overhauled and caught, Gougoltz being lapped seven times in the sprint. At 10 o'clock the Contenet-Breton, Leander-Butler, Floyd, Krebs-Peterson, Newkirk-Jacobson, Bedell brothers, Bowler-Fisher and Walthour-Munroe teams had scored 1,784 miles 2 laps; Moran-Keegan, 1,784 miles 1 lap; Samson-Vanderstuyft, 1,783 miles; Gougoltz-Franz Krebs, 1,779 miles 5 laps, and the Dove-Hedspeth team, 1,756 miles 9 laps.

KAISER'S NEW NAVAL PLAN

Latest Cruisers to Have the Tonnage of Battleships.

Berlin, Dec. 11. — The eight armored cruisers that yet remain to be built under the naval programme will approach battleships in tonnage, with corresponding increases in armor, gun power and steaming radius. The first has already been designed by the navy department, and will be laid down immediately. The largest German cruiser in course of construction is the Room, which was launched at Kiel in June last. She is under 10,000 tons. Technical writers, especially Lieut.-Gen. Count Von Reventlow, have been urging the Government to build cruisers as large as those of Great Britain, the United States and France, with considerable coal capacity, the present armored cruisers of the German navy having a limited field of action and inferior armaments. The vessels of the new cruiser type will somewhat impair the homogeneity of the squadrons, and for this reason the navy department reluctantly adopted them.

STRATHCONA ON OUR WHEAT LANDS

He Says Canada's Agricultural Resources Are Unlimited—The Grain Production.

London, Dec. 11. — Lord Strathcona, presiding at the dinner of the London Chamber of Commerce yesterday, said that in the very fringe of the wheat-growing districts of Canada, 40,000 farmers were able to produce 16,000,000 bushels of wheat, and quite as much other grain. Canada had enough to make her all that England had become, and more.

Hon. Thomas Brassey said that one-fifth of the cultivable land in Manitoba would produce all the wheat England required. Canadian manufacturers would decide to have the Canadian tariff remodeled in order to give a more effective preference to the motherland.

J. Walton, M. P., said the Government would best promote the prosperity of Canada by showing emigrants the superior opportunities of Canada over the United States. The cost of transport from England to Canada should be lessened, and a faster steamship line established. He suggested an Empire Exhibition, to be held in Canada.

Mr. H. Irving said that from the Atlantic to the Pacific, Canada was solid for the proposals of Mr. Chamberlain. The empire was quite able to be self-sustaining, and why should our trade be given away to foreigners?

Mr. Asquith, speaking at Bradford said there was not the slightest chance that in a measurable period the empire could supply its own wheat. Canada exported 3,500,000 quarters, whereas we needed 26,000,000. A preferential duty of two shillings on Canadian population fourfold. Canada's offer shut out any prospect of a preference in the things that Canada could supply herself. To transfer the source of our food supply from without to within the empire was fraught with danger.

RACES WHILE ASLEEP

Extraordinary Incident at English Race Course.

London, Dec. 11. — An extraordinary incident occurred during the races at Gatwick yesterday, when Happy Bird was discovered fast asleep at the end of his run for the two-mile Horsham hurdle race. Efforts were made to rouse him and he opened his eyes for a second or two, but promptly relapsed into slumber.

NARROW ESCAPE OF HER MAJESTY

Fire in Queen's Bedchamber at Sandringham.

ESCAPES IN DRESSING GOWN

The Floor Collapsing a Few Moments After She Had Left the Room—Cause of Blaze.

London, Dec. 11. — A fire occurred yesterday at Sandringham, and Queen Alexandra and her secretary, Miss Knollys, had narrow escapes. It broke out at 5 o'clock in the morning in Miss Knolly's bedroom in the chimney flue, where a beam is supposed to have been smouldering for some days, and spread to the bedroom of the Queen, who was asleep at the time. She was awakened by Miss Knollys, who raised an alarm. But the fire obtained a good hold of both rooms, and considerable damage was done before it was extinguished. The outbreak caused a great deal of excitement at Sandringham, where a number of guests are staying at present.

The reticence customary at Sandringham was observed in connection with the fire. From later information it appears Queen Alexandra had a more narrow escape than the first accounts of the fire indicated. Miss Charlotte Knollys was fortunately awakened by the smoke in her bedroom, which is immediately below the chamber occupied by her majesty. Miss Knollys rushed upstairs to the Queen, and she and her secretary, clad only in dressing gowns, escaped from the burning room not a moment too soon, as the floor of the Queen's apartment collapsed almost immediately, carrying with it her majesty's bed.

The alarm raised by Miss Knollys soon brought the household fire brigade, which quickly began the work of extinguishing the fire. Sir Dighton MacNaughton Probyn, keeper of the privy purse and extra equerry to the King, also speedily arrived and took charge of the operations. Queen Alexandra, who displayed the utmost composure, remained with Miss Knollys near the scene until she was assured that there was no further danger of the fire spreading. An examination of the apartments shows that more damage was done by water than by fire. A large number of the Queen's treasured knick-knacks, and some of her charming furniture were spoiled.

It is now stated that the trouble originated in an imperfectly insulated electric light wire, which set fire to a beam between the ceiling of Miss Knolly's bedroom and the floor of her majesty's apartments.

King Edward was immediately notified of the occurrence, and later in the day a special messenger was sent to Suffolk with reassuring news from Queen Alexandra.

MORE TROOPS FOR THE DOMINION

One Thousand Extra Men To Be Stationed at Halifax and Esquimalt.

Halifax, Dec. 11.—The British war office is evidently preparing to strenghen its military position in Canada. There are at present over 1,800 troops in Halifax garrison, and next year another regiment 1,000 strong will be stationed here. In addition it is proposed to station a line regiment of 1,000 men in Western Canada, one half at Esquimalt. At present there are more Imperial troops in Halifax than there have been since 1886. A few days ago some 200 men for the Royal Garrison Regiment came to Halifax, and some of these were accompanied by their wives and children. The remaining wives and children will come in a month or two. There are two companies of engineers, whereas formerly only one company was stationed at Halifax. There are also about 360 of the Royal Artillery here, but on the 23rd one company will leave for Esquimalt. The imperial troops on this station consist of the Royal Garrison Regiment, 1,200 men; Royal Engineers, 150 men; Royal Artillery, 360.

WEST AFRICA COTTON

Britain to Become Independent of the United States.

London, Dec. 11. — An imperial grant in aid of cotton-growing in British West Africa will be proposed during the coming session of Parliament. The recent excitement in Lancashire, caused by the report of the agricultural department at Washington, of a shortage in the American crop, is being utilized as a reason why every effort should be made to render the British cotton trade independent of shortages in the United States.

Well-Known Divine Dead.

Detroit, Dec. 11.—Rev. Robert Bird, a well-known Methodist minister, died at his home here today, aged 83 years. He was presiding elder of the Lake Superior district before the day of railroads. He was superannuated 19 years ago. Mr. Bird was born in Devonshire, England. During his years of active service he held prominent pastorates in Detroit and other Michigan points.