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Great Britain and Canada.

Recent references to Canada in the British journals show that there is not only increased interest in the life of the Dominion, but also a more intelligent interest. We have also to remember that any comments on our political life made in a sympathetic spirit by intelligent Englishmen have the advantage of being given from a non-partisan point of view. Our friends at home have no desire to interfere in the details of our politics, but they have a perfect right in a friendly spirit to note its general lines, especially in those aspects which bear upon the life of the empire at large.

These reflections are suggested by remarks made recently by the British Empire Review. After referring to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's great speech, as follows: "Few persons indeed could have remained unmoved by such a display of eloquence as that which we have partially quoted in another column, and Sir Charles Tupper himself seems to have been generous in his praise," this journal goes on to trace any actual hostility that may exist to British connection in French Canada to the influence of a few European Frenchmen, and then makes the following sensible statement, which is quite in touch with warnings we have given in this journal: "We fear, however—and the view is one which has been pressed upon us by well-informed Canadian correspondents—that a section of the British population has not hesitated to utilize the materials of race antagonism for purely partisan ends, by bringing against the French-Canadians a general charge of disloyalty. Englishmen at home, it is certain, find something more than difficulty in regarding Sir Wilfrid Laurier, whose popularity in this country is exceptional, in such a character, which they would summarily dismiss as mere caricature."

The article then goes on to show how important it is that there should be a common effort to make recognition of these disintegrating elements which threaten otherwise to prove fatal to the realization of her ideal as a united nation.

This is an outside view of our position. It is friendly, and while being written from the imperial standpoint, surely recognizes our local point, purely recognizes our local need, which is to sink all minor differences in the aim after a common citizenship.

Drink Bill of the United States.

The total drink bill of the United States for the past fiscal year is given as follows:

Alcoholic drinks \$973,589,080
Coffee 134,695,154
Tea 33,615,588
Cocoa 5,000,000

The most noteworthy facts connected with the drinking habit of our neighbors is that while the consumption of tea has only slightly increased, the increase in the consumption of coffee has almost doubled in the last ten years. As in Canada, there has been a tendency in the United States, in recent years, to use more beer and less spirituous liquors.

Obstruction in Parliament.

The Montreal Gazette (Opposition)

Another week of the weary session has drifted by without the work parliament was called to do being visibly forwarded. The Government's idea seems to be that when the country is tired watching it will have a chance to get its job through.

How very fair! Is it not the fact that the long speeches being made in the budget debate and on all sorts of side issues, though the multiplication of motions to adjourn by Opposition members, are the causes for the delaying of the business of Parliament? Who makes the large majority of these speeches? Not members of the Government or their supporters, but politicians of the calibre of Mr. Davin, Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Prior and Mr. Taylor. These men might be choked off by the influence of their own leaders, but unless the rules of the House are changed we know of no means whereby their disposition to waste the time of Parliament and to cause great expense to the taxpayers, can be effectively combatted. Nor does the obstructive tactics seem to be ended, for the Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto World, another Opposition journal (whose editor is a supporter of Sir Charles Tupper), makes this announcement:

"Next Tuesday the Conservatives will hold a caucus to decide on a plan of action during the remainder of the session. It is likely obstruction will be the plan."

The fact seems to be that the Opposition in Parliament are afraid of an early general election, and as they know they have no chance of success as their party is at present led, and in the present splendid circumstances of the Dominion, they desire to so squander the time of Parliament that their inevitable discomfiture may be postponed as long as possible. Moreover, a number of these obstructionists know that they will never come back with a Government at their back; two of the obstructionists whom we have named barely managed to squeeze in. One was elected by a majority of 3, and the other by the casting vote of the returning officer. Little wonder that with a free election they are now fearful of the coming contest, and desire to keep it off as long as possible.

When our Montreal contemporary

again essays to criticize the progress of business in Parliament let it, in fairness, condemn the prodigal waste of time in making buncombe motions to adjourn in order to get a chance to talk at large, and in speaking when the speaker has nothing to say that has not already been said by another. If it does so, and its advice is taken by its friends, the Government business which has been on the paper for weeks awaiting the convenience of these long-winded gabblers, will be proceeded with without delay.

Life in the Yukon and at Nome.

Mr. A. R. Fraser, who is described by the Ottawa Citizen as one of the best known men of the Lower Ottawa Valley, is on a visit to the capital after an absence in the Yukon for two years. Mr. Fraser, interviewed by our contemporary, speaks highly of the mineral wealth of the district surrounding Dawson City, and believes the region has a bright future. The Cape Nome district, about which so much has been written, Mr. Fraser believes will prove very disappointing to the crowds who have gone there. His reasons for reaching this conclusion are important, in view of the attacks which have been made on the Canadian management of the Yukon in certain quarters. Mr. Fraser says:

"The conditions there are vastly different, as the work has to be done in three months of the year, the climate for the other nine months preventing any attempts at successful mining. Besides it will be a genuine American mining camp where law and order will not be respected as it is in and around Dawson. Why, in the latter place life and property are as safe as in Ottawa, owing to the excellent administration by Commissioner Ogilvie. Everything in connection with the administration is all that can be desired, and every man gets a square deal from Ogilvie."

This is not the evidence of a Livernash or of one of the alien adventurers who accompanied him to Ottawa, to lobby for an anti-Canadian scheme, but the testimony of a loyal Canadian—a successful business man. It is calculated to afford small comfort to those Canadian politicians who have been endeavoring to cause dispeace on the Yukon and to injure its interests in order that they might bring the officials of the Administration into disrepute. It is all the more necessary that it should have wide publicity, though it cannot be assured that the evil done the Dominion, through the dissemination of falsehoods with regard to the management of the country, can ever be overtaken.

Mark It.

SPIRIT IN WHICH SIR CHARLES TUPPER WOULD DEAL WITH THE MOTHER COUNTRY.

[Sir Charles Tupper at Quebec.] "When you are going to negotiate a reciprocity treaty, you must have something in your hand to offer. If you give it away in advance you are powerless. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had given Great Britain a preference in Canada, and he said to the people of Great Britain: 'We give you this as a free gift. We do not want anything in return. You cannot give us anything without adopting the principle of protection, which has been a curse to us in Canada, and will be a curse to you.' Thus the man who was solemnly pledged to secure a preference for us killed the proposal so far as he was able to do so."—Quebec Chronicle, April 2, 1900.

PUSHING ALONG

Busy Day in the Ontario House—Mr. Latchford's Labor Bureau Bill Gets a Second Reading—Many Other Measures Advanced.

Toronto, April 23.—This afternoon's session of the legislature was taken up in advancing and passing of government measures. The premier's motion calling for morning sessions on Wednesday was concurred in, and those bills were read a third time:

To incorporate Ottawa and Dundas Railway; respecting the town of Prescott and Imperial Starch Company; to incorporate the Queenstown, St. Catharines and Port Dalhousie Electric Railway; respecting the Pacific and Atlantic Railway Company.

The Attorney-General moved a number of statute law amendments. One particularly related to the insurance act, and provided that in the case of mutual fire insurance companies the non-payment of any fixed payments subsequent to the first should forfeit or void the policy, if such assessment remained unpaid 30 days after the notification.

This house went into committee on another bill of the attorney-general's to amend the statute law, and after some discussion the committee rose and reported progress.

Mr. Stratton's bill to exempt from the provincial tax that part of a brewer's plant devoted to malting and the fattening of cattle, passed its second reading.

The premier's bill, respecting the supplementary revenues of the province, was also given a second reading.

Mr. Harcourt's bill respecting Upper Canada College; Mr. Stratton's bill, respecting extra provincial corporations, and Mr. Latchford's bill, respecting a bureau of labor, were read a second time.

The premier's bill, relating to the succession duty act, 1900, was withdrawn.

When the house resumed tonight a number of bills advanced a stage in committee.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

On a motion for the house to go into supply, Mr. Duff (West Simcoe), referring to the grant to the Canadian patriotic fund, thought it only the duty of the government to vote some suitable grant toward the aid of the sufferers by famine in India.

The premier received the suggestion with approval.

Mr. Whitney also expressed pleasure that the government took such a favorable view.

Col. Matheson thought the sum appropriated towards the benefit of Canadian soldiers in South Africa should be at least \$25,000. Mr. Whit-

ney, too, favored an increase in the grant.

The house then went into supply. Regarding the item of \$40,000 for exploration in New Ontario, Mr. Matheson asked how it was to be spent. Mr. Ross replied that the government were going to send out ten or twelve different parties headed by provincial land surveyors, and containing scientists. They proposed to explore Ontario from Quebec to Manitoba, to gain full knowledge of its mineral and other resources. The house adjourned at 10 o'clock.

Tax Rate

For 1900 Will Be 24½ Mills on the Dollar.

Many Reductions Were Necessary to Make It Possible.

School Board's Demand for \$17,400 for Repairs Refused.

Hospital Trust Will Have to Manage With \$12,000—Committee's Funds Will Be Limited—Protest From the Real Estate Owners' Association—Sewer Contracts and Pavements.

The tax rate for 1900 is 24½ mills on the dollar. It was so decided at last night's special session of the council. Many reductions were made to allow of this rate. The bylaw fixing it was given its third reading and passed.

The first clause in No. 2 committee's report was a recommendation to have the members of that committee go to Hamilton to investigate the tar macadam roads and the method of sewage disposal in that city. Its reading occasioned the expression of various opinions in regard to this matter, some of the aldermen favoring the cheaper suggested, while others thought that brick or macadam should be laid. The tar macadam could be put down for 78 cents per square yard. The discussion ended in the passage of a motion to leave the matter over until the costs of the different roads is ascertained.

The committee's award of contracts for sewers was confirmed, with the exception of the contract for laying the sewer on York street, between Colborne and Burwell streets. It was awarded to Harding & Leathorn, instead of John Walters, who claimed to have made a mistake of \$100.

A delegation from the Real Estate Owners' Association, consisting of Messrs. Charles Taylor, Wm. D. Buckle, John Christie, George Taylor, Wm. Hayman, John M. Parsons, W. H. Ferguson and others, was present to urge economy in city expenditure. Mr. Mayor George Taylor expressed the fact upon the council, and said that in his opinion a rate of 23 mills would be a serious blow to the city. The aldermen should put their shoulder to the wheel and bring the rate down to 21 or 21½ mill.

Mr. Rumball expressed the opinion that the city was over-policed, a matter into which Mayor Rumball should look; and also that the hospital was a white elephant. Expenses in both departments should be curtailed.

At the commencement of the consideration of No. 2 committee's estimates, Ald. Jolly said that the mayor's action in holding the meeting in the afternoon was, in the speaker's estimation, a slur upon No. 1 committee, and he was informed, in reply, by Mayor Rumball, that he had a perfect right to consult any aldermen he saw fit.

In answer to a statement previously made, Ald. Winnett explained that even if the rate were 24½ mills the taxpayers here would still be paying less than those of Hamilton or Toronto, though the latter's rate was lower. In these places everything was done by frontage tax. As an evidence of his committee's economy, he pointed out that its expenditure for the month past was \$2,967, less than was paid out last year in the same time.

Ald. Winder asked if the chairman of committees were not getting a percentage, and he was scathed by the mayor in reply. It was a disgrace, he said, for any alderman to ask such an insinuating question. He was surprised.

The estimates of the hospital trust were reduced from \$17,000 to \$12,000. Five aldermen supported the motion to grant \$14,000.

The reduction in the board of education's estimates, recommended by No. 1 committee, was \$15,340 for public schools.

Ald. Winnett moved, seconded by Ald. Brener, that \$82,000 be granted for public schools, and that debentures to the amount of \$20,000 be issued for the erection of two new schools in South London and East London, provided that the board strike out \$15,000 of the \$17,400 asked for the repairs. The estimates for the Collegiate Institute and separate schools were to stand. Ald. Winnett read a statement of the increased percentage of expenditure of the city from 1890 to 1899, prepared by Treasurer Pope. It showed that the controllable expenditure had increased only 17 per cent. On the other hand that of the police department had increased 40 per cent; the Collegiate Institute, 150 per cent; public schools, 58.3 per cent; separate schools, 60.8 per cent; and hospital trust, 70 per cent. The average increase of these four boards, over which the council had no control, was 52.2 per cent.

Mayor Rumball left the chair to express his views on the matter. The school board was elected by the people and the council should not attempt to take the risk of the trustees' responsibilities. He thought the plan suggested was the best way out of a very bad hole.

A number of the aldermen criticised the kindergartens and the Collegiate Institute.

Only six members voted for the debenture issue.

No. 1 Committee's recommendation, reducing the estimate for repairs by \$15,340, was adopted.

Auditor Jewell then figured out the rate at 24½ mills on the dollar.

Ald. Winnett moved that the rate be struck at 24½ mills, and the motion carried, only Ald. Stevenson, Winder, Douglass, Dreaney and Jolly voting against it.

Ald. Jolly moved to strike the rate at 23 mills. Lost.

The bylaw fixing the rate at 24½

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Ready-to-Wear Skirts
At 50% off Regular Prices.

32 Only Homespun, in checks and plain patterns black and white checks; Black Crepon; Figured Luster, Plain Black Luster; Black Poplins; Black and Navy Serges; box pleat backs, lined throughout. New up-to-date New York styles. We make the following interesting prices for Wednesday's selling.

5 only, Black Luster and Serge Skirts,

Regular \$3.00, \$3.50, \$3.75 and \$4.00,

On Sale Wednesday, each, \$2.50

9 only, Black Luster, Black and Navy Serge, Figured Luster,

Regular value, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00 and \$5.50,

On Sale Wednesday, each, \$3.00

7 only, Skirts, Black Luster, Black Serge, Checked and Plain Homespuns,

Regular value, \$5.00, \$5.75 and \$6.50,

On Sale Wednesday, each, \$3.7

11 only, Skirts, Plain and Check Homespuns, Black Crepon, Black Luster, and 1 only, Golf Skirt,

Regular value, \$6.00, \$6.50 and \$8.00,

On Sale Wednesday, each, \$4.50

These Skirts came our way at a great sacrifice, and are 41, 42 and 43 inches long. Ready for sale at 8 o'clock Wednesday.

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There are a dozen chainless Nationals, many 30-inch Nationals, scores of chain-driven Nationals—at a price from \$30 up.

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The Locally-Guaranteed Scotsman Wheel is made out of the best that is to be had. Not a bit of useless expenditure is put into it.

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The Canadian Monarch (locally guaranteed) has the chainless model, adjustable from the outside.

Monarchs, \$40, \$50, \$70

That means you can always keep your gears clean and yet adjust them quickly and easily.

Ride a Monarch and keep in front.

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Scientific work, first-class at
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ECZEMA ON HANDS

So Bad that Water Would Ooze Out and Drop on the Floor. Hands Full of Water Blisters. Doctor Could Not Relieve. First Application of CUTICURA Stopped Itching and Induced Sleep. Cured in One Month.

I had eczema on my hands so bad that when I shut them, the matter would ooze out and drop on the floor. My hands were full of water blisters of a white color. I was under the care of a doctor for about a month, but he did me no good. I was advised to try CUTICURA ointment, and did so, and it was wonderful what effect they had. The first application stopped that dreadful itching. I slept at once, was cured in four weeks. March 21, '98. M. A. COSGROVE, Emerald, N. D.

BABY'S FACE MASS OF SORES

When my little sister was four months old her cheeks became red and inflamed. Small pimples broke out over her face and it was one mass of sores, which almost closed her eyes and reached into the corners of her mouth. For several weeks a physician attended her, but also derived little or no benefit from his treatment. We bought a box of CUTICURA ointment, and applied it to her face and neck, thus completing the cure. She is now healthy again. ROSA BURGER, Solomon, Kan.

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CUTICURA TREATMENT begins with the blood and ends with the skin, scalp, and hair. That is to say, CUTICURA is a purifier, the new blood and skin purifier and greatest of humors cures, purifies the blood and circulating fluids of human system, and thus removes the cause, while warm baths with CUTICURA Soap and gentle soaps with CUTICURA ointment, cures of eczema, skin eruptions, itching, burning, and inflammation, and all skin diseases, thus completing the cure.

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