

London Advertiser

Published by
THE LONDON ADVERTISER CO.
LIMITED,
London, Ont.

MORNING. TELEPHONE 3670
EVENING. 3670

Private Branch Exchange,
From 10:30 p.m. to 9 a.m., and
holidays, call 3670, Business De-
partment; 3671, Editors; 3672,
Reporters; 3673, Composing Room.
Circulation Department, 3670.

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Toronto Office—F. W. Thomp-
son, 100 King Street West, Room
20.

U. S. Representatives—New York:
Charles H. Eddy Company, Fifth
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H. Eddy Company, People's Gas
Building, Boston; Charles H. Eddy
Company, Old South Building.

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City—Delivered.
15 cents per week, \$3.90 for six
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By Mail—Outside City.
\$5.00 per year, \$2.75 for six months,
or 50 cents per month for short
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To the United States, \$6.00 per
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Foreign subscriptions, \$13.50 per
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ADVERTISERS, NOTE.

Circulation audited by A. B. C.
Report furnished advertisers on
request.

London, Ont., Saturday, Jan. 15.

START IT AT ONCE.

A decision to proceed at once with
the building of an office structure
to house city departments, on lines
similar to the Public Utilities Build-
ing, will, we believe, receive the
general approval of citizens. It is
not an abandoning of the Federal
Square plan, because the Federal
Square needs artistic buildings on
all sides of it to be worth anything
architecturally itself. The Public
Utilities Commission have a home
that is simple in its lines and ef-
ficient in its planning. A continua-
tion of those same general lines on
the site of the present city hall will
produce a building that will add to
the general good effect, and that will
meet immediately pressing needs.

Continuing to use the old ram-
shackle affair that for some years
past has done duty as a city hall
would be poor business. The effect
of the old place upon people from
outside who have business with city
departments must be to our detri-
ment, but is there not a sense in
which the building has lowered in
every citizen's mind his estimate of
the importance of his city govern-
ment? How could civic dignity be
maintained in a place that no re-
putable business house in London
would occupy for a month? It was
an impossibility, and the sooner
London gets rid of its present city
hall the better.

There are other civic buildings
to go up in the next few years that
should have a place on the Federal
Square, and that would, with the
present Utilities Building and the
new City Offices, make a harmoni-
ous group. A memorial hall has
been felt a necessity for some time
past, and a new Public Library,
when it is built, should assuredly go
on the Federal Square. An art gal-
lery must come in London sooner
or later, and it, too, should have a
place there. The result would be a
group of public buildings that would
represent the larger life of the city
along business, social, educational
and artistic lines.

A SUPPRESSED BOOK.

An article in the Manchester
Guardian gives the gist of the third
yet unpublished volume of Bis-
marck's autobiography. It tells the
story of his quarrel with the late
kaiser, his dismissal by him, and an
inclusive estimate of Wilhelm's char-
acter.

Bismarck is well known to have
been tricky and none too strict an
observer of truth. Annoyed by the
new kaiser's arrogance and preten-
sions during the first two years of
his reign (1888-1890), Bismarck
goaded and tricked him into an
anti-Russian attitude, though he
himself believed firmly in a pro-
Russian policy and had followed it
steadfastly for 30 years, just so that
he might make a fool of Wilhelm,
check and be checked by him. For
he saw that sooner or later he and
the emperor must part, and he was
resolved not to resign but to be dis-
missed.

One subject on which the young
emperor and the old chancellor
could not agree was labor legisla-
tion. Here the kaiser showed to
better advantage, Bismarck think-
ing that the workmen should be
kept down and opposing fixed hours
on the ground that if a man wanted
to work he should not be compelled
to rest. Perhaps some of the
kaiser's friends who prevented the
publication of the volume thought
that Wilhelm showed up poorly in
this respect also! But there can be
no question of Bismarck's good
sense, from the German viewpoint,
in seeking to block the kaiser's in-
tention of subjecting more thor-
oughly all the other princes of Ger-

many to his paramount control, and
in opposing any steps that might
lead to a breach with Russia. That
breach, when it came in 1914,
spelled the overthrow of Hohen-
zollern, and both in Germany and
in Russia of that military auto-
cracy which Bismarck had spent his
life in building up.

Very amusing is Bismarck's
analysis of Wilhelm's character. He
makes him out to inherit all the
weaknesses of his various ancestors
and none of their virtues. He had
Frederick I's love of pomp and
splendor, Frederick William I's
weakness for tall soldiers, Frederick
William IV's romantic sentiment,
Frederick the Great's excessive am-
bition, and Frederick III's excessive
vanity. "The Kaiser's grandfather,"
says Bismarck, "Wilhelm I. had a
really fine character—the only
ancestor from whom Wilhelm II.
does not seem to have inherited
anything."

This analysis may have been the
cause why the ex-kaiser joined his
friends in vetoing the publication of
Bismarck's final volume. The wood-
cut of Amerongen would call it
blasphemy, as bad as Fitzgerald or
Samuel Butler criticizing God. The
main reason why Wilhelm is so de-
voted to his Bible is that he feels
that he and it are two infallibles,
his own greatness and perfection
sanctioned by it.

Bismarck closed his forbidden
volume with a prophetic warning in
regard to the anti-Russian trend of
Wilhelm II's policy. His almost
uncanny political instinct had pre-
vision of the shipwreck of imperi-
alism, militarism and oligarchy that
must come, over all central and
eastern Europe, if German and Rus-
sian czarism did not hold together.
"I see dangers arising from these
circumstances, dangers not only to
Germany but to all Europe—the
later the catastrophe comes the
more terrible it will be." Bismarck
felt Bolshevism loom up as the out-
come of a clash between Potsdam
and Petrograd. He had once "gns-
to Canossa," almost, rather than let
red socialism get a start, preferring
even to join with the Catholic Cen-
tre rather than give anarchy an
inch. But in war with Russia he
forewent dimly the work of Lenin.

TORONTO BENEFITS.

One thing that has been clearly
revealed by the hearings of the On-
tario Commission investigating uni-
versity finances is that the city of
Toronto is getting a tremendous
benefit along all lines from the
University of Toronto, and that it is
paying nothing for those benefits.
The cost is falling largely upon the
rest of the province. Recently the
statement was sent broadcast that
Toronto as a city was doing a big
thing for the university when it re-
mitted all taxation on the university
property. When it is pointed out that
the city cannot tax the university,
even if it wanted to do so the ab-
surdity of such a claim is manifest.
The city of London remits taxation
on Western University in just the
same way, but it goes further, last
year contributing \$55,000 to the an-
nual upkeep. Toronto's actual cash
contribution to its university did
not amount to one five-cent piece.

NO FROZEN FLOWERS HERE!

In his recent inaugural address,
Albert C. Burrage, newly-elected
president of the Massachusetts
State Horticultural Society, expati-
ated upon the rich and varied flora
of the vast commonwealth extending
from tropical Mexico to "frozen
Canada." This playful description of
the Dominion expresses a notion
that a lot of otherwise enlightened
Americans still entertain, but a Bos-
tonian is near enough to know bet-
ter, and doubtless does. Those present
at the meeting in question did not
labor under any such delusion, for
they had the presence of no less an
enthusiast upon horticulture in
Canada than Dr. Frank E. Bennett,
president of the St. Thomas (Ont.)
Society, who has made the "Railway
City" famous through its improve-
ment in floriculture. He gave an ad-
dress indicating how the St. Thomas
society has accomplished its most
praiseworthy work. Occasional visits
to our splendid floral shows and hor-
ticultural exhibitions ought to sat-
isfy people across the line that Can-
ada enjoys a glorious climate and a
luxuriant profusion of the "flowers
that bloom in the spring, tra la!"

EDITORIAL NOTES.

This American balloonists' con-
troversy seems to be a case of
much ado about nothing.

A correspondent suggests that if
local gunmen can in some way be
made to carry a "bottle" their cap-
ture would quickly follow.

The Government will have to
steer a varied course if it is going
to guide its candidate to victory
through the present crowded field in
West Peterboro.

The opening of the Quebec Legisla-
ture this week is marked by the
absence from the premier's chair of
Sir Lomer Gouin, who for so long
has been the leader of government
in that province.

OTHERS' VIEWS

WARNING UP.

[Brandon Expedition.]

There are three by-elections, for the
House of Commons now pending, name-
ly, West Peterboro, Ont.; Yamaska, P.
Q. and York, N. B. The Melghen Gov-
ernment feels confident of carrying
West Peterboro and York, but in Y.
maska it has not even a fighting
chance. However, all three contests
will serve to heat up the political
sphere prior to the meeting of the Do-
minion Parliament.

STILL UNTAMED.

[Charleston News-Courier.]

Most of the lingo in the world to-
day seem to be living in Japan and the
United States. Perhaps the reason is
that these two countries did not get as
large a dose of war's misery as some
of the others.

STRUCK BY GOING TO WORK.

[London Morning Post.]

The lamps in a certain Bavarian
town have not been lit for a whole
year now, to save coal. The lamp-
lighters, however, have been kept
at their old wage. But, following the
fashion, they struck the other day
as to the way the money was to be
paid. They struck work when they
had no work to do being pointed out
to them that the council had re-
solved to begin lighting the
lamps. That would cost money, they
argued.

A PARALLEL CASE.

[Portland Press.]

How do you think Americans
would feel if a self-appointed com-
mission of Englishmen should take
it upon themselves to secure evi-
dence as to the way the money was to
be paid in the south? That is
exactly what a commission composed
of Americans is doing with relation to
England's treatment of the Irish.

NOR ADVERTISING.

[Dallas News.]

So little is heard of Belgium these
days it may signify that the Bel-
gians have no political geniuses who
have found a better way to restore
prosperity than by working.

MESOPOTAMIA.

[Manchester Guardian.]

Mesopotamia is now well embarked on
the second stage of its history under
British supervision. We began by being
a little forgetful both of our mission
and of our resources, fitting Mesopo-
tamia out with so much of a British
administration and garrison that eventu-
ally it broke into revolt, just to remind
us so we took the moral—that the
Arabs had claims of their own which
it would be both just and more cheap
to recognize. Sir Percy Cox's report,
now published, announces the steps
which have followed on our recognition.
A council of native ministers, advised
by British officials, is at work, and local
native forces are being formed for the
purpose of maintaining order and pro-
tecting the frontiers, while a commis-
sion of inquiry, which includes British
chiefs, is traveling in the areas which
were recently disturbed. Conciliation
and a fair chance for the native inhabi-
tants are the word, and a very sound
word, too, considering our duties and
our needs.

THE CHILD PHENOMENON.

[New York Herald.]

How can we explain the extraordinary
ability of the eight-year-old chess
player? Is it an instinct and does he
perform in the same mechanical way
that a spider does when it weaves a web,
or as a little insect does when it sets a
trap for an unsuspecting enemy? Surely
the child hasn't acquired his ability
through some experience. Can he be
an inexperience conquer experience?
Wherein lies the source of his gift? Is
it generated by the brain, and are we
to seek an answer in the construction
and grouping of the brain cells actu-
ated by the blood supply? Or does he
possess a "soul" or "ego" or "psyche"
superior to yours or mine that gives him
such extraordinary perception? Does he
know anything but chess? Is he gen-
erally intelligent or is he ordinary in
most respects? The theosophists will tell
us that it is a case of reincarnation;
the spirits tell us that the child is
a medium controlled by Zippo of the
planet Mars; but what has the student
of mental phenomena to say?

BRACE UP!

[Guelph Herald.]

Only a pessimist of the first water
imagines that the present industrial
depression is anything but temporary. A
hailing time had to come in order to
permit of stock-taking and readjust-
ment. It is taking place now. What,
however, is recollected that the build-
ing trade of this continent is estimated
to be five years behind the demand, that
one million and a half homes are said to
be required for the present accommoda-
tion of the people, it can be seen that
only unreasonable costs and the neces-
sary readjustment are delaying the
onward march to prosperity and activity
of at least the essential industries.

THE INCOMPLETE GHOST.

[Manchester Guardian.]

This has been an ill season for the
traditions. To a green Christmas suc-
ceeds a commonplace ghost. Its ap-
pearance is reported from Essex, and
as drawn by the news paragraph with
a grave simplicity that is worthy of a
better subject, "it was a strange
man wearing only a shirt,
trousers and braces." Let there be no
mistake—we do not mean the inadequacy
of the costume. It suffices for decency;
but where is that larger
investiture of awe? There is, or used to
be, a propriety in these affairs. By
such conventions the absence of a head
is less shocking than the presence of
short sleeves; chains are more accept-
able than braces that buttoned (pre-
sumably) fore and aft on the pendent
partners of their shame. Can it be that
modern "research" has broken too
thoroughly upon the privacy that once
protected the ghostly world? It has ac-
customed some of us to the notion of
whiskies and sodas, hot baths and motor
cars that are futuristic in the strictest
sense. Marie Bashkirtseff, observed
Gladiators on reading the famous diary,
appeared to take God very much as she
took her grandfather—decidedly on equal
Some modern inquirers have approached
the other world in the same spirit—it
is possible that the other world is re-
turning the compliment? However
great the provocation, such a reprisal
is to be regretted. We are all for a
little art in these appearances; better
a mere scullion with his head under
his arm and a dagger between his ribs
than Sir Hubert in carpet slippers and
a calash. As for the Essex appari-
tion, he sounds more like the arrival
of a belated plumber summoned at the
last front. However, he seems to have
served one purpose, for on the strength
of his visitation the bench granted an
order for possession of a different
house to the tenant who had complained
of the ghost's appearance. It serves him
right. A wraith of that kind deserves
to be laid by a rent restriction act.

RADICALS SUPPRESS RADICALS.

[New York Times.]

At the recent conference of the Labor
party in London an attempt was made
to capture the meeting. A man who de-
clared that he represented 250,000 un-
employed workmen rushed to the
platform to offer a motion and to make
a speech. The chairman at once or-
dered him to sit down, and that great
champion of free speech, Mr. Arthur
Henderson, "put his arms round him
and pushed him back into his seat."
The intruder retired to the gallery,
whence he shouted at the conference
adjoining: "You are nothing but a
crowd of lazy fakirs!"
This is one more proof how hard it is
for extremists to put up with extrem-
ists. They rage at being held within
limits unbecoming, but turn into vigor-
ous suppressors as soon as men more
violent than they seek to usurp their
power.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CANADA?

ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S QUESTIONS.

1—Manitoba's assessment is \$554,219,358.

2—The Nakim Cove are near Glacier
and claimed by scientists to be 38,
400 years old.

3—Stowell Brown, self-named "gen-
eral," was one of the rebel leaders
in Lower Canada in the rebellion of
1837. He was an American.

4—Ontario has a greater number of
public libraries in proportion to its
population than any other province
or state in the world. More than
6,000,000 books were borrowed in
1919.

5—Notre Dame Cathedral is in Mont-
real.

6—At the time of confederation Can-
ada had 22,053 miles of railway.

7—The Royal Canadian 100th regiment
in the Crimean war was recruited
in Canada and was one of the most
effective regiments of the British
regular army.

8—The Canadian Presbyterian Church
has 4,653 congregations.

9—Fredericton was given its name by
Governor Carleton when it became
New Brunswick's capital city. It
was so named after the bishop of
the day.

10—Sir John Thompson was the Cana-
dian premier who died at Windsor
while visiting Queen Victoria, De-
cember, 1894.

TODAY'S QUESTIONS.

1—What was Lake Agassiz?

2—Where is Montreal Lake?

3—Who was first Bishop of Toronto?

4—Name the canals along the route
of the Great Lakes and the St.
Lawrence between Montreal and
Fort William.

5—What is the name of the plateau
upon which Quebec is built?

6—Which religious denomination has
the largest proportion of Canada's
population?

7—When was the first imperial confer-
ence?

8—Why is Lake Huron so named?

9—Who chose the site of Fredericton?

10—Has Canada or Australia the larger
national debt?

EVERYTHING

LEAVE IT TO THE BRIDE.

[Toronto Star.]

Some outsider threw a bomb which
shattered every window in the home of
a newly-wedded couple at Guelph, a
highly irregular proceeding. The usual
custom is, we believe, to leave it to
the bride. When, with the wailing of
the honeymoon it appears that hubby needs
a good blowing up, the bride, who only
a few weeks ago, or maybe months be-
fore, looked as if she wouldn't be so
crude as to even blow up a soap bubble,
is generally not only ready, but also
quite able to give it to him.

THE VALLEY MISTS ARE CURLING.

[George Meredith.]

Now from the meadow floods the wild
duck clamors,
Now the wood pigeon wings a rapid
flight,
Now the homeward rookery follows up
its vanguard,
And the valley mists are curling up the
hills.

Three short songs gives the clear-voiced
throats,
Sweetening the twilight ere he fills the
nest;
While the little bird on the leafless
boughs
Tweets to its mate a tiny loving note.
Deeper the stillness hangs on every
motion;
Calmer the silence follows every call;
Now all is quiet save the roosting
pheasant.
The bee-widow's tinkle and the watch-
dog's bark.

ROYAL MARRIAGE TALK.

[Philadelphia Public Ledger.]

The arrival in London of the King

and Queen of Denmark, accompanied by
Prince Waldemar, the king's uncle, and
his daughter, the Princess Margaret of
Denmark, started gossip that this visit
might be preparatory to a marriage
between the young princess and the
Prince of Wales. The busybodies for-
got or perhaps did not know, that to
such an alliance there exists an almost
insurmountable obstacle, namely a re-
ligious one. Princess Margaret is the
only member of the Danish royal family
who professes the Roman Catholic
faith, and, according to the reports of
those who know her well, she is a very
devout Catholic.

Few people are aware of the circum-
stances attending the marriage of her
parents. When Prince Waldemar won
for his wife, the talented and most
charming Princess Marie of Orleans,
one of the conditions upon which the
latter's parents, the Duke and Duchess
of Chartres, insisted was that in the
case she had children the girls would
be brought up in their mother's faith,
while the boys would be reared as
Protestants. At the time this caused
much talk, and both the Danish re-
ligious authorities and the Roman Catho-
lics to this arrangement, which, neverthe-
less, was carried through, thanks to
the diplomacy of old Queen Louise of
Denmark. The first three born were
boys, so it seemed as if the Danish
dynasty would be spared the scandal,
for such it was considered by some per-
sons of seeing one of its members
christened in another faith than its
own; and then the Princess Margaret
was born and privately baptized, when
she was three months old, in the chapel
of the Castle of St. Firmin, near Chan-
zon, the residence of her grandparents,
the Duke and Duchess of Chartres. But
considering all these circumstances, it is
impossible that the English royal
family would ever contemplate the
thought of marrying the future King of
Denmark to a princess who would not
be willing to change her religion, and,
indeed, this would not be possible in
view of the act of parliament forbidding
a sovereign from wedding a girl pro-
fessing another faith than the Protest-
ant one.

THE DIFFICULTIES.

"How is the shooting in this region?"

Inquired a motorist who had halted his
car in the big road.

"Only just tolerable," replied Gap
Johnson of Rumpus Ridge, Arkansas.

"Old Ding Slapitt and old Ranzy Reip,
are still keepin' up their feud, but

they've grown so richly that any one
of 'em can hit a flock of barns. The
revenue officers are middlin' active and
the moonshiners are on the dodge, so
the shootin' on both sides don't amount
to much. The fellers that drink the in-
fernal stuff are seen' double till they're
as lible to shoot at the one that hasn't
there as the one that is. Since the
ladies have took the ballot they are
shootin' at their husbands about like
they've always done, but with no better
aim. And the cuss that takes a shot at
me from the brush now and aftn', for
auther or nuther hain't been able to
chime out what-hain't hit me yet.
Th-vakt! The shootin' yarbouts hain't
nothin' to g'tij-brag of, podner."

A SONG OF THE HOMELAND.

[F. O. Call.]

I'll sing you a song of the Homeland,
Though the strains be of little worth,
A song of our own loved Homeland,
Of the noblest land upon earth:
Where the tide of the sea from oceans
three
Beats high in its triple might,
Where the wild are born in a south-
ern morn
And die in the polar night.

I'll sing you a song of the Eastland,
Of the land where our fathers died,
Where Saxon and Frank, their feuds
long dead,
Are sleeping side by side;
Where their sons still toll on the
hard-won soil
Of the mighty river plain,
Where the censer awings and the
Angelus rings,
And the old faith lives again.

I'll sing you a song of the Westland,
Where the magic cities rise,
And the prairies clothed in their golden
grain
Stretch under the azure skies;
Where the mountains grin in the
clouds grow dim
Far north, in the Arctic land,
And the northern light in its mystic
flight
Flares over the golden strand.

And I'll sing of the men of the Home-
land,
From the North, and the East and
the West,
The men who went to the Homeland's
call.
(Ah, God, we have given our best,
But not in vain are heroes slain
If under the darkened skies
All hand, in hand from strait to strand
A sin-gu-lar nation rise.

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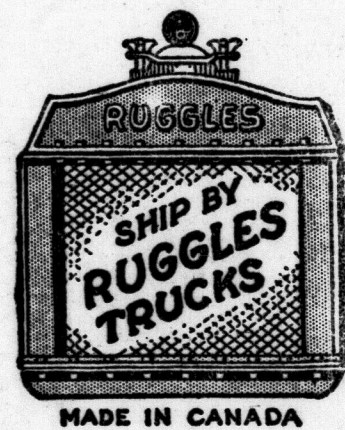
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