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quested to favor the management by
reporting any irregularities in deliv-
ery. Communicate with the Circu-
lation Department or 'phone 107.LONDON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15,
SPRING WATER ONLY.Mayor Stevely is sound in his con-
fession that Londoners of today will
have nothing but spring water. One
point upon which exact information
should be furnished, is the cost of fil-
tration. The Toronto Globe said yester-
day:"Mayor Oliver, who, with City
Engineer Rust, has returned from
Philadelphia, after having looked in-
to the water filtration system there,
is not at all enthusiastic on the propo-
sition to establish a filtration plant
in Toronto. The mayor said yester-
day that he never was enthusiastic
on the matter, but after having
found out the great expense en-
tailed in the filtration of water, he
is still less favorably disposed to-
wards it. The Philadelphia plant
has cost \$9,000,000, and is not yet
completed. The actual filtering cost
\$4 per million gallons, in addition to
the expense of the plant. His worship
said it would cost Toronto \$120 a
day to filter its water, in addition
to about \$2,000,000 for a filtration
plant."The greater the quantity of water
filtered, the smaller the cost of filtra-
tion per million gallons. The cost in
London would probably be much more
per million gallons than in Toronto,
if the best filtration system were in-
stalled. Even Mr. Maury, in his report,
advocated taking in the north branch
springs, an admission of the superi-
ority of spring water. The wide area
over which the springs comprised in
the Komoka scheme were scattered,
offered engineering and hydraulic diffi-
culties, but there are springs within
a convenient distance, not spread over
too much territory, which should be
impounded before having recourse to
the river or the lake. The mayor is
of this opinion. If the waterworks
board frames a policy on these lines
it will be certain of public approval.
London's spring water is a precious
asset, and those who appreciate it most
are those who have had to drink
filtered water elsewhere.The mayor is also well-advised in
favoring the extension of the use of
meters. He would install them gradu-
ally in all premises having sanitary
conveniences, which would effect a
saving of at least half a million gal-
lons of water daily, and the cost of
pumping the same. Attempts have
been made to create a prejudice
against the meter system. The con-
sumer is told that he will be stinted
in his use of water, and will pay a
higher rate. On the contrary, the
rates would be so regulated that the
careful consumer would pay less than
he is charged under the present plan,
under which there is no check on
waste. Citizens now pay in increased
water rates the cost of pumping hun-
dreds of thousands of gallons daily,
which go to waste. The water thus
wasted, when saved by the meters,
could be sold at a profit. Meters have
meant cheaper water wherever they
have been installed. Their use is
rapidly growing in the cities and
towns of the United States and Can-
ada, and the experience has been so
favorable that no community has
abandoned them after a trial.

CANADA'S BALANCE OF TRADE.

During the budget debate in the
House of Commons Opposition speak-
ers have made much ado about the
recent excess of imports over exports.
Mr. Schell, the able member for South
Oxford, discomfited these critics by
showing that during the eighteen
years of Conservative rule—from 1878
to 1896—our total imports amounted
to \$2,044,807,768, and our total exports
to \$1,682,592,467, an excess of imports
over exports of \$362,215,301, or an
average of \$20,123,000 per year, while
during the eleven years under the
present tariff the total imports have
been \$2,295,947,569, and the total ex-
ports \$2,185,374,146, or an excess of
imports of \$110,573,423, or \$11,552,000
a year. In other words, the balance
of trade against the Dominion during
the latter period has been only one-
third of what it was during the for-
mer period, although the trade of the
country has been infinitely larger.
Moreover, during the past eleven
years Canada's exports were \$482,-
981,673 greater than in the preceding
eighteen years.There are compensating assets
which more than counter-balance the
excess. For instance, among the im-
ports are found \$54,000,000 worth of
settlers' effects, which wipes out about
one-third of the amount. Then it is
estimated that the settlers who have
come over from the United States
during the last eleven years have
brought in cash \$80,000,000. These are
admitted to be settlers of the best
class, men who have sold their farms
at good prices and have brought their
money with them to invest in land of
the Canadian West. That \$80,000,000
wipes out the balance of the excess ofimports over exports. Mr. Schell
estimates that the 470,000 odd immi-
grants who have come to the Domini-
on from Great Britain have brought
with them \$40,000,000 or \$50,000,000.
It is calculated that the great railroad
corporations have brought in at least
\$180,000,000 to invest and put into cir-
culation through expenditure on con-
struction work and raw material,
which accounts in a large measure
for the great amount of imports
shown in the trade returns of the last
year or two. In addition to that there
is reason to believe that the increase
of population during the last eleven
years amounts to 1,500,000. It has
been the experience of all fast grow-
ing countries, while population is in-
creasing and development is proceed-
ing at a rapid pace, that imports are,
of necessity, greater than exports. In
view of the rapid progress that is
taking place, of the increased flow of
capital to this country, of the immi-
grants coming to our shores, Mr.
Schell and the Government which he
supports are justified in claiming
that the excess of imports is by no
means an unfavorable balance. It
represents the material for the growth
of the country.

BRITISH FINANCES.

British finances are in a sound con-
dition. For the financial year, which
ended on March 31, the receipts were
£156,537,690, or £4,725,598 in excess
of the expenditures. Instead of an
estimated decrease of £2,000,000 in the
yield of the income tax, it increased
£1,500,000. The expenditure was £1,-
250,000 less than expected. In the
past three years there has been a re-
duction of £13,500,000 in the public
debt. The details of the receipts for
the past year are as follows:Customs £ 32,480,000
Excise 35,720,000
Estate, etc., duties 19,070,000
Stamps 7,070,000
Land tax 730,000
Property and income tax 32,380,000
Postoffice 17,830,000
Telegraph service 4,420,000
Crown lands 529,000
Receipts from Suez Canal
shares and sundry loans 1,189,412
Miscellaneous 2,908,978
Total £156,537,690The custom taxation falls mainly
upon two items, liquor and tobacco.
It was one of Gladstone's axioms that
customs duties, if they were neces-
sary, should be levied upon only a
very few commodities. This principle
has always governed British fiscal
policy since his famous first budget.
The Unionists, having embraced pro-
tection, will probably reverse it when
they next attain to power.It is estimated that 47 per cent of
the revenue is a direct tax upon
wealthy in the form of estate duties,
income tax, stamps and the land and
house tax, while the upper and middle
classes also pay their share of the
customs and excise duties. The wid-
ening of the basis of taxation, by
numerous customs imposts, would
take more out of the pockets of the
poorer classes.To think that the once peerless
Radical, John Morley, would be tamely
caged in the House of Peers!And still Mr. Beck and his organ
fail to explain why a Toronto elector
is given two votes and a London elec-
tor one.Why should this generation of Lon-
doners drink filtered river water be-
cause another generation may be
compelled to? Sufficient unto the
day, etc.The agitation against immigration
suggests the query, Has Canada's
wonderful progress of the past ten
years not been mainly due to the in-
flux of immigrants?The politicians of Denmark have
given every woman over 25 years of
age a vote. Sly dogs! What woman
is going to voluntarily confess she is
over 25 years of age?A contemporary solemnly declares
that Sir Mortimer Clark "congratu-
lates the Whitney Government" upon
its efforts in the people's behalf. Was
Sir Mortimer guilty of the constitu-
tional heresy of composing his own
speech at prorogation?

HIS WAY.

[Halpern's Weekly.]
First Broker—I hear it's been touch
and go with poor old Carter.
Second, Ditto—Yes, he touched me for
a dollar this morning, and went.

NOT A CHANCE.

[Tit-Bits.]
Doctor—Your wife is very ill, sir, and
likely to die.
Husband—You needn't worry about her,
doctor. She got a new dress the other
day, and she hasn't tried it on yet.

AN HISTORIC EXAMPLE.

[Toronto Star.]

Some surprise is expressed that an
archbishop should resign and retire into
a monastery. And yet an emperor, the
greatest of his time, Charles V., did it,
and history notes it quite unfringed.

SIR MORTIMER.

[Toronto Saturday Night.]

As the term for which Sir Mortimer
Clark holds his appointment as Lieuten-
ant-Governor of Ontario draws to a close,
many are the conjectures and prophecies
as to who will reign in his stead at Gov-
ernment House. Over certain tea tables
hot favorites are named from Toronto,
Hamilton and the capital. The very latest
is a cabinet minister, formerly a resi-
dent of Toronto. There are some who
foretell an extended term for Sir Morti-
mer Clark; in fact, what no one can pos-
sibly know anything about it what every-
one has the strongest opinion upon. Whilethey vacate or continue to occupy
Government House, there is but one opin-
ion as to the conscientious, cordial and
delightful way in which Sir Mortimer
Clark and his family have upheld the dig-
nity and dispensed the hospitalities of the
big house on Simcoe street. That their
successors may equal them in this re-
spect is all one could wish.

MAPLE SUGAR MAGIS.

[New York Sun.]
Now the farmer taps his maple,
And cunningly he smiles,
Then sets a shiny pail of tin
Beneath the dripping spout.
Each morning with his ancient yoke—
And sometimes twice a day—
He pours the nectar from the pails,
And lugs it all away.Upon the farmhouse kitchen stove
A spacious kettle boils.
To keep the pot quite full of sap
The patient housewife toils.
She tests the liquid with a spoon
Till it hardens where it's cold,
Then pours the succulent syrupout
In many a little mold.
When the sugar season's over,
And sap has ceased to drip,
The farmer sends the little cakes
Upon a city trip.
Although the sugar Nature gave
Was but a hundredweight,
The alchemist of the farm has stretch'd
The total up to eight.

COCAINE VICTIMS.

[Ottawa Journal.]
It is stated that a number of young
men of London, Ont., who indulge in the
cocaine habit, being unable to procure the
drug at London, are being supplied by
accommodating druggists at St. Thomas.
The Provincial Government having been
communicated with by friends of the
young men, prosecutions are to be laid
against the vendors. The heaviest fines
the law allows should be inflicted.

WHEN CISSIE SWIMS.

[Punch.]
When Cissie swims, by strict command,
She doesn't venture far from land.
But shows her skill where all may view
Beyond the waves a yard or two;
And, oh, her trudgeon stroke is grand.
Up swings her gleaming arm and hand,
One snowy white, the other tanned,
And water-wings are quite taboo
When Cissie swims.Her course no current can withstand,
Yet, all the time, she keeps her hand
While now and then above the blue
A little foot appears, and who
Would guess the other's on the sand
When Cissie swims?

CIVILIZATION.

[Boston Herald.]
A commotion was caused in the Boul-
vard Haussmann the other day when one
of the best known women in Paris got
out of an elegant motor car leading by a
silver chain a tiny poodle dressed in the
height of fashion. The dog was wearing
a pigskin collar adorned with gold coins,
and a little fur coat with a sash pocket
from which peeped a small lace handker-
chief, while its little feet were protected
from the damp by india-rubber shoes. In
the poodle's ears were two pairs of dia-
mond earrings, one pair in each ear, the
ears being pierced at the base and at the
tip. The feelings of this dainty pet were
doubtfully repressed. He appeared abso-
lutely indifferent to the excited glances
bestowed upon him and his mistress.

HOW HURON LOOKS.

[Goderich Signal.]
The gerrymander of Huron County re-
ported from Toronto this week is nothing
short of an outrage upon the people of
this county. A dishonest attempt is be-
ing made by the Conservative party to
frustrate the will of the electors of Huron
by so dividing the county as to secure a
majority of seats from a minority of the
votes, and to carry out this design the
principles that should govern in the mak-
ing of constituencies have been violated in
the most barefaced manner.
The shape of the new North Huron re-
minds one of those Dachshund dogs, half
a dog and a pig, and a half long.
South Huron resembles a top boot.
Center Huron doesn't look like anything
at all on earth.

LORD CRQMER.

[M. A. P.]
Lord Cromer's great book on Egypt has
been much praised by the critics not only
for the substance, but for the admirable
literary form in which it is presented.
As a matter of fact, however, he has al-
ways known how to write, and he has
shown in his masterly annual reports. It
is not generally known that, although he
never went to a university, and had the
severely practical education of an army
officer, Lord Cromer is an ardent
devotee of the muse. Some years ago he
published a volume of poems in the form
of the Greek, which was "cut up" by the
critics. Here may be quoted the witty
epigram that was circulated at a fare-
well dinner given to him in India, when
he was Major Evelyn Baring, and was
going to Egypt:"The Egyptians some patience have
shown.
But how our Evelyn Baring is such,
They will live to own and sing.
There is evil in bearing too much!"Lord Cromer is a great reader. He
knows the Bible practically by heart, and
does not disdain good modern fiction,
though he has been known to take a
modern novel of the wrong sort with the
tongs and place it firmly on the fire.

LAURIER'S SALARY.

[Stratford Beacon.]
We cannot help wondering if the ser-
vices of the chairman of the railway com-
mission are of greater value to the coun-
try than those of the Premier. He does
not get \$15,000 for guiding the ship of
state through all the intricate windings
of his tortuous course. Magnates of the
commercial world may get such salaries,
but the Premier of our Dominion, the most
conspicuous figure in our country, has to
take a second place when the question of
salary is considered. It is humiliating to
Canada, and should be remedied.

BRITAIN'S SUNDAY.

[Montreal Star.]
Mr. W. T. Stead contributes an article
to the International Review on "Sunday
Observance in England," in which he
points out in his vivid way what a boon
the Sabbath of Rest is to the work-
ing man. "Whatever may be said about the
English Sunday," he says, "it has for
centuries succeeded in securing for man-
kind in the United Kingdom this day of
rest, religion and festival." After giving
instances that the people of the continent
are endeavoring to secure "by belated
legislation" some of the advantages of the
Sabbath rest, he concludes: "The secular
mind of the continent is slowly waking up
to the fact that the English Sunday has
been a Magna Charta of Labor, securing
to the overworked toilers an inalienable
right to at least 24 hours of the week for
existence. Six days shall toil labor and
do all thy work. But your Sunday is
your own. It is a day when the slave
of the laws of the King of the West Saxons
is solemnly enacted that a self who
was compelled to work on Sunday became
there and then a free man. Sunday was
the slave's free day, and so great was
the magic of its spell that his lord could
only work him on that day on penalty of
losing his slave."

EXHIBITION DAYS FOR NEW

Homefurnishings

Our store is the most interesting place in London at this season for those interested in making their homes cosy,
attractive and comfortable. The new styles in Floor Coverings, Wall Coverings and Draperies, which are being received
every day, combined with the special prices at which these goods are being offered as an inducement to early buyers, are
an irresistible attraction.Heavy Inlaid Lino-
leums, 68c YardFloral, tile and block patterns, in heavy quality Inlaid
Linoleum, suitable for dining-room, kitchen, hall or vesti-
bule. Regular prices range from 95c to \$1.15. Special sale
price, per yard 68c\$2 and \$2.50 Notting-
ham Curtains, \$1.48Still about 200 pairs of Fine Nottingham Curtains, in
beautiful, lacy designs. Regular values \$2.00 and \$2.50 per
pair. Sale price, while they last, per pair \$1.48Room Size Oriental Rugs
at Great ReductionsA collection of Fine Oriental Rugs, in all sizes, in artistic designs and rich colorings, of great wearing quality, for
hall, sitting-room or dining-room, will be offered this week at very attractive prices. \$150.00 Rugs for \$90.00. \$75.00
Rugs for \$49.00. \$50.00 Rugs for \$34.50, and proportionate reductions in all sizes and qualities.

A. Screaton & Co.

Western Ontario's Greatest Homefurnishers

Isolation Hospital Plans Considered
Matter Is Once Again PostponedDifferent Opinions Expressed as
To the Merits of the
Drawings.The new plans for the Isolation
hospital were placed before a joint
meeting of the special hospital com-
mittee and the hospital trust, last
evening. The trust wanted more time
to look the plans over, as the mem-
bers had not seen them until the
meeting. As a result the drawings
were given to the trust, who will re-
port at the meeting to be held Mon-
day.The committee thought the plans
were all right and would meet the
needs of the city. The hospital trust,
as well as the board of health, thought
that the hospital was too small, and
that accommodation should be pro-
vided for sixty beds, at least, instead
of forty, as in the present plans.

Too Elaborate.

"The difficulty is this," said ex-
Mayor Judd. "The other plans were
too elaborate; the committee has gone
to the other extreme, and made them
too small. The council has \$50,000 to
spend, and the hospital must be built
within that limit. The plans shown are
very good, but they do not provide
room enough. The hospital will not
accommodate the usual run of cases,
but the accommodation is totally in-
adequate in case of an epidemic.
These epidemics run in cycles, and we
are certain to have one within a year
or so, and we should have accommoda-
tion for the patients."

The Isolation.

"I do not like the scheme of isola-
tion," said Chairman Screaton. "The
two buildings are completely separa-
ted, and as a result two cooks will be
required. I think that can be obviated
if the two buildings are brought to-
gether. One cook would be suffi-
cient in that case. The hospital is too
small—much too small. I think the
hospital as designed by Mr. Victor
Mitchell could be built for less than
\$50,000 and would be satisfactory."

Provide for Additions.

Ald. Stewart pointed out that the
present plans were designed so that
additions could be built as needed.
There was no doubt that the hospital
was sufficiently large for all the pres-
ent needs, and he could not see the
need of enlarging until it had to be
enlarged. The hospital trust had
asked for complete isolation. The
building provided for that. There could
be no complete isolation if the build-
ings were joined together. It was a
scientific fact that there was danger
of scarlet fever patients contracting
diphtheria unless there was complete
isolation.

Dr. Niven, chairman of the board

PIG METALS---Copper, Lead, Tin, Zinc

WE ARE HEADQUARTERS. SEND US YOUR INQUIRIES.

THE CANADA METAL CO., LIMITED, WILLIAM ST., TORONTO

lined by the trust. This motion car-
ried.
Those present were: Ald. Stewart
(chairman), Mayor Stevely, Ald. Beattie,
Ald. Saunders, Ald. Gerry, City
Engineer Graydon, City Architect
Nutter, Chairman Screaton (of the
hospital trust), Mr. George B. Har-
ris, J. C. Judd, Superintendent Heard,
Dr. Niven (chairman of the board of
health), and Acting Secretary H.
Bennett.At Abergavenny on Monday at a
meeting of the joint committee of iron
and steel workers, mechanics, and
other sliding scale workers, it was
announced that the auditors had decid-
ed upon a reduction of 5 1/2 per cent
to take effect immediately.At West Hope, near Scargill, a
Scotch ewe, in lamb, belonging to
Mr. David Alderson, has been re-
covered from a snowdrift, in which it
has been imprisoned for twenty-six
consecutive days. Restoratives have
been applied, and the sheep is recov-
ering.

roadway and whether or not the road

was a public one. The judge agreed
with Mr. McEvoy, and he struck out
the jury. The case was heard without
a jury.The spring jury assizes opened be-
fore Justice Magee at the court house
this afternoon. The first case on the
list was that of Miss Agnes H. Simp-
son, of this city, against Hugh Doug-
lass, of London, proprietor of the Fraser
House, Stanley, for \$5,000
damages for injuries received by being
thrown out of a rig on the hill leading
to the Fraser House, July 4 last.The plaintiff was represented by T.
W. Crothers and W. K. Cameron, and
the defendant by Andrew Grant and
J. M. McEvoy, of London. Mr. McEvoy
moved to strike out the jury in the
case, holding that the matters to be
decided on were questions of law.Mr. Cameron, on the other hand, held
the questions were largely those of
fact, dealing with the extent of the
plaintiff's injuries, the condition of the

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