

The Toronto World.

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exchange connecting all departments.
Hamilton Office: W. E. Smith, agent.
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The World can be had at the following
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St. Lawrence Hotel, Montreal.
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Wolverine News Co., Detroit, Mich.
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15 cents per line—with discount on ad-
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orders of 100 or more lines, to be used
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Positions may be contracted for subject to
certain conditions. Other advertisers.
Positions are never guaranteed to any ad-
vertiser. The advertiser is responsible for the
content of his advertisement.
An advertiser contracting for 1000 words
of space to be used within one year may
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without extra cost.
Inside page positions will be charged at
20 per cent. advance over the rates.
All advertisements are subject to approval
as to character, wording and display.
Advertisers are free to examine the ad-
vertising list at any time.
"Want" advertisements, one cent a word
each insertion.

TWO CENTS A MILE.
All kinds of reduced rates are now
being advertised by the railway com-
panies, and in this pleasant autumn
weather you can take many journeys
at a good deal less than two cents a
mile. During a large part of the year
there are Saturday to Monday trips at
greatly reduced rates.
Considering the arrangements, con-
sidering all the excursion rates granted
to commercial travelers and others,
it may be that the railway companies
do not, on the average, receive very
much more than two cents a mile. But
this is not very comforting to the man
who has to pay three cents. What is
wanted is a level rate on which any-
body may travel at any time.

The action of the companies in giving
these special rates destroys Mr. Heyd's
argument that they cannot afford to
carry people for less than three cents.
If they say that the big crowds at ex-
cursion times enable them to charge
low rates, that argument makes for
all round reduction. If it pays to
haul full cars on Saturday and Sun-
days, it must pay to haul them all the
time. One would suppose that it would
pay the companies to distribute their
travel over the week as well as over
the week-end, instead of compressing it
into week-ends and excursions. Their
staff is the same all the year round, and
all the week round, and they are obliged
to keep certain quantities of rolling
stock at all seasons. Surely it would
pay them to spread their business over
the year rather than pack it into certain
days and periods.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company
fifty years ago promised to carry pas-
sengers at a penny a mile. If the
spirit of that agreement had been ob-
served, there would have been a two-
cent rate on all parts of the system,
and the Canadian Pacific would have
been bound in the same way. In some
places, while the full first-class fare is
charged, the accommodation is far poorer
than third-class in England. We do
not know where Mr. Charlton got his
idea that no self-respecting citizen here
would ride in third-class cars such as
they have in England. The bulk of
English travel is done in that way.
The cars have no "pullies," but there
are first-class passengers which is more
than first-class passengers sometimes
get in this country. Clean, comfort-
able cars ought to be available for
everybody, at all times, at two cents a
mile; those who want carving, plush,
frills and luxury can pay more if they
please.

THE BALFOUR PAMPHLET.
Copies of Mr. Balfour's pamphlet
on preferential trade have reached
Canada. The publication in England
was managed as a private enterprise,
newspapers being allowed to print
only a thousand words, and copies of
the pamphlet are hard to obtain.

Mr. Balfour says that he approaches
the subject from the point of view of
a free trader. But he holds himself
to be in harmony with the true spirit
of free trade when he pleads for free-
dom to negotiate that freedom of ex-
change may be increased. We must
therefore recognize that he uses the
phrase free trade in an unfamiliar sense
in which a protectionist may describe
himself as a free trader. We do not
know of any school of protectionists
who are opposed to the extension of
trade by reciprocity treaties and simi-
lar arrangements. Nor do we suppose
that protectionists would contemplate
with horror the idea of a free trading
world, such as Cobden hoped for.
What they say is that that hope has
not been fulfilled, and that the result
is "Jugoslaviana," free trade, under
which Great Britain admits the goods
of foreign nations to her markets free-
ly, while her goods are excluded from
their markets by high tariffs. This is
Premier Balfour's position.

"An ideal world," he says, "from a
narrowly economic point of view would
be one in which capital and labor
would flow without hindrance to the
places where profits were greatest and
wages highest. This, however, would
be inconsistent with national life, na-
tions being economically possible only
because, for various reasons, mankind
is both unable and unwilling to turn
the natural resources of the world to
the best economic advantage." Evidently
the Premier is a bit of a philosopher
himself, and is quite ready to meet the
enemy on that ground; but we must
pass on to the more practical parts of
his essay. His argument may be com-
pared with that of a man who admits
that peace on earth is the right ideal,
but that it cannot now be attained
and that in a warring world a nation
must look to self-preservation.

The fight against the corn laws in
1846 was, according to Mr. Balfour, be-
tween the two ideas—a manufacturing
England and an agricultural England.
The nation decided on the former. One
of the conditions implied in this choice
was that there should be a free ex-
port of manufactures. But it was not
supposed to be necessary to provide
for this, the Cobdenites taking it as a

matter of course that other nations
would buy British manufactures free-
ly. "They failed to foresee that the
world would reject free trade, and they
failed to take full account of the com-
mercial possibilities of the British em-
pire." Hence no provision was made
for leverage for the admission of British
goods into foreign markets, nor for
inter-imperial free trade. "The double
error has established insular free trade
with its inevitable limitations, and
left us bearing all the burdens, and en-
joying only half the advantages, which
should attach to empire." Each error
has been avoided by the United
States, which have free trade among
themselves and a protective tariff sur-
rounding the whole. The British em-
pire has the inner walls, which pre-
vent free communication between
friends; but no outer wall, to keep out
the enemy.

Balfour then goes on to say that the
whole world, with the exception of the
United Kingdom, is protectionist. "We
are driven to ask whether a free trade
in a world of free traders, remains avail-
able in a world of protectionists." He ad-
mits that there is a general economic
loss to the world thru protective
tariffs. But a free trade country in a
protectionist world not only bears its
share of this loss, but a special loss
of its own. The free trade island is
compelled to change the character of its
industries so as to find the weakest
spot in the protective barrier. Capital
and skill devoted to the abandoned in-
dustries are lost, or thrown into less
remunerative industries.

Here we find Mr. Balfour turning
against the rigid free traders one of
their favorite arguments. Left to
themselves, they say, men will seek
the most profitable occupation for their
labor and capital. Protection forces
them or tempts them into occupations
that are not naturally profitable, and
the result is an economic loss. Thus,
to take an extreme case, a protective
tariff on oranges might result in or-
anges being grown in hot-houses in
Canada, but the community as a whole
would suffer. Now Mr. Balfour argues
that while under real free trade men
may seek the most remunerative em-
ployments, under just-handled free
trade Englishmen may be forced out
of more remunerative into less remu-
nerative employments.

Mr. Balfour lays great stress on the
value of the home market to the pro-
tective manufacturer. His home mar-
ket being secure and steady he can
throw the surplus on foreign markets
at a small profit. His argument is
summarized in these words: "The
source of all the difficulty being pro-
tective tariffs imposed by fiscally in-
dependent communities, it is plain
that we can secure no concession in
the direction of a freer exchange, ex-
cept by negotiation, and that our ne-
gotiators can but appeal to self-interest
or, in the case of our colonies, to self-
interest and sentiment combined."

"Now, on the free trade theory self-
interest should have prevented these
tariffs being originally imposed. But
it did not; and if argument failed be-
fore powerful vested interests were
created, it is hardly likely to be ef-
fective now."

"The only alternative is to do to
foreign nations what they always do
to each other, and instead of appealing
to economic theories in which they
wholly disbelieve, to use fiscal in-
ducements which they thoroughly under-
stand. We and we alone, among the nations,
are unable to employ this means of
persuasion, not because in our hands
it need be ineffectual, but because in
obedience to principle we have delib-
erately thrown it away."

It is evident that public men in Eng-
land are doing some hard thinking.
We cannot expect that their thinking
will be all on one side, but the whole
community will benefit by the re-
opening of a question supposed to be
closed forever.

RACE QUESTIONS AND POLITICS.

In an article entitled "Venomous
Tactics" The Globe complains that
somebody is writing a series of letters
to LeVeement, styling to address him
as "Mr. LeVeement." The writer says that three of-
ficers have been sent to England to
watch the military manoeuvres there.
Two are from the Province of Ontario
and one from Manitoba, but none from
Quebec. He complains that the French-
Canadian people are not represented on
the transportation commission recently
appointed. His three members are Eng-
lishmen. When Laurier came to power
an Acadian was among the Prince Ed-
ward Island representation in the sen-
ate. When this Acadian was removed
by death his place was filled by an
Englishman. There are now four vacan-
cies in the senate. One of these was
caused by the death of Senator Cochrane,
who represented a division where
French-Canadians are in a great ma-
jority. Will the Premier award his
vacant chair to one of his compatriots?
The writer asks. "Instead of kneeling
to the English and sacrificing on every
side our most sacred rights and dearest
privileges, give to your own the jus-
tice which they claim from you, since
they have put you in a position to
give it to them."

A few days ago The Mail complained
of similar efforts made by Liberals in
Quebec to exclude French-Canadian
prejudice against Mr. Tarte. It quotes
Mr. Monet as saying that "Mr. Tarte
has but one thing in view, and that is
to direct us towards England, a plot
which we will not have, because of the
evil to our country." Mr. Bourassa
said: "Mr. Tarte has become one of
the disciples and servants of Mr. Cham-
berlain. The day when you effected
this evolution, Mr. Tarte, I became one
of your political adversaries."

This is a dangerous game, by which
every party it may be played. We can-
not expect that their thinking
will be all on one side, but the whole
community will benefit by the re-
opening of a question supposed to be
closed forever.

PERTH HEAD FROM.

Pertch, Ont., Sept. 25.—The little
daughter of Mrs. J. A. Morris for a
long time suffered from throat trou-
ble and catarrh. Thanks to Catarrh-
haze, a remedy that is guaranteed
to cure every form of Catarrh, lung
and throat trouble. Catarrh-haze was
sold by all druggists. Two months
treatment \$1.00; trial size 25c.

not expect to turn French-Canadians
into English, Scotch or Irish-Canadians.
They have their language, their racial
instincts and their racial pride. On
imperial questions we do not expect
Quebec to see eye to eye with Ontario.
But patriotism will seek to lessen, not
to increase, the divergence of feeling.
If this is done, there is nothing in the
difference of sentiment that need be a
cause of alarm. There is no reason,
for instance, why a French-Canadian
should oppose Imperial preferential
trade. Being in a minority in Canada
he is naturally a little more jealous of
his constitutional rights, for "auton-
omy," to use the favorite phrase. But
if any real attack were made upon
those rights, the defence would not be
left to French-Canadians alone. The
race question in Canada has its diffi-
culties, no doubt, but they are need-
lessly increased by playing on the pre-
judices of different sections of the peo-
ple.

FOLLOWING THE GLEAM.

Ample testimony is borne in the
columns of this paper to the great im-
portance of the question of free trade
coming to hand, to the world-wide in-
terest taken in the new departure
pioneered by Mr. Chamberlain. Brit-
ain in the field of economics had so
long been regarded as a fixed quantity
that it is proving very difficult for
foreign critics to adapt themselves to
altered conditions. Had time been
given them they might have been able
to accuse themselves to the change of
environment. But the movement
developed so rapidly and is ac-
companied by so many kaleidoscopic
rearrangements that no sooner has one
aspect been grasped than another ap-
pears. The result is confusion and be-
wildering. Wrath, tribulation and an-
guish succeed each other, and thru
them all glooms the fear that, despite
all preconceived ideas, Mr. Cham-
berlain's move is not the result of sud-
den impulse but of diseased vanity or
reckless ambition, nor even the last
throw of a discredited political gam-
bler. Evidence accumulates on every
hand that the prophet of Birmingham
was not hopelessly out of touch with
his fellow countrymen, but that he has
a mass of public opinion and latent
conviction at his back which only
required a voice and a policy to
spring into life and action.

Whether of set purpose or as a happy
accident a situation has arisen favor-
able in no small degree for the spread
of the new propaganda. Had Mr.
Chamberlain's original scheme as first
outlined remained in all its naked
simplicity it would have alarmed and
dismayed many timid souls who stood
shivering on the brink of change and
feared to launch into the deep sea of
strict protection. But in the nick of
time came Mr. Balfour with his pam-
phlet fully recognizing the economic
soundness of free trade as a general
principle, but demonstrating beyond
doubt or cavil the folly of attempt-
ing to convert the nations by freely
accorded terms every advantage
which they could possibly obtain
from a reciprocal arrangement. "Let
us have fiscal duties," he said, "not
to protect our industries, which do not
need protection, but to enable us to

port going with pains thru the records
and show approximately what class of
property is the beneficiary of the de-
creasing assessment, and what class
does not."

A settled opinion in the absence of
statistics is that the small and heavily
assessed properties are those that get
no relief. Their owners for one thing
cannot employ skillful lawyers to im-
press the members of the Court of
Revision. Secondly, small property
owners turn up every year with un-
falling regularity and air their griev-
ances in the public press, and as cranks
and cranky reputations are all they
ever gain by kidding. But their failure
to practically impress the judgment
of the Court of Revision is a dishearten-
ing fact when considered as bearing
upon the famine in small houses, which
is unquestionably one of the gravest
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and most pressing of the problems
of the day.

The Council should evince an in-
terest in the assessment of small prop-
erties. Every foot of land
surrendered for taxes means a
reduction in civic revenue. The cor-
poration is now carrying more vacant
land than it can ever need or is like-
ly to dispose of within the present
generation or the next. When Ald.
Came was in the Council he showed
himself possessed of sound economic
views on this question. But, as Assess-
ment Commissioner, Robert John
Fleming has other matters to be con-
sidered. He is a man of business, and
about equally pleased when he can
induce the Property Committee to buy
more land, or when the vacant acreage
accumulates thru the inability of the
small owners to carry it. Either way
the city is out of money, and the ab-
sence of less revenue has to be made
up for what it gets. It is a cus-
tomary thing coming on towards muni-
cipal election time for smart aldermen
to take the public into their confidence
by laying out new parks and breathing
spaces for the people. This is a vote-
getting device. The city could
multiply its parks by converting some
of its vacant lands to this purpose.
But above and beyond this considera-
tion is the other one relieving small
properties to facilitate the building of
economic houses that are now so dire
a necessity.

To Meet in October.

Calgary, N.W.T., Sept. 25.—Hon. Mr.
Haultain, Premier of the Northwest
Territories, in an interview last night,
said that the legislature would meet
again some time during the last week
in October. He did not exactly know
the date.

secure better markets for our products.
Let us have some inducement to offer
them, and in any event let us free
our home market from the competition
of highly protected industries who use
it as a refuge when their own is ex-
hausted." Superficially this was not
quite Mr. Chamberlain's object, but it
was not at all incompatible with it.
It was a good halfway house, but
can never be a final resting place.
It presented one side of the question
that appealed with peculiar force to
the average elector, who did not find
it easy to follow the intricacies of a
discussion raising questions of a more
purely doctrinal character. Here was
something he could grasp. He could
realize what an absurdity it would be
for an army to go out without arms
and proffer terms to a well equipped
enemy. And just as foolish it was
for a country fanatically wedded to
absolute free trade to seek reciprocal
terms from foreign rivals, who,
without these, were exploiting it with-
out let or hindrance.

Mr. Chamberlain may not triumph
at the first time of asking, but he has
given the Jugernaut car of free trade
a shock which will make it totter and
wobble and impair its stability. It will
no longer roll over the bones of ruin-
ed industries to the wild beating of
the tomtoms of the Cobden Club and
the acclamations of its members, foreign
or otherwise. When rude hands once
assault the sacred idol grove, when its
Jugernaut is ruthlessly cast to the dust,
and its ragged ramparts under foot,
its influence may not at once depart,
but its domination is gone never to re-
turn. No longer only to be approach-
ed with bated breath and whispering
humbleness, its claims canvassed and
its pretensions exposed, it sinks rapidly
into the common rack of things
and must hold its own on its own
merits and real worth. And the mo-
ment free trade becomes not an ab-
solute but a relative good, its doom
as an isolated article of faith is writ-
ten. If heedless nations cannot be
induced to come in by the sublime
aspect of a free trade Ajax defying the
world's lightning they must be com-
pelled by the humbler but perhaps
more effective way of correction. But
whether the compulsion be immediate-
ly applied or not the stars in their
courses ought to reflect the new cru-
sade. They are following the gleam.
Like the cross which led Constantine
to victory they see in the vanguard
the flag of the empire. This is the
idea which raises the present cam-
paign above the petty level of a struggle
for place or even for the petty ad-
vantage of attaching to an ordinary
contest for power. We are in the
early dawn of the empire day. As the
victories are won by the influence
of his country or his province
and rises from that to a truer con-
ception of his country's need as the
nations owing allegiance to the Red
Cross flag are thrilling with the high-
er consciousness of a world-wide em-
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them with a stronger and more devo-
tional national life. It is a great idea,
and it is a great mission. As Mr.
Chamberlain said yesterday in his let-
ter to the editor of The "Brighton"
viewed by the eyes of an old and well-tried
motto, and is everlastingly true.

Scarcity of Small Houses
Due to Assessment System

Small and Heavily Assessed Properties Get No Relief at
the Court of Revision—Owners Can't Employ
Skillful Counsel.

Some peculiarities of the assessment
system throw a side-light upon the
famine in small houses. The statement
for Ward 5 has just been published.
The boundaries of that ward embrace a
section of the city in which work-
men's homes should flourish. Taxable
property there shows an increase for
the year of over \$600,000. But there
has been no increase in the number
of small houses that is, houses
which rent around \$12 to \$15 per month.
The area has, however, seen consider-
able activity in building. The assess-
ment of new buildings within the year
amounts to the good round figure of
\$500,000. Houses are in course of
erection all over, notably between
Levecourt-road and Bathurst-street,
north of College. These houses rent
for \$25 a month, more or less. The
acute demand is not for houses of this
class, but for more economical dwell-
ings. Why are they not supplied?
The answer to this question is
suggested by the fact that nearly
\$200,000 worth of property in Ward 5
collapsed and fell into the hands of
the city for arrears of taxes. This is
serious, because property is not in a
standstill in Ward 5. It is rapidly re-
covering from the effects of the boom,
and many ratepayers who have formerly
poorly carrying it all these years are
beginning at last to say to themselves
survived. The property is being re-
built. If they could have gone into
the building of small houses, they
might have been better off. The force
that obliged them to let go abide in the
Assessment Department? This is a mat-
ter well worth enquiring into.

Those who study the assessment sys-
tem of Toronto do not need to be told
that all small properties are assessed
up to the hilt. One can pore over the
records of the Court of Revision for
days without discovering a single
instance in which an appeal against the
assessment of properties worth in the
neighborhood of \$1000 succeeded. At
the same time, the Court of Revision
is not an ungenerous body. It has
appeals are successfully made at every
sitting of its members. There is a class
of property in the north ward which
have to be let go to the city for arrears
of taxes. The assessment is reasonable
enough. There are rented buildings, for instance,
bringing in less revenue than they formerly
did. But there is another class of property
to which such a claim cannot possibly
apply. A wealthy Beverly street resi-
dent appeals and obtains a cut of one-
fifth in a \$10,000 assessment. The
land has not been let for years, and
the owner has not fallen to decay. The
owner and occupier was never more
prosperous in his life. He is an in-
crease of his property year by year. A
railway company succeeds in an ap-
peal to the extent of \$25,000. Such
results are numerous in the face of the
record; but it would be a tedious task
to make a computation of their agree-
ment. The statements of the assessment
department do not show the reductions
in the value of land or buildings order-
ed by the Court of Revision. A com-
parison of the assessment work can be
gone into only with the revised figures of
the preceding year. The process of re-
vision is the class of property affect-
ed by it passes into oblivion. An ex-

secure better markets for our products.
Let us have some inducement to offer
them, and in any event let us free
our home market from the competition
of highly protected industries who use
it as a refuge when their own is ex-
hausted." Superficially this was not
quite Mr. Chamberlain's object, but it
was not at all incompatible with it.
It was a good halfway house, but
can never be a final resting place.
It presented one side of the question
that appealed with peculiar force to
the average elector, who did not find
it easy to follow the intricacies of a
discussion raising questions of a more
purely doctrinal character. Here was
something he could grasp. He could
realize what an absurdity it would be
for an army to go out without arms
and proffer terms to a well equipped
enemy. And just as foolish it was
for a country fanatically wedded to
absolute free trade to seek reciprocal
terms from foreign rivals, who,
without these, were exploiting it with-
out let or hindrance.

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no longer roll over the bones of ruin-
ed industries to the wild beating of
the tomtoms of the Cobden Club and
the acclamations of its members, foreign
or otherwise. When rude hands once
assault the sacred idol grove, when its
Jugernaut is ruthlessly cast to the dust,
and its ragged ramparts under foot,
its influence may not at once depart,
but its domination is gone never to re-
turn. No longer only to be approach-
ed with bated breath and whispering
humbleness, its claims canvassed and
its pretensions exposed, it sinks rapidly
into the common rack of things
and must hold its own on its own
merits and real worth. And the mo-
ment free trade becomes not an ab-
solute but a relative good, its doom
as an isolated article of faith is writ-
ten. If heedless nations cannot be
induced to come in by the sublime
aspect of a free trade Ajax defying the
world's lightning they must be com-
pelled by the humbler but perhaps
more effective way of correction. But
whether the compulsion be immediate-
ly applied or not the stars in their
courses ought to reflect the new cru-
sade. They are following the gleam.
Like the cross which led Constantine
to victory they see in the vanguard
the flag of the empire. This is the
idea which raises the present cam-
paign above the petty level of a struggle
for place or even for the petty ad-
vantage of attaching to an ordinary
contest for power. We are in the
early dawn of the empire day. As the
victories are won by the influence
of his country or his province
and rises from that to a truer con-
ception of his country's need as the
nations owing allegiance to the Red
Cross flag are thrilling with the high-
er consciousness of a world-wide em-
pire, which is the only play
distinctive part, but which will fill
them with a stronger and more devo-
tional national life. It is a great idea,
and it is a great mission. As Mr.
Chamberlain said yesterday in his let-
ter to the editor of The "Brighton"
viewed by the eyes of an old and well-tried
motto, and is everlastingly true.

secure better markets for our products.
Let us have some inducement to offer
them, and in any event let us free
our home market from the competition
of highly protected industries who use
it as a refuge when their own is ex-
hausted." Superficially this was not
quite Mr. Chamberlain's object, but it
was not at all incompatible with it.
It was a good halfway house, but
can never be a final resting place.
It presented one side of the question
that appealed with peculiar force to
the average elector, who did not find
it easy to follow the intricacies of a
discussion raising questions of a more
purely doctrinal character. Here was
something he could grasp. He could
realize what an absurdity it would be
for an army to go out without arms
and proffer terms to a well equipped
enemy. And just as foolish it was
for a country fanatically wedded to
absolute free trade to seek reciprocal
terms from foreign rivals, who,
without these, were exploiting it with-
out let or hindrance.

Mr. Chamberlain may not triumph
at the first time of asking, but he has
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