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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 17.

THE FAIR AND AFTER.

The Western Fair of 1910 had more than the usual measure of success. The weather could not have been kinder. The attendance established a new record, and the directors will have another tidy surplus against rainy days in the future. The agricultural and industrial exhibits were never more ample or excellent. Once more the people of London have had an illustration of the value of the exhibition to the city, and they are under another load of obligation to the citizens who consent to undertake the management, and give their time and services without reward.

The absence of the customary string of cheap side-shows from the "Midway" was no loss, and the directors are to be commended for eliminating them. But an improvement might be made in the entertainment features of the Fair. The performance in the ring always includes some clever tumbling and trapeze work, but it does not, as a rule, give the spectators full value for their money. Much of it cannot be seen from the distant parts of the stands. This is particularly so at night, owing to the faulty arrangement of the lights. It may be necessary to have two acts simultaneously, one at each end of the platform. It would pay the management, also, to provide some attraction on a big scale, which would catch the public fancy, and have the merit of novelty. Why not a band tournament, or a choir competition, which would give many communities in Western Ontario a local interest in the Fair? This aspect of the Fair must always be subordinated to the agricultural and industrial features, but it is an indispensable part. Scores of thousands go to Queen's Park in a holiday mood, and they look for entertainment as well as instruction. Money spent on strengthening this side of the exhibition would be a paying investment.

IMPERIAL FEDERATION AND CENTRALIZING MACHINERY.

In fairy tales the enchanter has a notable art of taking any shape he chooses, and children from seven to seventy all love the quick-change artist. Not only in folk lore but in real life, the most powerful enchanters are those who can skilfully and rapidly metamorphose themselves that eye can hardly take it in, nor clear wit comprehend the show. People love the kaleidoscope, the word of many meanings, the pun and the paradox. "Socialism," therefore, as a multiform monster overcomes the dim apprehension with joy, and begets upon it strange results. "Brummagem Joe" was a successful pantomime in his day, and even yet belated followers dote upon his trail here in Canadian flunkeydom. The grandest of all enchantments is that metamorphic or amorphous something "Imperial Federation."

Nobody knows what it is or will be, you do not know where you have it. But if the faith itself cannot be deciphered, some other ailments of its devotees may be easily diagnosed. They are afflicted or possessed by two devils, the devil of political machinery and the devil of centralization. These devils are obviously twin brethren, Siamese twins in fact; they are, or he is, two persons in one devil.

Here in Ontario the authors of our new school readers cry to the children a hundred thousand times, so strong is their possession, that we must have one throne, one flag and one navy. It is characteristic of Imperial Federationists that they do not define further their dogma and ordain the abolition of that Ottawa Parliament which had the impudence to create a Canadian navy for a Canadian people. A bubble-minded Minister of Education, or rather, his mayor of the palace, who does everything behind him, is living in a fools' paradise of dissolving views, insulting the majority of Canadian citizens, and ignoring the rise of Canadian nationalism. One thing these centralizing federationists will not have, however vague may be their positive aspirations, is the development of a distinctive Canada, undominated by played-out British traditions, whether of spelling or of family privilege. They are like those eighteenth century Scotchmen, who were ready to sink the identity of Scotland's thought and character in a British or English composite, until Burns and Scott came along.

Over-centralized political organization has always been a bad thing. Christianity has been healthier since the break-up of the sixteenth century. To the present-day civilization the ideals of Israel and Greece, small, loosely-organized states, are more contributory than even the work of Rome. The influence of Rome is great, but it was republican Rome that was Roman, and produced everything distinctively Roman. The unsystematized Roman Republic begot great men and a great body of law, and it built the roads by which Greek and Hebrew ideas have travelled down to us; the Empire of the Caesars, in which the individual withered, was less important. What finally destroyed that empire? Not luxury or immorality by any means: it was a largely Christianized empire that fell before the Goths and heathen Franks. The Roman Empire was ruined by becoming too centralized and over-governed. The provinces lost all initiative, and were without any local spirit. There was one throne, one flag, one army and one navy—all very expensive. That was what wrecked the dominion of the Eternal City.

If imperial federation means such political centralization, let us have none of that. Let the British Empire stand by avoiding the error of imperial Rome. Each limb of the empire must be strong in itself. Better even a "tin-pot navy" than a Canada without a soul, its spirit sold out to the devil of centralization. But there is no "tin-pot navy": that is part of the plantasmagoria of federationist enchantment.

THE PROPOSED PEACE CENTENNIAL.

Interest in the proposal to celebrate in 1914 the century of peace between Great Britain and the United States is taking practical shape. The American Peace Society, which is actively engaged in promoting the celebration, has received letters from church dignitaries, diplomats, state governors, prominent statesmen, university professors and others, which have been given to the press, preparatory to the coming meeting in Toronto of the One Hundred Years Peace Society. The letters show a sincere feeling of fraternity in the United States for Canada and Great Britain. Several of them comment on the benefits of the Rush-Bagot agreement made in 1817, which pledged the United States and Great Britain to refrain from building armaments on the great lakes. They hold it up as a practical example for the world to follow. Other letters praise the successful use of peaceful methods for the settlement of controversies between the two nations, while one writer proposes that the celebration culminate in the signing between the two countries of a treaty of unlimited arbitration for all questions that cannot be settled by diplomatic means. Americans and Canadians of the French race see peace assured for themselves in the future in the perfect accord that the centennial will tend to promote, as a quarrel between the two countries would necessarily array the French in Canada against their kindred in the United States, according to where allegiance belonged.

In his letter Hon. Richard Olney, ex-secretary of state, declares the celebration should be national in character and should be of a nature and on a scale commensurate with the great place in the world occupied by the English-speaking countries that engage in it.

Cardinal Gibbons, after declaring his belief that the celebration will serve to ratify and consolidate a lasting peace between the two great nations, says:

"I am persuaded that England and America, by maintaining peace among themselves, will, at the same time, be the guardians and sentinels of peace and goodwill among the nations of the earth. Such now, thank God, is the influence and prestige of these two English-speaking nations that few powers will venture to plunge into the sea of strife so long as our country and England shall say to them, 'Peace be still,' and 'Thus far you shall come, and you shall go no further, and here you shall break your swelling waves.'—of discord."

Governor Draper, of Massachusetts, writes:

"While it is important for us to maintain friendly relations with all nations, it is especially a cause for congratulation that our relations with our great neighbor, Canada, which forms our northern boundary, should not merely be peaceful, but extremely friendly."

Governor Pothier, of Rhode Island, in his letter, says:

"The historical significance of the celebration is certainly noteworthy, but the opportunities for a closer intimacy and a better understanding between the citizens of the two countries, whose commercial interests are so largely identical, will, I believe, be widely recognized and taken advantage of by the progressive people of both."

J. Arthur Favreau, secretary of the Society Historique Franco-Americaine, of Boston, expresses the belief that:

"Such a celebration would surely strengthen the bonds of friendship and goodwill which one hundred years of peace have wrought between the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race that had recourse to bloody war in settling their former differences. It should be doubly inspiring to the Americans and Canadians of the French race, since it would tend to render more remote than ever the prospect of another war between the two nations of which they now respectively form a part, of a war which would of necessity array against each other in heart-rending strife three millions of people who have had no quarrel between themselves, but have become separated merely through economic reasons."

All the writers appear satisfied that the celebration can easily be made a most impressive and instructive demonstration.

CONAN DOYLE'S SOLUTION.

[New York Times.]

A New York poet, at the Authors' Club, in Seventh avenue, told a Conan Doyle story.

"Sir Arthur Conan Doyle," he said, "sat at a dinner on his last visit here beside a lady, who asked leave to consult him about some thefts.

"'My detective powers,' he replied, 'are at your service, madam.'

"'Well,' said the lady, 'frequent and mysterious thefts have been occurring at my house for a long time. Thus, there disappeared last week a motor horn, a broom, a box of golf balls, a left riding-boot, a dictionary and half a dozen tin pie plates.'

"'Aha,' said the creator of Sherlock Holmes, 'the case, madam, is quite clear. You keep a goat.'"

ONE BETTER.

[Life.]

"When I was a young girl," titters the first old lady, "one of my beaus hugged me so hard he broke one of my ribs."

"Humph!" replies the second old lady, adjusting her glasses and smoothing back her hair in conscious pride, "when I was a young girl one of my beaus hugged me so hard he broke one of his arms."

WE'RE ALWAYS RIGHT.

[Success Magazine.]

The sight-seeing gentleman from the middle west had reached the land of the Pharaohs, the home of the age-old pyramids, the resting-place of the immutable Sphinx.

"I wonder," he drawled, as he gazed about him, "why they call this place Kiro? We've got a town down in Illinois spelled like this and we call it Kayro, and, b'gosh, I believe we're right."

PATIENT EXPLANATION.

[Washington Star.]

"Something gone wrong with my right foot," said the man at the hotel counter. "Could you direct me to a good carpenter?"

"Excuse me," said the clerk with a sly glance of amusement at the lady bookkeeper, "but, of course, you mean a chiropodist?"

"No, I'm going to be patient with you, young man, and tell you I want a good carpenter. My right leg is a wooden one."

FIRST AND FOREMOST.

[Puck.]

"My wife has a great deal to say to me about her first husband."

"Nonsense; your wife was never married before."

"I know it. That's what makes her reflections so painful."

REASON.

[Puck.]

Bystander—But I don't see you questioning the umpire's decisions. Isn't that rather unusual?

Chimmie—Huh! When de umpire owns de only bat, ball, glove and mask in de neighborhood!

A MODEST REQUEST.

[London Globe.]

"If you please, sir," said the new convict, addressing the governor of the prison, "I should like to be put to my own trade."

"Certainly," said the stern but kindly official, "I'll see that it is done. What is your trade?"

"I'm an aviator, sir," murmured the latest arrival.

A LIBEL ON CANADA.

[Halifax Chronicle.]

Sir James Whitney's somewhat hysterical statement to a London interviewer, that if the mother country would not soon grant a preference to the colonies, the empire would become a mere recollection, may be comforting to the tariff reformers in the old country, but it certainly should not be allowed to go as representing the sentiment of the Canadian people. It amounts to nothing more than this, that it places the loyalty of the people of Canada—for the Premier of Ontario must be taken as having had Canada particularly in view—upon the very low plane of self-interest. No Canadian who is worthy of the name is willing to agree that our loyalty to the empire is influenced in any degree whatsoever by questions of tariff arrangement.

SCANDALOUS.

[Cleveland Leader.]

Editor—Where did you get this poem?

Author—I translated it from the German.

Editor—Great Scott! Put it back before someone sees it!

STARVED THE BABY.

[London Daily News.]

At a Hackney inquest on Saturday respecting the death of the 6-months-old child of a hop-picker named Wright, of Maclaren street, Clapton, a doctor stated that he had never seen a child more emaciated. The baby was like a skeleton, its skin being drawn tightly over its body, on which there was not a particle of fat. Death was due to exhaustion from mal-nutrition, owing to improper feeding.

The Coroner—The mother doesn't seem to have gained by experience. She has lost eleven children out of fourteen, and probably all were improperly fed.

The Doctor—Most likely.

The Coroner (to the mother)—The inspector of the N. S. P. C. C. will call on you and give you some advice. You must get into better habits. You may meet trouble if another baby dies from neglect. (To the jury) Poverty and ignorance explain much of this sort of thing.

A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.

THE EMPIRE SAFE.

[Victoria Colonist, Con.]

Let the people of the United Kingdom do just exactly what in their opinion is best in their own interests, and the empire will take care of itself. You must not try to raise the British Empire in a forcing house. It is doing pretty well as it is. All that is needed to accomplish the consummation of the loftiest expectations is a little common sense and patience. Let no one fear to go to sleep at night for fear the empire will break up before morning. It was forming during long years, when only a few enthusiasts out on the edge of things considered it worth thinking about.

ELECTRICITY AND PLANT GROWTH.

[Manchester Guardian.]

The effect of electrical discharges on plant growth was the subject of a lecture delivered yesterday at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, by Mr. J. H. Priestly, lecturer in botany at the University of Bristol.

Mr. Priestly referred to a series of experiments made outside Bristol, and also at Evesham, where Mr. J. Newman had electrified about twenty acres of wheat land with notable success. By means of a small engine and dynamo, in the absence of a local electricity plant, the low tension current was transmitted to the field by wires, and there in a suitable outhouse the current underwent a change to high tension through the medium of Sir Oliver Lodge's induction coil. The current was then circulated over a sort of barbed wire arrangement above the plants, each of the barbed points acting as a distributing point for the electric fluid. The general improvement effected in plant growth, as shown by the experiments, represented 29 per cent increase in wheat, 18 per cent in mangolds, and 25 per cent in strawberries. Similarly satisfactory results were obtained in the treatment of cucumbers in greenhouses, while the indications generally were that there was an appreciable increase of nitrates in the soil so treated.

UNEXPECTED GIFTS.

[Youth's Companion.]

Mrs. Newhouse was patiently instructing her maid of all work as to the proper names of certain articles.

"And, Bridget," she said, at one time, "these are ewers—ewers—don't call them jugs any more."

"Sure, an' I won't, ma'am," said Bridget, joyously. "An' is all them little basins mine, too, ma'am?"

Warships Driven By Motor

(From the Manchester Guardian.)

The story which has got about that the admiralty are building a motor-driven battleship which will make the Dreadnought, and for the matter of that, the Orion (launched last week) obsolete is being whittled down rapidly to a more credible shape. As the naval engineers quoted in our news columns yesterday quite clearly showed, the construction of an internal combustion engine which will develop 30,000-horsepower and stand all the strain to which a battleship engine is put is not yet practicable. Besides, it is hardly likely that the admiralty, in experimenting for the first time with an oil or gas engine in anything larger than a submarine, would jump to a monster battleship straight away. A battleship is too dear to experiment with. There are rumors of an order having been placed for a 10,000-horsepower engine, though even this size is larger than has hitherto been worked with success, and what is happening seems to be that the admiralty are continuing the experiments they have already begun on the Clyde and at Portsmouth by building a destroyer, or perhaps a small cruiser, and fitting it with the new motive power. From the fighting point of view, of course, if we are to make the assumption that an engine could be built powerful enough to drive a heavily-armored ship at the required speed, there would be an immense advantage. Weight would be saved in boilers; no stokers would be required, and no funnels, and the latter saving would mean the possibility of much heavier gunfire and of directing it in masses hitherto, owing to the central obstruction, impossible. Readers of the Russian officer Semenoff's account of the battle of Tsushima will remember what havoc the destruction of smoke-stacks by shell-fire makes on a ship in action, and the absence of funnels means more than saving that, because there is no tell-tale trail of smoke, and detection of a fleet in the distance would become more difficult. All these things, however, are not yet out of the stage of theory, and we need not be accused of a lack of consideration for our naval supremacy when we say we hope they will remain so. We wish there were a little less talk of making Dreadnoughts obsolete. One day, preposterously enough, it is the aeroplane or the dirigible; the next a new German gun. If motor-driven battleships were to be invented by our own admiralty, we should only be repeating the miserable situation of five years ago when the creation of the Dreadnought destroyed, in the opinion of most of the experts, our laboriously created and powerful lead in battleships up to that date. No one who counts the cost can want the Dreadnoughts scrapped yet.

POLICE EXPOSURE AT NEW YORK CITY

Wholesale Grafting Again Reported To Be the Order.

[Associated Press.]

New York, N. Y., Sept. 17.—New York city is on the eve of another police graft exposure, if credence is to be given persistent reports in circulation in police circles today. These are to the effect that a police official, who had been caught in the coils of the stringent investigation into vice conditions instigated by Acting-Mayor Mitchell, had indicated his desire to tell the high administrative authorities all that he knew concerning the collection of graft from gamblers, proprietors of disorderly resorts and other panderers to the vices of the community.

Revelation of shocking conditions at Coney Island, made as a result of the initial crusade on the acting-mayor's orders, was simply a starting point for the disclosures likely to follow, it was said, in connection with the report that a sensation was about to be sprung. Twenty-five have been indicted by the King's County grand jury as a result of the early disclosures, since Inspector Russell took charge of the Coney Island district, when Inspector Sheriff was relieved from duty there. It is now declared that the Manhattan grand jury will now also begin the taking of testimony as a result of Acting-Mayor Mitchell's later charges that the Tenderloin is again gambling and that disorderly resorts are being run with the connivance of the police.

Reports today were that the police officials who had determined to confess had no expectation of retaining his place in the department, but had determined upon his course with the view of "standing from under" sufficiently to avoid criminal prosecution.

A Most Important Statement.

was made at the national convention of life underwriters last week at Detroit by State Commissioner J. V. Barry. He said: "The very best asset a life insurance company can have is a satisfied policyholder." This statement is applicable to the Excelsior Life Insurance Company's policyholders in particular; for those whose endowment and other policies matured a year ago, immediately took out another policy for three times the amount of the original policy. Insure in the Excelsior Life. London Offices—Merchants Bank Building.

Kingsmills THE QUALITY STORE Kingsmills

Ladies' Dressmaking and Tailoring

Departments Now Open

The Kid Glove Sale

Great was the response to the announcement of our Glove Sale. For tomorrow we've saved an excellent lot.

Girls' Heavy English Walking Gloves, 50c

Made of extra heavy kid, in sizes 1 to 7, for children, girls and misses. Never before sold for less than 75c a pair. Tomorrow.....50¢

Ladies' Fine French Kid Gloves 79c

In pretty shades of tans, browns, mode, greys, white and black; two-buttoned style; excellent quality, very special. Tomorrow.....79¢

Ladies' Lisle Stockings 25c

In blacks and all colors; an excellent quality at this very special price. Saturday, pair 25¢

$1.25 Tweed Suitings 50c

In pretty shades of greens, blues, browns and reds; all 54 inches wide; weights for suits and dresses. Tomorrow, yard .....50¢

6-Inch Moire Ribbons 15c

In cream, white, sky, navy, black, red, green, etc.; a very special value, at yard.....15¢

Feather Boas, at 99c

A big purchase of $2.25 Feather Boas, in white, black, blue, brown and mixtures. Worth $2.25 each.

Children's Stockings, 10c

All sizes. A good-wearing Black Stocking; some slightly imperfect. Worth 20c. On sale Saturday at, pair ..... 10¢

MEN'S SUITS and OVERCOATS Cut to Your Measure FREE

YOUR CHOICE OF OUR IMMENSE STOCK OF SUITINGS AND COATINGS. WE WILL CHARGE FOR THE CLOTH ONLY. ORDER EARLY.

Kingsmills

MORE MONEY FOR THE EXHIBITORS

Live Stock Prizes For 1911 Will Likely Be Increased By the Western.

CITIZENS AND THE FAIR

Mr. William McNeil Says the People of London Have Not Supported the Exhibition as They Should.

An addition of $1,000 or $1,500 will probably be made to the Western Fair prize list for 1911.

This year, the sum of $1,000 was added, and it produced results. The directors are of the opinion that another thousand dollars, or fifteen hundred would produce even greater results, and put the Western Fair in an enviable position.

"We have got to spend money to get money," said Mr. C. E. Trebilcock. "Such an increase in prize money would help us greatly in getting exhibits. We must go after the exhibitors."

A number of the directors thought the same, and it is likely that a strong recommendation will be made to the board of next year to make the addition.

Changes Rumored.

Other changes are rumored. The subject of privileges will also be submitted to a separate committee, it is rumored. The growth of the exhibition has made it practically impossible to handle all these matters in one committee, and they will be subdivided, so that a separate committee can devote all its time to this work.

"Of course, the citizens have not supported us as they should," said Mr. William McNeil. "While every fair is open to criticism, this one being no exception, nevertheless the citizens should stand by us, and help us more. Look at Toronto, for instance. They turn a small surplus into the council, and then come back with a demand for large sums, and they get them. The Western Fair is one of the best assets the city has, and we should all get together and make it one of the very best exhibitions possible."

Mr. Hunt Speaks.

Secretary Hunt stated to The Advertiser that the exhibitors were, as a rule, well satisfied.

"We have had many requests to reserve space next year," said Mr. Hunt. "I could name any number of exhibitors who want room for 1911. There will be no trouble filling the buildings next year, if the prize money is increased, as I think it should be."

BRANTFORD COURT ACQUITS BAKERS

Brantford, Sept. 16.—Magistrate Livingstone today dismissed a charge against the Whittaker Baking Company, laid under the new bread law. The company is turning out double loaves of 20 ounces, claiming they are made separately, and are not joined until they reach the oven.

The crown contended that under the act these should be 24 ounces. The magistrate in dismissing the case said he thought the act should be amended.

FIREMEN CAUGHT IN FALLING BUILDING

Two of the Halifax Brigade May Not Survive Their Injuries.

Halifax, Sept. 16.—Fire completely destroyed three buildings on the market wharf and came dangerously near sweeping away the entire south end of the waterfront today.

Capt. Richard Stone and Fireman Vincent Bennett both had a narrow escape from death and are both in the Victoria General Hospital in a serious condition. While fighting flames on a ladder the roof of the burning building fell with a terrific crash, burying both firemen in the debris.

The men were rescued with great difficulty and may not recover.

GRAHAM TO SEE HAYS

In Behalf of Men Who Have Not Been Taken Back.

Ottawa, Sept. 16.—There does not appear to be any agreement made in the settlement of the G. T. R. strike to the effect that the company would take back its striking employees, "when vacancies occur," as Mr. Brownlee has said.

The Minister of Railways says they must be taken into the railway employ again within 90 days of the settlement of the dispute—that is, Nov. 2 next. Hon. Geo. P. Graham will see President Hays on Thursday next to ask justice for the men. The union leaders have made many representations to him and to the Minister of Labor, with the object of taking the men back, and both have expressed their intention of putting it up plainly to the railway authorities.

SENT TO THE MERCER

Young Toronto Woman Caught Stealing for Fifth Time.

Toronto, Sept. 16.—Martha Thompson, alias Brennan, is a young and respectable-looking woman, but on four occasions she has been convicted for stealing. This morning she appeared in the police court for the fifth time and pleaded guilty to stealing several articles from the rooms of exhibition visitors. She had disposed of articles principally clothing, to second-hand dealers. She was sent to the Mercer Reformatory for six months this time.

M'GUIGAN SECURES A BIG CONTRACT

To Construct the Don High Level Bridge at Toronto.

Toronto, Sept. 16.—The contract for the Don high level bridge was let by the board of control today to the F. H. McGuigan Construction Company for $193,000, exclusive of filling in and paving, which the city will do at a further cost of $19,000. The construction of the bridge will abolish the level crossings over which the street railway, C. P. R., G. T. R., and C. N. R. all go. The cost is to be borne as follows: City of Toronto 15, Toronto Railway 15, C. P. R. 35, C. N. R. 25, and G. T. R. 10 per cent.

'TWAS ALL A JOKE, NOT AFTER RECORDS

Captain Said He Was Going to Etah For Dr. Cook's Records, Only as a Joke.

New York, Sept. 17.—Members of the Whitney-Ralney expedition are laughing today at the prime joke they think they have on the skipper of the steamship Hans E. Gede and the good people of Denmark.

While their yacht, the Boethic, was in Godhaven they were spoken to by a vessel they believe to be the Hans E. Gede. Her captain signalled them to ask who they were and what took them so far north. Just as a jest, without a thought that the echoes of it would be heard so long after in two continents, they answered that they were John Bradley and his party, on their way to Etah, to get Dr. Cook's records.

Yesterday, much to the surprise of all the expedition, came word from Copenhagen of the mysterious Bradley expedition. They aren't much inclined to believe in it.

London Life

POLICIES "GOOD AS GOLD"

The Business Policy of this Company

Gives first consideration to the interests of its policyholders.

Appreciation is shown by the fact that the present progress of the Company is, proportionately, unexcelled.

Ask for copy of the Annual Report.

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W. H. ROBINSON, District Inspector. } Ordinary Branch.
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