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LONDON, TUESDAY, FEB. 16.

CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE.

One of the hardest-fought contests in the last Dominion election was that in West Kent. After the battle, the cry was raised that the success of Mr. McCoig, the Liberal candidate, had been due to bribery and other forms of corruption, and it was expected that a protest would be entered. But the time limit was allowed to pass without a petition being filed, and the rank and file of the Conservative party in the riding have been asking the reason.

The truth came out at the West Kent Conservative convention held recently. There was a sort of heart-to-heart talk, delegates relating their experiences and making confessions of the kind that are good for the soul. It was made plain that the reason Mr. McCoig was allowed to remain in undisturbed possession of the seat was that, whatever means may have been employed in his behalf, his opponents themselves were far from sinless.

Said the president of the association, Mr. Pike: "If we are clean we will be in the impregnable position to unseat any member who wins over our heads through corruption. We will be in a position to favor a protest and fight it through. We are not able to come before you that way now."

Another delegate declared: "I oppose the protest on account of the conditions which prevailed in West Kent and knowing what had been done on both sides."

Finally Mr. Clements himself admitted that as a party, "our hands were not clean in the last campaign. We have to admit the same." The result of all this was the convention agreed to in future avoid crooked methods—to fight fair and thus be in a position to back up a protest should the conduct of the other party warrant it.

There is reason to hope that this commendable stand of the West Kent Conservatives will have good results for both parties. That staunch Conservative paper, the Hamilton Spectator, moralizes as follows:

"The decision is an admirable one and one that could be adopted with profit by the Conservative party generally throughout the Dominion. No man can successfully fight evil from within the camp of evildoers. The only fighting that takes place is there is the squabble that occasionally arises over a division of the spoils. Let the Conservatives of West Kent in future elections refrain from crooked work and spend their money in seeing that the other fellow plays fair and in prosecuting him if he does not. That way it will be more likely to bring about satisfactory election results, even though the battle has to be fought over again in the election courts. One may well wonder if the West Kent Conservatives would have held such an experience meeting had their candidate succeeded at the polls. But why arouse disturbing doubts? Political adversity has resulted in the turning over of a new leaf, let everybody give three cheers for adversity!"

LONDON AND RAILWAY COMMISSION.

The Dominion railway commission, or one of its members, will visit London next week to look into the question of level crossings.

The mobility of the commission is one of its main advantages. It would have been impossible to secure proper attention in such cases under the former cumbersome procedure of the railway committee of the privy council, but the members of the new tribunal travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific investigating grievances and conditions "on the spot."

The fearful toll of human life taken at Grimsby the other day helped to focus public attention on the selfsame crossing peril. Almost immediately a railway commissioner visited the place, and then there came a ruling for the protection of the crossing, dividing the cost between the railway company and the municipalities in the proportion of 80 per cent to 20 per cent. The grievous number of fatalities on the level crossings of this city appears also to have come under the notice of the commission. The visit will be of exceptional interest because of the impression that it is not unconnected with the project of track elevation.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE LORDS.

There is just one feature of the plan proposed by the Rosebery commission for the reform of the House of Lords, which appears to meet with general approval, and that is the assertion of the principle that the mere possession of a peerage ought not to carry with it the right to legislate for the United Kingdom. The scheme as a whole meets with the vigorous opposition of the advanced Liberals and Radicals, for the reason that they see in a chamber constituted as proposed one in which a perpetual preponderance would be held by the Unionist party.

An alternative plan is suggested by Mr. Frederick Harrison, which it is believed would prove more acceptable

to many Liberals. This scheme would leave the House of Lords as it is for imperial purposes and for everything connected with the crown, with war and diplomacy and the pageantry of state. Instead, however, of bills passed by the House of Commons dealing exclusively with affairs of the United Kingdom being sent to the House of Lords, the author of this scheme would have them sent to the privy council, where they could be debated by the leaders of both parties without party affiliations. In the opinion of Mr. Harrison such a privy council should not exceed three hundred in number, with the number of new councillors outside of ministers limited to ten in a given year. As at present constituted the privy council consists of some 250 members, 115 of whom are peers. Among them are all those who have held the higher offices and who constantly take part in the debates of either House. Commons have a majority of over sixty in the council and some thirty-six are judges and prominent members of the bar. Politically, a majority are nominal Unionists, but being men of experience and of proved discretion, it is believed they would not likely be biased by party feeling in the consideration of legislation laid before them. It is estimated that about one-third of them who have passed almost their whole lives in administration are non-party men. It is further pointed out that the privy council does not take second place even to the House of Lords as regards antiquity.

A TRIUMPH OF ECONOMY.

The city council last night declined to investigate the smallpox hospital affair on the score of economy. The city of London practiced the same virtue in erecting a smallpox hospital without a kitchen or a bathroom. A saving was effected by preparing the food in a patient's room. It was another stroke of economy to get one woman to wait on six patients and do all the cleaning, cooking and laundry work. Trained nurses would have cost something. Clean bed linen, clean towels and a telephone would have been additional items of expense. The location of a water closet—the only one in the building—in a patient's room, saved space as well as money. There has been economy in a highly-developed form, but neither the city council nor the board of health appears to wish to claim the credit.

Word comes that the Niagara peach crop is ruined. This year's annual is ahead of the first robin this year.

Hetty Green is mad at her prospective son-in-law, and says she wants her daughter to remain single. This is the finishing touch to her reputation as a mean old woman.

The water commissioners should not wait for a formal invitation to inspect the artesian wells. The question of the water supply is more important than one of official etiquette.

The session of the British Parliament which opened today promises to be the most momentous in twenty years. Mr. Lloyd-George's budget is expected to open a new chapter in British history.

The new Ontario Legislature opens today. As Mr. Mackay looks around him, he may well exclaim, "There's only a few of us left!" But the Opposition is still alive, and perhaps able to do some kicking.

The management of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, has ruled against encore. The encore has long been a source of irritation to the management. He is intent upon getting the worth of his money, but as a rule he doesn't know from the quality of the performance whether he is getting it or not.

LINCOLN.
[James Whitcomb Riley.]
A peaceful life—till, duty, rest—
All his desires
To read the books he liked the best
Beside the cabin fire—
Gave work and man's poor sometimes
Above the page, the smoldering gleams,
And catch, like far heroic rhymes,
The onrush of his dreams.

A peaceful life—to hear the low
Of pastured herds,
Or woodman's axe, that, blow on blow,
Fell sweet as rhythmic words,
And yet there stirred within his breast
A faithful pulse that, like a roll
Of drums, made high above his rest
A tumult in his soul.

A peaceful life! They hailed him even
"On the spot."
The fearful toll of human life taken
At Grimsby the other day helped to
Focus public attention on the selfsame
Crossing peril. Almost immediately
A railway commissioner visited the place,
And then there came a ruling for the
Protection of the crossing, dividing the
Cost between the railway company and
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Level crossings of this city appears
Also to have come under the notice
Of the commission. The visit will be
Of exceptional interest because of the
Impression that it is not unconnected
With the project of track elevation.

FOR ARMS AND SHOULDERS.
[Detroit News.]
Why do those heavy doctors who
Are advising women to take exercise
In order to add to their personal charms
Hint that the exercise of mixing dough
Has points in its favor?

WITHOUT EXAMINATION.
[Birmingham News.]
People can get a license to marry without
The slightest qualifications to fill the
Job.

LONDON'S TOY FACTORY.
[Hamilton Herald.]
London's Trades and Labor Council has
Established a toy factory to furnish work
To unemployed men. This suggests the
Possibilities of co-operation on industrial
Lines among wage-earners.

WHAT IS YOUR TEMPERATURE?
[Technical World Magazine.]
What is a person's normal temperature?
Is a question often asked of every physi-
cian.

When the answer 98.6° Fahr. is given
To the query, very few people understand
The physiological significance of this fact,
Or how a degree of systemic heat is main-
tained during health, within such narrow
limits, that the body has an even tem-
perature during the coldest day in winter
Or the hottest day in summer, with an ex-
actness of adjustment that is not obtainable
In any other animal.

Now, in accepting the statement that
The body temperature is 98.6° Fahr., it
Must be borne in mind that to some extent
This is a relative figure, for the warmth
Of the exterior varies markedly from that
Of the interior. The surface temperature
Of the head, hands or abdomen may differ
From 93° Fahr., or lower, while that of the
Internal regions may extend up to 102.2°
Fahr., the average of blood circulating in
Organs like the liver, pancreas and kidneys.
For practical purposes some gauge must be accepted whereby normal
Temperature may be measured and compared.
Therefore, on account of convenience and
practicality, the temperature taken carefully
Under the tongue by a clinical thermometer has been selected as a
Common standard throughout medical circles.
It is sometimes recorded in the axilla, or
groin, instead of in the mouth, when, for
any reason, a sublingual test is not
advantageous. The temperature of these
localities differs slightly from the mouth,
being .2° Fahr. less.

APPLIES, ORANGES EGGS AND PRUNES

THE GOD-GIVEN CURE FOR ALL DISEASES OF BOWELS, LIVER, KIDNEYS AND SKIN.

Few people seem to realize how important—how absolutely necessary—it is to keep the bowels, kidneys and skin in proper working order. They wonder why they have sallow complexion, indigestion, headache, aches—rheumatism—while all the time their systems are clogged and poisoned with waste tissue and indigestible food which these organs should have removed.

What they need are fruit juices—nature's provision for keeping the eliminating machinery of the body working right. "Fruit-a-lives" are the concentrated juices of fresh, ripe fruits, combined in such a way that their medicinal action is greatly intensified. They stimulate and regulate the action of liver, bowels, kidneys and skin, thus clearing the system of the accumulated waste and poison, purifying the blood, and banishing those distressing troubles that make life miserable.

No other remedy has ever been discovered that does this so effectively as "Fruit-a-lives." 50c a box—six boxes for \$2.50. Trial size 25c. Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

His winning way. [Brookville Times.]
The Hon. G. P. Graham, by a fairly good imitation of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's "sunny ways" game, has succeeded in insinuating himself more or less into the good graces of the House.

The aged stranger. [Arthur Chapman, in Providence Journal.]
"After Bret Harte," the stranger said, "I sailed with Binns." The stranger said, "Cried the old man: 'Say no more, but sit thee down at my cottage porch. For thy feet are weary and sore.'"

"I sailed with Binns," the stranger said. "Cried the old man: 'Say no more, but sit thee down at my cottage porch. For thy feet are weary and sore.'"

"Then tell me how he did the trick, and flashed the C. Q. D.—But first draw up to my humble board and help yourself to tea."

"I sailed with Binns," the stranger said. "When he had eaten well, 'But I guess the Binns I use to know Ain't him you know so well.'"

"His name was Bill, instead of Jack, and was kids, knee high, and sailed to boats in Thompson's creek, Near Providence, R. I."

And then arose the frenzied host and laid destructive hands Upon the guileful impostor. Who said he'd sailed with Binns.

DARWIN'S INFLUENCE. [Toronto Presbyterian.]
Of the many eminent men, who were born in 1809 no other has exercised so enduring an influence on human thought as Darwin. His theory of evolution profoundly affected the development of physical science by stimulating research, and it materially and permanently modified the general view of scientific progress and Christian theology. It was neither his praise nor his blame, according to the old-time view, that relation was for a time acute antagonism. It was no part of his assumed mission to undermine evangelical religion.

THE INFERENCE. [Punch.]
Recruit—Please, sergeant, I've got a splinter in my hand.
Sergeant—Instinct—What yer been dooin'—strok'ing yer head.

A TOAST. [Harper's Weekly.]
Old wine to drink,
Old thoughts to think,
Old jokes to grin at joyously,
Old books to read,
Old laws to heed,
Old friends to reminisce with me,
Old clothes to wear,
Old shoes to ease our aching toes,
Old heroes—his,
To Musketeers,
The Artagnans and Ivanhoes.

Old plays to see,
Old songs of glees—
The old things ever tried and true,
And best of all,
That I recall,
Old girls, old girl, if she be true!

AT CARLYLE'S BIRTHPLACE. [Book Monthly.]
Is it true that Carlyle's "own folk" are getting sadly indifferent to his memory? It looks like it. Every visitor to Ecclefechan has given evidence of the fact. There is no memorial to him there or to his wife, Jane Welsh Carlyle, the suggested Edinburgh memorial, for which the first circular was issued on Jan. 18, 1897, has not yet taken shape. The "Reverend Rector of Ecclefechan" died a natural death fully a year ago, and the books are dispersed. Strangers still come to the grave in considerable numbers, and the path to the grave in the churchyard is well trodden, but the upright red Dumfriesshire gravestone is weathering badly and is covered with lichen.

A SOCIAL SURPRISE. [Washington Star.]
"So the reception interested you?" "Yes," answered Mr. Meekton, "I'm glad my wife took me. It was a novel experience to find everybody talking at once instead of listening to Henrietta's opinions."

INVITATION TO RALPH CONNOR. Famous Canadian Author Will Be Asked to Speak Here.

The home missionary society committee met yesterday afternoon in the W. C. T. U. building to make arrangements for the annual convention of the society, which will be held here during the first week of April.

An effort will be made to bring Ralph Connor to this city for the occasion. Dr. Arthur, of Vegreville, Sask., will probably address the meetings.

The Home Mission Auxiliary, First Presbyterian Church will provide refreshments.

The members of the committee are: Messames Carson, McEvoy, Stevenson, Henderson and Miss Evans. Mrs. (Rev.) James Rollins presided.

TU RND OUT BY FLAMES. Early Morning Blaze at Toronto Drives Inmates Out Unclothed.

Toronto, Feb. 15.—A swift blaze in the second-story quarters of the Queen City Yacht Club early this morning, turned the steward, John Daly, his wife, his 7-year-old son, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Judson, and his brother-in-law, Harry Judson, out of doors.

The women and the lad, dressed only in nightgowns and slippers, had to race along the windy wharf in a smother of snow to the Argonaut Rowing Club, where they were taken care of by Mrs. Judson, who is about 65 years, is confined to her room from shock.

The fire broke out at 12:15, and in a few minutes the flames were out of control. The fire department was called, but the fire was too large for them to handle. The loss is estimated at \$2,000. The loss is covered by insurance. Electric wires are blamed for the fire.

BIG QUESTION BEFORE HOUSE

Problem As To the Control of Provincial Matters.

THE CONNIE MEASURE IS ONCE MORE UP

Bill Thrown Out by Senate Last Session Again Under Discussion.

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—The old controversy as to the conflict of federal and provincial rights in the matter of chartering private companies, and as to what should and what should not be done under that vaguely defined category of enterprise, "the general advantage of Canada," was raised in the Commons today in connection with an old friend of the order paper, Mr. James Connors' bill to incorporate the Ontario and Michigan Power Company. In the past the blanket phrase, "for the general advantage of Canada," has been thrown over many pieces of legislation which require a lively imagination to classify as more than of local importance.

The bill itself seeks the incorporation of a power company with right of way over the waterway of the Pigeon River, an international stream, and on the Nipigon River, a navigable stream. The company also seeks the right to export 50 per cent of the power developed. The bill is presented on the ground that the Dominion Parliament alone has jurisdiction over the waters of rivers, and hence the bill must come within the purview of the federal law.

Mr. Connors' Argument. Mr. Connors then in giving the second reading of the bill explained that it was practically the same bill as that rejected by the Senate last session, with the exception that it provided for the storage of water and the Sturgeon River proposal were dropped. In his view it did not differ materially from a large number of bills which had been passed by the Dominion Parliament. The Ontario legislature had passed bills of a similar nature which did not provide so many safeguards of the public interests. He suggested that the bill be referred to the committee on the question of the control over international rivers was as much an issue in the case of the Nipigon River as in that of the Pigeon River.

Mr. Borden made the point that the chartering of the company by the Provincial Legislature would not in any way abrogate the right of the federal government to give or withhold consent to the erection of any works that might interfere with the flow of water in either of the rivers mentioned. He said that he had been altogether too lax in making the declaration that a company seeking a Federal charter was "for the general advantage of Canada" and provincial rights had been too frequently invaded. That declaration should be made only after thorough investigation in every case, and the provincial authorities should have been given a chance to present any objections. In respect to the general question of the wisdom of granting charters such as the one in question he repeated the warning given in the States by the Pinchot, head of the American Forestry Department, that there was danger of all water powers of the country falling into the hands of a monopoly. "Why should we allow any set of men to create beginnings

Chapman's

Men's Shirts

Sale on Wednesday of Men's White and Colored Stiff Bosom Shirts

Men's White Shirts, stiff bosoms, perfectly laundered, fresh and clean. Some open fronts and others open back and front. These White Shirts are well-known Salem and Tooke makes, as are the colored Shirts in the same style.

All regular dollar values. Sizes 13 to 18. Special sale price, Wednesday 59¢

Misses' \$8.50 Coats at \$3.85

Twenty-five only Misses' Fancy Tweed Coats, in medium and dark colors. Lengths from 39 to 48 inches long. Splendid winter garments. Regular price \$8.50. Clearing price \$3.85

Children's \$3 and \$4 Coats at \$1.50

A table of Children's Tweed Coats, in dark and medium colors, neatly trimmed with self-strappings. Lengths, 30 to 39 inches long. Clearing price \$1.50

Ladies' Coats, Half-Price and Less

A few left of those Mannish Coats, in long lengths and assorted sizes. Made of fancy English Worsteds. Actually worth \$10.00 to \$15.00. Clearing price \$5.00

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Many of these fine Black Winter Overcoats found owners on Saturday. But the assortment of sizes remains good, and the values are every bit as good. The saving of four dollars is represented in real money, for these coats are from our regular stock. Sizes 34 to 44; plenty of sizes for stout men.

FRANCE TO HAVE GRAFT EXPOSURE

Charges of Official Graft Float Around Lobby of Chamber of Deputies.

London, Feb. 15.—It is being gossiped about the foreign offices of the various European capitals that the French Government is today on the eve of a shocking "graft" exposure. Whispers of charges of official graft are known to have been floating around the lobbies of the Chamber of Deputies for a long time. Things have reached a point now where diplomats say they don't believe an investigation can be much longer delayed.

The navy, in particular, is said to be in an awful state of inefficiency as a result of the plundering by which departmental employees, contractors and perhaps some of the officers actually in service are suspected of having pocketed millions of francs.

Minister Picard, who assumed charge of the department when the fragrant conditions forced Minister Thomson's retirement, is understood confidentially to have told his cabinet colleagues of things he has discovered, which would fill the prisons of Canada, past and present, if those responsible for the abuses had their dues.

As a single instance of the looseness with which naval affairs were run, the new minister had recently taken office before, in the course of an inventory of the country's available fighting craft, the authorities stumbled over the fact that none of them knew they had it. It was the Gustave Zede, disarmed three years ago, tucked into an out-of-the-way place and was completely forgotten.

Of course, this was a case of incompetence rather than of corruption. The Government doesn't permit the details of corruption cases to leak out if it can help it. The popular verdict is, however, that there wouldn't be such surprising instances of mismanagement if dishonesty didn't exist too.

There are now three Presbyterian churches at work in Formosa—the British, the Canadian and the Japanese.

Mother Cave Her Child Away.

Had Given up all Hope of Living. Heart Trouble was Cured by Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills.

Mrs. Andrew Savoy, Grattan's, N.B., writes:—"In the year 1895 I was taken sick and did not think I could live any length of time. My trouble was with my heart and people told me that nothing could be done for a case like mine. I consulted the very best doctors but they could do me no good. For seven weeks I could hardly cross the floor. I had no pain, but was so weak nobody in the world can believe how I felt. I had given up all hope of living and had given my little girl to my sister-in-law."

"One day a friend came to see me, and calling me by name, said, 'Lizzie, if I were you I would try a dose of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills as they are good for heart trouble.' My husband got me a box, but for two days I was not feeling any better, but on the fourth day my husband said, 'I believe those pills are doing you good.' I was able to say, 'Yes, I feel a good deal better this morning.' He said, 'Well, I will get you another box right away.' I took two boxes and three doses out of the third one, and I was perfectly well and have not been sick since then."

"I will never be without them in my home for God knows if it had not been for Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, I would not have been alive now."

Price 50¢ a box, 3 boxes for \$1.25, at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

There are some vaudeville turns that

power stock company.

The Power Stock Company was the attraction at the Grand last evening, and will play the rest of the week. There was a fair audience and the play pleased all.

The company is a good one. It is a popular-priced show, of course, but the players are occasional flashes of real acting.

Herbert Power is the leading man in the company, and as a comedian he is excellent. He addressed vast audiences yesterday morning, afternoon and evening in