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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY (Limited), LONDON, ONTARIO.

London, Tuesday, April 2.

Exemptions.

The Attorney-General's bill proposing to give to municipalities the power to remit taxation in whole or in part, or to enter into an agreement with persons exercising or about to exercise within the municipality any public franchise, for the supply of water, light, heat, transportation or other public service, as to the amount of taxation to be imposed, is meeting with opposition. Mr. Whitney declares that there never was a bill introduced since Confederation that deserved more severe and distinct condemnation than this bill.

We favor the bill. There may be many instances in which it would be a very wise thing indeed to do. Take a short time ago, when the St. Thomas street railway was in difficulty and could not make both ends meet, it might have been a satisfactory way out of the difficulty. Take this city, which a few years ago had several vacant factories. Fixed taxation or exemption was preferable to idleness. We are aware the bill does not deal with that class, but the argument or principle involved is the same. Take the present position of London. It is without any public hall or opera house suitable for its requirements. It would be reasonable to give either exemption or fixed taxation in order to secure such.

We do not argue that the bonus system or exemption system is not one that may be badly abused, but it also, wisely used, has its benefits. As a rule, legislation that seeks to prevent the freedom of contract, when applied to individuals, is vicious. The same rule might be applied to municipalities. Within the scope of each municipality the councilors or aldermen are most likely safe to trust. They know their own particular want. It does not follow, if they have the power, that they will do wrong, or even that they will use the power at all. The just inference is they will act with discretion. The power proposed to be vested in them continues for three years only, and would not apply to schools and local improvements.

We cannot agree with Mr. Whitney's view. Our faith is that the average councilor and alderman wants to do right, and while in all bonuses and exemptions or fixed assessments granted there is an element of injustice, we do not think the discretionary limited powers proposed could work other than good.

Education and the People.

Dr. Watson, of Queen's University, recently made an important deliverance on the question of popular education; these statements made both in Toronto and Kingston will no doubt call forth considerable discussion. The Kingston "Whig" seems to be under a misapprehension in its cry to "save the schools of the people," from academic attack. In looking over Prof. Watson's address, we note many points worthy of careful discussion, but at present we can simply dwell upon one point, and it gives us great pleasure to observe that. As might be expected, Dr. Watson's sympathies are not simply with a small educated class, but with the whole people. At the very opening he says: "We must always remember that a really national system of education must be so constructed that the children of the poor, as well as the rich, should have the opportunity of an open career." This is what is meant by the statement, that the public and high schools should be kept in close touch with the universities; it is not that the public schools are to be made "mere feeders" of the universities, whatever that may mean. The enlightened university man is quite well aware that the universities exist for the people, and not the people for the universities. It is well to keep in mind, then, in this democratic country and age, that a boy out of any of our families may be called to pursue the path of scholarship, and if the foundation is well laid at the beginning there will not be so much difficulty with the superstructure. Hence, the wisdom of Dr. Watson's advice, "We must, then, be careful in constructing our educational system, not to divide the community into those who are from the first intended to enter a profession, those who are meant to be engaged in industry or commerce, and those who are intended to be artisans. No doubt the social forces will continue to operate along these lines; but it should rather be our aim to moderate these tendencies than to encourage them; that is, we should regard every boy as capable of any career, even the highest, until he is proved incompetent for it."

Speaking of the effect of the banishment of Greek and other subjects which have always been considered essential to the highest scholarship from the high schools, Dr. Watson says: "I foresee that, if the present system continues, the universities will be forced to give an elementary training in the subjects not acquired by students in the high schools, or we shall be compelled to establish more schools of the type of Upper Canada College." "To the institution of more schools after the model of the English public or grammar school, I have no objection; they would probably apply a better discipline and training to the sons of our wealthier citizens—often the most pernicious because the eldest element in the community—than the ordinary schools accord, but, from the nature of the case, such schools would not remedy the defects of the present system, but would rather tend to accentuate them by abandoning our high schools to the tender mercies of those 'bold bad men,' the advocates of optional studies in our high schools. What we need is an education of the highest kind; open to all; an education which will do the best that can be done for clever boys, however poor their parents may be." This should certainly be the aim in a free self-governed country, and the people have a right to expect that the way to all kinds of knowledge shall be kept open to all.

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The Attorney-General's Law-Reform Bill.

It would appear as if the Attorney-General would be taking the safe course if he lets his Law Reform Bill stand for another session. No doubt there is much truth in the hint thrown out, that the same thing was said a year ago, and would likely be said a year from now. For all that, we say, let it stand a year.

The Attorney-General appears to have conceded that he will strike out the provisions giving county courts jurisdiction in slander, libel and quashing bylaws. He may as well let the balance of the bill stand.

The principal omission in the bill is that it makes no provision for the appointment of a guardian in each county for infants, lunatics, etc. This provision is of more practical consequence than all the amendments or alterations in the bill proposed. Why is this change not made? There is time yet to add this clause, and it should be done. We do not need to give our reasons for this. We have on more than one occasion given them, and we have heard no reason advanced by anyone for a continuance of the present system. Remedy what is an evil, known and acknowledged, but do not too hastily change the law in matters fairly open to discussion.

The Liability of a Railway Company for Damages.

This is a common source of loss, particularly in the summer time, when the grass is dry and burnt up. Farmers are much interested in the law on this point, which in effect is that the farmer whose trees or crops have been destroyed must prove some negligence on the part of the railway company. It is not enough to show that a fire has occurred, for which it is quite clear the farmer could in no way be to blame. That is not enough. The railway company reply that they are not liable because they are operating the railway under statutory powers, and unless they have been guilty of some negligence, they are not liable.

Railway appliances have been so perfected that no such fire should occur if the railway employees do their duty; but how is a farmer to know that the employees have been guilty of negligence, and if so, of what the negligence consists. He only knows his crop is burned or his fences or barns or trees, as the case may be. He does not know why. In England they are evidently changing the law to throw the responsibility on the company, on the theory that if there was no negligence there would be no fire. An English paper has the following notice. The majority appears to be ample: "The bill rendering railway companies liable to make good any damage caused to crops or plantations by fire arising from sparks emitted from locomotive engines was read a second time, after some discussion, by 307 to 50."

REBELS GIVING UP

Thirty Men and Officers of Gen. Cailie's Command Have Surrendered in Manila.

Manila, April 2.—Thirty men of Gen. Cailie's command have surrendered. Five were officers, including Cois, Herrera and Rejola. Washington, April 2.—The war department received the following telegram from Gen. MacArthur, at Manila, dated March 30: "Gen. Geronimo, commanding Eastern Bulacan, Morong Province, surrendered yesterday (Friday) with 12 officers, 29 men, and 30 guns; took the oath of allegiance and returned to the mountains in order to secure more guns. Contreras, commanding Northeast Panay and Suluan, surrendered in Panay with 30 guns."

TO STOP HAIR-CUTTING HAZARD.

Ann Arbor, Mich., April 2.—President Angell, of the University of Michigan, has reiterated his decree against forcible hair-cutting, but notwithstanding the admonition the freshmen and sophomores show signs of continuing their warfare. As the result of last night's late raids five freshmen and two sophomores are shorn of their locks. "Any further hair-cutting will be severely dealt with," said Dr. Angell. "The chief trouble with this practice is that it leads to class meles in which many are hurt."

A day has been set aside throughout Italy for the planting of trees by the youth of the public schools.

LABOR CIRCLES STIRRED UP!

Many Painters and Carpenters Quit Work at Port Huron.

Thirty Thousand Scottish Miners Go Out on Strike—Machinists Give Warning.

London, April 2.—Reports received at a mass meeting of the Lanarkshire colliery engine handlers at Hamilton showed that 30,000 miners were idle in Scotland owing to the strike for an eight-hour day.

Marseilles, April 1.—At strike meetings held last evening and attended by about 3,500 dockers and coal heavers, it was decided to continue the strike until the masters concede an eight-hour day. At a later meeting some 400 dock foremen who had not hitherto joined the strike decided to refuse to continue to work with the improvised dock hands until the demands of the strikers were granted. This will paralyze dock work.

LOSS CAUSED BY DOCKERS' STRIKE.

Large quantities of perishable goods lie rotting on the docks. Twenty-one steamers are awaiting discharge. The general strike, while it lasted, and the continuous suspension of most dock work has done enormous injury to the commerce and industry of Marseilles. The calculations show an industrial loss of some 25,000,000 francs, while the men have lost more than 2,000,000 francs in wages.

MACHINISTS WILL GIVE WARNING.

New York, April 1.—George H. Warner, business agent of the New York district of the International Association of Machinists, reported at a meeting of the Central Federated Union last night that mass meetings will be held all over the United States, Mexico and the Dominion of Canada to prepare for the nine-hour demand of the machinists. The employers have been given until May 1 to prepare for the demand, which is to go into effect on May 20.

Youngstown, Ohio, April 2.—Employees of the five blast furnaces at Sharpville, Pa., have posted notices demanding a raise of pay, and a general strike is threatened in the Shermans Valley, April 5, unless the demands are granted.

PAINTERS AND CARPENTERS OUT.

Port Huron, Mich., April 2.—The members of the Carpenters' and Joiners' Union went on strike yesterday, and about 150 men are out. Some time ago the union presented a scale of wages to the contractors, asking for 25 cents an hour and nine hours' work a day, with pay day on Saturday night. All but four of the contractors signed the scale, but the four who refused to accede to the demands employ the largest number of men.

FOR EIGHT HOURS.

Cincinnati, Ohio, April 1.—Five hundred and fifty members of the journeymen painters' and decorators' union struck yesterday. They demand \$2 for an eight-hour day.

Fort Wayne, Ind., April 1.—All painters and paperhangers in this city went on strike yesterday. They ask 60 cents per hour and a nine-hour day.

Marion, Ind., April 1.—Today closed the fiscal year of the carpenters' unions and the contractors of the gas belt. If a new scale is not signed the men will strike. It is believed, in all the gas belt towns. The men demand a sliding scale, or pay according to quality and quantity of work, the minimum scale be 30 cents an hour and the maximum 50 cents an hour.

Waterbury, Conn., April 1.—The local members of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators, to the number of 125 went out on strike today. They demand an eight-hour day.

SILK WEAVERS STRIKE.

New York, April 2.—Two hundred and fifty men and women employed at the Enterprise silk mill at Paterson, N. J., left their looms because a request for an advance of 20 per cent in wages had been refused. This is the first strike in the ranks of the broad silk weavers in Paterson.

HAMILTON TAILORS. Hamilton, Ont., April 1.—The merchant and journeymen tailors having failed to reach a settlement of their difficulties, Secretary Robinson, of the journeymen's union, ordered a strike.

Three Meals a Day.



How many years of her life does a woman spend over the hot cook stove getting those three meals a day? Back aching, head throbbing, nerves twitching, it's all the same, there are three meals a day to be prepared. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cannot lighten woman's labor, but it can and does increase her strength. It cures those diseases of the womanly organs which undermine woman's vitality.

"I cannot praise Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription too highly as a tonic for tired, worn-out women who are afflicted with female weakness," writes Mrs. Ira W. Holmes, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. "It has helped me very much and a skillful physician once said to me in answer to my question as to its efficacy, 'I know of cases where it has really worked wonders.'"

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets do not react upon the system. They are a good thing to keep in the house. One 'Pellet' is a laxative, two a cathartic dose. The medicine for every woman.

The New Idea Pattern 10c.

The Runians-Gray Co. 208, 210, 210½, 212 DUNDAS STREET.

Grocery and Crockery Department in Basement.

Suggestions for Easter.

Everyone wants something new for Easter. To such our space today suggests both attractiveness and worthiness. Every department bristling with newness.

EASTER MILLINERY.

We could tell you a lot about our Millinery, but forbear. Of its excellence you are aware. We suggest, however, if you want something becoming, stylish and moderate in price for Easter, leave your order at once. We guarantee satisfaction.

Beautiful Wash Goods for Easter.

We are making a lovely showing of the most exquisite patterns and colorings in Wash Materials. It is not possible to mention all, the range is too numerous. We specify a few lines to awaken a desire to examine the assortment.

Tambour Muslins, white ground, with spray and mottled effects, in helio, gray, pink, blue and black, fast colors. Per yard..... 25c
French Organdie Muslins, helio, pink and blue grounds, white figures, nice quality. Per yard..... 35c
French Organdie Muslins, in helio, gray, sky, slate, blue, pink and royal, with iridescent checks and stripes and sprays and fancy Persian effects. Very fine and sheer. Per yard..... 50c
Mercerized Foulard Twills, in blue, helio, violet, pink, rose, black, gray and green, with sprays, figures, dots, etc. Exact imitation of printed silk, with double the wear. Special per yard..... 25c
Special line Fancy Dimities, white and blue grounds, assorted white and colored spray and figures, regular price 20c. Special to clear..... 15c

Kid Gloves for Easter.

The best makes and the newest shadings are to be seen on our Glove counter.

See our Special 75c for..... 59c
See our Special \$1 for..... 79c

Also our specialties in Perrin's and Jaunnet's best. Every pair guaranteed.

Perrin's Capitola, assorted shades, at..... \$1.00
Perrin's La Rive, assorted shades, at..... 1.25
Perrin's Lucille, assorted shades, at..... 1.50
Jaunnet's Yvonne, assorted shades, at..... 1.25
Jaunnet's Medallie, assorted shades, at..... 1.50
Jaunnet's Washing Glove, assorted shades, at..... 1.75

About 75 men and as many girls are affected, the girls going out in sympathy with the men. The difference between the merchants and journeymen is on the classification of work. The trouble may be settled by arbitration within a few days.

SETTLED. The labor trouble at the Hamilton Steel and Iron Company's smelter has been settled.

Every disagreement between the Detroit street car men and the company has been settled with the exception of the case submitted to arbitration, in which the third arbitrator has not yet been selected.

The trouble between the Ideal Manufacturing Company, Detroit, and the union polishers in their employ has been settled, the men going back to work at the scale paid in the other stove factories in Detroit.

The various carpenters' unions in Detroit have receded from their demand of 25 cents per hour, and have accepted the offer of the employing carpenters of 25 cents an hour as a minimum rate. The men seem to think that the establishment of an eight-hour day will do for this time.

All the building trades in Detroit are now on an eight-hour basis, and the officers of the various unions seem to think that it will be a permanent arrangement.

ARE SEEKING NEW LICENSES.

Thirty-Six London Hotel-Keepers Want Their Liquor Licenses Renewed for 1901.

License Inspector Henderson has received 36 application for tavern licenses and 8 for shop licenses. The applicants are all, with one exception, seeking the renewal of the licenses granted in 1900. The exception is Edward R. Richards, who wants the license of the Grand Trunk dining hall. Mr. James Butler, who holds the license at present, is also asking to have it renewed. The applications will be considered at a meeting to be held at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, April 23.

The applications for tavern licenses are as follows: David Sare, Office Restaurant; Gustin & Son, the Queen Hotel; Jerry McDonald, the European Hotel; Jacob Obnesses, Albion Hotel; John Lewis, Huron Hotel; Jerry Collins, Collins' Hall Hotel; West London; R. H. Reid, Ross House, East London; Wm. Bernard, Bernard House; Harry Ralston, Ontario House; B. Harrison, Boswell House; Harry Ryan, Clarence House; John Howe, Atlantic House; Martin O'Meara, Grigg House; John O'Flaherty, Wellington House; John Fraser, Fraser House; H. L. Peine, Richmond House; Ed Patton, Morkin House; Wm. Mann, Hodgins House; John P. Evans, London House; James McDonald, Queen's Hotel; John Martin, City Hotel; James D. Fleming, Royal Hotel; F. McLean, Duke of York Hotel; Harry Walsh, Walsh House; Eli Griffiths, Grand Pacific Hotel; William Collins, Collins' House; John J. Cox, Dominion House; Mrs. Avey & Son,



A man who dresses fashionably can wear

"National Quality"

Shoes

because they are well shaped—made from very newest American lasts—and look exceedingly handsome. They possess all the little points that make a boot stylish. Honestly made from best Crome calf. Goodyear welted. Best shoe stores sell men's "National Quality" Shoes \$3.00 to \$5.00.

The Whitham Shoe Co. Ltd., Makers, Montreal.



"Straight Front."

Low bust, long waist, cut away hips—that is fashion's latest corset decree.

The "N.C. TAILOR-KUT" corset with the straight front is a genuine straight front corset.

It gives a graceful curve to the back and hips; it supports,

but does not press the abdomen. Correct in every line. See that it is branded:

Two qualities, \$1.00, \$1.25.

National Corset Mfg. Co., Quebec and Toronto.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.

April 1. Reported at. From.
Trave. New York..... Naples
Ethiopia. New York..... Glasgow
Laurentia. Liverpool..... Philadelphia
Siberian. Glasgow..... New York
Norwegian. Glasgow..... Boston
Pomeranian. Glasgow..... Portland
Minnehaha. New York..... London
Peninsular. New York..... Lisbon
Georgic. New York..... Liverpool
Belgian. Liverpool..... Philadelphia
Bohemian. Liverpool..... Boston
Aller. Gibraltar..... New York
Minnesota. London..... New York
Kensington. Antwerp..... New York
Ontarian. Philadelphia..... Glasgow

Humors.

Come to the surface in the spring as in no other season. It's a pity they don't sand testify that it is certain, painless and prompt. Beware of substitutes offered for the genuine "Putnam's" Extractor. Sure, safe, harmless. At all druggists or sent by mail upon receipt of 25 cents. N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

Tender Corns.

Soft corns, corns of all kinds removed without pain or sore spots by Putnam's Painless Corn and Wart Extractor. Thousands testify that it is certain, painless and prompt. Beware of substitutes offered for the genuine "Putnam's" Extractor. Sure, safe, harmless. At all druggists or sent by mail upon receipt of 25 cents. N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.