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LONDON, SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 1910.

THE DEPARTED YEAR.

The year 1909 has been an outstanding one. More than one of the nations it has been a year of profound political import; to others it has brought calamity, strife and disaster; to the world at large it has been a period of wondrous achievement, of scientific triumphs, of great discoveries, of the solving of the problems of centuries.

In our own land it has been a year of prosperity. Canada has recovered from the worst effects of the industrial and commercial reaction, which culminated in 1908, and the new year opens with the brightest of prospects. The march of material progress and development has been resumed with more rapidity than ever—and more sure-footedly. It has been a year of continued railway expansion. A long step has been made toward the completion of the National Transcontinental line; the country has been blessed with bumper crops; immigration has poured in from the south of the international boundary line as never before. The country has been in the enjoyment of industrial peace, and comparatively free from calamitous happenings.

To the British Empire, and particularly the United Kingdom, the year has meant much. It has sealed the unification of the South African states under British rule. Two imperial conferences in London—the "home-coming" of press representatives from the daughter nations for the discussion of matters of imperial concern, and the meeting of representatives of the home and colonial governments for the discussion of the question of the Empire's defence—proved important factors in giving the sentiment of imperial unity practical shape and direction. The outcome of the defence conference was the adoption of the policy to which the Dominion Parliament had previously committed itself, and which will bring into being Canadian and Australian navies as contributions to imperial defence.

At the beginning of the year one of the great social measures of the British Government—the old-age pension act—went into force throughout the United Kingdom and the beneficent effects are already seen. The session of Parliament was a most momentous one. A feature of the early part was the naval debate, the result of a made to raise a German "scare." In the course of which the Government succeeded in allaying any genuine misapprehension by showing its determination to maintain the supremacy of the British navy.

The budget and financial proposals of Mr. Lloyd-George, the chancellor of the exchequer, the resultant clash between the Lords and Commons and the dissolution of Parliament, are manifestations of the irrepressible conflict between progress and reaction. The year closed with the United Kingdom in the throes of an election contest, which has excited more interest in Canada than any campaign within memory.

Other countries have also been making history, but in a different way. Turkey has had her revolution, and within the Sultan's realm, in Asia Minor, 15,000 Armenians have been slain by Turkish soldiers. Spain has had trouble at home and abroad. Her war in Morocco has been far from successful, and evokes no enthusiasm among Spanish people. There has been almost a state of civil war in some provinces of the youthful ruler's kingdom, aggravated by the execution of the anarchist, Ferrer. France has had one of her periodical cabinet crises during the year, which has also seen the dethronement of the Shah of Persia, a change of executive and administrators at Washington and a settlement of the dispute between Japan and China in regard to the Manchuria Railway.

In the list of scientific achievements during the year, the progress in aviation is entitled to first place. The conquest of the air has become a reality. The aeroplane has become something more than a toy. To such a de-

gree of development has the heavier-than-air machine been brought that any man rich enough may now order his aeroplane as he does his automobile or his motor-boat. The feats of Farman, Paulhan, the Wrights, Bleriot (who flew from France to England across the British Channel), Zeppelin and Curtiss have demonstrated that aerial navigation must be reckoned with in the future.

One of the "sensations" of the year was the return to civilization of the English explorer, Shackleton, with the announcement of his great exploit of the previous year in having reached within 119 miles of the South Pole. Next came Cook's story, that in company with two Eskimos he had reached the North Pole on April 21, 1908. A few days later there emerged from the frozen north the explorer, Peary, with the claim that he, too, had reached the pole, a year later than Cook. The unhappy controversy which ensued has left Cook completely discredited, and few now doubt that Peary is entitled to the honor of being the first to penetrate to the heart of the Arctic mystery.

In making the trans-Atlantic voyage in 4 days, 10 hours and 51 minutes, the Cunarder Mauretania broke the records and prepared the public mind for even greater things in the not far distant future.

Early in the year Jack Binns demonstrated to the world the great value of wireless telegraphy when he sent his famous "C. Q. D." message from the stricken steamship Republic and brought help from all over the face of the waters in time to save the entire ship's company. Now the world is girdled with wireless from New York to Nome, from Hong Kong to Paris. Messages now cross the Atlantic with ease without a cable, and experiments are now under way to conquer the Pacific. Wireless telephones have been established by the United States navy. In March last a wireless telephone message was sent from the Eiffel Tower in Paris to Marseilles, a distance of 550 miles.

The mono-rail, the invention of an Englishman, Louis Brennan, is one of the wonders of the year. As exhibited at the British war office grounds, this contrivance is a 22-ton car, 40 feet long, 13 feet high and 10 feet wide, mounted on a single line of four wheels, its only support. The principle employed is nothing more than an adaptation of the toy top or gyroscope. It lends stability to the supporting car, because the revolving wheel tends to remain in one place. The successful use of this principle with a full-sized car is considered by many scientists to be the greatest single achievement of the year.

Other scientific achievements of the year include Sir Wm. Ramsay's success in transmuting four different substances into carbon; Dr. Bailey's substitute for radium; the new Cabot torpedo, successfully demonstrated by the French Government, which is controlled by Hertzian waves without as much as a thread to connect it with its pilot safe on shore; the Maxim silencer for rifles; an English noiseless cannon, and the discovery of the new anaesthetic, stovaine, a radical advance in painless surgery.

The year was not without its disasters on land and at sea. Most distressing of all was the Messina earthquake, which laid that beautiful city in ruins and caused the loss of many thousands of lives. Portugal and Chili also suffered from earthquake shocks. A Mexican town was destroyed by a tidal wave; Louisiana and the West Indies were swept by violent earthquakes; floods in the Transvaal wrought much havoc, and 300 people perished in a theatre fire at Acapulco, Mexico. On the high seas and the great lakes disasters were numerous.

It was a year of centenaries—the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, Charles Darwin, Edward Fitzgerald, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Lord Tennyson and W. E. Gladstone. It was also the bi-centenary of the discovery of Lake Champlain.

Death robbed the literary world of Algernon Charles Swinburne and George Meredith during the year, and removed a prominent figure in British politics for over half a century, the Marquis of Ripon.

A WILLING WORKER.

[Chicago Daily News.]
Mrs. Henry Peck—That odious Mrs. Nextdoor says that I have an unruly tongue. You don't think so, do you, Henry?

Mr. Henry Peck—Unruly! Why, of course not. Your tongue seems to respond to your every impulse with implicit obedience.

THE VACANT CHAIR.

[Walt Mason.]
Gloomy is the world and dreary, since good Father Noah went; all the days are slow and weary, and this life is not worth a cent. All the future now looks yellow, and the skies are grim and dark; put away his old umbrella, put the shutters on his ark. Never more on earth will he kiss him, never more will he grasp his hand; we shall meet, but we shall miss him, when it rains to beat the band. Heedless he how weather varies; he is sleeping deep and sound; take away the dromedaries, lead the ostrich to the pound; take away the two gorillas, and the hives of bumble bees; Noah's sleeping 'neath the willows; he's forgotten things like these. Take away the goat and lizard, and the buzzard and the kite; all the list from A to Izzard—take, O take

them from my sight! For it breaks my heart to hear them waiting for him all the day; Father Noah isn't near them—he has climbed the Milky Way. Take his gum-boats to the cellar, hang his slicker in the hall, cherish his green umbrella—Noahs gone and left them all!

SPREAD IT OVER THE YEAR.

[Toronto Mail & Review.]
It's a pity the Christmas spirit could not be spread thin over twelve months of the year instead of being concentrated in a veritable orgy of good wishes and fraternal feelings, and feel all the better for it. Why not make every day a Christmas so far as genial conduct is concerned.

MAY BE.

[Punch.]
A correspondent writes to the Observer complaining of the uncomfortable seats in the Strangers' Gallery in the House of Lords. He suggests that they should be covered with morocco leather. We understand, however, that the proprietors do not feel justified in incurring any outlay on a moment when there is some uncertainty as to who would reap the benefit of the same.

TOUJOURS POLITESSE.

[Punch.]
Usher (to absent-minded judge about to leave the court)—You've forgot to sentence 'im, my lord.
Judge—Dear, dear! I beg his pardon.

THE ACTOR'S SHARE.

[Everybody's Magazine.]
A musical comedy or comic opera of the first class averages a cast of about 75 people, while it is supposed about 17 is the average number for a dramatic company. A prima donna who is not a star gets from \$100 to \$250 a week; the principal comedian from \$150 to \$300 a week; the tenor from \$75 to \$200, the bass about the same. The minor characters range from \$40 to \$100 a week, while show girls get \$25 to \$30, and chorus people from \$10 to \$25, the average salary being about \$13.

EXACTLY.

[Puck.]
"Uncle George, we are studying synonyms in school, and I want to know the difference between 'cute' and 'snaky.'"
"According to your mother, it is the difference between what you do and what Mrs. Jones' little boy does."

[Toronto News.]
Christmas comes but once a year. Turkey, cold, has brought a tear. Gone is all our care and grief. We are back again on beef.

THE PROFITS OF NERVE.

[Victoria Daily News.]
Yes, Cook's goose is cooked, but it laid a fair-sized golden egg before being consigned to the pot. The fable is estimated to have cleaned up a hundred thousand dollars before the prudent nature of his claim was discovered. The doctor asked four thousand dollars a night as the price of his lectures, and in many cases he did not ask in vain.

MOTHER'S WORLD.

[Margaret H. Alden.]
Eyes of blue and hair of gold,
Cheeks all brown with summer tan,
Lips that much of laughter hold,
That is mother's little maid.

Shining curls like chestnut brown,
Long-lashed eyes, demure and staid,
Sweetest face in all the town,
That is mother's little maid.

Dainty room with snow-white beds,
Where, like flowers, the children are curled,
Rest in peace two dreaming heads,
That is mother's little world.

THE WOMAN WITH THE SHOP.

[Saskatoon Pioneer.]
(Begging William Watson's Pardon.)
She may not tire, she dare not lag.
The woman with the Shopping Bag,
The backward cheek, the hungering eye,
The anxious whiff that will not all.
The famished face, the fevered hand—
Who picks out gifts to beat the band,
She peers at things she'd seen before,
And moves about from store to store.

In truth, I would not be her fag.
The woman with the Shopping Bag;
Concerning whom clerks hint at things
They but shiver and whisperings;
Shopping from dawn till closing hour,
And sending bundles in a shower;
With little left but stately stride,
And many parcels she cannot hide;
She asks you up to give away,
Tomorrow sends her gifts away.

Wrought up within by that good soul,
You would not shrike, or yet control,
At dawn again she seeks the street,
In all her buying she's discreet.
Remembering Ted and Bob and Mag,
The woman with the Shopping Bag.

'Tis well that such as she can shop—
Six days a week be on the hop—
That in her hands the spending be,
For poor old dad would be at sea.
So let her shop she can't be wrong,
The woman with the Shopping Bag.

ESPERANTIST CONGRESS.

Washington, Dec. 31.—John Barrett, director of the International Bureau of American Republics, has been elected president of the Esperanto Association of North America under the auspices of which the next international congress of Esperantists will be held in Washington next August.

It is stated that over a thousand delegates, representing thirty or more nations, will be in attendance at this conference.

FARMAN'S FINE FLIGHT.

Paris, Dec. 31.—Maurice Farman in a bi-plane, flew across country from Chartres to Orleans, a distance of 70 kilometers (43½ miles), in one hour today. He followed the highroad, maintaining an average height of 180 feet.

This constitutes a new cross-country record, the most successful previous similar feat, having been accomplished by Capt. S. F. Cody, of the balloon department of the British war office. Cody made a flight last September of about 40 miles in 63 minutes.

RECORD BANK CLEARINGS.

Montreal, Que., Dec. 31.—The total bank clearings in Montreal for 1909 \$1,866,649,000, the greatest on record, the nearest approach to that total being \$1,555,729,000 in 1907. Last year the figures were \$1,667,216,000.

INCREASED DOMINION REVENUE.
Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The Dominion customs revenue for December totalled \$5,256,613, an increase of \$1,381,523 over December of 1908. The receipts for the nine months, ending Dec. 31, were \$44,367,181, compared with \$34,844,334 in the same period last year.

For Columbia and Edison machines and records, call at Williams' Piano Company, 261 Dundas street. 29t-t

KINGSMILL'S

The Reliable Store

KINGSMILL'S

January Sale of Whitewear COMMENCES MONDAY. SEE WINDOW.

Myriads of dainty, crisp, stylish garments, every one fresh and new, await your inspection here. The SUPERIOR QUALITY which accompanies every Kingsmill garment is just one of many reasons for buying white-wear at this, "THE RELIABLE STORE."

Here's a Hint of the Genuine Bargains. Come!

\$4.00 Underskirts for \$2.98

Made of Fine White Nainsook, with deep flounce and two rows of fine Swiss insertion edging of eyelet embroidery and torchon lace. Our regular \$4.00 value, January Sale Price.....\$2.98

Fine White Cambric Underskirts; regular \$1.00, with clusters of ½ inch tucks and deep flounce, January Sale Price......65¢

\$2.25 White Cambric Underskirts for \$1.65. Trimmed with four rows of torchon lace insertion, edged with two rows of torchon lace. January sale price...... \$1.65

White Cambric Night Dresses, with yoke of hem-stitched pin tucks and trimming of neat embroidery. Regular \$1.75, January Sale Price.....\$1.49

White Cambric Drawers—Trimmed with embroidery and lace. Regular 50c, January Sale Price......39¢

Fine Nainsook Corset Covers, with trimmings of fine lace. Regular 90c, January Sale Price......65¢

Ladies' Chemise, January Sale Price......45¢

THE LINEN SALE CONTINUES—VISIT THIS STORE OFTEN. MANY SPECIAL LINES TOO NUMEROUS TO ADVERTISE. MAKE THIS, "THE RELIABLE STORE," YOUR SHOPPING HOME.

KINGSMILL'S

14,000 Yards of New Prints

Just arrived. All cotton goods are up in price, but contracts made many months back enable us to offer Cottons retail as cheap, if not cheaper, than wholesale prices today.

Our Prints at 12 1-2c Yard

Not a 12½c Print. Far superior to the regular line at 12½c. In all the newest as well as the staple effects in stripes, spots and checks. The browns, tans, helio and reds are particularly new. The blacks and white, also the mourning Prints possess a quality not often found at the popular price. January Sale Price.....12½¢

Extra Quality English Shirting Cambric

Imported direct from the mills. Warranted absolutely fast.

January Sale Price 15c a Yard

Come quickly for your share of these. They can't stay here long at this price.

9,000 Yards of New Gingham

In stripes and checks. All colors. Regular 15c a yard. January Sale Price, yard.....12½¢

12 1-2c Apron Gingham for 10c

These are imported from the mills. Extra quality, warranted fast. Regular 12½c a yard. January Sale Price, a yard.....10¢

Mail and Phone Orders Receive Prompt Attention. Satisfaction Guaranteed

GARBAGE BYLAW IS WORTHY OF SUPPORT

Some Facts Which the Citizens Would Do Well to Consider.

Vote for the garbage bylaw!

The fact that a city of 50,000 inhabitants has no system of garbage disposal is not commendable, to say the least, and there is no doubt that the citizens will see their manifest duty in connection with this matter. Householders in the thickly populated sections of the city must now dispose of their garbage some way or other. Receptacles must be provided for the refuse. Men must be employed to take it away, and generally the method is costly and unsatisfactory. The unsightly dumps in the back yards are a menace to health and unsightly to the eye.

A Real System.

With a well-regulated system of garbage disposal, these unsightly features will be done away with, and in their place a systematic, orderly and economical method of garbage disposal will be introduced. It will be manifestly cheaper, and infinitely more satisfactory than the present unhealthy method of taking care of garbage.

There are details of operation yet to be worked out, but Dr. Niven, chairman of the board of health; Mr. John Graham, who has taken a keen interest in the matter, and others are quite confident that it will not be a burden on the city, but will eventually yield a considerable revenue, thus lowering greatly the cost of operation.

Candidates Favor It.

At the city hall meeting last evening, Mayor Stevely, Ald. Beattie, Ald. Ferguson, and others who have given the problem much thought and consideration, spoke strongly in favor of the bylaw, and their loud explanations of the need of such a system impressed the electors greatly.

The Mothers' Clubs of the city are taking a keen interest in the campaign for a garbage system, and it is hoped and expected that the bylaw will carry by a handsome majority.

CLINTON.

Clinton, Dec. 31.—Rev. Dr. Dougall, of Goderich, gave an illustrated local option lecture on "Saving the Boy," in the town hall on Thursday evening to a large audience.

The Collegiate Institute will reopen next Tuesday. All the former teachers will be at their posts except Mr. E. E. Ball, whose place will be supplied by Miss McDougall, of Warton.

Will Taylor will return to Victoria College in Toronto next Tuesday.

Mrs. J. Becher is on the sick list.

Walter Holmes, of Toronto, has been spending a few days here.

E. Joliffe, of Toronto, is holidaying under the parental roof.

Thos. Shipley is visiting his daughter, Mrs. L. Lavis, in Oshawa.

Melvin Graham and wife have returned to Hanover.

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FINE ENTERTAINMENT IN SHARON CHURCH

A Good Programme Well Presented—Those Who Took Part.

The entertainment held in the Sharon Church on Monday evening was a decided success, the house being well filled. Rev. Mr. Jewitt, pastor of the church, was chairman, and gave a short address, and introduced the following excellent programme: Gramophone selections, Messrs. Scott and Poole, solos, Miss E. Hunt; readings, Mrs. C. W. Barrows, of London, Miss Baker and Miss C. Loveless, violin solos, R. Nixon; address on "Local Option" by Mr. Tifford, a former pastor.

Although Mrs. Barrows was suffering from a severe cold, her readings were very satisfactory, and she was heartily cheered. The lady also met with a hearty welcome and handshake from four old friends, Messrs. Carson, Hovelt, Adams and Kiser, who went to school with her over 50 years ago in the old log schoolhouse in that vicinity. Mrs. Barrows told them one "never too old to learn," as she did not know she had any talent in that line until a little over a year ago, never having appeared in public till that time. They could not understand her wonderful memory.

An amusing incident occurred when the ladies were going to the concert from London. On their arrival at Lambeth they expected to find a young man waiting to drive the party about four miles until the ladies looked up and down the station in vain for their escort. It seems that a short time previous the gentleman had gone into the smoker and had evidently forgotten his engagement, and left the ladies to look after themselves. In fact, they had to wait until the gentleman returned from St. Thomas. The ladies, both suffering from severe cold, sought the waiting-room, where a cold bath struck them that made them fancy they had reached the North Pole ahead of Dr. Cook. However, Rev. Mr. Jewitt found them comfortable quarters, where they waited for the "lost man," who returned in little over an hour. Then they were driven to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howlett, where they found a nice supper supper waiting for them and arrived at the concert in good time. No little amusement was created, when, at the end of the programme the chairman called on the "lost man," who is very popular there, for a speech. The gentleman, amid great clapping of hands, made the best apology he could, and having brought the ladies to the concert in time, guaranteed to take them safely home.

Those of us who seek to be cleanly pay from \$3 to \$5 a year to have it removed. But then it is only dumped to be a nuisance to someone else. Many

citizens throw all such in a backyard or lane and allow it to decay.

It is thought best by the council and board of health to divide the city into sections and allow the citizens to rub, as in street watering. You can hardly force people to be cleanly, but the advantage will surely convince them in this case.

There will be the expense of collecting, which will be paid by those having the service. It is expected there will be a revenue for the plant will be installed with a purpose.

The system will be adjusted to the needs of the people, and we shall breathe purer air, relieve the people who have lived near a dump of that terror of some outbreak of disease, beautify our city, and have more money in our pockets at the end of the year.

London, Dec. 31. A HOME-MAKER.

For Edison and Columbia machines and records, call at Williams' Piano Company, 261 Dundas street. 29t-t

J. Rice has returned from Bowmanville.

Mrs. P. Straith is home after spending a few weeks in the west. She reports an enjoyable trip.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Richardson, London, spent the holidays with relatives in this place.

Mr. and Mrs. P. H. McMillan, of Hamilton, North Dakota, are visiting the latter's brother, J. F. Elliott.

L. J. Williams, B.A., of the Sault Ste. Marie high school, is spending the holidays at his home here.

Mrs. A. McIntyre, London, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Dunlop.

A. A. Patterson, Appin, was the guest of J. Livingston this week.

Miss Jean McDonald, Toronto, is visiting at D. Roche's.

Miss Etta McLeay, Hamilton, is visiting at her home here.

Miss Susie Phillips, Sarnia, is the guest of Dr. Newell.

Osborne Baker, Cobalt, was the guest of Watford relatives this week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Shag, Buffalo, and Mr. and Mrs. Silencer, Niagara Falls, N.Y., spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. A. Nash, Warwick street.

The following candidates are in the field for Watford: For reeve, W. E. Fitzgerald, J. D. Brown, Councillors, R. E. Johnston, T. B. Taylor, S. Stapleford, J. Livingston, Wesley Clarke and T. H. Willoughby.

10,000 HOUSEHOLDS ARE INTERESTED

In the Adoption of the Garbage Removal Bylaw—Home-makers Are Behind It.

To the Editor of The Advertiser:
For the sake of "A Citizen," who does not fully understand what the garbage bylaw will mean, we ask space in your columns.

The home-makers of this city are responsible for the garbage bylaw being brought before the people. It did not come from manufacturers or business men who may have quantities of refuse and attend to the disposal themselves.

There are about 10,000 households in our city, each one of which every day has a quantity of ashes, peelings and other kitchen waste.

At the outskirts of the city this is not so much of a problem as in the downtown district.

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