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LONDON, MONDAY, JAN. 31.

THE LESSON FROM OTTAWA.

So far as the Opposition press could make it so, the Ottawa by-election Saturday was a test of opinion on the naval question. Both the Journal and the Citizen professed to regard it as the only issue before the electors. It is difficult to acquit the Citizen of a desire to array the English against the French in promoting the jingo candidature of Mr. Ellis, when the seat belonged to a French-Canadian by the tacit agreement of the parties. After a French-Canadian Conservative had been nominated, and Mr. Ellis had been pulled out of the field, the Citizen took only a languid interest in the contest. The Journal, however, was in a high state of excitement. It paraded the German war bogey with a vehemence worthy of Robert Blatchford and the Daily Mail. Here are some of its appeals:

"The vote tomorrow in Ottawa in the Dominion by-election will be one of very great importance. A question is before the public which did not appear in the general election, namely, what Canada should do towards co-operation in the naval force of the British Empire."

"What is our policy in this great Dominion? If we are British, what should we do? Should we try to help Britain keep ahead? Or should we let her carry the burden unaided and so encourage Germany to keep on straining every nerve to out-do the British naval expenditure in the hope that the greater population, greater area and growing industrial strength of Germany will eventually enable her to win the naval race, and to work her own will upon not merely Great Britain, but upon the British Empire? What should be our policy?"

"Shall all play a vigorous British part—or shall we spread our money out thin?"

"Dr. J. L. Chabot stands for a policy which will help the motherland now."

"His opponent stands for something else."

"You will have an opportunity to vote for Dr. Chabot on Saturday if you wish."

"And if Dr. Chabot is elected that fact will exercise a tremendous influence in the debate in parliament which is to take place next week on the naval question."

The Journal got its answer in the election of Mr. Allard by 655 majority, or 33 more than Sir Wilfrid Laurier obtained in 1908. Those of British blood comprise three-fourths of the population of Ottawa, and would have swamped Mr. Allard if they had been impressed by the exhortations of the Opposition press. The result may convince the Opposition leaders that there is no party capital in the naval question. In that case they may revert to their original position from which they have allowed themselves to be driven by mischief-makers in their own camp.

A TIMELY INQUIRY.

It is clear, from a statement by Hon. Mr. Fisher, that before the matter was suggested in the speech from the throne opening the Ontario Legislature, the Dominion Government had decided to inquire into the causes of the increased prices of food in Canada. The intention is to make the inquiry as thorough as possible; to trace articles of food from the farmer to the retailer; to ascertain the profits of all who handle them; to discover whether the prices are above the level of supply and demand, and if so who or what is squeezing the consumer—perhaps the producer, too. The bill recently introduced by the Minister of Labor is designed to meet the case of combines responsible for the undue increase of prices, and if there is found ground for such action the provisions of the new measure will be applied.

The Minister of Agriculture is fully alive to the gravity of the question, and considers it time we should know the reason why, for instance, Canadian flour is sold in England at about the same price it is here, notwithstanding the cost of transportation, or that bread is much cheaper in London and Liverpool than in Canadian cities. The Government may be relied upon to apply such remedies as are at hand, and if these are inadequate, legislate so as to afford relief.

BRITISH AND GERMAN NAVAL CONSTRUCTION.

The naval correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph throws new light on British and German naval construction. Some time ago the statement was made that in the two years ended in December last, Germany had launched nine Dreadnoughts or Dreadnought cruisers, as compared with five vessels put afloat for the British Empire in the same period. This, the Telegraph's naval authority says, is literally true, and yet on examination it points to the activity and virility of the British naval organization, and not to the reverse, as might be supposed.

tion, and not to the reverse, as might be supposed.

The reason for Germany's launching so many men-of-war in the two years is that she could not launch them before. The appearance of the first Dreadnought temporarily retarded her naval progress. In 1906 she launched but two battleships, and in 1907 not a single one. Since then she has been trying to overtake arrears. On the other hand, in 1906 and 1907, when two additions only were made to the German armored fleet, Britain, owing to greater initiative and celerity in construction, put in the water no fewer than nine ships, all of which are in commission. Because they were completed so rapidly they do not figure in launching statistics for 1908 and 1909.

Britain has launched and completed for sea seven all-big-gun ships, and the Lord Nelson and Agamemnon, of 16,500 tons, half-sisters to the Dreadnoughts, while Germany has completed only two battleships of over 13,000 tons. In addition, Britain has launched and is now completing five more Dreadnought ships, three of which will join the fleet before the end of the financial year. Germany has actually launched six corresponding ships, of which two will join the high sea fleet in the early summer. Britain has also under construction or on the eve of building, eight armored vessels, while Germany has five, either in the stocks or about to be put there, of which one is nearly ready for launching. At present Britain has twenty Dreadnought ships built or building, to thirteen for Germany.

The figures as to the number of officers and men serving in the four fleets are: Great Britain 128,522, France 54,542, Germany 54,067, United States 55,542—that is, in officers and men the British army is better provided than any two powers combined.

The result in Ottawa has produced a panic among the panic-mongers.

The Ottawa Opposition may now be ready to admit that "going the Government one better" on the naval question is not the better policy.

Paris is maintaining its reputation. In the midst of flood and ruin, the theatres are open, lighted by candles. In the worst days of the reign of terror the music halls did a thriving business.

The great achievement of modern British Liberalism has been to divorce free trade from laissez faire. The present Government has shown that a constructive social policy and free trade may go hand in hand.

Both Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George have gone to France for a rest. British statesmen of the first rank have always had the faculty of doing such things in the midst of crises. It shows a power of detachment that has been one source of their strength.

The Associated Press fathers the silly story that Asquith will give way to Roseberry or Cremer, heading a compromise cabinet. With an anti-Lords majority of 125 in the Commons, it is senseless to talk in this fashion. The Liberal party would be wrecked for years, and deservedly so, if any considerable number of Liberal members supported such an arrangement.

Mr. Marshall, of East Elgin, has been circulating his constituents on the naval question. He says he has answers from 55 per cent, and that only 6½ per cent "favor a Canadian navy." The circular, however, was so worded that the answers are useless as a plebiscite. If it were a straight question between spending money on a Canadian navy or sending it abroad to be spent, there would be no doubt of the reply in any Canadian community. The reply would not be satisfactory to a weak-kneed Canadian like Mr. Marshall, who dilates on the difficulty of building ships in this country.

A WRONG PRINCIPLE.

[Toronto Globe.]

The British budget's influence has reached the Legislature. Mr. Studholme protested with his usual energy against an assessment system that increases the tax of the workman who paints his house or the farmer who builds a barn, while leaving the vacant lot under-assessed.

LOST HIS HEAD.

[The Argonaut.]

One of the first essentials for a parliamentary candidate is a gift of repartee. When a candidate for a west county constituency was addressing an open-air meeting a cabbage was thrown by a man in the crowd. He contrived to "field" the cabbage, and holding it up, quietly remarked: "One of our political opponents appears to have lost his head."

KEEN PERCEPTION.

[Washington Star.]

"I understand that some of the smartest people in town attended your wife's tea."

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox. "But I was just as smart as any of them. I knew it wasn't going to be very interesting, so I stayed away."

TRUE SYMPATHY.

[Mobile Item.]

"You are charged with stealing three pairs of trousers," said the judge. "What have you to say for yourself?"

"I am guilty, your honor," replied the prisoner. "But I stole them for my wife."

"You are discharged," said the judge, in a tone redolent with sympathy. His honor was in the benighted class himself.

JIMMY'S KINDNESS.

[Washington Star.]

"Do you remember what I told you about being kind to dumb animals?" asked the teacher.

"Yes," replied Jimmy Jiggs. "As soon as I got home I took the blanket and blue ribbon of my pet poodle and turned him loose and let him chase a cat up a tree."

IN COLLUSION.

[Tribune.]

Officer—Stop! You are agent of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and I see you are driving a

horse that can scarcely crawl.
Cabman (confidentially)—Hist! Th' hoss is all right. It's me thet's holding him in. I've got a passenger wot pays by the hour.

A CLOSE IMITATION.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

"These mechanical toys are very life-like."

"How so?"

"Johnny's automobile has run down the cat and knocked the sawdust out of two dolls."

MINUS MEDICINE.

[Houston (Tex.) Post.]

"Well, nurse, and how is our patient this morning?"

"He appears to be much improved this morning, doctor."

"Alive?"

"Yes, sir. That medicine you said you were going to send wasn't delivered."

HIS NATIVE LAND.

[Thomas Osborne Davis.]

She is a rich and rare land;
Oh! she's a rich and rare land;
She is a dear and fair land—
This native land of mine.

Her women's hearts ne'er waver,
No men than hers are braver—
I'd freely die to save her,
And think my lot divine.

Could beauty ever guard her,
And virtue still reward her,
No foe would cross her border—
No friend within it pine!

Oh! she's a rich and fair land;
Oh! she's a true and rare land;
Yes! she's a rare and fair land—
This native land of mine!

OF COURSE.

[Boston Transcript.]

Elsie—So Midge married that old millionaire. I suppose there was a good deal of throwing at the wedding?

Ethel—Oh, yes; rice, old shoes and insinuations.

THE FIRST IN THE KITCHEN.

[Boston Transcript.]

Servant—There is no coal, mum, an' the fire is goin' out.

Mistress—Why, Norah, you should have told me that before.

Servant—I couldn't tell you there was no coal, mum, when there was coal.

APPRECIATED TOO LATE.

[Chicago Journal.]

"She had a good husband," said Mrs. Babberton.

"But she got a divorce from him."

"Yes. She didn't know what a good husband he was till she saw how generously he behaved about the alimony."

LLOYD-GEORGE AS A PHRASE MAKER.

[St. Louis Mirror.]

David Lloyd-George has a fine sweep of phrase with him. The purpose of Liberal Government," he said in a recent speech, "is the elimination of savagery from English civilization." Beconsfield himself never dreamed of that splendid mission of imperialism, nor coined a more elaborate phrase. But "Dizzy" couldn't; he didn't have the heart.

A GERMAN OPINION.

[Cologne (Germany) Zeitung.]

To us Germans, who for many years have seen the tax on unearned increment applied in ever-widening areas, and who have just seen the introduction of an imperial tax on unearned increment, the fanatical resistance of the English Parliamentary Opposition to the land taxes seems essentially unreasonable.

THE VOICELESS.

[Ottawa Citizen.]

We count the birds that nest
Where the sweet waiting singers slumber,
But our silent sister's breast
The wild flowers who will stop to number—
A few can touch the magic string,
And noisy Fame is proud to win them—
Alas for those that never sing,
And die with all their music in them!

MILITARY MILLINERY TO GO.

[New York Press.]

Lord Kitchener has just given out in a speech that the British Empire must take care of its true defenders, and must free all sham, snobishness, useless stuff and military millinery. It looks as if the whole blooming army is to undergo reformation.

FASHION NOTE.

[London Globe.]

How many hairpins does a woman use when doing her hair? The hairpin editor of the Globe has investigated and makes this report: She uses just as many as she has. If she has only two hairpins she finds them very useful. If she has five she finds them very useful. If she has twenty in the top bureau drawer she uses all of them.

ONE ON THE DUKE.

[New York Tribune.]

The heckling and geying of the lords who venture into Radical constituencies still continues. The Duke of Marlborough had an experience of lower class wit the other day that did not appear to appreciate. He is one of the few peers who defend the hereditary principle.

"I should never consent," he said, scornfully, "to sit in a House of Lords whose members were restricted."

"O! don't say that, guv'nor," came a voice, appealingly, "or you'll break our hearts."

The duke had not even the saving grace to join in the laugh.

NEW SUFFRAGE CLUB.

[Washington Star.]

Washington, Jan. 29.—Making ammunition of the present agitation against the high taxes levied upon the District of Columbia using it in their fight for suffrage. The Political Study Club, a suffrage organization, has adopted a resolution declaring that the agitation is an "added reason for the enfranchisement of the women citizens of the republic."

They decided, however, that it would be of no advantage for them to join the present boycott against high prices, because, as one expressed it, "it would be but a drop in the bucket in the general improvement, for which the women of the country are working."

The Washington Chamber of Commerce, through its committee on law and legislation, has started an investigation on the subject of high prices.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.

Boston—Arrived: Bethania, from Hamburg.
Baltimore—Arrived: Frankfurt, Bremen.
Naples—Arrived: Alice, New York; Thimble, New York.
New York—Arrived: President Grant, Hamburg; Florida, Havre; Louisiana, Genoa; Duca di Genova, Genoa.
Hull—Arrived: Corsica, Liverpool.
Bremen—Arrived: Prinz Friedrich, New York.
Cape Race—Arrived: Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, Bremen; Amerika, Hamburg.
Queenstown—Called: Baltic, New York.
Southampton—Arrived: Philadelphia, New York.
Madeira—Called: Carmania, New York.

CHINA PROGRESSES.

Peking, Jan. 31.—An imperial edict issued today approves the plans of the consular bureau for abolishing the traffic in human beings.

Is Your Time Worth \$1 a Minute?

WEDNESDAY, in eight minutes, you can save eight dollars on any one of these ten rugs.

These are to be cleared out before stock-taking, and in their clearance we have not thought of former prices, but are determined to clear them out in one day. On every rug you save exactly eight dollars by coming Wednesday.

Six English Royal Wilton Rugs at \$21.00
SIZE 9x12 FEET.

These are imported direct from the mills by us. They are made by a manufacturer whose goods we have handled for years, and we know their worth, and unhesitatingly say "there is not a better rug made." Regularly they are worth \$29, but to clear them they go
Wednesday \$21.00—\$8.00 Saved.

Two Only English Wilton Rugs at \$18.00

These sell regularly at \$26. Their designs are excellent, their quality unquestionable. They are 9x10½ feet in size. We sold a great many of these rugs during last season and they give excellent wear.
Wednesday \$18.00—A Straight \$8.00 Saved

Two Only of Brinton's English Brussels Rugs
SIZE 9x10½ FEET.

The design of these two rugs is very pleasing to the eye. The quality is told when we say they are Brinton's. These are full five-frame rugs, and sell regularly at \$23. They are to be cleared
Wednesday \$15.00—\$8.00 Saved.

We Are Going To Try To Sell 30 Tapestry Squares Wednesday at \$6.50 Each

They come in a large variety of excellent designs. Their size is 9x10½ feet. Thirty seems quite a large number to sell in one day, but at this ridiculously low price we feel sure that Wednesday will see most, if not all, of them taken away. Regularly they sell for \$10.50 each. Wednesday \$6.50
Mail Orders Filled.

House Furnishers

Kingsmill's

Dry Goods Specialists

CHURCHES WILL BALLOT CHURCH UNION QUESTION

Congregationalists Are Taking a Great Interest in the Matter.

A great deal of interest is being taken all through Canada by members of the Congregational Church on the coming ballot in regard to church union.

All the churches in the country will ballot on the question before Feb. 23. Each individual member has been furnished with ballots and a booklet giving an outline of the basis of union. The pastors of the various churches have pledged themselves not to influence in any way the opinions of their congregations.

The votes will all be forwarded to the executive committee of the Congregational Church, whose headquarters are in Toronto.

TUBERCULOSIS TOLL HEAVY IN LONDON

Deaths From Disease in January Were Eight—Stork Was Busy.

Tuberculosis created great havoc in London during January, eight deaths from this one disease being recorded in City Clerk Baker's office. This is a larger number than any month of 1909 showed, and is 25 per cent of all the deaths from consumption of last year. No particular reason for the increase could be given.

A Heavy Toll.

In January, 1909, there was but one death from tuberculosis. The great white plague is still demanding heavy toll in this city.

There was a large increase in the number of deaths in January. During the month 58 were recorded. In January, 1909, there were 36, an increase of 22 per cent. Pneumonia bulked large in the statistics, nine deaths from this disease being recorded. Cancer is also growing, claiming six victims this year already.

Sixteen old people from 70 to 90 succumbed during the month. Ten infants died also. Diphtheria claimed one.

Stork Was Busy.

The stork was quite a busy bird. He visited 68 homes during January. This is better than in 1909, when 60 kiddies were brought into the city.

Ben Cupid did about his usual January work. He was responsible for 30 marriages. In January, 1909, there were 32, a slight decrease, but nothing to excite comment.

NEW YORK STARTLED BY CHILD MURDER

New York, Jan. 31.—Another child murder started in this city today. It occurred in a house on East Fifth street, where a man shot and killed one child, wounded another, probably fatally, and then shot himself. The police are following a theory that the man may have been set for July, which, according to the records for the past twenty years, is the most propitious month for such an undertaking.

TO SAIL ACROSS "POND"

Wellman May Attempt To Fly From Europe to America.

Paris, Jan. 31.—It is understood here that Walter Wellman, who sailed from New York for Europe Saturday, is arranging a balloon flight across the Atlantic from New York to England and France in his Arctic airship. This, it is said, will be equipped with new propeller, motor and engine. The airship will be under water. The attempt has been set for July, which, according to the records for the past twenty years, is the most propitious month for such an undertaking.

To Gowanda.

Without a doubt, says a long-experienced traveller, the only way to reach Gowanda is via Grand Trunk, T. and N. O. Railway, and stage line from Charlton. Everything possible for the comfort of passengers is found on this route. Breakfast on train, no early transfer, the most comfortable stages ever operated. The only route which supplies travellers with foot-warmer, and only line over the new \$50,000 Government road.

Secure tickets and further information from E. D. De la Hooke, City Agent, or E. Ruse, Depot Agent.

KILLED BY CHILD.

Estherwood, W. Va., Jan. 31.—Sam Leger, 79 years old, was shot and instantly killed by his grandson, aged 5, near here today. The latter picked up a gun unknown to the grandfather, and was toying with it when it was accidentally discharged. The load took effect in Leger's back, and the child, by the recoil of the weapon, almost had one of his eyes torn from its socket.

THIS PRESCRIPTION CURES KIDNEYS

Makes Backache and Other Distress Disappear As If By Magic—Stops Bladder Irritation and Restores Healthy Conditions.

This excellent prescription sanctioned by Dr. Lewis Baker, formerly physician and surgeon with the British Medical Institute, can be readily prepared at home or by any well-stocked druggist, as it contains nothing of a harmful nature, and really makes backache, kidney and bladder misery disappear as if by magic. It is recommended that the moment anyone suspects any kidney, bladder or urinary trouble that this fine prescription be used.

Some symptoms are lame back, painful stitches, inflamed and swollen eyes, nervous headache, irritability, dizziness, swollen ankles, tired, aching limbs and frequent urinating or burning urination, especially at night. The reader, old or young, may take this preparation with confidence, it is safe and cheap to take regularly until all troubles cease. Mix fluid extract buchu 1 oz., compound fluid hainor 1 oz., and syrup sarsaparilla compound 4 ozs. Take a teaspoonful before or after meals and one when retiring.

SHINES IN SOCIETY

WOMEN WITH FASCINATING HAIR ALWAYS ATTRACT ATTENTION.

If you are a woman with dull, lifeless, ordinary hair, do not feel distressed. Just make up your mind now that you can have just as luxuriant and captivating a head of hair as any other woman, and quickly, too.

Just go to W. T. Strong this very day and get a bottle of Parisian Sage. Use it as directed, and in two weeks your scalp will be free of dandruff. Your hair will be soft, lustrous and beautiful.

If your hair is falling out, Parisian Sage will stop it.

If your hair is thin, Parisian Sage will make it grow in heavily.

If you have dandruff it will quickly vanish when Parisian Sage is used.

It prevents hair from turning gray; stops itching scalp almost instantly and is the ideal dressing for daily use.

A large bottle costs only 50 cents at W. T. Strong's, or direct, all charges prepaid from the Canadian makers, Giron Manufacturing Company, Fort Erie, Ont.

The Beverage for all Weathers.

EPPE'S COCOA

A delicious food and drink in one.

A Cup of "Epps'" at breakfast Warms and Sustains you for hours. As a supper beverage it is perfect.

"Epps'" means GRATEFUL COMFORTING

For Mental Overwork—Exhaustion

VIN MARIANI

Tones—Invigorates—

Braces the whole system.

ALL DRUGGISTS—EVERYWHERE

W. J. WRAY & CO.

Big Jewelry Sale Commences Every Morning at 8 o'clock the Year Round

But we never add sufficient margin to cost to allow us to sell at half price.

How much must a merchant add to cost in order to sell at half price (50 per cent off regular prices), and yet get his money back?

It must make intelligent people smile when they read of a business man selling diamonds, etc., at half price, or gold and silver at half price.

Every diamond merchant in the country is out to buy these goods at half price, or below actual cost.

Why then is it necessary to spend hundreds of dollars in advertising in order to dispose of those goods below par?

Today, or any other day, is the time to get honest goods for an honest price, and our store is the place.

Watch our window, and see if you can buy any of these goods at half price.

It will pay all to see our goods and get our prices before going elsewhere. If so, they are genuine bargains, being half of an honest price for jewelry.

Always buy where you can get quality and quantity the cheapest.

Notice

Our oculist will be in April, at the store of A. W. McFie, on Thursday and Friday of this week. The wishing to consult him at our store will kindly call during the first part of the week, or on Saturday.

W. J. WRAY & CO.

The One-Price Jewelry and Optical House the Year Round.
384 Richmond Street Opposite City Hall

BIG DINNER EASILY DIGESTED

Enjoy What You Eat. Don't Be Afraid of Afterdistress. Mi-o-na Makes the Stomach Strong.

Eat, drink, and be merry, and do it over again next day.

Thousands will say, "Oh, I wish I could—I only wish I could enjoy a good square meal, but I can't. It almost kills me every time I try to eat one."

Thousands of people have chronic indigestion, cancer and other tormenting diseases of the stomach, and thousands more are going the same way simply because they do not understand how to take care of the stomach.

Stomachs have a habit of becoming obstinate once in a while; every stomach has a lot of work to perform in digesting the food that is put into it, and when too much labor is urged upon it, it rebels, goes on strike as it were, and is apt to kick up a painful disturbance.

This disturbance can be stopped in five minutes by Mi-o-na tablets, which are guaranteed by W. T. Strong to cure indigestion or money back.

Mi-o-na is the prescription of a physician who is a very successful specialist in the treatment of diseases of the stomach. In the opinion of thousands who have been restored to health, Mi-o-na is the greatest prescription for indigestion and various stomach disturbances ever written.