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office as matter of the second class.]

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3, 1912.

THE ASYLUM FIRE.

The fire at the Hospital for the In-
sane had appalling possibilities. The
well-organized hospital brigade did its
best with the facilities at hand, but
these were inadequate. There was an
ample water supply and pressure, but
a sufficient volume of water could not
be poured on the flames. The hospital
firemen could only retard the fire un-
til aid came from the city. But for
this timely reinforcement, the main
building would have been wiped out.
Had the fire broken out in quarters oc-
cupied by the patients the conse-
quences might have been terrible.

It is to be hoped the lesson will not
be lost on the Provincial Secretary's
department. A new pumping plant is
being installed, but other facilities
must be improved to the highest pos-
sible degree. The staff of the asylum
is to be commended for the discipline
which prevented anything like a panic
among the patients.

THE AXE AT OSHAWA.

Because Mr. Lyman C. Smith, cus-
toms house officer at Oshawa, was said
to have remarked to some Conserva-
tive, before the election, that "he made
it a rule never willingly to support a
man who had been proven guilty of
corrupt practices in an election," he
has been removed from his position on
the ground of "undue partisanship."
The newly-elected Conservative mem-
ber for the riding, Mr. William Smith,
who was proved guilty a few years ago
of personal bribery and whose evidence
at his trial was frankly rejected as
false by the presiding judge, has re-
vengefully secured from Dr. Reid the
dismissal of an official of the
highest character and attainments.

Mr. Lyman Smith has many claims
upon the community of Oshawa. He
was a successful principal of the high
school for many years, almost a father
of the people, and has a place among
the best of Canadian poets. No won-
der there is an uprising in Oshawa
against the action of the member for
South Ontario. But why was such a
person elected? The dismissal of Mr.
L. C. Smith, a quiet, kindly scholar,
the first citizen of the town that should
be honoring his old age, who resigned
his position as head of the high school
only to undertake a less exacting labor,
is a crime that will be laid at the
doors of Oshawa as well as to the con-
temptible William Smith who repre-
sents the place.

MRS. PANKHURST'S ADDRESS.

Mrs. Pankhurst was introduced by
Rev. Mr. Whiting to a large audience
as to all appearances not so very dan-
gerous. At the same time it is the
quiet people with the soft voice, and
even the soft hand, who are often the
most to be looked out for. They are
like low pressure centres in the atmos-
phere, moving along amidst hurricane
and lightning. The well-educated,
educated and fine-spoken suffragette
of the new movement is "more deadly"
than the old-timer in bloomers and
short hair.

The militant leader told the story of
her party with almost ingenious clear-
ness, and a persuasive charm of voice
and manner. It seemed just ordinary
feminine eloquence, let loose or en-
franchised and polished, without any
straining after effects. Women have a
natural gift of speech, free and flow-
ing, artless, and yet often witty. Many
a husband has listened spellbound to
a speech across the supper table, al-
most as graceful and quite as spirited
and sustained, if not so well-informed,
as that of the distinguished lady in
Wesley Hall. John Wesley himself,
according to the books, eloquent
abroad, was a patient listener at home.

"Ah, gentle dames! it kars me greet
To think how many counsels sweet,
How many lengthened, sage advices,
The husband frae the wife despises!"

said Burns. But there was no despis-
ing what Mrs. Pankhurst had to say.
She told the truth, for one thing, or a
large and essential part of it, mar-
shalled her facts convincingly, and
speaking in accents by no means man-
ish, but refreshingly feminine, she
appeared a fine type of the normal
woman as improved by all-round ex-
perience of life. Her speech was coun-
tably woven, tasteful to a hair's
breadth, and what man could disre-
gard so accomplished an appeal made
in a woman's way and with a culti-
vated woman's reason?

Perhaps she pressed her point a little

far that the militants had been simply
doing as men had always done to gain
new privileges. Before the Reform Bill,
she said, crowds were going to burn
Bristol down, and others marched on
London "to know the reason why" they
were not admitted to the vote. But
were men like Russell, Brougham and
Durham organizing these disturban-
ces? In 1884 the peasants started
burning hay-ricks, but it was not plan-
ned at Liberal headquarters or in the
Liberal clubs. The militant suffra-
gettes have evidently not only adopted
but "improved" the men's methods.

But it is now proved up to the hilt
that women have the capacity for or-
ganization to an unlimited extent. They
have the political instinct. As Mrs.
Pankhurst stated, they have disproved
the charge that they would be bound
by class distinctions and prejudices,
and therefore undesirable as voters.

Mrs. Pankhurst made it clear that
British women have organized beyond
anything even attempted by men.
Whatever may be thought of the
abstract case for and against woman
suffrage, nobody who heard Mrs.
Pankhurst narrate the history of the
tactics pursued in the last six years
by her party will forget the heroism
and steady purpose which it has dis-
played and the wrongs which it has
had to endure.

THE ROOT OF ENGLAND'S
PROBLEM.

The most painstaking student of so-
cial problems in Great Britain is Mr.
Seebohm Rowntree, a scion of one of
the numerous wealthy families in that
country who have a tradition of social
service and progressive politics. His
thorough and practical methods were
illustrated in the city of York (popula-
tion 82,000), where his assistants vis-
ited every working-class home. The
name and address of every person out
of work on June 7 last were obtained,
and these cases were referred to a
corps of trained investigators. The
number of unemployed men capable of
working was found to be 1,139, and the
number of women 139, or 5.5 per cent.
and 1.9 per cent, respectively, of the
total number of employables. Of the
idle men, 441, or 39 per cent, of the
total, were casual laborers—pickers-up
of odd jobs. As there were only 1,000
casual laborers in the city, the pro-
portion of unemployment in the group
was highly significant. This class of
labor, irregular, precarious and un-
skilled, had a sadly deteriorating effect
upon both character and physique. The
investigators found that 291 men had
been in regular work, but had lost it,
and drifted into the ranks of the casual
laborers. Once there, the chance of
getting back to a regular job const-
antly diminished.

Mr. Rowntree discusses possible
remedies. He is not favorably dis-
posed to relief works, improvised in a
season of distress. The remedies must
begin with the young; they must be
properly trained for regular work. Un-
employment insurance, applied in Mr.
Lloyd George's bill, will do much. Ex-
penditure on necessary public works,
national and municipal, should be, as
far as possible, confined to periods of
industrial depression, so as to take
care of a number of the unemployed.
The state could in these periods fur-
nish productive employment for many
in afforestation. But the chief remedial
agency proposed by Mr. Rowntree is
the establishment of the city and town
industrial worker on small holdings in
the country, with enough land to oc-
cupy him and help him tide over when
work is slack, or when he loses his
town job. Light railways and cheap
farms would be necessary to the de-
velopment of this system. It is wide-
spread in Belgium, where unemploy-
ment is almost unknown, though the
standard of living there is not so high
as in Great Britain.

Mr. Rowntree's inquiries will
strengthen the hands of those who are
urging radical reform of the land
system of England and Scotland.
Here is more work for the present
Government.

Thirty-eight licenses in nineteen
municipalities were saved by the three-
fifths clause on Monday. This is what
the authors of the clause intended it
to do.

The Belgian census shows a popula-
tion of 7,423,784, or 651 to the square
mile, and still growing. Nearly twenty
Belgians could be put into Ontario.
They have a small country, but the
Belgians make the fullest use of their
soil.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier will address
Montreal Liberals on Monday. He will
have to apologize for nothing, and he
will be able to call his political soul his
own. He will be able to touch on the
naval question, which is more than Mr.
Borden dares do, especially in Que-
bec.

The duty may be reimposed on the
classes of Canadian wood pulp and
paper that have entered the United
States duty-free since Congress passed
the reciprocity agreement. But who
cares? Weren't we all assured that the
United States market was of no earth-
ly use to anybody in Canada?

SCORNFUL REJOINDER.

[Washington Star.]
"What you want, I suppose, is to vote
just like the men do."
"Certainly not," replied Mrs. Bar-
ing-Baners. "If we couldn't do any better
than that there would be no use of our
voting."

WHY PEOPLE DRINK.

[Montreal Witness.]
The population of our larger cities
has increased greatly during the past
twelve months. A very large propor-
tion of the new citizens hail from coun-
tries in Europe where liquor drinking is
the rule and abstinence the exception,
and we believe that the increase
in drinking is chiefly due to this. But

another undoubted cause is the pros-
perity which we are enjoying at pres-
ent. It is the rule of all countries
that the people drink more when
they can afford more. There still
are people who cannot understand
how enjoyment can be had without
liquor.

TRAVEL IN THE ORIENT.

[Montreal Star.]
The death of Rev. Dr. Elmore Har-
ris, of Toronto, in Delhi, from small-
pox, illuminates one of the delights of
travel in the Orient. Smallpox and
other ill diseases are too common in
to be comfortable. When the wise trav-
eller starts for "the glorious east" he
gets vaccinated, secures the names of
the best available imported table
waters, buys a supply of quinine, fits
eye-shields to his eyes to keep away
the flies, and lays in a stock of flea
powder. Then he is prepared to have a
good time.

WISE NATIONAL POLICY.

[Winnipeg Free Press.]
The figures of population are a rev-
elation that should engage the im-
mediate attention of all who desire Can-
ada to wax in greatness with each
passing year. They show only too clear-
ly that the economic balance between
town and country in Ontario has been
destroyed. It profits a country nothing
to gain a hundred thousand in urban
population at the loss of an equal popu-
lation in the township. There is a
heavy national loss in such a transac-
tion.

The wisest national policy is the one
that puts and keeps people on the land.
The way to accomplish this desirable
end is to make farming profitable. The
welfare of the farmer should be the
first consideration of the legislatures.
Given a populous and prosperous coun-
tryside, thriving towns and expand-
ing manufactures surely follow.

OBVIOUSLY OUTCLASSED.

[Washington Star.]
Ananias was an expert, but he never
exhibited anything like the philologi-
cal knowledge of his subject that mod-
ern statesmanship discloses.

HER DAILY TOIL.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]
"I'm trying to catch up with my
diary before the end of the year.
Haven't written anything in it for two
months."
"But can you remember what you
did every day?"
"Of course. I played bridge."

GOOD FOR THE CHINAMAN.

[London Star.]
Yuan Shi Kai, the man of the hour
in revolutionary China, is an extra-
ordinary personal example of the
sweeping change in the attitude of
Chinese leaders to Christianity since
the Boxer rising. This man, who is
today, with a score of his own nom-
inees in high office as the price
of his own assumption of power, has
this year sent four of his sons and a
nephew to the Anglo-Chinese College,
Tientsin, the London Missionary So-
ciety's great educational institution in
China. Yuan Shi Kai has given a
splendid hall to the Anglo-Chinese
College, which has his portrait hang-
ing in it.

RESOLUTIONS.

[Milwaukee Sentinel.]
Weefully we sit and ponder
On the times we've gone astray;
On the imp that makes us wander
Lightly down the primrose way.

But with all our retribution
And our penitence, we know
That we'll smash the resolution
As we did a year ago.

REVISED HER PETITION.

[Los Angeles Times.]
The Rev. Sylvester Horne, the Lib-
eral member of Parliament from Lon-
don, was talking about religion.
"Too many of us, in our religious
observances," he said, "are like a
little Tottenham Court road girl.
"This little girl one night said to
her dear nurse:
"Oh, must I sleep in the dark?"
"Yes, miss," the nurse replied.
"Then wait a minute," said the
little girl; "I'll get up and say my
prayers more carefully."

MAKE AN EFFORT.

Of course, Christmas comes in Dec.
That fact is hard not to rem.
On the first of the year
All the bills will appear.
Try to have them all paid by Sept.

FRIENDLESS.

[Pittsburgh Post.]
Cashier—You must get some one to
identify you before I can pay this check.
Have you no friends in this town?
Stranger—Not one. I'm the dog catcher.

IF ALL WERE WELL AT HOME.

[Charles Churchill.]
'Tis not the babbling of an idle world,
Where praise and censure are at random
hurled,
That can the meanness of my thoughts
control,
Or shake one settled purpose of my soul.
Free aimed at large might their wild courses
run.
If all, if all, alas, were well at home.

A DISCONTENTED MAN.

[Puck.]
Of food I have a goodly store
Against the winter months put by;
I carry water in no more
We have it in our dwelling; I
Don't have to rise at dawn and fly
To gather wood all snowy wet;
But these things do not satisfy—
I want the things I cannot get.

THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM.

[Saturday Evening Post.]
Capt. Joe Fowler, now dead, was a
famous southern steamboat man of the
old days. One afternoon after he had
reached the age of retirement he was
sitting on the wharf of a Tennessee River
town when a boat landed and a northern
woman came ashore, carrying in her
arms the first Mexican hairless dog that
Capt. Joe had ever seen.
As the lady approached him he arose
and made a low bow.
"I beg your pardon, madam," he said;
"but is that your dog?"
"It is," she said.
"Is that the only dog you've got?"
"It is."
"Madam," said Capt. Joe, "ain't you
mighty near out of dog?"

AN EXCEPTIONAL NECESSITY.

[Cleveland Plaindealer.]
"Why do you lick your postage stamps?"
"I'm sure it isn't nice."
"Cause stamp paste is the only food
That hasn't raised its price!"

THE COMMITTEES SLATE

Disposition of Committee Chairmen.
ships As It Now Appears.
The latest guess as to the compo-
sition of the various committees of the
city council is as follows:
Finance Committee—Ald. J. F. Moore
(chairman), Ald. B. W. Bennett, Ald.

ALD. ASHLANT

Again returned with large vote to council.
T. J. Murphy and Ald. W. D. I.
Wright.

Board of Works—Ald. W. E. Robin-
son (chairman), Ald. J. G. Richter, Ald.
G. E. Rose and Ald. W. Spittal.
No. 3 Committee—Ald. Ashplant
(chairman), Ald. R. F. Blandford, Ald.
W. G. Coles and Ald. E. H. Johnston.
Ald. Coles is mentioned as chairman
of the manufacturers' committee, and
Ald. Bennett for the special city hall
committee.

Ald. Richter will be head of the local
improvement committee. This board
will deal with the question of a mu-
nicipal paving plan, also.

DOES NOT WAIT

Continued From Page One.

bread and butter, and some fruit and
coffee. It was impossible to prepare a
more elaborate menu, owing to lack of
facilities.

Chef Jack Richardson and his men
set to work at once to prepare the
meals for the remainder of the day,
but the army had to go on some-
what short rations.

An improvised kitchen was made in
the billiard room. The furniture was
removed, and a range set up there. It
was not a modern arrangement, but
the food will be in running order,
and the problem of feeding 900 peo-
ple will be solved to a certain de-
gree.

Rings in Alarms.

The fire first noticed by Miss
Maggie Doyle, of the staff. She had
been at the north building, and was
on her way back. In passing the
theatre she noticed the blaze, and im-
mediately ran to the engine room and
notified Jack Hamilton, the assistant.
He blew the whistle and alarmed the
attendants. Running into the main
phone switchboard, and with Miss
Evelyn Bray, the matron, rang in the
alarms. The city brigade was called
first, then the barracks, and Dr. Rob-
inson was summoned.

Miss Bray relieved Miss Doyle and
between the two, everyone who could
possibly render assistance was notified
of the blaze.

"She did it wonderfully well," said
Miss Bray. "Everybody was notified
in an instant, and no time was lost."

The fire drill in the main building
was well executed. Dr. Ross declared
that the wards were cleared, and the
patients in the hall in two minutes
after the alarm was sounded. Dr. Rob-
inson was delighted with the exhibi-
tion. For some time it has been the
practice to give fire drills on occasions
and the effectiveness of the training
was most marked last night.

Cause Is Uncertain.

The cause of the blaze has not been
discovered to those who were early on
the ground it started in the north-
west corner of the theatre. That por-
tion was used as a lady's
dressing room and is directly above
the stage. It was thought that the
fire might have worked itself
from the bake ovens to the theatre,
and then spread through the building.
The attendants did not think this the
cause, declaring that the fire had
started in the dressing room. There was
a patients' dance last night, and the
blaze may have been caused by a
match or something of that sort. The
hydro-electric gang was working in the
place and were in that portion
during the day. However, Superin-
tendent Boudard, who is in charge of
the men, stated that he did not think
it possible that it could have originated
from them. An investigation will be
commenced today. The Government
inspector and architect of Toronto will
arrive some time this afternoon, and
will visit the place, securing all the
information possible.

The old pumps worked with fair sat-
isfaction, although their efficiency was
not as great as it might have been. A
fine new and powerful turbine pump
has arrived, and would have been ready
for operation in a day or two. It will
be isolated from the other buildings to
prevent its destruction in case of fire.

BRAVE AND CALM

Continued From Page One.

introduced, where the word male ap-
peared. Women were told that because
they were women they could not vote.
In the early centuries women had held
high political offices, and had seats in
the House of Lords. The right to vote
was taken from the women by this re-
form bill without their consent, a most
unconstitutional proceeding.

Aroused in the Sixties.
There were objections to the bill, but
it was not until the early sixties that
women began to organize. John Stur-
tevant Mill formed the first suffragist as-
sociation in Manchester. In 1867 an-
other reform bill was introduced, and
Mr. Mill introduced an amendment to
provide for votes for women.

"The 'mas' was not in this bill, and
the amendment was not considered
necessary. Four thousand women were
placed on the list in Lancashire, but
they were struck off by the court of
review because of sex. This action
caused much bitterness and trouble.

Jacob Bright, brother of John Bright,
in 1870 introduced a woman's suffrage
bill, but being a private member's bill,
it never became law, although a ma-
jority of the members of the House of
Commons favored it.

Later amendments were made to the
reform bills in 1884, and later, and the
women continued to agitate, without
much success.

The women were patient and signed
petitions. They packed great halls,
and held monster meetings, but these
things did not produce the results an-
ticipated. The fight was continued, but
after repeated rebuffs they lost heart.

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ROBERT STAFFORD, Proprietor. COPELAND TOWNSEND, Manager.

Manning Arcade Patent Office

of Featherstonhaugh & Son,
24 KING ST. WEST - TORONTO

Mr. E. J. Fetherstonhaugh, of the above
firm, was lately the principal in Fetherston-
haugh, Dennison & Co., Star Bldg., Toronto,
which firm no longer exists. There is no
Fetherstonhaugh in the Star Bldg. now, but
Fetherstonhaugh & Son are in the Manning
Arcade, where they will look after all patent
and trademark work for their clients.

would ask no questions.
The self-sacrifice, self-denying ef-
forts of the women, who believed in
their rights were spoken of at length,
and the audience was convinced that
they at least had the courage of their
convictions.
Canada should be made more attrac-
tive for women. Mrs. Pankhurst de-
clared. It did not now offer the op-
portunities to the agricultural women
that it should. Ballots for women
would help greatly. The best English
women would be attracted to Canada.

Mrs. Pankhurst predicted that the bal-
lot would come in England this com-
ing year, or they would know the rea-
son why.
A sympathetic question was asked by
Mr. P. P. Betts, and cleverly answered
by Mrs. Pankhurst, apparently to the
satisfaction of the inquirer.
A hearty vote of thanks, moved by
Rev. J. Gibson Inkster and Inspector
Edwards, was tendered the speaker. If
the applause could be taken as a sign
Mrs. Pankhurst had the full accord of
her hearers.