

London Advertiser.

FOUNDED IN 1852.
 NOON AND EVENING EDITIONS.
 THE LONDON ADVERTISER CO.,
 Limited, Publishers,
 121-123 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

PHONE NUMBERS.
 Business Department, 121 and 123.
 Editorial Rooms, 121 and 123.
 Job Printing Department, 123.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.
 Readers of The Advertiser are requested
 to favor the management by reporting
 any irregularities in delivery.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
 Daily, Delivered in City.
 One week \$1.00
 One year \$5.00

LONDON, TUESDAY, DEC. 29.

A TRIBUTE TO SIR WILFRID.

The Natal Mercury finds in the triumph of Sir Wilfrid Laurier cause for gratification in the hearts of all overseas Britons, and declares that the Canadian Prime Minister "stands head and shoulders above all the present-day statesmen in the colonial empire." It describes him as "one of our most valued imperial assets" because of sanity of his views on the great imperial problems which all the colonies are endeavoring to work out, and the warmth of his loyalty to the empire. Commenting on his attitude at the colonial conference last year the Mercury says:

"He went to London as the doyen of colonial ministers, and his whole demeanor was that of a man conscious of the dignity befitting his great position, and desirous of paying the respect due to the mother country, even when the home government, and a numerous section of the home people, differed from him regarding imperial objects on which he had set his heart. He did not descend, as some of his colleagues from other colonies did, into the arena of home politics. Ministers from other colonies might lend themselves to intermeddling in home disputes, might chide home ministers with flouting colonial wishes, and might presume to lecture the home public on their political duty. Sir Wilfrid Laurier indulged in none of these aberrations. Nevertheless, he had been the pioneer of that system of colonial preferences for which his colleagues from other colonies were clamoring, with greater energy than discretion. It can be freely acknowledged that the impulse which inspired Sir Wilfrid Laurier to place British imports on a preferential basis in the Canadian market—an example which has since been followed by other colonies, and served as the real starting point of Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal propaganda—was a signal proof of his attachment to the empire, and of his desire to promote its permanent unity and greatness. He has never made complaint of Britain's hesitation to grant reciprocal preferences. He does not deny to the mother country the right which he claims for Canada—to regulate its commercial affairs as may be thought best in its own interests. Every one of the nations composing the British empire, he has said, 'must be allowed to determine for itself what is best for itself.' That seems to us to be the keynote both of true liberalism and of true imperialism."

The conclusion of the Natal paper is that Sir Wilfrid is firm upon doing what is in his power to bind Canada more closely to the empire, and to promote the internal development and self-sufficiency of the Dominion. "It would be well for South Africa," says the Mercury, "if we could have in the seat of power a federal premier, whether of British or Dutch descent, animated by the ideals and gifted with the statescraft of the French-descended Premier of the Canadian Dominion."

Canada is fortunate in having a premier big enough to be so beyond the boundaries of his own country. He is more than a party chieftain—he is the first Canadian statesman with an international reputation.

THE PROPOSED WINTER CARNIVAL.

A prominent Montrealer urges the Canadian press to oppose strongly the project of a winter carnival and ice palace at Montreal. He says it has been promoted by a few men who hope to make money out of the crowds, and that the most influential part of the community is indignant at the attempt to revive so damaging an advertisement of the Canadian climate.

"At first glance, you would say, 'Great thing for the railways!' but the railways look beyond the limits of the Canadian metropolis. The Government and the railways have spent millions of dollars to offset the evil effect of past carnivals, and it would be little short of a national calamity should this insane idea prevail."

"Talk about Canadian fakirs and literary liars—they would be as measly to smallpox compared with this carnival! We are all dead against it, and I only hope the observation of the harm done by picture and perpetuating Canada as an iceberg will enable the Canadian press to take the same view."

"Here we have been singing the song of the warm climate, and picturing the paradise that awaits the new-comer in the Canadian West, and along come a selfish lot of provincial penny-ante souls, who would sacrifice the Dominion for the sake of a few centimes."

"I have reason to believe the immigration department is dead against this. It is a cold proposition, and ought to be killed."

There can be no doubt that the winter carnivals of years ago helped to spread elsewhere erroneous notions of the Canadian climate. These picture-house affairs were profusely illustrated

In Great Britain and the United States, and the only distinct impression of Canada that many people in other countries received was that of a land of snow and ice. This idea has been vanishing in recent years, and the prairie, not the ice-field, is now the symbol of Canada abroad. While the Dominion is better able to stand misrepresentation today than in the past, a winter carnival of no benefit except to a few persons in Montreal, and the publicity it would receive in the old country and across the line might do harm. There are powerful interests in both countries opposed to emigration, and they seize every opportunity of disparaging Canada. The citizens of Montreal would do well to bear this in mind.

THE MACHINE OILED AGAIN.

A meeting of the local Conservative organization was held last night, at which it was decided to put the "machine" in motion for the municipal elections.

The mayoralty was canvassed, and the nomination offered to a citizen, who, however, declined the honor. An attempt was made to frame a "slate" for all municipal boards, but it appears that several good men, who intend to run for office, declined to wear the party label.

There have been many homilies in one Conservative quarter on the folly of injecting politics into municipal affairs. It will be seen how much sincerity there is in these professions if a party ticket is placed before the electors.

It cannot be said that party politics has influenced the city council of this year, so that the conduct of the Conservative faction last night was entirely unprovoked. There was a unique opportunity to drop politics from this year's election, but an element of the Conservative party is determined that civic affairs shall be run on party lines.

The Marconi system is all in the air but it is bringing down cable rates.

The intelligent citizen pays no attention to a party ticket on municipal election day.

Ontario school children have been ordered to spell "honor," "labor," and "neighbor" with a "u," by some fossil in the education department of the province. It is like going back to the days of the stage-coach and the tallow candle.

The Winnipeg Telegram testifies to the efficiency of the high-pressure system there. Chief Croker, of New York, says he cannot recommend it too highly. Toronto and Montreal are going in for it. But the London Free Press calls it a fad.

The Canadian Northern is projecting a line from Port Arthur to Sudbury. Somebody has compared Canada to a dumb-bell—big at both ends, slender in the middle, because uninhabited there, and in danger of breaking in two. But the once-despised middle region, which lies in Ontario, is being thickened by railways and is revealing riches that will make it some day the seat of a considerable population.

TOO CONSIDERATE.
 [Home Magazine.]
 Judge—You say you went into the room at night quite unintentionally? Why then, had you taken off your shoes?
 Burglar—Cause, Judge, I heard dere was somebody lying ill in de house.

GUESSED RIGHT.
 [Montreal Herald.]
 The English editor who came to the conclusion that what Canada wants is to borrow a lot more English money, and that England stands to gain by every increase in Canada's prosperity, wasn't so far out in his guess.

THE LABOR LEADERS.
 [Toronto Star.]
 Mr. Verville is right about the superiority of Canadian institutions over American. They put their labor leaders in jail. We put ours in Parliament.

GOT THE FARE.
 [Conductor (to passenger)—Did I get your fare?
 Passenger—You must have got it, for the register did not ring when I handed you the nickel.

TOWERS.
 [The patient architect had just succeeded in getting Mrs. Drippingold to decide between the charms of Renaissance, Classic and Queen Anne for the plans of her magnificent new country house.
 "The only details I ain't got to leave to your discretion," said the wealthy lady, "is the matter of towers. I want plenty of towers that folks can see for a long way off when they're ridin' by."
 "But what kind of towers do you want?" inquired the unfortunate architect.
 "Norman, Gothic—"
 Mrs. Drippingold closed the English novel of high life on which her soul had been feeding.
 "Why, ancestral towers, of course!"

ROOM AT THE TOP.
 [Kincardine Review.]
 Is there a great lawyer in Canada today, with B. B. Odey, Dalton McCarthy and Christopher Robinson gone? Can you put your finger on one lawyer of commanding intellect and skill as a counsel? Our own opinion is that white hosts of lawyers are struggling at the foot of the ladder, all the top rungs are vacant?

RADIUM'S STORED ENERGY.
 [Dundee Advertiser.]
 The University of Vienna, which has received through the Vienna Academy of Sciences an anonymous donation of \$50,000 for the establishment of a "radium institute," is rapidly becoming famous among physicists for its experimental work on the wonderful radium emanations. The rarity and great cost of radium necessarily restrict the number of investigators, and Sir William Ramsay, in his recent experiments has gone far toward proving the suspected transmutation of radium into helium and other elements, was recently specially honored by the Vienna Academy of Sciences by

the loan of a fraction of a gramme of radium for the purpose of enabling him to continue his valuable investigations. A gramme of radium, it has been calculated, has stored up in it energy equal to one-horsepower for fifteen days, but it parts with its energy so slowly—it cannot be stored or hurried—that it takes some 3,000 years to exhaust itself.

THAT FAMOUS SWIM.

[Bohemian Magazine.]
 "It is a very dangerous thing, I have found, to tell stories to the present younger generation," a Sunday school teacher recently remarked. "Now, I have always been fond of illustrating the Gospel lessons with little stories which helped to point the moral, and my favorite with me was one of a young Roman athlete who used to swim the Tiber three times every morning. This generally made a hit with the boys in my class, but one Sunday a new lad with Irish eyes appeared, and at the conclusion of this story snickered audibly."

"You seem to think that this story is rather funny, Patrick," I remarked, severely. "Will you tell us in what respect?"

"Seems like he might have made one more trip and got his clothes, miss," he replied, with a cheerful grin."

THE OLD YEAR DIES.

[S. E. Kiser.]
 The old year dies; hopes that were fair
 Are strewn behind us like the year.
 Ambitions that were cherished long
 Are left unclaimed, and, frail or strong,
 We search for newer hopes to share.

The mist grows darker, deeper, where
 We resolutely buried care,
 And left the ways that led to wrong—
 The old year dies.

Beyond us lies a realm that ne'er
 Has been explored, where they that dare
 To lead may guide the eager throng,
 Where triumph may be in the song
 Of those that long have borne despair—
 The old year dies.

TO THE POINT.

[Exchange.]
 Apt to be hot-headed—The man who has
 fire in his eye.
 Sweetmeats—Two fond lovers in fond
 embrace.
 A habit that ladies soon get into—A
 riding-habit.

The best weapon for killing time—The
 minute-gun.
 The third river in Scotland is the
 fourth.

Hush-money—The price of a family
 cradle.
 Bookkeepers—Book-borrowers.

UNANSWERABLE.

[London Opinion.]
 From a northern town comes a sad
 story of a pawnbroker. He was enjoying
 a beauty sleep when a constable knocking
 at the street door brought him to the
 window with a jerk.

"What's the matter?" he shouted.
 "Come down," demanded the knocker.
 "But—"

"Come down!"
 The man of many nephews hastened
 downstairs and peeped around the door.

"Now, sir?" he demanded.
 "I want to know the time," said the
 revolver.

"Do you mean to say you knocked me
 up for that? How dare you?"
 The midnight visitor looked indignant.
 "Well, you've got my watch," he said.

REALLY "FOREIGN DEVILS."

[W. J. Ellis.]
 Much fun has been poked at China for
 its attitude toward foreigners, whom it
 has hitherto called "foreign devils." The
 Chinese really believe that the white
 man is a different—and, of course, a
 lower—order of being from themselves.

After all, though, has the attitude of
 Western people toward China been very
 different—in self-complacency and invul-
 nerable superiority? By his attitude and
 by his conduct, the foreigner frequently
 shows a spirit even worse than that of
 the Chinese, who cry "foreign devil"
 after the white man on the streets.

OBEYING THE TEACHER.

[Judge.]
 "Here, ma," requested the boy, hurrying
 in from school before time, "hang
 my jacket up behind the stove."

"Is it wet?"
 "No, but teacher sent me home to tell
 you to warm my jacket for me."

DISENCHANTED.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
 "Yes," she admitted, with a sad little
 sigh, "there was a time when I thought
 him the grandest man in the world—
 when I fancied that nothing could ever
 make me cease to love him."

"Well," her friend replied, "I suppose
 we are all doomed to these disenchanting
 experiences. We have the home life of
 a spirit even worse than that of the
 Chinese, who cry 'foreign devil'
 after the white man on the streets."

AN IDEAL JOB.

[Judge.]
 Housekeeper—Who are you?
 Tramp—Madam, I am an after dinner
 speaker.

Closed Four Houses.
 New York, Dec. 28.—As a result of
 the recent sharp investigation under
 the direction of Mayor McClellan of
 alleged violations of the law covering
 Sunday performances in the theatres,
 Corporation Counsel Pendleton ordered
 the drawing up of the papers necessary
 for the revocation of licenses of the
 Victoria, Alhambra, American and
 Hurling & Seamount's one hundred
 and twenty-fifth street theatres.

The lawyers for the city and those
 engaged for the moving picture interests
 were not ready to proceed with
 arguments in the supreme court in
 Brooklyn today for and against making
 permanent the temporary injunction
 secured by the showmen against the
 closing of their places of business by
 the order of Mayor McClellan. The
 hearing was adjourned until tomorrow.

A majority of the vaudeville actors
 arrested Sunday for alleged violation
 of the Sunday law were dismissed today
 in police court.

"Divorce" Tonight.
 The viciousness of the star system
 of dramatic production was never better
 emphasized than in the successful
 organization of a splendid company of
 players that Fred. C. Whitney will
 present in Bourget's drama "Divorce,"
 at the Grand this evening, and the
 production of a play of genuine merit.
 The same all-star cast, including
 Miss Marion Terry, Miss Ida Conquest,

Messrs. Vincent Soriano, Eben Plympton and John Glendenning will again
 be seen in "Divorce."

"The Road to Yesterday."

Local theatregoers will have an opportunity of witnessing that altogether charming novelty in comedies, "The Road to Yesterday," which had such a long run in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and other cities and which with its splendid production and cast, comes to the Grand tomorrow evening.

The piece is a delightful play within a play. The characters in the very up-to-date first act go to sleep and find themselves suddenly transported to a yesterday of long ago. What happens to them there and how they again regain possession of "today," bringing back with them some of the romance and charm of yesterday, is told in the course of four acts of romantic comedy.

"East Lynne."

One of the most complete and effective presentations of "East Lynne," which has ever been sent on tour will be given at the Grand, Thursday evening. The company, scenic equipment and accessories are all up to the standard required for an artistic presentation of the favorite old drama. The engagement is for one night only.

"The Devil."

Franz Molnar's famous comedy, "The Devil," which was the reigning sensation of the New York theatrical season, the sole version of which is held by Henry W. Savage, will have two presentations in this city at the Grand on New Year's Day, with Edwin Stevens and the original Garden Theatre, New York City cast.

"The Devil" is, first of all, a lively entertainment and is played by the able Savage forces as a brilliant, witty comedy, permitting the lesson learned from the story to be absorbed in the most agreeable way.

Seats will be placed on sale tomorrow at 9 o'clock.

"The Man in the Box."

There was a fair house at the Grand last evening, the attraction being "The Man in the Box," a very pleasing comedy. The attraction is a good one.

The story is not unfamiliar to Londoners, as the play has been here before. It concerns a young army officer, who falls in love with the daughter of a nobleman during a trip across the Atlantic. He did not meet her, but determined to win her. One evening, in a spirit of devilment, he attempts to surprise his sister by acting as her coachman, but his carriage numbers get mixed and he drives his ladylove home through the streets at a reckless pace, and is pursued by two policemen.

On arriving at the lady's door he kisses her and is immediately arrested. He is fined for his escapade, and the young lady, confident that he is some distinguished person in disguise, pays his fine and then tells him his real name. He enters into the spirit of the thing and takes the place. There is plenty and the play abounds in them. It all ends happily, of course.

The different roles are on the whole in capable hands. Miss Rebecca Warren, as the young lady, gave a finished interpretation of her part. Miss Warren is a capable hands. Miss Rebecca Warren, as the young lady, gave a finished interpretation of her part. Miss Warren is a capable hands. Miss Rebecca Warren, as the young lady, gave a finished interpretation of her part.

She has much ability and in a role that has heretofore been a subordinate one, she makes it quite the feature of the play. Her work last evening cannot be too highly praised. Mr. Roger Barker, as the young army officer, was very good. William Carroll, as a Russian diplomat, shows a spirit even worse than that of the Chinese, who cry "foreign devil" after the white man on the streets.

TWO SUDDEN DEATHS.

Mrs. Newell, of Strathroy, Succumbs While on the Way to Church.

Strathroy, Dec. 29.—Mrs. Harriett Husser, an east end resident, died very suddenly today of pneumonia.

While on her way to church Sunday Mrs. Lorenzo Newell, a widow about 70 years of age, was picked up in an unconscious condition on Emily street early this morning at the home of Mr. John R. Clark. Medical aid was quickly at hand, but all efforts to revive her proved fruitless. Death occurred in a few minutes. Heart disease was the cause of death.

CUT RATES IN TWO.

Henniker Heaton Expects This Result From Present Movement.

London, Dec. 28.—Henniker Heaton, writing to the president of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, says there should not be the least difficulty in reducing cable rates by 50 to 75 per cent as the result of the powerful pressure being brought to bear on cable companies, and on foreign governments and additional to the steps now being taken by the Imperial Government for the construction and laying of a few state-owned cables.

SHOT HIS WIFE AND TRIES SUICIDE.

Dramatic Climax of Quarrel Between Toronto Colored People.

Toronto, Dec. 29.—William Mason Seay, colored, placed the muzzle of a revolver against his white wife's cheek and pulled the trigger today. She threw herself back in such a way that the bullet followed the course along the cheek bone and lodged just under the skin in front of the left ear, resulting in no great injury.

Believing he had murdered her, Seay dashed out of the house and was next seen when he was pulled out of Ashbridge's Bay at the foot of Carlaw avenue and lodged in Pape avenue police station.

The affair happened at 12:30 this afternoon at 125 Morse street, and according to Mrs. Seay the trouble started from Seay's repeated charges that his wife was unfaithful to him. Since coming to Toronto over six weeks ago he has been out of work and this preyed on his mind constantly and put him in a quarrelsome mood.

The famous bells of the Sandon (Rex) Parish Church are being returned. The oak beams in the tower, which have supported the bells for 400 years, are to be replaced by steel girders.

Chapman's

JUST NOTE THIS:

Ladies' Black Coats, regularly sold at \$20.00 to \$30.00, on sale this week at **\$16.50**

There are full, seven-eighth length coats of extra fine quality, black broadcloth and beaver, in fitting and semi-fitting styles, body lined and trimmed with cloth, strappings or braid, in a variety of pleasing effects. All are perfect fitting, imported models, selling regularly from \$20 to \$30. Extra special this week **\$16.50**

AND NOTE THIS ALSO:

Ladies' Fancy Worsted and Fancy Tweed Coats, all imported models, including the most popular styles of fitting, semi-fitting and loose effects. To be had while this clearance lasts at half price.

Were \$10.00 for \$5.00. Were \$14.00 for \$7.00.
 Were \$12.50 for \$6.25. Were \$16.00 for \$8.00.

A BIG SAVING OVERCOATS

Men's Heavy-Weight, Winter Overcoats, of gray cheviot and fancy tweeds, lined with extra fine quality lining, silk velvet collar, vents in the back. There are all sizes, 34 to 44, besides we can fit extra large men. Regularly priced at \$13.50 and \$15. This week at **\$8.50**

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO., 126, 128, 128½ Dundas St.

BECK SUPPORTERS GET A SETBACK

Judge Anglin Decides That the Contract With Cataract Co. Is Binding.

Hamilton, Dec. 29.—The hydro-electric supporters, who fought hard to break the city's contract with the Cataract Power Company, have lost the battle, but not irredeemably. Yesterday morning Justice Anglin handed down his decision in the case, and dismissed the action with costs. He held that the contract made by this year's council was binding. He says, however, that it is only a yearly one.

The hydro-electric supporters sought to break it on the ground that it should have been submitted to the people.

Mayor Stewart says this makes the decision really a victory for Niagara power, if the city elects a hydro-electric council.

Hamilton's mayoralty contest this year will be a straight fight between Alderman McLaren, Independent, and Alderman Bailey, the Conservative nominee. They were the only candidates named at the nominations yesterday. Over forty aldermanic candidates were nominated in the various wards. The temperance people have a ticket of fourteen.

POLICEMAN BRUTALLY BEATEN

(Continued From Page 1.)

ing and kicking Robson, and rescued him.

Good Work of Officers.
 One of the assailants was rendered unconscious, but Robson, when he was reached was in a pitiable state. It was impossible to see his face for blood and cuts. One cut at the top of his head had plainly been inflicted by a heavy boot. It was several inches long, and scalp and hair had been torn out by the heavy nails. Robson's face was a mass of cuts and bruises, and undoubtedly had he not had a man like P. C. MacRae with him he would have been killed.

MacRae's first cure was for his comrade, but seeing one of the unconscious men getting up to run away, he left him and recaptured Herald.

Some Escaped.
 In the meantime the other man who had been knocked down came to and escaped.

The police went to his home early this morning, but he had not returned. It is said he is the man who made such a murderous assault on Night Policeman Gillean last year.

A close watch is being kept for him and he and other members of the gang will likely be arrested shortly.

Herald Remanded.
 Herald appeared in court this morning and was not asked to plead. He was remanded a week for trial, and if convicted will serve a long term in prison, as Magistrate Love has said.

Mr. Mackenzie King Will There Talk Over the Opium Traffic.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Mr. Mackenzie King, M.P., who is now in London, on his way to the Shanghai conference on the suppression of the opium traffic, will sail for the far east on New Year's Day from Marseilles. Mr. King is to visit India en route, and while in that country will have an opportunity of discussing the question of Hindu immigration with the Indian Government. He will be accompanied by his secretary, Mr. F. W. Giddens.

NOT REPLACING STRATHCONA

Postmaster-General Says Story of His Being Replaced Is False.

Montreal, Dec. 29.—Postmaster-General Lemieux was in the city to-

FREE! THE STARR HOCKEY SKATES

To every boy and girl in London who will bring four of the following orders to

The Advertiser Office

I hereby state that I have not taken THE LONDON ADVERTISER regularly for the past 30 days, and in consideration of The Advertiser furnishing a pair of Hockey Skates free to

(Boy's or Girl's Name) _____

I order The London Advertiser and agree to pay for the same at the rate of 10 cents per week for at least twelve (12) weeks.

Signed _____

Start Paper _____ Address _____

SPECIAL NOTICE

Start Today To Earn a Prize

Bring in each order as soon as you get it, and it will be placed to your credit.

A Bone-Handled (2 blades) Knife for one order.
 A Pearl-Handled (2 blades) Knife for two orders.
 A Gunmetal Watch for three orders.
 A Waterson Fountain Pen for one order. Better ones for two or three orders.
 Hockey Stick for one order.
 A long list of prizes to select from. See the

Circulation Mgr., London Advertiser

One Copper Chafing Dish

Regular \$8, now \$5.00
 Framed Mirrors 65c, 75c, 80c, \$1
 Silver Knives and Forks, were \$2 50 per dozen, now \$1 50
 Rogers Teaspoons, were \$2 50 per dozen, now \$1 50
 Biscuit Jars, Pickle Cruets, Fruit Dishes, Bread Trays, Carpet Sweepers, Wringers, Matt Steel Ranges. All new goods at Fire Sale Prices.

Westman's Hardware

Temporary Store,
 436 RICHMOND STREET.

day and took advantage of the occasion to give an emphatic denial to the rumors that have been circulating through the press to the effect that Lord Strathcona intends resigning from the Canadian high-commissionership in England.

The story had been widely circulated both in England and Canada as well as in the United States that Lord Strathcona will shortly retire, and that the succession to the high-commissionership had been offered Sir H. Montague Allan.