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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
MR. WHITNEY'S POWER STATEMENT.

Mr. Whitney made his promised statement on the power question in the Legislature yesterday.

He admitted that the Electrical Development Company offered to sell out to the Government, but says the proposal was not entertained for two reasons: First, because arrangements had been made with the Ontario Power Company to supply power to the hydro-electric commission; second, because the Government was inhibited from competing with the power companies by the terms of their contracts with the Niagara Park commission, except in case of forfeiture by one of the companies.

It will be a matter of general surprise if there is any stipulation that would prevent the Government acquiring one or all of the power plants by purchase. If such a course were illegal, could the present Government have taken the power, which it asked the Legislature to confer upon it, of expropriating any of the development companies when the public interests seemed to require it? Furthermore, the plans of the hydro-electric commission are equivalent to Government competition with the power companies, especially with the Electrical Development Company. To deny it is merely a splitting of hairs. It is a question, moreover, whether the Ontario Power Company and the Canadian Niagara Company have not forfeited their charter rights by neglect to build transmission lines in Canada, and carry power to the doors of the people.

The Premier may as well have been frank, and have confessed that he was opposed to the policy of Government ownership, which he and his followers advocated when in Opposition. He refuses to accept the logic and the consequences of the course into which he has been forced by a strenuous colleague, and the result is confusion and uncertainty, both for the Government and the municipalities. The financial risks are ostensibly thrown upon the latter, but they will hold the Government responsible if they find they have "bitten off more than they can chew," through following the advice of the hydro-electric commission, which is the Government's alter ego.

A UNITED PARTY.
Major Beattie is quoted as denying with some vehemence the newspaper assertions that the Opposition is not united.

The major is half-right. The Opposition is united in a desire to oust the Government, but it does not hang together well on questions of principle and policy.

Last session a large section of it voted for a ten per cent tariff on agricultural implements, while high protection is its official creed.

The other day one of its leaders, Hon. John Haggart, repudiated Government ownership of railways, which is one of the India rubber planks of the Halifax platform, laid down by Mr. Borden.

Mr. W. F. Maclean's reference to Hon. Mr. Haggart as "my antediluvian friend," is another illustration of the harmony in the same camp.

The support given by Mr. Maclean to the Labor candidate in the London bye-election must strike Major Beattie as a further example of the beautiful spirit of Conservatism.

The attitude of the Opposition to the French treaty may be cited as still another instance of its consistency and cohesiveness.

THE TATSU MARU DIFFICULTY.

The action of China in apologizing to Japan for the hauling down of the Japanese flag from the steamship Tatsu Maru, after the seizure of that vessel, removes one of Japan's chief grievances arising out of the incident. The announcement is also made that China is preparing a reply to Japan's claim of illegal seizure and demand for the release of the vessel, an apology and an indemnity. What the nature of that reply will be remains to be seen, but it may be taken for granted that China will stop at nothing to avoid a clash with her aggressive neighbor.

The seizure of which Japan complains occurred on Feb. 7 last, when the Japanese steamship Tatsu Maru, with a cargo of arms and ammunition, was taken in charge by some Chinese gunboats near Macao and steered to Canton, where the flag flying at her masthead was lowered. The charge against the steamer was that although her cargo was consigned to a merchant of Macao, she was really intended to smuggle the arms and am-

munition into Chinese territory for the use of rebels. Japan claims the seizure was illegal for the reason that it was made in Portuguese waters, the vessel having anchored off Macao, a Portuguese seaport. Moreover, it is asserted that the Tatsu Maru held a regular Portuguese permit authorizing her to land her cargo at Macao. If the evidence bears out the Japanese contention the Chinese gunboats were clearly at fault. To settle the point China is said to have expressed a willingness to submit to a mixed tribunal the question whether the seizure was illegal, and if so, whether China owes an apology and indemnity.

Japan, refuses to listen to such a proposal until the vessel is surrendered.

The probability is that China will agree to give up the steamer. Should she refuse, Japan may be expected to utilize one of her cruisers now in Southern Chinese waters to compel the payment of indemnity by threatening a bombardment—the method employed by European powers a few years ago to force Venezuela to pay her debts to foreigners. China does not want war in her present transition stage, least of all with the conquerors of Russia.

GROWTH OF THE WEST.

The rapid settlement of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta has been the work of the past few years. The result of the process of "pumping in immigrants" as Kipling phrased it, is more or less accurately reflected in the special census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1906. An increase in population at the rate of 92.81 per cent in the five-year period, 1901-6, is the gratifying showing, the total being 998,863 in 1906 as against 419,512 in 1901. If to this is added the inflow of settlers in part of 1906 and the whole of 1907, which was particularly heavy, it is pretty safe to place the present total population of the three provinces at least one million.

Saskatchewan shows the greatest gain, namely, 182.39 per cent, the increase in the five years being from 91,279 to 257,763—a difference of 166,484. Alberta follows with a population of 185,412 in 1906, against 73,022 in 1901—an increase of 112,390 per cent. Those two provinces being now, proved most attractive to the settler, and the result was a lower, yet satisfactory, rate of increase in Manitoba—42.28 per cent—the figures being 255,211 in 1901 and 365,688 in 1906. The rate of increase in Manitoba from 1881 to 1891 was 146.73 per cent; and from 1891 to 1891, 144.95 per cent, dropping to 67.34 per cent from 1891 to 1901.

A statement showing the ratio of urban to total population in the three provinces is interesting. The ratio in Manitoba is 37.76 per cent, in Alberta 31.29 per cent, and in Saskatchewan 18.80, thus showing the latter to be the leading agricultural province. Manitoba had 26,141 farms in operation in 1906, against 31,812 in 1900—an increase of 5,239; Saskatchewan, 55,971 against 13,390—an increase of 42,591; and Alberta 30,286 against 9,432—an increase of 20,852.

Manitoba slightly leads Saskatchewan in grain production, which is accounted for by the fact that a large proportion of the farms of the younger province are quite new, with much of the land yet to be broken. Doubtless the next census will show a decided change in this respect.

Bennett, Mr. P. of Simcoe, must be rank indeed, when our local contemporary cannot stomach him.

Mr. Beck complains of the labor of bringing down a return asked for by the leader of the Opposition. Now he can sympathize with the Ottawa Government.

King Edward has written a letter to the Kaiser, which pours oil on the troubled waters. The King, unlike the Kaiser, is too astute a diplomat to write any other kind.

Mr. Whitney speaks of his "love" for Mr. Beck. The first-class row between these two gentlemen a year ago, which one of them made no attempt to keep secret, was doubtless only a passing cloud.

The unmarried women of the diocese of Buffalo have been instructed by their spiritual overseer to pray for husbands. On the principle that Providence helps them that help themselves, the ladies may be forgiven for supplementing their supplications by more worldly methods.

Mr. Whitney has made the wonderful discovery that the Government could not purchase the Electric Development Company and operate the plant even if the Government wanted to do so. It is odd that this objection has never occurred to anyone but Mr. Whitney; and he will find it difficult to induce anyone to share it.

HON. R. W. SCOTT REMAINS.

[Montreal Witness.]
The story that Mr. Scott is about to resign is, we are sure the whole country will be pleased to know, entirely without foundation. He is one of the most valued and best assailable of those who have sat in the councils of the nation. He belongs to that aristocracy of men who combine length of days with continued vigor of mind and body, the fruits of a virtuous and abstemious life, and he adds to the honor conferred by blameless

public service the standing that ripening wisdom and experience bestow. The country owes a good deal to Mr. Scott, and will get even him some day. He has been the trusted friend of Mackenzie, Blake and Laurier. He has conferred upon us some of our greatest laws, and is now engaged on real and pregnant service of the same sort. We may well hope that he may long wear the armor of active political service. He is only 52; Lord Strathcona is still serving as actively as ever, the administration, for vigor and wisdom, of all the world, young and old. Of both it may be said that strict self-discipline has made them examples of what man may look to be who does not injure himself.

SOME PEOPLE.

[Sain Kiser.]
Some people would never get mentioned at all if they were not talked about behind their backs.

CHILD LABOR.

[Hamilton Herald.]
Mr. Preston, of Brant, and Mr. Studholme have failed in their efforts to prohibit the employment in factories and shops of children under 14 years of age. But their failure is more creditable to them than the success of those who opposed them. For Messrs. Preston and Studholme deserved to succeed.

TAKING TIME BY THE FORELOCK.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
"Steward," asked the lady who was crossing the Atlantic for the first time, "are you sure this boat is perfectly safe?"
"As safe as human ingenuity can make it, madam."

A WISE STUDENT.

[Philadelphia Inquirer.]
Professor (examining medical student)—If you are called out to a patient, what is the first question you would ask?
Medical Student—Where he lives.

HALF A LOAF.

[Yale Record.]
Student—Something is preying on my mind.
Professor W.—It must be very hungry.

FIVE THINGS.

[Johann Goethe.]
What makes time short to me?
"Activity!"
What makes it long and spiritless?
"Idleness!"
What brings us to death?
"Tiredness!"
What makes us succeed?
"Decision with speed!"
How to fame to ascend?
Ourselves to defend!

AMERICAN TITLES.

[Savannah News.]
Somebody has more or less facetiously suggested that we create titles in America. The idea was meant to be flippant. But, seriously, it might have the effect of keeping a lot of money at home and of giving our marriageable millionaires a better showing with the duchesses and princesses. Our girls, it seems, hold steadfastly to the opinion that titles are necessary to their happiness. Why should they be obliged to marry into foreign paupers? Why not start a home industry in this line?

IN HIS DADDY'S STEPS.

[Montreal Star.]
Winston Churchill is the son of Randolph Churchill, who taught a large section of the democracy of Britain to believe in the Conservative party. During the fight on Gladstone, Randolph Churchill was about the only Conservative speaker who could get a hearing from the masses of the English people, and he got that hearing because he had convinced the democracy that he was their "man." Whether he would have maintained his fight against self-government for Ireland, had he lived, may well be doubted; as it may equally be doubted whether that fight would have been so successful had there been no Randolph Churchill to make it popular. His son has, at all events, joined the ranks of the home rulers, and he is now, as his father did, making his strongest appeal to the masses of the people.

MORE SUBURBAN ADVICE.

[St. Thomas Journal.]
London, Ont., has been learning a lesson in the folly of letting dogs run at large. Some day London and other places will sufficiently value human life to forbid unmuzzled dogs on the public street.

JUST INSIST.

[Denver Republican.]
Pass off each stupidity
As something bright;
Let every Doubting Thomas see
That you're all right;
For always happiest are those
Who are not adored;
Insist your cabbage is a rose—
Don't be ignored.

SPIRITUELLE.

[London Chronicle.]
The woman's mind is more capable of penetrating the eternal mysteries than the baser and more material male mind.—Father Naisi, at the Manchester University.

My brains are naught but common clay,
And Psyche's are ethereal.
But let a sale be made, I would say,
And Psyche, I am grieved to say,
Is getting more material.
My wit is dull, he remarks, but I have
Ever bright and glistery.
And yet, my mind becomes to me
Dear Psyche's mind before I die,
A more eternal mystery.

ELIZABETHAN KAISER.

[Australian Review of Reviews.]
His love of the sea, his taste for gorgeous pageantry, his somewhat flamboyant style of oratory, and, above all, his combination of impulsiveness and calculation, a politician inspired by the imagination of the Kaiser, all these respects the Kaiser is Elizabethan as any of the Elizabethans.

OUT OF DATE.

[Tit-Bits.]
Fair Patient—I suffer greatly from insomnia, doctor.
Doctor—You should eat something just before retiring.
"But you once told me never to eat anything before going to bed."
"Oh, that was a year ago. Science has made rapid strides since then."

IN THE VERNACULAR.

[Punch.]
The girl had been three weeks in the employ of an artistic family, but her time had been by no means wasted. Her mistress was giving her instructions as to the dinner.
"Don't forget the potatoes," enjoined the lady.
"No, ma'am," was the reply. "Will you have them in their jackets or in the hood?"

SPRING IN TEXAS.

[Houston Post.]
In Philadelphia winter underwear is advertised "one third off." Here in blossom-spangled South Texas our winter underwear is wholly off.

BRITAIN IS THE LAND OF CLUBS

More in the Little Isles Than in All Other Countries Together.

London, March 10.—Of all the races of men in the world Britons are the most gregarious.

Figures in proof of this statement are forthcoming in the 1908 edition of "Clubs," a useful publication now in its sixteenth year.

In Great Britain and Ireland there are 2,985 while there are 1,095 in foreign countries and British colonies. Fig., apparently, is the chief excuse for the formation of clubs. Of the above total no fewer than 1,144 are golf clubs.

London's list of clubs, shows no signs of decreasing. At present they number 282, of which 30 at least are exclusively ladies' institutions.

Indeed, one of the most astonishing features of club life is the increase throughout the country in recent years of clubs devoted exclusively to the fair sex. There are at present 322 of these.

Wherever two or more Britishers meet together in any part of the world their first impulse will appear to be: "Let's form a club."

Accordingly, even in far Fiji, for instance, there is more than one club. The Oval Club, in Levuka, has 50 members, while the Fiji Club, an older institution in Suva, has 65 members.

The social delights of St. James are also simulated in Chetoo and Fochoo, in China; Kuching, in Borneo; Taiping, Straits Settlements; Beira, in Mozambique; and Nagasaki, in Japan.

They are all British in origin as well as organization. India is a land of many clubs, where white men meet and try to forget the exigencies of the climate. The Madras with 1,100, the Quetta with 3,000, and the Gymkhana (Poona) with 1,000 members being among the biggest institutions.

At Benin, somewhere in the Niger delta, Protectorate, there is an enthusiastic band of golfers—twenty in all—who cheerfully pay 5 shillings per annum for the delights of clubland, and a British captain is the secretary.

Bangkok strikes the note of cosmopolitanism. Its United Club has a membership of 270, but they are of various nationalities. Of course, it has its golf club, which boasts a membership of 80.

VICE IS CURED BY BRAIN FLOOD

Former Columbia University Prof. Discovers Cause of Wickedness.

New York, March 10.—Science has evolved a new medicine—a cure for wickedness. It is called "glycero-phosphate," and was discovered by Dr. John D. Quackenbos, former professor of psychology at Columbia and special instructor of hypnotism and psycho-therapeutics.

Dr. Quackenbos, in his hypnotic treatment for moral and mental delinquents, found that impairment of the brain tissues invariably accompanied moral and mental lapses. Stealing from others is due, he believes, to a physical defect of the brain.

He said today of his discovery and new treatment:

Treats Brain to Cure Crime.

"Psycho-therapeutics have so far advanced that psychologists believe there is a physical cause for moral impairment. Stealing is a symptom of deficient mental tissue." The deficiency is a degeneration of the lecithin of the brain—that is, the protoplasmic cell is imperfect.

"In treating a thief by suggestive therapeutics I have found it necessary to repair the physical weakness and have been giving for some time quantities of glycero-phosphates to improve quality of the lecithin."

Nerve Food Better Than Whip.

"Advanced psychologists no longer whip the nerves to new endeavor, but feed them. Glycero-phosphates is a remedy for a moral breakdown when administered by a physician who understands how to combine it with some conscious suggestion."

"This is a ticklish subject, for practitioners have too long ignored grief, worry and temptation in the treatment of human ills. The use of this specific I have mentioned cannot but be well persons and will benefit those for whom it ought to be prescribed."

MUST DRESS GORGEOUSLY

Knickerbockers, Swords and Shoe-Buckles for the New Brunswick Court.

Berlin, March 10.—In the Duchy of Brunswick, which has only recently recovered from the turmoil caused by the shattering of the dynastic pretensions of the Duke of Cumberland, there is a waiting and gnashing of teeth over the revolutionary "clothes policy" of the new regent, Duke Johann Albrecht.

The duke, who is fresh from Mecklenburg-Schwerin, where they seem to do these things better, finds the court attire of the burghers of Brunswick too simple. His royal highness has accordingly bidden plain evening dress for men at court functions, and has decreed that silk knee breeches, with sword and silver buckled slippers, shall henceforth be compulsory. This is more rigid than the etiquette the Kaiser enforces at the Berlin court, where evening dress is still "de rigueur."

The duchess supports Duke Johann's dress reform movement by ordering the ladies of Brunswick to discard kid footwear and to appear at court in satin slippers.

The duke also prescribes that the clergy of the duchy shall wear in private life the Luther gown, a flowing garment modeled after the apostolic robes. Clergymen are to wear this both in their own homes and in public.

One of the duke's latest decrees commands the shaving of the court chaplain's cherished mustache.

MORE OUTRAGES BY NIGHTRIDERS

Down and Whip Negroes.

Brooksville, Ky., March 10.—Fifty or more nightriders came into town early today in buggies and on horseback, and before they left 15,000 pounds of tobacco belonging to Robert Stanton, one of the wealthiest planters in this section, had been burned.

The men were heavily armed with shotguns and revolvers. A number of men went to the exchange of the county telephone company and kept guard over the operator, Miss Holton, so that no word could be sent for assistance.

The men attempted no violence nor did they destroy the warehouse, but took the tobacco outside and set it on fire. After seeing that it was all departed as quietly as they came.

Paducah, Ky., March 10.—One hundred masked "nightriders" rode into the town of Birmingham, Marshall County, late last night, shot six negroes, one of them, it is believed, fatally, and whipped five others. The riders took possession of the town and shot into every negro cabin in the place. In one of these, John Scruggs, his wife and three children and a granddaughter were struck by bullets. Scruggs is probably fatally wounded.

The riders then took five other negroes to the banks of the Tennessee, where they whipped them. After warning twenty-five other negroes away. The raid followed a warning of two weeks ago to all the colored population to leave Birmingham.

Clarksville, Tenn., March 10.—Near Woodford, about fifteen miles from this city, Bowser Bennett, a young man, the son of an association tobacco raiser, was found early today in a public road in a dying condition, with a bullet hole through his head. Near Bennett were two dead horses and three empty shotguns. It is believed that young Bennett was a night rider and was shot down by persons whom he and his gang had attacked, and that his comrades in their haste to get away, had left him dying on the scene of the fight. An investigation is being made.

The report says the Jamaican delegates were non-committal, as it was evident they considered their trade with the United States more important than with Canada. It is doubtful whether they will grant substantial concessions to Canadian products.

A resolution was adopted, recommending the British West Indies to rearrange their tariffs to give a preference on the manufacture of any part of the British empire: Flour, cheese, cordage, butter, hay, oats, peas, fish, lumber (other than pitch pine), bacon, and hams, cooperage stock, shingles, bran, bread and biscuits, boots and shoes, paper, beef, salted or canned, and pork.

With reference to the question of closer trade relations it was resolved that it was desirable that arrangements should be made for mutual concessions on the broadest basis consistent with financial requirements.

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THRIFT

Add to the cost of "cheap" and poor food the loss caused by bad nourishment, consequent ill-health and lack of energy to do efficient work and you see the result of bad economy. Real thrift is manifested in the use of the best.

"BOVRIL" makes meals and places good health and strength within your reach at a very small outlay. It is true economy to use "BOVRIL."

CLOSER RELATIONS WITH WEST INDIES

Mutual Concessions on Broad Basis—Proposals of the Canadian Commission.

Ottawa, March 10.—The report of W. G. Parmelee, ex-deputy minister of trade and commerce, and O. E. Jones, of Halifax, who represented Canada at the conference of the West Indian Islands at Barbadoes in January, was presented in the House today.

The object of the conference was to discuss trade relations with Canada, a resolution to this end being adopted, including the declaration that the time had come for the Dominion and the British West Indies to enter into negotiations for reciprocal tariff concessions. The conference was of the opinion that better facilities should be afforded for the transportation of freight by rail or otherwise in Canada to the seaboard, and that a subsidized steamship line should be regular and punctual.

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