

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

Mr. Ford Points Out Benefits

Official Denial of the Daily Mail Statement—No Steel Trust.

London, Sept. 17.—Municipal trading has never been a party question in the United Kingdom, but has been taken up experimentally by Conservatives and Radicals alike in town councils. The Times has been publishing a critical and unsympathetic series of articles on municipal Socialism for the purpose of discrediting some of the most useful activities of local government in progressive provincial cities, and there is much intemperate discussion of the zeal of reformers in attempting to make municipal enterprises highly remunerative. Some crude experiments have been tried, but the bulk of the work undertaken by provincial towns has been cautious and conservative in method, and is a permanent investment, which, like Corporation street in Birmingham, will yield large returns in the future.

MUNICIPAL TRAMWAYS. Municipal tramways are not considered by practical men in town councils as relief measures for taxpayers in the earliest stage of their operation. The town councils of Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and other municipalities started with municipal ownership of tramways, and, after leasing the lines on profitable terms for over twenty years, were forced to take up the management in order to secure the introduction of electric traction and to promote the welfare of the community. Town councils are well satisfied with turning over small balances to the common good, after reserving the sums required for sinking funds and interest investment. But as soon as capital and loans are repaid, in the course of thirty years, electric tramways will be certain to prove highly remunerative undertakings, which will help to lighten the burdens of local taxation.

IMMEDIATE BENEFITS. Meanwhile fares are reduced, the conditions of local transit improved, and towns are developed in a symmetrical way. The municipal tramways in Glasgow have cut down fares one-half, introduced a half-price rate for short distances, and greatly improved the service. And while the ratepayers have not been materially relieved, it is estimated that the annual saving from the introduction of electric traction will be £75,000 in working expenses, and the entire system, when sinking funds have completed their work, will be a profitable investment.

M. PELLETAN'S INDISCRETIONS. The indiscreet speech of the French Minister of Marine at Bizerta is not taken seriously here. Great Britain has no sort of quarrel with France, and is not likely to be driven into one by M. Camille Pelletan, who so ingeniously confesses that he is not yet accustomed to being a minister. There has always been a tendency on the part of Englishmen to underrate the strategic value of Bizerta, and M. Pelletan's prediction that it will become a new Carthage is ridiculed.

BRITISH RAILWAY METHODS. American railway methods were discussed at the meetings of the Caledonian Railway Company and the Glasgow & Southern Railway Company in Glasgow yesterday. Sir J. Thompson, who presided at the Caledonian meeting, said that conditions in this country did not render adaptation to new methods easy. At the Glasgow & Southern meeting one of the shareholders pointed out that British cars would be considered obsolete in America. The chairman said the difficulty in employing cars of higher capacity was a lack of facilities at docks. The directors had, however, given orders for more powerful locomotives, and were considering the question of big cars.

GUEST, KEEN & CO.'S DENIAL. It is stated by Guest, Keen & Company of Birmingham that there is no truth in the rumor as to a British steel combine. Guest, Keen & Co. is an amalgamation of three large firms. It was formed quite recently by Mr. Arthur Keen, who is an ambitious, energetic man, and it is possible that he may turn his energies in the direction of a very much larger combination in the near future.

SHAMROCK III. A STEEL BOAT. Sir Thomas Lipton's challenge for the America's Cup will, it is said, be sent through the Royal Ulster Yacht Club, so as to reach New York at the beginning of October. Shamrock Third is to be radically different in several important respects from Shamrock Second. It will be built of steel, which is less costly than the manganese bronze of its predecessor, and on lines that are the result of the builders' experiments.

MISS O'NEILL'S SUCCESS. Miss Nance O'Neill appeared with

great success at the Adelphi theatre last night as the heroine of Giacomo Puccini's tragedy, "Elizabetta, Queen of England." Critics are enthusiastic about her acting, her handsome face and her Ristoni-like costume. Throughout, Miss O'Neill's performance roused much applause, notably in the scene in which she strikes Essex and in the final highly-charged scene in the chamber of death.

Soothes Aches and Pains. Witch hazel is made by throwing the witch hazel, or hamamelis, plants into a vat and distilling them, and then adding enough alcohol to keep the distillation from souring. The larger part of the witch hazel produced in the world comes from a small section of Connecticut, where the hamamelis plant is particularly abundant. This plant is found all over the eastern states, however, and there are distilleries in New York and New Hampshire. It does not take much to start a witch hazel plant. The cost of the alcohol is the big item to be considered, and for the reason that they could not successfully carry stock over from one distilling season to the other, on account of the amount of alcohol required many small plants have been obliged to close because they were not able to meet the competition of the larger and stronger firms.

GOOD FOR LAWYERS

Lots of Legal Fights on Lepine

Surveyor Green at Work and is Carefully Watched by Fraction Hunters.

Surveyor Green is as busy as he can be up at Lepine creek surveying the many quartz claims there, and a prospector who returned from there last night suggests that preparations should be made for the appointment of twenty more judges if the government desires to see any development work in that district within a reasonable time. The whole district is plastered over with location posts, and should the ore there prove valuable, which is now the general opinion, the litigation over the ownership of the claims is certain to be perplexing and prolonged. There are a number of men carefully watching each movement of the surveyor, ready to rush in and stake fractions. There are others who think their locations need holding down by their personal presence. About fifteen or sixteen men are working on a few of the claims, and the result in every case is very promising. Said the old prospector, "I was offered a handsome sum for one of my claims there, but I did not consider it. Property on Lepine creek will sell like hot cakes when it starts."

Then he added this piece of advice: "But people should be very careful in buying claims. They should first see that the ground is there, and carefully verify every paper. A lot of the ground was staked when it was several feet under snow. There is sure to be a whole heap of litigation as soon as the claims are surveyed."

Rounding Them up. St. Louis, Sept. 26.—The June grand jury met this afternoon for its final session, several witnesses being present to testify. It is said that the report of the body will be sent to the court next Monday, and several boole indictments are expected as a result of the findings.

The grand jury convened September 8 to hear the disclosures of Delegate J. K. Murrell that revealed the workings of the house of delegates combine. The investigation of the jury, according to the Murrell disclosure, have resulted in the indictment of nineteen delegates and former delegates, and the arrest of all but six of the number, who are fugitives from justice.

At the request of Circuit Attorney Polk, Judge Douglass, in the criminal court, this afternoon issued a subpoena duces tecum, commanding one of the employees of James Campbell, a well-known broker, to bring into court two checks for sums aggregating \$47,500, drawn by him in favor of Edward Butler. These checks, one for \$27,500, the other for \$20,000, are dated November 28, 1889, the day on which the lighting bill was passed, for which Delegate Charles F. Kelly is said to have distributed \$47,500 to the house combine at Delegate Julius Lehmann's birthday party.

Broker Campbell's employee will be asked to explain the purpose for which the two checks were drawn. A canvass of St. Louis banks was recently made by the committee of the grand jury to save the banks the inconvenience of taking all their books before the grand jury. The checks were found to have been duly drawn, paid and returned to Campbell.

Broker Campbell is out of the city just at present, and when he will return is indefinite, according to statements made at his office today.

THE END OF THE EARTH

Love, they said, made the world go around. How little they dreamed that one day Love, coupled with Ambition, would bring the world to an end! When I gaze down through space upon the scattered molecules which once composed our earth, I find it difficult to realize that I was instrumental in bringing about its destruction. To me, as a disenchanted spirit, the past is severed, and I will set down as concisely as possible my connection with that unfortunate event.

I loved Luella! From the day I first saw her on my arrival at Gouldsdale I had eyes and heart for none other. I was but a poor, struggling electrical engineer, and she the daughter of the richest man in the state, the president of a great railroad, the king to whom the financial world did homage. It was a great presumption to aspire to her hand, but fate threw us together, and I know my love was reciprocated.

When I asked her father for his blessing, I received a curse instead. The old gentleman, irascible and gouty, did not take kindly to the suit of a nobody like me, and vented his disapproval in no unmistakable terms.

"How dare you," he cried, "ask me for my daughter's hand? What have you to live on? Your income wouldn't buy Luella her ribbons. No, sir! My daughter is to marry Mr. Pierce. She has been promised to him since she was a child!"

"But she loves me!" I ventured to suggest.

"Absurd! I give her credit for better sense than to waste her affections on a penniless adventurer, who has no other thought than to gain her wealth!"

Had Mr. Worden been any other than Luella's father, I should have thrashed him soundly for the insult. As it was, I checked my rising temper and replied as meekly as possible.

"You are mistaken! I care nothing for her wealth. I love her for her dear self alone. As to being poor, I am making a comfortable living at the West electric works. I am about to work on an invention which will revolutionize the world's industries and place me on the pinnacle of fame and fortune!"

Mr. Worden laughed sarcastically. "Well, we shall see," he said. "Come to me when your invention is a success. In the meantime I forbid your holding any intercourse with my daughter. If I find you are in clandestine contact with her, I shall have you discharged from the electric company, in which I have an interest, and hounded out of town."

I left crestfallen but hopeful. The invention I had under way was indeed destined to revolutionize the world, but not as I expected. It was an electric generator of marvelous power, whose force was to be derived from the earth direct. I reasoned that as the earth was a huge magnet permeated with electricity following certain well-defined currents, a peculiarly constructed coil might catch these currents and give them out again as active energy. For years I had thought of the subject, and my generator was near completion. There were many minor details to be perfected, but I was sanguine of success.

The hope of marrying Luella spurred me on. The attentions of my hated rival, George Pierce, were an additional incentive to work. I would meet them occasionally together on the street, and my heart would burst with impatience and longing. Luella smiled at me, and often with a glance bade me hope on.

At length my generator was perfected. The model I had made with infinite labor was buried in the earth, the poles adjusted and a power obtained which exceeded my fondest expectations. It was all so simple that I wondered no one had thought of it before. No powerful engines, no dynamos, no boilers, nothing but a compact coil and magnets buried in the ground and drawing from earth's vast electric reservoir. My little model was powerful enough to run every machine in the West electric works.

At an appointed time Mr. Worden and a number of engineers and rail-

road magnates viewed my machine, and pronounced it a success. My reputation was made, fortune was certain.

Luella and I were engaged to be married. Pierce, for whom my dear girl had never felt anything but detestation, took his dismissal hard and vowed revenge. I laughed at his threats.

The L. & S. railroad, of which Mr. Worden was president, decided to adopt my generator to run its trains. If successful every railroad in the world would eventually have to use it, and locomotives would be relegated to the junk shop.

I installed a giant generator at Bulger, 250 miles from Gouldsdale. There was a great iron deposit there which would naturally help to strengthen my current. A special train containing, besides Luella and her family, all the directors of the road, made the trip from Bulger to Gouldsdale amid great enthusiasm. The train made over 100 miles an hour. It could have gone twice, as fast.

I alighted at the terminal and received the congratulations of my friends. Suddenly there was a loud report, and the earth shook as in an earthquake. About a mile east of the spot where my generator had been buried the ground was torn to atoms. Rocks and trees were blown to dust, and a large hole told of the force of the explosion.

It was surmised that a deposit of natural gas had been fired by a spark of my machine and had caused the trouble.

Sitting with Luella that evening, we spoke over the incidents of the day, when the true cause of the explosion occurred to me.

The sudden wrenching of this vast electrical energy from its accustomed track and throwing it back into the earth at right angles to its usual course must have loosened the cohesive forces of the earth's atoms in that vicinity, and a slight shock had sufficed to throw them apart. I arose and walked the floor in agitation. Here was a serious menace I had not thought of. I must set to work to devise a plan of repolarizing the current before allowing it to complete the circuit.

Kissing Luella good night, I hurried to my workshop, and looked for my plans. They were gone! Some miscreant, I afterwards learned that it was George Pierce, had broken in to my shop and stolen my specifications. He would reap the benefits of my invention, and thus get his revenge. With these papers Pierce went to Europe, and I saw him no more.

I worked for a month on my new polarizer, and at length announced the completion of my wonderful scheme. Orders poured in from all sides. Mr. Worden erected a gigantic factory for me, and I was happy. In the meantime Pierce was manufacturing the original generators in Germany and installing them by the hundreds. I was powerless to prevent his rascality. One day the world was startled by the news of a great earthquake near Berlin. Scores of horses were destroyed and several hundred people killed. The following week came the news of a mysterious explosion near Leipzig, and the next day a convulsion which destroyed Roisach, in Switzerland. Scientists were stricken dumb. No one could account for these terrible visitations.

It was Luella who hit upon the true explanation. "Ben," she said to me one evening, "these explosions are very much like the one at Bulger. Pierce stole your plans before you had invented your polarizer, and his machines are disintegrating the earth!"

"By Jove, you are right!" I cried, excitedly. "He must be stopped, or the danger will spread!"

But how to stop him? I cabled to all the scientific and other papers pointing out the danger in these incomplete generators, but apparently the Europeans paid no attention to my frenzied theories. In America the work of installation went merrily on. One day there was a terrific explosion in Louisville. It was unaccompanied. I hastened to that city, and found that the polarizer had been deliberately tampered with. In a few days came reports from every sec-

tion of the country, saying that miscreants had rendered the polarizers useless. Pierce was truly getting his revenge. It was in September. Luella and I were to be married on the morrow. Happiness would have been ours, but for the terrible excitement we labored under, owing to these mishaps to the machines. There were clouds in the sky, a storm was brewing. An equinoctial gale had been predicted to sweep over America and Europe. We scented danger in the air.

"Don't leave me, dearest," said Luella, "I am so afraid without you."

There was a flash of lightning and a terrific peal of thunder. It was as though the heavens were falling in. The startled servants ran in for protection. Mr. Worden and his family came into the room excitedly.

"My God, Ben!" cried Worden, "there is going to be a catastrophe! I feel it in the air!"

"I fear there will be," I replied. Another flash! Then a sudden, prolonged roar, a ripping, tearing noise, a rushing as of water—and I knew no more.

Since becoming a spirit I have learned the truth. The earth, weakened by the loss of her electricity, torn by the conflicting currents, became an easy prey to that terrific luminous trail of molecular dust which you can see yonder is all that is left of the earth with all her glory.

Plea for Shrines

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 26.—Anagarika H. Dharmapala, Buddhist representative in America, has just arrived in Los Angeles from Ceylon, en route to London. He has addressed the following communication to the American people through the Associated Press:

"I want to call your attention to a subject which, to a great degree, is bound to affect the greater portion of the entire population of the civilized world.

"I have been officially informed of the outrageous action of the British officials in the historic islands of Ceylon in threatening to desecrate the ancient shrines in the sacred city of Anuradhapura, which is to the Buddhists as great as Mecca to the Mohammedans or Jerusalem to the Christians.

"For two thousand and two hundred years this historic city, which, on account of its hallowed associations, has received the homage of five hundred millions of Buddhists of China, Japan, Siam, Cambodia, Burma, India, Tibet, etc., is now threatened with the destruction of its shrines at the hands of the despotic British officials, who, in their madness, wish to bring about a catastrophe which will result in a religious convulsion throughout the entire Buddhist world all over Asia. I have addressed a communication to Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, on the subject, and I make this appeal to the American people through the Associated Press for their moral support for the suppression of this atrocious act of vandalic diabolism."

The letter to Joseph Chamberlain referred to states that the Buddhists of Ceylon are greatly distressed at the high-handed course of British officials in the city of Anuradhapura. It says:

"The Singhalese had never been savages and they have loved and do love religion more than gold. The British, when they were called upon by the Singhalese chiefs to administer the government of the Kandyan provinces, pledged to protect the religion of the Buddha."

"The sacred charter of the threatened city is pointed out and the letter concludes as follows:

"Buddhists are not fanatics, neither are they savages; but is it hoped that country will instruct the subordinate officials of Ceylon not to create unrest in the minds of millions of Buddhists, for religion is sacred and any attempt on the part of the British officials to desecrate the shrines will be resented by the Buddhists of the world."

In North Yakima Jail. North Yakima, Sept. 26.—Harvey Boling, of Seattle, is in jail here on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon, and Charles Hawkins, of Whatcom, is in detention, nursing a very sore arm, as a result of a stabbing affray between the pair yesterday afternoon. Hawkins was seated in a front street restaurant when

Boling entered and hot talk followed, which ended in Boling inflicting a severe stab wound in the left forearm of his victim. Both then ran to the street, and Hawkins managed to keep his assailant at bay with a pocket knife until the police arrested both men on the same charge.

Surgeons were summoned and found that while no artery of consequence had been cut the chief vein of the forearm had been severed. It is hinted that the men had had trouble before and that threats had been exchanged. Both came here to attend the state fair. Justice of the Peace Taggard held Boling for the action of the superior court, on the charge named, and Hawkins will be arraigned tomorrow.

Foreman Dan Steere with 34 men arrived yesterday from the Pelly river, his section being No. 3 of the road work on the overland trail extending from Pelly river 34 miles north and the last of the gang of men to complete their work. Mr. Steere states that a number of road houses have already been built on his section of road. Humes & Co. putting one up 19 miles north of the Pelly. Clark at 27 miles and Stevens, formerly of the Coffee creek road house, at 35 miles. The first and last named will be mail stations.

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