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FOUNDER AND
MANAGER, John Cameron.

London, Monday, May 16, 1898.

Professional Economists Who Are Practicing Prodigals.

The Opposition leaders in the Dominion Parliament are not consistent when they denounce Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Government for not cutting down the expenditures.

Sir Charles Tupper and his associates have, in fact, strenuously opposed every effort made by the men in power to save the money and resources of the people.

There are a number of telling instances.

When Postmaster-General Mulock called for new tenders for carrying the mails, and undid some most extravagant arrangements entered into without tender by the late Government, he was assailed by the Opposition at every point. In spite of the obstruction, however, he served to the country several hundred thousand dollars.

A very material saving has been made to the taxpayers by the refusal of the present Government to follow the example of the previous Administration, in regard to the payment of civil servants. The last Government increased the pay of every civil servant annually, whether he deserved it or not, whether he was already well-paid for the work he performed or not. The present Government saves many thousands of dollars annually by carrying out the clear intent of the law, in that the servants of the country shall be paid for their work, and that increases shall only be made in the cases of those who deserve them.

But this fair policy was bitterly opposed by the Opposition leaders, who seemed to care more for the good graces of a few well-paid civil servants than for the interests of the whole people.

The Laurier Administration is saving money to the general taxpayer by declining to pay more than the market rate for money deposited in the Government savings banks. This businesslike proposition has been assailed by Sir Charles Tupper and Mr. Foster, who assumed a demagogic attitude, and pretended that unless the Government taxed the whole people in order that it might pay a higher rate of interest to savings bank depositors than it pays to other lenders, it was oppressing the poor and discouraging thrift!

Another measure that will save the public a very large expenditure of money, both directly and indirectly, is the bill for the repeal of the Dominion Franchise Act and the substitution of the municipal Acts. This measure, too, has met with scant welcome by the Opposition. They would rather not confess that the discredited and defunct act of 1886 was a costly failure, to say nothing of its inequitable tendencies. Therefore they oppose this fair and economical measure now before Parliament.

But the most flagrant illustration of the Opposition attitude towards the economy practiced by the Government is found in the bitter antipathy of Sir Charles Tupper and his leading followers to the new fast line steamships bargain. Before it went out of office the Tupper Government, after eight years of negotiations, entered on a provisional agreement with the Allan Company to provide a fast steamship service between Canada and Great Britain. The bargain, which bound the Government, but not the company, gave \$750,000 a year subsidy for ten years as Canada's aid to the new enterprise. The agreement not being completed when the Laurier Government took hold, new tenders were called for, and a bargain has been made with a strong company, at the head of which is Lord Strathcona and Lord Tweedmouth, whereby the fast line will be established for a Canadian subsidy of \$500,000 a year. This is a saving to the Canadian taxpayer of \$250,000 a year—or \$2,500,000 on the entire contract. It will be almost beyond credence by those who have not carefully watched the developments to learn that the new and better bargain, by which two and a half millions of dollars of good money has been saved to the taxpayers of this country, has been most strenuously opposed by Sir Charles Tupper and his fellow-Conservative leaders. They have done everything within their power to prevent the successful floating of the scheme. They have referred to the Messrs. Petersen, who first took the matter up, as men of little or no substance, and they have declared the enterprise as impossible of being carried out for less money than they were willing to have the Canadian public pay. Even yet, now that a strong syndicate has taken hold of the enterprise, and has promised to energetically prosecute it, Sir Charles Tupper expresses utter lack of faith in it and says that it will fail.

These are but a few illustrations of the inconsistencies of the Opposition, in first urging Governmental economy, and then doing their level best to prevent the saving of money; but they must carry conviction with them. This policy of grumbling and growling, and detraction, merely because they no longer are the directors of public affairs, will not help the Opposition chiefs to regain the confidence of the electorate.

BLANCO'S MODESTY

[Washington Star.]

Gen. Blanco refrains from claiming any credit for the era of high prices for common commodities in Havana.

Beet Root Sugar Bounties.

It is somewhat remarkable that at a time when sugar bounties have been brought into disrepute in other countries, a proposition should be made to pay bounties for the production of beet root sugar in Canada. Prof. Saunders some years ago reported that it would not be profitable for the Canadian people to enter into the obligation to insure the profitable growth of beets for the manufacture of sugar; and since that declaration we have seen no authoritative statement which would lead us to believe that the judgment of our expert fellow-townsmen can be lightly set aside in favor of the Germans who assert that they are ready to do business if effectively lured by the ratepayers.

The bounting of the sugar industry on the continent of Europe has not produced results that give much encouragement to other countries to follow in the footsteps of the countries that undertook by this means to stimulate the industry. We are told by a leading French statesman that the taxes collected from the public to pay the sugar bounties amount to not less than \$22,500,000 a year, while at the same time the French consumer of sugar has to pay between two and three times as much for his sugar as the consumer in Great Britain—a difference which obviously affects many branches of manufacture as well as domestic use. In other continental countries, which considered it requisite to their self-preservation to also give bounties for beet sugar production, similar results have followed. The outcome is that the consumption of sugar on the continent per head is less than one-third of that of the United Kingdom.

It is now announced that the Governments of Germany, Austria and Holland are ready to abandon the bounty system if only they can obtain the assurance that after they have done so their exports will not be met in the British markets by French bounty-fed supplies. There is to be a conference in Brussels to consider the whole question, and though there are undoubtedly difficulties in the way, the hope is expressed that this most expensive system of paternal government will be mutually abandoned.

Though the sugar policy of continental governments has hit the British producers of cane sugar, and brought serious trouble to the West Indies, it can be said that the British people profited, for an enormous extent, by the bounties. For every sugar refinery that was closed by the cheapness of bounty-fed sugar imports, a dozen big manufactories of confectionery were established, and for every five persons who were employed in the closed factories, one hundred or more found work in preparing candies, jams and other sweets, by the agency of sugar made cheap—view is that the British people profited, for an enormous extent, by the bounties.

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Control the Food Supplies.

The New York Tribune, in referring to the benefits flowing from the maintenance of cordial relations between Great Britain and the United States, makes the following candid statement: "England herself is a food importer. So short of reserve supplies that her life depends on a great navy to keep open traffic to her food bases. Those bases, combined with ours, are also granaries of the world. With both nations united, the armies of the continent would be helpless in short order. The extra demands to feed troops would deplore the depots of this. It is doubtful if even this fear will avail till the end of the war. The shock of surprise caused by Mr. Chamberlain's speech is the result of the radical change in British policy, a change which marks a new epoch in political history. For the first time since the public comment by Lord Salisbury and on the continent. Next week, when the full significance of his momentous words is realized in Great Britain and Europe, the world will talk of nothing else. The plans of the nations will be revised. Vast schemes of ambition and aggrandizement will be abandoned or modified. The policy of every emperor and every cabinet in Europe will be suspended to await the response which America may make to the British overtures."

Hence it is no exaggeration to say that the political destinies of the old world as well as the new rest at the present moment in American hands.

AN UNPLEASANT PROSPECT.

[Chicago Chronicle.]

In short, if we decide to become a nation of conquerors, we may make up our minds that we shall have to sleep on our arms—always ready for an attack, never secure from one. Hated, for obvious reasons, by the monarchies of the north, we shall be distrusted by our sister republics. Like Israel, our hand will be against every man, and all men's hands will be against us. Are the Philippines, the Caribbees, the Antilles, the Canaries—the Spanish peninsula itself—worth having at the price?

THE TREACHEROUS BICYCLE BUSINESS.

[From the Springfield Republican.]

As a business where fortunes are sunk, the bicycle-making industry is now making a reputation only equalled by the early record of fortune-building. The securities of bicycle tire companies (which are dealt in on the London exchange), having a par value of \$25,000,

and a market value of \$23,235,000 a year ago, are now quoted at \$23,665,000. If less money had been made in the early days of the industry through undue exactions, less money would have lately been lost in it.

MILK IN THE COCONUT.

[Pittsburg Times.]

Tonkin papers are voicing the bitterness of French sentiment toward America on the ground that we are making an attack upon the Latin races, while German seamen are showing special favors to the Spaniards because, oh, well, their complaint cannot be on account of their latinity. The whole fact is that France, Germany and the rest of them are afraid of their own democrats at home, and so they hate democracy and freedom wherever they find it.

HOW IS BUSINESS.

[Monetary Times.]

Replies to this query are more hopeful this month than they have been for a good while before. The feeling that a good year's trade is assured seems general in Canada. Whether

manufacturers or importers are consulted, the tenor of their replies is generally that their customers are in good spirits, ordering freely and paying better than usual. The drygoods houses have been busy, as a rule. A Montreal house says its orders have been greater by one-third than those of last year at the same time; a Toronto house tells us that its turnover far exceeds any recent spring season; others are disappointed with April orders, but say that orders for fall are very good. Wholesale grocers find business in good shape—orders steady, customers confident and cheerfully pay their bills. And what is very significant, the business of several wholesale jewelry and fancy goods houses shows a very marked increase; in one case the output is doubled for the first four months this year. This being the case in line of trade of the kind, luxuries, shows that people are free-handed. The enforced economy of the last few years throughout the Dominion has resulted in an addition to people's means, which now permits them to do shopping with some freedom.

Among manufacturers a very similar story is told.

all classes discuss the speech most angrily. The Imperial contrasts the speech of Mr. Chamberlain with the reported action of the crew of the French cruiser Admiral Rigault de Genouilly in cheering for Spain after the bombardment of San Juan de Porto Rico, which was witnessed by that vessel, as being indicative of a coming great war in Europe against the Anglo-Saxons. Continuing the Imperial points out that as Spain single-handed makes headway against the United States, she would prove a valuable factor in the combination against the Anglo-Saxons.

EARTHQUAKE IN SICILY.

Rome, May 16.—There was a violent earthquake in Sicily at 5:40 Saturday morning, extending southward from Mount Aetna and reaching to Minori, 30 miles southwest of Catania. A number of houses were wrecked at Biancavilla, on the declivity of Mount Aetna and at Belpasso. Other shocks followed.

PROPOSED NEW ALLIANCE.

A special from Paris says: Henri Rochefort suggests in the Intransigent that Spain and Italy, Germany and Russia join the French Republic in forming a triple republic and help to offset a probable Anglo-American and German alliance. Referring to the American proposition to boycott the Paris fashions, Yves Givotti's paper, the Aurore, expresses indignation at the insults printed in the French boulevard papers to American women. It says it will cost the Paris workmen and workwomen \$50,000 a year.

MR. GLADSTONE.

Hawarden, May 15.—Mr. Gladstone on Saturday evening, if anything, was a trifle stronger than Friday, and he is quite as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. He is still in bed, but he is not distressed. Hawarden, May 15.—The following bulletin was issued this evening: "There has been little material change in Mr. Gladstone's condition since Friday. His debility is extreme, and seems to be increasing. Happily he is free from all anxiety, and his mind is perfectly placid."

Hawarden, May 15.—11 p.m.—At this hour Mr. Gladstone's condition shows no perceptible change. Hawarden, May 16.—Mr. Gladstone slept well last night, and seems a little stronger this morning, in consequence. He is not in pain and is not distressed.

CABLE NOTES.

The wheat harvest of Queensland amounts to 1,000,000 bushels. A Rotterdam dispatch says: Dr. Bismarck, the leading Catholic member of the second chamber, fell dead on the floor of the house while speaking on Saturday.

THE NILE CAMPAIGN.

Dervishes Defeated and Osman Digna Wounded. London, May 16.—A dispatch to the Daily News from Cairo says that a body of friendly natives, who had an encounter with a force of dervishes, under Osman Digna, near Gedaref, Osman Digna was wounded, but escaped.

WENT DOWN.

Steamer Benholm Sunk and Several Lives Lost. Liverpool, May 16.—The Norwegian steamer Klondike, from Antwerp, was docked here today, with her bows badly damaged. The captain of the Klondike reports that on Saturday night, off Point Lynas, on the northern coast of Norway, the Benholm, a British steamer bound for Cardiff, was so badly damaged that she soon foundered, and that twelve of her crew, including the master, went down with her. Nine of those on board the Benholm were rescued, and brought to Liverpool by the Klondike. The British steamer Benholm was built at Stockton in 1887. She was 235 feet long, had a beam of 32½ feet, and was 16 feet 1 inch deep. She was owned by the Benholm Steamship Company, of Liverpool.

LOOKING FOR TROUBLE.

British Feeling Stirred by the Speech of Mr. Chamberlain. London, May 16.—The speech delivered by Joseph Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, at Birmingham, Friday evening, has caused a great sensation everywhere, and has increased the feeling of uneasiness on the stock exchange. There was an all-round weakness, business was poor, and the market closed distinctly pessimistic. War rumors were freely circulated. The majority of the government is reported to have prophesied that war between France and Great Britain will break out within a month. Precautionary insurances are reported to have been effected at 15 guineas per cent against the risk of war. The British and Foreign Assurance Company, which has insured Great Britain within the next six months.

Mr. Chamberlain's remarks have been interpreted as a prediction that grave international complications are ahead. His references to the possibility of an Anglo-American alliance are generally interpreted as the majority of the London newspapers cordially approve the utterances of the colonial secretary, and the following extracts from the provincial press are very more significant. The Birmingham Post, Mr. Chamberlain's organ, says: "Two nations are already at war, and Mr. Chamberlain foresees that circumstances may arise which may involve other nations in a perhaps still more serious struggle. His allusion to America drew the utmost enthusiasm from the audience, and reflects not only the spirit of the meeting, but the spirit of the whole British race."

The Yorkshire Post remarks: "The duty of the moment imposes upon us the obligations of a neutral power, but nothing can prevent an interchange of sympathy at such a time between the people themselves. Mr. Chamberlain shows sound statesmanship in taking advantage of the present feeling on both sides of the Atlantic to indicate the greater part which the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes may play if the two people are wise in the new conditions which are rapidly creeping over the world."

DOESN'T SUIT FRANCE.

Paris, May 16.—The French newspapers unanimously condemn the speech delivered by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the British secretary of state for the colonies, at Birmingham, Friday evening, on the subject of the colonies. They deny there is any probability of a war between Great Britain and France. The Temps says: "The establishment of an Anglo-American alliance is a symptom to which too much attention cannot be given, but it is certainly a German alliance which is the most dangerous to France."

IN SPAIN.

Madrid, May 16.—Spain is not pleased with the utterances on the subject of the possibility of an alliance between the United States and Great Britain. The Spanish Ambassador at London, Count Rascon, telegraphed an extract of the recent speech of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the British secretary of state for the colonies, at Birmingham, Friday evening, last, to Senor Gullon, the minister of foreign affairs, who immediately telegraphed the subject in last night, and deny there is any probability of a war between Great Britain and France. The Times says: "The establishment of an Anglo-American alliance is a symptom to which too much attention cannot be given, but it is certainly a German alliance which is the most dangerous to France."

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Mobility, Mo., Jan. 21, 1898.

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April 10, 1897.

Dr. Radway & Co.—I have been suffering from rheumatism for more than six months. I could not raise my hands to my head nor put my hands behind me, nor even take off my own shirt. Before I had Radway's Ready Relief I could not use my arms as well as ever. You can see why I have such great faith in your Ready Relief. Yours truly, W. C. BAKER.

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Malaria in its various forms cured and prevented. There is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure fever and ague and all other fevers, aided by RADWAY'S PILLS, so quickly as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.

Radway's Ready Relief

For the cure of Pain, Congestions and Inflammation. Price 25 cents a bottle.

Radway's Sarsaparillian Resolvent

For the Blood and Chronic Diseases. Price, \$1 a bottle.

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