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JOHN RUSSELL, JR., Mgr.
E. W. McCREADY, Editor.

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 5, 1908

TAFT AND LABOR

Mr. Taft, like Mr. Bryan, is naturally anxious to have the union labor vote, but he does not bid for it at the expense of sound public policy. He realizes and he keeps in mind the fact that no class is entitled to special privileges. He knows, too, that non-union laborers are an infinitely more numerous body than the unionists. In his speech of acceptance Mr. Taft makes this straightforward declaration with respect to non-union workers:—

"Their rights before the law are exactly the same as those of the union men, and are to be protected with the same care and watchfulness."

On the boycott he is no less outspoken:

"What they have not the right to do is to injure their employer's business by use of threats or methods of physical duress against those who would work for him, or deal with him, or by carrying on what is sometimes known as a secondary boycott against his customers or those with whom he deals in business; . . . they may not through the instrumentality of a threatened or actual boycott compel third persons against their will and having no interest in the controversy to come to their assistance. These principles have for a great many years been settled by the courts of this country."

The common sense of the country is solidly arrayed in defence of the principles Mr. Taft lays down. They are founded on simple justice. Demagogoges may seek the vote of a class by making promises which cannot be carried out, and which in the meantime serve to sharpen discontent and promote discontent and disorder; but in the long run the respect and confidence of the great mass of voters will be held by men who stand for equality of opportunity and equality before the law. The Bryans and the Hearsts are not true friends of labor. They would make labor a stepping-stone to power. With that aim they promise to upset the existing social order. But that order will outlive them and more like them.

KING AND PRESIDENT

Comparisons are said to be odious, but when they are apt the reviewers cannot refrain. Thus a leading American editor, who is displeased with President Roosevelt's appeal for a navy big enough to "lick creation," now dwells impressively upon King Edward's latest utterance in the interest of universal peace. He says:

"There is a very real ring of sincerity in King Edward's reply made yesterday to an address presented by the delegates of the Universal Peace Congress in London. This assemblage is the seventeenth that has been held under the auspices of this society. More than sixteen different countries, including our own, and more than one hundred different organizations are represented by delegates. The Society of Friends gave the initial impulse to the movement, but the compelling character of its high aim has enlisted support among all humanitarian circles. The King's consistent record as one that seeks peace and ensues it gave point to his frank statement:

"'There is nothing from which I derive a more sincere gratification than from the knowledge that my efforts in the cause of international peace and good will have not been without fruit, and a consciousness of the generous appreciation with which they have been received, both by my own people and by those of other countries.'

"It is a grateful thing that the King, addressing active disciples of the Prince of Peace, does not find it necessary to prate about 'peace with honor,' of being armed to the teeth lest we be ravished and despoiled, about there being nothing worse than ignoble peace, etc., etc. To speak thus and at the same time admonish us to worship the Big Stick, is to bring discredit on the sincere campaign for peace."

The same reviewer points out that consistency is not a jewel which those Germans can claim, who are now complaining because Britain has made agreements and treaties with several of the leading nations, notably Japan, France and Russia. The point is well argued:

"Sir Edward Grey's conciliatory statement in the House of Commons carries all the more force because it is not all humble exculpation. He puts the case to Germany squarely. Has Great Britain a right to choose her friends? Can you show that motives hostile to Germany have entered into such new friendships? The Kaiser may have his uneasy suspicions, but, in reply to such a direct question, he can, after all, only answer, 'No.' The British Foreign Secretary touched upon a very pertinent point when he asked by what right the German Empire, itself allied with Austria-Hungary and Italy, can protest against friendly understandings between other European governments? With two strong military Powers on her side, what justification is there for the pitiful outcry against being 'isolated' so steadily emitted by German throats? There is this striking contradiction to be noted in the German attitude. The Kaiser protests against being corralled within a ring of hostile Continental Powers. Yet it is not on land that Germany fears her fate. Her anxious gaze is directed across the North Sea, and it is ships, ships, ships, more ships, that the nation from Kaiser to Kellner, keeps calling for. If the coming struggle for European domination is to be fought out on the sea, the outcome will not be seriously affected if Russia should send to Britain's aid the fleets of Admiral Makaroff and Admiral Rojestvensky—this much is certain."

The New York Sun views the British programme of alliances with a less tolerant eye. It rebukes Vice President Fairbanks because, in his speech at Quebec, he said nothing could interrupt the good relations now existing between Britain and the United States. The Sun reminds Mr. Fairbanks that the Anglo-Japanese treaty, which is not to expire until 1915, would produce an exceedingly awkard situation in case the United States and Japan went to war in the interval. For by that treaty Britain undertakes to guarantee the integrity of Japan's outlying territory in the Far East, such as Formosa. That would mean, as the Sun points out, that should the Americans desire to seize a base near Japan, they would be prevented by the British fleet. That would be awkward. But the Sun may take comfort in the thought that the Americans and the Japanese will scarcely go to war before 1915, and, having thus put it off long enough to examine the investment thoroughly, both nations will doubtless decide upon another and indefinite postponement of the conflict.

DANGEROUS "ATTRACTIONS"

Winnipeg has decided that performances in which human lives are risked are not necessary to attract crowds to its industrial exhibition, and that as such "feats" are unhealthful, appealing as they do to morbid tastes, they may better be omitted. As the season of exhibitions in the Maritime Provinces is near at hand, the reasons for Winnipeg's frame of mind with respect to the class of attractions known as "thrillers" may be worth examination here. The Manitoba Free Press has this to say on the subject:—

"The double somersaulting automobile performance at the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition this year, which was rightly discontinued, is the sort of 'attraction' which should for the future be wholly excluded from the exhibition. Performances which consist of nothing but the facing by a human being of the risk of a horrible death repel more people than they attract, as the directors of the exhibition would find, if they made enquiry personally among people with whom they come in contact. Even from the lowest point of view, such performances are to be condemned as not being good business. If there are people who are attracted by such an appeal to a barbaric instinct, and who would not buy tickets for the grand stand except to witness such a performance, their absence from the grand stand should be regarded as more desirable than their presence. Undoubtedly if a vote were taken on the grand stand, there would be a very great majority in favor of the omission of such a feature. A prize fight on the grand stand, duly conducted according to prize ring rules, between two evenly-matched men in perfect training, would, in comparison, be a positively ennobling spectacle. But there are laws against prize fights.

"At Pittsburg last week the girl strapped into one of these double somersaulting vehicles was killed. She was billed as Mlle. Novi; the newspaper accounts say she was 'little Anastasia Duffy, a candy-selling girl.' The letter of Rev. Dr. Bland, published in the Free Press, rightly characterizes performances of this character, which are not feats demanding skill and presence of mind. The commonplace mechanical principles involved would, as Dr. Bland says, be exhibited as perfectly by an empty automobile. The woman is simply a fettered, helpless human life in the somersaulting vehicle. It is to the credit of the management of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition that this performance was discontinued. As for the rest of the entertainment features, they were of the best character. The unanimous public verdict is that the platform attractions this year were unquestionably in advance of those of any preceding year."

CHAMBERLAIN AS AN ORATOR

Disquieting reports about Hon. Joseph Chamberlain's health are now so frequent as to confirm the earlier impression that there is little hope of his recovery. The London newspapers contain many references to his condition, and these in some instances are supplemented by reminders of his distinguished public services and brilliant public qualities. The London Daily Telegraph essays an analysis of the Chamberlain oratory, which for force and simplicity is not readily matched. There is this melancholy note in the analysis, that it refers to the great man as one whose course is run. The Telegraph says:

"No modern Parliamentarian exercised so much influence as did Mr. Chamberlain upon the art of public speaking. Before his time the ponderous models were still imitated. Fox, indeed, in his wonderful debating mood, could expound pernicious principles by the hour, without any failure of form. He might be sophistical, but he was lucid. Even in mid-career his style, so far from being verbose and turbid—like the oratory of other men in sudden spate—was sometimes like a sparkling shower-bath of short sentences. But that turn was a matter of temperament, and in its nature inimitable. Pitt, with talent as unapproachable, but with an ordered intellectual method that might be copied, pursued his shining and formidable march. Mr. Bright, in his way, despite the beauty of his oratory, was best in expressing those first principles with which the ordinary routine of the House of Commons and the usual exigencies of electoral campaigns are very little concerned. Mr. Gladstone was distinctly of the old school in the unrestrained amplitude of all his verbal methods. Mr. Chamberlain delivered the nation from a plague of obscurity. There was never a sentence of his which required to be read twice. There was no wastage of words. Again, he had the same command over the intractable matter out of which bad speeches are made. The most important element in a good address is perhaps the order in which the various heads of the argument are taken. Mr. Chamberlain was unexcelled in this respect. As a consequence, it was not only that his utterances, like some others, were full of clear points; they were transparent as a whole, and every listener could comprehend each point as it came, and grasp the whole argument in its entirety. Above all, perhaps, was Mr. Chamberlain's power as a phrase-maker. His words were battles, because of his exact mastery of plain English. No one approached him in his ability to reduce an idea to its simplest forms, and to pack it into the fewest and most forcible words. We have dwelt upon these inspiring recollections because the more Mr. Chamberlain's vitalizing energy and directness in all his political proceedings is imitated by the leaders of all parties, the better will it be for the nation."

CANADA'S OLD AGE ANNUITIES

Many may have forgotten, or never have fully grasped the fact, that Canada now has a system of old age annuities. So many measures were passed at Ottawa during the last eight months, and some of the controversial ones occupied so much attention and caused so much talk, the annuities may well have commanded little interest. In answering a correspondent's inquiry on the subject the Montreal Star supplies details which will be of service to all who deem this form of insurance worthy of examination. The Star says it is well to begin by stating that it does not mean old age pensions, Mr. Fielding was careful to make that clear when introducing the scheme in the House of Commons; and accepted on behalf of the Government a committee to inquire into the practicability of pensions. In any pension plan, contributory or non-contributory, the government makes a grant direct to the payment of the pensions. In the plan adopted by Parliament, the Government makes no grant, except such may be implied in allowing a higher rate of interest than the market in computing the annuities and by bearing the cost of administration. Otherwise the government annuities differ not at all from annuities sold by insurance companies, with the exception that they have a government guarantee behind them.

Proceeding, the Star says: The annuities may be bought from the Government by any person who is eligible to make a contract. The annuity may be for life or for a term of years, at the choice of the applicant. Payments may be made for it in a lump sum or at regular or irregular intervals. Even deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank may be turned into annuities. Fraternal and religious societies may contract for them for their members, and employers may contract for them for their employes, with the consent of the employes. Payment on them may begin at any age. The annuitant will begin to draw in the regular course when he reaches fifty-five years of age, but if invalided or disabled, may commence earlier, though the amount would then be correspondingly smaller. The smallest amount which may be contracted for is fifty dollars and the largest six hundred; and six hundred is also the limit which may be paid to husband and wife.

When explaining the plan in the House of Commons, Mr. Fielding gave a number of examples to show how it would work out in money. He took first the case of a man who began at the age of twenty paying in twenty-five cents a week. If he kept that up regularly until he reached the age of fifty-five, it would give him an annuity for life of $87.25. If, without making any further payments he did not begin to draw till he became sixty, he would get an annuity of $126; under the same conditions he would get $189.47 annually from sixty-five and $301.71 from seventy. Or the annuitant might desire to pay monthly. A payment of two dollars monthly from twenty to fifty-five would give an annuity of $161.47; which could be increased in the same way as the last by allowing it to lie in deposit for a term of years longer. Similar examples might be given for other amounts, but these are sufficient to make the principle clear. It is to be remembered, however, that these are life annuities and that if the annuitant dies a year or two after the annuity begins, all payments stop with his death and there is no refund of the principal. This is a vital element in the actuarial calculation on which the prices paid are based; to provide for a refund would increase the cost. But if the annuitant dies before the payment begins, the principal with compound interest will be repaid to the heirs.

The act is to be administered by the Department of Trade and Commerce; and regulations will be issued giving details for the various plans, just as insurance companies do for insurance policies. The machinery has yet to be worked out, but it is intended to make use of the post offices or customs collectors as agents of the Government for giving contracts and making collections. Full information on all these points may be secured from the Department.

ONE WAY OF DOING IT

Although Britain is called an out-and-out free trade country, any foreigner who takes out a patent there may produce his goods elsewhere and ship them in at pleasure, the very laws of the United Kingdom thus being used to protect the manufacturers of other states against its own manufacturers. Discrimination so unfair, however, is about to come to an end. Next month a new patent law will go into effect under which manufacturers of patented articles will either have to set up machinery in British territory or lose their exclusive rights. In preparation for the contingencies of the new law, Germans and Americans are investing large sums in erecting plants in the United Kingdom. It is estimated that by the time the act is in full operation $125,000,000 of foreign capital will be engaged in Great Britain for purposes connected with manufactures carried on under patents granted during the last three years. These latter cover some 20,000 processes carried out anywhere except in Great Britain. The measure has already produced such serious results in Germany that the manufacturers there, compelled to remove to England or lose their market, are demanding retaliatory measures from their own government.

"By section 27," says the London Times, in a review of the measure, "power is given to revoke a patent, on the ground that the patented article is manufactured or the patented process carried on exclusively or mainly outside the United Kingdom. The section provides machinery to give effect to this principle, the net result being that unless the patentee make use of his grant 'to an adequate extent' within the United Kingdom within a year, it may be revoked. The evil at which this is aimed had become serious. A patent was obtained in this country; the patentee or the person to whom it was assigned did not seriously intend to work it here, at all events on a considerable scale. His business premises were in Germany, or Belgium, and his real, though unavowed, object was to make use of the process or to manufacture the article there, and to prevent a competitive trade growing up in this country. Some inventors never intended to make use of their patents anywhere; they had gained their end if they could be certain that their goods manufactured in some other way were not undersold by goods manufactured in accordance with the process which they had patented. A privilege originally designed to stimulate industry in this country was, in fact, used for the opposite purpose. It served as a device by which English manufacturers were excluded from the benefits of new inventions, which served to protect, in particular, the German chemical industries. This was, as has been often shown in these columns, directly contrary to both the spirit and intention of the early Patent Law. The patentee could, according to the early conception of his position, get nothing if it appeared that his grant was 'prejudicial or inconvenient to our subjects in general.' He was privileged because he was the introducer of a new trade, the encourager of a new industry, one who merited reward for having performed a public service. There was no notion in the minds of the legislators of the seventeenth century that this grant should be used for obstructive purposes, and that by oppressive terms as to royalties or other devices the patentee should become the enemy of national industry. Mr. Gordon and other authors have shown how the original conception was lost sight of and how the Courts, oblivious of the point of view of the authors of the Statute of Monopolies, allowed their power of control to lie dormant and to condone on the part of the patentees conduct wholly opposed to the fundamental principle of Patent Law."

The Vancouver World urges Canada to follow suit. It says:—

"The British law is not contrary to free trade principles. It is not protection, but common sense. Such a law in Canada would do a great deal to build up home industries, and that without increasing tariff burdens. Already American industries are coming over the line in order to avoid the duties levied on goods made in the United States. A law such as that now operative in Great Britain would accelerate the establishment of plants in this country."

A TRANSPORTATION PROPHET

A transportaion and crop prophet arises in the person of Mr. George W. Stephens, President of the Harbor Commission of Montreal. Eight hundred million bushels of grain is what he estimates as the yield of the Canadian West, after one-quarter of her available wheat-growing area has been utilized. Mr. Stephens pleads for the handling of this vast quantity of produce through Canadian ports.

He does not attempt to fix a date when the grain crop will reach this stupendous figure, except to say that it will be during the present century; nor shall we attempt to be more definite than he, but we may point out that, if all goes well, this year's yield will be 120,000,000 bushels of wheat, and that a crop of this magnitude will stimulate immigration into the wheat growing area at such a rate that in a very short time the figures of this year will be doubled. Is it any wonder, then, that we find Mr. Stephens saying:

Transportation, from a Canadian standpoint, would seem to be the most vital problem now requiring attention, for may it not be said that upon its development and efficiency depend the future prestige of Canadian commerce and the integrity of the nation. This fact was recognized by the statesmen who planned and carried to completion the Canadian canal system, linking, by way of the St. Lawrence river, the great lakes to the sea; by the few courageous men who developed and completed the Canadian Pacific railway; and again by those associated with the construction of the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific systems.

The Victoria Colonist thinks Mr. Stephens is not at all visionary. It adds: "As Mr. Stephens says, within a few years Canada will have three transcontinental railways across her own territory, and we may add another route to the markets of the world by way of Hudson's Bay; country can produce. It is to be remembered in this connection that a very considerable portion of the grain crop will be shipped from the Pacific coast, especially after the completion of the Panama Canal. The improvements in the grade of the Canadian Pacific now being made will greatly facilitate the handling of westbound freight; the grades of the Grand Trunk Pacific have been selected with special reference to the demands of westbound traffic, and we may rest assured that the Canadian Northern will be located with the same object in view. Therefore, in considering the transportation problem, it is not necessary to look upon it as something which even principally concerns the Atlantic seaboard. We do not say this to depreciate in any way the claims made on behalf of Montreal, but only mention it as a contribution to the discussion of the most interesting and important question which the people of Canada will have to consider in the immediate future."

A QUESTION AND AN ANSWER

Of course an event so big as the Tercentenary celebration could not pass into history without a growl from some quarter. The Toronto Star tells of the growl and answers it:

"Le Nationaliste of Montreal publishes an open letter to the Prince of Wales, complaining that the demonstration at Quebec is nothing less than a huge imperial parade, with which French-Canadians have no sympathy. They would have wished to celebrate this year the three hundredth anniversary of the landing of Champlain, yet our Governor brutally opposed this idea in order to transform this family gathering into an imperialistic demonstration, thus excluding the third of the nation.'

"Our contemporary is needlessly excited. Earl Grey's intentions were doubtless of the best. Now that the celebration is nearly over, it may be freely admitted that there were doubts as to the wisdom of grafting the 'battlefields' idea on the original plan of commemorating the founding of Quebec. But all's well that ends well. The French-Canadians have glorified their hero, and the Imperialists have had their day, and everybody is satisfied. Champlain and Wolfe were both makers of Canada, and all Canadians, without regard to race or religion, may do them honor.

"It is not wise to commemorate a conquest, but what Wolfe accomplished was not a conquest but a change of government. It was a defeat, not for the French-Canadian race, but for Louis the Fifteenth, over whose memory few Frenchmen will shed a tear, whose misgovernment paved the way for the French revolution. On the Plains of Abraham French Canada was saved not only from the horrors of the revolution, but from the oppression which made Frenchmen mad. It was the first step in self-government, the first stage in the development of the free institutions which we now enjoy. From the instructions to the first British Governor of Canada down to the British North America Act, the course of that development may be clearly traced. Those who read our history in that light will find no bitterness in the memory of 1759."

Old-fashioned Breakfasts.

I.

How dear to my heart is that scene of my childhood
Which fond recollection recalleth to view:
The damask-clad board with its lavishly pilled food,
Delectable fare my young appetite knew.
The thick, juicy beefsteak, the omelette by it:
The crisp, fried potatoes, seductively brown,
The rampart of toast with the marmalade night it—
Ambrosial breakfast, where now thy renown?
The old-fashioned breakfast, our forefathers' breakfast,
The long ago breakfast of vanished renown.

II.

Those rich-tinted waffles, how toothsome and tender,
Their dimpled delights on those mornings of yore;
How oft to their delicate charms I'd surrender,
How sweet the libation I'd over them pour,
How calm the content that would softly enfold me
As each melting mouthful slipped lusciously down,
And how I'd have sorrowed had any one told me
That opulent breakfast would lose its renown.
The old-fashioned breakfast, our forefathers' breakfast,
The long ago breakfast of vanished renown.

III.

How bleak is this modern repast of the morning,
It differeth far from the feast of my dream,
That succulent fern the bare table adorning,
I yearn to devour with sugar and cream.
I'm weary of hay, predigested and shredded,
On health-giving sawdust I look with a frown.
The pangs of dyspepsia are less to be dreaded—
Oh, bring back the breakfast of ancient renown;
The old-fashioned breakfast, the dear, deadly breakfast,
The long ago breakfast of vanished renown.

IV.

But is there no hope? Must I ever continue
On flakes of dried science to nourish my brain?
While "vigor" and "force" feed my muscle and sinew,
My poor, patient palate petitions in vain.
Dear meal of my youth, with what rapture I'd hail thee,
Could I but before thy abundance sit down!
With keenest enjoyment I'd haste to assail thee,
Thou memorial breakfast of blessed renown;
The old-fashioned breakfast, our forefathers' breakfast,
The long ago breakfast of vanished renown.

—Richmond News-Leader.

Sensible Talk.

(Montreal Gazette.)

Mr. R. P. Neal, organizer of the Brotherhood of Railway Employees, has been telling the St. John workers that the order does not believe in strikes and prefers intelligent co-operation to the arbitrary ultimatum in dealing with employers. Even as talk this is welcome. It shows that some union leaders know how to learn by experience.

His Only Choice.

(Boston Transcript.)

When the American runner who won the fifteen hundred metre race in London applied for the position of policeman in New York some time ago he was rejected by the examining doctors on the ground that he had endocarditis, arterial sclerosis and a few other little ailments. This left him no choice but to be a champion athlete.

LORD CROMER SEES SPECTRE OF WAR

Remarkable Speech by the Great Pro-Consul

TO WHOM DOES HE REFER?

Germany Became Angered Because of Isolation--The Turkish Crisis May Be the Means of Creating a Great Issue in European Diplomacy.

A London cable to the Toronto Globe says:—

"Sir Charles Dilke, than whom few Englishmen are better qualified to express an opinion on European politics, laughs to scorn the idea of war between Great Britain and Germany. Lord Cromer's speech in the House of Lords at the beginning of the week, in which he said that it was the duty of the government to make provisions betimes for 'the European conflict which may not improbably be forced on us before many years elapse,' has intensified the feeling of uneasiness with which many people in England have regarded the outlook.

"For some time past there has been an evident disposition to indulge in a war scare, and stories of German officers travelling in this country spying out the land with a view to a future invasion have received a great deal of attention. Lord Cromer said:—

"'What in the present condition of Europe is the main duty which devolves upon the government of this country? For my own part I have no sort of hesitation in replying to this question: Their main duty is to make provision betimes for a European conflict which may not improbably be forced on us before many years have elapsed.

"'I am aware that the mass of the people of this country, who do not follow foreign affairs with any very close attention, are not alive to the possibility of any such conflict taking place. I say it is the duty of a government gifted with both patriotism and foresight, who have means of information at their disposal which is not available to the general public, to provide betimes for that danger, a danger of which I, in common, I believe, with most people who can speak with real authority on foreign affairs, am firmly convinced exists.

"'My Lords, I now am treading on delicate ground. It is neither necessary nor desirable that I should state at length my reason for holding this opinion. I will only say that in order to justify it it is quite unnecessary to impugn the good faith of those high authorities abroad who constantly reiterate their peaceful intentions. Neither is it necessary to hold that any intentions deliberately hostile to this country exist.

"'We are, however, living in times when the influence of individuals, however highly placed, is limited. When national interests are involved and race passion is excited there is always a risk, and more than a risk, that a collision between rival nations will take place, however pacific the intentions of their rulers. Let me add that if, as I believe will be the case, the enactment of this law imperils the cause of free trade, the chances of a collision will be materially increased.'

"Sir Charles Dilkie, whom your correspondent say in the House of Commons declined to express his opinion of Lord Cromer's speech, but said emphatically that there was neither danger nor likelihood of war between Great Britain and Germany. Neither country desired war, and there was no reason why there should be war. Neither country could hurt the other. The scare-mongers argued that Germany would seek to hit England by an attack on France, which nowadays was in a much better position than at the time of any previous conflict."

The German Peril.

New York, July 26.—The Sun's London correspondent cables:—

"It is, of course, perfectly understood that the peril Lord Cromer foresees lies in the direction of Germany. His special information can, of course, only be conjectured, but it is a fact that all who possess it share his apprehension. Some of these individuals criticize rather severely King Edward's latest move in the formation of a great European peace bond. They argue that the combination is now too large for stability. Moreover, the recent Anglo-Russian entente has exasperated Germany to a dangerous extent.

"Her isolation is now so complete that she seems powerless to break through the wall surrounding her. But such a situation it is argued by some diplomatists, is full of peril. Peace by compulsion is a delusion, especially if imposed upon a great and proud nation presided over by an ambitious and aggressive sovereign. Germany will strain every nerve in preparation and then seize the first opportunity to show her resentment. Such is the belief of more than one man of Cromer's type, and Germany's opportunity may come any day.

"For this reason the serious crisis in the near east is regarded with some uneasiness throughout Europe. The revolt of the Young Turks has reached the proportions of a revolution, and Abdul Hamid, clever as he is, has been compelled to yield for the present. But it is by no means certain that his grant of a constitution will check the rebellion. No previous discontent in Turkey has involved the widespread sedition in the army which undoubtedly exists now.

"Turkish patriotism is religious rather than political or dynastic. The Mussulman's loyalty is to the Koran, not to the sovereign. The present fear is that the Sultan will seek the military aid of Germany, and there are many rumors to this effect. Such action would create a grave situation among the powers as well as locally."

A SAFETY ENVELOPE.

A new envelope made in Paris is proof against the thief or the meddler who opens a letter to extract or to read its contents and then reseals it so cleverly as to hide any sign of it having been tampered with.

The new envelope is really two envelopes. Each is of thin paper, one a pronounced blue, the other lighter in color and different in texture. Each has a gummed flap.

The letter is first placed in the blue envelope, which is slightly smaller than the other. Instead of sealing this it is placed in the outer envelope and the inner flap brought outside and gummed down on to the larger envelope.

The outer flap is still unsealed. It is much larger than the inner flap and reaches down to a good-sized star-shaped opening which shows through to the inner envelope, so that when the outer lap is sealed it sticks not only to the outer envelope, but also through this opening to the inner one. The letter is thus practically locked and double-locked.

Canada.

[As Seen from Over the Neighbor Fence.]

(From the Cleveland Leader.)

The most vitally and widely interesting feature of the celebration at Quebec is not the three centuries of that city's life—a slow and quiet existence for the most part, despite famous thrilling incidents long ago. It is not the historical significance of the story of British and French rivalry and warfare and final union (with some marked limitations) in Canada. It isn't race, and it isn't royalty visiting America in an official capacity. It is Canada.

The Dominion was long a story and a promise—sometimes seeming hardly more than a hope. Now it is a fact—large, virile, expanding, thought-compelling. It is a great empire within a greater, a virtual republic under a monarch's flag, a realm of immense open spaces and unmeasured natural resources, only beginning to find itself as a power in the world of industry and commerce, and a factor in the progress of mankind.

Canada is still underrated, scarcely understood. It is always belittled rather than exaggerated by outsiders. Its future is read darkly through the narrow lens of an inadequate past.

The fertile land which is not too north or too high above the sea to have fairly good climate may constitute a comparatively small part of British America, but it is sufficient for a great population and the creation of great wealth. A thin slice of Canada is bigger than many a famous empire. Add the timber, the minerals, the water power, the fisheries, the waterways and the ports of the Dominion, and it stands out among the newer lands of the earth as richly endowed, vast and of tremendous possibilities.

Every event which centres attention upon Canada turns a searchlight upon crude forces, vast spaces, huge stores of natural wealth—all that makes a young land worth the study of those who concern themselves with the larger movements of human progress. For Canada is essentially young. That city is an ancient gateway to a new empire, a picturesque old fortress guarding a river which drains much untested and unused wilderness.

Make no mistake about Canada. A great nation is growing, faster and faster, across the northern boundary of the United States.

New Zealand's Way.

(London Standard.)

The Governor of New Zealand, Lord Plunket, in opening the Dominion Parliament yesterday, made the welcome announcement that the Government would ask for authority to increase New Zealand's contribution to the Imperial Navy. His Excellency further stated that it was the opinion of the New Zealand Government that the interests of the Dominion would be best served by the policy of helping to maintain a powerful Imperial Navy under the control of the British Admiralty—that is to say, of those who would be responsible for using it to the best advantage in time of war. Thus it will be noted that in this connection New Zealand does not follow the lead of Australia. The demand for the creation of an Australian Fleet, is of course, the outcome of the practical withdrawal of Great Britain from the Pacific Ocean As Lord Esher pointed out a short ti ago, the growth of the German Navy forced us to concentrate nearly all o fighting ships within striking distance o the North Sea. Only cruisers, and not very many of them, can be spared to guard the vast interests of the Empire in southern seas, and it is easy, therefore, to understand why Australia has taken alarm. Next to adequate naval protection New Zealand requires a better and quicker means of communication with Australia, Canada and Great Britain. This want would be supplied, as Lord Plunket pointed out in his speech, by what is known as the "All-Red Route," and it is to be hoped that the British Government will give an immediate and favorable reply to the Oversea demand for co-operation in that enterprise. The subsidy that this country would have to provide would be a small thing to give in return for the substantial boon of commercial preference which New Zealand accords us in her markets, and for the splendid loyalty of the New Zealand people to the Empire. Every one at home will read with pleasure Lord Plunket's description of the impressions made upon him by visits to various parts of the Dominion. Nowhere, he says, do people enjoy greater material comfort, and yet, nowhere are the best qualities of the British race—sturdy energy which revels in hard work and hard play and self-sacrificing loyalty to national ideals—so resolutely preserved.

A Misfortune.

(Times.)

The destructive fire at Sackville last night is a very serious affair for that town, since it temporarily puts out of business a flourishing industry that gave employment to a large number of skilled workmen. The Enterprise Foundry, not only carried on a large business in the maritime provinces, but has successfully opened up western connections. The check to its operations will only be temporary, but it must entail considerab loss to work-people as well as to the company.

The Unattainable Trout,

I know a pool where the river,
Sunlit and still,
Slips by a bank of wild roses
Down from the mill:
There do I linger when Summer makes glorious
Valley and hill.

Somewhere the song of a skylark
Melts into air,
Butterflies float through the sunshine,
June's everywhere;
Nature, in fact, shows an amiable jollity
I do not share.

For in the shade of the alders,
Scornful of flies,
There is a trout that no cunning
Coaxes to rise.
"Slim" as Ulysses and doubtful as Didymus.
Mammonth in size.

And when the May fly battalions
Flutter and skim,
When all the others are filling
Baskets a-brim,
I spend the cream of the fly-fisher's carnival
Casting at him.
Seeing in fancy my hackle
Seized with a flounce,
Hearing the reel pacing madly
Under his pounce,
Knowing at last all the pounds of his magnitude
(Eight if an ounce!)

But of my drakes and my sedges
None make the kill,
None tempt him us from his fastness
Under the mill,
And, for I saw him as lately as Saturday,
There he is still.

Thus do life's triumphs elude us;
Yet it may be
Some afternoon, when the keeper
Goes to his tea,
That, if a lobworm were dropped unofficially—
Well, we shall see.

—Punch.