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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26.

MR. HYMAN'S CONDITION.

Latest reports are that Mr. Hyman
is improving in health. He has been
suffering from insomnia and nervous
trouble of an acute character, but is
assured that there is no organic com-
plaint, and it is hoped that rest and
change of scene will prove effective in
restoring him to full strength.

MR. BRYCE FOR WASHINGTON.

The nomination of Mr. James Bryce
as British ambassador at Washington
has evoked a chorus of approval from
the American press, which gives the
British Government credit for paying
an extraordinary compliment to the
United States. It is the more remark-
able as it is a breach of custom and
precedent. The British diplomatic ser-
vice is a profession, and its members
qualify for its prizes by years of train-
ing and experience. Mr. Bryce is the
first layman to be assigned to such a
post. The United States, in which
diplomacy is not a branch of govern-
ment as in other countries, has in-
variably sent to the court of St. James
citizens who have distinguished them-
selves in literature, law, or some sphere
outside of public life. This system has
permitted the United States to be
represented in Great Britain by a suc-
cession of eminent men. At the ex-
pense of tradition Mr. Bryce has been
appointed upon the same principle.
Though a public man and a cabinet
minister, it is as the author of "The
American Commonwealth" that he is
acclaimed in the United States. It is
natural that the American people
should have a warm feeling for a
stranger who provided them with the
most sympathetic and illuminating
study of their own institutions that
has come from any writer, American
or foreign. At 24 years of age Mr.
Bryce produced an historical classic,
"The Holy Roman Empire." "The
American Commonwealth" is his most
important work, and has been adopted
as a text-book in the United States
colleges and universities. While he
may be deficient in the mere etiquette
of diplomacy, through lack of training,
a man who so thoroughly understands
the American Republic should have no
difficulty in avoiding mistakes.It is to be hoped there is some founda-
tion for the report that he intends to
ask for a Canadian colleague. A lack
of acquaintance with Canadian af-
fairs has been the besetting weakness
of British representatives at Washing-
ton.

MINIMUM SALARIES AGAIN.

We are taken to task for defending
what is called Whitney and Pyne's
coercion school act. "Conservative"
asks why they did not coerce the sepa-
rate school trustees and the town and
village school trustees, and proposes
the answer that they must have
thought "the Ontario farmers a lot of
guys who would stand anything and
don't know enough to hire a school
teacher."It is the peculiar privilege of a Lib-
eral newspaper to criticize the mea-
sures of its own party if they have de-
fects, and to approve those of its op-
ponents if they have merit. With re-
gard to the new school act The Adver-
tiser has commended the adequate re-
muneration of teachers and has con-
demned the disobedience of the act,
while it remains on the statute book.Approving the object of the act does
not involve defense of the method of
attaining the object. Indeed the de-
tails in this instance are marked by a
disregard or ignorance of the inequal-
ties of assessment and other rural
school conditions. Even though we had
condemned the law, we could not coun-
sel violation of its provisions. A Con-
servative member of the Legislature
threatened to resign if school trustees
in his constituency were not exempted
from the application of the act. He
should have been permitted to resign
right summarily. Until this year the
history of Ontario has not afforded an
example of a cabinet minister being
frightened into open violation of the
law by the threat of one of his sup-
porters in the House.THE SAVINGS OF THE BRITISH
PEOPLE.No more interesting report is pre-
sented to the Imperial Parliament than
the annual statement of the chief
registrar of friendly societies, which
has just been issued for the past year.
The institutions dealt with in the re-
turn include building societies, friend-ly societies, co-operative societies,
trade unions, workmen's compensation
schemes, friends of labor loan societies
and savings banks. It is the duty of
the chief registrar to look diligently
after the societies, and for the protec-
tion of their members keep them to the
strict letter of the law. This is, as
may be supposed, by no means an easy
task, and last year proceedings had to
be taken in no fewer than 44 cases.Several of these prosecutions were in
connection with the so-called collecting
societies, which are really organiza-
tions for providing insurance in small
sums. For example, the Imperial Col-
lecting Society of Leeds was estab-
lished as a friendly society, but failed
to make a return in 1904. Investiga-
tion followed, when it was found that
in its three years of existence the so-
ciety had collected over \$28,000, of
which more than \$24,000 was absorbed
in management expenses, while only
\$3,720 was paid out in benefits. The
premium income which had been paid
represented an approximate income of
\$405,000, whereas the assets were nil;
but for the proceedings instituted by
the chief registrar, owing to the non-
delivery of the annual report, the so-
ciety would have gone to the wall and
the members would not have even the
satisfaction of knowing how their
money was swallowed up. As there is
no check on the establishment of these
societies, or on their methods of busi-
ness until such time as they are
shown, as in this instance, to be ir-
regularly conducted, the registrar
reaches the conclusion that they have
outgrown the act applicable to them,
and that there should be new legisla-
tion affording greater safeguards to the
public.These British friendly and benefit so-
cieties have grown to wonderful pro-
portions. The building societies alone
number 2,075, with an aggregate mem-
bership of 699,785, and funds amount-
ing to \$340,722,935. This is an increase
of nearly 10,000 members and \$19,000,000
in funds since last year. The friendly
societies proper have a membership of
nearly 6,000,000 and the collecting so-
cieties 7,500,000, while various misce-
laneous societies raise the aggregate
membership to 13,978,790, and the funds
to \$252,295,300. There is a substantial
increase here also. The distributive
and co-operative societies have a mem-
bership of 2,290,077, and funds of \$236,
961,000. The number of trade unions
is 646, with a membership of 1,544,461,
and funds amounting to \$28,929,620.
There are several other minor organi-
zations of working men, bringing the
grand aggregate of registered pro-
fessional societies up to 35,253, with 18,567,881
members and \$859,209,240 of funds. But
great as are these totals the story of
thrift by the chief registrar would be
incomplete if it did not also include
the deposits in the postoffice and other
savings banks of the kingdom. Of
these, the total is 14,855 banks, 11,434,
717 depositors, and \$1,152,073,760 de-
posits. Adding the banks and societies
together, there is a total membership of
nearly 36,000,000 persons, and accumu-
lated funds of \$2,010,250,000—an increase
since 1897 of 6,750,000 of members and
of \$480,000,000 in funds. This is a mar-
velous exhibit of the thrift of the
workers of the British nation. There
is another side to the picture. The
British nation's annual drink bill is
nearly \$850,000,000, or an average of
over \$100 for every household in the
kingdom; in other words, the workers
of the nation save a little over a dollar
per head of the population, and spend
over \$20 per head in drink. It is clear
that a very large number of the work-
ers in Great Britain have yet to be
taught how to make the best of their
hard won earnings. That under the
conditions existing so much has been
saved is remarkable.Now will some of the voluble ones
in Parliament—those chaps who invari-
ably feel the spirit moving them to
speak on every question brought up—
get ready to oblige a long-suffering
public by swearing off the habit?A staff correspondent of the Aberdeen
(Scotland) Free Press, who has been
traveling through Canada, reaches the
conclusion that "One of Canada's many
amenities is its luxurious railway trav-
elling accommodation, at an all-round
cheap rate, for the comfort provided."
This is only giving our railway com-
panies their due. There certainly has
been a great improvement in the last 30
years, while the fares have, if anything,
been decreased.The announcement made by Premier
Gouin of Quebec that the tax imposed
on commercial travelers by that prov-
ince will be repealed at the ensuing
session of the Legislature will be wel-
come intelligence to many merchants
and manufacturers in this locality. This
class of restrictive legislation is a mis-
take. Trade should be entirely free
between the several divisions of the
Dominion, no matter how many im-
pediments it may be deemed wise to
place in the way of trade with out-
siders. Quebec has now responded to
the popular demand that such special
taxes as those imposed on that most
useful body of men, the commercial
travelers, shall be taken off. It is to be
hoped that the other provinces which
have been transgressors will at the
earliest opportunity follow suit.

FIRST AID FOR NOVELTIES.

(Life.)

As he spoke to her there was in his
voice a burst of passionate resentment.
She smiled a derisive smile.He thereupon stood up to his full height
and towered above her.This would have disconcerted some girls,
but not her. She let her eyes drop.

He was startled out of himself.

She immediately pulled herself together
with a mighty effort.Which made him lower his voice to a
whisper.She responded by tossing her head in
the air.At this his heart almost ceased to beat.
But he superbly controlled himself.As she turned to leave the room he in-
stinctively followed her.

There was a pause.

Maddened by his silence, a sigh escaped
her ruby lips.She had never been more radiant than
on that evening.

He remarked this to himself.

Suddenly he lost his head.

At the same moment she threw her head
on his shoulder.

We will now leave them to themselves.

ANXIOUSLY WAITING.

(Smart Set.)

Blanche—Poor Helen! Has the worst
been told?Grace—I think not. They're all waiting
for your version.

SURPRISED WOMEN CHOIRS.

(Good Words.)

Should choir ladies wear surplices? Yes.
Who could be so prejudiced as to think he
considered the gay headresses of the
average fair chorister, with their glistening
feathers and bobbing flowers of all
sizes and colors, quite appropriate, or
even decorous, as worn by those whose
duties place them in the most prominent
position in the church?

ONE OR TOTHER.

(Houston Post.)

"He used to want to kiss me every time
we met, now he never kisses me."

"Did you marry or quarrel?"

WHAT HE WANTED.

(Dr. Macnamara, M.P.)

Like all Celts, I have a passion for the
theater. But for genuine entertainment
give me the House of Lords.

DOCTORS.

(Illustration.)

There are 222,234 medical doctors in the
world. Of these there are in Europe 162,
333, distributed as follows: In England,
34,967; in Germany, 22,518; in Russia, 21,
489; in France, 30,348; and in Italy, 13,246.
In England the proportion of doctors is
78 to 100,000 of the population; in France
it is 51 and in Turkey 18. In Brussels the
proportion is 241 to 100,000 of the popula-
tion; in Madrid, 209; in Budapest, 198; in
Christiania, 191; in Vienna, 140; in Berlin,
132; in London, 128; in Athens, 123; in
Paris, 111; in New York, 74, and in Con-
stantinople, 35.

AWAY HUNTING.

(Philadelphia Press.)

Mrs. Subbubs—No, my husband isn't at
home; he's out hunting, as usual.Mr. McCall—You don't say? After some-
thing big?Mrs. Subbubs—We don't care whether
she's big or little, so long as she can cook
our meals and do plain housekeeping.

SEEING'S BELIEVING.

(Harper's Weekly.)

Attentive Waiter—Feel like a cup of
tea, sir?Trascible Customer—Do I look like a cup
of tea?

MARRY FOR BRAINS.

(Chicago News.)

Sapleigh—I aw—would nevah mawry
foh money, douchin' know, because I aw
—don't weally need it.Miss Canastine—If you ever marry, I
suppose it will be for brains.

COMPANY MANNERS.

(Judy.)

Jane—Well, have you made your choice
out of the half-dozen fellows who want to
marry you, poor thing?Grace—Oh, yes; as they sit in the city,
I've posted "letters of allotment and re-
gret."

DOMESTIC CYCLONE.

(Chicago News.)

Bleeker—Why weren't you at the stag
party last night?

Meeker—I was storm-bound.

Bleeker—Storm-bound! Why, there
wasn't a storm.Meeker—That's all you know about it.
My wife got wind of the stag party.

ON THE CORNER.

(Chicago News.)

They had arranged to meet downtown
during the afternoon, and she had kept
him waiting for considerable time."What do you mean by keeping me
standing on the corner like a fool?" de-
manded the angry husband."Now, don't start anything, dear," calm-
ly rejoined his wife. "I can't help the
way you stand."

SAUCY WINTER.

(Exchange.)

Old winter holds a heading bee
'Mid jolly shouts and cheers;
And you can see that he has kissed
The maids who have red ears.

A RESIGNED ADVERTISER.

(London Globe.)

A widower living in a village near Cam-
bridge is advertising for a wife as follows:
"Advertiser (widower) desires to find good
wife. She must be Church of England
and a communicant; aged from 40 up-
ward; able to build her own house; as
advertiser is in possession of good one;
no encumbrances. Advertiser feels him-
self very lonely in the world through what
could not be avoided. God's will be done
on earth and in heaven. Need only apply
except in own handwriting."

WHAT'S THE REASON.

(New York Tribune.)

Pethick Lawrence, husband of one of
the "suffragettes" imprisoned in London,
has promised to subscribe 10 pounds a day
to the woman's suffrage fund for every
day his wife remains in jail. Whether
Mr. Lawrence is actuated by sympathy or
gratitude, deponent saith not.

THE WIDOW'S TRIBUTE.

(La Vie Heureuse.)

It is life which honors the dead; true
widows have mourned their husbands by
raising sons worthy of them. It is thanks
to his mother that Alfonso XIII. is worthy
to be King; it is the education given by
Queen Emma which has made of Wilhel-
mina a true sovereign.POLICE CORRAL
DESPERATE GANGToronto Detectives Round Down
Men Believed to Have Made
Sensational Gem Steal.Toronto, Dec. 25.—Joseph Warren, 25
Colt avenue; John Warren, 25 Center
avenue; John Milligan, 4 Leonard
avenue; Fred Marsh, 77 Nelson street.With the arrest of the foregoing men
the police say that the sensational rob-
bery of Mr. David Ward's loan office at
104 Adelaide street east on Saturday
night was cleared up.Milligan was taken in a hard chase
after the robbery, and Marsh and John
Warren on Monday morning. Joseph
Warren was placed under arrest early
this morning at his home, 25 Center
avenue.Marsh has been employed at a
Front street hotel as a handy man, and
John Warren as assistant engineer.
Milligan also worked at the hotel, but
Joseph Warren is said to have been
without steady employment.If the information in the possession
of the detectives is correct, the rob-
bery at the loan office is only one of a
number planned in the fall of 1905.It is singular that the big Lugsdin
fur robbery took place just a year ago
Christmas eve. Milligan and John
Warren were tried on the charge, but
owing to the lack of identification were
acquitted.The Moneypenny warehouse, where
John Warren worked as engineer, was
also on the list of places slated for
robbery.The detectives assert that they are
now in full possession of the details of
the robbery.They believe that Joseph Warren ar-
ranged at the Wilson livery, Yonge
street, on Dec. 10, for the horse and
on the night of Saturday, Dec. 15, drove
down to the Ward loan office, and af-
ter laying out their plans concluded
that it would not be safe to go through
the job with only himself, his brother
John, and Milligan.They wanted a fourth man, and it is
alleged that Marsh when approached
consented to join them in the daring
robbery.The night of the raid it is alleged
that Joseph Warren and Milligan got
the horse and cutter at Wilson's, and,
driving downtown, picked up the other
Warren and Marsh on Adelaide.The scoria block thrown through the
window was obtained at the new Rich-
mond street loop. Marsh, the police
say, sat in the cutter; Joseph Warren
threw the stone block; Jack Warren
held the door, and Milligan grabbed
for the precious stone.After the robbery the detectives as-
sert that Milligan and Marsh drove off
in the sleigh and the two Warrens
made off by running down Francis and
Church streets.Marsh dropped out of the cutter near
Wellesley street, on Jarvis street, and
Milligan was chased and caught on the
property of the late G. W. Kleby, at
Charles and Jarvis streets.From the information secured by the
police it would appear that the rob-
bery was planned away back in the
fall of 1905, and that the hooks with
the ropes attached used to fasten the
doors were made in a city park.The Ward loan office was on the list
for a raid that fall, but the good de-
fective work done in connection with
the Lugsdin and Moneypenny robberies
made a postponement necessary.

HORRORS OF RUSS EXILE

200,000 in Siberia and Archangel—
Deadly Disease Rampant.St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—Death and dis-
ease are rife among the unfortunate po-
litical prisoners exiled to Archangel, the
bleak northern province which the Gov-
ernment is using as an auxiliary to Si-
beria. Archangel is a vast district of
332,000 square miles, with one inhabitant to
the square mile, and a sea-coast almost in
the Arctic regions.The mortality among the prisoners in
this frigid wilderness is so high that the
Russian Government has been driven to
summon a medical congress at Archangel
to inquire into the sanitary and hy-
gienic state of the prison.The Government cannot find room for all
the revolutionists made prisoners. A new
jail for "politicals" is to be made out of
No. 6 at Cronstadt, where lately bomb
throwers were executed. Casemates for-
merly occupied by big guns, with walls of
immense thickness, will be used as cells.It is believed that the official figures, ac-
cording to which more than 30,000 persons
are recognized by the legal code, other-
wise the numbers would have to be multi-
plied tenfold. Nearly an equal number of
prisoners are known to have lost their
lives during the same period.It is stated that 300,000 persons are at
this moment either in prison on political
charges or proceeding to exile, while the
number of those who have already reached
Siberia or other places of deportation com-
prises about 200,000.

TONY CAKE-MAKERS

Noble Ladies' Culinary Products Bring
High Prices.London, Dec. 24.—Tables crowded with
tempting "homemade" cakes, baked by the
percees and other women of position in
the cause of charity, attracted a fash-
ionable throng to Lancaster Gate. The
Countess of Yarmouth, Lady Stanley of
Alderley, Lady Pittman, and about fifty
others displayed examples of their skill.
All the dainties, some of which were priced
as high as three guineas, were sold in aid
of the Our Dumb Friends' League.This society cake show, in addition to
encouraging cooking, will benefit many
deserving animals. Among the novelties
displayed were three tiny cakes, each
about three inches across, made for "A
Doll's Wedding." Another novelty was
declared by the experts to be far too good
to eat. It was a magnificent cushion of
almonds rock tied with broad mauve rib-
bons, all made out of sugar.

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO

Spend "Christmas Money" in Furs

What better way could the "Christmas money" be spent than in Furs or, in
fact, a Fur-Lined Coat, which would be a comfort for a good many seasons. Prices
have dropped considerably, like the thermometer, and now is the time to buy.

Ladies' Fur-Lined Coats, in fawn, navy, castor

and brown, lined with best squirrel lock, high

cellar and revers of mink-marten. Regular

price this season was \$50. Just a few left at \$39

Ladies' Sable Ruffs, stylish shape, all fur and

trimmed with tails. Reduced to \$8 50

Mink-Marten Stoles, special this week \$5 00

Colonial Muffs to match \$6 50

Other furs at like reductions.

Great Sale of Men's Suits

Between Christmas and New Year's the following two specials in Men's
Fancy Tweed and Worsted Suits are offered at \$9.85 and \$6.95 respectively.Regular \$12.00, \$13.50 and
\$15.00 Suits at

\$9.85

This line includes some of the finest worsted
suits we have ever shown at the regular
prices. They are all strictly up-to-date, in cut
and materials, the popular gray shades are to
be found among them. We guarantee a per-
fect fit. Reduced this week to \$9 85Regular \$8.50 and \$10.00
Men's Suits

\$6.95

Our \$6 95 line are all fancy tweeds, in very neat
patterns, small checks, overplaids and plain
mixtures. These are exceptionally good look-
ing and wearing. Our regular \$8 50 and \$10
suits on sale this week at \$6 95
Also Men's Overcoats, regular \$10, at \$6 95

Lace Curtains

Down to a few pairs, not more than a pair or

two of one kind, fine lace curtains at.....

..... \$1 00, \$1 50, \$2 00, \$2 50, \$3 50, \$5 00

Beautiful Tapestry Arch and Door Curtains.....

..... \$3 50, \$4 00 and \$5 00

Very Pretty Bonne Femme Door Panels.....

..... 75c, \$1 00, \$1 25, \$1 50

Ends of Mantle Cloths, 1 to 4 yards, at one-third

to one-half off.

J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128½ Dundas St.

GLOOMY WEATHER
IN OLD LONDON
HUMAN BONES
SWAY IN SWAMPSunless Days and Inevitable Fog
Dispirit the Most San-
guine Souls.London, Dec. 24.—To those who, like the
young women at Dingley Dell, are of the
opinion that skating is "so graceful and
swanlike," or like Mr. Pickwick, would
vague sliding a nice, warm exercise, the
vagaries of the weather which we are
having just now are extremely irritating.
First it holds out immediate hopes of
plenty of "bearing" ice. Twelve hours
after it discourages the most sanguine
with a downpour of rain that in turn is
followed by fog, of which we have had a
fair share the last few days, disorganizing
traffic in the streets and putting an end
to all work on the river.There are many medical men who are of
the opinion that as a cure for influenza,
nothing is so efficacious as a sun bath.
Unfortunately, Londoners have not had
any opportunity lately of putting this
pleasant remedy to a test, or the total sun-
shine for the last week has been less than
one hour.Of course December is always a gloomy
month, being reputed the most sunless
month of the year, the number of sunny
hours for the whole month averaging only
twelve.December this year has been a
marvel, London having had so far eighteen
hours of sunshine.Naturally the tradespeople are grum-
bling loudly at this prevalence of fog, in-
terfering as it does with Christmas shop-
ping, but the Christmas shoppers in Oxford
street the other evening had an experience
much worse than fog, or even thick blind-
ing snow. Oxford street is one of the
principal and most popular thoroughfares
for Christmas shopping. Suddenly, be-
tween 6 and 7 o'clock, when the street
was thronged with people, consterna-
tion and confusion were created by the
failure of the electric light. Except for a
few emergency gas jets nearly the whole
street was thrown into darkness. Women
screamed. Shopkeepers became alarmed
for the safety of their wares. Voices
shouted to the commissionaires and port-
ers at the shop doors to allow no one to
pass either out or in, but notwithstanding
that a good many cases of bag snatching
and pocket picking were reported to the
police.It was nearly half an hour, and it
seemed longer to nervous women held up
in the darkness, before light was restored
and business resumed.

ROOSEVELT "INDIA RUBBER"

Caustic Comment on the President's
Recent Message.Paris, Dec. 24.—Comments on Mr. Roose-
velt's message are not all favorable to the
President, as witness M. Gaston