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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1913.

THE VIEWS OF MR. ASQUITH.

A good deal of attention has been directed to the fact that Mr. Asquith in his speech at Leven made much of a resolution passed at a convention of Western farmers opposing "any preferential tariff scheme that will give the Western grain growers a higher price for their grain at the expense of the British workman." No scheme has ever been proposed by the Unionist party in the United Kingdom that would have such an effect. The object of the policy of Preference is to increase production, and it stands to reason that increased production cannot mean higher prices.

This convention was, of course, by no means representative of Canadian sentiment. This view is endorsed by the fact that on the same day a resolution was passed stating "That this convention places itself on record as firmly opposed to any expenditure of public money for any construction of naval armaments." It is reasonable to suppose that Mr. Asquith was not in possession of a full report of the convention. He would not have endorsed the second resolution, yet he accepted the first. If the first resolution was supposed to represent the voice of Canada, why not the other?

It is satisfactory in any event to know that Mr. Asquith, as Prime Minister, has already welcomed on behalf of the British Government, the patriotic and loyal proposals made by the Dominion Government to strengthen the Imperial Navy. Representing on this question a least, practically the unanimous sentiment of the people in the Mother Country, Mr. Asquith is waiting until the Liberal Opposition at Ottawa has finished obstructing the words of Mr. Bonar Law, "His Majesty's Government, the patriotic and loyal proposals made by the Dominion Government to strengthen the Imperial Navy."

Replying to Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Asquith said on December 10th last: "His Majesty's Government fully recognize that it is both the desire and the duty of the House of Commons to give formal and authoritative expression to the universal feeling of warm appreciation and heartfelt gratitude which has been aroused in the Mother Country by the splendid patriotism and liberality displayed in this matter by the Overseas Dominions. His Majesty's Government are of opinion, however, and the House will probably agree that it would be only appropriate and indeed respectful to Canada to postpone taking such action until the proposals come under consideration and discussion in the Canadian Parliament."

How much longer are the British Government and the people of the Mother Country to wait?

"WIDER MARKETS" AT HOME.

No stronger evidence that the Canadian home market was none too highly appraised by the Canadian people when reciprocity was rejected, has been furnished than the list of exports and imports of some leading farm products in the ten months to January 31, which is quoted by the Toronto Mail and Empire. Excepting wheat, oats and barley, the three staple grains, agricultural imports show some astonishing increases, the exports being reduced to comparative insignificance.

The following table gives some interesting comparisons:

Exports. Imports.

Eggs (dozen) . . .	128,018	11,997,345
Butter (pounds) . . .	626,142	5,714,465
Beans (value in \$) . . .	6,451	596,194
Peas (value in \$) . . .	140,772	210,145
Rye (value in \$) . . .	603	54,524

Imports of meat, milk and other food articles are likewise steadily increasing. This is accounted for principally by the fact that each year immigration adds enormously to the consumption power of the Canadian population in advance of additional food-stuff production. A large part of the two million people settling in Canada in the last five or six years is engaged in agriculture, but the full effect of their additional energy on the land is not in any case attained for a year or two. Too many of them have gone in for grain growing exclusively until they get on their feet financially.

It is palpable that under such conditions "wider markets" for most agricultural products are being provided right at home, where the true Canadian policy of a self-contained development is bearing such wonderful fruit.

FROZEN ORANGES CONDEMNED.

The importation of frozen California oranges into Canada, as was anticipated, has already begun. A car load of several cartons which were frozen on the trees when the severe frosts swept through the gardens of Southern California, arrived recently in Regina and the fruit has been promptly condemned by the local food inspector. The freight charges which were unusually heavy have not been paid and

the car has been sealed pending a settlement. The oranges in this consignment, it is stated, were unusually large, firm and luscious-looking from the outside, but once the knife passed through the skin they were found unfit for eating. Fruit merchants should be on their guard against consignments of this character, otherwise they may suffer considerable loss and be liable to a penalty for selling unsound fruit.

VALUABLE OFFER TO FARMERS.

In the last number of Conservation, the monthly bulletin of the Commission of Conservation, appears a remarkable offer to the farmers of Canada. It is as follows: "Draw a sketch of your farm, giving the number of acres in each field, the kind of soil and the kind of crops grown on it for the past three years. Also specify the line you are particularly interested in, namely, dairy, beef production, sheep or hogs, or grain growing. Distance from the market has also to be considered. Send this to the Commission of Conservation, Ottawa, and they will make suggestions that will be of material help in deciding the best crop rotation for your farm."

This is a valuable offer which if taken advantage of would be of immense benefit to the farmer. It affords further evidence of the genuine desire of the Government to develop agriculture. Fifty years ago every farmer had to gather from somewhere enough knowledge and experience to make him successful. He had to depend upon traditions and habits, or to make personal experiments which involved delay, if not loss. But today the Canadian farmer has at his disposal the wisdom, experience and practical findings of a staff of experts. He has but to ask a question to have it answered in line with the most modern science. Agriculture is no longer a hit-or-miss proposition. If the Canadian farmer fails, it will surely be by reason of his own fault, and not for lack of federal co-operation on his behalf.

PATENT MEDICINE FRAUDS.

An investigation into the methods of the patent medicine man is being conducted in Great Britain by a "select committee" with a view to the formulation of remedial legislation. Many of the frauds which the committee has unearthed are instructive. A close watch is kept on alluring advertisements, and the generous offers of advertisers to cure all and sundry are promptly investigated.

One advertisement, for example, ran as follows: "Fits: Clergyman offers prescription for thirteen pence. Never fails." Upon writing to the address given, in a small Cheshire village, enclosing thirteen pence, the committee received a reply returning the money, and explaining that a price had been set in the advertisement simply to prevent people from writing out of idle curiosity. As a matter of fact, the clergyman continued, no charge was made for the prescription, which he enclosed.

Naturally, upon receipt of this surprisingly unmercenary communication actually returning the thirteen pence, the committee at first thought it had struck a false trail. But upon examining the prescription, noting that one of its ingredients was a mysterious substance, unknown to any of the chemists consulted, and further that a footnote said, "If you have any trouble in getting this prescription filled, apply directly to the manufacturer," a resident of the same Cheshire village, a light began to dawn upon the investigators.

They wrote to "the manufacturer," enclosing the stated price; received the fit-cure, and had it analyzed. The supposed rare ingredient proved to be strontium bromide under an alias, and the price charged about eight times what an ordinary druggist would have asked to fill it. Then a little "sleuthing" in the Cheshire village developed the fact that the clergyman was a myth, but that at the addresses given there did live and do business the identical "manufacturer," who kept a drug store.

Ingenious schemes to persuade a gullible people that they will get something for nothing are not confined to the Old Country. This plausible but none the less fraudulent system of advertising, there can be no doubt, claims many victims.

Civic Advertising Pays. (Christian Science Monitor).

The Atlanta (Ga.) Chamber of Commerce spent on its own account \$22,000 last year in advertising the city, and the returns have convinced it that judicious publicity pays. Atlanta has helped the work along by living up to the advertising.

A Worthy Decision.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.) Col. Hughes' firm stand against wet meats and beer licenses in militia camps will not lessen the attractive force of recruiting for militia officers and men, but it clears the way for the enlargement of the cadet system as a feeder for the militia.

DIARY OF EVENTS

FIRST THINGS

RISE OF MODERN GREECE.

The first insurrection in Greece, which led to the successful war of independence, broke out ninety-two years ago today, March 6, 1821. Exactly a month ago, Alexander issued his proclamation calling upon the Greeks to throw off the Turkish yoke and to rally to the standard of the cross against the persecutor. Independence was proclaimed the following year, but was not finally won until 1829, when the powers forced the Porte to sign the treaty of Adrianople, acknowledging Hellenic independence. Otto, of Bavaria, became the first king of modern Greece in 1832, and reigned until 1861, when popular desire forced his retirement. Prince Alfred of Great Britain, was the popular choice for king, but the throne fell to Prince William, who has since ruled as George I. The Greek monarch will celebrate the semi-centenary of his reign this year.

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

WILLIAM GEORGE JORDAN.

Disregarding the tradition that natives of New York City never amount to anything, William George Jordan, who was born in the big town on the Hudson forty-nine years ago today, has not only made a name for himself among his contemporaries, but has also arranged a plan for securing the respect and gratitude of posterity. As secretary of the Modern Historic Records Association, Mr. Jordan is sent to prominent men and women two envelopes made of durable Japanese vellum, to contain "such genealogical family memoranda, messages, and photographs as they be of interest to posterity. These documents, with other historical data of the time, are to be stored in steel chests, one to be placed in the New York library and the other to be sent to Egypt, where the dry atmosphere is an excellent preservative.

Each chest will bear an inscription directing that it be opened a century hence, in the year 2013. Special qualities of ink and paper will assure the preservation of the material for such a long time.

Mr. Jordan was for many years the editor of the Evening Post, the book that Current Literature, the Ladies' Home Journal and other American periodicals. He is a man of original ideas, and his work in the formation of a "house of governors," to be composed of the executives of the various States of the Union. His plan pleased Col. Roosevelt, who issued a call for a meeting at which an organization was perfected. At the last session of the "house" Gov. Cole Blaise, of South Carolina, almost by accident, was transformed into a "house" into a "rough house." Mr. Jordan is also the originator of a brand new system of education, which he calls "Mental Training by Analysis, Law and Analogy."

PROF. ARCHIBALD C. COOLIDGE.

Birthday greetings are due today to Prof. Archibald C. Coolidge, of Harvard, who passed his forty-seventh milestone. As chairman of the Harvard Library Council, Prof. Coolidge presided at the recent ground-breaking exercises for the Widener Library, to be erected at Harvard as a memorial to Harry Elkins Widener, a victim of the Titanic disaster. The edifice will cost \$2,000,000, which has been donated for the purpose by the mother of young Widener. Prof. Coolidge spent some time in the diplomatic service at St. Petersburg, Vienna and Paris, and was a member of the Taft party which visited the Orient in 1905.

ELWIN ALFRED BARRON.

When the sterling Debutante Corporation of New York was raided some time ago, the literary world was shocked by the arrest of Elwin Alfred Barron, famed on both sides of the Atlantic as a journalist, author, critic and playwright. Mr. Barron, it was alleged, had turned his genius to the writing of promiscuous "literature" that was the envy of all other promoters. He was a born editor, and fifty years ago today, was educated at Robert College, in Tennessee. For eighteen years he was dramatic critic and editor of the "Punchinello," which was staged by E. S. Willard in Boston about twelve years ago today.

THE PASSING DAY.

THE ROMANOFF DYNASTY.

Barbarian Swede, savage Slav and ferocious Mongol, in the dim beginning of Russian history, fought for supremacy. Into the welter of petty principalities came the Norman, and, in the ninth century, laid the foundation of the present empire. In the thirteenth century the Tartars established the empire of the Khan of Koutchak, which was made grand duke of Russia, with Moscow as his capital. Ivan the Great, able and despotic, restored the old regime, introducing the use of firearms, and annihilated the power of the Mongols.

In 1598 Feodor I, last of the race of Rurik, which had governed Russia for seven centuries, was murdered, and Russia was left without a royal house. Boris Godunoff, Demetrius the Impostor, and others ruled for brief spaces, until overthrown by the strong hand of Michael Fedorovitch, first of the imperial dynasty of Romanoff, who ascended the throne three centuries ago today, March 6, 1613.

The centenary of the accession of the Romanoffs will be celebrated throughout Russia today, and the festivities will continue several months. The government has appropriated nearly a quarter of a million dollars to help pay the expenses of the coronation. The principal anniversary festival will be held in St. Petersburg, in May when the weather is more favorable. The program, care of the emperor, will visit Kholmogor, where the imperial crown was tendered to Michael, first of the Romanoffs. There will also be the coronation of the emperor at the cathedral of St. Isaac, where the imperial crown was tendered to Michael, first of the Romanoffs. There will also be the coronation of the emperor at the cathedral of St. Isaac, where the imperial crown was tendered to Michael, first of the Romanoffs.

THE POET'S CORNER

DRAKE'S DRUM.

Drake he was a Devon man an' ruled the Devon seas— (Capten, art tha sleepin' there below); Rovin' tho' his death fell, he went with heart at ease, An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe. "Take my drum to England, hang it by the shore, Strike it when your powder's runnin' low; If the Donas slight Devon, I'll quit the port o' Heaven, An' drum them up the Channel as we drummed them long ago."

Drake he's in his hammock an' a thousand miles away (Capten, art tha sleepin' there below); Slung atween the round shot in Nonpareil Digs Bay, An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe. Yarlder lumes the island, yarlder lle the ships, Wi' sailor lads a-dancin' heel-an'-toe, An' the stove lights flashin' an' the He sees et arl so plainly as he saw et long ago.

Drake lies in his hammock till the great Armadas come (Capten, art tha sleepin' there below); Slung atween the round shot, listenin' for the drum, An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe. Call him when ye sail to meet the foe; Where the old trade's plyin' an' the old flag's flyin' They'll find him wavin' an' wak'in', as they found him long ago. —Henry Newbolt.

A Suffragist Sense of Humor.

A reassuring episode is that of the stopped keyholes which is the latest Suffragist outrage on brutal man. It indicates that the new crusaders for the franchise have not entirely lost their sense of humor. And humor is one of the saving graces. To make a man's latch-key—that supreme symbol of masculine independence—useless, was surely a blow at the very citadel of male superiority.

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price

Howard Watches

Are you wearing a watch which you value more for its associations than for the time it keeps? Don't you think it time that you bought yourself that "good watch" you've been promising yourself for so long? Come in and see our line of Howard Watches. They are made by skilled workmen whose whole time is engaged in making fine, high grade watches. They are essentially Quality watches.

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S. KERR, Principal

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THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE.

The little children one and all Who helter-skelter round the place And finger-mark each papered wall— Till mother says "It's a disgrace!"— God bless 'em, and their finger-marks And guard their muddy feet that tread When they are romping on their larks, I say, and let 'em romp ahead.

I wouldn't want a home that had No finger-marks nor tracks of feet To show that some wee girl or lad Comes helter-skelter from the street, And chairs by little feet unscratched, And through the parlors madly race, Red cheeks and dancing feet I see, And twinkling eyes and chubby fists, For love of childish revelry Abound where such a trail exists.

And mother doesn't mean, I know, That finger-marks are a disgrace; Those muddy feet may come and go, And through the parlors madly race, She wouldn't stop them if she could, Although at times she makes a fuss, For every trace of babyhood, About the home is dear to us. I do not want a home so neat And spick and span that it proclaims The absence of a baby's feet. The lack of children's noisy games, Ten thousand times I'd rather own A house where youngsters race and run, And have their presence plainly shown By all the damage they have done. —Anonymous.

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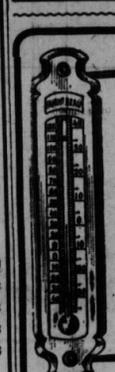
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