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London, Friday, March 15.

Ross and Temperance.

The London Free Press has been calling the Hon. George W. Ross a humbug because he has not introduced a prohibitory law in this Province. They assail his record as a temperance man, and claim that by no act of his has he ever assisted prohibition. We do not think the people are apt to be misled by such statements.

The average man will admit that no tongue or pen can more than faintly describe the evils of intemperance, and the average man would, if he could, by one stroke of the pen wipe out the whole trade in intoxicating liquors, if by so doing he could wipe out the evils inseparable from it. Few men in or out of the traffic desire to add one stroke to the sufferings of the drunkard's child, but would gladly bring sunshine into their lives and into the lives of the victims themselves.

The victims do not belong to any particular race or creed, to any sex, or to any age. They belong to all, and all have an interest in the question. It might be safely said that no man or woman lives in Canada, who has not been directly or indirectly injured by it, and it would be quite safe to say that no young man travels very far on in life without being able to look back and remember some he knew who fell by reason of its influence. There is not much wonder, then, that the lines,

"Ha! see where the flaring red gin-shop appears;
"Tis the horrible light-house of hell,"

fairly describe the feelings of many towards the traffic; and if the lives of those who take an active part in temperance crusades are searched, it will be found that in nearly every case they have been special sufferers.

It will be admitted that if the evils of intemperance could be removed, much of the evil in the world would be removed.

How far prohibition has been a practical cure, or what is its effect, is one of the most difficult questions to determine, even by one who would gladly welcome prohibition.

Has the Hon. George W. Ross been a humbug? We fancy the Free Press would not say so, but for party purposes. Mr. Ross has been a consistent temperance man all his life. He has assisted in placing act after act upon the statute books which, if they did not wholly abolish the traffic, lessened it, and made such restrictions as forced it into respectable hands. He has been with those who kept up a steady trend in the direction of its abolition, and who after each attempt to curtail its ill effects camped nearer complete victory.

Look at London at the time of confederation, and look at it now. Hotels for travellers, use only remain now, in comparison with the varieties then in existence. All the outside hotels and saloons and grocery stores, selling liquor, have been abolished. On those that remain restrictions have been placed that secure, under inspection, the best service the public require. During that time George W. Ross did his whole duty, whether in or out of the house.

It is easy for the Free Press to taunt the Hon. Mr. Ross with failure to introduce prohibition. It speaks without responsibility. The Premier knows and feels he cannot speak or act without responsibility. He knows the good already accomplished. Should he place that in jeopardy? Will the ill endured by reason of intemperance the sooner disappear by a steady, persistent advance on the lines so far successful, or can one prohibitory act secure the release from them at once?

Remember that Canada is one of the most temperate countries in the world; remembering that Manitoba's law has been declared illegal; remembering the evils, the perjuries, the defiances of the law under the Scott act; seeing Ontario in an enviable position compared with the rest of the world—he wisely concluded to hold the good he has secured, to move on sure lines, to educate and lift up the people, and especially the young, by having them instructed in the schools on temperance, rather than risk the harm he might do by throwing all into confusion, perhaps similar to that going on in Kansas. Here the people respect the judges and the law. May the day never come when anyone will feel justified in advocating its enforcement with an axe.

The latest proposition is one for the treatment of pauper inebriates by municipalities, benevolent societies and individuals. It is an act drafted at the request of Mr. Ross, and has received the approval of the public health committee of the Ontario Medical Association; also of the Prisoners' Aid Association, the Canadian Medical Association, and most of the medical members of the Legislature. We may refer to it later.

It is one other proof that Mr. Ross believes in doing what good he can, even if he cannot do all the good he would like.

No, Mr. Ross has humbugged no

one; but in his life has done his full share with all his might, to ward off the blows from those who cannot help themselves. How many are sober who but for him and others like him would not have been so, no one can tell. Anxious, ardent prohibitionists, looking back, may think the progress slow; but they surely can look forward with hope, and feel it is their duty to protect and improve what they have. The Free Press may throw its jeers in some other direction. They cannot hurt Mr. Ross in the estimation of the people, who know the good he has done.

Evidences of Prosperity.

Ten years ago Canada's exports of wheat, flour, oats, oatmeal, peas, cattle, cheese, butter, eggs, apples, sheep, lambs, pork, bacon and hams were valued at \$24,000,000. Last year our exports in these same lines were valued at \$72,000,000. Here was an increase of 300 per cent. But the limit is not yet reached. The total British imports in the articles named last year amounted to \$446,000,000. I do not see any reason why, without any great increase in population, but with an improvement in our transportation facilities, we should not reach the \$200,000,000 mark in the export of these same products within ten years; and I hope to be here then to congratulate this committee on the accomplishment.—Prof. Robertson, before the committee of agriculture of the House of Commons, Thursday, March 7, 1901.

H. H. Cook and the Senate.

During the last general Dominion election contest, the Opposition, through Mr. H. H. Cook, ex-M.P., exploded what was advertised and advertised as a bomb-shell. The gentleman named alleged he could prove that he had been willing to pay \$10,000, he could have received a Senatorship. Much was made of the charge in Opposition journals; but the political effect was not all that was anticipated, as Sir Wilfrid Laurier promptly and absolutely denied there was a vestige of truth in the assertion so far as he knew and believed, and he challenged Mr. Cook to tell in the light of day everything he pretended to know, and to produce his proofs.

Thus challenged, Mr. Cook remained silent as an oyster, and the public drew their own conclusions.

Now, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, on behalf of the politically hostile Senate majority, moves for a committee to inquire into Mr. Cook's allegations. In reply, the Senate leader, Hon. David Mills, contended strongly that it was a most improper motion as it stood, namely, the asking of a fishing committee, on the mere assertion of a man who, when challenged to prove his statements, ran away. Mr. Mills went further, and said that if Sir Mackenzie Bowell would take the responsibility of making the charge, the committee would be at once granted; but not on a mere statement that he had "been informed and credibly believed" something or other.

For 30 years and more, the Conservative Senate majority has never hesitated to show its partisan unfairness, and it was so in this case. The motion for the fishing committee was carried.

One exhibition more or less of the Senate majority's partisanship is neither here nor there, and the fishing committee can be left to take care of itself. The point of interest lies in the figures of the vote—34 to 30. It is but a short time since the total number of Liberal Senators could be almost counted on the fingers of both hands, and seldom did any Liberal measure receive fair play. The Opposition were, so to speak, in power, in a certain sense, through the Senate, in their opportunity to mutilate Liberal legislation, as much while Alexander MacKenzie was Premier as when Sir John Macdonald was Premier, and as much when Sir Wilfrid Laurier is First Minister as when Sir Mackenzie Bowell was First Minister. So long as such a state of things existed, Canada could not be truly called a constitutionally-governed country.

But deliverance at length is near at hand, as shown by the reduction of the partisan Senate's power down to a bare majority of 34 votes to 30. It will not be long before the present Senate majority will lose its power to spoil Liberal legislation and thereby block the progress of the Dominion.

Today is the 1,945th anniversary of the death of Julius Caesar, the great Roman general and statesman. He was assassinated in the senate house by Brutus. The foreboding warning of the Roman soothsayer, "Beware the Ides of March," has from this historical incident become a stereotyped expression in our language for the premonition of anything of a mysterious character.

Great Britain's yearly gain in population at present is only 12.3 per 1,000, compared with 14.4 twenty years ago. It is supposed to be due to a falling off in the birth rate. Might not the fact that Canada and the other colonies are holding out brighter inducements for emigration from the mother country also have something to do with the decreased yearly gain?

A Just Alarm.

(Springfield Republican.) Andrew Carnegie's library gifts for the week foot up about \$100,000. But his income for the week, according to the steel trust's valuation of his steel properties alone, must have been about \$400,000. The great Scotchman's progress away from the danger of the disgrace of dying rich is so painfully slow that the country is justly becoming alarmed.

KITCHENER
STUDIOUSLY
SILENT!

Nothing Definite Yet Accomplished in the Negotiations for Peace.

Cape Town Fighting the Plague—Boers Still Active—French's Recent Successes—Powell's Police.

KITCHENER STUDIOUSLY SILENT.

London, March 15.—A dispatch from Lord Kitchener is so studiously silent upon the subject of the peace negotiations that it leads to the conclusion that nothing has yet been accomplished of a sufficiently definite character to justify lending official support to the view that the war is over. Nor do Gen. French's movements indicate a cessation of hostilities, although possibly, as no date is given, his captures were made previous to the granting of the armistice.

Lord Kitchener's dispatch, which is dated at Pretoria yesterday evening, reads as follows:

"Dewet has reached Senekal on his northward progress. 'French, in addition to his previous successes, reports 46 killed or wounded, 146 taken prisoners and surrendered, with 200 rifles, 3,700 rounds of ammunition, 2,400 horses, 2,500 cattle and 400 wagons and carts, besides mules and trek oxen. 'Methuen arrived at Warrenton, from Klerksdorp, bringing in prisoners and cattle. 'The weather is wet, delaying the movements of the columns.' WIRELESS CUT.

Cape Town, March 15.—The Boers having cut the wires, telegraphic communication between the eastern provinces and Natal is interrupted.

FIGHTING THE PLAGUE. London, March 15.—A Cape Town dispatch says: Owing to the increasing gravity of the outbreak of bubonic plague in Cape Colony the authorities here propose confining the soldiers to camps and barracks. The number of European cases is increasing, four having been officially reported today. In addition to these there were eight colored cases reported. Thus far there have been 37 deaths all told. Wholesale inoculation was begun in Cape Town today, and 2,000 natives were treated. The plague has made its appearance at Malmesbury, Cape Colony.

BOERS ARE ACTIVE.

Cape Town, March 14.—The prime minister reports that a small commando in Namaqualand has taken possession of Warm Holes, in the vicinity of Namies. The Boer patrols are active, but there has been no offensive movement in that part of the country since the raid in Fella. The western districts are practically clear of Boers. There is a certain amount of movement by isolated bodies near Douglas and across the Orange River drifts, between Hopetown and Colesberg. The Albany district has been reported to be quite clear of Boers, who are making for the little Fish River station in Beaufort, which is strongly garrisoned. Reports have been received of a commando northeast of Adelaide. The main commando is northwest of that place, Gen. De Lisle and Col. Goringe are in the neighborhood of these commandos. The Boers are being vigorously pursued. All precautions have been taken to prevent their further advance.

ARMED NATIVES CAPTURED.

Pretoria, March 14.—The Gordon Highlanders brought into the city yesterday 23 natives armed with rifles, and carrying bandoliers filled with cartridges. The force will be sent to Bushmen Scouts at Pinaar's River, where they were making in the direction of Pietersburg.

TERMS OF SETTLEMENT.

London, March 14.—It is now reported that as the basis of the settlement of the South African question the Rand mines, the Association of the Chambers of Commerce, after alluding to the 'unity of parties during the many months of struggle from which England is suffering with her strength unimpaired,' referred to trade questions. 'I do not find,' said the premier, 'that the spectre of Germany has affected our commercial world, although a despondent feeling exists. But I trust we shall take such warnings as they may be real, and give our whole attention to meeting any dangers that might be pressing upon us. I do not largely believe in the decadence of the English commerce, but if it is true, it is possibly due to parliament, which meddles too much.'

POWELL'S POLICE.

Durban, March 14.—General Baden-Powell's police force is getting into shape. It is organized on new and untrammelled lines. The men are hardy and capable. Forts will be built in the best situations capable of resistance. The force will be complete in itself, and will receive no extraneous aid from the other army departments.

CANADIAN WOUNDED.

Ottawa, March 14.—His excellency yesterday received the following cable from the governor of Cape Colony: 'March 12.—Sergeant Spicer, Canadian Scouts, late Canadian Dragoons, slightly wounded in accident Feb. 25.'

SUICIDES OF SOLDIERS.

San Juan, Porto Rico, March 14.—Two members of the Porto Rican Regiment, Beltran and Arroyo, committed suicide today. Beltran had been reprimanded by an officer for untidiness and ordered to do kitchen duty. He went to the quarters and blew off the top of his head with his rifle. While the body of Beltran was being buried, Arroyo, who was a close friend of Beltran, killed himself in the same way.

Not New.

Don't think our Vapo-Cresolene is something new, for it isn't. For more than twenty years it has been extensively used for all forms of bronchial and throat trouble. Mrs. Ballington Booth said of it, years ago, that "No family where there are young children should be without Vapo-Cresolene." You breathe-in the vapor, it goes all through the bronchial tubes, soothing, healing, curing. It's pleasant, safe, economical. 18 Vapo-Cresolene is sold by druggists everywhere. The Vaporizer and Lamp, which would last a lifetime, and a bottle of Cresolene complete, 25¢; extra supplies of Cresolene 25¢ and 50¢; illustrated booklet containing physicians' testimonials free upon request. Vapo-Cresolene Co., 130 Fulton St., New York, U.S.A.

THE RUNIANS-GRAY CO

208, 210, 210½, 212 DUNDAS STREET, LONDON, ONT.

SATURDAY
EVENING

From 7:00 to 9:30 Saturday evening the following list is to the fore. The ring of genuineness sounds from every item:

270 yards of a goods called Pigtail Tweed. It is a wash fabric and is suitable for shirt waists, ladies' and children's dresses, aprons, shirts (men's and boys'), blue only and fast dye. The regular price is 12½¢. Saturday evening, per yard.... 6¢

250 yards of Hamburg Insertion, good quality, regular price 8¢ and 10¢. Saturday evening, per yard..... 5¢

12 only, Ladies' White Gowns, trimmed with tucks and embroidery, regular price 75¢. Saturday evening..... 59¢

48 pairs Ladies' Kid Gloves, in blue and dark red, extra quality, regular price 75¢ per pair. Saturday evening..... 49¢

25 Papereries, good quality paper, regular price 15¢. Saturday evening..... 9¢

95 yards of Striped Wash Silks, 20 inches wide, in green, navy and cardinal, with white stripes, regular price 35¢ to 50¢. Saturday evening, per yard..... 18¢

125 yards Black Figured Lustres, good quality, 36 inches wide, small bright designs, regular price 25¢. Saturday evening, per yard... 18¢

98 yards Plain and Striped Velvets, in rose, pink, castor, bronze myrtle; also navy and black shot effects; regular price 25¢, 35¢ and 50¢. Saturday evening, per yard..... 18¢

10 pounds Redpath's Standard granulated Sugar and 25 pounds best Daisy Family Flour. Saturday evening for..... \$1.00

75 only, Men's Extra Heavy Unlaundered Shirts, continuous facings and Linen Bosoms, regular value 45¢, all sizes. Saturday evening..... 29¢

Men's Working Pants, all sizes, strong tweeds, neat patterns, top and corner pockets, regular \$1 and \$1.15. Saturday evening..... 75¢

36 pairs only, Men's buff, whole-foxed, riveted sole, laced Boots, rounds and medium toe, all sizes, regular \$1.35. Saturday evening... 99¢

same fashion. There have been seven suicides in the native regiment during the last six months.

GENERAL CABLE NOTES

Premier Salisbury Speaks on British Trade—Army Reform Measure Criticised—Strained Relations Between Russia and Japan—Will Shake Up the Sultan.

ARMY REFORM CRITICISED.

London, March 14.—In the House of Commons today the leaders of the opposition searchingly criticised the government's proposals for the increase and reform of the army.

PREMIER ON TRADE.

London, March 14.—Lord Salisbury, speaking last evening at the annual banquet of the Association of the Chambers of Commerce, after alluding to the 'unity of parties during the many months of struggle from which England is suffering with her strength unimpaired,' referred to trade questions. 'I do not find,' said the premier, 'that the spectre of Germany has affected our commercial world, although a despondent feeling exists. But I trust we shall take such warnings as they may be real, and give our whole attention to meeting any dangers that might be pressing upon us. I do not largely believe in the decadence of the English commerce, but if it is true, it is possibly due to parliament, which meddles too much.'

TO SHAKE UP THE SULTAN.

New York, March 14.—A special from Washington says: The cruiser New York will stop at Tangiers on the way to Manila and take on board Consul-General Gummer, who will be conveyed to the nearest port to the Moroccan capital. The consul-general is to demand that the sultan settle the claims of American citizens against his government. The New York will await the return of the consul-general.

SIR FRANCIS COOK'S WILL.

London, March 14.—By the terms of the will of the late Sir Francis Cook, all the estate in Portugal and two-thirds of the other property go to the oldest son, Francis, by the testator's first wife, and the remaining third goes to his son, Wyndham. Lady Cook receives £25,000, and the income for life from an investment of £50,000. The testator's daughter and her issue receive £25,000 and the income for life from the investment of £100,000. The collection of pictures is left in trust for the eldest son and heirs, as though entailed. There are no charitable bequests.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

London, March 14.—The Daily News declares that owing to the Manchurian convention the relations between Russia and Japan have become very strained and that war seems not only possible but probable.

WILL CONSIDER PROPOSALS.

London, March 14.—Answering a question in the House of Commons, Lord Cranborne said no steps had been taken by his majesty's government to revise the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, but the government would be ready to consider, in a friendly way, any proposals made toward that object by the United States.

300 VESSELS SEIZED.

Mahila, March 14.—The rebel trading operations in the Mascarene Islands have been effectually broken up.

Colored Cotton Fabrics

We undernote three special lines to which we have made large additions this week. We venture to say that they suggest a need in every household.

ENGLISH OXFORDS

3 special lines best English Oxford Shirtings, neat checks and fancy stripes, colors perfectly fast. At, per yard,

10C, 12½C, 15C

ENGLISH GALATEAS

An exceptionally fine range, specially suitable for boys' summer suits and blouses, plain and fancy stripes, in blue cardinal and white, colors perfectly fast. At, per yard,

12½C, 15C, 20C, 25C, 30C

SCOTCH GINGHAMS

728 yards best Scotch Gingham, in pink, green, blue, cardinal and black, fast colors, fine cloth, regular price 20¢, 25¢ and 30¢. Special to clear

15C

White Cotton Fabrics

A magnificent range in these goods. They embrace from the yard wide steam loom at 5¢, up to the fine sheer English Organdies. We specify a few lines today:

MADAPOLUM CLOTHS

This fine English Cotton, so suitable for ladies' and children's fine underwear, we show in five qualities. It is full 36 inches wide, soft and very even texture. Special value at

12½C, 15C, 18C, 22C, 30C

PERSIAN LAWN

This sheer filmy fabric, so popular for summer wear, we carry a full range. Special value at

12½C, 15C, 20C, 25C, 35C, 40C

FRENCH DIMITIES

In small fine cords, checks and stripes. Special value at

15C, 19C, 22C, 25C, 35C

INDIA LINENS

These goods, so good an imitation of the real Irish Linen, and almost its equal in wear, we are offering special at, per yard,

12½C, 15C, 17C, 20C, 25C, 35C

HER CLOTHING

IN FLAMES,

A Montreal Woman Rushes Into the Street—Died From Her Injuries.

Montreal, Quebec, March 14.—Mrs. Geo. A. Browning, wife of a commission merchant residing on Burnside street, set her clothes on fire last night and ran into the street in flames. Two students who were passing took off their overcoats and put out the fire, but the woman was so badly burned that she died on the way to the hospital in the ambulance. She was alone in the house at the time of the accident, and it is supposed that she set her clothes on fire while lighting a gas jet.

Fluttering of the Heart
For Twelve Years.

People all over the universe are troubled with fluttering, throbbing and palpitating hearts.

Causing sleeplessness, weakness, nervousness, faint and dizzy spells.

Here is what one lady writes us:

SAULT STE MARIE,

Jan. 9th, 1901.

THE T. MILBURN CO., LTD.,

Toronto, Ont.

"I take great pleasure in endorsing Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. I was troubled for twelve long years with my heart fluttering. I was also very nervous and could not sleep.

I tried numerous remedies but found them of little or no use. I saw that Milburn's Pills were good for my trouble so procured two boxes.

I could not do my own work before I commenced taking them, but now I am perfectly cured and cannot recommend them too highly."

MRS. M. A. WYANT.

CITY BINDERY

Blank Books—any kind made to order. Periodicals, Art Works, Music, Bibles etc., bound any style desired. Also repairing.

H. P. BOCK,

346½ Richmond Street, London, Ont.