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LONDON, FRIDAY, AUG. 19.

SIR WILFRID AT VANCOUVER.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been won-
 derfully welcomed in British Colum-
 bia, a province which rejected all but
 one of his supporters in the last elec-
 tion, during a wave of anti-Japanese
 feeling, which has since subsided. His
 opponents should have no desire to re-
 call the events of 1908. A telegram
 from Mr. Borden on the eve of the
 election was falsified in Vancouver so
 as to represent him as an advocate of
 the total and immediate exclusion of
 Orientals. This assumption, however,
 governed the whole campaign against
 the Government, and was not discor-
 aged by the leader of the Opposition
 as it ought to have been. Sir Wil-
 frid's statesmanlike solution of the
 problem had not then had time to
 demonstrate its effectiveness, but to-
 day his policy stands vindicated by
 experience. When he tells a Van-
 couver audience that the Tokio Gov-
 ernment has fully and honorably main-
 tained its agreement to limit Japan-
 ese emigration to Canada to 400 souls
 a year, his enemies can make no re-
 ply. It is safe to predict that little
 will be heard of the Japanese ques-
 tion in the next election.

Sir Wilfrid at Vancouver dwelt
 enthusiastically on the future of the
 province in relation to the growing
 trade of the Orient. No portion of the
 western world is in so favorable a
 position as British Columbia to profit
 by the commerce of China and Japan,
 but these opportunities would have
 been seriously curtailed if the Canadian
 Government had not approached Japan
 in a friendly spirit. Happily this
 country obtained its end without for-
 feiting such an asset as the goodwill
 of the Tokio Government, and it show-
 ed at the same time a regard for
 Great Britain's delicate position as
 the ally of Japan, which won the ad-
 miring gratitude of the British Gov-
 ernment. This imperial side of the
 question was one which the fomenters
 of the anti-Japanese agitation entirely
 ignored. In refusing to pander to that
 agitation, the Laurier Government
 placed high national and imperial in-
 terests above its own interests for the
 moment. Today Sir Wilfrid can look
 the people of British Columbia in the
 face and tell them that he took the
 proper course, although the majority
 of them refused to follow him. Moral
 courage always pays in the long run,
 in politics as in other spheres. The
 Government is stronger today in the
 Coast Province than it would have
 been had it sacrificed justice and
 right to the exigencies of an election.

IRELAND'S BRIGHTER OUTLOOK.

The statement of Mr. Birrell, chief
 secretary for Ireland, that the popula-
 tion of the Emerald Isle had in-
 creased by one hundred and fifteen
 souls in the year 1908-9 is more sig-
 nificant than appears at a glance.

Since the dread visitation of the
 famine in 1845, that country has been
 steadily losing population, not because
 of a failure of births, for the Irish are
 a most prolific people, but because of
 immigration, due to politico-economic
 causes.

It was in 1800 that the Act of Union
 was passed. In the year following
 Ireland's population was 5,216,000,
 while that of England and Wales was
 only 8,892,000. Until the year of the
 famine Ireland continued to increase
 in population, but failed to increase
 in prosperity at the rate of the other
 divisions of the United Kingdom. In
 1841, the year of the last decennial
 census of Great Britain before the
 Irish famine, the populations of the
 three countries were as follows: Eng-
 land and Wales, 16,038,000; Scotland,
 2,860,000; Ireland, 8,195,000. It is be-
 lieved that in 1845, when the Irish
 famine began, the population of Ire-
 land was considerably above nine
 millions.

The famine made awful ravages,
 but the loss of life was less than
 the loss of population through emigra-
 tion. The famine ceased, but the
 emigration continued, and Ireland be-
 came, as Macaulay expressed it, "the
 withered arm of the Empire." In 1851
 the population was 6,552,000; in 1861,
 5,800,000; in 1871, 5,387,000; in 1881,
 5,160,000, or less than at the begin-
 ning of the century. In 1901 it had
 shrunk to 4,458,755. Meanwhile the
 population of Scotland had risen to
 4,472,103, and that of England and
 Wales to 32,527,842. In 1902-3 the
 loss of population in Ireland was
 about 18,000. In 1903 came the enact-
 ment of the Wyndham land purchase
 annual loss was, successively, 11,000,
 11,000, 11,000 and 6,000. The year
 1904-5, though almost

sequently may be regarded as a red-
 letter year in Irish history.

With the improved conditions in the
 country, due mainly to the operation
 of wise land laws which enable the
 agricultural laborer to become his
 own landlord, there is reason to hope
 that the days of decline are past, and
 that a new and brighter era has
 dawned.

THE COMING OPIUM CONFERENCE.

An important international con-
 ference is to be held at The Hague
 shortly, when delegates representing
 the powers having direct interest in
 the Orient will assemble for the pur-
 pose of grappling with the opium evil.
 As a result of the conference it is
 hoped that laws directed against the
 opium traffic will be formulated and
 incorporated in the rapidly growing
 international code, and that the senti-
 ment of nations will be so crystal-
 lized that what heretofore has been
 considered a legitimate trade in the
 drug will be regarded as an actual
 crime.

The returns of the imperial maritime
 customs of China on the importation
 of opium show that last year, in spite
 of the Sino-British abolition agree-
 ment, about 100,000 pounds of Indian
 opium were imported in excess of the
 6,300,000 pounds of the previous year.
 There are few Englishmen in China
 who are not interested directly or in-
 directly in the sale of opium. The
 millions of pounds which British sub-
 jects derive from the sale to China not
 only benefit the people of India who
 grow the poppy, but the traders who
 take it there. The money also en-
 riches British steamship companies,
 merchants in every other branch of
 trade, and owners of property in British
 ports. It also benefits in some
 way almost every Britisher who makes
 a living in the open ports of China,
 and there are few of them who will
 not suffer to some extent if the traf-
 fic is stopped. It is these facts which
 make the problem so difficult of solu-
 tion.

It would seem that in voluntarily
 agreeing to a reduction of one-tenth
 of the importation of Indian opium
 to China, Great Britain has not ac-
 complished the object desired, for the
 Chinese foreign office declares that the
 importation of Turkish and Persian
 opiums, which China has the right by
 treaty to prohibit, are replacing Indian
 shipments.

Meanwhile the United States Gov-
 ernment feels a great responsibility in
 this matter, for not only is the opium
 vice spreading in the Philippines, but
 in the republic itself the use of the
 drug has reached alarming proportions.
 Dr. Hamilton Wright, the state de-
 partment expert, estimates that at
 least 68,000 pounds of smoking opium
 are consumed by white people in the
 United States in a year. The American
 smoker, this authority tells us, is
 largely of the outlaw classes, frequen-
 tly in jail or workhouse, and, therefore,
 smokes only when free and in funds.
 His per annum consumption is never
 as large as that of the heavy Chinese
 smoker. Dr. Wright adds that there
 are at least 150,000 Americans who
 are victims of the habit. But for the
 law passed by Congress some years
 ago prohibiting the importation of
 manufactured opium, conditions would
 be far worse than they are. A most
 unfortunate phase of the habit of
 opium smoking in the United States
 is the large number of women in the
 towns and cities who have become in-
 volved as a result of their association
 with Chinese. The opium is smuggled
 into the country at Pacific ports.

In the political history of Canada,
 there has been nothing equal to the
 series of demonstrations attending Sir
 Wilfrid Laurier's progress in the west.

The Emperor Francis Joseph of
 Austria was 80 years old yesterday.
 His longevity is amazing, considering
 the burden of political and domestic
 trouble he has had to carry since his
 early youth.

The Conservative Premier of British
 Columbia organized the Laurier re-
 ception in Victoria. Mr. McBride will
 lose nothing by this chivalry, and he
 has set an example which rival poli-
 ticians should follow.

Reports of labor conditions in Japan
 show that that country is going
 through the industrial phase which
 England passed through before the era
 of the factory acts. The so-called
 progress of Japan is of the juggen-
 naut kind.

Canada got 127,000 and the United
 States 172,000 of the emigrants from
 Europe in the past seven months. Re-
 lative to population, this is nearly ten
 to one in Canada's favor. The diges-
 tive powers of the Republic were never
 taxed as Canada's are being.

TRUE AND TERSE.

[Vancouver World.]
 The advertising department has come
 to agree with Shakespeare. A lady's
 name was brought in by an honest man
 the other day. He had found it and
 wished it advertised. It contained some bits
 of lace, some rusty keys, some powder
 papers for the face, some recipes. The
 paper contained some chewing gum, some
 wilted cuffs, some vagrant pins and also
 some discarded puffs. Shakespeare's claim
 is true and terse. "It is far from rash to
 say that he who steals one's purse steals
 only trash."

A TOAST TO LAUGHTER.

[Life.]
 Here's to laughter, the sunshine of the
 soul, the happiness of the heart, the
 heaven of youth, the privilege of purity,
 the echo of innocence, the treasure of
 the humble, the wealth of the poor, the
 head of the cup of pleasure.
 It dispels dejection, banishes blues and
 mangles melancholy, for it is the foe of
 woe, the destroyer of depression, the
 enemy of grief.
 It is what kings envy the peasant,
 plutocrats envy the poor, the guilty envy
 the innocent.
 It is the sheen on the silver of smiles,

the ripple on the water's delight, the
 glint of the gold of gladness.

Without it humor would be dumb, wit
 would wither, dimples would disappear
 and smiles would shrivel.

For it is the glow of a clean conscience,
 the voice of a pure soul, the birth cry of
 mirth, the swan song of sadness.

BETTER THAN THE "MAPLE LEAF."

[Edmonton Capital.]
 When the band struck up "O Canada" on
 the arrival of Sir Wilfrid at the C. N.
 R. station on Monday night, who could
 help feeling a genuine thrill? We have in
 it a national air that there is every reason
 to be proud of, and on every public
 occasion of this character it should be
 heard. Beside "O Canada," "The Maple
 Leaf" is cheap and tawdry. Moreover,
 when in the greater part of Canada the
 maple leaf is unknown, a song with this
 theme is hardly what is required.

NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED.

[Illustrated Bits.]
 Stella—Is she in her declining years?
 Bella—No, her accepting ones.

PRICELESS WIFE.

[Harper's Weekly.]
 Many delicate compliments have been
 paid the fair sex by men subtle in speech,
 but the following comes straight from the
 heart of an illiterate negro, who was
 married in the South the other day by a
 white minister. At the conclusion of the
 marriage, the bridegroom asked the price
 of the service.
 "Oh, well," answered the minister, "you
 can pay me whatever you think it is
 worth to you."
 The negro turned and silently looked
 his bride over from head to foot, then,
 slowly rolling up the whites of his eyes,
 said:
 "Lawd, snah, you has ruined me for
 life; you has, for sure."

NOTHING NEW.

[Harper's Bazaar.]
 Stella—You can now hear heart pulsa-
 tion.
 Bella—That's nothing. I've always heard
 them when Cholly calls up.

PROBLEM IN HISTORY.

"Who signed magna charta?"
 Thus roared the school inspector thun-
 derously.

The class sat mute.

"Who signed magna charta?" roared
 the inspector again.

"Please, sir," wailed a small boy, "it
 was Bill Smith, it wasn't me."
 The inspector snorted. The class was
 the most ignorant it had ever been his
 lot to examine. He strode from the room
 and outside met the Puddleslugh school
 mistress.

Angry, he narrated the last incident.

"Who'd I say said that?" queried
 the school mistress.

"William Smith," snorted the inspector.

"Bill Smith?" repeated the school marm.

"Then don't you believe him, sir. He's
 the biggest liar here. You take my word
 for it—he did it!"

ANATOMICAL SIDE OF GARDEN-ING.

[Life.]
 Corn has ears. Potatoes have eyes.
 Squashes have necks. Cucumbers have
 warts. Cabbages have heads. Celery has
 a heart. Wheat has a beard. Grapes
 have skin.

TOO MUCH FOR HIM.

[Buffalo Express.]
 "Why is the great mathematician weep-
 ing—nervous breakdown?"
 "You chargin' me? Tried to read the new
 railroad time table."

JUDGE AS A JOURNALIST.

[Nashville Banner.]
 Judge Alvin Duvall, chief judge of the
 Kentucky court of appeals, in company
 with Squire Johnson, a very large man—
 the judge being much smaller—once called
 at a political meeting in Lexington, which
 for lack of adequate advertisement was
 attended by themselves only. The dis-
 tinguished judge, possessing a fund of
 quality humor, began to write a
 notice, reading aloud as he wrote: "At
 a large and respectable meeting held in
 this city yesterday—"

"Stop there a minute," Judge exclaimed.

"The squire in surprise. 'You wouldn't
 publish a notice that this was a large
 and respectable meeting?'"

"Why not?" quickly rejoined the judge.

"Are you not large and am I not re-
 spectable?"

ARTISTIC TEMPERAMENT.

[Ideas.]
 "I hear that your husband has gone
 to New York," said Mrs. Oldcastle.

"Yes," replied her hostess. "We found
 out one of them old masters we had in
 the gallery wasn't the real thing, and
 he's gone and he can't find some-
 thing else about the right size to fit in
 the place where it hung. Josiah is so
 artistic that he can't bear to see the
 gallery thrown out of proportion by hav-
 ing more pictures on one side than the
 other."

CURED.

[Philadelphia Star.]
 A man went into a druggist's shop and
 asked for something to cure a headache.
 The druggist held a bottle of hartshorn
 to his nose, and he was nearly over-
 powered by its pungency. As soon as he
 recovered he began to rail at the druggist
 and threatened to punch his head.
 "But didn't it ease your headache?"
 asked the apothecary.

"Ease my headache?" gasped the man.

"I haven't got any headache! It's my
 wife that's got the headache."

THE PROPER IMPERIALISM.

[For a Few.]
 It was Laurier who introduced the prin-
 ciple of the British preference, which
 has now become a fixed part of the tariff
 legislation of all the daughter nations.

It was Laurier who sent Canadian
 troops to the aid of the mother land in
 her hour of need.

It was Laurier who first entered upon
 the policy of relieving the mother coun-
 try of the burden of the defense of Can-
 ada, and it is Laurier, who, following up
 that idea, has now secured the birth of
 a Canadian section of the imperial navy.

The difficulty seems to be that our
 Conservative friends on both sides of the
 Atlantic fail to realize that there are two
 forms of imperialism—one which would
 make Canadian interests secondary to
 those of Great Britain; the other that
 which places Canadian interests first.

always, however, with the view of co-
 operating with the mother country, and
 retaining that free partnership which is
 the glory and the pride of the British
 Empire. The Conservatives belong to the
 school which would place British inter-
 ests first; Laurier places Canadian inter-
 ests first.

And in doing this we believe Sir Wilfrid
 voices Canadian sentiment much more
 rightly than do those who are thus com-
 bining to misrepresent him both in Eng-
 land and in Canada.

A CONSERVATIVE TRIBUTE.

[Edmonton Capital.]
 No one can doubt that Sir Wilfrid's
 tour throughout the west, with the op-
 portunity which it affords so many new
 corners of hearing him for the first time,
 will add greatly to his personal prestige.
 It is bound to help the party of which
 he is the head. But most important of
 all, it accomplishes a work of the broad-
 est national importance. He is the great-
 est unifying force in the Dominion today,
 and it is to be sincerely hoped that he
 may be spared long years to carry on
 his great work.

UNCRATEFUL MAN GOT THREE YEARS.

Came With Wife's Money to Get
 New Start and Married
 Another.

Toronto, Aug. 19.—"There are too
 many Englishmen having wives in
 England coming to Canada posing as
 single men, marrying again and let-
 ting their families and wives in Eng-
 land look after themselves. This is a
 very bad case, and you will go to the
 penitentiary for three years."

Magistrate Denison, in the police
 court this morning, thus addressed
 George H. Ruff, who had pleaded
 guilty to a charge of bigamy.

Ruff left his five-year-old wife and
 his wife, Edith Mary Ruff, followed
 him to Canada recently. When she
 traced him to Toronto, she found he
 was married to a woman named Sarah
 Graham.

In the dock this morning Ruff said
 he came to Canada on the money his
 wife gave him. He claimed he re-
 ceived a letter from her to the effect
 that she had thrown him over, and
 that he could do anything he desired,
 as long as he kept away from her.
 He also accused her of keeping com-
 pany with another man.

Edith Mary Ruff, in the witness box,
 said her husband would not work in
 England, and after she lost her house
 and furniture, she gave him the re-
 mainder of her money to try and make
 a new start in Canada. For some
 time they had corresponded, but re-
 cently her letters had not been an-
 swered. She admitted knowing an-
 other man in England, but swore
 there was no improper relations be-
 tween them.

"Have you seen Ruff recently?" asked
 Colonel Denison.

"Yes, about a week ago. He did not
 want to see me, or have anything to
 do with me." The witness concluded
 her evidence by saying that they had
 been married seven years, and had one
 child, a son, named Ruff.

Sarah Graham, whom Ruff married,
 a year ago last October, was not cal-
 led upon to give evidence. On being
 sentenced Ruff did not show any signs
 of emotion, and slightly turning his
 head to look at his first wife, he quietly
 walked down the stairs to the cells.

BARONESS VAUGHAN WEDS.

Widow of Late King Leopold Becomes
 Bride of Frenchman.

Paris, Aug. 18.—The marriage of
 Baroness Vaughan, widow of King
 Leopold, to Emmanuel Durieux, a re-
 tired merchant, took place at 6:30
 this morning at Arronville, near Bal-
 incourt, the residence of the baroness.

The early hour did not save the couple
 from the photographers, who were
 ambushed in the Mairie, where the
 civil ceremony took place, and who
 nearly filled the church where the re-
 ligious functions immediately fol-
 lowed.

The baroness wore a black dress,
 purple hat and a thick veil. She and
 M. Durieux tried to baffle the camera
 by holding handkerchiefs to their
 faces. They were intensely annoyed to
 find that their attempts at secrecy had
 failed.

Both ceremonies were cut as short
 as possible, and were completed in
 fifteen minutes.

M. Durieux donated \$100 to the poor.

TOLL OF THE CHOLERA.

One Hundred Thousand Die in Russia
 Since First of Year.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 19.—One week's
 cholera record for Russia shows 27,
 944 new cases of cholera and 10,725
 deaths, bringing the total number of
 cases in Russia this year to 112,955.
 Of these 50,287, or nearly half, have
 died, the exact percentage of mortality
 being 44.5.

The figures are those furnished by
 the sanitary bureau covering the week
 from Aug. 7 to Aug. 13, inclusive, and
 are therefore fully official. Reports
 from Red Cross sources indicate that
 the actual figures are somewhat greater,
 as it is impossible to register every
 case in an epidemic of such propor-
 tions.

Of the deaths last week 1,678 were
 reported from the district of the Don
 Cossacks, 1,057 from the district of the
 Kuban Cossacks, 1,018 in Yekaterino-
 slav Province, 759 in Samara Prov-
 ince, 416 in Voronezh, 411 in the
 Terek Cossack district, 352 in Kher-
 son Province, 334 in the Crimea (where
 Russians resort for the summer
 months), 332 in Tambov Province, and
 325 in Stavropol.

FORMER LONDON LADY DIED IN MICHIGAN.

Death of Mrs. Margaret Laird Wilson
 in Grand Haven.

The Grand Haven, Mich., Daily
 Tribune says: Mrs. Margaret Laird
 Wilson passed away suddenly. Mon-
 day afternoon, Aug. 15, at her home,
 1139 Washington avenue, this city.

Margaret Laird, daughter of Robert
 and Mary Laird, was born at Burford,
 Canada, just 70 years ago. In 1876
 occurred her marriage to Mr. J. G.
 Wilson, and with one son, Ralph, and
 a sister, Mrs. Netta Stanford, of Mid-
 dleville, Mich., survive her. Previous
 to her removal to Chicago, eight years
 ago, and to Grand Haven a year later,
 Mrs. Wilson had for more than twenty
 years been resident in London,
 Ont., where as here and elsewhere her
 many warm friends attest her sterling
 worth. The funeral took place on
 Thursday.

STOLE FROM THE B. AND M.
 Boston, Aug. 19.—Wholesale thefts
 of woollen cloth in the Boston and

CHAPMAN'S Annual Sale of Men's Black and Navy Suits

This is an annual event with us, and always creates great interest, and so it should, for the
 marked reduction in prices is patent to all. Hard pressed for room for fall stock, we are com-
 pelled to get rid of all unseasonable clothing, hence the substantial price-cutting we quote here.
 See our West Window for Clothing Display.

MEN'S BLACK AND NAVY SUITS, in sizes from 34 to 42, of fine all wool worsteds and
 chevots. These Suits are lined with the best available linings, and tailored most satisfactorily.
 We guarantee perfect fit. This sale embraces our entire stock of Black and Navy Suits, and
 should prove a splendid drawing-card for week-end selling.

All \$10.00 for \$7.95

All \$12.50 for \$9.95

All \$15.00 for \$11.95

All \$16.50 for \$12.95

All \$18.00 for \$14.95

Sale Saturday Morning Young Men's Suits at Half Price

Young Men's Fall Suits of fine worsteds,
 and tailored in the very latest style; three-
 button double-breasted sack style, sizes 33,
 34 and 35. There are only fifteen Suits in
 this lot, so be on hand early. Regular price
 \$13.50, for\$6.75

Black Sateen Petticoats Worth \$1.50 for 89c

Five dozen only Black Sateen Petticoats,
 deep flounce with frills, made of good quality
 English satin cloth, sizes 38, 40 and 42. Sat-
 urday for89c

Print Wrappers Regular \$1.25, \$1.50 for 79c

Fifteen dozen Print Wrappers, with deep
 flounce, waist lined with cambric, in neat
 patterns and good washable colors. Regular
 \$1.25 and \$1.50, Saturday for79c

August Sale of Dainty Whitewear

Ladies' White Cambric Petticoats, deep
 flounce, with cluster tucks, embroidery trim-
 ming. Saturday for69c

Ladies' White Cambric Petticoats, flounce
 with wide cluny lace and insertion. Regular
 \$1.25, for98c