

# London Advertiser

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LONDON, TUESDAY, DEC. 17.

## SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT ON OUR REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

In his just published "Reminiscences," the late Sir Richard Cartwright is rather hard on our present representative system of government. Many years before his death he had felt dissatisfaction with the under-representation of large minorities, as things are, and in the last year of his life he made at a dinner in Toronto a widely-noticed pronouncement in favor of a more proportional system.

In the "Reminiscences" he says: "We English-speaking people have made a fetish of our present system and appear to think that if you will only cut up a country or a province into equal divisions, and give every man, wise or ignorant, rich or poor, the right to vote, you have devised a machine which will give you automatically a perfect representation."

Sir Richard points out that in 1878, the year marked with black in the Liberal calendar, a year initiating eighteen years of opposition for the Liberal party, and of growing stagnation and exodus for Canada, the Conservatives had only 7,000 majority in Ontario of the popular vote, while they got 59 seats to the Liberals' 29. In the following Dominion elections, the figures for Ontario were:

Year.	Lib.	Con.
1882	131,367	133,797
1887	170,408	173,564
1891	177,354	173,407

These close elections of 1882 and 1887 gave Sir John Macdonald 14 to 18 majority of the Ontario constituencies; in 1891, he got 48 to 44, though only a minority of the electors was behind him. After 1881, of course, the gerrymander was working, along with other patent election devices of the old regime, to aggravate the vagaries of the representative system.

Sir Richard does not stop at showing how the system has worked against the Liberals. It was even more unfair to Conservatives in the Dominion election of 1904, as regards Nova Scotia. There 48,000 votes were polled for Liberal candidates, as against 40,000 for the Conservatives, but the Liberals got all 18 seats.

Sir Richard did not advocate an out-and-out proportional system as the remedy for such anomalies, recognizing that governments would ordinarily have an insufficient majority to carry on the administration. He proposes merely to do away with some of the more glaring anomalies, as they appear in our present system, bringing the complexion of parties in the Commons more nearly into harmony, though not exact harmony, with the numerical conditions of the constituencies. His method is to group our small constituencies by twos and threes into larger ridings, represented in Parliament by two or three members according to the vote.

A more proportional system, with larger ridings, will, as Sir Richard Cartwright thinks, operate to bring out candidates of "greater independence and ability, it being known that in a group constituency a man has a chance to get in even without a majority that is often determined by petty, local issues. Under the present system a few votes, a percentage of them venal, are apt to change the balance of party power in the constituency and in the country. The machine has to go after these "independent" votes with might and main. The party with the less efficient machine overwhelmed at election after election by only a narrow margin, of the popular vote, grows discouraged, and many of its best men refuse to run to more or less certain defeat.

As for the proportional scheme, Sir Richard is free to admit its tendency to bring about deadlocks. But the advantages would outweigh the disadvantages. For one thing, a government would be more inclined to bring down legislation to meet the will of Parliament, knowing its hold to be more precarious. A mechanical majority could not always be depended on to act as a steam roller. The tyranny of cabinet or caucus would be at least moderated.

Sir Richard's treatment of this subject is only one of many interesting subjects in his posthumous book. His views are not mere theory, as proportional representation has already been tried with success in various countries.

## THE BOARD OF CONTROL PROPOSAL.

The proposal of Ald. Richter, that London be governed by a board of control, working in conjunction with a board of aldermen, is one upon the principle of which the citizens have twice declared themselves. At one election the municipal electors voted on a plebiscite for a board of control for the city, and last year they stated their marked preference for a commission form of government.

At the time the first vote was taken the city had no power to establish a board of control, but the law has been

amended, so that any city of 45,000 or over may adopt this system. The commission form of government cannot be adopted by London or any other city at the present time because of the attitude of the Ontario Government.

Centralization of authority and better business administration are promised by the advocates of a board of control. The proposal is to apply to the city the system practiced by any bank or mercantile house. While each department may be separated in so far as operation is concerned, responsibility should be to the board of directors, or one governing body.

The establishment of a board of control in London would not mean the abolition of the aldermanic form of government. The council would be retained, though it would probably be reduced. All resolutions of the board of control would be considered at council meetings comprised of the aldermen, the mayor and the board of control. Each member would have an equal voting right.

The board of control members would consider all the business of the city relating to the expenditure of moneys. They would revise the estimates and pass on all contracts and tenders; they would have direct charge of all servants of the city, and would have the power of appointment or dismissal; they would deal with all bylaws to be submitted to the people. With tenders and other money matters there would have to be a two-thirds vote of the council before any board of control recommendation could be made of no effect. For instance, if the board of control recommended the awarding of a certain contract, the council could not change this decision in order to accept a higher tender without a two-thirds vote.

Another feature of the board of control idea would be the centralizing of the work distributed among a number of municipal bodies. At the present time, for instance, the water commission is able to undertake public works without any direction from the engineering department of the city. If the city desires to repair or pave a street, the commissioners may or may not order their men to lay water pipes in order that the city may not be held up. The case of Stanley street and Central avenue during the past summer were striking evidences of the need for centralized and direct control of all municipal work. The board of control would bring close attention upon all matters of this kind.

Again, the city has had legislation from its control certain funds paid to the hydro-electric commission. Any surplus brought about is turned over to the provincial authorities. The promoters of government by board of control believe that these matters should receive more light, and that they should be made a part of the city's general business.

The act for boards of control permits the payment of \$1,500 to each member, and it is believed that competent men who could spare some time almost daily for civic affairs would offer their services. The board would be a sort of civic clearing house, and would help to co-ordinate the several departments of municipal government, each of which is at present pretty much a law unto itself.

## THE FEDERAL SQUARE.

"The London Advertiser" now supports the federal square proposal. Two or three weeks ago the same newspaper opposed the scheme. Are debts being paid?—Free Press. The Advertiser has not published a word in opposition to the federal square project. On the contrary, it said "two or three weeks ago" that the scheme was one the citizens "should not relinquish." At that time ratepayers were faced by the prospect of voting on money bylaws in January to the extent of nearly \$2,000,000, and The Advertiser questioned whether they would in view of all these claims feel they could afford the federal square at the present time; but it expressed the hope that the Government would keep the offer open. The Advertiser has, of course, since denounced the attempt of the Minister of Militia to hold the federal square grant as a club over the school board. It looked very much as though the minister were looking for a pretext to withdraw his offer, and there is a likelihood that he will cancel it if they vote the bylaw down in January.

What does the Free Press mean by debts being paid? And what is its own opinion of the bylaws before the people, or is nothing of any account except the million-dollar electrification scheme?

## GENIUS.

[Nautilus.]  
A genius is a dreamer who has made, by force, his dreams come true; a god he seems.  
If he had failed in that which he assays,  
We'd call him, dreamer of distempored dreams.

## AN UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE.

[Washington Star.]  
Richard Harding Davis, during his Atlantic City honeymoon, said at a fish luncheon:

"I confess that I am not pleased with the modern trend of fiction. The newest fiction leaves a bad taste in the mouth. It is full of double entendre—like the parlor maid's remark, 'A gentleman came down to breakfast one morning with bloodshot eyes. He drank eight glasses of ice water hurriedly, then he muttered hoarsely to the pretty parlor maid: 'Tell me, Adele, did I reach home last night very much under the weather?' 'Indeed you did, sir,' the maid replied. 'Why, sir, you kissed the maid!'"

## NEW BALKAN STAMPS.

[Pall Mall Gazette.]  
If we may credit the Munchner Nachrichten, one outcome of the war will be some remarkable postage stamps. Preparations are being made, we are told, for the issue

by the allies, of stamps, the main feature of which will be the same in each of the Balkan States. This is a fiery cross encircled with the words, "In hoc signo vinces." The stamps of the different states will be distinguished by a view of the states—Athens on the Greek stamps, Sofia on the Bulgarian, Belgrade on the Serbian and Cetinje on the Montenegrin.

## THE INSANITARY BUCKET.

[Cleveland Plaindealer.]  
Jack and Jill went up the hill To fetch a pail of water.  
Twas full of germs and they used terms,  
Alas, they hadn't oughter.

## EXPRESSIVE IDIOM.

[Boston Transcript.]  
"Do you know any French?"  
"Yes, I can shrug my shoulders."

## A PREFERENCE.

[Detroit Free Press.]  
Rather take life with a smile,  
Rather face its cares and grin,  
Than go travelling all the while  
With a gloomy, downcast chin.

## ONLY WORDS.

[London Opinion.]  
The Agent—Then we'll consider that settled.  
The Actor—But—er—what about the contract?

The Agent—Oh, that's all right. A verbal contract'll do.  
The Actor—Ladlie, listen. The last time I had a verbal contract I drew a verbal salary?

## REASONABLE SUSPICION.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]  
"I don't know what to think of my husband."

"Why?"  
"He seems almost too good lately to be true. When I got him to help me rearrange some of the furniture yesterday he skinned his knuckles and didn't blame it on me."

## BURNS' RAZOR.

[Robert Burns' razor was sold at the opening of Christie's for \$100.—London Dispatch.]

Rah, who could scarcely hap yourself  
Frae wind and weather,  
Here's news about auld airm for you—  
Hech, here's a blether!

Power hunder shillins spended for  
Ae skinklin knife!  
Rabbie, 'twad bought a feck o' duds  
For weans and wifie!

Or sic a sum was abillins pay  
Grocer and miller—  
They never pay't you for your sangs  
Sae muckle siller!

The world's determined that the bard  
Shall no get vauntie;  
Whilist he's alive it hauds him down  
To parritch scanty.

Butt, when the maker's deld sae lang  
His banes are dusty,  
Gaes daft about some danged auld  
knife,  
A' red and rusty!

## THE PEACEMAKER.

[Puck.]  
Village Grocer—What are you running for, sonny?  
Boy—I'm tryin' to keep two fellers from fightin'.  
Village Grocer—Who are the fellows?  
Boy—Bill Perkins and me!

## EASIER.

[Houston Post.]  
"Now, if I can get some acquaintance to endorse my note—"  
"Better try some stranger."

## WHY NOT SAY THIS NOW?

[Ottawa Journal, Con., year ago.]  
England will make no further mistake in the old direction, but some of our own people want to make that old mistake by forcing on the rest of our people the idea of sending our taxes to England to be spent there.

And such a policy is as sure to produce the same old sort of fostering irritation among ourselves against the imperial tie. The Canadian navy would be a continually growing power, free from all obligation as regards imperial defence. Periodical Canadian contributions to the navy of England would not at all amount to shucks as an imperial asset in the long run, and would tend to stir up continual friction and turmoil in this country, and might ultimately lead us towards smashing British connection.

## FILL OUT THE COUPON SEND IT TO THE ARMY

Salvationists Ask the Citizens  
to Help Them in Their  
Charitable Work.

## COUPON

To the Chairman of the Relief  
Board, Salvation Army, 334  
Clarence street, London, Ont.  
I bring to your attention the  
needy case of:

Name .....

Address .....

And would be glad if the members of your League of Mercy would call.

Name of sender .....

Address .....

The above coupon can also be sent in by a member of any poor family needing assistance.

The Salvation Army in this city are meeting with much assistance with their plan to help all the needy of the city enjoy Christmas, and already a large number of the above coupons have been received by the chairman of the relief board, naming families deserving of donations.

All citizens who know of a case in which a family is in rather destitute circumstances are requested to fill in the coupon and send it to the Salvation Army.

## FIRE AT STRATFORD

Sixty Thousand Dollar Blaze at Building Company's Plant.  
[Canadian Press.]

Stratford, Dec. 17.—The Stratford Mill Building Company's plant was completely destroyed early this morning by fire of unknown origin. Loss, \$60,000 on building and equipment, besides \$15,000 in hour mill machinery stock ready for shipment. Partly covered by insurance.

## "YOU'LL SUFFER ALL YOUR LIFE"

That's what the Doctor told him

## "Fruit-a-tives" Cured Him

Chesterville, Ont., Jan. 25, 1911.  
"For over twenty years, I have been troubled with Kidney Disease, and the doctors told me they could do me no good, and that I would be a sufferer for the rest of my life."

"I doctored with different medical men and tried many advertised remedies, but none of them suited my case. 'Nearly a year ago, I tried 'Fruit-a-tives.' I have been using this fruit medicine nearly all the time since, and am glad to say that I am cured."

"I give 'Fruit-a-tives' the credit of doing what the doctors said was impossible."

"I am now 76 years old, and in first-class health."

"GEORGE W. BARKLEY."  
In all the world, there is no other remedy that has cured so many cases of so-called "incurable" kidney disease, as "Fruit-a-tives."

This famous fruit medicine acts directly on the kidneys—health and strengthening them—and ridding the system of the waste matter that poisons the blood.

Fifty cents a box, 6 for \$2.50; trial size, 25c. At dealers or sent on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives, Limited, Ottawa.

## BOARD OF CONTROL

Continued From Page One.

members of the council of which I have been a member have agreed.

"The four members of the board of control would have everything to do with the estimates for the year. They would look after all contracts and tenders, and they would have direct control of the different departments, with the power to appoint or dismiss any employee. The council could not, except on a two-thirds vote, dismiss the members of a board named by the board of control."

## Friends at Court.

"At the present time a contractor may have a friend on the council and may manage to get more money than he deserves, or should be given, from the city council. The board of control would be, or should be, of such a calibre as to check all this sort of thing. It would minimize the danger of graft, from which I am not sure our city has been free."

"The board of control would endeavor to centralize authority among the employees of the city. My own idea, as I have said, is to have one man in charge of the city engineer's department, the waterworks, the electrical department, and every other. Let me mix on the extreme folly of having everything in the city done in a piecemeal fashion, as at the present time."

## Two Disgraceful Streets.

"Citizens remember what a disgrace to the city Stanley street was this year. For months it was a positive danger to life and limb, and in addition a bad advertisement for the city. The city engineer was ready to go ahead with the work of fixing the street, but the water commissioners delayed the laying of pipes practically all summer. Threats or appeals had no effect. The same state of affairs was repeated along the north side of Central avenue, where a deep ditch was allowed by the water commissioners to remain open, with great piles of sand along the curb, for many weeks. The city engineer got the blame, but it was not his fault."

"A head engineer—and he would not increase the cost, but reduce it materially, with the rearrangement I have in mind—would have had these streets put in shape in no time, but when two departments are working at cross purposes, the city is, to use a slang term, 'the goat.' This board of control could absorb the duties of the water commission with no great difficulty, and the city would benefit."

The Good Roads Problem.  
"The board of control is the right sort of body to take up the problem of good roads. I have been investigating that problem for several years, and I can assure citizens that we can have good roads at reasonable cost as soon as the machinery is put into shape, and as soon as we start to conduct our city on businesslike principles. We need to seal up our streets and later on I would be glad to outline my idea. It cannot be done in a day, but in five years with proper control we should be able to be on our way to an era of the finest streets in the country."

"There are other benefits to accrue from a board of control. In regard to the present arrangement of handling the hydro-electric business, this would come into the duties of the board of control, naturally, and the citizens would know just what was being done."

## Throat Was So Sore Could Hardly Speak.

Mr. Gordon Murphy, Elliott's Mills, P.E.I., writes:—"Too much praise can't be given your valuable remedy, Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. I suffered terribly from a severe cold during the early part of last winter and found it almost impossible to get anything to relieve me. Hoarseness seemed to be continually troubling me, and my throat was so sore I could hardly speak for quite a long time. At last I was advised to try your remedy, and in a short time I got relief, and have never been troubled with a sore throat or hoarseness since. I hope others will be fortunate enough to give your remedy a trial and be convinced that it is all I say it to be."

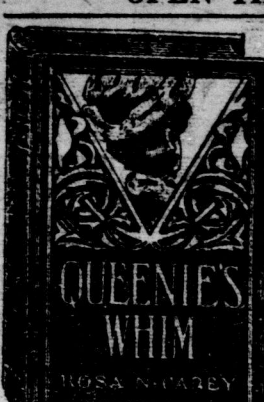
Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup is without an equal for Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Bronchitis and all Affections of the Throat and Lungs.

Price, 25 and 50 cents a bottle, put up in a yellow wrapper, three pine trees the trade mark.

Be sure and get "Dr. Wood's."

Manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

OPEN THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS THIS WEEK.



# CHAPMAN'S Well Equipped With Sunday School Books

Our usual large line of Books for Christmas trees and Sunday school prizes, which has been carefully chosen for the purpose, is in great demand. There are thousands of titles to make selection from in just such books as committees and others buying for Sunday schools are looking for. Prices are.....8c, 10c, 15c, 17c, 25c, 35c, 40c, 50c

Henty Books, 17c each; Alger Books, 17c each; Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, 17c, 25c, 40c, 75c, \$1.00 each; Pansy Books, 17c each; Bessie, Mildred and Elsie Books, 17c each; Rose N. Carey Books, 25c each; Mrs. Meade Books, 25c each. Boy Scouts, Dreadnought Boy and Bungalov Boys' Books, 25c each.

## BIBLES

Handkerchiefs

Ladies' Pure Irish Linen Embroidered Handkerchiefs, in a large variety. Each handkerchief put in a Christmas box, at 25c, 35c, 50c, 65c, 75c and \$1.00 each.

A special lot of Embroidered Lawn and Pure Linen Handkerchiefs, some worth 18c, at.....2 for 25c

## Children's Caps

Children's Wool Caps, in navy and red, also White Aviation Caps; were 25c and 35c. Reduced to.....19c

Children's Navy Blue Wool Caps, were 50c, reduced to.....39c

## Silk Waists

Ladies' Waists, made of messaline silk, in brown and navy, embroidered front. Price.....\$4.50

Veiled Ninon Waists, over silk foundation. Price.....\$4.95

Cream Net Waists, high neck and long sleeves, very dainty. Price.....\$2.95

## PICTURE BOOKS

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

## ANNUALS

## Men's Neckwear, 21c

Each tie tastefully enclosed in a holiday box ready to give. Handsome Silk Ties in a splendid variety of patterns—grays, blue, reds, light and dark shades. A special bargain for this week, at each.....21c

## Fancy Linens

Beautiful and practical holiday gifts, but we haven't room to advertise them at any length.

Japanese Renaissance Lace Centre-Pieces, drawn linen centres, 18-inch, at.....25c

Guipure and Crochet Lace Centre-Pieces, hand drawn centres and lace edge. At 45c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 each. Doilies in the same at 15c, 25c, 30c and 45c each.

Hand-Drawn Linen Lunch Cloths, hemstitched; some are embroidered, size 30x30 inches. At.....\$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2

Hand-Drawn Linen Tray Cloths, at.....35c, 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.25

Battenburg Centre-Pieces at 75c, 85c, \$1, \$1.25 and.....\$1.50

## Handbags

Black Leather Carriage Bags, extra large size, leather lined, German silver frame; also small size Envelope Leather Handbags, moire lined, handkerchief pouch at the back. Choice.....\$1.00

## White Vesting Waist Patterns

Waist lengths of White Mercerized Vesting, nicely boxed for Christmas gifts. Prices, 50c, 60c and 75c for the waist length.

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO., 239-243 Dundas Street

Do not be misled—  
Ask for "PERRIN'S" Gloves  
and look for the trade-mark.



## Perrin's Gloves

are famous for their  
Style, Fit and Finish.

Gloves that are NOT stamped with either the trade-mark or the name "Perrin's Make" are not the genuine.

with surpluses and street lighting accounts. The water and electric accounts would be dealt with separately and the citizens would hold the board of control accountable.

"There is the crux of the whole matter," said Mr. Richter in conclusion. "The citizens would have the board of control to look to. They would be responsible for practically everything, and in so far as possible there would be a new era in London coming close to the modern ideas of city management and giving us a workable system for the conduct of our different departments, and, as I have said, a chance to apply business methods to the spending of one million dollars a year, much of which is wasted at the present time."

BIG FIRE AT ST. LOUIS.  
St. Louis, Dec. 17.—Fire originating in the Stafford Mercantile Company store at midnight destroyed the principal business section of Graton, Ill., 40 miles north of here. Fanned by a high wind the flames overcame the ef-

With this Tea there's purity,  
uniformity and full weight guaranteed  
inside every package.

## LIPTON'S TEA

Try the Grey Label Blend, 40c per lb.

WINTER TERM FROM JAN. 6.

Western School  
Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, LONDON.  
BUSINESS AND SHORTHAND SUBJECTS.  
DAY AND NIGHT CLASSES. CATALOGUES FREE.  
WINTER TERM FROM JAN. 6.

J. W. WESTERVELT, JUN., Chartered Accountant, Vice-Principal.  
J. W. WESTERVELT, Principal. D28-tyw

## It's Best to Remember

that every organ of the wonderful human body is dependent upon every other. If your liver goes wrong your blood will be impure; if your bowels are inactive your stomach and digestion will show it. And one trouble leads to another.

## Beecham's Pills

have become the most famous and the most approved family remedy in the world. They are known for their wonderful and unrivaled power to cause regular, natural action of the liver and bowels. They are gentle, safe but sure. Beecham's Pills benefit every organ of the body—brighten the eye, clear the brain, tone the nerves and increase vigor—because they

## Remove the First Cause of Trouble

Special directions for women with every box