

that much-discussed region. It seems that a few years ago, the exact date is now forgotten, British Guiana was startled by a rumour that "an invading army" was on its way from the Venezuelan frontier. This force, which proved to consist of a General, decorated with a sword and cocked hat, in command of a few half-cast soldiers in tattered garments and armed with rusty old blunderbusses, marched down the river Mazzaruni to its junction with the Essequibo. The country traversed was a trackless forest, and when the "army" approached the confines of civilization they were in a miserable state of rags and hunger. Here they were confronted by a patrolling policeman, taken before the resident magistrate, and fined \$5 each for "carrying arms without a license," and, not being able to pay, were, "in default," incarcerated in the boat house of that official (there being no prison in the district), pending the order of the Governor as to their disposal. His Excellency, on being communicated with, at once directed the "army" to be sent to Georgetown forthwith; and accordingly the General, with his imprisoned soldiers, were forwarded there. On arrival, they were well fed and decently clothed, and, with a warning not to repeat the escapade, were sent back to Venezuela by the first available steamer, no one any the worse for the "invasion."

#### Canadian Cable Despatches.

If there is one point which has become more clear than another to us in Canada, out of all this European-Venezuela-Transvaal-Kaiser Wilhelm-Inferno, it is that Canadian newspapers should have their own Cable Despatches. The Associated Press Despatches with which our newspaper columns are filled are in most cases, Anti-British. They are distinctly written to satisfy American national sentiment. Every little mention of American interests is magnified. Really, one would think from them that the sun rose and set in the United States. This state of things is quite justifiable as far as the people of the States is concerned. The despatches are concocted by correspondents of American papers. These correspondents, if not themselves Americans, are paid by Americans. They know quite well what is expected of them and they colour their statements to suit. We do not complain of that if the Americans do not. What we do complain of is that they do not suit us. Cannot our newspapers combine to have an honest London cable correspondent who will tell us the truth? We do not want falsehoods. We do not want to be misled by sugar-coated pills. If we have to take any medicine let us receive it like men. But let us have the truth. We do not get the truth as it is or anything like it. Surely we have enough capital invested in Canadian newspapers for a Canadian press correspondent to be employed constantly in London on whose despatches Canadians can depend. Anything more misleading, or more irritating, than the tone of the Associated Press despatches, it is impossible to imagine. We believe that if any single Canadian newspaper introduced as a feature the daily publication of reliable cable despatches it would lead every other newspaper in the country.

#### Mr. Bunting's Death.

The Mail and Empire will no more be guided by the strong hand of Mr. Bunting. He is dead. The great journal to which he has devoted his fine energy and ability for so many years has suffered a loss which is well nigh irreparable. We extend to our contemporary our sincere sympathy in its bereavement which we know to be keenly and personally felt by every one connected with the journal. A man's true worth is best measured by the way in which he is regarded by those with whom he comes in daily and intimate con-

tact. Who could have known Mr. Bunting better than the staff of The Mail and Empire? The devotion to him of each member has frequently been a matter of comment. Now when his name is mentioned it is with that respect, affection, and sorrow with which we associate only the names of those attached to us by the most tender and enduring ties. All this is a beautiful tribute to the man and to his character. The faithfulness and affection of his staff have been deserved. Mr. Bunting was ever true to the interests of those connected with his paper, a notable instance of which was seen in the firm stand he took on the amalgamation of The Empire with The Mail. He would not allow one of his own staff to be dismissed. Such chiefs are rare.

#### Go to Work.

THE "Happy Family" at Ottawa are now become reconciled and are in a position to face the House. But that is not all. They have to face the country. That their credit has received a severe shock cannot be denied. They have to redeem themselves in very short order or their doom is sealed. If they will listen to a few words of suggestion it may be of some advantage. If they do not, their successors will probably make use of what these gentlemen apparently fail to perceive. The Government is strongly entrenched behind two lines of fortification—their Torres Vedras. The first is a vigorous Canadian policy, that is, a policy of Canada for Canadians, not a policy including commercial union or any other kind of union with our neighbours across the border. Next. The national policy of encouragement of Canadian industries. These two cards are their main trumps. But they are not enough. If the country could be satisfied that the Liberals would not surrender the interests of Canada in compliance with theoretical views of free trade or the brotherhood of nations or some other visionary dream, they could probably go into power to-morrow. The great bulk of the people are quite decided that there must be no surrender on these points at all events, and there the Conservatives have got in ahead of their Liberal brethren. But where the country is discontented and disappointed is on this subject, namely—Canadians know perfectly well that they have millions and millions of acres only waiting for settlement to be able to support an immense population. They know they have tons upon tons of precious metals, of useful ore, awaiting development. All through Canada the story is the same. What they want to see introduced is a definite policy intended to bring under cultivation these untilled lands, and also to bring into market these unused minerals. The Government which leaves these points untouched fails in its duty. Again, in the cities, there is an overplus of population. On the farms in the settled parts of the country there is a constant demand for help. In the Province of Ontario this inequality is specially noticeable. Can none of our statesmen devise a plan whereby this surplus of the city population can be taken from the streets where they too soon, in many cases, become criminals, and be placed on farms where they cease to be a burden on the municipality, and become portion of a proud peasantry their country's pride. The forests of the Dominion are each year being cleared away by the lumberman. The agriculturalist should follow close on his heels. On the prairies, where clearing the bush is not required, settlement should be invited so as to place on land which is now vacant homesteads, hamlets, villages, towns, cities. The people of Canada are sick and tired of the squabbles of politicians. They are waiting for some man who has brains enough and courage enough to squelch the Manitoba School Question, and all other similar ques-