

A LOST OPPORTUNITY.
From an imperial point of view there can be but one opinion about the British budget, which is that it adds another to the long list of lost opportunities. Austin Chamberlain had a glorious chance to snatch victory out of the jaws of defeat, and strike a far-reaching blow in aid of the consolidation of the empire. As he is known to be in substantial sympathy with his father's fiscal proposals and imperial aspirations, the responsibility for this failure to seize a great possibility cannot fairly be laid upon his individual shoulders. Yet, as one of the ministry, he must share in it equally with his colleagues. Premier Balfour is evidently still determined to pursue his temporizing policy, and to occupy his half-way house until he is either burned out or turned out. It is an unfortunate position for the middlemen when those in front cry "forward!" and those behind cry "back!" and proceed to carry out their precepts. An undignified situation at the best, it is doubly so in the case of a party leader whose followers are in a plight which needs a strong hand and a clear issue. As it is, the premier gains nothing by his well-meant attempt to conciliate the irreconcilables. He pleases neither, and he himself loses both prestige and power.

The chancellor referred to the abolition of the grain duty imposed by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach in somewhat regretful terms. Its withdrawal had, he said, been more costly than anticipated, and had not resulted in the benefit to the consumer which was expected. It would have been surprising if it had, when its imposition had been practically no difference in the grain price and resulted in no burdens on the consumer. The fact is that the wheat duty fell on the foreign exporter, and its cancellation restored to his pocket the increased profit he had been foregoing. When that striking result was so clearly demonstrated the government should have lost no time in reimposing the duty, especially at a time when further taxation was unavoidable. What makes the course they chose to adopt all the more extraordinary is that in selecting tea as the proper subject for heavier taxation they practically stirred up the same opposition as would have been aroused by the revival of the wheat impost, and not only so, but penalized the Indian and Ceylon tea planter at the expense of the United States grain-grower. As a contemporary says, a more humiliating exhibition of moral cowardice and political timidity has seldom been witnessed.

Probably the true reason for this wretched piece of pusillanimity is to be found in the premier's determination not to allow himself just to be identified with the cause of Joseph Chamberlain. A resort to the wheat duty would have been hailed by all the Radical party as an indication of the government's surrender to the leader of the protection crusade. But, even with that, they would have had a better answer to that charge than they have a defence for the course they have adopted. As it is the premier has acted in direct violation of his own doctrine of retaliation. The United States have the most impenetrable barrier of any of Britain's trade rivals, and a small impost on their grain is a clear case of spoiling the Egyptians without laying any additional charge on the home consumer. But, rather than face the chimera of a bugbear Mr. Balfour raises the price of tea, an article in the United Kingdom as much in use by the poor as bread itself. No less has he thrown away a splendid opportunity for reciprocating the colonial preference so generously accorded to the motherland. What adds to the pity of it is that the weak strategy of the government will very likely be of no avail. The tea duty will be bitterly opposed—the storm is already breaking—and the government will lose all the advantages which would have come had they chosen a policy carrying with it great imperial issues and advantages.

CIVIC AFFAIRS AS NOW RUN.
At the special meeting of the City Council last night it was decided to superannuate City Clerk Beckwith and to continue Chief of the Fire Department Lipsett in office. If one were

very much interested, and the citizens of Fredericton are not often very much interested, in civic affairs, it might be somewhat difficult to determine why the City Clerk was superannuated, when the Council have no authority to superannuate him. There can be no objection to the qualifications of the gentleman who has been appointed to succeed Mr. Beckwith. He has had experience in civic affairs; he is one of our people in whom the citizens have confidence, in so far as his legal abilities are concerned. It is unfortunate, however, and it foreshadows a state of affairs which will not be commended by independent citizens, that the new City Clerk is the officer of a company which is very deeply indebted to the city of Fredericton. It is also unfortunate that the Mayor of the city, who could not be expected to appreciate the dignity which his office should carry, and who is also manager of the concern which is so deeply indebted to the city, was the person who carried about documents for aldermen to sign dismissing an official for the purpose of getting an officer of his company into office as the city's legal adviser. The action of the Mayor is a transaction which intelligence, decency and honor can not uphold. However, if the citizens of Fredericton are satisfied to put up with this sort of poker playing in a dark room, there is nothing to complain of, beyond the demands which decency makes on an intelligent public. Mr. Beckwith has, in effect, been superannuated at the rate of \$300 a year. His successor comes into office at \$300; and when Mr. Beckwith has ceased to claim his \$300 superannuation the citizens of Fredericton, if the corporation now so deeply indebted to the city is in swing, will fix the City Clerk's salary at \$850.

It appears that Ald. Farrell had very many remarks to make last night as to a criticism made in this Journal as to the proposed action of the Council. Ald. Farrell's weakness is in his stench. It would be a reflection on the ordinary man to say that the alderman's signification of propriety should count for anything.

How to Ward Off An Attack of Rheumatism.
For years when spring time came on and I went into gardening, I was sure to have an attack of rheumatism and every attack was more severe than the preceding one, says Josie McDonald of Man, Logan county, West Va. "I tried everything with no relief whatever, until I procured a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm, and the first application gave me ease, and before the first bottle was used I felt like a new person. Now I feel that I am cured, but I always keep a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm in the house and when I feel any symptoms of a return I soon drive it away with one or two applications of this liniment. For sale by all druggists."

Annual Picture Taking.
Queen Street assumed a rather busy appearance between ten and eleven o'clock this morning when about ninety students of the Normal School filed out of Burkhardt's studio, where they were having the annual class pictures made. There were 25 of the French Department, accompanied by Prof. Belliveau, and about 60 of Class B. 1, together with several of the instructors, including Mr. D. W. Hamilton, principal of Kingston Consolidated School, who severed his connection with the Sloyd Department yesterday.

Are Your Children Played Out?
Then give them a good start on "SWISS FOOD" and watch the listlessness disappear. They need a wholesome food not medicine.

May Start on Monday.
If the necessary repairs can be made to the Aberdeen she will start up river early on Monday morning. Intending passengers should find out from Capt. Perry at what hour the Aberdeen will start as no arrangements have yet been made.

"77"
Cures Grip and COLDS
Humphreys' Specifics cure by acting directly on the sick parts without disturbing the rest of the system.
NO CURES.
1. Fevers, Congestions, Inflammations.
2. Worms, Worm Fever or Worm Disease.
3. Colds, Crying and Wakefulness of Infants.
4. Diarrhoea, of Children and Adults.
5. Toothache, Faceache, Neuralgia.
6. Headache, Sick Headache, Vertigo.
7. Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Weak Stomach.
8. Salt Rheum, Eruptions, Erysipelas.
9. Rheumatism, or Rheumatic Pains.
10. Pains and Aches, Malaria.
11. Whooping Cough, Spasmodic Cough.
12. Kidney Disease, Gravel, Calculi.
13. Urinary Incontinence, Wetting Bed.
At Druggists, 25 cents, or mailed, Humphreys' Med. Co., Cor. William & John Streets, New York.

Your Dealer or your Baby?

Baby's Own Soap is as pure and safe as soap can be. Why experiment on Baby's delicate skin with other Soaps made by unscrupulous manufacturers to LOOK like Baby's Own, but made as cheaply as possible?

Albert Toilet Soap Co. Mfrs
MONTREAL

CHANGES HIS COAT.

New York, April 30.—The Liberal Association of the northwest division of Manchester has unanimously adopted Mr. Winston Churchill as its candidate on a free trade platform at the next general election, says a despatch from London.

OPERA HOUSE MONDAY, May 2

The Favorite American Comedian
Mr. Geo. F. Hall

With a carefully selected company of twenty people, under direction of the Fielding Amusement Company, in Maurice J. Fielding's spectacular Soudic Comedy-Drama

A RAGGED HERO

Mr. Hall, in his most successful role, "Willie Wildfire," will introduce his famous impersonations of noted actors and will sing a budget of the latest popular songs, including his newest and biggest hit, "I Think That I Be Satisfied With Life."

Prices 25, 35, 50, 75.
Seats on sale at Wilkes Confectionery Store.

In New Quarters. . .
We are now in our new finely appointed building.

An Excellent Restaurant,
and accommodation for transient and permanent boarders at reasonable terms. Stable in connection.

PARSONS HOUSE, No. 40 Regent Street.

SPRING SUITINGS.

We are now showing the fashionable novelties for the season in Fancy Worsteds and Tweeds]

WM. JENNINGS, - Mercantile Tailor.

MORTGAGE LOANS.
Funds for investment in mortgages on city property and farms. Low interest. F. H. PETERS, Barrister, Etc. Fredericton—Ap. 20—1 mo—4 w.

Notice to Water Consumers
The consumers of city water are hereby notified that the water rent for the ensuing six months are due and payable at the office of the Superintendent of Water Works on

MONDAY NEXT.
Delinquents will have their supply shut off. By order of the water committee.

ALEX. BURCHINELL, Sup't.
Fredericton, Ap. 23th, 1904.—26—10 d.

WEDDING RINGS!
Our stock of Wedding Rings in 10 kt., 14 kt. and 18 kt. is very complete. Send for one of our Ring Card Sizes free. Mail orders promptly attended to at

Jas. D. Fowler's,
The Jeweler and Optician,
Opp. Post Office, Fredericton, N. B.
EYES TESTED FREE.

Just Received,
THE 2 BARKERS, 154 Queen St.,

TENNANT, DAVIES & CLARKE.

Under Good Umbrellas!

"April showers bring May flowers," but they also bring out a varied assortment of old umbrellas that ought to be relegated to the rag bag. It is the height of in-economy to get along with an umbrella that leaks, or that the color runs out of, or that refuses to go up and down when asked. You'll always find our customers UNDER GOOD UMBRELLAS.

SOME POINTERS

The material must be excellent, else there will be no wear to it and an umbrella gets some mighty hard battering; the dye must be fast, or the clothes will be streaked and the wearer will be mad—and nobody can blame him; the frame must be solid, or there will be trouble when the umbrella gets out in the wind. All these things our umbrellas have—they are good in quality, and their looks is just as fine as their quality is high. As for the price, judge for yourself by this list:—

\$2.50, horn handle, sterling silver mounted.
2 00, crooked dark horn handle.
1 75, fancy horn handle with chain holder.
1 50, fancy gilt knob on bamboo handle.
\$1.10, bright nickel knob, agate bar.
90, granite steel handle.
85, cherry handle, bone crook.
Also a great variety in Men's Umbrellas, 75 cents to \$3.00. All equipped with two-bulb runners.

TENNANT, DAVIES & CLARKE.

WANTS.

WANTED—From about the first of May, room and board for an elderly gentleman with a private family, or where a few other boarders are taken. Would like house with modern conveniences. Address F. A. P., P. O. box 500, St. John, N. B.—19—d if.

If you are not satisfied with your present position in life and are reliable, write us and we will start you, local or travelling, lacking up show cards and generally advertising our goods at \$50 a year and expenses \$2.50 a day. For particulars write Drawer 588, London, Ont.

FOR SALE.

FARM FOR SALE—About 200 acres of land, 35 acres under cultivation, about 75 to pasture, balance woodland and good orchard, located on the old post road to Woodstock, 4 miles from Fredericton, in parish of Kingsclear. House, 2 barns and outbuildings, all in good repair. For further information and as to terms apply to GEO. H. MASON, York St., Fredericton, or to ROBT. GIBSON on the premises.—25—2—s—w—29, 3, 6.

FOR SALE—An excellent cook stove, for wood, in good condition. Apply to DR. or MRS. H. C. CREED, Charlotte St.—26—d if.

STEAM LAUNCH FOR SALE—Length 19 feet overall, 7 feet beam, boiler and engine in good repair. Accommodation for 15 persons. For further particulars apply to SHERIFF, MESS. H. C. R., Fredericton, N. B.—11 d if.

FOR SALE—50 acres of land 5 miles from Fredericton, near McLeod Hill, well wooded with second growth hard wood. Price low. Apply to J. A. M. A. ANDERSON or Parent's Real Estate Agency, King and Northumberland Sts.—18.

TO LET.

TO LET—House 16 let on Needham Street with 7 rooms, barn and garden. Possession given at once. Apply to MRS. A. H. JEWETT, George Street.—30—1 p.

TO LET—The brick house now occupied by Alfred G. Edgcombe, King Street. The lower half of the wooden dwelling next to the central hose station. The brick warehouse and fine upper flats on King Street. Several stores, offices and sample rooms on King Street.

The brick factory on York Street to be fitted into stores, warehouses and offices to the requirements of tenants. Apply to FRED. B. EDMONDSON—Feb. 6—s—w—15.

TO LET—House on Queen Street opposite Normal School, suitable for dwelling or office. Possession given at once. Apply to MRS. J. E. COLTER, King Street.—s.

TO LET—From May 1st next the two upper flats (with entrance from Queen St.) in the building next to Barker House. Apply to A. R. SLIPP, Barrister.—4—d if.

TO LET—House on King Street, lately occupied by Joshua Limerick. Bath room and furnace. Apply to WALTER LIMERICK.—4—d if.

LOST.

LOST—On Sunday afternoon, a Fur Ruff, black martin with chains attached, between Springhill and Fowling's Camp. Finder will please leave at office of GLEANER.—2—d if.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

All notices under this heading 20 cents first insertion, 10 cents each subsequent insertion:

The Monthly Meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. will be held Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, at the Y. M. C. A. Hall.

ARTHUR A. SHUTE
Graduate Optician,
EYES CAREFULLY TESTED
AND FITTED CORRECTLY AT
REASONABLE PRICES.
SHUTE & CO., 302 Queen St.

A New Suit is Expensive

But, let us cleanse or dye and press your last summer's suit to look like new. Men's suits and overcoats, ladies' jackets and costumes, cleansed, dyed, sponged and pressed. Portiers and Curtains, Carpets and Carpet Squares cleansed or dyed.

Famous Dye House BUZZELL'S Queen St., West.

VERY LARGE ASSORTMENT
—OF—
Engagement and Wedding Rings
—AT—
F. E. Blackmer's, 220 Queen Street.

Lest You Forget!
We say it again—buy your boys' Boots here.
Boys' Split Leather, 90c. and \$1.15.
Boys' Buff Leather, \$1.25 and \$1.45.
Boys' Calf Leather, \$1.85 and \$2.00.
A Fine Ash Base Ball Bat free with every pair.
McManus & Co., Directly Opp. Normal School.

They're Ready for You.
Cost is a Small Matter.

This is the store for housekeepers, a little money goes so long a way.

LACE CURTAINS, 35c. pair.
SPRING ROLLER WINDOW SHADES, 35c.
CURTAIN POLES, complete, 25c.

Don't be backward about buying.

A. A. BELMORE, Where Cash is Paramount.

Nice sweet Messina Oranges, 15c. doz.; California Navals, 30c. doz.; nice Valencias, 12c. doz. We also have some fine Pine-apples, Rhubarb and Cucumbers at

52 15 200
260 14 250 3 60
June 30/04