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LONDON, FRIDAY, NOV. 16.

THE NEW SPIRIT IN QUEBEC.

The people of this province are prone to regard the French-Canadian race as being deficient in enterprise and in the practical qualities which have given the Anglo-Saxon commercial and industrial supremacy. They have the habit in their mind's eye, and there is always a medieval background in their conceptions of the Province of Quebec. A large and growing class of French-Canadians, however, are filled with modern ideas, and are keeping fully abreast of their fellow-countrymen of British descent. They have felt the stimulus of Canada's wonderful development, and are alive to the opportunities around them.

The new premier of Quebec, Hon. Lomer Gouin, like his predecessor, Hon. S. N. Parent, is a representative of this class. It is a hopeful sign that this leader of his race should choose "Technical Education" as the subject of his address before a gathering of the leading citizens of Montreal. "I acknowledge," he said, "the importance—I should rather say, the necessity—of the immediate development of technical schools in our province and the whole country. We have need without delay to equip our youth for the industrial struggle by placing within their reach those technical schools, which are multiplying all over the world. We must also prepare our rising generation for the commercial battle by giving them those commercial schools, whose necessity is unanimously recognized by all countries. And I am happy to find myself this evening in the midst of the leaders of Canadian industry and trade, to ask them to give me their effective concurrence, without which, in spite of all the goodwill in the world, we can with difficulty carry out this patriotic work. I would ask you to do on this Canadian soil, of which we are so proud, what the manufacturers and the merchants have done in that direction, in the United States and Europe, by means of their boards of trade and their manufacturing and industrial associations."

Premier Gouin gave his pledge that the Government of Quebec was prepared to do its share in the national work of multiplying technical schools in the Dominion. Canada is entering upon a new era, and the demand and opportunities for skilled labor, and the highest order of technical proficiency are enormously increasing. The educational apparatus of the country has not kept pace with its material development, excepting, perhaps, in agriculture. In technical education Germany has left other nations in the rear, but her commercial rivals are trying to overtake her, and Canada, as one of the great countries of the future, must join the procession. A beginning has been made, but it must be followed up on a comprehensive national scale.

A COLD WAVE COMING.

If those who are putting their trust in the prospectus of the New Far East Company of Kamakura, Japan, are to be believed, the highest elevations on the Rocky Mountains may soon be laid out as town lots, and all lands on a lower level may be on the market dirt cheap. This company, as stated in its prospectus, is incorporated under the laws of the Island Empire, "To acquire the most desirable portions of the earth's surface that will remain above water when the great glacial deluge now impending shall have come again, and to establish therein centers of refuge and zones of safety." The "brains" of this organization is Professor Lion Lewis, of Kamakura, who asserts that after 33 years of patient and laborious study he has made the discovery that one of the glacial deluges which come on this sphere at intervals of 25,000 years, or so, is now almost ready to move, and that so violent will be the shake-up and shakedown that "not a soul can be saved in the vast regions reached by it." The professor has one advantage over all his fellows, in that, after herculean labor and study, he has ascertained the route of the deluge to and from the North Pole. The one certainty—to the professor—is that he knows the route, and thus is in a position to receive into his company those who wish to get on the ground floor, as it were, of the safe spots which he can map out. When the cataclysm comes, there will therefore be only two divisions of the race—the gigantic trust organized by Professor Lewis, owning all the really habitable land, and the remainder of humanity offering "famine" prices for

an opportunity to climb on to any old

safe foothold that may be available.

"It is not merely a flood of water,"

comments a scientific critic of the

company, "but also and more especially

a torrent of ice and stone—a savage

war of oceans and continents, an awful

convulsion of the whole hydrosphere,

the furious tumbling and plunging of

millions of ice islands whirling north-

wards from the Antarctic regions to

the Arctic, the fragments of a disrupted

ice continent acting as sledge ham-

mers, a violent stirring and rolling of

rocks, sand, gravel, etc." There would

be only one way in which to get in out

of the wet, and escape from such a

shivering prospect as that, and Profes-

sor Lewis provides it: a share in the

Far East Company of Kamakura and

of the knowledge which the professor

so carefully guards while its stock is

being floated.

The latest reports from Venezuela

indicate that President Castro is dead,

but doesn't want it known.

Our local contemporary drops the

mask, and defends the introduction of

party politics into municipal affairs.

The city of Toronto was the center

of the Niagara power agitation, and

organized the movement among the

municipalities. Now the mayor of To-

ronto coolly says that the city has too

many projects on its hands to think of

Niagara power for at least a year!

As an illustration of the effect which

the passage of the measure providing

for one man one vote will have in

Greater London, it is shown that in one

constituency alone—the city—the vote

will be reduced from 30,000 under the

present system, by which a man votes

wherever he has property, to 10,000.

The President of the British Board of

Education was asked to make it com-

pulsory to hoist the flag over all

schools, as in the United States and

Manitoba. He replied that "he did not

think patriotism in England and Wales

needed to be manufactured, nor would

it be promoted by compulsory con-

ditions of any particular ritual in con-

nection with flag-waving."

The United States Government is

said to have a strangle hold on the

Standard Oil Company. Many times

in the past, legislatures and courts have

vainly imagined that they have had

the oil trust in chancery, but it has al-

ways eluded them. The Standard has

a strangle hold on the oil business, and

is not going to let go in a hurry. It

is an adept in strangle holds, and the

federal government will have to be

pretty clever to go the octopus one bet-

ter.

The taxpayers of London are invited

to consider four propositions. Here

are three of them:

Purchase of street railway \$1,000,000

Waterworks extension 570,000

Purchase of London Electric

Company's plant 650,000

The fourth is the Niagara power

scheme. The taxpayers of London are

not all millionaires, though some of

the more ardent municipal ownership ad-

vocates appear to be acting on that

assumption.

The Province of Ontario's public loan

of \$3,000,000 has been subscribed to

the extent of \$2,250,000. No doubt it

will be fully taken up in a few weeks.

The Province paid a fraction less than 4

per cent for money borrowed in Eng-

land. Colonel Matheson was forced by

public opinion to attempt a public loan

and finds that the people of Ontario are

ready to furnish money at 3½ per cent.

His first loan was an amateurish blunder.

Canada is making a most creditable

showing at the New Zealand exhibition

now in progress. The Christchurch cor-

respondent of the London Times, refer-

ring to our exhibit, says:

"The Canadian court, which con-

tains a very complete and artistic

collection of exhibits, excited general

admiration."

These displays of Canadian products

have done a very great deal in recent

years in effectively advertising Cana-

da's enviable position among the

young nations of the world.

Despite the great public works in-

dertaken by the Dominion Government

in the last ten years, the public debt

of the Dominion has not been added

to, according to the latest official state-

ment. At present, the debt of Canada

is \$256,731,903, whereas, when the Gov-

ernment of Sir Wilfrid Laurier came in-

to power in 1896 the debt was \$253,497,-

433. Mr. Fielding will have another

pleasant story to tell when, in the next

week or two, he makes his financial

statement.

There is a progressive movement in

Western Australia, also. The premier,

addressing a meeting of 35,000 persons

at the agricultural exhibition in Perth,

announced that his Government will at

once raise \$10,000,000 by loan for the

purpose of assisting various industries,

and to be devoted principally to the

development of railways. It is an im-

provement on European methods, to

have these young nationalities going in

to debt to raise money to develop their

virgin territory rather than to spend

on going to war with their neighbors.

There will at least be beneficial re-

sults from the outlay.

TEACHING HIS WIFE THE GAME.

[Catholic Standard and Times.]

Anastasia—Don't you play cards at all?

Innocentia—No, but George says he's

going to teach me after we're married.

Anastasia—I suppose he'll teach you

casino or enchere first.

Innocentia—No, he says there's a per-

fectly fascinating game called "solitaire."

ALPHABETICAL.

[Catholic Standard.]

Young Fisticuffs is a shingle out,

Proclaiming him M. D.;

But from A. M. to late P. M.

His office is M. T.

A LONG TIME TO WAIT.

[Cincinnati Tribune.]

Hoax—My wife is going to wait for me

at the gates of heaven, if she's the first

to go.

Joax—You shouldn't be so mean as to

make her wait through all eternity just

because she has made you wait occa-

sionally.

AMBASSADORIAL QUALIFICA-

TIONS.

[Toronto Star.]

Sir Mortimer Durand, the British amba-

sador at Washington, is about to retire.

He will be succeeded, no doubt, by some

person who can hand out slices of Canada

even more quickly.

AND BURNS DIED IN PENURY.

[Toronto Presbyterian.]

Great is the power of wealth. J. Pier-

pont Morgan has imported what is be-

lieved to be the most complete set of

the original manuscripts and private letters

of Robert Burns in existence. An expense

of about \$200,000 was incurred in secur-

ing the collection and customs duty of \$10,000

was paid on entry. It is said to be Mr.

Morgan's purpose to present them to the

Metropolitan Museum of Art.

HER FAULT.

[Tattler.]

"Don't cry, little boy. What's the mat-

ter?"

"Boo-hoo! My mother's bin an' lost me

again."

TWO IS COMPANY.

[Punch.]

Aunt—Tommy! How cruel! Why did

you cut that worm in two?

Tommy—He seemed so lonely.

A SERIOUS COMPLAINT.

[Toronto Star.]

The Beekeepers' convention is over.

During the debate it transpired that

every man in the room was troubled

with hives.

THE CHANGE.

[Chicago News.]

I'm not immodest, as a rule,

So this is how I figure:

I used to be a little fool,

But nowadays I'm bigger.

ADVANTAGES.

[La Rire.]

Frank—These young widows have an

advantage over you girls, because they

know all about men.

May—Yes, and because the only men

who know all about them are dead.

DANGER IN DOLLAR WORSHIP.

[London Times.]

It is the monstrous and ostentatious

employment of money as an engine of

oppression and of whose aim it is to

who are intelligent and devoted to

freedom which alone made the career of

Hearst possible, and which assuredly will

make the career of him, or another of

his kind, one day successful, unless some

unimagined way and flagrant worship

of the dollar be checked.

HOME-MADE PHILOSOPHY.

[Chicago News.]

One touch of winter makes the coal man

grim.

To keep a house warm in winter have

the cellar cooled.

Most of the things we learn from ex-

perience come under the head of compul-

sory education.

Appearances are seldom as deceitful as

disappearances.

Practice makes perfect—at least, piano

practice is calculated to make perfect

martyrs of the neighbors.

It doesn't take much of a domestic

storm to sour the milk of human kin-

dness.

He who steals a watch should not be

surprised if he has to do time later.

PROGRESS.

[New York Sun.]

He bought her candy every night

in five-pound boxes, maybe;

Time passed, and now his wealth he

spends

in penny sticks for baby.

COUNTERFEIT.

[Washington Star.]

There was a man who always raised

his voice in dull complaint.

There was nobody who he praised—

Not even the saintliest saint;

He stalked through life with ponderous

mies.

And with superior speech

He criticised with air serene

Most everything in reach.

And people, as his voice they heard,

With one accord gave ear;

They lingered on his every word,

His logic oft was queer,

And still he talked, quite undismayed,

And men approved of it.

For folly, seriously displayed,

Oft passes as true wit.

BUT HAS IT GONE?

[Hamilton Spectator.]

As we said before, Mr. Hill is a clever

man; but he doesn't know the land of

his birth as it stands in 1906. Canada

has undergone a great change since Mr. Hill

plowed and sowed, and reaped and mow-

ed and was a farmer's boy in the woods

about 25 miles north of Hamilton. The

day for reciprocity with the United

States has gone for ever.

HOW REFORM CAME.

[New York World.]

No real work of reform has ever been

achieved in this nation by demagogues.

Every great measure for the public good

has been worked out by patient, indus-

trious men who avoided alike the extrava-

gances of the agitator and the conserva-

tives of the Bourbons.

THE INS AND OUTS OF IT.

[Toronto Telegram.]

A mine is a hole men take gold out of,

but mining stock is a tunnel men pour

gold into.