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LONDON, THURSDAY, DEC. 26.

AUSTRALIA SHOWS CANADA THE WAY.

The navy is not an issue in the general election now pending in Australia.

All parties there are agreed upon the principle of local naval development.

The Australian fleet will cost \$52,000,000, against the \$35,000,000 with which the Canadian Government boasts it is saving the Empire.

The Australian navy will not cost the taxpayers of the mother country a farthing. The Canadian navy will cost them \$1,900,000 annually—the upkeep of three Dreadnoughts.

The Canadian Liberal policy, like the Australian policy, would impose no burden on the United Kingdom. It is based on the same law as the Australian service, but no Australian calls his own navy a "separatist" one: trading in loyalty is not a staple of Australian politics. The Australian High Commissioner, Sir George Reid, said in a recent speech in England:

"Our fleet is being rapidly put together. Admiral Henderson's scheme involves a very large expenditure during the next few years. When the scheme is completed there will be a fleet of about fifty-four vessels. I think it is very important that the British Dominions should answer the call of the sea. It will be a bad day for the British race when it does not. One of the arguments in favor of colonial navies is that in days to come the Dominions will undertake the defence of the seas adjacent to them, thus relieving the mother country immensely. I can see no reason why the North Atlantic and Pacific stations should not be handed over to Canada and the China station to India. Australia has already taken up the guardianship of the southern seas, and South Africa might develop some sort of naval force. That would leave to Great Britain the work of defence in the North Sea and the Mediterranean, and, of course, the leading share in defending the ocean tracks of imperial commerce. I think that would probably be a better arrangement than having only admiralty fleets, and no fleets in connection with the Dominions. At the rate at which the Dominions are now developing such a stage of things could not last. It is only a matter of time when the like individuals, should spend their money much more freely upon things which they can call their own than in buying things for the 'old man'."

There speaks the voice of a self-respecting British nation. Against this sturdy self-reliance policy—the inevitable, logical policy from an imperial point of view—the Canadian Government has set its face. Compromised by its alliance with the Nationalists, and by its pledge to submit its "permanent" program to the people, it grasps at the device of an "emergency" grant, to tide it over a party difficulty, and the creation of a Canadian naval service on the Australian lines goes by the board, or is indefinitely postponed.

The Canadian people are taxed \$35,000,000 for "Dreadnoughts" which may be obsolete by the time a Canadian naval organization is established. The British people are to be taxed nearly \$2,000,000 a year to keep up three Canadian Dreadnoughts, which are superfluous on the admiralty's own showing.

CANADA, GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

The Belfast Telegraph has collected expressions of opinion from publicists in Great Britain and the United States which breathe a Christmas spirit of Anglo-American good will. The messages relate to the approaching anniversary of the Treaty of Ghent, which closed the last war between the two nations and opened up, it is to be hoped, an era of perpetual peace. Preparations to celebrate the centenary of peace are taking an elaborate form in both countries. In Great Britain it is proposed to buy the ancestral home of the Washingtons as a public memorial, and there is a movement to place a bust of Washington in Westminster Abbey.

The Canadian Government should enter heartily into the international demonstrations being planned. It can in some degree atone for its anti-American campaign last year—for the vile cartoons and flood of oratory and literature deliberately designed to stir up ill-feeling against the United States as a party asset. Our neighbors have got past their juvenile state in politics; tall-twisting is a bygone occupation because there is no longer any profit in it for politicians, big or little. The United States Secretary of State and Attorney-General, in their messages to the Belfast Telegraph, talk of kinship with Great Britain with a frankness that no American public man could safely show a generation ago. In some respects Canada is beginning where the United States is leaving off. We are growing our own native species of Jeffersons, Erics—more thickly in Ontario than in other provinces. No party or government in this country has proposed to sacrifice Canadian industrial interests to American competition, but in the last election the proposal to shave the tariff a trifle on some trust-made products "prompted

the interests to finance an anti-American propaganda, which went to shameful excesses. The politicians who profited by these tactics are now in office and are called upon to extend the right hand of fellowship to the United States. It may be easier for them to do it, because they are occupied for the moment with another foreign bogey—the German one. Friendship with the United States is the cornerstone of British foreign policy; we in Canada should bear this in mind, and not be too youthfully bumptious in our attitude to the republic. We should give the American people credit for a beneficent change in their international manners. Even in this Panama Canal dispute, many public men, the foremost American newspapers, the universities and all the extra-party organs of opinion are taking the British side. The moral union of the English-speaking nations of the world is an ideal to which every member of the British race should aspire, but there are too many Canadians who for partisan and selfish ends shut their eyes to the forces in the United States working toward this unity, and try to keep open the old sores.

COUNCIL'S SELF-RESPECTING COURSE.

Men of standing and reputation who are ready to serve the city are not at all times so numerous as could be wished. They will be fewer if conscientious performance of duty exposes them to coarse abuse. No public servant can ask for immunity from criticism, but he has a right to protest against misrepresentation.

What is the sum of the offending of the seven members of the council who voted to delay an appeal to the ratepayers on the electrification scheme? Their decision was not a partisan one. Three of the seven are Conservatives. If their party affiliations could bring them any advantage, they had everything to lose by crossing Mr. Beck.

When the council voted to defer the bylaw it passed no opinion on the electrification project. It merely took the position that the council had some responsibility in the matter. It is not customary for the council to submit money bylaws, even for small amounts, without trying to fully inform itself and to pass its information on to the ratepayers for their guidance. Mr. Beck's report on the scheme, dated July 5, was not seen by the aldermen until November, and was not expounded to them by Mr. Beck—excepting the members of the L. and P. S. R. Board—until the evening of the vote. The council was asked to abdicate its functions, and take Mr. Beck's word for everything.

Open your mouth and shut your eyes, And I'll give you something to make you wise.

The seven aldermen who declined this role are accused of "refusing to allow the people to vote." They took to such position. They merely asked that further information be obtained by independent inquiry, and that the attitude of the Pere Marquette and Michigan Central be ascertained, before the question is submitted to the ratepayers. What reasonable objection can be offered to their course? None.

GENDER.

[Judge.]

A woman teacher was explaining gender to a grade of young children as visitors entered. They begged her to continue, as they would be delighted to hear the children's replies.

"Children," she asked, "what is 'girl,' 'woman,' 'man'?"

"One little hand was so eager, she appealed to the owner proudly.

"Well, Artie?"

"Artie, as to the occasion.

"Girls is females, woman's a male, and man's a human bean."

EMBARRASSMENT OF RICHES.

[Detroit Free Press.]

"This weather is certainly rough on some people."

"The poor, I presume, you refer to."

"No, the almost rich."

"I don't understand you."

"The fellows who own fur overcoats. It's too warm to wear them, and it's too cold to go without them."

HOPEFUL SIGN.

[Tit-Bits.]

Drill Sergeant (after worrying Brown, the new recruit, for two hours)—Right about face!

Brown—Thank goodness, I'm right about something at last.

IN CASE OF FIRE.

[Punch.]

Captain—Supposing the barracks were to catch fire, what call would you sound?

Trumpeter (newly joined)—Sure, sorr, I'd sound the "Cease fire."

NO FREE SHINE.

[Cleveland Plaindealer.]

Albert Groves, who lives somewhere out beyond stop-umpty-six in the summer time, but who moves back to Euclid avenue when the leaves begin to fall, relates that he had an English guest at his country place this year. The guest was something of a fifty dresser. Mr. Groves showed him to his room that night.

"Shall I leave my boots outside the door?" inquired the Englishman as he was retiring.

"Sure, if you want to," replied Groves heartily. "The servants are honest and nobody'll touch 'em."

N. B. FINANCES.

Revenue For Last Year Largest in the History of Province.

[Canadian Press.]

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 26.—The annual statement of New Brunswick's finances for the fiscal year ended Oct. 31, shows ordinary revenue of \$1,417,722, the largest in the history of the province, and an increase of \$204,848 over last year. The ordinary expenditures amounted to \$1,409,049, an increase of \$5,502 over last year, leaving a surplus of \$8,673 in the ordinary receipts over ordinary expenditures.

Other expenditures were \$1,372,063, making the total expenditures \$2,781,112, against \$2,385,766 last year. Receipts other than ordinary were \$1,175,000.



Toronto's new Archbishop, His Grace Most Rev. Neil McNeill, D. D., who has taken charge of the Diocese of Toronto.

CHRISTMAS WEDDING BELLS

Yeo—Shiels.

A pretty holiday wedding was solemnized at high noon on Christmas Day at the residence of Mrs. James Shiels, of Dorchester Station, North Dorchester Township, when her eldest daughter, Miss Carrie Irene Shiels, was wedded to Mr. Frank Yeo, a well-known East London merchant tailor.

Rev. John Smith, formerly of Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church, who is now stationed at Dorchester, officiated at the ceremony, which was witnessed by a very large number of guests from Denison, Col. St. Marys, Forest, London and other places.

The bride, who was prettily attired in ivory satin, was carried to the altar by her uncle, Mr. Charles Shiels, son of Denison, Col. St. Marys, Forest, London and other places.

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CHAPMAN'S

After-Christmas Attractions in Books, Dolls and China

Those who come to the store today will find many pieces of pretty China, plenty of Books and lots of Dolls, if they wish to remember any friends forgotten at Christmas. These departments were exceedingly popular all through the holidays, and something of all lines are still left.

Things You Will Need After Christmas

Ladies' Long Kimonos, \$1.50

Full length Flannelette Kimonos, shirred in the back, colored facing of sateen. Choice of gray, cardinal, navy and light blue.

All sizes, 34 to 44. A warm and comfortable Kimono. Price.....\$1.50

Flannelette Dressing Sacks, 85c

There's a pretty, warm, Dressing Sack, made of flannelette, fitted in the back; satin ribbon ties. Dainty colors, also red and navy, sizes 34 to 44. Regular price \$1.25. Sale price, each.....85c

Heavy Ribbed Underwear

Union Underwear (wool and cotton mixed) for women and misses. Heavy winter weight, in cream or gray. Long sleeve vests and ankle-length drawers. Per garment.....50c

KID GLOVES

The finest French Kid Gloves at \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 a pair, fitted and guaranteed. If you received a pair of our Gloves and they are not the proper size, we will exchange them for you now.

SPECIAL Women's Cape Kid Gloves, lined, pair.....89c
Men's and Boys' Mocha and Kid Gloves, wool lined, pair.....69c

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

THE LONDON ADVERTISER

CERTIFICATES

printed on another page, clipped on consecutive days, together with the stated amount that covers the necessary Expense Items of this wonderful distribution, including clerk hire, cost of packing, checking, express from factory, etc., etc., entitles you to your choice of the beautiful books. This is not a Bible with meaningless pictures. The illustrations serve a distinct purpose. They enrich the text, but they do more—they intelligently explain it, so that many a hitherto obscure passage assumes to the reader a new meaning through these eye-teaching pictures.

FREE \$5 BIBLE CERTIFICATES

Overlapping Covers

But Building Permits in December Are Not in So Great Demand.

Building permits are not in great demand this month, and as a result the total will be much below that of December, 1911. However, the year will show an excellent increase.

So far, the building permits issued this month amount to \$24,388, as compared with \$187,557 for the same month of the previous year. The reason for this as given at the city hall is that some large permits were taken out last December following the Chapman and Perrin fires.

The total for the year to date is \$1,122,242, as compared with \$1,036,380, in 1911. The growth will be easily \$100,000 for the year.

Among the permits taken out during the month were the following: Mr. F. B. Ware, two-story brick residence, Richmond street, \$6,000; Mrs. S. R. Wright, repairing the Wright Hat Company's warehouse, on Ridout street, \$1,200; John Poura, addition to frame house on Elizabeth street, \$1,500; R. H. Smith, two-story brick veneer, on the Wharfedale road, \$2,000; R. Finch, story-and-a-half brick veneer residence, on Lorne avenue, \$1,700; Imperial Oil Company, stables, on York street, \$2,000; and W. H. Braden, veranda to his residence, on King street, \$1,000.

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