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LONDON, THURSDAY, MAY 19.

SIR WILFRID'S TOUR.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's decision to make a prolonged tour of the west this summer is good news. At 69 years of age it is a courageous undertaking. The Premier must be in excellent health to feel equal to it. His pilgrimage will occupy sixty days, and will extend as far as Prince Rupert, the latest, if not the remotest, outpost of settlement. He will hold his first meeting at Fort William or Port Arthur, and will speak at central points in the four western provinces.

This will be Sir Wilfrid's first visit to the West since 1896. He will find magical changes and he will be in a position to truthfully claim some credit for the transformation. The period of western development has coincided with the Laurier regime, but it has been more than a coincidence. It was not an accident that the stream of immigration, which had dwindled almost to nothing in 1896, began to swell soon after. It was the result of a systematic campaign ever organized for a similar purpose. It was planned and directed by the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The head of that Government has, therefore, a valid title to the gratitude of the western people. Many of them will have the opportunity of seeing and hearing him for the first time. It was not as prime minister that he made his former visit to the West, but as the leader of the Ottawa Opposition, scarcely tried, and little known outside his own province. Today he is acknowledged as the first citizen of Canada, in personal distinction as well as in station, and in his record of public service. The excitement of a general election will not be needed to make his tour a triumphal progress. Canadians pay homage to Sir Wilfrid Laurier without regard to party or province, class or creed. They have a common pride in him as they have a common pride in their country. His welcome in the West will be a memorable one. It will probably be his last appearance in the prairie provinces and British Columbia, and his fellow-countrymen will make the most of the occasion.

CANADA'S WHEAT POSSIBILITIES.

Some speculation has been indulged in as to the possibilities of wheat-growing in Canada, whether this country can grow a sufficient surplus to supply all the wheat and flour needed by the mother country, which, estimated in wheat, runs from 200,000,000 to 250,000,000 bushels per annum. Dr. Wm. Saunders, director of Dominion experimental farms, believes, judging from the rapid progress recently made in the Northwest, that it is not unlikely that Saskatchewan alone may eventually be equal to this task; indeed, he told the Commons committee on agriculture some time ago that he would not be surprised if it reaches that figure within another ten years. Of course, the growth of population will be one of the governing factors, and the fact that more than 60 per cent of the total number of homesteads granted in the Dominion during the past four years were in Saskatchewan is evidence that the population is rapidly flowing in.

Other elements are also important in this connection. Manitoba's wheat crop last year was nearly 53,000,000 bushels, and the area there may be largely extended. Alberta must also be reckoned with. Though there is a comparatively small area as yet under cultivation in that province, it produced last year 10,000,000 bushels of wheat. When a reasonable proportion of its 161,000,000 acres is broken up the results will be almost incredible. The upper northern part of the province is almost an unbroken area as far as agriculture is concerned, and there is very little wheat grown in that country excepting that which is produced along the Peace River.

Dr. Saunders has great hopes as to the future of the country around Fort Vermilion, on the Peace River, about 400 miles in a straight line from Edmonton. Samples of last year's crop of wheat from that point are very firm and plump. Three years ago, while experiments were being carried on in connection with the experimental farm work at Fort Vermilion, it was found that about 20,000 to 30,000 bushels of wheat were grown annually there. There is a fall on the Peace River near that point which affords convenient water power, and the Hudson Bay Company has erected a flour mill there, so that they can grind all the wheat produced in the locality and ship the flour made to the more northern ports. The company has been paying \$1.50 per

bushel for the wheat to farmers, and this has stimulated wheat-growing in the district. In 1908 the average yield of wheat in the Vermilion district was about 24 bushels per acre.

While the average yield of wheat for the whole Dominion is 21.30 bushels per acre, the average of the field crops of wheat at the several experimental farms for 1909 was 36.53 bushels per acre, showing that there is still room for improvement among the rank and file of farmers throughout the country. The United States, taking the whole of that country, gives an average of but 13.42 bushels, while the yield in Great Britain is 31.14 bushels. France gives an average for the past ten years of 19.57 bushels, so that Canada is ahead of that country in this particular. In Argentina, which is one of Canada's close competitors, the yield is only 14.76 bushels. Germany, with an average of 28.25, comes closest to Great Britain, while Russia ranks lowest in average wheat production to the acre with 9.95 bushels.

THE NEW IRELAND.

That wise legislation and rule and a remarkable temperance wave have wrought wonders in Ireland during late years is evident from an article by W. T. Stead in his magazine, the Review of Reviews, and the annual report of the Irish Association for the Prevention of Intemperance. Mr. Stead recently visited the Emerald Isle for the first time in twenty-five years, and was greatly impressed with the changed conditions to be seen on every hand.

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. Stead says, Ireland was in the throes of a fierce social war. The air was full of the sounds of strife. Politics dominated everything. The two great contending features in the Irish landscape were the castle and the prison. "It was indeed a distressful country—a land of evictions and crowbar brigades, of plans of campaign and of buckshot." But now everything is changed. During his stay in Dublin Mr. Stead did not hear anyone speak of the castle, and there was no patriot to be visited in jail. "Peace had replaced war, and the only outstanding grievance was the complaint that the predominant partner had forced upon Ireland a far too liberal scale of old age pensions." He was assured on every side that Ireland had never been so prosperous, her soil so well tilled, her prisons so empty, her people so contented. Instead of the castle the agricultural department now dominates the situation. The department is an outward and visible sign that the Ireland of the O'Flynn, of Douay, Brook Fair, of Kilmaham, has given place to an Ireland of men who are keen men of business, bent upon the main chance. Mr. Stead gives due credit to Sir Horace Plunkett and Lady Aberdeen, who has done so much towards reviving ancient industries and in waging war against the white plague. But, in the writer's opinion, the chief factor of all is the great agrarian revolution which has brought out the landlords and converted 300,000 tenants into landed proprietors.

The report of the temperance organization referred to deals with the splendid work accomplished by the "Young Irish Crusaders," which, in less than a year gained 100,000 members; the "Catholics-in-Pal" movement, with its thousands of adherents; "St. Patrick's League of the West," which has been the means of inducing 90 per cent of the Catholic population, in some cases, to take the pledge; "the Pioneers," with their 150,000 members, and the great demonstration in Armagh last June under the presidency of Cardinal Logue. The report states that on Oct. 29 last, there were no petty sessions in Armagh for want of cases, and for three weeks there was no town court held. Five public houses are said to have been closed for want of customers, and a splendid café has been erected as a rendezvous for men of all denominations. The temperance wave is spreading over the north of Ireland and extending to England and Scotland. The drink bill of Ireland for 1908 showed a falling off of \$2,500,000, or about 50 cents per head of the population. The consumption of spirits has decreased from 5,277,452 gallons in 1882-3 to 3,563,074 gallons in 1908-9, and there has also been a falling off in the quantity of beer drunk. There was a decrease of 37,986 in the number of arrests for drunkenness in 1908 as compared with 1876. A gratifying feature of this movement is that it has the indorsement of prominent Protestants and Catholics, churchmen and laymen.

PREMISE DEFECTIVE.

Teacher—Now, boys, here's a little example in mental arithmetic. How old would a person be who was born in 1857? Pupil—Please, teacher, was it a man or a woman?

GARDEN PESTS.

Conductor—Hello, Subbs! What's in the big bag—garden seeds?
Commuter—Not exactly. Going to plant it in my garden, though—it's arsenic.
Conductor—Great Scott! What do you expect to raise?
Commuter—The mortality rate among my neighbors' cats, dogs and poultry.

PROUD OF IT.

Mrs. Newriche—My husband has been suffering more or less from the gout for the past five years.
Mrs. Roxton—Poor man! Have you tried to cure it?
Mrs. Newriche (doffing)—Should you have? Why, it has been in his family for over two hundred years!

A VICTIM OF VANITY.

Magistrate—Have you any explanation to offer of your presence in another man's hen coop at the hour of two in the morning?
Jim Johnson—It's just an accident case with a woman at the bottom of it, judge.
Magistrate—Kindly explain.
Jim Johnson—Yo' see, mah wife stah-

ed to build one of dem Chanticleer hats, an' she swo' she'd pummanently evict me if I didn't produce de trimmings fer de lid!

THE DISH-BREAKERS.

[Judge.]
First Cook—I went to the voddysville show last night, an' there was a juggler there who broke at least five dollars' worth of dishes in ten minutes.
Second Cook (indignantly)—Faith, I'd have got up and walked out. It's a fine shate iv affairs, but I'm a house, an' workin' cook lady can't attend a theatre without bein' caricatured by some chape performer!

POSTPONED.

[Cleveland Leader.]
Dolly—Why aren't you at the cooking school?
Polly—Teacher's laid up with dyspepsia.

MORE FITTING.

[Life.]
He—It looks to me as if McTrabbe intends to discharge the butter.
She—How much nicer it would be if the butter could discharge McTrabbe.

LOCATED.

[Puck.]
"The paper says that De Tanque presided at the banquet, but I didn't see him."
"That's funny; he was right under the head of the table."

MODEST.

[Lippincott's.]
"They say there is a fool in every family. Do you think so?"
"Well, I hardly like to say. You see, I'm the only member of the family."

HIS SPEECH.

[Scottish-American.]
This funny story is told of the governor of a certain prison. On being appointed to the position he was taken by the prison chaplain into the chapel, where the prisoners were assembled in a body. The chaplain presented him to the company with the remark that he would say a few words. The governor was a bashful man, and unaccustomed to speaking. He stammered, stuttered, blushed and faltered. "Ladies and—er—gentlemen—that is, men and fellow-prisoners—er—I can't make a speech. In fact, all—er—all I can say is—er—that I'm very glad indeed to see so many of you here!"

WANTED THE MEASURE.

[Boston Herald.]
The curate had just arrived. He was young, handsome and single, and consequently very popular with the ladies of the parish, whose appreciation took the usual form of worked slippers. A fair caller at his boarding-house thus interviewed the curate: "You are wanted by the ladies." "I am," replied the curate. "I wanted to make our dear curate a pair of slippers, and I thought you might lend me one of his old shoes to get the size." "Law, miss," was the reply, "the shoes is all 'gived out four days ago! And it was only yesterday morning a lady came here a-imporing of me to let her measure the wet footmarks on the reverend gentleman's bathroom immediately he had gone out."

IN BRIEF.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
Professor—What is the key of good manners?
Student—B natural.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL MOMENT.

[Youth's Companion.]
"Is Miss Wileston at home?" asked one of the neighbors of the spinster, as he called at her door to get her signature to a petition.
"She is that," responded Celia Leahy, three weeks overdue from her confinement. "I'm not at home, but I'll be home in a moment. Will you step in, sort?"
"I should like to see her on a matter of business for a few moments, if she is not engaged," said the neighbor.
"Celia flung wide the door and waved him in. "If she has van, he's neglected her shameful," she said, in a hoarse, confidential whisper. "Look! This week tomorrow since I came here, and he's not put his foot over the threshold all that time! Sure, 'tis your chance!"

PROBABLY.

[Toronto News.]
Cap. Bernier will test the observations of Dr. Cook in Bradley Land. It is believed that the Cap. will learn that Cook manufactured his brass tubes from his cheek.

GREATNESS INDEED.

[Toronto Telegram.]
No, the crown of England did not come to a prince accustomed to the highest of earthly honors, George V., being already an LL.D. of Toronto, Queen's and McGill.

A COMMON RELATIVE.

[Pitt-Bull.]
Mistress (to cook, as the debt collector goes)—That is my brother, Jessie.
Cook—Yes, I know. He was my last mistress' brother also.

HER METHOD.

[Life.]
"Ida gets every prize in our bridge club."
"The best player, is she?"
"No; the worst adder."

LIKED LIFE TERM BEST.

[Philadelphia Times.]
He was one of Magistrate Gallagher's "regular" prisoners. He had been in and out of the penitentiary for years, but he had generally contrived to get him off with a reprimand, but yesterday the magistrate, holding the scales of justice from the desk in the Fifteenth and Vine streets police station, decided to take severe measures.
"You'll take the pledge or go to the house of correction," he told the apparently penitent prisoner.
"I'll take the pledge," said the man.
"Well," said the magistrate, leniently, "better make it for a year first. Then you can renew it."
"That's all right," the prisoner remarked, cheerfully. "I always take it for life."

CUTS RUN TO HALIFAX

C. P. R. to Take Over Operation of the Dominion Atlantic.

Montreal, May 19.—Yesterday morning's cable that the Bank of Montreal's proposal to purchase the preference and ordinary stock of the Dominion Atlantic will be gladly accepted seems to indicate with sufficient clearness the character of the interests friendly to the C. P. R., which Sir Thomas Shaughnessy announced have acquired the stock of the Dominion Atlantic, and as soon as possible arrangements will be made for the incorporation of the road with the C. P. R. Atlantic division. It will be operated as part of that division and will be under the jurisdiction of General Superintendent Downie. Should the ultimate traffic warrant the large expenditure it is understood to be the purpose of the company to construct the line along the north shore of the Bay of Fundy from St. John to Aigue, and build a tunnel under Minas Channel to connect with the D. A. R. at Kingsport. The effect will be to put Halifax within fifteen hours' run from Montreal.

Had Heart Trouble.

Nerves Were All Unstrung.

Wherever there is any weakness of the heart or nerves, flagging energy or physical breakdown, the use of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills will soon produce a healthy, strong system.

Can Do Her Own Work Now.
Mrs. M. McGann, Dulles Junction, N.B., writes:—"I wish to tell you what Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have done for me. Three years ago I was so run down I could not do my own work. I went to a doctor, and he told me I had heart trouble and that my nerves were all unstrung. I took his medicine, as he ordered me to do, but it did me no good. I then started to take Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and had only taken one box before I started to feel better, so I continued their use until I had taken several boxes, and I am now strong and well, and able to do my own work. When I commenced taking your pills I weighed 125 pounds, and now weigh 185 and have given birth to a lovely young daughter, which was a happy thing in the family. When I commenced taking Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, I could not go upstairs without resting before I got to the top. I can now go up without any trouble."

Price 50 cents per box or 3 for \$1.25, at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

TORONTO POLICE CHIEF WITNESSED A MURDER

Sees Tragic Incident in Blood Feud in Streets of Birmingham, Ala.

Toronto, May 19.—With the sort of feeling that he can sleep peacefully at night, his well-disciplined force guarding life and limb, Chief Constable Grissett has returned from a week's trip to Birmingham, Alabama, where he has been attending a big gathering of chiefs of police.
"They don't value life down there," said the chief of police, "and I had a startling incident of it in my personal experience. I saw an act in one of those blood feuds that have made the south notorious—murder was committed right under my eyes, not twenty yards from the spot where I was standing in front of my hotel. A man went up to another man in the street, pulled out a pistol, shot him through the head, and when his victim had fallen coolly put two more bullets in the body. No one seemed to mind it more than if a dog had been killed. The murderer waited for the police to arrive, allowed himself to be arrested—and was later let out on bail."

EX. ST. THOMAS MAN KILLED AT FRISCO

San Francisco, May 19.—Stepping from the elevator in his hotel while the cage was in motion, Joseph Griffin, a St. Thomas, Ont., resident, was crushed to death today.

Griffin was a brother of J. Y. Griffin, of the meat packing company of that name, of Vancouver, B. C.

YACHT SEARCHING FOR BESSEMER

Port Stanley, May 19.—Mr. J. D. Cummings, a Conneaut gentleman, is here with his private yacht. He has been cruising about Lake Erie seeking the lost Bessemer.

He is accompanied by Mr. Stone, father of Frank Stone, second mate of the lost ferry. He has hopes of finding the vessel not far from the regular route taken by the boats between Conneaut and Port Stanley.

LUCKNOW BOYS ARE GOING HOME

Detroit, Mich., May 19.—Natives of Huron and Bruce Counties now living in Detroit and vicinity are planning to take part in a reunion of former residents of the Canadian district in Lucknow, from July 31 to Aug. 4.

Many of Detroit's leading citizens are former Lucknow boys.

WOLTER'S PARENTS TO ADOPT KATIE?

"They Treat Me Like a Daughter," She Says; "Only Albert Is Lacking."

New York, May 19.—Katie Mueller, sweetheart of Ruth Wolter's slayer, is now in the Wolter home, where she may be legally adopted. Although Assistant District Attorney Moss and his family offered

WORKSHOPS FOR QUEBEC

The National Transcontinental Will Locate There.

Quebec, May 18.—At a conference with the council of the board of trade this afternoon, the assurance was given by Hon. S. C. Parent, chairman of the National Transcontinental Railway, that the workshops of the railway would be located at Quebec.

CHATHAM MAN TOUCHED LIVE WIRE

Port Colborne, May 18.—Martin Still, of Chatham, Ont., working on the electric line here, touched a live wire, receiving about 20,000 volts, and fell from a pole 40 feet high to the ground. His condition is critical, he not having regained consciousness.

OPPOSITION LEADER WAS SERIOUSLY ILL

Ottawa, May 19.—Mr. R. L. Borden has been seriously ill, and he will not be able to leave his room before the middle of next week.

The following statement has been given out by his physician: "Mr. Borden is recovering from a severe illness, which suddenly attacked him on the 10th inst. He is now thoroughly convalescent, and expects to be able to leave his room some time next week."

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Royal Purple Bunting 10c Yard

J. H. CHAPMAN & Co.

Royal Purple Bunting 10c Yard

Chic 'Tokio' Wash Goods 32c

In All the Wanted Shades

These lovely Tokio wash goods are very popular and we are continually receiving repeat orders.

They are clean, fresh and beautiful fabrics that will wash like a piece of muslin and always retain their brilliant, lustrous finish.

Chiefly all pure silk, with a slight mixture of linen. What beautiful summer dresses they will make, and at such a small cost, that few women can resist a dress pattern. Sea Green, Rose, Pink, Sky, Mauve, Grey, Yellow, Cream and Black.

Beautiful New Organdy Muslins

All ages will wear Muslins this summer. Beautiful, dainty and fluffy Muslins that are more charming than ever. White and tinted grounds, with flower sprays, garlands, wreaths and festoons in the daintiest colorings. The small cost of a Muslin Dress and its becomingness to maid and matron is the reason of its unflinching popularity. Prices 20c a yard and upwards.

Lace Curtains

The kind of Lace Curtains that every woman wants for the windows in her home—the kind that won't go to pieces in the first washing. We cannot too strongly emphasize that these Curtains are worth their regular marked prices, even though you buy them today at a reduced price.

Different kinds, including Cable Net, Herring Net and Nottingham Lace Curtains, in a choice of beautiful patterns. They are suitable for any room in the house. The reason the price is lowered is because we have too many. Regular \$3.00, \$3.25 and \$3.50 a pair. This week \$2.69.

Handsome Suits Tailored to Measure

Our Ladies' Tailoring Department is taking orders for Ladies' Suits, tailored complete, for \$20.00.

Prospective brides and many other women who have put off buying a suit, will jump at this opportunity to have one tailored to their measure at a big reduction from our regular prices.

A splendid choice is offered among fashionable suitings and tailoring cloths, samples of which are on view in the Dress Goods Section.

These are to be man-tailored Suits with coat lined with silk serge. Suit complete, \$20.00

Royal Purple Bunting 10c Yard

J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128 1/2 Dundas St.

BRYSON MURDER CASE ENDS IN ACQUITTAL

Gypsy Who Shot Two Young Men Is Declared Not Guilty.

Bryson, May 19.—Michael Murphy, the gypsy, who shot and killed Harry Howes and William Dale at Shawville, was yesterday afternoon acquitted of the charge of murder, after a trial which has been in progress during the past week.

When the jury returned with the announcement, "Not guilty," the judge was so astounded that he retorted, "You ought to be ashamed of yourselves," upon which he discharged them.

Turning to Murphy, he said: "You are a brute, an inhuman being, a disgrace to mankind, and you will not under the stigma of shooting those two young men for the rest of your days. You are now at liberty."

Murphy seemed entirely indifferent, and had to be told to leave the court room.

Mrs. Murphy remains in jail awaiting trial on the charge of being an accomplice, but it is doubtful if her case will ever come into court.

The men shot by Murphy were members of a party that was annoying and teasing Murphy and his wife.

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During this conference the reorganization of the Quebec harbor commission was also discussed, the general feeling, it is understood, being that it should be placed on the same basis as at Montreal.

The ministers had a busy time of this morning receiving delegations on various matters, while they were also called upon by many of the federal and local members of the district.

A conference was held between Hon. Messrs. Pugsley, Graham, Brodeur and Parent, and Mr. Chas. M. Hays, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific, and Mr. Wainwright. While nothing was given out for publication, it is known the question of terminals was discussed at length. On the conclusion of the conference the above-mentioned gentlemen visited the Champlain Market property, which, it is believed, is likely to be chosen as the site for the proposed Union Station, and inspected the property and vicinity.

MANY TRUANTS FROM CHATHAM SCHOOLS

Chatham, May 19.—Since the police commissioners appointed a truant officer about three weeks ago, the schools have been filling up so rapidly that the board of education talk of building new schools. Ontario (Dundee) is sending in truants almost every day, and the Collegiate Institute have had to open up another room. Truants appear to assist not only with the public school students, but also among those of the high school.