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LONDON, THURSDAY, APRIL 26.

**The New Provincial Railway Tax Bill.**

The Provincial Government has brought down a railway taxation measure of a comparatively mild description. It demonstrates the insincerity of the conduct of Mr. Whitney and his followers, when in Opposition, in throwing their support to the Pettipiece bill, which provided for a much more drastic degree of railway taxation than Mr. Whitney and his followers, clothed with the responsibility of office, now propose. Their offer to support the Pettipiece bill is shown to have been a trick and maneuver, a playing fast and loose with legislation involving enormous financial interests. If Mr. Pettipiece had walked into the trap by moving the second reading, the Government might have been overturned, but the false friends of his measure would have repudiated it, as they have now done.

The Matheson bill, brought down yesterday, reaffirms the principle of mileage taxation introduced by the late Government. The impost is practically doubled. Railways exceeding 150 miles in length in organized districts will pay \$50 a mile for single track, and \$20 per mile for additional trackage, instead of \$30 and \$10 as now. In unorganized districts the tax will be \$40 and \$10 respectively, instead of \$20 and \$5 as now. Electric railways over 150 miles in length will pay \$10 per mile for each track, but there will be no increased taxation on street railways.

For the year ending Dec. 31, 1905, the provincial tax on railways, excluding street railways, yielded \$191,990.15. It is estimated that the new mileage tax will yield an increase of between \$180,000 and \$190,000. Of this the large sum of \$20,000 will be consumed by the expenses of the railway commission to be appointed, and the cost of collecting the railway taxes and distributing them among the municipalities, which are to receive one-half the balance.

It is figured that each municipality will receive from this source 8 cents per head of population. But the Provincial Government is by no means acting as their good fairy. It demands a quid pro quo, and a stiff one, in the form of contributions toward the maintenance of the insane. Hitherto the asylums have been supported exclusively out of provincial funds. For the first time since Confederation, a portion of the burden is to be thrown upon the municipalities. Each of them is to be required to pay 10 cents per day for every asylum patient from within its own boundaries. In most cases the Government is taking more from the municipalities than it is giving. The departure is a very radical one, and it will be necessary for the Government to advance strong arguments to convince the public that the new policy is necessary or reasonable. During the late regime we heard from the Conservative party that the municipalities had been pillaged by the Government in respect of liquor license fees. What shall we call this new burden laid upon them by a Conservative administration?

**The Attack on the Preference.**

The discussion on the preferential tariff, which arose in the Canadian House of Commons in consequence of the motion brought forward by Mr. Armstrong, the member of West Lambton, shows that the followers of Mr. Borden are not at all friendly to the British preference as put on the statute books by the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Some of them, for instance, Mr. Henderson, of Hamilton—openly avow themselves as ready to support a motion to withdraw it, a sentiment which received no rebuke from the leader of the Opposition. The argument of the Opposition, indeed, leads but to one conclusion, and that is that if the Conservatives had been in power in Canada all these years, there would have been no preference in favor of British products, and none would have been countenanced until such time as the British electors showed their readiness to tax their food supplies.

The opponents of the Canadian Government even went the length of arguing that the British preference had been of no value to the Canadian farmer. And to prove this they went back a year or two, to show that since then, in some of our products, the British imports had decreased. This, of course, was hardly fair. There will be fluctuations in the demand for our products, or in the ability of our producers to market them at the price that may be offered. The honest investigator would have chosen the last year of the rule of the Conservative party (1896), and the last fiscal year completed under the present Government

(1905). Take four of the great staple farm products, and see the change effected for the better. The value of these products exported from Canada to Great Britain in the years named was as follows:

	1896	1905
Butter .....	\$ 893,952	\$ 5,565,999
Cheese .....	13,924,672	20,174,111
Bacon .....	3,799,428	12,180,817
Canned meats .....	816,850	3,525,270

The tactics adopted lead to the conclusion that the opponents of the Government dared not make an honest comparison, such as we have made. The evidence is overwhelming that the British preference has been a good thing for Canada and a good thing for Great Britain. Why should any Canadian desire to do away with it?

Both Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Henderson, in the debate alluded to, exposed themselves to contempt and ridicule, by their ill-informed criticisms of the Government's attitude toward Germany in fiscal matters. It is amazing that members of the Canadian Parliament should seek to weaken the hands of the administration in dealing with Germany, and in vindicating the dignity and commercial freedom of the Dominion. Their conduct was properly described by Mr. Fielding as unpatriotic. Germany attempted to punish Canada because the Laurier Government had the courage to assert this country's fiscal independence by denouncing the German and Belgian treaties. When Germany, as an act of reprisal, undertook to penalize Canadian imports, the members of the Opposition in the Canadian House of Commons were among the foremost in demanding that Canada should retaliate. The Dominion Government countered with the surtax, and its action should have been applauded by every Canadian with a spark of national pride. The inference to be drawn from the belated strictures of Messrs. Armstrong and Henderson is that Canada was wrong in denouncing the German and Belgian treaties and in granting a preference to the mother country; and wrong again in imposing the surtax when Germany tried to castigate her. According to the Henderson and Armstrong theory, Canada should have remained managed and fettered, unable to frame her tariff to suit herself, and should have turned the other cheek after Germany had struck a blow.

The Canadian Government took the self-reliant and self-respecting course, and there are indications that its policy has had the effect of convincing Germany that Canada will not be bulldozed, and that her commercial goodwill is worth cultivating. Mr. Fielding is able to announce that overtures have been made by the German authorities looking to better trade relations between the two countries. Such speeches as those of Messrs. Armstrong and Henderson are peculiarly unfortunate at this juncture, as they may tend to create the impression in Germany that the Canadian Government's policy has not the moral support of the Canadian people.

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Str William P. Howland has undergone a successful operation for appendicitis at the age of 36. This is a marvelous feat of endurance, and it is to be hoped will prolong the life of one of the few remaining pre-Confederation figures.

The decision of the Dominion Government to build a new canal at the Soo, greater than the present one, calls attention to the unparalleled commerce of the upper lakes. The busiest waterway in the world lies between Lake Superior and Lake Huron, and an increase of the canal facilities is necessary to forestall the growth of the Canadian west.

The course of our local contemporary, in advising the license commissioners or the city council to ignore the mandate of the people for license reduction, is unreasonable and futile. If the city needs more hotel accommodation it does not follow that it needs more hotels. Twenty-six of them can amply take care of the traveling public if the managers choose to cater to that branch of the business. The city wants, not more hotels, but a higher standard.

**What Is Man?**  
[Cleveland Plaindealer.]  
Swarming across the earthy crust, Driving deep in the yellow dust, Raising his anthills there and there, Scoring the soil for his humble fare, Braving the seas in his tiny boat— Timeless he struggles, this human mote. Tempests scatter his anthills wide, Vainly he braves the boiling tide, First he ruins his busy mart, Famine stills his throbbing heart, Trembles the earth, and prone he falls, Crumpled and tombed by his pigmy wars. Heir of the kingdom "neath the skies, Often he falls, yet falls to rise, Stumbling, bleeding, beaten back, Holding still to the upward track; Playing his part in creation's plan, Godlike in image—this is man!

**Life Seems Longer, Anyway.**  
[American Medicine.]  
Marriage is an institution highly conducive to the health of both husband and wife. Statistics prove that among married men over 20 years of age, and women over 40 the mortality rate is far less than among those who remain single.

Among the widowed and divorced the mortality is exceptionally great. Sidelines among the unmarried are much more numerous than among the married.

The matrimonial state promotes temperance in every form. Furthermore, the probable duration of life of a married man of 30 exceeds that of his unmarried brother by five years, and the wife may expect to live one year longer than a single woman of the same age.

**Filial Obedience.**  
[Chicago Tribune.]  
"I thought Gwendolen's mamma had forbidden her seeing young Hankerson any more."

"Well, she doesn't see him any more. They meet at our house, of course, but he always turns the gas down as soon as she comes into the parlor."

**Disappointed.**  
[Chicago Tribune.]  
"It's too bad, miss," said the turnkey at the jail, "but the sheriff took that morning. The only real ornery cuss we've got here now is a chap that stole a bulldog. If you'd like to—"

But the young woman with the costly bouquet of hothouse flowers had turned indignantly away.

**No Improvement.**  
[Detroit Free Press.]  
Miss Blue—I don't like my Easter gown and am going to change dress-makers. What kind of a fit does your give you?

Miss Green—A confection, usually.

**Relieved.**  
[Cleveland Plain Dealer.]  
"Papa, young Mr. Musgrave is coming to see you this morning."

"Young Musgrave? What is he coming for?"  
"He—he is coming to ask you for me."

"O, I was afraid he was coming to ask me for money."

**Naturally.**  
[Chicago News.]  
Gunner—Yes, he is a champion golf player and so is his girl. He is going to marry. Not only who the minister who will perform the ceremony is fond of the game.

Guy—Ah, I suppose he will be pleased to link them together.

**The Insurance Commission.**  
[Hamilton Times.]  
There is reasonable ground for the complaint against the course of a few of our Canadian newspapers in regard to the insurance commission's work. It is unfair to pronounce on a partly developed case, and wrong may be done by attempts to do so. The Times has tried to avoid doing wrong in that way and it has called the attention of its conferees to the danger of rash criticism and extreme statement. The press owes a duty to the public, but it also owes justice in comment to every citizen, company and interest which it discusses. Criticism cannot be intelligent that is not based on a knowledge of all the facts and while the press should keep the public informed on disclosures made before the commission, it should as scrupulously warn the public not to jump at conclusions or decide cases without hearing the last word. To do otherwise is to abuse a trust, and probably to inflict injustice.

**Cruelly Kind.**  
[Cleveland Leader.]  
"Miss Jingley is either very grouchy or very considerate of one's feelings—I don't know which."  
"Two widely different propositions, I should say."  
"I don't know. I asked her to sing for me, and she absolutely refused."

**Word of Warning to Girls.**  
[Junction City, Kan., Sentinel.]  
Girls, we never tried it, but it is our opinion you had better be an old maid than be the slave of some worthless man, and there is a great quantity of them in circulation. So don't be in a hurry to marry. Wait until you are almost any time. Those who have tried it say it is quite a task to cut loose from the stick of a man after you tie up to one.

**A Good Guesser.**  
[Chicago Tribune.]  
Several months ago Spangler, the astrologer, made a few predictions as to what would happen in 1906. Among them were these:  
The prevention of three wars by President Roosevelt.  
A destructive eruption of Mount Vesuvius.  
Volcanic eruptions in all parts of the world.  
Destructive earthquake in California and the Philippines.  
Great loss of life at sea by storms.  
Destruction of two western cities by tornadoes.  
Renewed activity of Mont Pelée and Popocatepetl.

Astrologer Spangler appears to be a fairly good guesser, but as he also foretells the assassination of the Czar of Russia, and of the Sultan of Turkey, as among the events that are to take place this year it may be well to suspend judgment as to his infallibility.

**Armstrong's Treason.**  
[Montreal Star.]  
Canada got into the bad graces of Germany by demanding the right to discriminate in favor of British affairs. This was a purely domestic affair, and was to put it into German hands. But Germany undertook to punish us for our course by enforcing against us her highest tariff. To this there could be but one self-respecting reply; and that was the German surtax.

Now that Germany has been reconsidering her entire tariff position, we both might wisely regard the episode as closed, and approach this business question in a business manner. But such delicate negotiations should be left to the Government without any open prodding from behind. If members have anything to say on the subject, there is no doubt that the minister of finance would be willing to listen to them "in camera." And this would be quite as satisfactory to complaining members as a loud discussion in the House, unless they sought to make political capital out of the affair, and to seek political capital in such a situation is not far from constructive treason.

**AN ENGLISH ELECTION ROW**

[From the Winnipeg Free Press.]

The English papers to hand contain stirring accounts of doings at Basingstoke on the occasion of the bye-election there the week before last, which show that a parliamentary election in England can be quite as productive of violence and disorder as a street car strike in Winnipeg. There were three candidates in this Basingstoke bye-election, of whom Mr. T. C. Salter, Unionist, Tariff Reformer, was elected by a majority of 259, thanks to the appearance of an Independent Liberal candidate, Ernest Polden, who polled 467 votes, the regular Liberal candidate, Mr. H. W. Verney, polling 4,592.

A great, excited crowd, say the reports, was massed in the square outside the town hall, and the rival shouting was so uproarious that the returning officer, although he tried for over a quarter of an hour to make himself heard, was unable to declare the result of the poll, which was eventually written on pieces of paper and sealed in the balcony among the people below. When it was realized Mr. Verney was defeated the crowd became furious and shouted to Mr. Polden, who, with the other candidates, was on the balcony, to "Come down and be killed." Mr. Polden visibly quailed as he looked down upon the hundreds of menacing sticks and fists.

Mr. Salter tried to speak from the balcony, but rotten oranges and other missiles began to fly. Mr. Verney was more successful, and Mr. Polden, who wisely kept very much in the background, did not venture an address. Mr. Verney, when he left the building, was hoisted shoulder high and carried to his hotel. Two long ropes were fastened to Mr. Salter's carriage, and about 50 enthusiasts harnessed themselves to it and dragged the successful candidate and his wife round the town.

Meanwhile those bent on revenge did not stir from the town hall. Every exit was guarded by men, who declared that they were prepared to wait all night. The unfortunate Mr. Polden was kept a prisoner for four hours, and at last the police got him out of a back door and drove him off in an armed military car. He got out of the town by a special train, and the crowd returned to the market place and indulged in a fairly brisk election riot. All Unionist colors were torn from those wearing them. Wagons with horses decorated with the offending favours were stopped, and the drivers mercilessly pelted with rotten oranges and eggs.

**POEMS THAT LIVE**

The Lake of the Dismal Swamp

[Thomas Moore.]

"They made her a grave too cold and damp,  
For she's gone to the Lake of the Dismal Swamp.  
Where the night-long, by a fiery lamp,  
She paddles her white canoe."

"And her fiery lamp I soon shall see,  
And her paddle I soon shall hear;  
Long and loving our life shall be,  
And I'll hide the maid in a cypress tree,  
When the footstep of Death is near."

Away to the Dismal Swamp he speeds;  
His path was rugged and sore,  
Through tangled woods of weeds,  
Through many a fen where the serpent feeds,  
And never trod before.

And when on earth he sunk to sleep,  
If slumber his eyelids knew,  
He lay where the deadly vine doth weep  
His venomous tear, and nightly steep  
The flesh with blistering dew.

And near him the she-wolf stirred the brake,  
And the coppersnake breathed in his ear,  
Till he starting, cried, from his dream awake,  
"Oh, when shall I see the dusky lake,  
And the white canoe of my dear?"

He saw the lake, and the meteor bright  
Quick o'er its surface played;  
"Welcome," he said, "my dear one's light,  
And the dim shore echoed for many a night  
The name of the death-cold maid."

Till he followed a boat of the birchen bark,  
Which carried him off from the shore;  
For far he followed the meteor spark,  
The winds were high, and the clouds were dark,  
And the boat returned no more.

But oft from the Indian hunter's camp,  
He saw the dusky lake,  
And the white canoe of his dear,  
And the boat returned no more.

**WOMAN POSES AS MAN**  
[Husband] Admits She Assumed Attire in Order to Get Work.

New York, April 26. — "Michael" Minch, who passed for 20 years as the husband of Kittle Minch, turned out today to be a woman. The revelation came on Ellis Island and provides the immigration officials with a brand new problem. They confessed their inability to wrestle with it and referred the matter to Washington.

**J. H. CHAPMAN & CO**

Of Special Interest to the Thrifty Housekeeper

Is This Week's Friday Bargain Day List.

As among the many tempting bargains offered are household needs, on which the lady of the house can effect quite a saving. Read the list. Shop early.

**Two Tempting Offers in Lace Curtains**

One at 79c Per Pair One at \$1.00 Per Pair

100 pairs Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3½ yards long, 56 inches wide, overlapped cord edges, two very pretty designs. On sale Friday, at, per pair.....79c

150 pairs Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3½ yards long, 54 inches wide, overlapped cord edges, three handsome designs to choose from. On sale Friday, at, per pair.....\$1.00

**Friday's Clearing of Dress Goods Remnants**

500 ends of Dress Goods, measuring 2½ to 5 yards, in all the season's newest fabrics, including tweeds, broadcloths, serges and panama cloths. All will be placed on one table to enable the buyer to make an easy choice. Shop as early as you can on Friday.

**1,000 Yards Black Sateen at 12½c Yard**

Black Mercerized Sateen, warranted absolutely fast black, extra heavy cloth, suitable for petticoats, waists, house dresses and linings, worth 15c yard. Friday, for, yard.....12½c

**10c Yard**

New American Batiste, white ground, with pretty rose designs, 28 inches wide, all the seasonable colors. Friday only, yard.....10c

**20c Yard**

Mercerized Taffeta, in checks, stripes, plaids, in shades of brown, blue, navy, green and black and white. Would make handsome shirtwaist suits, rich silk finish. Friday, for, yard.....20c

**15c Yard**

Linen Suiting, in medium weight and in shades of green, blue, navy and gray, full 36 inches wide, suitable for early summer wear. Friday, for, yard.....15c

**300 Yards of Tapestry Carpet, Made and Laid for 55c Yard**

22 Only Reversible Floor Rugs for \$1.50 Each

The above very tempting offers good for Friday only. If the one or both interests you, we advise you to make your selection early Friday morning.

**300 yards of English Tapestry Carpet, all pure wool, full 27 inches wide, in colorings of blue, brown, red and fawn. Remember, made and laid, on Friday only, for, yard 55c**

**Ladies' Personal Needs**

Latest New York ideas in Hand Bags, pretty hand bags in black, brown, blue, at, each.....50c

Another quaint Hand Bag, in black, green, brown and navy. Friday for.....75c

**20c Linen Handkerchief for 10c**

Ladies' Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched edge, lace insertion, linen center. Regular price 20c, Friday for.....10c

5c each. A few only pure Irish Handkerchiefs ¼ and ½ inch hem. Friday, each.....5c

**J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128½ Dundas St.**

**DOWIE'S DOWNFALL**

A LA SOLOMON

His Descent Rapid After Donning Mother Hubbard Style of Dress.

Chicago, April 26.—The downfall of Solomon was used on Sunday by Deputy Overseer Wilbur Glenn Voliva in a sermon at Zion City to describe the fate of John Alexander Dowie, who, he said, "had incurred the wrath of God and lost a kingdom."

Thousands of strangers flocked to Zion in the afternoon expecting to see Dowie and witness a clash between his followers and those of Voliva. They were disappointed, for Dowie remained at his apartments in the Auditorium Annex, forty miles away, while his rival delivered himself of another philippic.

Voliva said Dowie had sinned by wearing fine apparel, "robes of purple, yellow and white," and assuming a pompous walk. He asserted the "apostle's" trip to Europe was responsible for this, for he had returned with the idea that he was to be the ruler of a nation and the religious adviser of kings.

"It was the same way with Solomon," said Voliva. "While he was humble and God-fearing he was blessed. While Dowie was leading the simple life and was content to wear common clothes instead of a Mother Hubbard dress he converted hundreds of people."

Voliva made only slight reference to Dowie's failure to come to Zion, but repeated his assertion that Zion would present no hindrance to his coming whenever he chose to start.

During his sermon the deputy overseer announced his intention of undertaking drastic reforms. "Dowie has left this town in such a state,"

**BARGAINS IN MEDICINE.**

A woman once wrote us that she was not going to buy Scott's Emulsion any more because it cost too much. Said she could get some other emulsion for less money. Penny wise and pound foolish. Scott's Emulsion costs more because it is worth more—costs more to make. We could make Scott's Emulsion cost less by using less oil. Could take less care in making it, too. If we did, however, Scott's Emulsion wouldn't be the standard preparation of cod liver oil as it is to-day.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Toronto, Ont.

Voliva asked the members of the restoration host to renounce their oaths given to Dowie, and with only a few

exceptions this was done. Voliva announced meetings for Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday nights, and a fourth meeting for next Sunday morning. He said this probably would not be held in the tabernacle.

Japan has at last a newspaper in which the same type is used as in our journals. It is called the Romanji.

**CASTORIA**

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of

J. H. HITCHCOCK

The Kind You Have Always Bought

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