

London Advertiser

FOUNDED IN 1863.
NOON AND EVENING DAILY.
WEEKLY ADVERTISER.
THE LONDON ADVERTISER CO.,
Limited, Publishers,
191-193 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

PHONE NUMBERS:
Business Department..... 105
Editorial Rooms..... 124 and 126
Job Printing Department..... 172

TO SUBSCRIBERS.
Readers of The Advertiser are requested to favor the management by reporting any irregularities in delivery.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
Daily, Delivered by Carrier in City:
One year..... \$5.00
One week..... .10
Daily, Delivered by Carrier Outside City:
One year..... \$5.50
One week..... .10
Monthly, by Mail, Outside City:
One year..... \$2.50
One month..... .25

The Advertiser is on sale regularly at the following news stands, where subscriptions may be left:
Buffalo, N. Y.—R. J. Seidenburg, Elliott Square News Stand.
Chicago, Ill.—Chicago Newspaper Agency, 129 Madison street.
Louisville, Ky.—Kentucky International News Company.
Montreal, Que.—Peter Murphy, Post-Office News Stand.
Toronto—Toronto House News Stand.
Toronto—Rossini House News Stand.

LONDON, TUESDAY, FEB. 22.

THE BRITISH CRISIS.

The British political situation is passing from crisis to crisis.
Mr. Asquith's pronouncement has not cleared the air. The fog is even denser, and a storm is brewing in a new quarter. The struggle of the election seems about to be transferred to the House of Commons, but with a realignment of parties. It is more than possible that an astonished country will see the Unionists and the Liberals walk into one lobby, and the Nationalists and the Laborites into another.

Mr. Asquith has declared that the budget must be the first order of business. It will be followed by the bill to limit the veto of the House of Lords. These two measures will be the only legislation introduced until the question of the veto is settled. Mr. Redmond replies that the veto must be given precedence as the condition of Irish support of the budget. The Nationalists, he says, will help to pass the budget only upon receiving assurances that the Government will be able to carry a veto bill to a successful conclusion this year. Mr. Asquith confesses that he has received no such assurance from the King, and says that no constitutional statesman can ask for an indefinite exercise of the royal prerogative in regard to a measure that has not been submitted to the House of Commons and approved.

The positions taken by Mr. Asquith and Mr. Redmond appear to be irreconcilable. The Nationalists might carry their threat to further than to refrain from voting for or against the budget, in which event the Government might carry it by a narrow majority with the aid of the Laborites. The latter will not declare their views until this afternoon. If either the Nationalists or the Laborites vote against the budget, or if both of them refrain from voting, the Government's fate will be in the hands of the regular Opposition. Mr. Balfour's speech gives no clue to the attitude of his party, but the Daily Mail and other Unionist journals have intimated that the Opposition will support the budget in order to shield the Government from Irish dictation. It may be taken for granted that if this support is tendered, the motives will not be so disinterested as these journals would have the public believe. It is altogether likely that the Unionist leaders are unwilling to assume office or risk another general election at this juncture. Financially the Unionists are better equipped than any other party, but there is little probability that they could win a majority over all parties combined, with Scotland, Wales and the industrial north of England arrayed almost solidly against them, and with Ireland hostile on the main issue. Already the Government has had to borrow \$180,000,000 on treasury notes to meet current expenses, because of the inability to collect the regular taxes, due to the rejection of the budget. A Unionist administration would have to take up this burden, which would multiply the difficulties of framing a tariff reform budget. There are plausible reasons, therefore, for the opinion that the Opposition cannot afford to defeat the Government at the present time. However, all is mere conjecture at this stage. The events of the next few days—perhaps hours—may put an end to prophecy.

Since the above was put into type, there has been another turn of the wheel. The Nationalists have decided to take no part in the proceedings of the House until the veto question is reached. They will abstain from voting for or against the budget. The Government will therefore be enabled to carry the budget by about 50 majority if the Laborites lend their support and if the nine O'Brienites refrain from voting. It is probable, however, that the O'Brienites will vote against the Government, reducing its majority to about 40. If the Unionists are united against the budget.

A BRITISH INCUBUS.

A graphic description of Glasgow's municipal government is given in the Toronto Telegram by its editor, John R. Robinson. He went to England to watch the general election, and, although an anti-free trader, he has returned a warm friend of Lloyd George's budget. "Iniquitous" is the term he applies to some features of the system of municipal taxation in the mother country, which the budget will remedy.

The area of the city of Glasgow is 12,975 acres, of which 3,420 acres are taxed at the rate of only 1s per acre per annum, because they are unimproved. The law places the burden of taxation upon the actual earning power of the property. Vacant lots and

vacant houses pay virtually no taxes, because they yield no income to the owners. The vacant house may be vacant because the owner wants too much rent. The vacant lot is possibly vacant because it is in the hands of a speculator holding it for a rise in value, created by the enterprise of the community. But both are exempt from taxation, except for the nominal sum of \$1 a year, levied upon each acre of idle or unimproved land. The land clauses of the Lloyd George budget proposed to tax "unimproved ground" at about four mills on the dollar, dividing the revenue between the municipality and the federal treasury. Mr. Robinson says:

"The conditions under which speculators can hold one-fourth the total area of Glasgow, free from taxation, until they are ready to sell, are intolerable."
"The wonder is that even tariff reform saved the Unionists from extermination on the issue raised by their ill-judged hostility to the land tax clause of the Lloyd George budget."
The increment tax, which proposes to make the landlord share with the state the increased value of a parcel of land when it is sold, Mr. Robinson also pronounces just. These two taxes—the unimproved or undeveloped land tax and the increment duty—have been called "revolutionary" and "confiscatory" by Canadian journals, either through ignorance or prejudice.

PREMIER WHITNEY AND THE WESTERN.

[From the Chatham News.]
It is to be hoped, for his own credit, and that of the Province, that the newspaper reports of the reception given by Premier Whitney to the Western University delegation are doing that gentleman an injustice.

The personal feelings of Sir J. P. Whitney should have nothing to do with the action which the Premier of Ontario and his cabinet may decide to take with reference to a question very important to the educational development of the most largely populated portion of the Province. Patriotism demands that Sir James, in approaching the question, should lay aside all personal feeling in the matter; good politics, even, should prevent him from placing himself in the position of turning down the request of the deputation, not because it was an unreasonable request, but because he felt that some one connected with the university had subjected himself or his Government to an affront.

The remarks of Sir James indicate a preference for the centralization of university education at Toronto. Such a policy will scarcely appeal to the rest of Ontario. It would, of course, scarcely be well for the Government to fritter away its funds upon a large number of small universities; but if Eastern Ontario is entitled to a university of its own at Kingston, surely Western Ontario, with a larger number of matriculants than Eastern and Central Ontario combined, should have the like privilege, and should receive at least the same aid.

The British Government is in difficulties—sort of an Irish stew.
It is safe to say that if the Unionists help the Government it is because they are helping themselves.

For the sake of the Western University we are all hoping that Sir James Whitney is like Wagner's music—not so bad as he sounds.

The German chancellor says his Government will not be influenced by public opinion. This is a comfortable position for the Government—until the boiler blows up.

Lord Lansdowne intimates that the House of Lords is ready to reform itself. This is downright ingratitude toward Canadian funkies who have backed it as the greatest collection of statesmen on earth.

Professor Adam Shortt ascribes the increased cost of living to higher wages. The workmen say they must have higher wages to meet the increased cost of living. It is like the old problem: which came first—the egg or the hen?

A Toronto public meeting calls upon the Canadian Government to add two Dreadnoughts to its naval park, making a total outlay of \$40,000,000 in four years. Half of this sum would double our lake marine if it were spent on a newer and deeper Welland Canal.

An imaginative correspondent has discovered that the King has repudiated his ministers because the words "in the opinion of my advisers" appear in the passage of his speech referring to the anti-Lords legislation. The speech was in all probability so drafted by the King's advisers as to shield him from the imputation of having expressed any personal opinion. Mr. Asquith's assertion that he has asked no assurances from the King is a sufficient reply to the silly interpretation upon which cable tolls have been thrown away.

WOULD BE A CURIOSITY.

[Victoria Colonist.]
A royal duke would be likely to be a failure as governor-general, not because of anything personal to himself, but because Canadians would hardly know what to do with royalty, for, after all, we are just everyday people who are busy making a country.

NO PANIC THERE.

[Premier Asquith at Bath.]
I without hesitation make the assertion that one of its results has been that we are more completely secured so far as the defense of these shores is concerned at this moment than at any time within the memory of living man.

THE DOC'S BRILLIANT IDEA.

[Hamilton Herald.]
Dr. Chisholm, M. P. for West Huron, is the author of a new and original naval policy for Canada. He proposes that a number of Dreadnoughts be hired to protect the trade routes. This, he thinks,

would be cheaper than maintaining a navy. Although he doesn't say so, we suppose that the doctor would have the Government advertise for tenders for the naval powers for war vessels to police the Canadian trade routes, favorable consideration to be given to the lowest tender.

NO CHANGE.

[Chicago News.]
Although meat is fully as high in the East as it is in the West, Wall street is dining regularly on lamb.

IN THE RABIES BELT.

[Hamilton Spectator.]
If the framers of that new dog law were to be muzzled for a day, I'll bet they'd have rabies before night.

PROBABLY EXPLAINED IT.

[Buffalo Express.]
"What has become of those four barrels of apples that were in the basement this morning?" asked Mr. Outsiders, mystified.
"I don't know," said his wife. "I had a small boy clearing up \$5.00 dollar today, if that will explain anything."

HOPE.

[Washington Star.]
"All is over between us," said the emotional youth. "She despises me."
"Has she sent back your letters?"
"Yes."
"Then cheer up. If she really despised you she would hold on to your letters to be read in court or used for the amusement of her friends."

THE OLD WAD OF HAIR.

[Ottawa Citizen.]
The statement that 12,000 men own all the land in England, occupied by 40,000,000 of people, seems to be a pretty concrete way of explaining the present social condition in Britain without taking sides in the political controversy.

WELL PUT.

[S. E. Kiser.]
I love it, I love it, and who shall dare to chide me for loving that "bank of hair?"
I've treasured it long as a precious prize; Whenever I see it fond memories rise. This bond by its very strand to my heart.

And I never shall burn it or pull it apart. Would you learn the spell? Do you ask why I care?
My mother once wore that wad of brown hair.

In childhood's hour, while lingering near, I've seen her braiding and combing and dear. The song she sang as she combed away. Still rings in my memory today.

She taught me, as most loving mothers do, To shun the false and to prize the true. The switch was her own—she had bought it somewhere.

When fashion demanded big waves of hair, 'Tis false, 'tis false, but I gaze on it now With a love that seems to increase somehow.

'Twas it she wore "neath her big, broad hat, And wound and twisted to hide her rat. Say I am foolish, because it grew. On the head of someone whom I never knew.

But I love it, I love it, I love it, I swear— For my hair was once proud of that wad of hair.

STREET RAILWAY SHIES AT THE PEAK LOAD

Anxious for Niagara Power But Don't Like Mode of Measuring.

The London Street Railway Company have not closed with the hydro-electric commission for power.

As stated Monday the company received terms from the commission, it is understood, at \$35 a horsepower, but on the peak load would make the company's bill enormous, and there is where the split comes in.

The company are afraid of the peak load. They claim that a thunder storm, or some occasion that would demand a very great deal of power for a very short time, would run their monthly consumption up very high, and make the rates prohibitive.

They suggested to the commission that an estimate of the power the company would use be made by the engineers of the Government, and all over that would be paid for by meter.

This would remove the objection to the peak load, and make the terms more suitable to the company.

The commissioners at first refused to listen to that proposition, but it is understood that they are at the present time considering it.

The company are still receiving estimates on producer gas, and may consider this means of developing power.

TOO MUCH BRUTALITY TOWARD DUMB ANIMALS

Inspector Sanders Says Dogs Will Be Protected by the Humane Society.

When spoken to today regarding the likelihood of the establishment of a lethal chamber to dispose of the dogs whose owners are not willing to meet the requirements necessitated by the city and Government legislation, Mr. Joseph Sanders, of the Humane Society, stated that something would be done in this line.

"There has been far too much brutality towards dogs lately," he stated, "people beating and kicking the poor animals to death, but everything possible is going to be done to protect them from this on. There will be a great many that will have to be destroyed." He intimated cases where there were three or four dogs kept by some poor families.

"Their owners could not possibly pay the \$2 required by the city, couldn't pay a dollar without depriving their own families," he said, "so there will, of necessity, be a good many dogs that will have to be destroyed. As soon as they begin catching the dogs I will see the chief of police and the mayor, and arrange for some method whereby they may be disposed of without pain."

"I should think that a humane person would be much the best and most painless manner of disposing of them. Some such step as this will certainly be taken when the conditions require it, as it is expected they will within a few days now."

DEATH OF OLD-TIME TYPO.

Leicester, Feb. 22. George W. Schroyer, a printer, and prominent local affairs, died today, aged 92. Mr. Schroyer had the distinction of being the compositor who set the type for the printing of the charter of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Could Not Sleep.

DOCTOR SAID HEART AND NERVES WERE RESPONSIBLE.

There is many a man and woman tossing night after night upon a sleepless bed.

Their eyes do not close in the sweet and refreshing repose that comes to those whose heart and nerves are right. Some constitutional nervousness, some disease has so debilitated and irritated the nervous system, that it cannot be quieted and causes nightmare, bad dreams, starting in the sleep, twitching of the muscles, restlessness, etc.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are a specific for all people troubled in this way. They have a soothing and calming effect on the nervous system.

Mrs. Calvin Stark, Rossmore, Ont., writes:—"About two years ago I began to be troubled with a smothering sensation at night when I would lie down, I got so bad I could not sleep in the dark, and would have to sit up and rub my limbs, they would become so numb. My doctor said my heart and nerves were responsible. I saw Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills advertised and got a box to try them. I took three doses and can now lie down and sleep without the light burning and can rest well. I can recommend them highly to all nervous and run down women."

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

ASQUITH SAYS

(Continued From Page One.)

and that great pressure is being brought to bear from the Radical side, induce Mr. Asquith to resign forthwith.

Austen Chamberlain will propose an amendment to the King's speech in favor of tariff reform and imperial preference, at the same time deploring the failure of the ministers to recognize in the size in the sphere and gravity of the state of trade and employment.

King Qualifies Assertion.

The King's speeches usually are prosaic, but one clause in his speech today is regarded as a real gem. Referring to the proposed reform of the House of Lords, the speech contained the qualifying clause: "In the opinion of my advisers," which is interpreted as meaning that the King wants to dissociate himself from such proposals.

The ceremony attendant upon the opening of Parliament was with the usual pomp.

Inside the House of Lords, the scene was an unusually brilliant and animated one. Every seat was occupied, including those in the gallery, where the beautifully dressed ladies awaited the coming of the King and Queen. The peers were resplendent in scarlet and white robes. The judges wore mantles of scarlet, and serjeants of black and gold. The bishops had discarded their black satin robes with lawn sleeves for ecclesiastical full dress of scarlet with long ermine capes.

The diplomatic corps, glittering in the full military uniforms of dozens of more or less important powers, The Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia were also among the spectators, the latter in the uniform of a British admiral.

Speech Was Brief.

When the Commons arrived the King immediately began reading the document.

The King in his speech said: "Recent experience has disclosed serious difficulties, due to recurring differences of strong opinion between the two branches of the Legislature. Proposals will be laid before you with all due dispatch, and the relations between the Houses of Parliament so as to secure the undivided authority of the House of Commons over finance and its predominance in legislation. These measures, in the opinion of my advisers, should provide that this House should be so constituted and empowered as to exercise impartially, in regard to proposed legislation, the functions of initiation, revision, and assent to proper safeguards of delay."

The speech concluded, the King arose and descended the steps of the throne, leading the Queen, and followed by the Princesses.

Balfour on the Speech.

After the usual humble address in reply to the speech from the throne had been moved and seconded in the Commons this afternoon, Right Honorable Arthur J. Balfour, the Unionist leader, arose and said: "I have said or else might be said of the 'gracious speech from the throne,' there was very little in it. The only legislation foreshadowed, he declared, was some alteration in the regulations of the House of Lords and House of Commons, and possibly some alteration in the constitution in the House of Lords. The terms of the speech, he said, were highly ambiguous."

Mr. Balfour went on to say: "When the budget receives the cold and chilly, but numerically adequate support of this House it doubtless will become a legislative fact. The majority of the House will be disposed to support the budget, but it cannot be pretended that Ireland favors it. Ireland abstains from opposing the budget because it thinks that the Government will not overrule those of finance. If the budget were isolated from all other questions it would be rejected."

"If the Premier's home rule speech just before the election had been taken seriously in England, as it was in Ireland, all other questions would have been dwarfed. I have had 149 campaign speeches delivered by members of the cabinet analyzed, and in only one is there any voluntary reference to home rule."

"Not only the Lords themselves, but all parties in the Commons desire that the Upper House be reformed. The Liberal party, as always, is an independent body, allied with no party. They supported the Government in the last election because of the Premier's pledge of home rule."

"This," he went on, "was supplemented by a pledge more important still to Ireland, namely, a pledge referring to home rule as tantamount to the repeal of the Act of Union."

Proceeding, the speaker said that he thought that Mr. Asquith's Albert Hall speech declared that the Premier had given guarantees of the use of the royal authority and that if this was not obtained he would decline to hold office. The country, he believed, was of the same belief, but now it appeared that the Premier meant nothing of the sort. He added:

"Apparently the intention of the Government is to pass the budget before any assurance is given that the veto bill will pass. This disastrous

In reply to questions, Mr. Asquith

CHAPMAN'S

Last Week of Stock-Taking Sale and the Last Week of Many Important Sales

Ladies' and Children's Coats at HALF
The final clearing of winter garments to make room for new spring goods reaches the bargain-giving limit. All lines are largely reduced. Come early for first choice.

Men's White Shirts 59c
Just eight dozen Men's Laundered White Shirts, all linen bosoms, open back and front, sizes 14½ to 17. Our dollar shirts, on sale Wednesday for 59c
Stanfield's Underwear for men, just a few dozen garments left, \$1.00 value, clearing at, per garment 75c

Beautiful Silk Dresden Ribbons
Needless to say this is a splendid purchase—5-inch Silk Dresden Ribbons at 19c yard. It sounds good, doesn't it? Well, the Ribbons, when seen, will prove just as good. They are beautiful and must be seen to be appreciated. Thirty-five different color combinations, including maize, tuscany, brown, gray, robin's egg blue, sky, Nile green, pink, wistaria, Suitable for hair bows, sashes, girdles, opera bags, hat trimmings, work bags, cushion frills. On sale now..... **19c**

Last Week of Cotton Sale
The February Cotton Sale is drawing to a most successful close. Note the following special advantages:

500 yards Bleached Twilled Cotton, 40 inches wide (note the width), suitable for sheets, nightgowns, pillow cases, etc. Worth 18c a yard. For the last week of the Cotton Sale **14c**
Circular Pillow Cottons, 42 and 40 inches wide. At a yard **16c**
36-inch Fine India Long-cloth, for infants', children's and ladies' fine underwear. Worth 15c a yard. This week at **12½c**
Ready-made extra heavy round-thread English Sheets, size 2½x2½ yards. Special, each **\$1.00**
Ready-Made Pillow Cases, of good firm cotton, 40 and 42 inches wide. At **18c** each, dozen **\$2.00**
72-inch Bleached Twilled Sheet, regular 3½ x 4 yard. Until the close of the February Sale, a yard **28c**

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

explained that it was not the intention of the Government to let the budget pass from the control of the Commons. Until a division had been taken as to the House of Lords it was not the intention to let the budget pass to the upper chamber.

Budget Then Lords.

"Apart from matters of finance," said Mr. Asquith, "the only question on which the Government has announced any legislative proposals is that of the relations between the two Houses of Parliament. It is the intention to introduce nothing further till these contentions have been set at rest forever. The last year the Lords rejected the budget. It was a glaring breach of the unwritten convention, and of the constitution. It was the climax of a series of acts, which told more than words, that the Lords intended to override the authority of the popular chamber. The appeal of the Government to the country was to give them authority to end this state of things."

"I have said that we must have legislative safeguards, but some of my friends have said that I have talked about guarantees and exercise of the royal prerogative. No one will deny that I am a man of my word. If I had said such a thing I would not be standing here now. I received no such guarantees. I think that a responsible minister, so far as possible, should keep the name of the sovereign and the prerogative of the crown outside the domain of party politics. To ask in advance for blank authority or for indefinite exercise of the royal prerogative in regard to a measure that had not been submitted to or approved by the House of Commons is a request that no constitutional statesman would make. The Government proposes to proceed in the first instance by resolutions which will be embodied in a bill. We hope that these resolutions will be laid on the table at an early day, by which it is meant that they shall be discussed before the House rises for the spring recess."

The Programme.

"Owing to the financial necessities of the country, the Government proposes that the House adjourn at Easter only from Thursday till the following Tuesday and then go on until the middle of April, when the budget shall have been disposed of. The same programme has been decided upon concerning the question of the power of the Lords."

"After these two matters have been disposed of the House might take a reasonable holiday. After that it will be necessary to work for the remainder of the session to pass the bill based upon the resolution affecting the status of the Lords."

The Premier then stated that the House would be asked to pass the budget before the Easter adjournment, with no material changes therein, except the necessary one as to dates, etc.

Redmond Protests.

John Redmond protested strongly against the order of the Government's programme. The Nationalists, he said, stood now as always apart as an independent body, allied with no party. They supported the Government in the last election because of the Premier's pledge of home rule.

"This," he went on, "was supplemented by a pledge more important still to Ireland, namely, a pledge referring to home rule as tantamount to the repeal of the Act of Union."

Proceeding, the speaker said that he thought that Mr. Asquith's Albert Hall speech declared that the Premier had given guarantees of the use of the royal authority and that if this was not obtained he would decline to hold office. The country, he believed, was of the same belief, but now it appeared that the Premier meant nothing of the sort. He added:

"Apparently the intention of the Government is to pass the budget before any assurance is given that the veto bill will pass. This disastrous

policy of throwing away and wasting the mandate received from the country would enable the Lords to force a second dissolution on the question of the veto. For a year the House will be expected to settle down to a futile discussion of a bill which is certain to be rejected, and at the end of that time there will be an election and the Government will be beaten by a weary electorate. The Government, in passing the budget, will be throwing away its most useful weapon, which is the question of finance. If the Premier will give a reasonable assurance that he will be able to carry the veto bill to a successful passage this year, the Nationalists will vote for the budget, but we are not willing to pay that price for nothing."

The situation, he went on, might be saved, but the Nationalists could not willingly be a party to plowing the sands. In conclusion, he repeated Ireland's attitude.

The Commons adjourned this afternoon on motion of Barnes, the leader of the Laborites. Following precedent he will be the first speaker when the debate is resumed on Tuesday. After adjournment there was a private conference of the Labor members of the Commons, but they refused to make public the result of their deliberations.

Proposed Amendments.
The board of railway commissioners can deal with works done by the railway companies, irrespective of the act under which the commissioners proceed. For instance, the board is authorized to deal with the cases of companies which have proceeded with the location of their lines without first getting the authority of the board.

Canadian railways may appoint as joint-presidents, with certain defined duties, men who are not members of the board of directors.

Erection of wires over tracks, where such action is necessary, before the issuance of an order by the board.

The necessity for brakemen riding the rear end of locomotives. In this connection Mr. Graham explained that brakemen recognized the necessity of this in crowded railway yards, but objected to doing it over certain portions of lines of railways on the ground that in cold weather it constitutes a hardship.

Canadian railways may give transportation to former employees or to members of the interstate commerce commission of the United States.

Agreements in respect to the running of telegraph lines across railway tracks subject to the approval of the railway board, as is now the case with telephone wires.

CANE CUTTERS STRIKE.

Point St. Pierre, Feb. 22.—Twenty thousand sugar cane cutters have gone on strike here, and all agriculture work has been stopped. The situation is serious as the troops and police are insufficient to preserve order among the strikers.

The trouble began two days ago, when 1,000 men went on strike and set fire to five of the estates on which they have been employed. Troops were sent to the scene and restored the peace, but the danger was renewed and the strike has become general. The strikers have refused to accept an offer of an increase of 33 per cent in their wages.

