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LONDON, TUESDAY, FEB. 13.

The World's Richest Country.

James J. Hill, the railway king of
the Western States, says in an inter-
view:

"American wastefulness is most apparent in regard to her greatest asset—agriculture. We must aim to keep the people upon the land, and so deal with the land that it will support the people. At the St. Louis Fair, the exhibits of chemical and scientific treatment of the soil, which were shown by Germany, displayed what the Kaiser's realm is doing in the field of agricultural industry. The proper rotation of crops, the treatment of the grain—the very kernels being handled scientifically one by one—the care of the soil, every detail of husbandry is considered not by men who drift haphazard into farming, but by learned and honored professors who have devoted lifelong study to the science.

"Agriculture is the backbone of a nation. It is that which makes the money. Look at France. It paid the indemnity demanded by Germany after the Franco-Prussian war within half the stipulated time. The French are the bankers of the world. There is more French money in England than the Chancellor of the Exchequer likes to think about. The per capita wealth of France is greater than of any other country in the universe, with the possible exception of Canada."

It is probably true that the per capita wealth of Canada is the greatest in the world. Some years ago the British statistician, Mulhall, gave Australia this position, but since then Canada has made marvelous progress and Australia has stood still. In the United States there are fifteen million negroes, and millions of foreigners in comparative poverty. This easily explains the higher average of wealth in this country. Most of the Canadian immigrants are of an agricultural class, and soon acquire property in the west. In the United States the aliens are not land-seekers, but flock to the cities and work for the lowest wages. Canada's foundation is in the "indestructible riches of the soil," to use Ricardo's phrase.

In France the division of the great estates at the revolution gave the country that peasant proprietorship which, allied to its fertile soil, is the source of its inexhaustible wealth. In Great Britain a partition of the estates of the nobility may become necessary to the national salvation, but it will not be brought about by condensation.

The note of warning sounded by James J. Hill as to the wastefulness of American agriculture applies to some extent to this country. In the west the exhaustion of the soil is scarcely contemplated by the wheat-growers, but some day there will be an awakening, and in every part of the country there will be an approximation to the intensive cultivation which enables the French peasant to become a money-lender off his few arpents.

Mr. Balfour's Latest

Mr. Balfour has displayed his dexterity again in dodging the issue raised in Mr. Chamberlain's letter to Lord Ridley, which was virtually an ultimatum. Mr. Balfour was warned that the tariff reformers, while ready to accept his leadership, expected from him a "definite and unmistakable programme," to which they could give adherence.

The admonition has not been without its effect. Mr. Balfour is never definite, but his address last night was unmistakably a feat of logic designed to find some common ground with the Chamberlainites, which would make his leadership tenable. As a mere logical exercise the speech must be pronounced a success, judging by the comments of the Unionist press. He argued that the end sought by the tariff reformers and the retaliationists was the same—to lighten the burdens of British industry. His own policy was intended to combat the tariffs other countries had imposed, and to preserve neutral markets, thus maintaining an increased foreign market for British manufacturers. Protection was an attempt to keep the home market against equal competition from foreign markets. Whether it was possible to carry out retaliation without a general tariff was a point upon which he refused to commit himself, although it is the gist of the whole question. If Mr. Balfour would say that a general tariff is a condition of his policy, antecedent to any retaliatory legislation, or any trade negotiations with other countries, the partition between Mr. Chamberlain and himself would be largely broken down. He contends that this question can remain in abeyance until the country decides in favor of the end toward which the Unionist party is aiming.

Mr. Balfour's speech is intended to anticipate the meeting of the Unionist party on Thursday. It remains to be seen whether he will go further, or, if he does not, whether he has gone far enough to permit a working alliance with the Chamberlainites.

License Inspectors as Politicians

The new license inspector of the city of St. Catharines presided at a Conservative meeting in that city the other night, and declared that he had no intention of ceasing to take an active part in politics. The same thing is happening elsewhere. Says the Dufferin Post, a Conservative paper.

"It was not an edifying spectacle to see License Commissioner Duggan and Inspector Orr active and demonstrative at the Conservative meeting on Saturday. These are the things against which Conservatives kicked when Reformers were in power, and there should now be an exhibition of sincerity and consistency. There is no need of the office-holder at a political gathering, and he only destroys public confidence in his own honesty and impartiality when he throws himself into the party wrangles of the day."

The license inspectors mentioned in these cases are entirely consistent. The Whitney Government, in dismissing the former inspectors for no reason whatever, laid down the rule that an inspector's tenure of office ends when his party goes out of power. License inspectors will endeavor to keep their party in power, and so preserve their means of livelihood. It is hypocrisy to pretend that they are not political agents. They have been placed in that position by the Government. It is not they who are inconsistent, but the Government which boasted that it intended to divorce policies from the license administration.

If Mr. Balfour has succeeded in making himself understood he has scored his first triumph in a long while.

A Sicilian was married yesterday in the Montreal jail, another proof that stone walls do not a prison make, and that love laughs at turnkeys.

License inspectors who dabble in politics are doing their duty—i.e., the duty expected of them by the Whitney Government.

Perhaps the United States press will allow Alice Roosevelt and her husband a little peace and quiet during the honeymoon.

The New York World, after a study of the American publication, "Who's Who," is surprised at the amount of talent Canada has sent to the United States. This is a pretty compliment, but Canada is going to keep more of her talent at home in future.

Ontario will have a fat surplus this year, owing to the growth in the succession duties. "Whereas," said the present Provincial Treasurer when in Opposition, "the highwaymen steal from the living who have a chance to defend themselves, the Government that levies an inheritance tax robs the dead, and is worst than a highwayman."

It is rumored that Rev. J. A. Macdonald, the editor of the Globe, will be the Liberal candidate in North Toronto for the Legislature. There is the distinguished precedent of Hon. George Brown for this dual role, and journalists already are a power in the Ontario House. Mr. Macdonald is a vigorous speaker and a man of ideals. He would be a great acquisition to an Opposition which requires to be strengthened.

Revolution in Great Britain.

[Goldwin Smith.]

The most notable and the most ominous result by far of the British elections is the profound change which has taken place in the character of the House of Commons. The landed interest, which hitherto has been strong if not preponderant, and in combination with the same element in the House of Lords, barred or postponed democratic legislation, seems to be dwindling away. The House is made up for the most part of representatives of various mercantile interests, professional men, journalists, and Labor men. The proportion of Labor men is large enough to constitute a distinct and powerful party; while there must be not a few other members owing their seats to the Labor vote. This is a revolution. The effect of the great extensions of the franchise to the laboring class seems to have been hitherto suspended by lingering influences, social or territorial. It has now made itself fully felt, and the consequences can hardly be foreseen. The House of Lords could act with effect as a barrier against revolutionary change while it was supported by a powerful party in the House of Commons. By itself it will be powerless.

Jubilate Do!

[Vancouver World.]

A remarkable scene was witnessed in the Central telegraph office, London, where over 4,000 men and girls are employed as operators, when the defeat of the late Postmaster-General, Lord Stanley, was generally known. Lord Stanley was, without doubt, the most unpopular minister who has ever filled the postmaster-general's office. Quite recently he applied the epithets of "blackmailers and bloodsuckers" to a mixed staff who referred a question of wages to him, and he only grudgingly withdrew the latter term under pressure from his constituents. On the morning following his crushing defeat by a Labor man, a working carpenter, at 10 o'clock, when Greenwich time is sent to every postoffice in the United Kingdom, the whole of the staff on duty rose to their feet and gave three ringing cheers as an expression of their feelings of joy in the victory achieved and defeat administered. Such a scene has never before been

witnessed in the office. The nearest approach to it was the spontaneous slugging of "Old Save the Queen" on the occasion of the relief of Mafeking.

A Dickens Birthday Fact.

[New York World.]

The mad pursuit of the "six best sellers" had not yet been invented by the publishers in Dickens' day. They understand the arts of advertisement better nowadays. A novel may be born today and dead and buried tomorrow, and yet lead the bookshelves for as long as eight weeks.

It was Bob's birthday yesterday. No publishing thought to get out a new "Pickwick" poster for the occasion. There were no red-letter signs in the Subway informing breathless readers that the world's greatest literary success had just been issued and that the presses could not keep up with the demand. That distinction is reserved for the very latest newcomer. He may not stay long, but he has just arrived.

Yet an incautious publisher or two, caught off their guard, ingeniously slip the remark in their back that they are selling Dickens for twenty years and his stories never sold better than today. It is probably the same with Scott and Dumas and Thackeray. For some unaccountable reason people go on reading them, but obsolescence is not their ally. A word about it, while the budding novelists are gradually learning the art of the bookshop window.

Probably more books are read than ever before. No doubt a new class of novel-readers has been created, but in the long run it turns out that the old books, in spite of the fashion of the hour.

A Newspaper Want.

[Hamilton Herald.]

If the Canadian Press Association succeeds in its attempts to establish a genuine and efficient news service for Canada it will justify its existence.

Times Have Changed.

[Hamilton Times.]

It was in 1852 that Disraeli wrote to Lord Malmesbury: "Those wretched colonies will be independent, too, in a few years, and are now a burden on our necks." Only a little over 50 years, and we don't think many British statesmen would care to rid their necks of this particular colony.

Desperate Male Feats.

[Ladies' Pictorial.]

Men are always bothering about the brains of women. It is abundantly clear that they are desperately afraid of our mental capacity, or they would not be at such continual pains to prove to us the advantage of us where brains are concerned.

Beattie and Bob.

[Toronto Star.]

Alas and alack, the eagle-eyed Doctor picks out a snug little nest for himself, but the real Game bird from Manitowish doesn't get even a glass egg to cackle over.

Old Friends.

[Exchange.]

The wife—What luck? The husband (wearily)—None whatever. The wife—Where do you servants in the intelligence office? The husband (sadly)—Lots of them; but they had all worked for us before.

Larry's Description.

[Chicago News.]

Larry had just landed in America and it was his first sea voyage. "And did you see the sea?" anxiously inquired Mary Ellen. "Oh, did," replied Larry, with a doleful shake of his head. "I saw how did it taste?"

Larry thought a moment and then said: "Did you see any windmills? I turned wrong side out in a windstorm? Will the way that umbrella looked of felt?"

She Could Vouch For It.

[Cleveland Plaindealer.]

Ann—"Now what a lovely diamond engagement ring Henry gave me!" Jane—"Yes, it is. And it's genuine, too." Ann—"Why, what do you mean?" Jane—"When Henry gave it to me I sent him and had it tested."

His Romance.

[El-Bits.]

A stunning girl once passed my way. My ardor I could not restrain. Said I: "It is a pleasant day." Said she: "What if I don't care to rain." And that was all I said. And that was all she said.

Her beauty troubled my repose, And when she passed again my way. Said I: "Will you accept this rose?" Said she: "Oh, what a sweet bouquet!" And that was all I said. And that was all she said.

The Earl's Charger.

[Toronto Star.]

The brave little charger which carried Lord Dundonald through the Sudan and Boer wars was ordered at Kingston this week by his master's orders. The horse was in perfect condition, and would, doubtless, have been quite satisfied to live on in a fat paddock until he died through fullness of years, just as Napoleon's Marengo did, and Wellington's Copenhagen.

Lord Dundonald, however, did not reason things out in this artless equine way. He believes, evidently, that any horse ever ridden by him should feel more at home with his head mounted and hung up in the ancestral hall than with the same head attached to a body cropping grass in a place like Kingston. Better for the steed that has once known his lordship's honored presence on his back to have his skin tanned for a door mat in Gwyth Castle than to go on existing with the same skin full of Canadian herbs. Bet- ter a dead and fragmentary horse in Scotland than a whole and all alive one in Canada! The charges on a charger shipped over across the ocean in convenient parts are, of course, less than they would be live weight, but this does not make the earl, who merely takes this summary way of completely and finally removing an old, tried friend from an ungrateful and contentious country.

A Difference.

[Le Rive.]

Wearry Ragless-Say, is Sing Sing far from here? Handsome Harry-Wall, it took me an hour to go there, and a year to get back.

Spelling Reform.

[Toronto Star.]

If the new Deputy Minister of Education, Mr. Colquhoun, should ever be carried away with the idea of spelling reform, he might begin work on his own name.

On a War Footing.

[Toronto Telegram.]

"Is the United States ready for war?" asks the North American Review. Don't know about the U. S. A. But Col. Sam Hughes, M.P., is in our midst, and WE are.

THE FORESTRY QUESTION.

[By Prof. Adam Shortt, Queen's University.]

The recent forestry convention, considered as a means of informing and stimulating public opinion on this important subject, was unusually successful. Doubtless the many facts presented and the numerous suggestions offered will lead to valuable practical results.

In certain directions, however, and these among the most important, there appeared to be a considerable diversity of opinion among Government officials, and the representatives of railways, lumbering and pulp wood interests, as to the best policy to be adopted for insuring a permanent supply of timber, and for the most economic management of the forest areas. Evidently much of the difficulty was due to the lack of adequate and reliable information, as to the actual resources of our forests, and the conditions under which they are maintained and reproduced. Hence, one of the first practical moves to be made on the part of the governments, Dominion and provincial, who are the custodians of these great natural resources, must be to undertake a systematic and experimental study of the forest conditions in Canada.

In the course of an address before the convention, one of the shrewdest and most practical of Canadian lumbermen, Senator Edwards, threw out certain suggestions which indicated the possibility of combining such a practical investigation on the part of the Government, with a systematic training of students in the various branches of forestry. These and other suggestions made in the course of the proceedings of the convention, have given shape to the following proposals as to a practical forestry policy.

A systematic scheme of forestry divides naturally into two branches. On the one hand, there is the introduction of a plan for the preservation of the existing forests, including the burned districts, and those which have been comparatively exhausted by destructive lumbering operations, but which under careful management might be gradually restored. As Senator Edwards pointed out, the various practical details and experiments connected with a thorough investigation of these matters can only be carried out in actual forest areas. This is indeed the principle already recognized in the location of experimental farms and agricultural colleges.

It is surely advisable, therefore, that the Provincial Government of Ontario, if not of the other provinces as well, should set apart a suitable timber reserve, for purposes at once of regular and experimental operation, with a view to obtaining accurate data for the future guidance of both the Government and the lumbermen. From the results thus obtained we should expect reliable information as to the most effective methods of securing a power of supply of timber, through the cutting of a regular annual or other periodic crop, as to the most efficient and economical disposal of brushy and other waste timber, the most effective means for preserving and assisting the natural recuperative power of the various economic woods, which make up our forests, as also, regarding the relative values of the different kinds of timber or other forest products, and the areas best adapted to the production of the most valuable species of the various economic woods. From the data thus collected the Government would be in a position to determine with increasing accuracy the value to the country of the normal annual crop which might be expected from the chief commercial woods, and hence what regular revenue of the various economic woods might derive from its forests; also what conditions should be imposed upon those who are to be granted the privilege of cutting timber for the future, or which those now having timber rights under lease may be required or induced to accept.

In connection with such a Government forestry reserve, sufficiently large and typical to afford the necessary range for continuous operation and experiment, the educational side of forestry should obviously be undertaken. On such a reserve a Government school of forestry should be established, and the work of the reserve could be carried on with the assistance of the students. They would be employed in making practical surveys of the standing timber per acre, in measuring and determining its annual increase, in marking the trees to be cut, and in acquiring a practical knowledge of all departments of lumbering operations, including the disposal of the brush, and the taking of precautions against destructive fires. They would be specifically engaged in experiments connected with the reproductive and reforesting capacity of the various trees, and in seeking a practical solution for the varied problems connected with all the departments of forestry. It should require little argument to prove that only at such an institution, located on an actual timber reserve, can forestry as such be adequately taught. The preparation for such a course, however, in the lines of mathematics, chemistry, physics, mechanics, geology, vegetable and animal biology, surveying, economics, etc., can best be supplied at one or other of the adequately equipped universities or schools of applied sciences throughout the country. Students from these institutions, after passing an approved examination on the preliminary studies deemed necessary, could enter upon a specific course in forestry at the Government school. On a reserve of sufficient area for the various purposes to be served, such an institution could be practically self-supporting.

Details of the plan here outlined, sufficient at any rate to bring it into practical operation, could be readily determined by a committee or commission.

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO

Thick Down Comforters

That will come in handy right now. Stock-taking sale prices are the lowest.

Real Elderdown Comforters, French sateen coverings, satin stripe border in contrasting shade, full size. Regular price \$6.00. Reduced to\$4.95	Chapman Special Real Elderdown Comforters, full size, thick, soft and warm, pretty downproof coverings. Regular price \$6.00. Stock-taking sale price\$3.10	6 only Real Down Comforters. Regular price \$5.75, at\$4.75	2 only Very Handsome Down Comforters, were \$7.50, at \$5.95
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French Delaines

99 yards French Delaines in white and pretty tinted designs, mostly dainty light shades, a few black grounds, sixteen designs. Just the material wanted for waists, dresses, sacks and children's dresses, 32 inch wide. Stock-taking Special, yard 20c.

20c

Clearing Flannelette Wear

Ladies' Pink Flannelette Nightgowns, tucked yoke, full around neck, yoke and sleeves, clearing price\$1.65	Ladies' Outing Flannelette Nightgowns, fancy yoke, with embroidery trimming, two styles, pink and white, at\$1.10	Flannelette Drawers, striped, in bloomer style, regular 35c, value, at\$2.10
Hose 39c.	Hose 36c.	Hose 25c.
Ladies' Pure Wool Hose, machine knit, with heather yarn, seamless feet, sizes 8 1/2 and 9, regular 50c, for39c	Boys' English Worsted Ribbed Hose, with garter tops, good wearers, sizes 8 and 8 1/2, regular 40c and 45c, for36c	Boys' and Ladies' Fancy Ribbed Worsted Hose, pure wool, all sizes, very special, at25c

Three Stock-Taking Specials

From the Linen Counter—one in tabling, another in sheeting and an extra special in toweling.

2 sample pieces Bleached Double Damask Tabling, full two yards wide. Regular price 90c yard. To clear at75c	3 pieces Best Canadian Sheeting, firm, strong weave, even texture, 78 inches, 32c value, at per yard28c	3 pieces Pure Linen Crash Toweling, washed ready for use, sold everywhere at 12 1/2c yard, at 10c
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New Wash Goods

We advise early buying—it insures early wearing. One of the embroidered novelty suitings is shown in three colors—blue, green and red, on flaked ground—very serviceable and desirable suiting, at only, yard 17c.

17c

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

mission representative of the govern-

ment or governments interested, the lumbering and pulp wood interests, and the educational institutions. It would not be necessary to begin operations on a very large scale, for expert competent management, experience would indicate the natural development and co-ordination of the various branches of the work.

The recent forestry convention has brought home to the people in a striking manner the fact that it is high time for some rational and specific movement to be made in the direction of furnishing the most ample and accurate data possible on the subject of forestry in all its interests, public and private. It is quite obvious that the initiative must be taken by the Government, alike for its own information, and for that of the lumbermen and general public. Few portions of North America have now the facilities of Ontario or Quebec for establishing, within reasonable distance of the great centers of population a thoroughly adequate experimental and educational reserve. It is natural to suppose that Ontario in this matter should take the lead, and if a comprehensive plan is intelligently carried out, there is every reason to expect that we shall have before long the leading institution of its kind on this continent.

POEMS THAT LIVE

Perpetuity of Nature.

[Bulwer-Lytton.]

There is no death! The stars go down To rise upon some fairer shore, And bright heaven's jeweled crown They shine forever more.

There is no death! The dust we tread Shall change beneath the summer showers.

To golden grain, or mellow fruit, Or rainbow-tinted flowers.

The granite rocks disorganize, To feed the hungry moss they bear; The forest leaves drink daily life From out the vernal air.

There is no death! The leaves may fall, The flowers may fade and pass away; They wait only through wintry hours The coming of the May.

There is no death! An angel form Walks o'er the earth with silent tread; He bears our best loved things away, And then we call them "dead."

REVIVAL IN THE NORTH

Hundreds of Conversations Up Stayner and Meaford Way.

Toronto, Feb. 12.—Rev. W. T. Allison, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Stayner, says that a revival of unmistakable earnestness is sweeping over the north country.

In Stayner special meetings began a short time ago in the Baptist Church but a larger church became necessary, and the doors of the Presbyterian Church were opened. Last night that edifice was crowded to its utmost capacity. Meetings will be held in that church nightly this week, with overflow gatherings in the numerous and "Remarkable conversions," he said, "among the converts being some of the most prominent

men of the town."

Rev. Mr. Allison had information also of a great revival at Meaford, where there had been over 600 conversions, numbered among the penitents being some of the most prominent businessmen of the place.

The Assessment Act.

Toronto, Feb. 12.—There have been a number of inquiries as to whether any amendments to the assessment act will be made this session. It is understood that the Government is averse to any action of an important nature in this regard, and

that amendments, if any, will be only of a minor character, their attitude being that the revised act of 1902 has not yet been sufficiently tested to warrant sweeping changes.

Women Wage-Earners.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12.—Secretary of the Treasury today submitted to Congress today a recommendation of Secretary Mifflin, of the department of commerce and labor, that \$200,000 be included in the estimate for the bureau of labor to investigate the condition of women wage-earners in the United States.



Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

A Safe Medicine for Children

In buying a cough medicine for children never be afraid to buy CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY. There is no danger from it, and relief is always sure to follow. It is intended especially for coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough, and is the best medicine in the world for these diseases. It is not only a certain cure for croup, but, when given as soon as the croupy cough appears, will prevent the attack. Whooping cough is not dangerous when this remedy is given as directed. It contains no opium or other harmful drugs, and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult.