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NEW CANADIAN CURRENCY.

Business in Canada has not been perceptibly hampered by a dearth of the current coin of the realm, but, recognizing, doubtless, that it is as well to be on the safe side, the currency act of 1906 has been amended on the initiative of the Minister of Finance, and provision has been made for the minting of a distinctively Canadian currency. In deference to the sentiments of British Columbia, we are told, silver dollars will be among the coins turned out in abundance by the new mint at the capital. There has been a noticeable scarcity of these "cart wheels" since the provision for the collection and exportation of American silver went into effect. There is no doubt that they were popular in the province, and they will probably become just as pleasing to the eyes of the people of the East, once they have become familiar with the feeling of them in their pockets. Besides they absorb silver in quantities, and British Columbia produces much fine silver.

Gold as well as silver is also going to be a greater factor than has been the case in the past in Canadian systems of exchange. Standards of value will not be affected, however. We are going to have in circulation twenty dollar, ten dollar, five dollar and two and a half dollar pieces. The latter is not likely to be in much demand, according to expert opinion. But expert opinion is sometimes at fault. According to an Ottawa correspondent the five-dollar gold piece is designed to fill the place of the Canadian currency, that the sovereign fills in the English currency. Gold in the British Isles is used more than either silver or bank notes in business transactions. Gold is gold wherever it circulates, and the English sovereign is accepted at its face value in nearly all the civilized countries of the world. Will the four new Canadian gold pieces decrease the issue of bank notes, the coinage of silver and the coinage of bronze? There are many benefits apparent through the introduction of gold coins. For the payment of amounts under a hundred dollars they are more convenient than bills, and can be carried because there is not the same opportunity for perjury to cling to them as in the case of ancient bank notes. As gold is the basis of currency and all credit revolves on it like an inverted cone, the circulation of a quantity of gold will have a beneficial effect on financial conditions.

The Minister of Finance took care to include a clause which will authorize the purchase of bullion, or raw gold, by drawing on the consolidated revenue fund. By the bill, a man has to take any amount of gold in payment of a debt. The British sovereign and all other gold coins made at the Royal mint are made legal tender in Canada for \$4.86 2-3 and will pass current for proportionate sums in the currency of Canada. The rates at which the gold coins of other countries shall be made legal tender in Canada in future will be fixed by the Governor in Council. The bill reiterates the principle that no mutilated or defaced coins shall be legal tender.

The Dominion standard troy ounce is to be the standard or weight for the new issue of gold coins. In the House the Minister was asked to substitute the metric for the troy system of weight, but he refused on the ground that it was advisable to follow as closely as possible the British method.

PUNCH ON THE BRITISH DEAD-LOCK.

Back of the folly of Punch the most profound wisdom is often lodged. The latest number of London's comic journal to reach this farthest West contains an article by "A.A.M.," which goes farther to demonstrate the incongruity of the dual chamber legislative system which has been handed down by force of circumstances to the people of the United Kingdom than all the oratorical broadsides of the stoutest radicals. It also indicates how foolish the people would be did they countenance any of the various schemes propounded for the reform of the House of Lords. As a humorous illustration of the absurdity of the pretensions of their lordships and as an example of the folly of countenancing an attempt to reduce the House of Commons to a subordinate position, Punch's contributor writes:

"It is obvious in the first place that any extreme difference of opinion between the two Houses must result, as things go at present, in a deadlock, which is bound to bring about a considerable disturbance in the business of the country unless one or other side gives way. For the House of Lords to give way would be to render its labors null and void, and it is doubtful if their lordships would consent to give their services to the country if these were to be scrapped at the first moment

of crisis. For the House of Commons to give way appears at first sight to be the natural solution of the difficulty, and it has worked perfectly well for hundreds of years; but we must move with the times, and the times are ripe for a change. What change, then, is possible?

"Plainly it would be better to prevent the deadlock than to set about curing it when it had arisen. That is to say, we must bring the two Houses more into line with each other, so that differences of opinion may be made impossible. The Socialist (and Anarchist) would do this by altering the composition of the House of Lords: that House which saved the Empire only a short time ago by postponing the construction of tram lines along the embankment until the country was ripe for the extraordinary innovation. He would attack the hereditary principle, and by so doing strike a blow at the Throne itself. That is the Socialist remedy; but the great heart of the country would not tolerate it for a moment, particularly when it sees before it another remedy, delightful in its simplicity.

"It is simply this: Alter the composition of the House of Commons, so as to bring it into line with the House of Lords."

After demonstrating that it is not the Lords but the Commons that should be reformed, the national jester proceeds to unfold a scheme for preventing legislative friction for all time. The House of Commons shall consist of 555 members, 250 to be nominated and 300 to be elected, with 5 life members. The nominated members should be chosen as follows: Selected by the House of Lords, 100; specially nominated by Lord Halsbury (counting four each on a division), 50; nominated by Lord Rothchild (representing capital, it is to be presumed), 30; nominated by Lord Curzon (representing beer, of course), 30; nominated by the Archbishop of Canterbury (spiritual things must be kept subordinate to mammon), 20; nominated by Lords Curzon, Milner and Cromer (great Imperial pro-consuls), 18; nominated by Lords Rosebery and Crewe (representing Liberalism), one each. These two hundred and fifty unbiassed Imperial members, representing privilege, finance, the trade, the church, Crown colonies and the legitimate strength of Liberalism (two in two hundred and forty-eight), could sit in the reformed House of Commons for twenty years—for two parliamentary terms, the length of the term being ten years. Every ten years three hundred members shall be elected as follows: One hundred specially qualified members, commanding the confidence of the country, will be elected by the House of Commons itself, to be chosen from (a) municipal reform aldermen, (b) defeated Unionist candidates, (c) the stock exchange, (d) the trade, (e) Brighton. To the Common People is reserved the privilege of electing two hundred members in the ordinary way, after a redistribution bill has been passed by the House of Lords, by which England will be divided into 157 constituencies, Scotland, Ireland and Wales returning one member apiece. This will leave five members still to be selected, to be chosen by some high and impartial authority (e.g. the Duke of Norfolk). These would be moderate and independent men, belonging to no party. The first five might be: The editor of the Times, the secretary of the Navy League, the secretary of the National Service League, the secretary of the Property Defence League, Lord Trenchard—he'll be good!"

Summing up its splendidly ironical programme for restoring harmony out of chaos and reducing complexity to simplicity, Punch says: "We venture to say that a House of Commons constituted on these lines would receive the approbation of all right-thinking men in the country. It would also act in harmony with the House of Lords—that House which for its impartiality is the pride of every true sportsman in Britain and the admiration of the whole world. Were the House constituted thus, there would be no putting of party before country, indeed no considerations of party at all. Can it be doubted that such a state of things would commend itself to the nation at large? Can it be doubted that such a state of things will only be decently brought about by a true and patriotic reform of the House of Commons?"

The Charivari can be serious sometimes and to some purpose.

SEEK REMOVAL OF THE JAIL

(Continued from page 1.)

In this connection, it is held by many who have given the matter consideration that, aside from the objections of the property owners, there are the best reasons why the government should remove the jail from its present locality. The big building with its forbidding high walls and depressing atmosphere, stands in the heart of a rapidly developing residential district, and it is not to be denied that it is considered "undesirable." It is pointed out, further, that a jail is not ordinarily made a domicile offering attractions to prisoners—and that therefore the proper place for such an institution is some isolated spot. One resident of North Ward, in discussing the matter with the Times this morning, said that Darro Island would make a good site for the jail. He mentioned also that there is a large provincial jail at Nainaimo which is standing empty, which might be used in lieu of the jail in this city.

Judge Lampman will forward his report on the inquiry into police commission matters to the lieutenant-governor in a day or two and it is understood that it will be made public by the government of the day.

HYDRAULICS AND THE CAPACITY OF SEWERS

Case of Oliphant vs. City Still at Hearing—Engineer Topp Examined

(From Monday's Daily.)

Hydraulics, civil engineering and the computation of tide-tables all entered into the case of Oliphant vs. city when the hearing was resumed before Mr. Justice Gregory this morning. It is not likely that the case will be concluded until to-morrow.

C. H. Topp, the late city engineer, was in the box all morning, and was examined by J. A. Aikman, for the plaintiff, as to the gradual increase in the amount of work the sewers are being made to do, over and above what they were planned to do in the disposal of sewage alone.

Many of the sewers and drains carrying surface water had been turned into the Cook street sewer and surface drain, but these had been disconnected, and Cook street surface drain now took in the drain coming down Port street from Harrison street and laterals. Several overflows had been put in some years ago as a safeguard in case of exceptional rainfall to relieve the separate sewer system should it become overcharged.

In the fall of 1909, before the flooding, Mr. Topp said, Mr. Oliphant came to him and complained that water from the park was being drained down on his property. His reply was that if this was so it was without his knowledge. Explaining part of his previous evidence Mr. Topp said the new surface drain on Cook street was connected up with the old drain before the flooding complained of, but the laterals to relieve Mr. Oliphant's property were not put in. None of the laterals to drain Cook street property had yet been put in.

To W. J. Taylor, K.C., Mr. Topp said there had never been any complaints until this of Mr. Oliphant's. There had been less damage from flooding here than in a great many other cities.

To Mr. Aikman he said the overflows were not part of Mr. Mohun's plan, but were put in to save flooding in the business districts.

What was the cause of having to do that?—Because sewage and surface water were both going into Mr. Mohun's system.

If only sewage had been going in would this have been necessary?—I don't know. You know that Mr. Mohun's separate sewer system was designed for a population of 72,000 people. Is it a fact that the surface water being run into the sewers made the overflows necessary?—It would appear so.

You had to connect the surface drains with the sewers because the city would not give you money for surface drains?—Yes.

It was owing to the overcharging of the separate sewer system that these overflows, which were not part of Mr. Mohun's system, were put in?—It was a preparation.

To Mr. Taylor the witness stated that much ground-water got into the sewers through the joints.

Mr. Justice Gregory—Was the Cook street sewer carrying more than Mr. Mohun never designed it to carry?—That depends upon the limit of surface water that was to go in.

Mr. Mohun has told us it was to take the roof water from a certain area to act for flushing. You must know, having been city engineer, if there was more going down the sewer than Mr. Mohun designed?—I think there was more.

G. A. Keefer, Dominion government engineer, and F. N. Denison, of the Geological department, were called as to the height of the actual tide, on November 27th, 28th and 29th last.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH IS VERDICT OF JURY

Coroner's Inquest Held Into Circumstances Connected With Fatality

(From Monday's Daily.)

A coroner's jury this afternoon found that Hilton Keith, who died from a fall in the Colonist hotel on Saturday evening, had come to his death through purely accidental circumstances.

Joseph Forster, proprietor of the Colonist hotel, said deceased had called at the hotel and engaged a room on Saturday about noon, saying he wanted a quiet rest. He went to the room. Witness went to see him twice in the afternoon and he was sleeping soundly. He came downstairs about 5 o'clock and had supper about 6 o'clock, afterwards saying he would go straight to bed again.

"About 8 o'clock I heard a crash," said witness, "and running through the bar I found him lying at the foot of stairs in his underclothing. I carried him into the sitting-room and bathed his head. I sent for the doctor, who sent deceased to the hospital."

"He was perfectly sober, but I thought him sick. There was an electric bell in the room and he could have called. I think he must have walked in his sleep. When he took the room he said he wanted to get away from the noise of the city, and have a quiet rest. I have heard deceased was subject to fits."

G. H. Cross, partner of the deceased, said Mr. Keith was subject to fits, and when he had them he preferred to go away by himself and not be seen. He was a very sensitive man. He suffered from the fits, and he said the office at 9:30 a.m. Saturday to go and rest at the Colonist hotel.

The jury then returned a verdict as above.

The jury consisted of Robert Wilson, Wm. Duncan, George Foster, J. Beck, F. J. Fussell (foreman) and J. Addison.

A Spring Feature at Spencer's is the Attractive Exhibition of Beautiful Hats, Presenting the New Advance Styles of Summer Millinery from the World's Foremost Designers



We are showing in our Government street windows Paris and New York's prettiest styles in millinery—hats that possess the true French chic and verve—exquisite millinery! A decided change from what you have seen during the last month. Aside from the many charming new distinctions of styles and marked beauty, these lovely hats are characterized by a price attractiveness sure to commend them to all.

Children's Dresses Ages from Three Years to Ten Years

Our showing of Child's Dresses is indeed worthy of the time spent in looking them over. The many excellent values will appeal to you the moment you set eyes upon them.

CHILD'S DRESSES, in Buster style, made of fine white duck. Front is trimmed with embroidery, also very large collar **\$2.50**

ANOTHER VERY DAINY STYLE is shown in a very fine lawn, made in princess style with panel front, sash of pink silk ribbon, sleeves finished with ribbon and lace. **\$3.75**

A VERY DAINY DRESS is shown at **\$3.25**, made with sash of very pretty embroidery with panels down front, sleeves edged with lace.

AT \$1.50 we have a Child's Dress made of very fine lawn in Liberty style. Front is panelled with four rows of fine lace. This is exceptional value.

Ladies' Gloves

Correct Styles, Qualities Highest, Prices the Lowest.

We have never shown a better or more varied assortment of fine gloves than what we are doing at the present time. As to value, you will find that they will eclipse anything you ever saw.

Ladies' Lisle Gloves at 25c

A fine range of colors to select from, such as white, champagne, greys, tans, browns, blues and black. These are made of good quality Lisle thread, finished with two clasps. Per pair **25c**

Also a splendid line at **35c**

LADIES' SUEDE FINISH THREAD GLOVES, two clasps, with raised stitching on back. The colors are fast and stainless dye. White, cream, greys, natural, beavers, tans, browns and black. Per pair **35c**

LADIES' SUPERFINE LISLE GLOVES, fine satin finish, finished with two clasps and heavy stitching on back. White, cream, greys, tans and black. Per pair **50c**

LADIES' EXTRA FINE MILANESSE LISLE GLOVES, with heavy cord stitching on back. These only come in natural chamois color, with self and black stitchings. All sizes. Per pair **50c**

Women's Stylish Shoes at \$2.50

On Monday we offer a wonderful line of Women's Shoes at the modest price of \$2.50. These Shoes were bought by us in big quantities, direct from the makers, thereby saving big discounts, which enables us to mark them at such low prices. They are all new, up-to-date Spring goods, the latest styles and newest patterns, and all backed with our guarantee:

FAIR WEAR OR A FREE PAIR.

PATENT LEATHER BOOTS, Blucher style, high or low heel	\$2.50
TAN KID BOOT, Blucher style, high Cuban heel	\$2.50
GLAZED KID BOOT, Blucher style, patent tip, high or low heel	\$2.50
PATENT LEATHER BLUCHER OXFORD TIES	\$2.50
GUN METAL CALFSKIN BLUCHER OXFORDS	\$2.50
GLAZED KID BLUCHER OXFORDS, patent tips, high or low heel	\$2.50
TAN KID BLUCHER OXFORDS	\$2.50

SEE BROAD STREET WINDOWS.

When in the store you would do well to take a look at our showing of new styles in Children's Shoes. There are many new ideas—all of them good, and reasonably priced.

Newest Novelties in Ready-to-Wear Veils

Every shipment which comes to us has something different—something more attractive. We have just opened a new lot of Face Veils. These are made of fancy lace, in colors of cream, brown, brunette, navy and black. Prices range from **\$2.50**

New Liberty Silk 26 in. wide per yard 75c

LIBERTY SILK is the most durable silk made. It will stand plenty washing. It is the correct fabric for summer dresses. In a number of very exquisite patterns, 26 inches wide, and priced at, per yard **75c**

DAVID SPENCER, LIMITED

TRAIN BURST BY LA

DISASTER ON M TRANSCONTIN

Number of Worn to Have L Liv

Quebec, April 18.—The National Trans was caught in a above La Tuque. The train and a were buried. It is believed that killed, or severely. Details of the acc ing.

APPOINTED

Everett, Wash., A. W. A. Alloway, a gnomish country, everything he own. Good Society, W. has been appointed father and mother Court here.

Alloway, it was, about \$20,000 to a sect, which was recently migrated via. Alloway adm have given away the have donated mo commanded to do

CABLE STEAM COMING

Vessel Will Be by the Pa Bo

Another cable ste quimat to lie along having been found of the cheapest po ocean to maintain a storer has been sta years by the Com order to be ready fo break in their cable. Honolulu. Now the stationed at Suva, to Esquimaux and to The Iris belongs Board, and is main purpose of being ree controlled by that a screw vessel of 2,22 Her length is 255 fee

CITY MAY OP STR

San Francisco volving Que nicipal O

Red Bluffs, Cal Edison has filed San Francisco-G case, in which he rer of the city a entered for San The decision sus city to own and street railway. The suit was l Platt, of the Gen restrain the city operating the roa that the city had charter to operat and that it could state constitution contention was d son. The city entered petition and the demurrer.

RECEIVED

The following wir by changed hands: Pegasus, iron 8 tons, built in 1884, \$15,000. Largo Bay, iron in 1878, sold for ab Dynamene, iron 382, sold to be use London Hill, fo tons, sold to Norw Craigmore, steel 188, sold in Hamb

WOMAN BUR

Glenwood Sprin Her clothes catch holding her bab young wife of F manager, near oors of door, and to death, but dro to save its life. T the tragedy from unable to reach her.

DIES IN

Washington, J death of M. A. ter to Guatemala gravated by the city, is announ returned to Fr Orleans and New

HONOR FO

Paris, April 18 has been telegraphed proffer of memb Academy. He w unexpected and

CONDU

Calgary, April of the oldest Western Canada after a brief illn was a prominen of Railway Condu