

Prominent Topics.

Street Traffic. Judge Choquette in sentencing a carter to three months' imprisonment for running over a pedestrian, called attention to the necessity of more police regulation of street traffic. The police have done a little in this direction in recent years, but not nearly enough. Montreal is becoming a big city and it would pay to bring in a few experts from London or New York to show our constables how to manage this business. Every Canadian visitor to London is impressed by the supremacy of the policeman on the street. And it is remarkable that the cabmen, busmen and other drivers, cheerfully submit to their lawful lord, recognizing that without his strict discipline traffic would be impossible. Deprive Cheapside of police regulation for ten minutes and the street would be blocked for an hour. Our drivers will have to be educated and disciplined up to an appreciation of the necessity for prompt recognition of police authority in this matter. Every vehicle will get ahead faster, if it is submitted to the orders of an intelligent traffic manager. The authority of the police in this matter should be enforced with relentless severity.

Wireless. Westward the "Wireless" wends its windy way. Signor Marconi says he is going to establish a station at Winnipeg. This, however, leaves several little villages between Winnipeg and Cape Breton, at the mercy of the soulless corporations which are not wireless; Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, for instance. The wireless system is rapidly finding itself. It has a legitimate field which is all its own and in which it can defy competition. Nevertheless wire land lines and sea lines will still have their uses for many years to come.

German Tariff Relations with Canada. The announcement made by the Hon. Mr. Fielding that a friendly understanding has been arrived at with the German Government on the tariff question is most gratifying. The treaty will not only make for better trade relations between Germany and Canada, but for more amicable relations between the German Empire and Great Britain. Some Canadian manufacturers will feel the effects of German competition, but many new avenues of trade are opened in Germany for Canadian produce.

Church and City. That Archbishop Bruchesi and Bishop Farthing should have been introduced to each other at the inaugural meeting of the new City Council was a happy omen. The two distinguished churchmen met upon the common ground of a great public interest, moral as well as material. Prelates and people have come together magnificently in the recent strenuous effort to purify civic life.

Insurance Bill. Yesterday the Senate Committee decided to settle upon the principles involved in the contentious clauses of the Insurance Bill, instead of following further the clause-by-clause discussion begun on Wednesday. Naturally, therefore, immediate interest again centres upon the clause dealing with surplus insurance in unlicensed companies. Senator Beique's suggested amendments (quoted on page 251 of THE CHRONICLE) should at least serve to give definiteness to the discussion. The remarks of Mr. John B. Laidlaw, Mr. Eugene Lafleur, K.C., and of others who appeared in behalf of the fire companies, indicate the spirit of fairplay.

They ask merely that all companies doing business in Canada should be "equal in the sight of the law." As Mr. Laidlaw pointed out, there is no thought of objecting to members of manufacturing firms or corporations personally arranging in the United States for insurance in unlicensed companies. But it is another matter when such companies send into Canada representatives to solicit business, make inspections and adjust losses.

Political Equality. Mrs. Belmont has recently invited the negro women of New York State, to join the Political Equality Club of which she is president. She points out that while the constitution has liberated and enfranchised negroes it has forgotten to emancipate the mothers of both the white and the coloured races. It has probably not occurred to the average white citizens of the United States, that the American constitution affirms the superiority of the black man to the white woman.

Georgian Bay Canal. The Finance Minister takes a common sense view of the Georgian Bay Canal question. The enterprise is one which has much to commend it, but as THE CHRONICLE has pointed out, Canada is already committed to enough capital expenditure on public works for some time. It will be wise to go slowly in undertaking new financial responsibilities until the great railway projects now in progress are completed.

Montreal's Credit. Montreal's credit is hard to kill even by sensational journalism. Mr. Robb, City Treasurer, has arranged for an advance of £300,000 from the Bank of Montreal in London on treasury bills for six months at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum, the bank paying the stamp duty.

The British Vote. The total Unionist vote in the British elections was 3,080,972, the total Liberal vote 2,847,893, the total Labour vote 555,067. The net loss of the Liberal-Labour alliance is well over 300,000. The figures of the Irish constituencies in which there were contests between Nationalists or between Nationalists and Unionists are not included.