

London Advertiser.
 TWO EDITIONS DAILY - WEEKLY.
 TELEPHONE CABLE.
 Business Office 107
 Editorial Department 107
 Ad Department 107
 LONDON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13.

The Soo Guarantee.

The situation at the Soo is as follows.

The liabilities of the Lake Superior Company consist of a mortgage of \$5,000,000 held by the Speyer syndicate, and claims of secured and unsecured creditors amounting to \$2,399,708. Of these creditors' claims \$585,283.63 is secured by first mortgage bonds of the Michigan Lake Superior Power Company, and supplies and materials of much greater value than the amount of the claims. This leaves the amount of the creditors' claims, to be provided for, \$1,804,425.35. Add this to the Speyer mortgage and the total amount of indebtedness to be provided for is \$7,404,425.35.

The Ontario Government stipulates that the reorganized company shall wipe out all its indebtedness and have at least \$1,000,000 of cash working capital over and above all materials and supplies on hand, to insure the successful operation of the works. It will be necessary, therefore, for those interested in the reorganization to immediately provide \$5,044,425.35. The Government will loan its credit to the company to raise \$2,000,000 by guaranteeing its bonds to that extent. As security the Province will take first mortgage bonds of \$5,000,000 on the Algoma Central Railway; \$405,000 first mortgage bonds on the Manitoulin and North Shore Railway; \$725,000 first mortgage bonds on sixteen or eighteen steamers; \$10,000,000 stock in the Algoma Central Railway; the land grant of 1,600,000 acres to the Algoma Central, but not yet transferred to it; and \$2,300,000 of first mortgage bonds and \$5,000,000 of the stock of the new company.

The first thing to be done by the company is to take the Algoma Central Railway, which will cost \$1,640,700, and which will earn \$787,764 in subsidies from the Dominion Government as soon as completed. The names of the men who are behind the reorganized syndicate have been made public and include a score of noted millionaires and business men in the United States. As to whether the Province of Ontario has taken any risk in loaning its credit for \$2,000,000 in the effort to place this great enterprise on its feet, we quote the Premier's words:

"I should think it would be very unwise thing for the Government to sentimental ground, or any ground, to embark upon an enterprise like this, or to pledge the security of the Province in this way, unless convinced of its soundness as a business proposition, and that the securities held by the Government are absolute, ample and beyond question. The direct railway securities represent a dollar for every cent of the Province's guarantee. Then there are the bonds, which represent more than our guarantee, which even if they were sold at a discount, should realize our guarantee. Then the stock and other securities, on which I am not placing any particular estimate at the present time, show that we have a security which must be considered as ample and quite realizable. We have faith in the district and in its future. And when I say that we believe the Government is pledging the good faith of the Province without any material risk I say what I believe to be the case, and what I sincerely hope will be realized if the House approves of the bill."

Distributing the Population.

The distribution of population in the older provinces of Canada is much the same as it was 50 years ago. In Quebec the French settled along the valley of the St. Lawrence, and the English in the northern townships. In Ontario the U. E. Loyalists made their homes chiefly along the shores of Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the Detroit, Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers. The back country has been gradually settled, but to no appreciable depth. To-day from the Atlantic coast to the head of Lake Superior the Canadian people are spread in only a narrow fringe along the southern boundary. In Quebec there has been some settlement in the Lake St. John region, and in Ontario a large community has been planted in the Temiskaming district. But these are only outposts. It has been well said that the Dominion has length but not breadth. The Canadian people have been brought up to look upon this as a geological necessity. A depth of two or three counties from the frontier has been supposed to be the limit of Ontario's habitable and productive area. The remainder of the Province, in the popular mind, had no future, except as a lumbering and mining camp. Only in recent years has it dawned on us that the vast hinterland of Ontario has not been doomed by nature to be forever a wilderness. The discovery of a tract of arable land in this region, estimated at 16,000,000 acres, is an important fact in the history of the country. The Dominion's great need is depth, and unless there are resources which will give it depth by sustaining permanently a population in the back country, the work of ration-building will be immeasurably more difficult and precarious. The country is only tied together by a slender thread of population along the boundary stretching 3,500 miles. For national reasons, no less than commercial, it is desirable that the hiatus between the east and the west should be closed up. The mines of New Ontario have drawn a considerable population to the north shore of Lake Huron, and the forests will give employment for many years, perhaps for all time if the right policy is pursued. But a large and permanent population is best assured by a fertile soil. It is

to agriculture we must look to give breadth and thickness to this country. Surely it should be a national policy to open up for settlement the great arable areas which we know exist in New Ontario, and which are reported to exist in the hinterland of Quebec. This development will be facilitated by the new transcontinental road. It will put a backbone through the Dominion and be a great unifying influence. This is the aim which has inspired the Dominion Government and which determined it, against the will of the promoters of the Grand Trunk Pacific, who would have ended their line at North Bay and linked it there with the Grand Trunk system, to insist on the construction of a road which will unlock the wealth of the interior and put population where it is needed to consolidate the framework of the Dominion.

Togo has been getting busy again.

If the Russian battleships persist in running into their own mines, why should the Japs want to bottle them up?

When the indebtedness of this city eats up 10 mills on the dollar in the tax rate it is time for ratepayers to do some thinking.

The quidnuncs are busy predicting the dissolution of the Ontario Legislature after this session, but they are not so sure as they were about the dissolution of the Government.

While one set of critics say the Grand Trunk Pacific will go too far north to find a paying route, Seymour Gourley, M. P., denounces the scheme on the ground that the road should be nearer Hudson Bay.

Perhaps Admiral Makaroff was thankful when he went down with his ship. Like the British admiral who sank with the battleship Victoria a few years ago, he is saved from living to face the shame of his own blunder.

Texas Democrats will not vote for Hearst because he parts his hair in the middle. They probably share the sentiments of the western legislator who vowed that his state was "not going to be run by short-haired women or long-haired men."

THE QUADRUPEL-SCREWS CUNARDERS.

Turbine engines and oil fuel are followed now by the adoption in the Cunard steamers of quadruple screws, when the novelty of the twin-screw steamer has not yet worn off. The new Cunarders are expected to develop 65,000 horse-power, and it is not so much for speed as to secure a safer distribution of the enormous strain on four shafts, rather than by concentrating it on three, that this expedient is resorted to. Each shaft will be driven by a triple-screw arrangement, of perhaps 16,000 horse-power instead of the 20,000 or more that would have been required by a triple-screw arrangement. There is also considered the diminished loss of speed in case of accident to a shaft by which only one-fourth instead of one-third of the power will be rendered useless. The device permits of the use of two engines instead of a single one supplying three shafts.

How fast will this additional power and its more direct application enable the new liners to go? Those who have looked for a 28-knot boat will perhaps be disappointed to learn that the only promise held out is for an average of 24½ knots, with 35 as a maximum. This is but one knot faster than the Deutschland.

The new ships are to be 700 feet in length, about 55 feet longer than the Oceanic and the Kaiser Wilhelm II., and from 13 to 15 feet wider. The greater beam will hardly conduce to greyhound fitness, but it will insure a stability for which the qualmish passenger will be grateful.

HER FOLLY.

[Brantford Examiner.]
 A Chicago girl killed herself because she was not pretty and knew it. This was the reason advanced, but there is another. She was foolish and did not know it.

OH, BREATHE NOT HIS NAME.

[Ottawa Free Press.]
 Speaking of Gen. Sijerszwjowkski but why speak of such things in public? Why not serve hot with salad dressing or olive oil, and use for hash the second day?

LIKES THE GOWNS.

[St. Thomas Journal.]
 Many Methodists look with disfavour upon the gowned choirs, now in vogue in Hamilton and Toronto churches, but why, we cannot understand. People who go to church to worship, find the surroundings much quieter and more peaceful with a choir gowning in black before their eyes, than a flower garden and stuffed-bird museum, such as is to be found in the city. All the colors of the rainbow in feathers, flowers and birds on the hats of the young ladies draw the attention of the average female member of the congregation quicker than all the gowned choirs on earth. Gowns on ministers and choirs should not cause rebellion in any church.

A LONG SEASON.

[Toronto Star.]
 One thing can be said for golf—it is the first game to get under way when the snow leaves the ground, and the last open-air game that can be enjoyed when winter is setting in.

THE BONUS SYSTEM.

[Ottawa Citizen.]
 The Sturgeon Falls case will have the effect of making public and separate school supporters look for a division of taxes whenever a bonus law is to be voted on. This will make it rather harder for bonus hunters, whether in the shape of cash or exemption from tax, but we do not know that that will be an unmixed evil. In fact quite the contrary.

NOT EASILY CURED.

[Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune.]
 "Many poets write poetry."
 "Of course you can't cure a poet by locking him up."

THEN AND NOW.

[Yonkers Statesman.]
 Patience—In fitting a girl for society it used to be considered essential

her dancing, so she could enter a room gracefully.
 Now I believe they think in necessary that she should learn to play basketball, so she will be able to reach the refreshment table at a well reception.

STRAINING OUR SYMPATHY.

[Hamilton Herald.]
 If the Japanese Government continues to enforce that rigid censorship, it must not expect advice or even sympathy from the armchair critics.

THE NEW JUDGES

Comments of Canadian Law Times Re Judges Macbeth and Hughes.

The Canadian Law Times says with reference to the recent appointments of judges:
 "The Government in these various appointments, changes and promotions has carried out the principle of appointing men to act in counties other than those in which they have practiced, except in the case of Mr. Macbeth, of London, who is appointed to Middlesex. There may well be an exception in the case of a city as large as London, and the people of the important county of Middlesex are fortunate in having so able, learned and dignified a judge as Mr. Macbeth."
 The same journal says with reference to the retirement of Judge Hughes: "Judge Hughes, of St. Thomas, who is one of those to retire, has had a remarkable career on the bench, having been appointed first judge of the newly-formed county of Elgin in 1853. He was then not much over 30 years old, and has now reached the ripe old age of 54 years, after 50 years continuous service on the bench. A truly remarkable and probably unique record."

AN ENTIRE FAMILY IN THE POLICE COURT

George E. Magee pleaded not guilty in this morning's police court to the charge of keeping a disorderly house. He was remanded until Friday at the request of the chief. Magee is a brewer, who was arrested last week at No. 376 Dufferin avenue, where he was living with a woman named Mary Hobbs. The latter was also remanded until Friday. Four little girls and two boys were taken to the police station with the prisoners. The woman, wheeling the baby in a buggy, was allowed to go out to get milk for the child. The children's A. D. Society took charge of the other children.

A middle-aged man was behind the bars on a charge of neglecting to supply his wife and family with the necessities of life. He was remanded until tomorrow. When he asked for bail the magistrate told him that his time was not so valuable and refused the request.

An old man who had been drunk was allowed to go back to the Age Men's Home, from which he had wandered.

Mr. W. J. Spettigue appeared on a charge of obstructing the street, the case being heard at the corner of York and Clarence streets, upon which charge Messrs. Hayman and Martyn, contractors, were summoned last week. Mr. Spettigue claimed that the charges against the other two were withdrawn. Mr. Spettigue claimed that he had been prevented from removing the debris at the Sterling fire on account of the ice, as by attempting to do so he injured the bridge and that he was given authority to finish the work to the satisfaction of the city engineer's department.

OLD PENSIONER DEAD.
 The death of Stewart Gilliland took place last night at his late home, No. 30 Miles street. Deceased, who was a British army pensioner, was 87 years of age. A daughter, Miss Lucy Gilliland, lives in the city. The funeral will be private and will be held Friday afternoon.

TEACH CHILDREN BY THEATRICALS

A New and Novel Teaching Method Planned by an Educational Expert.

Chicago, April 8. — Dramatic acting in the schoolroom as a means of educating the children in history, literature, and ethical truths is the novel pedagogical method recommended by Mrs. Emma Blaine in an article on "The Dramatic in Education," which appeared yesterday in the April number of "The Elementary School Teacher." The magazine is published by the University Press and is edited by the faculty of the School of Education, which Mrs. Blaine has endowed to the extent of nearly a million dollars. The plan she suggests is being tried in the classes there.

Mrs. Blaine holds that the dramatic instinct is strong in children and that by careful training it may be made "a power to construct in them strong and better men and women, with clearer images and finer thoughts." This dramatic instinct, however, Mrs. Blaine would have worked out by the children themselves in schoolroom plays. She says that there are few things on the stage at the present time that children should see; hear and suggest that the theaters set aside Saturday afternoons for plays to be given for the school children.

Of acting in the schoolroom, Mrs. Blaine says: "School should be a stage. Periods of history being studied should be lived in, and lived out, for the benefit of the others. Each should contribute out of his knowledge to the detail of the play. The children should be Greeks, Romans, and middle-age barons and priests; they should write the Magna Charta and discover America and construct our nation every day. Motives of a more studied correctness. What would be the result? Vividness of impression. History would be to them their first and fiercest drama. In distant ages would be people, not names with dates attached.

"There is another result to dwell upon, perhaps more valuable than the first. The immense power of impressing actions by the action done—the moral force of impersonation.
 "For the child that children should see," continues Mrs. Blaine, "what can we say? Where shall we find the dramatic food we wish to see? In the mind? When we have had the rapture of taking them to see Jefferson in his plays, and the two rare chabons of letting them see some of Shakespeare's plays, what shall we do more? Almost nothing is suited to

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Tragedies do not come within their comprehension and as for current comedies, heaven forbid they should.
 "Pity the drama that, with all of its great possibilities and realities, when we speak of it we should conjure up such visions as the usual play, pity humanity, that the drama should lay the responsibility of such on its shoulders."
 "Would it not be a boon if some theater should now and then ignore what is thought to be public taste and occasionally serve us confessions we could give as treats to our children, not mixed with poisons through and through? Or could not the school forces set on foot a series of dramatic entertainments which would be profitable to the children of the city?"

SNEEZING STOPS A PLAY.
 London, April 12.—In the course of a dramatic performance at Radoni, in Poland, in aid of the Russian Red Cross Society, several hundred people in all present began to sneeze violently. Roars of laughter followed, which mingled with the continuous sneezing, and many people began to bleed at the nose. Ultimately the play had to be brought to a conclusion and the audience dismissed.
 It has since been found that a lady who had been excluded from the dramatic society which organized the performance had taken her revenge by sneezing the floor with an extremely acid and irritating insect powder.

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both the method and the ability to do as he says. Dr. Goldberg has discovered a new method entirely free to all men who send him their name and address. He wants to hear from men who have suffered from such diseases as gonorrhea, prostatic trouble, sexual weakness, varicocele, not maintained erections, syphilis, emaciation of parts, impotence, etc. His wonderful method not only cures the condition itself, but likewise all the complications, such as rheumatism, bladder or kidney trouble, heart disease, nervous debility, etc.
 The doctor realizes that it is one thing to make claims and another thing to back them up, so he has made it a rule not to ask for money unless he cures you, and when you are cured he feels sure that you will willingly pay him a small fee. It would seem, therefore, that it is to the best interests of every man who suffers in this way to write the doctor confidentially and lay out his case before him. He sends the method, as well as many booklets on the subject, including the one that contains the 14 diplomas and certificates, entirely free. Address him simply
 Dr. S. Goldberg, 288 Woodward Ave., Room G, Detroit, Mich., and it will all immediately be sent you free.
 This is something entirely new and well worth knowing more about. Write or once.

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