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LONDON, THURSDAY, MAY 24.

## HENRIK IBSEN.

Henrik Ibsen, who died yesterday at Christiania, Norway, was an original force in modern literature. He was born and reared in a small town in the south of Norway, but he was not of Norse blood; his ancestors, both paternal and maternal, being Danish, Scotch and German. His father met with ill-fortune, and young Ibsen was apprenticed to an apothecary when 15 years old. He served five years in that capacity, and then entered the university at Christiania, but remained only a short time. His first poem was published in 1849, but he obtained no public recognition for some years. The note of fierce protest against the social conventions of his country, which characterized all his work, was sounded in his earliest productions. This attitude of mind and his meager rewards in Norway led him to exile himself in 1864. He lived in Germany and Italy for nearly thirty years, returning in 1891 to spend the remainder of his days in Christiania.

The romanticism of his early poems developed into the ghastly realism of that type of the social drama associated with his name. No writer of modern times has excited so furious a controversy. His partisans have hailed him as a prophet of truth, who has dared to deal with real life, and lay his finger upon its sore spots. The Ibsen cult, however, has not taken deep root in Great Britain or the United States. The votaries of Ibsen sneer at the Puritanical instinct which revolts at the naked treatment of the sex problem, but it is a healthy instinct, nevertheless, and it has not prevented English literature from being the noblest monument of human genius. The Ibsen dramas take one into a dissecting room and expose the diseased tissues of the social body. What moral or artistic purpose is served by letting the public look through a microscope at the putridity of what, after all, are abnormal types of humanity? A sane poet than Ibsen counsels us to see life steadily and see it whole. Ibsen does not show life as a whole, but diagnoses its nasty spots. It may be the truth, but it is not the whole truth. His characters are freaks, not normal men and women. He would tear down social conventions which have been the growth of ages, because here and there they are touched with gangrene, but he offers no constructive philosophy of life. It is to the credit of the English-speaking stage that the charnel-house drama remains an exotic.

## THE TWENTY-FOURTH.

It was a happy as well as a patriotic inspiration which led the Government of Canada to perpetuate the 24th of May as a holiday. There are few people living under the British flag who remember when it was not a holiday, and to have discarded it after the Queen's death would have seemed like treason to her memory, and almost contrary to natural law.

The twenty-fourth of May is the Queen's birthday. If they don't give us a holiday, we'll all run away.

Generations of school children have so declared for nearly 70 years. The boys and girls today might be as good (or as naughty) as their word, if put to the test. Victoria Day is Canada's memorial to the mother, wife and queen, in whom "a thousand claims to reverence closed," but it is justified on practical as well as sentimental grounds. It comes at a convenient season, and is the first out-door festival of the year. King Edward chanced to be born in a sunny month, when a holiday has no charm for the masses, and he shows his tact and good sense by deferring to our plan of honoring the throne on the birthday of his mother. In Canada we regard the Twenty-fourth as the formal ushering in of summer. The trees have just completed their foliage, the flowers are in bloom, the garden beds are green—and mankind feels safe in shifting from winter to summer fashions.

## A SNAP.

[Brooklyn Life.]

The Visitor—Well, Bobby, and what do you think you'll be when you grow up?  
Bobby—I'm going to be a retired merchant like Uncle Joe.

## A SLIGHT CHANGE.

[Catholic Standard and Times.]

Mrs. Lushman (sternly)—Well, sir, how do you feel this morning?  
Mr. Lushman (unsteadily)—Oh, all right. Of course, I'm a little hoarse this morning, but—  
Mrs. Lushman (witheringly)—How odd! You were a big jackass last night.

## A GOOD THING TO LEARN.

[Montreal Witness.]

Swimming is an accomplishment eas-

ily acquired, and should be part of the physical education of every boy and girl. It is not only a healthful and delightful recreation in warm weather for strengthening the body and developing the feeling of self-confidence, but also an assurance of capacity to save one's own life and the lives of others on occasions of danger to which all who venture on the water are liable. For the naturally timid, the very people who should learn to swim, the easiest and safest school is at the swimming baths, where the knowledge that they can always put their feet on the bottom gradually develops confidence in their ability to keep afloat.

## SOME NICE NEW JOBS.

[Ottawa Free Press.]

If Whitney is not dismissing Grit officials fast enough to suit his hungry heels, he is making quite a lot of new jobs for his friends. The Toronto Telegram publishes a list of some of the plums, which in the aggregate amount to about \$35,000. Here is the list:

Appointment.	Probable salary.
Chairman railway board .....	\$6,000
Mining commissioner .....	5,000
Superintendent of education .....	5,000
Drainage referee .....	5,000
Provincial assayer .....	2,500
Railway board members (two) .....	2,000
Provincial geologist .....	1,500
Mining inspectors (eight) .....	1,500
Mining recorder (two) .....	1,500
School-board commissioner (three) .....	1,000

Most of these jobs are peculiarly attractive, and we expect to see quite a contingent from this city looking for preferment. No time should be lost, for Toronto will be hot-foot after them.

## REDUCED TO DESPERATION.

[Detroit Free Press.]

Miss Smith—Do you think the moth will get into your fur this summer?  
Mrs. Close—I hope so; it's the only way my husband will ever get me a new set.

## ENGLISH TENDENCY IN MATRIMONY.

[London World.]

We always tend to run to extremes in our social fashions, and it is therefore not without some interest, one may even say anxiety, that we shall watch the decided tendency of society women to marry men much younger than themselves. There may come a day when an age limit may have to be instituted.

## BRIDESMAIDS TO HIRE.

[London Health and Home.]

A Parisian lady has established an agency for the supply of bridesmaids to prospective brides who are in need of such attendants. As the same girls in the same dresses take part in many different weddings, a fee of a sovereign for each girl is considered sufficient to meet the matter.

## REGENERATION OF DOUKHOBORS

[New York World.]

For the year 1905 the community of the Doukhobors in the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada, reports net receipts of \$189,782. It is predicted that these figures will be doubled in 1906. The Doukhobors began to arrive in Canada from Russia in 1899. They were fanatics, fleeing from persecution and tyrannies that had extended over a century and a half. They were swayed by superstition and controlled by mischievous leaders. Four years ago, after had counsel, they cast their clothing aside, turned their cattle loose and proceeded otherwise to the extremes of a people gone mad.

At the root, however, these strange Russians have ever been hard-working, frugal and obedient to law. They yielded first to force in their wildness, and then to intelligent treatment. Today they form forty-four villages, in which the men and women are industrious and progressive, while the children are more than anxious to gain every advantage from the schools.

The story is of an amazing transformation. It has its points of application to our own problems of immigration.

## CHRISTIAN COURTESY.

[Toronto News.]

At the funeral of Archbishop O'Brien, of Halifax, the ministers of the different Protestant churches attended the service as a mark of the great and general respect in which the deceased prelate was held in Nova Scotia, and indeed throughout Canada. So, when the Hon. A. G. Jones, Lieutenant-governor, was buried three days later, the Roman Catholic clergy of Halifax walked in the procession to the door of St. Paul's Anglican Church, but did not enter the edifice. This has been the subject of some unfavorable comment, and the action of the Roman Catholic clergy was simply in keeping with the practice of their communion, and surely should not be magnified into a cause of offense. At this distance the conduct both of the Protestant and Roman Catholic clergy of Halifax seems to have been truly Christian and admirable.

## CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE

[Toronto Star.]

The establishment of all-night banks in New York have given rise to the speculation that the time is coming when the whole 24 hours of the day will be used for business. Already the New Yorker grudges the time spent at meals. The broker snatches a piece of pie and swallows a glass of milk, for his lunch, and the so-called refreshment is completed in five minutes. It has, it is true, been suggested that this expedition is in the nature of a bluff, and that the man who has bolted his food in this manner may be seen for an hour afterwards sitting with his feet on his desk. But the disposition to use every available moment for work is beyond doubt, and so we may expect to see the all-night grocery and clothing store.

## SENATOR HOAR'S STORY.

[Boston Herald.]

Senator Hoar enjoyed telling of this actual occurrence on a car on which he was a passenger. The senator was going home one winter afternoon, toward dusk, and happened to notice a man running after the car and vainly trying to attract the conductor's attention. The senator notified the conductor, who stopped the car. The belated passenger, who was somewhat under the influence of liquor, had no sooner climbed aboard

than he delivered himself of the following: "Shay, Mr. Conductor, does this road run to 'commodate the passengers, or the passengers run to 'commodate the road'?"

## THE JOB FACTORY.

[Hamilton Times.]

G. F. Henderson, barrister, of Ottawa, has been appointed as the second drainage referee for Ontario, at a salary of \$2,500. There was no more need for a second drainage referee than a wagon has for a fifth wheel. The work was being well done by Col. Rankin, of Chatham, whose salary is \$2,500. He did not ask for help; he was not overworked. But somebody had to be taken care of, and the office was created to care for him. In this way the Ross surplus is to be got rid of.

## THE HUDSON BAY ROUTE

[From the Ottawa Citizen.]

At the present time a good deal of attention is being directed towards the Hudson Bay route as a means of getting out the large and constantly increasing production of foodstuffs from the Northwest. In the popular mind Hudson Bay is apt to be associated with the polar regions, yet no part of it comes within the Arctic circle and the latitude of its southern extremity is south of London. The principal question hinges on the length of the period of navigation during the summer season. Notwithstanding that the bay has been navigated for nearly two centuries by contrary statements are still current on this point. There has recently come into the possession of the Citizen a record kept by the Hudson Bay Company of the opening and closing of navigation for the past 75 years. The approximate regularity shown by these figures makes it possible to fix the period of navigation in that inland sea as closely as that of the great lakes.

It may be stated generally that Hudson Bay opens for navigation in May and closes in November. The latest date of opening during the period referred to was May 31, 1850. The earliest date of closing was Nov. 3, 1878. Even in these two years the period of navigation extended in the first instance from May 21 to Dec. 9, and in the second from May 13 to Nov. 3, periods of over 6 months and 5 months 21 days respectively. A comparison of the figures shows that for an average of 53 years the bay opened on May 15 and closed about Nov. 20. This is a period of over 6 months and is only about two weeks shorter than the period of navigation at Montreal, which is approximately from the first week in May to the third week in November.

It must be remembered that these records have been based on the period of navigability for sailing vessels, and that there is very little doubt that for steam navigation the period would be practically the same as in the great lakes. Hudson Strait is about 500 miles in length and varies from 45 to 150 miles in breadth. The two narrowest points in the strait are ten miles wide. With the exception of one year, 1778, Moose Factory has been visited by a ship every year since 1735, showing the regularity with which navigation has been maintained. Regarding the climate in the territory surrounding the southern part of Hudson Bay the statement is made upon the authority of several different persons who have had experience in the country that the climate is practically the same as the Ottawa Valley and Montreal. At Moose Factory farm and garden produce in considerable quantities are raised every year—oats and barley and all sorts of vegetables, including cabbage and tomatoes, grow without any more care than is required in southern parts of Canada. The meteorological observations of Moose Factory tend to corroborate this. The highest temperatures during 1877 and 1878 were as follows: January, 32; February, 42; March, 48; April, 66; May, 76; June, 82; July, 91; August, 81; September, 73; October, 66; November, 46; December, 32. The lowest temperatures during the year 1878 was 35 degrees below zero and the thermometer only went below zero during four months of the year. These figures would compare very favorably with any other part of Canada, excepting possibly the Western Ontario peninsula or the Maritime Provinces.

## POEMS THAT LIVE

[Pitt-Greene Hallack.]

There have been loftier themes than this, And longer scrolls, and louder lyres, And lay it up with poetry's fur and hoarier fires.

Yet read the names that know no death: The common pulse of man keeps there; And few have won a greener wreath Than that which binds his hair.

His is that language of the heart In which the answering heart would speak, Thought, word, that bids the warm tear start, Or the smile light the cheek;

And his that music, to whose tone The common pulse of man keeps time, In out or castle's mirth or moan, In cold or sunny clime.

Through care, and pain, and want, and woe, With wounds that only death could heal, Torture the poor alone can know, The proud alone can feel;

He kept his honesty and truth, His independence of pen, And moved, in manhood as in youth, Pride of his fellow-men.

Praise to the bard! his words are driven, Like flower-seeds by the far winds blown, Where'er beneath the sky of heaven The birds of fame have flown.

Such graves as his are pilgrim shrines, Shrines to no code or creed confined, The Delphian, the Palestinian, The Meccan of the mind.

## Historic Raid Recalled.

Royalton, Vermont, May 23.—A monument commemorating the burning of the village of Royalton by the British and Indians in 1780 was dedicated here today. Rev. W. S. Hazen, D.D., Beverly, Mass., delivered the memorial address. Gov. Bell made a brief address. The monument was unveiled by four descendants of two settlers who were captured in the historic raid.

## PROBE QUESTION 225 YEARS OLD

Governmental Red Tape Has Odd Demonstration.

## ALL DUE TO A PARISH COW

History of Defunct Bovine Recorded in Official Parliamentary Paper.

London, May 23.—British Government business is just as much tangled up by red tape as ever it was. Dickens is popularly supposed to have ridiculed much of it out of existence, but in reality he accomplished little. In proof whereof, I submit this story of the Purley cow which has just been made the subject of a parliamentary "white" paper, "ordered by the House of Commons to be printed" as is duly set forth in the precious document itself and "printed for his majesty's stationery office by Eyre and Spottiswoode, printers to the King's most excellent majesty."

To begin as near the beginning as it is possible to begin, something over two and a quarter centuries ago, some charitable person, whose identity has since eluded the vigilance of exhaustive parliamentary inquiries, donated to the poor of the parish of Purley, a little village in Berkshire, a cow, "valued at £6," which is about \$30 in Canadian money.

Question Arose in 1786. The cow, which must have then been dead about a hundred years, first attained national recognition in 1786. In the parliamentary returns of that year—printed, no doubt, as they are now at fabulous cost—it was recorded among other interesting and important details, that there was in the hands of overseer of the poor of Purley the sum of £6, known as the "Purley cow money," and furthermore that the overseer paid six shillings (\$1 50) a year as interest on the cow money, which was distributed "occasionally" among poor widows.

The cow cropped up again in 1837 in a report made to Parliament by "the committee appointed in pursuance of acts 5 and 6 Will. IV., c. 71, as continued by the act 7, Will. IV., c. 4, to continue the inquiries concerning charities in England and Wales (Vol. 82, part 1, page 236)." According to this report the long defunct Purley cow was still yielding £1 50 a year.

The cow continued to sleep its last sleep undisturbed for a quarter of a century, but in 1862, in another report on local charities, there appeared this alarming entry in tabular form:

Locality and Designation of Charity. Purley—Cow Money. Total Former Income, £0 6s 0d. Observations. Lost.

## Cow Money Missing.

But strange to relate, this started no hue and cry in Parliament to discover what had become of the lost Purley cow money. The American civil war was then absorbing public attention. For nearly another half a century the Purley cow was forgotten. Then, it is supposed, some member of Parliament, browsing among the old records, came across the above entry, and saw there in a brilliant opportunity to justify his election by starting an inquiry to ascertain how the money was lost, and why it could not be found again when the poor old cow died, and what it died of, and various other things that the zealous legislator deemed of transcendent importance. So he set in motion the machinery provided by "Act 5 and 6, Will. IV., c. 71," and all the rest of it.

In due time, the official wheels began to go round, and there followed a lot of correspondence with the parish authorities at Purley. That proving unsatisfactory, a \$4,000 a year assistant commissioner of charity journeyed to Purley first-class—his traveling and hotel expenses are paid by the Government—and summoned all the parish officials to a solemn inquiry into the matter, which was held in the village school-room. Oaths were administered and evidence taken, and no doubt the air round about was electric with excitement. It is hardly conceivable that the Purley cow itself, when alive over 200 years ago, ever created such a profound sensation.

In his report the assistant commissioner of charity recapitulates everything that Parliament had previously done to revive the memory of the cow. He concludes by stating that in 1837, Edward Sherwood, as overseer of the poor of Purley, was the custodian of the £6 cow money. "Since his death," he adds, "there has been no payment, and the money cannot be traced, but it is said that his descendants can."

That leaves the door open for some fussy official or inquisitive M. P. to resurrect the cow at any time in the near or remote future, by demanding to be informed if any efforts have been made to trace the descendants of Mr. Sherwood, and if not, why not, and so on. Meanwhile the taxpayers have had to pay a large sum for publishing the ridiculous report.

Italy is about to begin the construction of a telephone service in Alpine attitudes for the use of climbers who need assistance.

Ladies' Lisle Gloves—The most wanted kinds in black, white, fawn and white, and solid white, fine fibre. Sold at \$18 00 and \$20 00. Friday for ..... \$12 50

Ladies' Lace Mitts, in lisle and mercerized, black and white, and specials at ..... 25c and 35c

Dress Goods. Clan Tartan Dress Goods, for girls' suspender dresses, 48 inches, new plaids. At ..... 25c. Cream Dress Goods, for Eton suits and shirtwaist dresses—crepe de chine, mohairs, taffeta cloth and serge. Seasonable goods; at the special price, 50c 54 - Inch Light - Weight Tweeds, for Eton suits and separate skirts—desirable shades. Worth to \$1 25 yard. Friday for ..... 75c. Lace Curtains at special prices Friday.

Friday's most remarkable sale in this department is Summer Wash Suitings that are regularly worth 25c to 45c yard, but which we intend to sell tomorrow for 12 1-2c yard—the balance of a manufacturer's stock—the quantity is large, but the price is one-half and less. In shades of gray, navy, light blue and green; also a miscellaneous assortment of Linen Suitings, in a variety of colorings, 36 inches wide; worth from 25c to 45c yard; on sale Friday only ..... 12 1-2c

200 yards Mercer Silk, popular wash goods, fine to wear, and of good appearance; in brown and white, and navy and white. Our regular price is 25c yard. On sale Friday, a yard ..... 15c

Three Pieces Stripe Vesting, splendid goods for outing skirts or blouse waists; in fawn, blue and white stripes. Regular price 25c. Bargain day ..... 15c

Flannelettes. Five pieces Plain Blue Flannelette, 33 inches wide; worth 12 1-2c yard; on sale Friday 8 1-2c, or 12 yards for ..... \$1 00

Twenty pieces Striped Flannelette, 34 inches; worth 10c a yard; on sale Bargain Day ..... 7 1-2c

Sheeting. Fine Bleached White Sheet, linen finish, fine twill, of English manufacture. 200 yards to sell. Regular price 55c a yard. On sale on Friday ..... 39c

Towels. 25 dozen English Bath Towels, fancy stripe, size 15x33 inches. On sale Friday, only ..... 5c

20 dozen Plain Bath Towels, 20x40 inches. A splendid line. On sale Friday a pair ..... 25c

## J. H. CHAPMAN &amp; CO

(STORE CLOSED TODAY—VICTORIA DAY)

## Bargain-Giving Sale

FRIDAY BARGAINS—You have never known so many chances to buy for your personal needs and the household at such low prices as rule tomorrow.

## Summer Wash Suitings Ribbon Sale

Friday's most remarkable sale in this department is Summer Wash Suitings that are regularly worth 25c to 45c yard, but which we intend to sell tomorrow for 12 1-2c yard—the balance of a manufacturer's stock—the quantity is large, but the price is one-half and less. In shades of gray, navy, light blue and green; also a miscellaneous assortment of Linen Suitings, in a variety of colorings, 36 inches wide; worth from 25c to 45c yard; on sale Friday only ..... 12 1-2c

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Sheeting. Fine Bleached White Sheet, linen finish, fine twill, of English manufacture. 200 yards to sell. Regular price 55c a yard. On sale on Friday ..... 39c

Towels. 25 dozen English Bath Towels, fancy stripe, size 15x33 inches. On sale Friday, only ..... 5c

20 dozen Plain Bath Towels, 20x40 inches. A splendid line. On sale Friday a pair ..... 25c

Draperies. 275 yards Reversible Cretonne, bronze, blue, navy, green and red coloring. Worth 16c yard. Useful for many purposes. On sale Bargain Day ..... 12 1-2c

3 pieces Printed English Dimity, 36 inches wide, for curtains or drapery purposes, light grounds, fast colors. Worth 20c yard. On sale Friday a yard ..... 15c

Table Covers—24 only, of fine tapestry, blue only, full size, fringed. Regular price \$3 25 each. On sale Bargain Day (tomorrow) ..... \$2 50

Hose. 5 dozen Ladies' Mercerized Black Cotton Hose, the appearance of silk, and better to wear, lace ankle and feet. Our regular price 60c. On sale Friday ..... 45c

Knit Vests. Ladies' Swiss Ribbed Vests, lace yoke, with sleeves or sleeveless. Very special. On sale Friday ..... 25c

Ladies' Knit Drawers, umbrella cut, trimmed with lace. On sale Friday ..... 25c

Corset Covers. 3 dozen Ladies' Corset Covers, embroidery and lace trimmed, full front. On sale Friday ..... 35c

Men's Summer Suits. Advance sale of Men's Two-Piece Summer Suits; just 23 in the line; made of fancy gray tweed. The coat is unlined. Sizes to fit all men. On sale Friday at ..... \$3 95

Men's Suits. 30 only, Men's Fancy Worsted and Tweed Suits—These are odd suits left from our best selling lines of this season, mostly Progress Brand suits. Regular \$10, \$12 and \$13 50. On sale Friday ..... \$8 95

Men's Vests. Men's White Vests, small black dot, well made and good fitters. Don't miss this chance. Tomorrow ..... 95c

Boys' Suits. Many a mother will supply their boys' needs here tomorrow—the saving is considerable. Boys' Two-Piece Norfolk Suits, made of dark gray tweed, sizes 5 to 13 years. Special at ..... \$1 95

Sateens. Black Mercerized Sateen, for elderly ladies' dresses and petticoats. Worth 17c yard. At ..... 12 1-2c

Velvets. Black Velvet suitable for little boys' suits, 22 1-2 inches wide. Friday, a yard ..... 25c

Bath Towels. 23 dozen Striped Bath Towels, large size. Worth 40c pair. On sale Friday, a pair ..... 30c

Feather Boas. Only about 1 dozen Beautiful Feather Boas, in black and white, fawn and white, and solid white, fine fibre. Sold at \$18 00 and \$20 00. Friday for ..... \$12 50

Gloves. Ladies' Lisle Gloves—The most wanted kinds in black, white, fawn and white, and solid white, fine fibre. Sold at \$18 00 and \$20 00. Friday for ..... \$12 50

Tips and Plumes. Great Bargains for Friday. Lot 1.—About two dozen Black Ostrich Tips. Sold at 50c and 65c. On sale tomorrow, each ..... 25c

Lot 2.—About 3 dozen Black Ostrich Tips and Plumes. Good fibre and fair size. Sold at \$1 00 and \$1 25. Friday, each ..... 50c

Lot 3.—4 dozen Black Plumes, of medium sizes, good long fibre, and rich black. Sold at \$2 00 and \$2 50. Friday for, each ..... 75c

Table of Flowers, slightly mussed, but still useful—among the lot are some good flowers, and it will pay to see them before the best are picked out. Friday, a bunch ..... 5c

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

