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FREETRADE UNION SEED OUT 800 ORATORS Organized Campaign Begins Next Week — Unionists Lack "Attractive" Leaders — Ministers Are Active.

(Canadian Associated Press Cable.) LONDON, Dec. 22.—The Daily Graphic (Con.) makes the following noteworthy admission to-day: "With the best cause in the world, the Unionists are lacking in men who appeal to the imagination of the electorate. There is also an uneasy feeling abroad that the methods of the Unionist associations are not so effective as they should be."

The Free Trade Union will despatch 800 speakers next Monday in an organized campaign. Tory anticipations of John Redmond in command of a German fleet in Belfast Lough, and the Curzonian dictum that the house of commons is "not fit to be left alone, are subjects of much humor in the Radical press and on the platform. The radicals profess exceeding gladness that it so clearly indicates that every vote for a Unionist is a vote against the popular house, Liberal Chances in London.

The Dublin Freeman's Journal London correspondent is responsible for the statement that the Conservatives expect to get only 20 seats in London, whereas last year it was commonly agreed the radicals would get only ten.

With Lloyd-George, Burns, Grey and other cabinet ministers crating, the ministerialists again had a big pull to-night, at any rate in the newspaper space. John Burns is in excellent form. Addressing his constituents, he described Robt. Blatchford as a "war-mongering socialist, and a mischievous wanton firebrand, whom the Conservatives are using to bring about a colossal calamity."

Lloyd-George is solid. Burns then detailed the government's proposals dealing with unemployment. Lloyd-George received a welcome which can only be described as "raucous" in the centre of the tinplate industry at Llanelly, Wales. Apparently it will return another solid phalanx of radicals in January. Retaliation, which can only be described as "raucous," was not a policy for a priority. It was a sort of new version of the sermon on the mount, in which the speaker of the tinplate trade showed it was not wanted.

The lesser lights of the Conservative side are putting up a good fight, but Mr. Burns' health is being anxiously watched. Bonar Law, at Jarrow, combated the statement that tariff reform would ruin the shipbuilding industry. That industry had made marvelous strides in Germany under the German fiscal system. Tariff reformers did not want to stop imports, but to have more raw materials and less manufactured articles.

The former president declares that the Americans Cannon and Brock were executed according to law. This pretext for intervention, he asserts, is similar to that employed when the United States first intervened in Cuba, for there was no proof that the Malhe was blown up by Spaniards; yet this was taken as a cause for action.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Seven girl shirtwaist strikers, who have served terms of five days each on Blackwell's island for disorderly conduct during the strike, were decorated with bronze medals to-night in the presence of 3000 enthusiastic followers at an ornate ball. The medals were given by the Women's Trades Union League.

PROBS: Strong southwest winds partly fair and a little lower temperature.

Foodstuff Gaming Gets Drastic Blow Agents of Two Gigantic Grain Firms, Which Had Created Corner in Oats, Suspended to Enforce a Moral.

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—For the first time in the history of the Chicago board of trade, two members have been suspended for manipulating the prices of grain to serve their own ends.

This drastic punishment was visited upon George E. Marcy, president of the Armour Grain Company, who is Ogden Armour's personal representative on the floor of the board of trade, and James Pettit, president of the Peavey Grain Company. Marcy and Pettit were suspended from all the privileges of the board of trade for one day each.

At the same time, the directors served formal notice upon all board of trade members that manipulation of the market must stop and that in the future the manipulators will be severely dealt with. The directors considered the recent manipulation of the oats market not quite all that should have been from a straightforward business point of view, and hence the suspensions.

The Armour Grain Company and the Peavey Grain Company bought and bought oats for delivery in September until their line was estimated on the board at between 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 bushels. They bought when oats were low in price—around the 40-cent per bushel mark—and they continued to buy and kept their corner intact.

Since the project of a new Central Prison was decided on at the session of 1908, the special committee of the house, consisting of Hon. W. J. Han- nahan, J. P. Downey, J. R. Darragh, Geo. Pattison, Finlay McMillan and Col. Hugh Clark, accompanied by Col. R. W. Postlethwaite, inspector of asylums and prisons, have visited prisons at Detroit, Jackson, Cleveland, Chicago, Boston, Bridgeport and Elmira, in search of ideas on prisons, and have visited about 50 of the sites offered for the projected provincial place of detention.

Hundred Sites Offered. Over 100 properties were offered, but about half of these were thrown out of the running by not being supplied with the essential features of limestone and an available building site. The care taken in making the final selection is exemplified in the elaborate report which was drawn up on the seven sites, to which the competition was narrowed in the course of elimination. This goes into minute detail on the suitability of the soil for farming and raising vegetables and fruit, in the classification of the available building material under rock, gravel, etc., in the listing of the transportation facilities and water privileges for power and water supply. The site selected bears the annotation "excellent" under almost every head.

About 12 or 15 acres will be included in the actual prison enclosure, which will be surrounded by a high wall. According to the draft plans of J. M. Continued on Page 7.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—At the navy department, Dec. 22, a list of the navy department's Des Moines, now at Bluefields, dated at 3 o'clock this morning, says that Gen. Castillo, four pieces of field artillery, 1500 rifles and one million rounds of ammunition were included in the surrender of the government forces to the revolutionaries. Zelaya's loss in killed, wounded, and captured, the captain reports, is about 2600.

Zelaya and the United States. MANAGUA, Dec. 22.—Ex-President Zelaya to-day issued a manifesto declaring that his surrender of the presidency was caused by a desire to save Nicaragua the humiliation of outrage and the threat of a powerful nation. Because of his resistance against the imposition of tutelage, which was the forerunner of the conversion of the Latin nations of this continent into dependencies of the United States, he had incurred the hatred of the government, and when the defeat of the revolutionaries appeared certain, the United States Government inexplicably severed relations with Nicaragua. He protested before the world against the meddling of the United States and the threat to land matters in the hands of the Knox letter in an attempt to refute certain charges with copies of letters he had written, thanking him for his courteous treatment in the matter of the claims of Guatemala and Salvador.

CENTRAL PRISON TO BE NEAR GUELPH Location Made by Provincial Secretary After Careful Consideration of the Claims of Over a Hundred Sites.

After years of patient enquiry and the examination of 50 sites, the Ontario Government has at last settled on a location for the new Central Prison. It is to be about three miles east of Guelph. The properties secured are four in number, of 210, 50, 130 and 123 acres respectively, making a total area of 513 acres.

The Government considers that it was very fortunate in securing a site which combines almost everything which is required. The transportation facilities are unexcelled. The C. P. R. runs thru the property and the G. T. R. skirts it. There are six trains a day each way to Toronto.

The situation is almost at the centre of the criminal population of Ontario, which is placed at about 25 miles west of Toronto. This will involve a minimum cost of transportation of prisoners to the prison. The River Speed flows thru the property, giving ample water supply.

The 210 and 123 acre properties contain limestone, which will be useful in the construction of the prison, and will also be utilized for the employment of the prisoners in supplying crushed stone for the improvement of the roads of the province. The 120 acre property contains sand and gravel in abundance, and an admirable building site. The other block is good land for farming, vegetable gardening and dairy purposes.

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AN APPEAL



On which Reginald is liable to get slipped up.

SCHLEY DOUBTS PEARY'S PROOF U. S. Admiral Wants His Data Also Submitted to the Danish Committee.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 22.—Affirming his complete confidence in Dr. Cook, Rear-Admiral W. S. Schley, returned to-day called publicly upon Commander Peary to submit his proofs in the expedition, which he had reached the north pole to some scientific body other than the National Geographic Society. This, the admiral declares, should be done at once in the interests of justice, and to establish beyond question the claims of Peary.

The admiral believes that the same body which repudiated Cook's data should be permitted to pass upon the data submitted by Peary to the Geographical Society. Admiral Schley declined to say on what grounds he took exception to the findings of the University of Copenhagen. He merely reaffirmed his belief in the explorer, adding that if he believed that Peary, too, had gained the top of the earth.

The admiral has had wide experience in the far north. In 1884 he was in command of the Thetis expedition, which resulted in the rescue of Lieut. Greely and six men who had been cast away at Cape Sabine. For this Schley, then captain, was awarded a gold watch and a vote of thanks by the Maryland Legislature and a medal of honor by the Massachusetts Humane Society. The admiral declined to discuss Admiral Schley's suggestion.

Not Honored for Reaching Pole. COPENHAGEN, Dec. 22.—It is not believed that either the University of Copenhagen or the Royal Geographical Society will withdraw the honors which they conferred on Dr. Cook. Officials of the university state that the institution did not bestow the degree as a reward for the discovery of the pole, but merely in recognition of Dr. Cook's Arctic explorations. The Royal Geographical Society takes the same ground.

Nansen Ridicules Cook. CHRISTIANIA, Dec. 22.—Friedhof Nansen said to-day: "It is my opinion that Cook is no longer interesting. He is practically a dead man and ought to vanish from the consideration of the world. I never trusted him, for the first report which he made did not inspire confidence, especially his statements concerning the distance of four hundred seconds from the pole. This proved that Cook was ignorant of the simplest principles of astronomical observation."

As for Peary, I never doubted his veracity, altho I did not approve of his behavior after his return. However, it is easy to understand his indignation. At least he is a man, and there is no comparison between him and Cook."

FAIR PLAY FOR THE EAST SIDE.



On which Reginald is liable to get slipped up.

EX-CONTROLLER HUBBARD HAS THE KNACK OF PUTTING THE BLOOR-STREET VIADUCT IN A WAY THAT WILL APPEAL TO ALL CITIZENS.

At a meeting in Danforth Hall the other night, he said: "The Queen-street subway, the King street subway, the Lansdowne-avenue subway, the Wallace-avenue foot bridge, the widening of Dundas-street bridges, the extension of Harbor-street, and the third of the cost as levied by the railway commission for the depression of the tracks thru South Parkdale, where ten level crossings will be eliminated—all these works are in the western portion of the City of Toronto, and have been paid for out of the general taxes of the ratepayers, and we confidently appeal to the people living in the western part of the city, in view of these facts, to do an act of simple justice, by voting for the Bloor-street viaduct bylaw, an improvement that will connect the large and growing population east of the Don with the west."

The Bloor-street viaduct will only cost \$40,000 a year for forty years. But as a matter of fact it will pay for itself over and over again in the increased revenue it will bring the city.

REPORTED CONFESSION BY MAN WHO THIS MORNING PAID EXTREME PENALTY FOR THE CRIME.

With the refusal of the minister of Justice to interfere in the case of Pavaale Steffoff, this man's last hope of life is gone, and with it is released the promise of secrecy with which Peary, George M. Atlas, now a fugitive from justice, covered his statement that Steffoff had confessed to him that he committed the crime for which he is to hang at 3 o'clock this morning.

Whatever it may be worth, in the light of recent revelations as to Atlas himself, the man's story to The World told on the day following Steffoff's conviction, was this: Atlas declared that during his visit to Steffoff in the jail the prisoner had confessed to him that he murdered Vaal Simoff. "He told me," said Atlas, "that he was possessed of an evil spirit, a very big devil. He told me that he needed the money, and he waited for Simoff as he came from work and killed him."

Atlas told that Steffoff described the crime committed in the dim light of the cellar of the Eastern-avenue house, where they all lived together, and how he had struck Simoff down as he descended the stairs in the darkness. With the first blow Simoff fell, but as he lay stunned upon the floor he struggled, and this drove his assailant crazy with fear. The "very big devil" possessed him and he struck blindly with the hatchet until his victim lay still. Then he took the money and went out and returned later, when he pretended to discover the body of the dead man.

WAS IMPELLED TO MURDER BY "A VERY BIG DEVIL"



PAVALE STEFFOFF Doomed to die this morning in Toronto jail.

And six press representatives will be admitted to the jail to witness the last act in this sordid tragedy. Radcliffe, the official hangman, will take that task off Sheriff Mowat's hands as usual.

Steffoff was told of the removal of his last hope. He heard the news calmly and seemed resigned. He still denies his guilt, and protests his innocence. He has been an orderly prisoner, and seems to have become attached to his guards, and has asked that he be allowed to say good-by to all of them.

Can Regulate Size of Loaves. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 22.—The Illinois supreme court to-day decided that a city council has the right to pass an ordinance specifying the price and weight of a loaf of bread and the conditions under which it must be made, and it is the duty of the baker to provide scales so a customer may inform himself of the exact weight of the loaf.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS. TO H. P. DWIGHT, president of the G. N. W. Tel. Co., who is 81 years of age to-day. He was born Dec. 21, 1828, and has been 82 years a leader in the telegraph business in Canada.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22.—(Special.)—A cable received from Port St. Antonio said that H. B. Ames, M.P. for St. Antonio had been taken off the homeward steamer and placed in the British naval hospital suffering with typhoid fever.

STORE OPEN EVENINGS NOW. Handy for Late Shoppers—Splendid Bargains. If you haven't selected your Christmas gift before, you will find an opportunity any evening now. The Dineen Company have arranged to keep their store open every evening until the holiday season is over. The showrooms contain a splendid collection of superior fur goods. Don't fail to include it in your list of calling places.

ALL CAR LINES ARE OVER TAXED

Letter Writers in All Sections of City Endorse Alderman McMurrich's Action Against Street Railway. Alderman George McMurrich as a result of his recent recollection in council dealing with the crowded condition of the Belt Line cars has received numerous letters endorsing his action and calling attention to the state of affairs which prevail on every line in the city.

In an interview given to The World, Mr. McMurrich gave a graphic account of the treatment which is accorded by the company to the unfortunate patron of the belt line.

"If there is any consolation, however," he went on to say, "in knowing that we are not the only ones to suffer discomfort, it is afforded by the letters which I have received from people in every part of the city, who are disgusted with the indifferent service."

"You mean, of course, during the rush hours?"

Overcrowding on Sundays. "Not at all," Mr. McMurrich replied, "we have grown accustomed to that, and recognize that the Street Railway Co. are inadequate to deal with that phase of the traffic problem. My resolution has to do with the overcrowding which prevails on Sunday, a day when hundreds of cars are lying idle in the barns."

"The Sunday previous to my bringing the matter up in council, I returned on a Belt Line car from church service. It was one of the worst experiences I have ever undergone. There was not a single inch of available room inside the car or on the rear platform. Once you were on, it was only thru a herculean effort that you could get off again."

"Just to give some idea how the capacity of the car was taxed, eight persons were obliged to crawl over the rear-end of the platform in order to get off. Inside, it was practically impossible to move, so tightly wedged were the passengers."

The Moral Aspect. "Apart from the unsanitary aspect of a crowded car like this, its immorality is the most outstanding feature. It is intolerable that young girls and women should be obliged to wait in the dignity of being crushed and wedged against men."

Mr. Fleming claims that his first aim is to study the convenience of the citizen. I returned on a Belt Line car from church service. It was one of the worst experiences I have ever undergone. There was not a single inch of available room inside the car or on the rear platform. Once you were on, it was only thru a herculean effort that you could get off again."