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LONDON, FRIDAY, NOV. 5.

A DISCREDITABLE CAMPAIGN.

No one appears to know what Mr. McLachlin properly represents in the West Middlesex contest, least of all Mr. McLachlin himself, if he is to be judged by his pitiful remarks at the nomination meeting. He contrived to utter a dozen sentences, the gist of which was that "West Middlesex farmers had no use for a lawyer," and that Mr. Ross wanted the seat because it carried a larger salary than one in the Legislature. If Mr. McLachlin has one idea about public questions, he is keeping it a profound secret.

There is not in the whole of Canada a more progressive and intelligent agricultural community than in West Middlesex. The farmers of the riding are also keen politicians. They have had a long process of political education in many hard-fought contests, and they have invariably chosen representatives of more than average ability.

It is this community that Mr. McLachlin pretends to typify. He makes a special appeal to it. It is his one cry, but it utterly fails him, because he is not even a representative farmer. He is not taken seriously as a candidate for Parliament, either in the towns or the townships. He is in the field at his own request, and at the bidding of outsiders who could induce nobody else to take the nomination. There are thousands of farmers in West Middlesex better qualified to do the riding justice in Parliament and maintain its high traditions. Mr. McLachlin fails to realize his own limitations, but he deprives himself of sympathy on this score by his discreditable attempt to sow dissension between the farmers and the town-folk. These are not the tactics of a good citizen. The result, we are sure, will show that they are not even good party tactics.

THE BRITISH CRISIS.

The finance bill, which is virtually the budget, passed the House of Commons yesterday by a vote of 379 to 149. The majority was unexpectedly large, as the Opposition had been counting upon a defection from the Ministerial ranks of at least a score of wealthy members. Apparently there were only two Liberal dissentients, and these abstained from voting. The Nationalists, who are opposed to only one feature of the budget—the liquor taxes—also refrained from voting, with the exception of nine, who went into the lobby with the Unionists. Mr. Redmond, however, made it clear that the Nationalists would be with the Commons to a man if the Lords asserted the right to block the legislation of the popular chamber. The Laborites voted solidly with the Government.

The bill is now before the House of Lords. The Government absolutely denies the right of the upper chamber to make an amendment. But many of the Unionist peers are compromised by the public utterances, and must make a humiliating surrender to allow the bill to pass intact. The general opinion is that they will venture to alter the bill, or will lay it aside on the plea that they must have a mandate from the people. Either course will precipitate a constitutional conflict, for which there has been no parallel since the seventeenth century. It is inconceivable that the Liberals will take office again except under a distinct pledge from the crown that they will be enabled to over-ride the veto of the Lords upon any and all occasions. The constitution will be in the melting pot with a vengeance in the ensuing general election.

THE CONGO.

The Belgian Chamber of Deputies has now before it a government bill relating to the Congo country. Besides opening up the river and country to international trade, this legislation is said to insure a reform of the Congo administration. Such details of the measure as have reached this part of the world are too meagre to enable anyone to form an opinion as to its effect. It may be taken for granted that unless the proposed reforms are adequate Great Britain will continue to withhold recognition of Belgian annexation of the Congo. As explained by Sir Edward Grey, foreign secretary, in Parliament, what the British Government insists on before it can recognize the annexation is an answer to two questions: First, is a great part of the native population of the Congo still subject to labor compulsory for the greater part of the year under the guise of taxation? Second, is the country still closed to trade? Until these questions are satisfactorily answered it is impossible for the

British Government to recognize the annexation, because it cannot by a positive act of its own countersign the system which existed in the old Congo State, and which successive British Governments have so frequently denounced as incompatible with treaty obligations.

M. Renkin, the Belgian colonial minister, recently returned from a prolonged tour of investigation of the whole Congo basin. He admits that many arbitrary acts have been committed there, but claims that published reports have been greatly exaggerated. The fact, however, that almost immediately on his return he introduced the reform measure, seems to indicate that he has taken to heart the utterances of Sir Edward Grey, particularly his significant declaration that "if the situation is prolonged indefinitely it must result in undesirable complications."

IRISH PROSPERITY.

All witnesses agree that Ireland is enjoying a degree of prosperity hitherto unknown to it.

In a recent article, Mr. J. P. Boland, M.P., shows that the progress is commercial as well as agricultural. Not only have efforts put forth to secure the home market been fairly successful, but trade is being pushed abroad by means of retail stores, and the writer hopes that "before long the Irish store will become a feature in every community where Irish people are to be found—in Australia as well as in North and South America."

The establishment in the new National University of chairs of national economics and political economy is a timely move. Mr. Boland says that for many years observers have noted with pain that success in the learned professions and in the securing of posts in the English civil service, was the goal to which Irish education in every grade was directed. In the new and freer conditions created by a national university, and in the formation of a peasant proprietary in place of the old vicious system of land tenure, fresh vital forces have come into play. The young men are now expected to look forward more than has been their wont to a successful career in trade.

Official figures quoted by Mr. Boland fully support the claim that brighter prospects are opening up before the country. In 1904 the aggregate trade of Ireland amounted to \$525,888,109, while in 1907 it reached \$610,692,359. In 1904 the imports were \$270,700,375; in 1905 they had increased to \$277,404,849; in 1906 to \$288,055,720, and in 1907 to \$302,606,225. In exports, too, there has been a steady increase. Their value in 1904 was \$255,187,725; in 1905, \$262,827,740; in 1906, \$286,168,499, and in 1907, \$302,606,225.

Whatever may be the political differences among the Irish people, they are all of one mind when it comes to their business interests. This spirit of self-interest is fostered by the all-Ireland industrial conference, which is held annually, and is serving an excellent purpose.

THE KINDERGARTENERS.

The school board will not deny that London has had for years a kindergarten system in the highest state of efficiency. It has been praised by educationists of other cities. It has not been expensive as compared with work of the same quality elsewhere. The salaries are small. Ladies who go in for the kindergarten branch, seldom rely upon it as their only means of subsistence. The whole educational world testifies to the value and necessity of the system; it is sanctioned by theory and experience.

The board of education has not acted in the real interests of the ratepayers by its somewhat ruthless treatment of the kindergarten staff. One effect will surely be the impairment of the efficiency which has been the slow growth of years. The sudden demand for the resignations of all the teachers must be dispiriting and disheartening, and the new conditions under which those who are re-engaged will be obliged to work will prevent them from giving the best they are capable of. The Froebel Society also has been a quiet but uplifting force in the community. Its activities have been many-sided and its influence has gone far beyond the school walls.

Are the school trustees certain they have acted wisely? There was certainly no data before the board to convince citizens that so harsh a policy was necessary.

For the House of Lords, it seems to be a choice between eating the leek or drinking the hemlock.

There are differences of opinion about Sunday cars, but all citizens would be glad to know the city had a population of 50,000.

The sneers of some Canadian public men and newspapers at the proposed Canadian navy suggest that what this country needs is more national self-respect.

The fact that the Winnipeg Tribune and the Kingston Standard could think of no one but George E. Foster as an alternative to R. L. Bowen is a sorry reflection upon the Ottawa Opposition.

"Hon. George E. Foster has survived his enemies. The most traduced and slandered member of the House of Commons has defeated and put to rout the politicians and the newspapers that set about his undoing."—London Free Press.

The day after the election, the Free Press held Mr. Foster partly responsible for the Government's victory, and said he would have to disprove the charges against him before he could presume to fill his old place in public life. Those charges are still before the courts. Isn't the F. P. somewhat previous with its whitewash brush?

Mendacity could go no further than

the assertion that Hon. Mackenzie-King said something derogatory of the farming community at the West Middlesex nominations. He merely invited the electors to compare the two men. If the result may be disparaging to Mr. McLachlin, but not to the West Middlesex farmers, the great majority of whom are above him in intelligence and political information.

HEALTH AND WORK.

[Robert Louis Stevenson.]
It is better to lose health like a spendthrift than to waste it like a miser. It is better to live and be done with it than to die daily in the sick-room. All who have meant good work, with their whole hearts have done good work, although they may die before they have time to sign it. Every heart that has beat strong and cheerfully has left a hopeful impulse behind it in the world.

COLLEGE ROWDIES.

Toronto University is suffering from impure blood. Epsom salts is an old-fashioned remedy; but the disease is too deep for such mild treatment. Leeches or phlebotomy may be necessary.

DO!

[Philadelphia Bulletin.]
"It is best to think before you speak. It is the safest way. Don't always say just what you think. But do think what you say."

USELESS NOISES.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]
"Nothing lost here but the squeal," declared the pork packer. "Are you as economical in conducting your business?"
"Just about," answered the visitor.
"I'm a lumber manufacturer. Nothing wasted but the bark."

PESSIMISM.

[S. E. Kiser.]
I try to hope, and yet it seems
A futile, foolish thing to do;
My bad dreams are the only dreams
That ever manage to come true.

THIS IS A FACT.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
Some women are so emotional that they can become enthusiastic over a great tenor even when he sings in a Prince Albert coat.

TWO AND TWO NOT ALWAYS

FOUR.
[Red Hen.]
Teacher—Now, boys, here's a little example of mental arithmetic. How old would a person be who was born in 1857?
Pupil—Please, teacher, was it a man or a woman?

WOMAN'S LOGIC.

[Washington Star.]
Doctor (after the diagnosis)—Well, I am pleased to say that you are perfectly sound.
Sue—Hm! Then a visit to the sea won't do me any harm, will it?

THE GLASS OF FASHION.

[Puck.]
Cholly—The deuce, old chap! I can't go to the party. I have on collar-buttons.
Reggie—Go across the street and buy some, dear fellow.
Cholly—But I can't. Nobody has my measurements except my tailor, don't clerk now.

GREAT GEOLOGIST.

[Washington Star.]
"Whom do you consider our greatest geologist?" asked the scientific man.
"I depend on the point of view," answered Mr. Justin Stuck. "If you are considering strictly practical results I should declare in favor of the president of the coal trust."

RECKLESS DRIVING.

[Detroit News.]
"What is the matter with your wife?"
"I see she's got her hand in a sling."
"Reckless driving!"
"Horse!"
"No; nail."

WAS READY FOR MORE.

[Buffalo Express.]
Passerby—Say, you are the man who struck me for a dime three days ago?
Weary Waagles—Yes, sir, but to do me best, I can't keep me expense lower than 5-12 cents a day.

THE RULING PASSION.

[Boston Transcript.]
"It was to gratify your extravagant tastes," cried the desperate man, "that I committed the forgery. The prime is upon your head."
The woman started and gazed at him wonderingly. "Is my crime on straight?" she asked.

WILLING TO FIGHT, TOO.

[Toronto News.]
In making a direct grant, however, we contribute only money. By organizing a Canadian navy we develop another legitimate function of nationality, give our own sons to the service of the empire, and evade the reproach that we are unwilling to pay, but not willing to fight for the maintenance of British institutions.

THE YORK LOAN.

[Hamilton Times.]
The 25 per cent dividend which the York County Loan Company shareholders get represents just about four years' dividends on their capital. If the union with the company it was proposed to join had been carried out, the York County people would have had their 6 per cent per annum and no law costs, and would have still had 100 cents on the dollar of their capital. They had some very bad advisers.



"Beverley" Tonight.

Beautiful gowns are always attractive and beautiful gowns abound in the Delamater and Norris production of George Barr McCutcheon's "Beverley," which will be the attraction at the Grand tonight.

The gowns worn by the women in the company are exact replicas of those worn at the court of the German emperor, and were made and designed especially for this production.

"The Prince of Tonight" on Saturday
Mr. A. J. Small, after considerable correspondence, induced Mr. Henry Woodruff to give a matinee performance of "The Prince of Tonight." It is not customary for this production to play matinee performances on one night stands, and Londoners can congratulate themselves that they will be able to have two performances of this clever musical comedy. The Grand is always well patronized when musical comedies are given, and in "The Prince of Tonight" theatre-goers will see one of the prettiest performances of the year. There are lots of topical songs, handsomely dressed women and funny comedians.
Henry Woodruff has already made a reputation in London. His first appearance here was with "The Genius and the Model," with Edna Goodrich, now the

CHAPMAN'S Sales for Saturday

Cold snaps don't send out advance notices---so it's wise to provide yourself with winter clothing and be prepared for cold weather surprises. You can be well prepared, as we have big sales in winter merchandise. Read this list for Saturday:

By All Means See THESE COATS

With these specials for Saturday the call for Winter Coats will be extraordinary — Chapman values that stand out temptingly before all who want a new coat, with an opportunity to save thrown into the bargain.

\$12.50 Coats for \$7.95

Handsome Winter Coats for ladies and young ladies, made of Imported Kersey Cloth, in the correct long model, 52-inch stylish coat. Half-fitting and fitting backs. Some with velvet collars and velvet buttons, others with ivory buttons and braid trimming. Choice of navy, green and black. Coats marked to sell at \$12.50 in the regular way. Today and Saturday, only\$7.95

\$16.00 Coats for \$12.50

Military Coats in the correct 52-inch length, of heavy weight beaver, beautiful quality, in black, blue and brown. Double-breasted with high military collar, a style that is increasing in popularity. These \$16.00 Coats will be sold Saturday, for....\$12.50

MISSSES' COATS

An opportunity that should not be disregarded. A table of Misses' Winter Coats, of fancy tweeds, full and half-fitting backs. Trimmed with cloth strappings. Worth up to \$10. Sale day Saturday, \$3.98

CHILDREN'S COATS

Also a table of warm Winter Coats for children, 6 to 12 years old. Neatly-trimmed coats with self-strappings and fancy buttons. Choice of different tweeds, all good winter weights, \$4 to \$6 values. Sale day Saturday\$2.49



EXTRA! Men's Fine Worsteds Suits Reduced to \$14.95

Regular \$18.00 and \$20.00 Values

Saturday will be a sale day in the Men's Suit Department. With broken lines left from a busy month's selling we can make it interesting from the value point of view, for any man who wants a suit. All this season's goods in patterns and styles that are wanted. The materials are all-wool imported worsteds in all the new colorings, made up in the newest styles. Sizes 34 to 44. Our regular \$18 to \$20 lines that are worth every cent of their regular price. Choice, Saturday\$14.95

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO., 126, 128, 128 1/2 Dundas Street.

Week-End Sale of HATS

The response to our last Saturday's sale of Hats at \$4.95 was so gratifying that we are having another lot brought from the work-rooms for tomorrow at the same price.

Trimmed Hats, in new, large and small shapes, with a great variety of trimmings to choose from—wings, fancy feathers, ribbons and flowers on some. Ready-trimmed Saturday at the special price\$4.95

Semi-Bleached Table Linen

Notice this special offer of three pieces semi-bleached pure linen Tabling, 72 inches wide. The three patterns are bow knot, shamrock and wild rose. Extra fine and heavy quality. Worth \$1.00 a yard. Sale day, Saturday75c

Ten dozen Bath Towels, red stripes, size 15x32. A small lot for early buyers Saturday. 50c each, or a dozen60c

Crash Towelling, pure linen, good dependable quality. Our best 12 1/2c crash. Sale day, Saturday, 10c a yard, or 11 yards for \$1.00

White Victoria Lawn, 30 inches wide. Sale day, Saturday, a yard6 1/2c

Ends of Wrapperette and Gingham, 2 1/2 and 3 1/2 yards in each. Remnant end price35c

English Flannelette in solid colors, of blue, pink, red, cream and white. Very soft, nice quality, 35 inches wide. By making an immense purchase we can sell the regular 15c quality, for a yard12 1/2c

Blue Serge, 15c Yard

For making girls' school dresses and boys' sailor suits, "Rough and Ready" blue serge, indigo dye. Regular 25c a yard, for....15c

Window Shades

For a rush sale Saturday a purchase of 1,200 oil Window Shades, full 70 inches long, spring roller, complete with brackets, nails, etc. Choice of dark green and cream. 39c is the regular value. Saturday we expect to sell the purchase to the last one, at each.....27c

Lace Curtain Reduction

Nottingham Lace Curtains, in effective single and double border patterns, good strong nets, but fine in appearance, which means that the quality is in these \$1.65 and \$1.75 Curtains, which we will sell Saturday, for a price.....\$1.12

Tapestry Carpets

400 yards English Tapestry Carpet, all pure wool pile, nice bright, clean patterns for bedroom and dining-room use. Worth 50c a yard. Sale day, Saturday.....39c

Comforters, \$1.25

A special lot of full size Comforters, silklike covers and pure white filling, nice and fluffy. Size 60x72. Each\$1.25

Baseburners

The Kind That Please

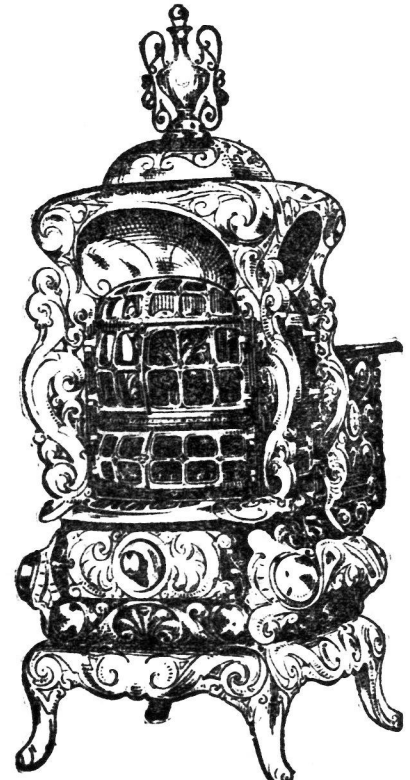
Come on in now when the stock is large. We're showing nothing but what's really first-class. Our prices are extremely reasonable—in fact, you pay no more here for a guaranteed Stove than you'd pay elsewhere for a very inferior article.

See our splendid "Art Laurel"—The king of all Baseburners—beautiful to look at—a hero for giving the best results.

Prices Range From \$27 Up

The Gurney-Oxford Stove Stores

118 Dundas Street. W. C. Wood, Manager
London East Branch, 638 Dundas Street



DUNCRIEF'S STORE DESTROYED BY FIRE

Building and Contents a Total Loss—Accident to Cousin of Capt. Robson.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Vanneck, N. B. On Wednesday, Capt. Robson, after finishing threshing got his own place, was sliding down off the straw stack, expecting to catch with his feet a short ladder that was set up, when his foot went in between two rungs, and both he and the ladder fell, his leg being between the two sides of the ladder. In the fall Mr. Robson broke his thigh near the body—a very serious break. The swelling was so bad that Dr. Robson could not set the limb for some time. Mr. Charles Robson is a cousin of Capt. T. Robson and a nephew of A. C. Attwood.

About 2 o'clock this morning the Duncrief store and all its contents, owned by Arthur Barclay & Son, was destroyed by fire. There was no insurance. Great sympathy is felt for the Barclay families, as this wipes out Duncrief, the store being all that was left.