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London, Thursday, Feb. 21.

A New Coinage.

All coins issued from the mint after a certain date will bear the head of the new King. As to the question of reform in coinage in Great Britain, the London Daily Mail states as follows:

"It will be well to consider whether the new reign might not be made to coincide with a reform in our system of reckoning money. In almost every country of the world, certainly in every progressive country outside the British Empire, the decimal system has long since replaced the clumsy and elaborate duodecimal of other days. Some even among our colonies have anticipated the mother country in the path of monetary reform. Canada, for instance, has the decimal system, and has had within the memory of man. England, however, with that curious conservatism for which she is so famous, and which led her to set her face against electric traction, automobiles, and the cheap telephone, till her competitors had gained an immense lead, still lags behind."

The decimal system of coinage has certainly many advantages. Its adoption would immensely facilitate the keeping of accounts, and the transaction of business generally. The Mail also advocates the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures. We in Canada have long ago adopted the decimal system of coinage, but still adhere to feet, yards, rods, ounces, pounds and so on. We seem to experience little difficulty in our weights and measures. It may be that the metric system, which is a system of tens, will be adopted in time. That the introduction of a new system would cause temporary inconvenience is evident, but, after all, what great improvement has there ever been yet that has troubled no one?

A Hard Working Bishop.

Last month the Bishop of London passed to his rest, and many strong, sincere tributes have been paid to his memory. The man who holds such a high position in one of the greatest churches should be the possessor of many high qualities, and certainly Bishop Creighton seemed to have been a man of great ability and uncommon energy. The British Weekly, a Non-conformist journal, has much to say of his industry as a great ecclesiastical official, as well as of his varied literary activity. "It could not be said of him that he was a powerful spiritual leader or a notable stylist, or a commanding orator. But at all events, he was supremely clever, one of the cleverest men in an age where nearly all men, and we suppose all women, are taken to be clever. A more humble and a much rarer quality was conspicuously present in his character—that of industry. Perhaps he was the most industrious man in all England." That is certainly very much to say; it must, of course, be very difficult to say who is the most industrious man in all England, or any other country, but we suppose that this writer knows what he is talking about, and hence very safely conclude that the late Bishop of London was a very busy man.

Indeed, in these days, high position means great demands on a man's time and strength. According to this same authority the Bishop's activity was not mere fussiness; it was real hard work, and not useless worry. This habit of persistent toil marked his career from its beginning to its somewhat premature close. But though Bishop Creighton could toil terribly, he was without the air of a burdened man. He seemed to have plenty of time. He could smoke, and talk, and walk, and dine out apparently cheery and light-hearted on almost all occasions. This is a picture of a modern bishop in the greatest city in the world. He began as a vicar in Embleton, a small place in Northumberland. From there he went to Cambridge as professor of ecclesiastical history, and stamped, we are told, his personality on the place. In 1891 he succeeded the famous Magee as Bishop of Peterborough. At that time he represented the English Church at the Czar's coronation, and later was appointed Bishop of London.

No bishop has made himself known to so many Londoners in such a short time, known, we mean not merely as a preacher and as a speaker, but in direct personal ways. The memorial notice of the Times says: "At heart he was true, tender and wise. His religion was of the soul, not of the lips; his spiritual aims were lofty and large-minded, albeit sometimes far withdrawn, and take him for all in all, the church will not soon or often look upon his like again." We are glad to hear of strong, noble-minded men in any sphere. A man who does the highest kind of work gains an influence beyond his own church, and proves himself to be a servant of humanity. In these days many want to have front rank and an easy time, but the lesson which comes to us from the lives of really influential men is this, that without hard work no great thing is done. This bishop could not have gained his position, or been fit for it without hard work, and

when he came to the highest place, it was to find that the toll was sufficient to tax all his energies and call into play all his varied powers. The story of such a life is a stimulus and help to many.

The Cost of Education.

Prof. N. M. Butler, of New York, speaking recently on the question of college finances, said:

"Every college becomes poorer as it becomes more successful. It costs two and a half times as much to educate a boy as can be charged for his tuition. Every student who comes to a college adds to the cost of the institution. The question, therefore, is, is it worth while to educate men and women in college, and if it is, is the money to be given? It is estimated that last year over \$60,000,000 was given from private fortunes for educational institutions in the United States."

"The hard-headed business men of the country realize that the best investment they can make for their accumulated wealth is in institutions where the dividends are intelligence, and they will, I believe, keep up with the demands made upon them for financial assistance."

It has been said that a chronic condition of impecuniosity is a sure sign of a healthy college. The Province of Ontario is well blessed with educational institutions of the first water.

More Enlightened Views.

The Toronto papers find it a wonderful thing that the first judge appointed to the bench of the King Edward should be a man whose ancestor was executed for treason in the trouble of 1837. There is nothing surprising in the case. Several of the King's own ancestors were executed for treason.—St. John, N. B., Sun.

Treason, as understood in those days, consisted in the man, who had the power, for the time being, decreeing that the other chap had no right to live because he disagreed with his views. We have more enlightened views now. There is more toleration. Men may speak the things they will, even when they may be strong criticism of the powers that be, and yet escape being "hanged, drawn and quartered." It is a more enlightened age, and the world is all the better for it. We progress, no matter what pessimists may say; the race is not going backward, by any means.

The fee system still prevails to a very great extent in Great Britain. Lord Roberts has to pay \$5,000 for the two honors conferred on him. Court functionaries, to whom a large part of the money goes, have to live and be adorned. The costumes of these men are as rich and eccentric, to modern eyes, as they were in the days of Queen Elizabeth.

Glimpses from Press Gallery.

The death of Senator Almon, of Halifax, calls to my recollection an exciting incident which took place in the chamber one day last summer. It was a very warm afternoon, and the senator had been engaged in an equally warm discussion with his neighbor, when suddenly he collapsed in a faint. His face turned deathly pale, and as his fellow-senators, of the medical profession, rushed to his aid and looked on his ashen countenance, and felt his pulse, they appeared to fear the worst. Arrangements were being made to apply restoratives, and have the stricken man moved from the chamber, when he astonished everyone by suddenly opening his eyes, and with an amused twinkle, saying to a well-known Liberal colleague, "Ah, perhaps you thought I was dead; I am not, and do not intend to allow my seat to go to one of you Grits for some time yet!" This exhibition of will power was characteristic, for it got the old gentleman through more than one serious illness without the aid of stimulants, of which he had an abhorrence; but death came at last.

A friend of mine here having expressed himself very much disappointed because he applied to his bookseller for Hon. David Mills' book on "The English in Africa," and was told that it was out of print, I have made inquiries in regard to the matter, and find that all the copies of the large edition of this splendid work, issued less than a year ago, have been sold. The demand has been great. It has come not only from Canadians, but from many persons abroad, who have read the contributions to current literature from the pen of the Minister of Justice, from time to time, and who know how thoroughly he masters any subject which he may take up. There is a steady demand for a second edition, and it is to be hoped that the enterprising publishers (the George N. Morang Company of Toronto) will at an early day respond to it. "The English in Africa" gives to the reader both pleasure and profit. It is the one work giving an absolutely correct and truly British view of the whole African question, and deals not only with the questions affecting the Empire in the late Transvaal and Orange Free States, but with the questions that have arisen between the motherland and France, Germany, Italy and Portugal in other parts of the "Dark Continent." Such a work cannot be too widely circulated. I heard a few days ago that Lord Dufferin has highly praised the work, and declared that the circulation of an edition of it on the continent would do much to remove the misrepresentations which have been persistently circulated by the detractors of the British.

Mr. McGugan, M.P., has been placed on four interesting committees of the House, namely, Railways and Canals, Agriculture, Private Bills and Stand-

White Goods Sale
Now Going On

208, 210, 210½ and 212 DUNDAS STREET, LONDON, ONT.

The Runians, Gray Co.

We want to make the last Friday in February a record day. We offer some very special lines, which, for business reasons, must be cleared. In many cases the quantity is not large, and will be sold early. Last Friday many afternoon shoppers were disappointed, because some special lines were cleared out by the crowds that came in the morning. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Staple Department

240 yards Gingham, assorted colors, good, strong cloth, worth regularly 10c, special Friday and Saturday 6½c
278 yards Fine Scotch Gingham, assorted colors, regular price 20c, 25c and 30c, special Friday and Saturday 15c
24 pairs Linen Huck Towels, size 18x40, regular close price, per pair, 20c, Friday, only 15c
78 yards Half-Bleached Linen Table Damask, 65 inches wide, our close special price 30c, Friday only 25c
Prints in dark colors, worth 1c, Friday and until sold 5c

Mantle Department

6 Ladies' Mantles, in fawn, black and blue, this season's goods, regular price \$5.00, Friday, and until sold \$2.50
5 Ladies' Wool Vests, ribbed and blue, this season's goods, regular price \$3.50, Friday and until sold \$2.25
5 Ladies' Mantles, in slate, black and fawn, this season's goods, regular price \$4.00, Friday and until sold \$2.50
12 Homespun Skirts, assorted shades, well made, regular price \$2.95, Friday \$1.95

Knit Underwear

Ladies' Wool Vests and Drawers, full sizes, nicely finished, regular price 65c each, Friday special at 52c
Ladies' Wool Vests, ribbed and plain, good quality, regular price 75c, Friday only 60c
Ladies' Natural Wool Vests, best quality, regular price \$1.00, Friday only 80c
Children's Taped Waists, regular price 25c, Friday special 19c

Whitewear

Ladies' White Lawn Aprons, made with bib, frills on shoulder, very wide and full length, special Friday, each 29c
10 only, Children's Aprons, white lawn, trimmed with frills, regular 35c, 40c and 50c, Friday 35c
Ladies' White Gowns, fine cotton, Empire style, trimmed with fine lace and insertion, worth \$1.00, special Friday 79c
Ladies' Drawers, all ribbed and trimmed with lace, good English cotton, special, per pair 25c
Ladies' White Skirts, lengths 38, 40 and 42 inches, made in fine cotton, deep dounce, with trimmings, tucked and wide frill of embroidery, special \$1.00

ing Orders. The Committee on Agriculture is, of course, important, while most important of all this session is that on Railways and Canals. So that the member for South Middlesex has been done very well by in the way of recognition.

SUPREME COURT

Swearing Allegiance to King Edward VII.

The Governor-General and Lady Minto Present.

[ADVERTISER, SPECIAL.]

Press Gallery,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Feb. 19.

I had the opportunity of seeing the supreme court open its February session today, under specially brilliant conditions. It has always been the custom at some period during the office of the governor-general to invite him to attend the supreme court, and it was deemed appropriate that at the first session after the demise of the late sovereign his excellency the governor-general should be requested to attend the court and administer the oaths of allegiance to the supreme court judges. The courtroom is not large, and although not at all elaborate, is still rather an elegant room, and being well lighted, presents a very cheerful appearance. For the present occasion the paneling on the wall back of the judges' seats was appropriately draped in black and purple, as were also the front of each of the judges' desks and the desk of the registrar.

The appearance was very artistic and effective. At one end of the room is placed the dais, upon which are located the six desks and seats of the judges. Immediately in front is the desk of the registrar, Mr. E. R. Cameron, that of the court reporter on the left, and the sheriff on the right. Facing the judges are the desks at which are seated the lawyers, and back of these seats which the public may occupy. The first row of desks, of course, are appropriated by the King's counsel, and are separated by a railing from the bar, who sit immediately behind their seniors.

His excellency arrived about a quarter after eleven, and the Countess of Minto was received in the registrar's chambers by the wives of the judges and the wives of such of the members of the government as were able to attend. Shortly thereafter the judges left the conference room and took their seats on the bench. The judges, on especially important occasions as this, wear a scarlet robe, with deep trimmings of ermine on the sleeves and cape, and also wear a three-cornered hat, as they

file into the court and take their seats on the bench.

Shortly before the judges took their places on the bench, the ladies who received her excellency, arrived in the court room, and were given places of honor on the right hand, and near the bench, while the privy councillors were stationed opposite and on the left hand.

The court was promptly filled, with barristers in their gowns, and King's counsel in their robes, appropriately adorned with court mourning, which consists of a strip of white lawn on each sleeve about six inches wide. The judges also had each a large mourning rosette on the left breast of black and purple.

The court room was crowded, in addition to the legal fraternity, by ladies of the city who were interested in the proceedings and others. All being ready for his excellency, he shortly entered the court, preceded by the sheriff, who wore his full court uniform, sword, hat, lace ruffles, and so on, and accompanied by the Countess of Minto, the Countess of Antrim, and Capt. Bell, the aide-de-camp in waiting. The governor-general was invited to take the seat of the chief justice, who, through illness, was unable to be present, and Madame Taschereau, Lady Laurier and Mrs. Gwynne sat in the front row with her excellency. Behind them, I noticed Mrs. Sedgewick, Mrs. King, Madame Girouard, Mrs. Blair, Mrs. Sifton, Mrs. Fielding, Mrs. Power, wife of the new speaker of the senate; Lady Ritchie, widow of the late Chief Justice Ritchie; Lady Tupper, wife of Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper; Mrs. Borden, wife of the leader of the opposition. On the left were the Hon. R. W. Scott, Hon. Sir Louis Davies, Hon. Mr. Blair, Hon. Mr. Tupper, and amongst the prominent lawyers present were Sir Hibbert Tupper, Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, Hon. Mr. Brodeur, Mr. Borden, Mr. Ritchie, K.C., of Halifax; Mr. McLean, K.C.,

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