

the right of the Russian people to honor his memory suggest ludicrous comparisons; the man standing for practical applied Christianity and humanity; his critics standing for a conventional ecclesiasticism and class privilege. Never did an intellectual giant have the courage of his convictions in greater degree. His movement to reform and uplift humanity commenced with himself. He lived what he taught. How could this money-grubbing, luxury-loving world understand such a man? It was magnificent but it was not common sense—because it was too unselfish. His whole life was as great a reproach to his day and generation as were his writings. What wonder that the lords of the human race stigmatized him, just as the Master in whose footsteps he followed so closely was stigmatized nineteen hundred years ago. His stormy life is over, he rests from his labors; but his works do follow him. The power of the ecclesiastics and the bureaucracy in Holy Russia is very great, but for centuries to come the influence of Leo Tolstoi will be infinitely greater. Not only in Russia will his influence be felt; because he worked for the emancipation of humanity, not merely from aristocratic and official despotism, but from personal tendencies to evil. He represented the only legitimate and workable type of socialism. In fact, he fought the devil all along the line and beat him. The official attempts to suppress the demonstrations of the educated classes in honor of Tolstoi are a striking tribute to the greatness of the man.

**Toronto's Finances.** According to the annual report of the City Treasurer just issued Toronto's revenue during the financial year was \$12,969,482, and expenditure, including redemption of debentures and sinking funds, \$12,779,378. There was a balance of cash in hand and at the bank, including sinking fund deposits, of \$2,494,579 at the close of the year. The bonded debt of the city is \$35,972,988. Deducting sinking funds makes the net debt, \$26,649,397. The aggregate estimated revenue from all sources is \$7,712,706.

**The Dust.** The rain which fell on Wednesday night was worth many thousands of dollars to Montreal. The city had been suffering from a dust plague, which was, we believe, unprecedented, and a dust plague at this season of the year is full of danger to human health. The dust is the most active vehicle in the transportation of disease germs even in summer, but the combination of a dust storm with chilly weather is particularly dangerous to throats and lungs. It is to be hoped that the city will be taking the fullest advantage of the mild spell to thoroughly clean the streets. In a very short time the snow

will settle the dust problem for this winter, but meanwhile the discomfort and the danger are great. Let us have clean streets.

**Militant Suffragettes.** Not even the ultimate success of the English suffragettes will justify the means by which they have obtained it. We do not attach so much importance to the common charge that they are unsexing themselves by the coarseness of their tactics; they seem to be rather proud of that fact, but while their methods may be mannish, they are anything but manly just now. A woman has no more right to be proud of a violent assault upon an aged minister of the Crown, than a man would have to be proud of scratching a woman's face with his finger nails and tearing her hair out by the roots. There was an element of humour in the early doings of the suffragettes, which was to a considerable extent a justification of their technical breaches of the law. They are now carrying the joke too far, they are degrading themselves and injuring their cause.

**China's Currency.** The much discussed loan, by New York bankers, of \$50,000,000 to China the bulk of which amount it seems not improbable, will in the last resort, be supplied by Europe, is in connection with the long-promised regulation of the Chinese currency, a question which the Chinese Government is at length taking up. The London Economist states that under the important arrangements which are being made, the Crown will resume its old prerogatives; all Chinese banks of issue are to withdraw their notes within a space of five years and their place is to be taken by an Imperial Bank. The notes of this Bank are to be legal tender, redeemable on presentation in coin, although in case of a run, a reasonable time is to be allowed for the calling up of reserves. A metallic reserve is always to be kept equal to 50 per cent. of the notes issued and half of the reserve must consist of actual coined money. Moreover, there must be an additional 50 per cent. reserve of Treasury bonds, stocks, and other easily negotiable securities. For occasions of absolute necessity the method of the German Reichsbank has been adopted and the issue can be extended above the normal limit on payment of a 6 p.c. tax. This scheme, if successful, will be of importance to the whole commerce of the East and to the monetary systems of the world.

**WEYBURN SECURITY BANK.**—The first meeting of subscribers of stock of this new Bank will be held at Weyburn, Sask., on December 12, for the fixing of the day of the annual general meeting, the election of directors, etc.