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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12.

THE SUFFRAGETTES AGAIN.

The Greeks entered Troy by concealing themselves in a wooden horse. Yesterday the English suffragettes invaded the precincts of Parliament by hiding in furniture vans. The Greeks surprised the Trojans and captured the city. The suffragettes, the dispatches tell us, got close to the point of attack before being discovered, but here the parallel stops. Unlike the Greek besiegers the ladies made no further progress. They tried to rush the doors of the House of Commons lobby, but ran into the arms of London bobbies, who were more successful than the Trojan defenders.

The suffragettes have been held up to scorn and ridicule, but there is method in their madness. By these militant tactics they are forcing the question of woman suffrage upon the attention of the public, of Parliament, and the press. They have determined to fight every Government which refuses their demands. Their leaders took the stump and canvassed against the Liberal candidates in the recent by-elections. It may be that they were a factor in striking series of Unionist victories. They are mostly women of education and of good families, and as they are ready to be martyred for their faith, they are not a force to be despised, and politicians will have to reckon with them sooner or later.

It remains to be seen whether the suffragettes represent merely a select class, or whether there is a widespread demand for the ballot among the women of the Kingdom. The unusual number of unmarried women in England of high social position, who are restrained by custom and convention from engaging in any gainful occupation, and who seek for some vent for their energies, probably accounts in a degree for the aggressiveness of the woman's suffrage movement there.

TUBERCULOSIS DECREASING.

If a medical report made to the British Local Government Board, and recently published, is to be relied on, tuberculosis is decreasing at an extraordinary rate in England and Wales. The report, which is the result of years of investigation by one of the Government inspectors, shows that while in 1828 the disease was responsible for no less than 29,025 deaths, or 23.9 for each 10,000 of population, in 1906, in face of a great increase of population, the mortality from consumption fell to 29,746, or 11.5 per 10,000.

All the credit for this lessening of the ravages of the disease cannot be given to the discovery of the tubercle bacillus, and the consequent legislation designed to prevent the sale of meat and milk from tuberculous cattle, for, as the report points out, Koch's discovery was not made known until 1882, and it was not until some years later that it had any effect upon legislation; yet the mortality from consumption in 1885 was less than one-half that in 1828. Nor would it seem that the decline is to be ascribed to sanatoria, for in 1885 there were few, if any, of these in operation. The report inclines to the belief that the cause is to be found in a gradual weakening of the virulent power of the hostile bacillus, combined with a simultaneous increase in the power of resistance of the human body. Post-mortem examinations have demonstrated that tuberculosis is far less fatal than it once was, and that many persons dying from other diseases present unmistakable traces of having been infected by tuberculosis at some other period, and of having overcome the tendency of the infected portion of lung to soften and disintegrate. Hence it is inferred that the consumption bacillus, no matter by what means it reached the lungs, may either lapse for a long period or permanently into a passive state, or be roused into activity by external means harmful to health.

To the lay mind the weak point in this explanation is that it applies only to England and Wales. In other countries, including Canada, consumption is generally believed to be on the increase.

"NEW BRITISH COLUMBIA."

This Province has its New Ontario and the Coast Province its New British Columbia, a region of vast potentialities, like Ontario's northern domain.

The British Columbia papers com-

ment on the movement to New British Columbia, which has already set in. Says the Victoria Colonist:

"This is a very promising sign, presaging, we confidently believe, unprecedented activity all along the coast. The determination of the Grand Trunk Pacific to rush work at Prince Rupert and Kitimat is, of course, in itself sufficient to induce a special interest in the section indicated; but other districts, notably Queen Charlotte Islands, are attracting widespread attention. With a wealth of undiscovered resources and presenting alluring opportunities for the miner, merchant and capitalist, it is not surprising that the north should just now be looming very large in the public eye; and we anticipate that at the end of 1908 we shall have to record the busiest season in the history of what Premier McBride so happily termed 'New British Columbia.'"

New British Columbia, like New Ontario, is especially rich in minerals and timber. The incalculable wealth of the northern mainland has been hitherto almost inaccessible, but the Grand Trunk Pacific will open up the country and do for British Columbia what the Temiskaming Railway did for this Province. One immediate result will be the employment of many thousands of men on the western section of the road, and permanent settlement will follow in their wake. The variety and extent of the resources of British Columbia are such as to make it probably the only Province which will one day rival Ontario in greatness. Its development has only begun; there is an enormous area which is practically unexplored.

London is putting up too much money for necessities at present to think of the luxury of a new city hall.

A Provincial election in June is freely predicted. The Whitney Government cannot honestly boast, "What we have, we'll hold."

Mr. W. J. Bryan sat in the press gallery of the Ontario Legislature yesterday. The principal speaker was Mr. Harcourt, and it is safe to say that Mr. Bryan never heard a better speech in a state legislature, if Mr. Harcourt was in his usual form.

Here is the record of Federal by-elections since 1904:

	Lib. Cons. Labor.
Nova Scotia	3 1
New Brunswick	2 1
Quebec	14 1
Ontario	10 7
Saskatchewan	2 0
Alberta	2 0
British Columbia	1 0

Nothing short of a political earthquake will defeat the Government this year or next year. There is no sign of such an upheaval, and the Opposition cannot honestly profess to see one.

Where and how did that story originate that the Hon. Adam Beck objects to the radial railway bill for the reason that the radial company will have the right to deliver electric power along the line of its railway, and he doesn't think it ought to be allowed to compete with the municipalities which are to take power from the Government commission?—Hartigan Herald.

It probably originated in Mr. Beck's organ, which advocated a monopoly of the field by the hydro-electric commission and the municipalities taking power from it. As Mr. Beck disclaims any such idea, the organ will no doubt change its tune.

A HINT.

[Chicago News.]
I love little children,
So charming and sweet,
Their eyes flashing sunlight,
The sound of their feet.
I'm fond of the youngsters,
But still, for all that,
It's sign that I want them
To sit on my hat.

I'll fondle the babies
And bow on my knee
The rosy-tipped children,
Whoever they be.
But still, though I love
All the babies so true,
I don't want their finger-marks
Left on my shoe.

My heart is a playground,
Where children may run;
I want all the toddlers
To revel in fun.
But though my heart beats
For each sturdy young chap,
I don't want ankles well
Spilled into my lap.

NOT A PLAIN COOK.

[Exchange.]
Misses—See here, Jane, I can't have you entertaining company in my kitchen all the time.
New Cook—Faith, 'it do be your own fault, ma'am. Yes should've advertised for a plain cook."

MONEY TO THE HEATHEN.

[Judge.]
Missionary—Do you ever contribute money for the heathen in foreign lands?
Millionaire—Oh, yes. Both of my daughters married foreign noblemen.

COMMON THIEVES.

[Toronto Globe.]
Canadian shipping applies to Britain as a rule, but for a few cents' worth of old lead runs many dollars' worth of offenders have no claim to leniency of consideration.

GETTING THE TEA HABIT.

[New York Sun.]
Tea tools are becoming quite the daily function here. The afternoon highball is giving way slowly but surely before the tea habit, but not injurious, qualities of that beverage which cheers but does not inebriate, and among the clubs and also the offices in the business section of the city five o'clock tea is now an acknowledged feature in New York life. Uptown the recognized custom, hour, and practically the only time in the day when a

woman confesses to being at home, it is the time of five o'clock tea, and not to offer tea, cake or sandwiches to visitors.

at that time in the afternoon is as great a breach of etiquette as the five o'clock tea habit. It gradually changing the dinner hour and the custom of late dining is becoming fixed.

MOTHER GOOSE A LA NEWPORT.

[Chicago News.]
Little Miss Muffet
Sat on a tuft,
Playing bridge whilst all night;
But a society shark
Found she was a mark—
And won all her cash ere 'twas light.

NOT IN.

[Denver Catholic Register.]
Agent—Is the head of the house in?
Boy—No, sir; there's nobody here but me father.

GOOD IDEA.

[Toronto Star.]
Chief Justice Mulock left his bench yesterday to look at a machine in dispute in the Kingston building. In which the chief justice simply implements a lifelong theory that knowledge gained at first hand is best.

DEPOSITS AND CALL LOANS OUTSIDE OF CANADA.

[Monetary Times.]

"The Canadian banks loan their money on call in New York, and neglect Canada," is a frequent cry. But the depositor outside our borders is seldom considered. Here is a table showing the deposits elsewhere than in Canada, and the call loans elsewhere than in Canada during 1907:

	Deposits elsewhere than in Canada.	Call loans outside Canada.
January	\$2,291,448	\$3,079,637
February	32,214,962	5,848,495
March	61,133,725	51,300,792
April	64,890,157	48,439,477
May	53,594,690	52,386,972
June	59,176,395	62,351,678
July	58,421,023	52,386,972
August	55,094,324	60,623,114
September	60,219,320	62,088,232
October	54,236,629	63,135,901
November	62,815,090	66,919,325
December	64,191,182	68,968,156
Totals	\$724,718,647	\$675,679,673

GENIUS.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
"Genius," said the man who is fond of being mistaken for a philosopher, "is only the capacity to take infinite pains."

"Yes," replied the chronic cynic, "I knew a man who worked for five years trying to whitewash a clock out of a solid block of wood."

PARENTAL INCONSISTENCY.

[Judge.]

Mamma—Now, Willie, I don't want to hear you using any more slang. I want you to cut it out.

LITTLE AT TIME.

[Life.]

He—Did you tell your father, darling?
She—I told him I was engaged, dear, but to whom. He is not well, and I thought I would break it to him gradually.

WHEN HE FOUGHT BEST.

[Catholic Standard and Times.]

"Yes," said the typhoid germ, "it's a funny thing about me."

"What's that?" asked the girl microbe.
"Why, I do my best fighting when I'm drunk."

NOT GUILTY.

[Frankfort Witzblatt.]

Mother—You and Willie have been at my cherries again. I found the stones in the nursery.
Johnny—I wasn't me, mother, 'cause I swallowed all the stones of mine.

LEAP YEAR TRAGEDY.

[Philadelphia Telegraph.]

The girl proposed.
Her luck was bad—
The chap she preferred her
To his dad.

A LITERAL YOUTH.

[Harper's Weekly.]

"Why, Johnny," said Mrs. Muggins, "what are you doing here? Is Willie's party over?"

"None," blubbered Johnny. "But the minute I got inside the house Willie's father told me to make myself at home, and I came."

ANTICIPATING HIM.

[Puck.]

French tact is proverbial. A rather tiresome marquis came up yawning to the Prince de Ligne, of the court of Louis XVI.

"That was exactly what I was going to say to you," observed the prince, suavely.

THE ETERNAL GATE.

[John Greenleaf Whittier.]

Far off, and faint as echoes of a dream,
The songs of boyhood seem,
Yet on our autumn boughs, unfound
With spring, the thrushes sing.

The hour draws near, how'er delayed
And late,
When at the Eternal Gate,
We leave the words and works we call
Our own,
And lift our hands alone.

For love to fill Our nakedness of soul
For love to that Gate no toll;
Giftless we come, to Him, who all
Things gives,
And live because He lives.

REALISM.

[Life.]

Tommy—Ma, may I make 'ilvers I'm entertainin' another little boy?
Mother—Certainly, dear.
Tommy—All right. Gimme some cake for him, then!

AN INSPIRED INTRODUCTION.

[Booklover.]

Mark Twain says the only introduction to a literary audience that he ever had that seemed to him the right word in the right place, a real inspiration, was as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen—I shall not waste unnecessary time in the introduction. I don't know anything about this man—at least, I only know two things about him—one is that he has never been in prison, and the other is, I can't see why he hasn't.

THEY CAN BOAST.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]

"It was very unfortunate about my cousin Mame and Mr. Jennings. You know they were married last Thursday, but not that they had been out of the house from her little brother Willie."

"That was too bad, indeed. Still, they can always boast that they had a swell wedding."

PLAGUE IN WEST AFRICA.

[Berlin, Feb. 12.—Owing to the outbreak of the plague in West Africa]

chancellor Von Buelow has decreed the strictest sanitary inspection of vessels arriving at German ports from that country.

THE CAREER OF

"ICE KING" MORSE

Made a Fortune By Cornering

Ice During New York's

Hottest Summer.

New York, Feb. 11.—The career of Charles W. Morse, the "Ice King," who is reported to have fled from New York to escape his numerous creditors and the grand jury investigation now in progress, and whose fortune of \$200,000,000 is said to have been wiped out by recent financial troubles, is a most remarkable one.

In many respects the career of Morse has been more spectacular than that of any financier who ever came to New York city and made and lost millions here, says the New York World. In all of his great undertakings there was always something which made him, notwithstanding his great wealth, persona non grata with the substantial element in Wall street, the men who finally determined to crush him.

First Big Deal Was in Ice.

Mr. Morse is 52 years old. He never attained any prominence as a financier until Robert A. Van Wyck became mayor, and John F. Carroll leader of Tammany Hall, when he brought out the ice trust, which, with valuable dock rights obtained from the city officials at ridiculously small rentals, was soon in a position to sweep all the independents and rival ice companies from the field.

In 1897 he was the most important figure in the ice industry in the city, and when the Tammany ticket, was elected with Robert A. Van Wyck as the first mayor of Greater New York, the American Ice Company—the Ice Trust—was launched.

That corporation started out with a whirl. Hundreds of Tammany men who didn't know a stock-ticker from a typewriter began to speculate in the stock. Prominent officials got big slices of it at bargain prices, and Morse made it easy for them to pay for it. Mayor Van Wyck got thousands of shares, paying one-fourth down, and borrowing three-fourths from a bank in which Morse at that time had a large interest.

Where Morse Blundered.

Then Morse made his first blunder. He made an arbitrary raise in the retail price of ice in the blistering summer of 1898 from 30 cents to 60 cents a hundred. The World began a crusade against the Ice Trust, and other newspapers soon joined in, and finally there was an investigation which disclosed the part the city administration in promoting the trust and the stock holdings of prominent office-holders.

Under heavy pressure the discredited Ice Trust finally cut down the price, and the independents began to work into the trade, and finally there was a terrific slump in the stock, which wrecked the fortunes of many a Tammany follower of Van Wyck and Carroll, Morse, Van Wyck and Carroll, foregoing the slump, had sold their holdings at the high level of prices and had made immense sums. Nearly everybody else lost.

A few years later there was a reorganization of the Ice Trust, by which the unfortunate stockholders got one share for five of the original stock. Morse is said to have got control again at the low price, but he was ejected from the company in December last.

Acquired Banks.

At the time the Ice Trust was in full swing Morse began to acquire banks, and to carry out the immense speculative schemes he embarked in he needed an almost inexhaustible supply of millions. The money put in various banks by the depositors suited his purpose. He bought stock in one bank, hypothecated it with other banks, bought the stock of a second, hypothecated that with the first bank, and thus his chain of banks was started. He always had bank chains of his own, and he could hypothecate more money, and buy another bank.

He bought and sold banks. Nearly all of them are rid of his ownership now. With his chain of banks Morse began to buy up steamship lines. He got the Mallory line, the Ward line, the eastern line and finally every Atlantic coast steamship company of importance with the exception of the Old Dominion line. He built at great expense, to run between New York and Boston and compete with the New Haven Railroad, but it cost so much to operate them that he soon found they would never be successful.

Then he merged all these lines into the Consolidated Steamship Company, with a capital of \$50,000,000 and with bonds of \$50,000,000. That proved a burden too heavy for him.

Joins Thomas and Heinze.

He joined forces with E. R. Thomas and P. Augustus Heinze, both of whom had bank chains of their own. The way the three used the money of depositors long ago aroused the fears of clean men in the financial district. When Heinze started his queer pool to corner United Copper early last October, and the bottom dropped out suddenly, the opportunity to wipe out the three came. It was reported at the time that Morse had sold out to the Heinze copper pool, but this he denied emphatically.

Morse's domestic affairs made him conspicuous for a couple of years and that sensation only died out when "Abe" Hummel was sent to Blackwell's Island for subornation of perjury. Hummel will be freed next month.

CORRESPONDENCE TAKEN.

Tetuan, Feb. 12.—British, French, German and Spanish postal couriers, en route on their way to Tangier, thirty-two miles distant, have been robbed of all the correspondence written in Arabic that they carried.

WRECKED BANK

TOOK ALL CASH

Institution and Got Away

With \$12,000.

Rich Hill, Mo., Feb. 12.—Securing \$12,000 in cash after dynamiting and totally wrecking the \$9,000 building of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank in this city, five bandits heavily armed terrorized the town here early today, and after exchanging shots with several armed citizens, escaped to the rough country south of here. No one was injured either the shots or the explosion. The dynamiting of the vault of the bank awakened the town, and the population hurried to the bank building. Many arrived in time to see the robbers hiding away. Some of the citizens opened fire, which was returned by the fugitives.

Cashier J. W. Jamison said the thieves had secured all the available cash in the bank. The building was completely wrecked, and many neighboring structures shattered by the explosion. The sheriff of the county organized a posse, but as the robbers secured a good start there is little prospect of their being overtaken.

POWER BEHIND A THRONE

Sir Robert Hart, China's Great Man, Going Home.

London, Feb. 11.—An Imperial edict was gazetted in Peking recently granting Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs, leave of absence on the ground of ill-health. The edict is couched in very flattering terms, and as a special mark of imperial favor, the rank of president of the board is conferred upon him.

Sir Robert Bredon takes over Sir Robert Hart's duties as acting inspector-general, and has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant-governor and provincial treasurer.

Sir Robert Hart is granted two years' leave of absence, and it may be inferred that his return to the Chinese service is quite unlikely, as he is now seventy-three.

He made his first journey there in 1854, and in all the years since then has only twice revisited his home—in 1866 and 1879. Lady Hart and his children have been awaiting his return for twenty years.

Born at Portdown, in County Antrim, the son of a millowner, Robert Hart went out to China in 1854 as a student interpreter in the British consular office. In 1859 he accepted a post in the Chinese Maritime Customs. Four years later he became inspector-general, and since that time has been the trustee of all European interests in China. He refused to become British Minister in Peking.

He elected instead to be one of the chief forces for progress in the Celestial Empire. With Oriental ingratitude, the Peking Government two years ago unceremoniously attempted to place Chinese officials in supreme control of the customs, on which European loans to China are secured.

In 1882 he was knighted, being promoted to a baronetcy in 1893. For many years past 6,000 employees have worked under the direction of the little grey autocrat of Peking. No foreigner knows so much of the inner workings of Chinese life.

Writing to a friend in England in 1906, Sir Robert said: "I was photographed myself the other day; allow me to send you a copy. Is it at all recognizable? I am still alone; Lady Hart and the young people—I have now three grandchildren—are at home, where they have been waiting for my return over twenty years."

"What a slice to be cut out of a domestic life! However, the facts of my life are slipping away, and both youth and middle age are things of the past. I am now an old—a very old man. I hope to be freed from harness next year."

KING'S CHARMED LIFE

Spain's Monarch Has Another Narrow Escape From Death.

London, Feb. 11.—King Alfonso has once more escaped death by the merest of chance, and may well be excused if he imagines he bears a charmed life.

He and a party were out boar hunting, the king's immediate attendant being the Duke of Tarancon. Presently a big tusker made a dash from the undergrowth and charged straight at them, but was promptly bowled over by his majesty. Thinking the animal was dead the king laid his gun on the ground and went forward to inspect it, when it suddenly sprang to its feet and dashed at him.

Only a nimble leap to one side saved the king, while a well-directed shot from his companion ended the boar's career.

This is the latest of King Alfonso's many narrow escapes. When a boy he was attacked in the streets of Madrid by a ruffian armed with a knife, but escaped unhurt. Two shots were fired at him on June 11, 1861, in Madrid, while driving home from church, accompanied by his mother and sister. Both shots missed him. During his visit to Paris in June, 1895, a bomb was thrown at him as he was returning from the opera with President Loubet. Two horses were killed, but the king escaped again unhurt.

The fourth attempt was made on May 20, 1906, during his wedding festivities in Madrid. He was driving through the streets with his bride, when a bomb was thrown at the royal carriage. Twelve people were killed and many others were injured, but the royal pair escaped.

The king has had many other escapes largely due to his motoring exploits.

As a general thing, every man who joins a boosters' club wants the club to do his special brand of boosting or bust.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1908.

THE CAREER OF

"ICE KING" MORSE

Made a Fortune By Cornering

Ice During New York's

Hottest Summer.

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