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LONDON, TUESDAY, MAY 21.

# THE POWER SITUATION.

The Toronto News continues its attacks on the Toronto management of the hydro-electric service, alleging waste, incompetence and an "air of secrecy." It gives the power project credit for reducing the rates to private users of electric light, but says that as the great majority of small householders use gas and oil lamps in their homes, no portion of the cost of electric light should be transferred to their shoulders by over-charging the ratepayers at large for water-pumping and street lighting. The News adds:

"The News still maintains that the public ownership of electric power would have been in a stronger position today if the province had bought out the Electrical Development Company and the city the Toronto Electric Light Company, thereby eliminating all private competition."

The inefficiency of local management cannot be fairly charged against the scheme. The city of Toronto alone is responsible for that. But the refusal of the Ontario Government to purchase the Electrical Development Company was morally wrong, and is now proved to have been economically a grave blunder. The preceding Ontario Government, with the unanimous sanction of the Legislature, covenanted not to compete with the Electrical Development Company. The latter invested and secured capital on this understanding. The public power project was virtually, if not technically, a breach of faith, but the Government could have maintained its honor by making such an offer for the company's property as would protect investors. It peremptorily refused to consider a proposal of sale from the British bondholders. Mackenzie and Mann came to the rescue of the company in self-defence. As heavy borrowers in the British money market they could not afford to permit any default in the interest on bonds held in Great Britain in a great Canadian enterprise.

The city of Toronto behaved more magnanimously than the Government. It offered to buy out the Toronto Electric Light Company at a figure considerably above par. The company declined, and accepted a still higher offer from certain interests supposed to be controlled by Mackenzie and Mann, so that the Toronto Electric shareholders had little complaint. The owners of the London Electric were not so fortunate. With a capitalization of \$400,000 they were offered \$100,000 by the city for their franchise, poles and wires, and they would still have been liable for their bonded indebtedness of \$102,500. Both in regard to the Electrical Development Company and the London Electric the policy of public ownership, admirable in itself, was carried out with a cynical disregard of justice and fair play. As a result the public power project is faced with a more formidable competition than it has yet experienced.

# ONTARIO'S OPPORTUNITY.

The Hamilton Spectator recently affected to take umbrage at statements made in The Advertiser to the effect that there were abandoned farms in Middlesex County. It even went so far as to assert that the object of the "Stay in Ontario" campaign was partisan. Had the Spectator been more attentive it would have noticed that some of the movement's best friends were Ontario Government officials and Conservative newspapers.

Now, at least in a measure, our Hamilton contemporary by its discovery "that in Middlesex County, Ont., the death of farm labor has led to an abandonment of grain-raising in favor of stock-raising" corroborates this journal. For at no time and in no article printed during the campaign has The Advertiser stated that the land of Middlesex was not used for the raising of stock. The last census shows that the rural population of Middlesex decreased more than three thousand in ten years, and this in spite of the fact that many families moved from the city of London into the adjacent townships.

"There is no farm desertion, but there is an adaptation of farm methods to altered circumstances," says the Spectator. In the nine counties of the London district, Bruce, Elgin, Essex, Huron, Kent, Lambton, Middlesex, Oxford and Perth, "altered circumstances" happens to mean that the rural population has been depleted to the extent of 46,022 persons in ten years. We venture to say that as a result of this emigration at least one million acres of land have ceased to be tilled, and have reverted to pasture. The editor of the Farmers' Advocate, a high authority, says:

"Taking the literal meaning of the word, 'abandoned,' I do not think there are any abandoned farms in Middlesex, but there are dozens of cases where farms have been abandoned so far that the families have

moved off them, while another man, already with more land than he can profitably work, is using them for grazing purposes. A farm may not be technically 'abandoned' when its owner goes West and sells out his holding to a neighbor, who because of scarcity of help is unable to properly work the new land, but the fact remains that but one family is supported from the soil which once proved ample for two."

Fewer persons are cultivating the soil; fewer persons are living from the soil. People cannot live by beef alone. One steer, the experts say, requires four acres of grass in a season; four acres of land would produce food for many families; the cost of living is high in the cities. What true son of Ontario will not join in the demand that the Government face these "altered circumstances," instead of idly watching the tide of new life flow into fields that need it not more than those of this God-favored province? There are evidences that in the past two or three years the tide has turned in Ontario's favor. There are distinct colonization movements from Great Britain and the United States, and an increase in the area of intensive cultivation and scientific fruit-growing. Now is the time for loyal sons of Ontario to get together, and give more momentum to the "Stay in Ontario" and the "Come to Ontario" campaigns.

# A DOCTORS' STRIKE.

Unless its demands are granted, the British Medical Association, which includes all but a small minority of the physicians of the United Kingdom, will strike against the insurance act. The act, which seeks to provide free medical attendance for every worker, man or woman, earning under \$800 a year, allows a physician's fee of six shillings yearly for each insured person. The Association asks eight shillings and sixpence per head, and its members are pledged to refuse to administer medical benefits under the scheme until these terms are complied with. They have gone a step further by agreeing to resign from any internal society or club composed of insured persons.

The doctors' movement is unique, as the first endeavor to organize in a learned profession a national strike to obtain better pay. Says the Manchester Guardian:

"While we do not pretend to say whether the doctors' step is right or wrong, we feel that one of its chief and indirect effects will be entirely healthy. It will help to dissolve the old middle-class illusion that trade unions and strikes are phenomena conceivable only in the 'working classes,' and explicable only by the wickedness of 'self-seeking agitators.' There must be many doctors to whom it will come as a strange revelation that in standing up, as they feel, for fair treatment of themselves they have slipped almost before they knew it, into the most advanced form of modern trade union action—the complete merging of individual liberty in the central organization, the ultimatum tone and attitude towards the other side, and even, apparently, the endeavor to mask an intended strike until the latest possible moment—a distinctive feature of the syndicalist tactics in industry. The majority of doctors are such sensible men and wholly free from vulgarity of mind that they will not mind this resemblance. At the least, for others the discovery will be a very good thing, as anything which teaches different classes that they are members one of another."

To meet the doctors' demands would add £1,500,000 yearly to the cost of the scheme. As neither the employers nor workers would consent to pay all or any of it, it would have to come out of the public treasury. The Government has the alternative of paying the six shillings annually to each insured person, who would then have to pay for medical attendance out of his or her own pocket. It is probable, however, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will go a long way in an effort to remove the last impediment to the operation of his daring and darling project. He has announced that he will recommend Parliament to find the money if the doctors can make out a good case, and he is now in negotiation with a committee of the Medical Association. He has fixed July 15 as the day upon which the scheme is to go into effect. It will be the birthday of the most far-reaching experiment in social amelioration yet attempted in the old world.

Arthur Stringer nearly had the melancholy pleasure of reading his obituary notices.

If the Taft-Roosevelt fracas is only preliminary to the Presidential battle, what a warm summer our neighbors will have!

The Canadian Gazette, of London, England, joins in the ashine attacks upon Ambassador Bryce. What right has the Gazette to call itself "Canadian?"

The weather bureau gave London a maximum temperature of 73 yesterday, Toronto 49, Ottawa 46, and Halifax 54. This is the banana belt of Canada all right.

The tailors' strike may cause the postponement of the King's levee owing to the impossibility of getting silk trousers made in time. What has Herr Teufelsdröckh to say about this?

Mr. Balfour sees a parliament of the Empire coming, and says that local patriotism is no obstacle to a larger patriotism. That is what the Irish home rulers are trying to tell him.

To settle the important question, "But why worry so farth for to see?" let the horses race at the Woodbine, let the Duke of Connaught go to Scarborough Beach, and let the betting machines operate at Hanlan's Point. Then count the crowds, Toronto Mail and Empire.

The biggest crowd would be at the island, and the majority of those at the beach or the Woodbine would try to get there later on.

# CALL OF DUTY.

"So Bates' wife turned suffragette as a matter of principle."  
"How so?"  
"Bates ran for office, and she felt it was her duty to vote against him."

**BASIS OF HIS BELIEF.**  
[Philadelphia Record.]  
"Do you believe in long engagements?"  
Cynicus—"Sure. The longer a man is engaged the less time he has to be married."

**KEEPING IN CONDITION.**  
[Pittsburg Post.]  
"Do you take any regular exercise?" asked the doctor.  
"Yes, of course I do. I walk from my automobile to the elevator every morning and from the elevator to my automobile every evening."

**EXPLICIT DIRECTIONS.**  
[Saturday Evening Post.]  
"Dear Mamma," wrote a bride transplanted from a Southern family to the North, "please have Mamma Johanna send me her recipe for hot cakes."  
Mamma Johanna had presided in the kitchen for thirty years. With much labor she wrote the recipe:

This was it: "Take as much flour as you need, 'ordin' to how many folk he is to eat, put in same salt—Miss Mary knows how much; put in all the rest of the ingredients and be sure to have your griddle hot."

**A HELPLESS PROPRIETOR.**  
[Washington Star.]  
"Why don't you sell that old mule of yours?"  
"Well, suh," replied Uncle Raspberry, "I jes' doesn't dare. I hasn't de face to sell him to one o' de neighbors, an' he wouldn't last for a drive long enough to sell 'im to a stranger."

**QUEER CREATURE.**  
[Catholic Standard and Times.]  
Towne—"The Nardies have a butler, and he's a most remarkable one."  
Brown—"Why, I understand, he was the regulation English butler."  
Towne—"Yes, but his name isn't 'James,' and he doesn't speak with a cockney accent."

**ECONOMY IN EPITAPHS.**  
[Lippincott's Magazine.]  
In a certain town of Nebraska lives a man who has been so unfortunate as to lose three wives, who were buried side by side. For a long time the economical Nebraska farmer, as to what should be done with the separate headstones for each, commemorating her virtues, but the expense deterred him. Finally a happy solution of the difficulty presented itself. He had the Christian name of each engraved on a small stone—"Mary," "Elizabeth," "Matilda"—a hand cut on each stone pointing to a large stone in the centre of the lot, and under each hand the words:

"For epitaph see large stone."

**THE CECIL'S WEALTH.**  
[From Green's History.]  
Elizabeth carved out rewards for her ministers from the church lands with a queenly disregard of the rights of property. Lord Burleigh built up the estate of the house of Cecil out of the demesnes of the See of Peterborough. The neighborhood of Hatton-garden to Ely-place recalls the spoliation of another bishopric, the spoliation of the Queen's sprightly Chancellor.

**A GREAT LITTLE WELSHMAN.**  
[Toronto Telegram.]  
"The 'Unionist' party of Britain is covered with all the intellectual powers of a ruling class developed by the advantages of the great public schools and the culture of Oxford and Cambridge."  
And British Unionism has not one single parliamentary representative who can hold his own in a combat of brains and tactics with the little Welsh schoolmaster, David Lloyd George.

**THE DEMAND.**  
[Washington Star.]  
"I shall not run for office," said the Canadian politician, "unless there is an overwhelming popular demand for me."  
"Well?"  
"It is now up to me to get busy and create that overwhelming demand."

**SERIOUS OMISSION.**  
[Lippincott's.]  
Knicker—"Did your father give you an auto?"  
Knicker—"Yes, but he didn't endow it."

**REMINISCENT.**  
[London Opinion.]  
He—"Before I married you I never thought of saving."  
She—"And now?"  
He—"Now, I'm always thinking what a lot I could have saved if I hadn't married you."

**GONE TO WASTE.**  
[Washington Herald.]  
"I don't like the way they reported my speech," complained the new representative.  
"Why, they sprinkled in plenty of laughter and applause."  
"Yes; but how about all them gestures?"

**TOO MUCH.**  
[Washington Herald.]  
"Your wife has received some sudden shock. What has happened?"  
"Really, doctor, I hardly know. I came home early last night."  
"Ah, that may account for it."

**COLD AND CALCULATING.**  
[Washington Star.]  
"Is that a garden you are making?"  
"No," replied Mr. Crossroads, "it's a subterfuge. I fear up as much of the wife will allow me to and then let it alone all summer. It's just that much less territory to run the lawn mower over."

**HURT HER NERVES.**  
[Louisville Courier-Journal.]  
"I hear your wife has had to go to a sanatorium. Nothing serious, I trust?"  
"Not very serious. You see, she is secretary of the Woman's Club."  
"Yes?"  
"And after carrying the club minutes all winter in her head, she sat down the other day and tried to write 'em out."

**DEPARTING SWINE.**  
[Los Angeles Times.]  
Governor Wilson, of New Jersey, at a dinner in Trenton, praised a certain stump orator. "Even when a certain enee is unsympathetic," said Governor Wilson, "the man's wit is unfailing. He was speaking one night in a hall, and his hearers, being on the opposite party, rose almost en masse to his part. But the speaker held his hand and shouted: 'Wait a minute, gentlemen, I've got a few more pearls to cast.'"

**AN OBJECTOR.**  
[Detroit Free Press.]  
"Does your wife object when you stay out late at night?"  
"She couldn't file more objections, my dear sir, if she were a corporation lawyer."

# Gaelic Enthusiasm of Thomas Coates, The Thread King

Not long ago, "the abhorred fury with the shears," as Milton calls the most repellent of the three fates, cut the thread of Thomas Coates' life. This latest scion of the great spool house of T. and T. Coates, of Paisley, was rather eccentric in his habits. His most prominent trait was generosity to the poor. He used to keep a yacht in readiness to go to sea at a moment's notice, not because he needed the yacht (for although he was at one time a keen sailor, of late years he had never taken a cruise), but simply because he could not bear to deprive the captain and crew of their jobs. This eccentric old bachelor also kept up several country houses with servants and gardeners, but he seldom or never visited them. He occupied much of his spare time in thinking of little schemes whereby he could bring cheer to the people who lived in mean streets and in back country villages. He would buy hosiery, gloves, etc., from the poor workers in one Scotch town to send as gifts to the poor in another town. His benevolence reached even to the farthest Hebrides. For many years the people of the Highlands of Scotland will bless his name in Gaelic. For Mr. Coates had a very warm place in his heart for the children of the mist. He was their Carnegie, yes, more than a Carnegie, for he not only sent libraries to all the little villages, but he even paid the cost of the translation and publication of standard English works into Gaelic. He did more than this. He employed a talented lecturer to travel from hamlet to hamlet all through the north country, giving addresses on modern subjects calculated to interest and educate the Highlanders. Wherefore the Gaelic lament will resound to the praise of a good man dead, a benefactor gone.

The late thread manufacturer made no mistake in sending literature up into the Highland glens. The Gaels will enjoy his bounty; they will probably patronize his libraries more assiduously than the Saxons betake themselves to the Carnegie temples throughout the empire. And I venture to say that if there is a plenty of poetry in those Coates' libraries, so much the more will the sons of the Gael be pleased. For the Highlander has always been of a poetical temperament. I am told that there is no language in the world which abounds more in beautiful poetry than the Gaelic. The Celtic soul leaps up when it beholds a rainbow in the sky; in other words he has an eye for the wild and picturesque in nature. Take him away from his glens and his mountains and he becomes a prey to melancholy. But even when, like Macgregor, he is on his native heath, the Highlander rimes his poetic soul in melancholy. All his songs of old are full of plaintive beauty; he sees the mystery of life; he broods over the ironies of existence. Search the world's literature through and through and you will find nowhere such plenitude of sad images, such poignant pathos, such longing for the days that are no more. As someone has said, the history of the Gaelic race has been a long lament; he recalls disastrous battles and long flights across the seas. The Gael always went forth bravely to the battle, but he always fell.

If anyone wishes to get an insight into the primal qualities of Gaelic literature, wishes to understand what lovers of poetry the mountaineers were, let him read a few pages of Macpherson's "Ossian." This far-famed poem, published in 1760 by a Scottish clergyman, has provoked no end of discussion. Whether it was genuine, as Macpherson claimed, is still one of the puzzles of literature. Macpherson was not a very truthful person, but he travelled through the Highlands writhing down from dictation the ancestral songs of the people. The exact form of Ossian's poems may have been changed and polished, but I think there is ample evidence to show that in essence the young clergyman reproduced the songs said to have been originally composed by the ancient bard, Ossian, son of Fingal, who flourished in the third century. Ossian survived all his kindred. Blind and old, seated in his wretched hut on the edge of the rock, he touched his harp with trembling fingers, and sang his mournful song, "a tale of the times of old."

*Ivanhoe.*

# Disease Germs Everywhere

The death rate is higher in spring than at any other time of the year. For this there are two reasons: the air is laden with disease germs, the human system is in a rundown condition and not able to fight off disease.

Pure, rich blood is the greatest of germicides. This fact is now generally conceded by medical experts. Get the blood rich and you afford to the body the most certain means known of fighting off disease.

Many people have reason to thank Dr. Chase's Nerve Food for making their blood pure and rich and enabling them to ward off the ills and weaknesses of spring.

It is truly wonderful the benefit obtained by a few weeks' treatment with this great food cure. The nerves are strengthened, the vital organs are better able to perform their natural functions and the system is benefited in every way.

# CHAPMAN'S REMOVAL SALE

WEDNESDAY we begin a Removal Sale, prior to our moving in a few weeks to our permanent premises at 239 and 243 Dundas street. Although our stock is entirely new and our values absolutely unequalled, yet we do not want to move more than we have to. This sale is bound to attract every frugal-minded woman's attention, and keep her attention until we move. Our prices are low to begin with, and further reductions will mean irresistible bargains. We start the sale with the following bargain list:

Black French Resilla Dress Goods, width 44 inches. Regular 85c a yard, Removal sale price, a yard.....39c  
Black Diagonal Suiting, best French dye and all pure wool, 48 inches wide. Regular 85c value. Removal Sale price, a yard.....39c  
Imported Tweed Suitings, from our regular stock of 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25 lines. Sale price, a yard.....48c

# Skirtmaking, \$1.59

Our Ladies' Man-Tailoring Department offers this price for making ladies' skirts. Choice of three of the newest models—2-piece skirt, six-gore with panel back and front, or a gored style with side pleats. The work will be done in our Tailoring Department, perfect fit and satisfaction assured. No extra charge for sewings.

# Cotton Hose 19c Pair Cashmere Hose 29c Pair

13 dozen fine grade German make Black Cotton Hose, guaranteed fast black, with garter top and natural wool feet or spliced linen feet. Women's sizes. Not more than half a dozen pairs to a customer. Regular 25c pair.

20 dozen Women's Pure Wool Cashmere Hose, fine medium weight, full fashioned, seamless leg and feet, spliced heel and toe. We have never sold this stocking less than 35c pair. Removal Sale price is 29c a pair, 4 pairs \$1.16. Not more than 4 pairs to a customer.

# Handkerchiefs Kid Gloves Underwear

55 dozen Handkerchiefs, odds and ends from stock as well as travellers' samples. Fine Swiss and Irish embroidered effects. Some lace edge and hand embroidered. Were 25c, 20c and 15c. Wednesday, each 9c

Best \$1.25 German made Kid Gloves, 2-domes, beautiful flexible kid, French seams and gusseted fingers. Fitted and guaranteed. We have reserved 15 dozen of these Gloves for our Removal Sale, at 98c

Women's Wool Vests and Drawers, in natural or white. Balance of stock—never sold for less than 50c garment, at each 39c

WHITEWEAR. Women's White Cambric Drawers, Best 25c line, 19c

# Women's and Misses' Suits

About fifty Suits for women and misses in this lot. Tweeds, Worsted and Plain Serges, in the newest models. Regular values up to and including \$25.00. Take your choice for a ten-dollar bill. \$10.00

For Wednesday's selling we offer 10 dozen fit-form Black Saten Petticoats 69c  
at ..... Regular \$1.00 values; well made with deep flounce and dust frill.

White Voile and Marquisette Waists, nicely piped with plain black or sky blue, and trimmed with lace. Also a few Ecu Net Waists. Special Removal Sale price \$1.95

# Sale of Carpets and Linoleums

BEING HELD AT 239 DUNDAS STREET  
On the opposite side of the street from our present store. We are selling all we have in Carpets and Linoleums at cost price.

# J. H. Chapman & Co.

248 DUNDAS STREET

# AUTOS ARE DESIRED FOR LADY DELEGATES

Council of Women Are Coming to London on Thursday, May 23.  
The eastern delegates to the National Council of Women annual meetings, and who will form a large part of the out-side representation, have arranged to meet at Toronto on Thursday, May 23. They will leave that city on special cars. They will leave at 4:30, arriving in London at 8:20 p.m. It is the earnest desire of those ladies who are looking after the biling and reception of delegates, that citizens owning motor cars will kindly assist in conveying the visitors to the homes of their hostesses.

The women of London have responded most generously in extending hospitality to the delegates, and where it was impossible to house a guest, cash donations toward the biling fund were given. This has enabled the committee to provide comfortably for each delegate.

**CHILDREN'S MISSION BAND**  
Closing Meeting of the Spring Was Held.  
The meeting of the Children's Mission Band of St. James' Anglican Church yesterday was the last that will be held until after the summer holidays. Dean Davis presided and presented the prizes for the year's work to the winners, who were: Miss Moore's class, Jessie Thorpe, Beatrice Campbell, D. Campbell, Edith

# ESCAPES PUNISHMENT

Letter That Caused Girl to Suicide Was Not Breach of Law.  
[Canadian Press.]

Brantford, Ont., May 21.—Reginald Robbins, the young man who was arrested here following the disappearance of Lottie Gibson some weeks ago, whose body was found in the canal, was discharged yesterday by Judge Hardy. Robbins was charged with sending a threatening letter to the girl, but the judge held that while there was no doubt but that Robbins sent the letter, it was not of such a character as is forbidden under the statutes. The letter could not be termed scurrilous, the judge said, but it was of such a nature that he expressed regret that the sending of it through the mails was not punishable by law. The girl committed suicide when her mother read the contents of the epistle to her at the mill where she was employed.

# MINISTER MORROW UPHELD BY COURT

No Good Proof That He Married the Couple at Illegal Hour.  
[Canadian Press.]

Toronto, May 21.—The case against Rev. J. D. Morrow, charged with marrying a white girl and a Chinaman after 10 o'clock at night was dismissed in the police court this morning. The magistrate held that there was not sufficient proof that the ceremony had been performed after the hour named in the act.

# AFRICAN METHODISTS.

Kansas City, Mo., May 21.—Hereafter clergymen's duty in foreign lands will not be governed by any time limit as a result of a decision by the African Methodist Episcopal Church Conference, which was resumed here today. The rule will affect all missionaries and preachers of the church outside the United States, excepting Canada.

Today's session was given to routing business, including the completion of the election of officers.