

London Advertiser.

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Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

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The Anti-Departmental Store Movement.

The Retail Merchants' Association of Canada, an organization having its headquarters at Toronto, with extensive affiliations throughout the country, has laid out a somewhat comprehensive plan of campaign against departmental stores. They will ask the Ontario Legislature to alter the existing system of municipal taxation in the hope of taxing their departmental rivals out of existence, or at all events seriously curtailing their operations, and intend applying to the Dominion Parliament for such amendments to the criminal law as will check the abuses of advertising misrepresentations, and render corporations equally liable to punishment for fraud with individuals. When the attempt was made last session to alter the law with regard to municipal taxation, by substituting a tax on the total turnover of the year in place of the present personal property tax, which only takes into account such mercantile stocks as may be in sight when the assessor makes his rounds, the measure was withdrawn after a fierce contest, on the promise of Premier Hardy that a commission would investigate the whole subject. It is a matter which is certainly well worthy the attention of legislators, and one which should be considered from every point of view, rather than made the subject of a hasty ill-digested legislation at the demand of any organization, no matter how respectable or influential. It is only justice to the Retail Merchants' Association to say that such a full and thorough investigation of the subject would be quite in accord with their views.

Legislation against the departmental stores as such, on the principle of attempting to impose prohibitive taxes, graded in proportion to the number of branches of trade undertaken under the same roof, would be a mistake, and could only result in failure, as has been the case in the United States. It has been found in practice exceedingly difficult, in fact, impossible, to define the different branches or to enact any laws against the modern departmental establishment that will not fall upon the old-fashioned general store or the small suburban dealer who keeps a variety of lines. Even if the discrimination could be successfully made, it is doubtful if public sentiment would approve of such legislation, or whether it could be justified on its merits. At the same time there are no doubt many abuses in connection with the departmental store which call for redress and can be met with legislation of a less invidious character. There is no question that these establishments, owing to the rapidity with which their stock is turned over, do not pay any fair share of the taxes under the present system. Whatever views may be held on the question of departmental as against single line business there should be no controversy as to the liability of all to pay in proportion to their means, and if the present system fails to secure this so that the large corporations owning these mammoth establishments escape their due share, it is only just that a change in assessment methods should be effected. There is certainly good ground, as the records show, for holding that these wealthy and powerful corporations are able to secure comparative immunity for offenses in the way of misrepresentation and the palming off of inferior articles on the public under misleading designations for which individual dealers would be held strictly to account. The remedy for these things is to be sought—not by special legislation, directed against the departmental store as such, but by such general changes in the law as will bring all offenders within its scope.

The departmental store has probably come to stay, and attempts to suppress it by hostile legislation will be futile. At the same time the abuses and evils which have developed in connection with it should be put down, and if the mistakes made in American anti-departmental crusades are avoided, may bring about a needed reform.

The Right Sort of Immigrants.

Those who are raising captious objections and making appeals to race prejudice in regard to the immigration of Doukhobors, Finns and Galicians to the Canadian Northwest, overlook one very important phase of the question.

Our great want—in fact, our only want—in the way of immigration is to get people who will settle on the land and stay there. Millions of dollars have been wasted in the past in encouraging the wrong sort of immigrants, people who either stayed in the towns and cities, where work was already scarce, and by their competition forced Canadians to emigrate; or after a short experience of farm life, eventually drifted citywards. The chances are ten to one that the ordinary British immigrant will sooner or later prefer the city to the farm. There is just as much of a rush to the great centers in Britain as in Canada or the United States.

Now the people who come from the European continent and settle in colonies, retaining their language and national peculiarities, are much more likely to settle down as farmers, because of these very qualities and characteristics to which the critics object. They will be held together by the common bond of nationality, language and religion, and the mere fact that they are so diverse in these respects from the bulk of the population, will prevent their throwing up their arms in dis-

gust as soon as they experience a few hardships or have a bad season. Even their clannishness and ignorance of the language and Canadian ways of living are not without advantages, that is, provided we want people who will stick to the soil.

If we desire to import factory hands, motormen, policemen or book agents, it is of course a different matter. But for farming in the Northwest, the under-civilized Doukhobor or Finn, with a lower standard of comfort and less alertness and individuality, who has remained in his isolation, unaffected by the craze for city life, will answer quite as well as some others of a different sort.

Postage.

The speech from the throne at the opening of the Dominion Parliament last week contained a congratulatory paragraph in reference to the revenue of the postoffice, stating the belief of the government that the temporary falling off of receipts, due to the reduction in the letter postage rate, would speedily be made up by an increased volume of correspondence. This has so far been the universal experience whenever the rate of postage has been lowered.

The same result would no doubt follow the adoption of a one-cent rate for drop letters. As every business man knows, very large numbers of letters and documents, such as accounts, are now distributed by messengers, as where there is a considerable number to be delivered in a comparatively small area it is cheaper to send a boy round with them than to pay postage. The restoration of the old one-cent rate would certainly be a great public convenience and would in all probability pay in the long run.

Strong, Friendly Words.

There is this to be said for public opinion in the United States respecting the South African war, namely, that it is not unanimous in favor of the course of Great Britain, neither is opinion unanimous in Great Britain itself; and, in the next place, it at least has never been so friendly before, as the result, partly, we suppose, of Britain's attitude of friendliness to the United States during the recent war with Spain. We give a prominent place to a strong, friendly editorial article from one of the great daily newspapers of the United States, the Chicago Times-Herald. Says that journal:

"Why was there jubilation in the capitals of Europe yesterday, when the news of a humiliating reverse to British arms in South Africa swept like an electric wave around the world? 'Was it because the courts of Europe sympathize with the Boers in their so-called struggle for liberty? Was it because Europe naturally sympathizes with the weaker nation or people in such a struggle?'

'Neither the courts nor people of Europe have ever shown any such sympathy. Europe sided while the Turk slew more Armenians than there are Boers of military age in the Transvaal.'

The true reason for European jubilation over British disasters is to be found in:

'Hatred of Republican England.
'Envy of Commercial England.
'Jealousy of Colonial England.'

'There is not a court in Europe where the English system of government responsible to the people, which rejects the idea of the divine right of kings and derives its authority for rule and to tax from the people, is not held in official abhorrence. For more than a century England has been the sanctuary for the oppressed refugees of Europe and its free press has held the torch of liberty and popular government before the eyes of the overtaxed helpless millions of the continent.'

'A short table of the commerce of the British Empire and of Europe in 1896 will explain why the latter is consumed with inextinguishable envy of the former:

COMMERCE OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.	
United Kingdom.....	\$3,823,000,000
India.....	585,000,000
Straits Settlements.....	265,000,000
Ceylon.....	60,000,000
Cape Colony.....	170,000,000
Australia.....	645,000,000
Canada.....	235,000,000
British West Indies.....	55,000,000
Oceania.....	300,000,000
Other British possessions.....	200,000,000
Total.....	\$6,318,000,000

COMMERCE OF EUROPE.

Germany.....	\$2,080,000,000
France.....	1,440,000,000
Holland.....	1,240,000,000
Belgium.....	650,000,000
Austria.....	640,000,000
Russia.....	620,000,000
All other Europe.....	2,155,000,000
Total.....	\$8,805,000,000

'These two tables disclose the true reason for such European jubilation over British reverses as we met inspired by the hatred of a free government. They also show why Germany, France and Russia are jealous of the British colonial empire.'

'The United States is without the pale of this jubilation of European hatred, envy and jealousy. The government of the United Kingdom cannot be too republican to suit the ideas of intelligent Americans. Its commerce cannot be so extensive as to excite envy, because we profit by the lion's share in that commerce. Its colonial conquests do not move us to jealousy because our relations with British colonies are almost as profitable as England's own.'

'In 1896 nearly one-fifth of the commerce of the United Kingdom was with the United States and nearly one-fourth of its imports were bought from us.'

'The following table for the last fiscal year shows why any disaster that might seriously affect the British Empire is viewed with the deepest concern in every community in the United States:

UNITED STATES IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

British Empire.....	\$207,182,048	\$652,274,475
Continental Europe.....	255,413,016	424,964,684

'From these figures it is manifest that the only nation the United States can afford to see profit at the expense of the British Empire is the United States.'

'That is the reason why there was not and will not be any jubilation in America outside of purely sentimental and Anglo-phobe circles over British reverses in South Africa.'

'Anything approaching a world-con-

quering catastrophe to English power and prestige in South Africa will be felt in every industrial center and agricultural district in the United States.

'The eagle watches the beating of the lion with an eye keenly alive to the passions of fear, hatred, envy, and jealousy that stir nations as they do the beasts of the field.'

A Tenacious Tradition.

The tenacity of traditional sentiments is illustrated by the celebration at this late day of the anniversary of the execution of Charles I. of England by a few people on both sides of the Atlantic who profess to hope for the restoration of the Stuarts to the throne. As compared with genuine original loyalty of this sort, the jingo imperialistic brand of the article is the veriest mushroom growth. The victorious Puritans never made a greater mistake than in elevating Charles to the dignity of a martyr by beheading him, and thus giving vitality to the Stuart cause for generations. It is always a mistake to put the representative of a lost cause to death, and thereby furnish its adherents with a watchword and a rallying point.

A company has been formed in Toronto to manufacture ice. It ought to be successful. There is a cool million behind it.

Recd Kimberley is reported to be booming Rhodes in spite of the siege. The Boers' idea seems to run in the same direction. They have been doing considerable "booming" in that vicinity for the past three months.

A Paris, Ont., youth died last week from the effects of cigarette smoking. A celebrated French physician, La Roche, states: "The boy or young man who is a habitual smoker of the deadly cigarette will never be physically strong or able-minded." This should serve as a warning to young men and boys who are addicted to this habit, which not only ruins health, but very often proves fatal.

"East Middlesex has now spoken, and Capt. Robson is elected. There is uncertainty as to the precise majority, but the victory is sure. It is a growing time."—Mail and Empire, Feb. 1.

Yes, it is a growing time, and opposition majorities seem to be growing small by degrees and beautifully less. Liberals have every reason to be satisfied with the kind of growth indicated by a drop from a majority of 95 to one of 48.

A correspondent informs us that there is not a prisoner in the Prince Albert, N. W. T., jail, and that there has not been one for some time. Recently the jailer died, and wonder has been expressed whether his end may not have been hastened by lack of occupation. It says a good deal for the settlers of the wide region of which Prince Albert is the center, that crime is so rare. To some extent this is due to the effective work of the Mounted Police, who throughout the West are a terror to evil-doers.

War.

The London Chronicle publishes the poem that follows with this explanation: "We do not often publish poems by writers unknown to us, but these lines, in spite of some defects, appear to us to have a character which promises distinction for their author."

Private Smith of the Royals; the velvet and a slate-black sky;
Hillocks of mud, brick-red with blood,
and a prayer—half curse—to die,
A lung and a Mauser bullet; pink froth and a half-choked cry.

Private Smith of the Royals; a torrent of freezing rain;
A hall of frost and a life half lost; despair and a grinding pain,
And the drip-drip-drip of the heavens to wash out the brand of Cain.

Private Smith of the Royals; self-sounding his funeral knell;
A burning throat that each gasping note scrapes raw like a broken shell,
A thirst like a red-hot iron and a tongue like a patch of hell.

Private Smith of the Royals; the blush of a dawning day;
The fading mist that the sun has kissed—and over the hills away.

The blest Red Cross like an angel in the trail of the men who slay.

But Private Smith of the Royals gazed up at the soft blue sky—

The rose-tinted morn like a babe new born, and the sweet songed birds on high—

With a flock of red on his pallid lip and a film of white on his eye.

—Herbert Cadell.



Taylor's
CLUB
GLYCERINE SOAP
FOR THE TOILET
Manufactured by
JOHN TAYLOR & CO.
TORONTO

The Runians, Gray, Carrie Co.

The Runians, Gray, Carrie Co.

SPECIALS FOR THURSDAY.

Ladies' Cambric Gowns, \$1.00.

90 only, Fine Lonsdale Cambric Gowns, worth \$1.35; Thursday, each, \$1.00. These Gowns are Empire style with reverses and yoke of allover embroidery, trimmed with embroidery edging. \$1.35, for.....\$1 00

7½c Wrapperette--Special 7½c.

75 pieces bright new goods, colors and designs. Till sold, per yard.....9.....7½c

Bleached Linen.

28 only, Bleached Linen Table Cloths, fine Satin Damask, border all round, suitable for small side table, \$1 goods. Thursday, for each.....75c
Balance of Bleached Linen Damask ends, from 2 to 4 yards. To clear at per yard.....25c and 35c

Unbleached Sheeting.

10 pieces Unbleached Sheeting, plain or twilled, worth 17c per yard. Thursday while it lasts.....13½c

EXTRA SPECIAL---738 yards Canton Flannel Ends, from 5 to 10 yards each, worth 10c, 12½c and 15c. For sale Thursday, per yard.....8c

\$1 Vests for 75c.

Ladies Wool Vests, regular \$1.....75c
Ladies' Wool Vests, regular 75c.....62½c

Boys' Ribbed Hose, 40c, for 29c.

Boys' Ribbed Wool Hose, double heels and soles, regular 40c, for.....29c

Linen Huck Towels--Another Snap For Thursday.

6 doz. only, Fine Huck Towels, regular price 45c and 50c a pair. Thursday while they last, per pair.....35c

Men's 50c White Shirts for 31c.

Men's Unlaundered White Shirts, all sizes, regular value 50c each, Thursday, each.....31c

11½c Bleached English Cambric for 9c.

6 pieces only, 36-inch Fine English Cambric, regular 11½c, per yard.....9c

Ladies' Wrapperette Wrappers.

All sizes, \$1.50 and \$1.75 garments. To clear at.....\$1 25

Ladies' Flannelette Gowns.

\$1 50 Gowns, Thursday for.....\$1 10
\$1 Gowns, Thursday for.....75c
75c Gowns, Thursday for.....55c

Cream Cotton Blankets \$1.00.

American Cotton Blankets, large size, in fast color borders. This size and quality has been very scarce. We have them now, pair.....\$1 00

Linen Toweling 7½c and 8c.

2 special lines in 18-inch Roller Toweling, Thursday.....7½c and 8c

The Runians, Gray, Carrie, Co

208, 210, 210½, 212 Dundas Street, London.

TERMS OF THE NEW TREATY

Between Britain and the United States.

Regarding the Use and Control of the Niagara Canal.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 7.—The new treaty negotiations in relation to the construction of the Niagara Canal read, in effect, that it is agreed that the canal can be constructed under the auspices of the United States Government, which shall enjoy all the rights of such construction, as well as the exclusive right of providing for the regulation and management of the canal. The following rules are adopted as a basis of neutralization:

1. The canal shall be free and open, in time of war as in peace, to the vessels of commerce and of war of all nations, on terms of entire equality, so that there shall be no discrimination against any nation or its citizens or subjects in respect of the conditions or charges of traffic, or otherwise.

2. The canal shall never be blockaded, nor shall any right of war be exercised nor any act of hostility be committed within it.

3. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not restrict nor take any stores in the canal, except so far as may be strictly necessary, and the transit of such vessels through the canal shall be effected with the least possible delay, in accordance with the regulations in force, and with only such intimation as may result from the necessities of the service. Prizes shall be in all respects subject to the same rules as vessels of war of the belligerents.

4. No belligerent shall embark or disembark troops, munitions of war or warlike materials in the canal, except in case of accidental hindrance of the transit, and in such cases the transit shall be resumed with all possible dispatch.

5. The provisions of this article shall apply to waters adjacent to the canal, within three marine miles of either end. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not remain in such waters longer than 24 hours at any one time, except in case of distress and in such case shall depart as soon as possible, but a vessel of war of one belligerent shall not depart within 24 hours from the departure of a vessel of war of the other belligerent.

6. The plant, establishment, buildings and all works necessary to the construction, maintenance and operation of the canal shall be deemed to be part thereof, for the purpose of this contention, and in time of war as in time of peace, shall enjoy complete immunity from attack or injury by belligerents, and from acts calculated to impair their usefulness as part of the canal.

7. No fortifications shall be erected commanding the canal or the waters adjacent. The United States, however, shall be at liberty to maintain such military police along the canal as may be necessary to protect it against lawlessness and disorder.

Article III.—The high contracting parties will immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of the convention bring it to the notice of other powers and invite them to adhere to it.

Article IV.—The present convention shall be ratified by the president of

A quarterly magazine of surpassing interest to all ladies.
A hundred pages of instruction in art embroidery, knitting, crocheting, drawn work, lace making.
Superbly illustrated with colored photo plates.
Designs for cushions, photo holders, doilies, centre pieces, tray covers, side-board covers, etc., with complete instructions for working them.
After April 1st, next, 35 cents a year, until then the old price 25 cents.
THE CORTICELLI MAGAZINE
Box 550 ST. JOHNS, P.Q.

MARY WON

Her Recalcitrant Lover Loses the \$80 He Deposited.

Detroit News: When a man promises to marry a girl, backs up his promise with a cash guarantee, and then refuses to carry out the agreement, he deserves to forfeit the deposit, is Judge McHugh's way of looking at the matter. The judge has given judgment for the defendant in the case of Bloom vs. Bernstein.

Moses Isenberg, of Detroit, promised to marry Mary Moretsky, and deposited \$80 with her uncle, Max Bernstein, just to show that he meant business. But Moses finally decided that he didn't want to get married, and assigned the claim to his attorney, Adam E. Bloom, of Detroit, who sued Bernstein for the amount.

AFTER A COLD DRIVE a teaspoonful of Pain-Killer mixed with a glass of hot water and sugar will be found a better stimulant than whisky. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis. 25c and 50c.

According to a judgment of the courts in the State of Washington, growing crops cannot be levied upon to satisfy a judgment.

The great lung healer is found in that excellent medicine sold as Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. It soothes and diminishes the sensibility of the membranes of the throat and air passages, and is a sovereign remedy for all coughs, colds, hoarseness, pain of soreness of the chest, bronchitis, etc.

the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof, and by her Britannic Majesty, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington, or at London, within six months within the date hereof or earlier if possible.

In faith whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this convention, and thereunto affixed their seals. Done in duplicate at Washington, A. D., Feb. 5, 1900.
(Signed)

JOHN HAY, PAUNCEFOTE.

"Self-Preservation
Is the first law of nature." For this reason everyone who is ill desires to become well. Those who have impure or impoverished blood turn to Hood's Sarsaparilla, because they know it will enrich and purify their blood and give them good health. To take this medicine on the first appearance of impure blood is an important step toward self-preservation.

HOOD'S PILLS cure sick headache, indigestion.

Details of the Dawson fire show that nine hotels and saloons are included in the burned district, the Bank of Commerce and numerous business houses. The loss aggregates half a million.

Working Overtime.
Eight-hour laws are ignored by those tireless little workers—Dr. King's New Life Pills. Millions are always at work, night and day, curing indigestion, biliousness, constipation, sick headache and all stomach, liver and bowel troubles. Easy, pleasant, safe, sure. Only 25c at W. T. Strong & Co.'s drug store.