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The Chinese Difficulty.

The Chinese difficulty seems to be becoming more difficult. The news is scarce and bewildering and it is difficult to say where things stand exactly. But the news seems to show that China is at war with the powers and not at peace with itself. Already great destruction has been done to life and property, and no one can tell exactly where the mischief will end.

No doubt the great body of the Chinese are still ignorant as to the cause and extent of this trouble, but ignorance is a medium through which panic and confusion soon spreads, and a stagnant mechanical kind of social order may be subject to great explosions when once it begins to be disturbed. In such a case it is difficult to fix the responsibility. It is like throwing a lighted match into a heap of gunpowder, an apparently trifling and easy thing, but fraught with terrible consequences.

The problem is one of immense importance when we note that it means bringing the Chinese empire into new relations with Europe and the world. Unless the powers work cordially together in the cause of peace and civilization the confusion may be worse confounded and, even with the best intentions, mistakes may occur with far-reaching influence.

The affair seems to mark a new step in the forward movement of the United States. The United States seems now to be compelled to take its place among the world's powers and bear its share in the burdens of the world. Step by step the great republic has come down into the current of the world's life. This has not been the work of any one politician or party, but has come about in a way quite unexpected. It has brought with it a closer relationship to Britain, though of course, old ideas and old associations do not easily wear away, and there are still large numbers to whom "tail-twisting" seems a harmless occupation or a clever political dodge.

Taken on the whole, the course of events during the last five years has tended to launch the big republic into the great ocean of the world's life and to bring England and America nearer together. If the Chinese difficulty helps in the same direction that will not be least of its good effects.

A Deserved Tribute.

The British Weekly of June 14 says of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's recent speech in the House of Commons: "Sir Wilfrid Laurier apparently believes that 'many battles have yet to be fought,' and he does not underestimate the gravity of the problems which await us when the war is over. British subjects the world over will echo his prayer that the life of her majesty may never more be disturbed by war, and that before her glorious reign comes to an end her subjects in South Africa may have learned to appreciate those British institutions which in this age and in every land signify liberty and equal rights. Many of those who have read with tears and with pride the noble speeches of the French-Canadian Premier during the war must feel that on the day when we welcome home Lord Roberts and his army the presence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier must not be lacking to the general happiness. In these testing months we have learned what men the world over are most precious to the empire. Before all, and separate from every other, comes the Queen's noblest subject, Field Marshal Lord Roberts. After him is there any name we should mention in preference to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's?"

A New Literary Venture.

Messrs. T. and T. Clark, of London and Edinburgh, have launched a new literary enterprise in the form of a series of books on what they call "The World's Epoch Makers." It will deal with great men and important movements from Buddha and Aristotle down to "Newman and His Influence."

The general editor is Mr. Oliphant Sreaton, and the different volumes are to be written by men who have given special study to the particular subjects. The writers named include both English and American scholars and there is in the list one representative from Canada, viz., Prof. Clark, of Trinity College, Toronto, who is announced to contribute a volume on "Pascal and the Post-Royalists."

These volumes are published at a reasonable price by the Publishers' Syndicate, Toronto, and while there may be inequality in the value of the particular volumes, the series as a whole will be good.

The first volume, on "Cranmer," is an interesting biography, which, for the space at the writer's disposal, gives a vivid, comprehensive view of the English reformation.

The second, on "Wesley," is pre-eminently a smart book. It struck us as having the character of a series of journalistic sketches of the great reformers of life rather than of a sympathetic and luminous biography. It is, however, very readable and will provoke criticism and stimulate thought. Other volumes of this new series will be looked for with interest.

Last year over 2,000 British and 375 German ships passed through the Suez canal. The American flag was seen there on only 25 vessels.

Pen Portraits
In Parliament.HIL-GEO. ELLIOTT CASEY, M. P.
FOR WEST ELGIN.

Though but a comparatively young man—he has just passed his 50th birthday—Mr. George E. Casey, the member for West Elgin, is a veteran in the service of his country. When but 22 years of age, he was elected for the seat which he now holds, and he has been re-elected at every recurring general election. He was well equipped for this position both by early training and by university and general education.

An unusually well-informed man, Mr. Casey's voice has been often heard in Parliament, where his versatility has long been recognized. But the other evening he addressed the house for a time in French, in vindication of his right, as an English-speaking resident, to use that beautiful language in the halls of legislation. The rights of two classes of citizens of Canada have had Mr. Casey's special care—the farmer and the railway employee, and there is a third which owes him a good deal—the bicyclist. He has been a persistent advocate of legislation to provide for the taking away of all impediments along railway lines to the natural course of surface water.

In 1897 he was the chairman of the House of Commons special committee on the bill designed to further the interests of railway employees. The measure passed the popular chamber, but was killed by the reactionary Senate majority. A similar bill to provide for the carriage of bicycles as baggage by the railways was promoted by him in 1898, but once again the Senate slaughtered the legislation. However, before a year passed, the railway managers seeing the trend of public opinion, as voiced in Mr. Casey's measure, made substantial concessions to the wheelmen, and the agitation has since ceased. Mr. Casey has ever been a lover of open-air life. He loves to roam among rural scenes, and in spare moments, when the House is not in session, he may often be seen away out country bye-ways, accompanied by his favorite dogs. It is not generally known that he is an excellent shot. But, as captain of the 25th Elgin Battalion, he distinguished himself at the butts, and earned the distinction of being appointed adjutant to the Wembley team in 1877. A native Canadian, Mr. Casey has an abiding faith in the future of the Dominion as a nation, co-operating with Great Britain for the advancement of the best interests of the race.

THE CHARGES
BASELESSThe Misstatements of Mr. Monk
Refuted.The Investigating Committee Reports
to the House—Emergency Ration
a Good One.

Ottawa, June 29.—Mr. Bellcourt presented to parliament yesterday the report of the select committee appointed to investigate the charges of Mr. Monk against the minister of militia in connection with the emergency rations supplied the troops in South Africa.

The report recites briefly the charge which was laid against the minister, namely, that he allowed an inferior article of food than that tested to be sent to South Africa.

The official analysis of the food supplied to the troops showed 16.8 per cent. of protein, while the Kingston food, according to the Rutten test, contained only 13.7 per cent. of proteins, and the report says it was shown by Mr. Muir, of the firm of Muir & Torrance, that it contained only 15 per cent. This was the only evidence as to the actual constituents of the food, except the direct statements of Mr. Hatch.

The committee rejects Mr. Hatch's statement, as it is in conflict with Rutten's analysis, and as Mr. Hatch admitted it was not analyzed.

The committee finds that the food tested at Kingston and that sent to South Africa were substantially the same article, and the stipulation of the minister was that the food should be the same. The medical director became absolutely responsible for the selection of the standard sample supplied by Devlin, as being equal in every respect to the food tested at Kingston, and the food furnished was not paid for until it had been ascertained by actual analysis that it was equal to the sample by which it was sold.

The statement made in the charge that the food was paid for before delivery is wholly without foundation. The foods were delivered at Halifax on Jan. 19 and 26, while payment was not made until Feb. 14.

The charge of negligence against the minister because he did not act on Mr. Hatch's complaint, is equally without foundation, as the food supplied was equal to the sample and that tested at Kingston.

Dealing with the price paid for the food, the report says that Mr. Hatch's selling price, according to his offer to the minister of militia, was substantially the same as that of Mr. Devlin, and the retail price of Devlin's food was shown by evidence to be \$3 a pound.

The committee also finds that the food supplied at Kingston was not used as an exclusive ration, and that when purchased it was intended to be supplementary to other rations supplied, and the labels showed that this was the case.

As to the statement that the substance was brought in from the United States without paying duty, it was wholly without foundation. In allowing the first lot to pass without payment of duty, the committee thinks that the action of the collector at Montreal was excusable, but in allowing a second lot to go without production of a certificate for the first lot, and neglecting for nearly six months to collect the duty or report to the minister, they consider "his conduct to be wholly indefensible."

The committee finds that Dr. Borden acted with a laudable desire to lessen the hardship of the troops in supplying valuable food, put up in small packages, easily carried, and which was regarded as a substitute for other food.

The report concludes as follows:

"The committee for the reasons above set out, is of opinion that the said Frederick D. Monk has failed entirely to prove his charge against the honorable the minister of militia, and that the said charges were based on a misconception of facts and upon authority which slight investigation would have shown to be wholly unreliable."

Bulletins

From Lord Roberts Regarding
Two Fights.In Which the Enemy Were
Discomfited.Canadian Artillery Reach Rustenburg
—The Charges of Hospital Mis-
management To Be Fully Investi-
gated.

London, Friday, June 29—2:30 a.m.—Lord Roberts has sent bulletins of two small fights, occurring on June 26 and June 27, in which the Boers were discomfited. In a dispatch from Pretoria, dated yesterday, he says:

"A small force of mounted troops, with two guns, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Drepper, was attacked by the enemy under Pretors and Nel on the morning of June 26, seven miles north of Senekal. They beat off the enemy and burned their laager. Our casualties were three killed and ten wounded."

"Hunter, temporarily commanding Ian Hamilton's brigade, made a march yesterday from Heidelberg toward Frankfort without meeting any opposition."

"The enemy attacked our Rooiveld Spruit post on the railway yesterday, but were easily beaten off by a detachment of the Derbyshire Light Infantry, the West Australian Mounted, a 15-pounder and an armored train."

"Baden-Powell reports the capture of an influential Boer named Ray, who was endeavoring to raise a commando in the Rustenburg district. A patrol brought in over 100 rifles. More than 4,000 rifles and 1,000 inferior pieces have been taken during the last few days. He states that 30 Boers have arrived at Rustenburg, going to their homes, from Delarey's commando. They would have left before if they had seen the proclamation, which was carefully withheld by Boer authority."

A RECORD DAY AT PRETORIA. Lord Roberts says that Wednesday, June 27, was a record market day in Pretoria for Boer farmers selling produce.

Parties of Boers still hang on Gen. Buller's flanks. Mr. E. E. Burnham, the American scout, is invalided.

The Pretoria correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, in a dispatch dated yesterday, says: "Since Sunday, Gen. French on the left, Gen. Buller on the right, and the eleventh division in the center, have been endeavoring to surround the enemy's position in the hills, fifteen miles east. There was fighting for three days, but Tuesday night the enemy decamped, going eastward. The total casualties were under 150."

The Canadians.

C BATTERY.

London, June 28.—Three hundred Canadians of C battery, who accompanied Gen. Carrington from Beira to the relief of Mafeking, have reached Rustenburg, west of Pretoria, and the headquarters of Major-Gen. Baden-Powell.

The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Pretoria describes an incident in which 25 Canadians from Gen. Hutton's force met 200 Boers, whom they bluffed by pretending that support was near by. The Boers fled, and the gallant Canadians captured two guns.

Ottawa, June 28.—It is reported that Lieut.-Col. Grouard, in recognition of his services, will receive knighthood on the 1st of July. He is at present at Johannesburg.

The War Office has issued correspondence with Lord Roberts regarding the charges of Mr. Burdett-Coutts. On June 4 his attention was called in telegrams to the allegations, and also to other complaints of a general breakdown in the hospital system. Two days later he replied in part as follows:

"The principal medical officer reported that the arrangements at Kromstad were in all respects in good order, and Lord Methuen said they were thoroughly satisfactory. I was deeply distressed at being unable to make suitable arrangements for the sick on our first arrival at Kromstad, but it is obvious that a certain amount of suffering

In the Hospitals.

CHARGES TO BE INVESTIGATED.

London, June 28.—The exposures regarding the hospitals in South Africa led to a number of questions in the House of Commons yesterday, in response to which the government leader, Mr. A. J. Balfour, made a long statement. He said that so far as the government was aware, not any of the sufferings of the sick or wounded were due to insufficiency in the supplies sent out. He then proceeded to read extracts from correspondence with Lord Roberts on the subject, in which the commander-in-chief dwelt on the



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With warm shampoos of CUTICULAR SOAP and light dressings of CUTICULAR, prevent of emollient cure. This treatment at once stops falling hair, removes crusts, scales, and dandruff, soothes irritated, itching surfaces, stimulates the hair follicles, supplies the roots with energy and nourishment, and makes the hair grow when all else fails.

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Special Holiday Offerings
For Saturday's Selling.

Blouses.

LOT 1—Assorted patterns and styles, some with white yokes, some fancy stripe satens, prices were 75c and \$1.00; Friday and until sold 50c

LOT 2—Assorted lot of Gingham, Percale, and Muslin Blouses, also nine white P. K., sizes 34, 36, 38; were \$1.00 to \$1.75 each, Friday and until sold 75c

TURKEY RED SHIRT WAISTS—37 only, Turkey Red Cambric Prints, with sprigs and spots, just the thing for a house blouse, fast colors, 34 to 40, were 75c each, Friday and until sold 35c

WHITE MUSLIN BLOUSE WAISTS—starched cuffs and collar, in white, pink and blue embroidery, were \$2.50 goods, Friday and until sold \$1.25

Ladies' Fine Lawn Blouses, four rows insertion down front, pleated back, very special \$1.25

Ladies' Fine Muslin Blouses, tucks and insertion down front and back, fancy cuffs and fancy collar, regular \$2.00, special Friday \$1.50

Ladies' Fine Lawn Blouses, fronts trimmed with tucks and insertion, plain back, special Friday \$1.00

Ladies' Fine Lawn Blouses, fancy muslin fronts, yoke back, special value, Friday 90c

Millinery Department

Every Trimmed Hat must be sold this week. We offer about 135 Hats at exactly half off regular values. Very special—82 Trimmed Hats, in sailor and dress shapes, trimmed with cloth and flowers, regular \$2.75; to clear at, each \$1.25

Ladies' Hats—Price no object; must be sold now; special at 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c and \$1.00

Underwear

Ladies' Vests, with short sleeves, regular 75c; Friday special 50c

Ladies' Unbleached Vests, with quarter sleeve, lace and ribbon trimmed, special 10c

Ladies' Vests, half-bleached, with sleeve or without, special, 2 for 25c

Ladies' Vests, in white and unbleached, lace trimmed, special 15c

Ladies' Vests, with fancy lace sleeveless, at 25c

Ladies' Vests, silk pleated, fancy lace fronts, special, at 50c

Parasols

Only one Pure Silk Plaid Parasol, in green and purple, regular price \$2.50; special Friday \$1.50

Only one Pure Silk, in fancy white stripe, regular price \$2.50; Friday and until sold \$1.50

Two only Black and Purple Silk Parasols, with figures, regular \$1.75 and \$2.50; to be sold Friday \$1.50

Fancy Silk Parasols, in red and blue, red and green, plain green with black stripe and border worth \$1 and \$1.50; special on Friday 75c

Any Black Parasol or Umbrella, regular price \$1 and \$1.25, will be sold on Friday for 95c

Children's Parasols

Children's Pure Silk Parasols, with ruffles, in plain colors, pink, pale blue, red and white, at \$1.00

Children's three-quarter size Parasols, in pink, blue, purple and white stripe, price \$1.25

Children's Sateen Parasols, with ruffles, in colors, red, white, pale blue and khaki, special, .50c and 75c

Children's Muslin Parasols, strong frame and handle, in heliotrope and white, pink and blue, special, each 25c

Collars and Ties

Featherbone Corded Stock Collars and Ties, made of heavy Taffeta silk, hemstitched all around, in all colors, white, cream, black, pink, sky, navy, mauve and cardinal, special, each 85c

Silk Bow Ties in all colors; also Clifton Bow Ties, colored, with black trimmings, regular 50c and 40c; special, until sold, each 15c

Ribbons

203 pieces All-Silk Ribbons, in plain Taffeta and fancy checks and stripes, light and dark shades, 4 to 6 inches wide, worth 40c and 50c. Special sale price, per yard, 25c

Remnants of wide Fancy Silk Ribbons for belts or collars, special Friday, each 15c

All-Over Lace

7 pieces All-Over White Lace, two patterns only, regular 40c, special until sold, per yard 25c

Corsets and Whitewear

Ladies' Summer Corsets, heavy net, ruffled filling, all sizes 29c

Ladies' Summer Corsets, long waist, all sizes, special 20c

Ladies' Short Summer Corsets, fine net and satene, lace and ribbon trimmed, all sizes, special 75c

Ladies' White Gowns, Hubbard style, tucked yoke, trimmed with lace, special 50c

Ladies' White Gowns, Hubbard style, tucked yoke, embroidery trimmed, special 75c

Ladies' White Gown, Empire style, fine embroidery trimmed, special \$1.00

Ladies' White Cotton Drawers, trimmed with tucks and embroidery, special 25c

Ladies' Lonsdale Drawers, trimmed with cluster of tucks, special 25c

Fine Lonsdale Corset Covers, yoke of tucks and insertion trimmed, with embroidery edging, special 25c

Ladies' Fine White Skirts, deep flounce of lawn, edged with embroidery of lace, special \$1.00

Hosiery

Boys' Extra Heavy Ribbed Cotton Hose, fast black, seamless and spliced feet, sizes 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, 13 1/2, 14 1/2, 15 1/2, 16 1/2, 17 1/2, 18 1/2, 19 1/2, 20 1/2, 21 1/2, 22 1/2, 23 1/2, 24 1/2, 25 1/2, 26 1/2, 27 1/2, 28 1/2, 29 1/2, 30 1/2, 31 1/2, 32 1/2, 33 1/2, 34 1/2, 35 1/2, 36 1/2, 37 1/2, 38 1/2, 39 1/2, 40 1/2, 41 1/2, 42 1/2, 43 1/2, 44 1/2, 45 1/2, 46 1/2, 47 1/2, 48 1/2, 49 1/2, 50 1/2, 51 1/2, 52 1/2, 53 1/2, 54 1/2, 55 1/2, 56 1/2, 57 1/2, 58 1/2, 59 1/2, 60 1/2, 61 1/2, 62 1/2, 63 1/2, 64 1/2, 65 1/2, 66 1/2, 67 1/2, 68 1/2, 69 1/2, 70 1/2, 71 1/2, 72 1/2, 73 1/2, 74 1/2, 75 1/2, 76 1/2, 77 1/2, 78 1/2, 79 1/2, 80 1/2, 81 1/2, 82 1/2, 83 1/2, 84 1/2, 85 1/2, 86 1/2, 87 1/2, 88 1/2, 89 1/2, 90 1/2, 91 1/2, 92 1/2, 93 1/2, 94 1/2, 95 1/2, 96 1/2, 97 1/2, 98 1/2, 99 1/2, 100 1/2, 101 1/2, 102 1/2, 103 1/2, 104 1/2, 105 1/2, 106 1/2, 107 1/2, 108 1/2, 109 1/2, 110 1/2, 111 1/2, 112 1/2, 113 1/2, 114 1/2, 115 1/2, 116 1/2, 117 1/2, 118 1/2, 119 1/2, 120 1/2, 121 1/2, 122 1/2, 123 1/2, 124 1/2, 125 1/2, 126 1/2, 127 1/2, 128 1/2, 129 1/2, 130 1/2, 131 1/2, 132 1/2, 133 1/2, 134 1/2, 135 1/2, 136 1/2, 137 1/2, 138 1/2, 139 1/2, 140 1/2, 141 1/2, 142 1/2, 143 1/2, 144 1/2, 145 1/2, 146 1/2, 147 1/2, 148 1/2, 149 1/2, 150 1/2, 151 1/2, 152 1/2, 153 1/2, 154 1/2, 155 1/2, 156 1/2, 157 1/2, 158 1/2, 159 1/2, 160 1/2, 161 1/2, 162 1/2, 163 1/2, 164 1/2, 165 1/2, 166 1/2, 167 1/2, 168 1/2, 169 1/2, 170 1/2, 171 1/2, 172 1/2, 173 1/2, 174 1/2, 175 1/2, 176 1/2, 177 1/2, 178 1/2, 179 1/2, 180 1/2, 181 1/2, 182 1/2, 183 1/2, 184 1/2, 185 1/2, 186 1/2, 187 1/2, 188 1/2, 189 1/2, 190 1/2, 191 1/2, 192 1/2, 193 1/2, 194 1/2, 195 1/2, 196 1/2, 197 1/2, 198 1/2, 199 1/2, 200 1/2, 201 1/2, 202 1/2, 203 1/2, 204 1/2, 205 1/2, 206 1/2, 207 1/2, 208 1/2, 209 1/2, 210 1/2, 211 1/2, 212 1/2, 213 1/2, 214 1/2, 215 1/2, 216 1/2, 217 1/2, 218 1/2, 219 1/2, 220 1/2, 221 1/2, 222 1/2, 223 1/2, 224 1/2, 225 1/2, 226 1/2, 227 1/2, 228 1/2, 229 1/2, 230 1/2, 231 1/2, 232 1/2, 233 1/2, 234 1/2, 235 1/2, 236 1/2, 237 1/2, 238 1/2, 239 1/2, 240 1/2, 241 1/2, 242 1/2, 243 1/2, 244 1/2, 245 1/2, 246 1/2, 247 1/2, 248 1/2, 249 1/2, 250 1/2, 251 1/2, 252 1/2, 253 1/2, 254 1/2, 255 1/2, 256 1/2, 257 1/2, 258 1/2, 259 1/2, 260 1/2, 261 1/2, 262 1/2, 263 1/2, 264 1/2, 265 1/2, 266 1/2, 267 1/2, 268 1/2, 269 1/2, 270 1/2, 271 1/2, 272 1/2, 273 1/2, 274 1/2, 275 1/2, 276 1/2, 277 1/2, 278 1/2, 279 1/2, 280 1/2, 281 1/2, 282 1/2, 283 1/2, 284 1/2, 285 1/2, 286 1/2, 287 1/2, 288 1/2, 289 1/2, 290 1/2, 291 1/2, 292 1/2, 293 1/2, 294 1/2, 295 1/2, 296 1/2, 297 1/2, 298 1/2, 299 1/2, 300 1/2, 301 1/2, 302 1/2, 303 1/2, 304 1/2, 305 1/2, 306 1/2, 307 1/2, 308 1/2, 309 1/2, 310 1/2, 311 1/2, 312 1/2, 313 1/2, 314 1/2, 315 1/2, 316 1/2, 317 1/2, 318 1/2, 319 1/2, 320 1/2, 321 1/2, 322 1/2, 323 1/2, 324 1/2, 325 1/2, 326 1/2, 327 1/2, 328 1/2, 329 1/2, 330 1/2, 331 1/2, 332 1/2, 333 1/2, 334 1/2, 335 1/2, 336 1/2, 337 1/2, 338 1/2, 339 1/2, 340 1/2, 341 1/2, 342 1/2, 343 1/2, 344 1/2, 345 1/2, 346 1/2, 347 1/2, 348 1/2, 349 1/2, 350 1/2, 351 1/2, 352 1/2, 353 1/2, 354 1/2, 355 1/2, 356 1/2, 357 1/2, 358 1/2, 359 1/2, 360 1/2, 361 1/2, 362 1/2, 363 1/2, 364 1/2, 365 1/2, 366 1/2, 367 1/2, 368 1/2, 369 1/2, 370 1/2, 371 1/2, 372 1/2, 373 1/2, 374 1/2, 375 1/2, 376 1/2, 377 1/2, 378 1/2, 379 1/2, 380 1/2, 381 1/2, 382 1/2, 383 1/2, 384 1/2, 385 1/2, 386 1/2, 387 1/2, 388 1/2, 389 1/2, 390 1/2, 391 1/2, 392 1/2, 393 1/2, 394 1/2, 395 1/2, 396 1/2, 397 1/2, 398 1/2, 399 1/2, 400 1/2, 401 1/2, 402