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TAKING THE STARCH OUT.

It really looks as though the Opposition at Ottawa had lost their grip of things, for they are painfully backward in inviting controversy. Perhaps it is because, on the one or two occasions they have tried it, they have found the government supporters rather too eager for the fray.

At the opening of the session Mr. Borden, as in duty bound, broached the subject about Mr. Blair. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who was in fighting trim, not only answered him completely on that score, but countered with a few remarks about the Monk incident which some leading Opposition papers judged it expedient not to print. Mr. Tarte, of whom much was expected, decided not to talk, and was thus spared listening to some compliments that it is understood Mr. Lemieux intended to pay him. A couple of military members plucked up courage to attack the plan of appointing a Canadian to the chief command of the Canadian militia, and found Sir Frederick Borden ready for them all. Then, as generally happens when the end has about been reached, Mr. Bennett, of Simcoe, intervened with a pettifogging attack on a Liberal colleague, guarding himself so carefully, however, that his motive had to be explained by others to be understood. Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Cowan promptly took him in hand, and so far as appears, his was the Opposition's last kick. That inertness about Mr. Borden's leadership, which his admirers prefer to designate "reserve force," he seems to have transmitted to his following, with the result that none of them seem to hav any spirit left. How the house must sigh for one hour of Sir Charles Tupper, or even nine hours of Sir Hibbert.

ROUTES TO THE FAR EAST.

In an interesting article the Toronto Mail and Empire discusses the strategic importance of Canada in the event of Great Britain being drawn into the struggle in the far east. The Mail says that ever since the subject of a Canadian contribution to Imperial defence was first mentioned in Canada, the argument has been advanced that Canada has already contributed largely by building a great transcontinental railway which might be used to advantage by the mother country in case it was ever found necessary to dispatch large bodies of troops across America. The participation of Great Britain in the eastern war would furnish such a necessity, and it would be for the war office to decide whether or not it would avail itself of the Canadian route to the scene of conflict.

The advantages of this route are so obvious that little deliberation would be required on the part of the war office before accepting it in preference to the older and better known route. To reach Japan from England by way of the Mediterranean and the Suez canal requires a journey of 11,787 miles, while by way of Canada it is only 10,488 miles. While the difference in mileage is not great, there is considerable divergence in the time necessary to make the journey, the average length of passage by the all-sea route being 43 days, while by coming across Canada it can be made in 27 days. This considerable difference in time is due to two causes, one being that 3,500 miles across the continent is covered by rail, at a rate of travel at least twice as rapid as that possible by steamship, while the other is that the sea voyage is reckoned in nautical miles, which are three-twentieths of a mile longer than the statute mile used in computing the journey across Canada.

With the prospect of possible trouble it is not at all unlikely that the British government has taken measures to see that the Canadian railways interested would not be found altogether unprepared should the contingency referred to arise. Railway officials are quoted as saying that they believe there is a contract now in force between the C. P. R. and the British government which sets forth the terms on which bodies of troops or munitions of war would be transported by the railway, but they do not know any of its provisions. Even without such a contract, ample legislative provision has been made by which the railway can be compelled to place all its resources at the disposal of the government in the time of war. Section 89 of the old Militia Act provides that companies must, when called upon by the proper authorities, furnish means of transport for troops, and on refusal to furnish any "railway car, engine, boat or other craft," they are liable to a fine of $400 for each offence. The Railway Act of 1903 is more explicit. It provides that "His Majesty's mails, His Majesty's naval or military forces, or militia, and all artillery, ammunition, provisions or other stores for their use * * * and with the whole resources of the company, if required, be carried on the railway, on such terms and conditions and under such regulations as the governor-in-council makes."

The Mail points out that while it is thus provided that the whole resources of the company may be pressed into service of the Crown, it is unlikely that the C. P. R. will be called upon to seriously neglect its ordinary business while carrying out the behest of the government. In the first place the soldiers can be transported from Halifax to Montreal only by the Intercolonial railway, as both the other roads run through United States territory. The C. P. R. has ample equipment to transport any number of troops which the Intercolonial can handle for the first stage of the journey. The only difficulty which the C. P. R. might encounter would be furnishing the necessary motive power, the transcontinental run requiring locomotives of a particularly powerful type, of which the company possesses only a limited number.

ROSSLAND CAMP.

Slowly but surely Rossland is growing in its importance as a mining centre. The camp is now on a thoroughly substantial foundation. The big working mines are on a dividend-paying basis, with an enormous tonnage of pay ore blocked out ready for stoping. The constant use of diamond drills is all the time showing up new ore bodies ahead of actual development. There is a noticeable revival of interest by the outside world. Many and frequent are the inquiries that are made about inactive properties of merit. Fresh capital is beginning to turn its attention this way. Everything points to a year of great industrial activity. The era of steady dividends born of handsome monthly profits has dawned. Outlying properties are being examined with a view to immediate development. The capacity of the big smelters at Trail and Northport is taxed to the limit, and additions will have to be made if the output of the camp is to be treated at these points. It is beyond the ablest engineer to estimate approximately the tonnage of ore in this camp above the 1000-foot level. The best that can be said is that there are many million tons containing ten times as many million dollars. When one stops to consider that the ore bodies of this camp will be only in their primary stages of development when the 1000-foot level is exhausted, it is easy to see that the camp must be as enduring as the surrounding hills. This being the case, there is not the slightest justification for any other belief than that Rossland is destined to become in a comparatively short time one of the biggest and most populous mining centres the world has known.

B. C. IN LONDON.

The statement of Colonial Secretary Lyttleton in the Imperial house of commons the other day to the effect that the prosperity of British Columbia is based on gold mined by Asiatic labor is so preposterously erroneous that it scarcely calls for refutation.

With the exception of a few isolated and insignificant instances in placer mining, the mining industry of the province is and always has been conducted with white labor. It is almost inconceivable that a man of Mr. Lyttleton's political standing should make a statement to the contrary. It only serves to show that he is wretchedly informed as to the general industrial conditions of British Columbia.

If a colonial secretary is proved to be steeped in such ignorance, what must be the condition of the general public in the motherland? The very thought of it must be appalling to anyone interested in the development of our natural resources. Yet we maintain an agent-general in London at the cost of $10,000 a year to educate the people of the British Isles on all such subjects.

The question naturally arises, What have our agents-general been doing all these years to allow such a state of affairs to exist? The fact of the matter is that the annual appropriation for the maintenance of the office has been a waste of money, and it will continue to be a waste of money until such time as a really competent man is placed in charge of this important office. Under proper direction the agency could easily be made an immense influence for good; so much so, in fact, that the benefits would be practically incalculable.

As The Miner has frequently shown, the agency needs a thorough overhauling and a really competent man put in Mr. Turner's place. The sooner this is done the better it will be for British Columbia.

THE CLOSE-MOUTHED JAP.

So carefully have the plans of the Japanese been guarded that not the slightest inkling of their intentions has been allowed to reach the public, and their commanding officers are the only ones who know where the first attack upon Russia's army is to be made. There has been much speculation as to where this blow is to be struck, but not a hint can the most expert war correspondents get from the heads of the army. The Japanese have evidently no intention that their plans shall be forestalled. So closely do these officers guard their secret that they have forbidden even the military attaches from foreign governments to accompany their advance. General Allen, United States representative with the Japanese army, has now been asked to return to Seoul, on the pretext that proper accommodation could not be furnished him.

This is hard on the public which clamors for war news, but as a prudential measure nothing could be wiser. Speaking the other day of this matter, a military officer now in Montana, himself the veteran of two wars, said: "The Japs are precisely right in this respect. It is in marked contrast to the policy of our own strategists during the Spanish war, but it is right. When we were in the field it often happened that you people in this country knew before our corps commanders what was to be done. This publicity was pleasant for the newspaper people, but it was not war. The Japs are playing the game correctly."

Army secrets will inadvertently leak out occasionally and cause no little difficulty through forewarning the enemy. The Japanese have learned a valuable lesson from the experience of the British officers in the Boer war, whose plans were heralded abroad by energetic correspondents at the front. Military experts agree that this policy in South Africa had much to do with prolonging the war there. The Japanese are profiting by this lesson. They are taking nobody into their confidence. They will not run even the risk of confiding in the officers of friendly neutral powers who are attached to their headquarters. The most dangerous leakage of plans is through the rear of the army and by the medium of press dispatches.

So successful has been the enforcement of this rule by the Japanese that the Russians have been kept guessing and have been unable to concentrate their armies at any one point. The Japanese may attack at New Chwang, at Figeon Bay, at Port Arthur, upon the Yalu or at Vladivostok. That it will be at one of these places is the prediction of those who are following the campaign, but Russia has to keep her forces distributed along this long line of defense until she learns the Japanese plan, and it doesn't seem likely that this will occur.

Of course, it makes news hard to get, and the public, after its experience in the Spanish and Boer wars, does not relish thus being kept in the dark, but it must be remembered that Japan is not fighting for the newspapers and she is "playing the game correctly."

ALIEN EXCLUSION IN THE BRITISH ISLES.

The British government has at last found it necessary to put restrictions on immigration. The royal commission on alien immigration recently recommended this course, as certain classes of immigrants seeking an asylum in the United Kingdom are generally regarded as undesirable. Paupers and fugitives from justice in other countries are included in the list. A bill has been introduced in the house of commons by the government subjecting these undesirable classes to state control and debarring them from admission to the country under certain conditions. At its first reading the bill passed without division, which shows a unanimity of sentiment throughout the country in favor of restricted immigration. The bill will probably become law without opposition from any quarter.

In presenting the bill the home secretary referred to the steady increase of crime in the United Kingdom, which was attributed to the fact that the British isles have become the dumping ground for that class of aliens against which the United States has erected exclusion barriers. Since paupers and criminals have been excluded from the shores of that country they have flocked to England from all parts of the continent. The slums of London have been filled with this element, thus increasing the distress of the poorer classes and menacing the security of society in general. Hitherto England has welcomed the oppressed of all nations. It has refrained from drawing the line against color or condition. Under this beneficent policy criminals of all countries have fled to Britain for asylum and all Europe has encouraged the emigration thither of its indigents. Only such criminals reaching British shores have been surrendered as were extraditable under treaty, and not without the submission of substantial proof of the offenses with which they were charged. Those charged with political crimes have, however, always been protected against extradition. This class is probably exempt from exclusion under the new bill. But any form of exclusion from entering the United Kingdom marks a new departure in British policy toward alien immigration, and the experience proves that it has come none too soon.

BRITISH AND FRENCH SETTLEMENT.

Although the Oriental war has increased the difficulties of French and British diplomats to improve the rapprochement which King Edward's timely visit to Paris brought about between the two governments, it has survived the strain and promises now to produce tangible results to both nations through a peaceful solution of a number of irritating questions affecting their respective interests. According to a London dispatch, the principal outstanding differences between the two governments are on the eve of settlement. For nearly two centuries the French have enjoyed shore rights on the Newfoundland coast, which at various times have threatened to disturb the peace of the two countries. These rights were acquired by France under the treaty of Utrecht, which was negotiated in 1813. That treaty gave French fishermen the right to catch and dry fish on the western and northern sides of the island. France acquired no territorial rights or sovereignty through this concession, but she has been able to exercise the privilege in a way to greatly irritate the islanders and to seriously retard the settlement and development of Western Newfoundland. French war vessels have also been constantly patrolling the coast, ostensibly to protect the interests of the French fishermen, but in reality to annoy England and the colonists. France used these shore rights as a lever to crowd England out of Egypt, but without success.

The recent rapprochement afforded the opportunity for a friendly settlement of two African questions on the basis of the French surrender of the Newfoundland shore rights. France has become greatly interested of late years in Morroccan affairs. But the influence of Great Britain has been paramount there. The Algerian border is constantly menaced by the mountain tribes of Morocco, and France has long desired to extend her sovereignty over the Moorish sultanate. England has, however, invariably barred the way. In consideration of the relinquishment of the Newfoundland shore rights, France has now succeeded in getting the consent of the British govenment to a free hand in Morocco, with the understanding that Tangier, which stands on the southern shore of the strait of Gibraltar, shall not be fortified. France also agrees to recognize England's political domination in Egypt and her position on the Nile, reserving for herself only those financial and other local interests in the country which have been well safeguarded under British control. This happy settlement of their differences must be gratifying to the people of both countries, but it will doubtless still further weaken the Russo-French alliance.

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

Nothing could possibly be in a better spirit than an article which appeared in the New York Tribune last week under the title of "Canada's Sovereign Title." Referring to a remark stated to have been made by Mr. W. F. McLean, M. P., at a dinner of the Canadian Club, of Toronto, to the effect that "there was not a public man in the United States who admitted that Canadians have a right to an independent national existence," the Tribune declares that, if Mr. McLean made any such remark, he was entirely, egregiously, and, to our mind, incomprehensively mistaken." The Tribune doubts if there is a single public man in the United States whose opinion is worthy of consideration who does not "unhesitatingly admit that Canada's title to independent national sovereignty is as good as our own.' "It is of older date," it goes on to say, "than our own. It was fully recognized at the time when our title was established. It was again and again recognized by the great statesmen of our early years who founded our national policy—by Hamilton and Jefferson alike when they both proposed that the North American continent should be divided between the United States and Great Britain to the exclusion of all other nations." Finally the Tribune avers that "the United States regards Canada as under British imperial suzerainty, an independent sovereign nation, whose title is as valid as that of any nation in the globe." Far from hordering any thought of annexing Canada against her will, the United States does not look upon annexation as either necessary or inevitable. Should Canada voluntarily seek such a union, the United States would probably be cordially responsive; but, if Canada does not seek it, then the American people "will regard with entire equanimity and satisfaction the prospect of continuing for all time to share this continent with another great English-speaking commonwealth, and will only hope for constantly increasing sentiments of mutual esteem and constantly strengthening bonds of friendship between these two sovereign nations."

The stand taken by our New York contemporary is a dignified, high-minded and generous one, and we have little doubt that the sentiments it expresses are those of a vastly preponderating majority of the American people. Too much is made of the occasional utterances of flighty and irresponsible individuals. Canada and the United States have to a considerable extent the same problems to work out. We both are interested in good government and a sound condition of social morality. To some extent we have common commercial interests. This at least may be said that prosperity on one side of the line is favorable to prosperity on the other side of the line. We may, therefore, heartily echo the Tribune's wish that, as the years go on, the ties of mutual esteem and friendship between the two countries may constantly become stronger. Political union is in no wise necessary to the best relations between neighboring peoples.

There is nothing else so good for a man working and facing the cold as Clark's Delicious Pork and Beans. Try them.

A SHORT-SIGHTED POLICY.

The agent of the Canadian department of agriculture in Great Britain reports to the department that large quantities of Canadian produce are sold to the British consumer as the products of some other country. That Canadian trade must suffer in consequence seems reasonable, but so long as merchants are human, and the temptation is present to turn an honest penny by objectionable means, the practice may be expected to continue. But it is surely a short-sighted policy for Canadians to assist in the deception by branding and shipping their product as that of some other country whose goods command higher prices because of a long established name. Yet Mr. Grindley, the Canadian agent, declares Canadian butter reaches England packed in Danish kiels, that it may realize the enhanced prices paid in England for Danish butter. The Canadian shipper even does not reap any pecuniary advantage from his deception, for, as Mr. Grindley points out, instructions to pack in Danish casks are given by the English buyers, who themselves profit by selling Canadian butter at the higher price obtainable for Danish butter.

A "rose by any other name" might have smelled as sweet in Shakespeare's day, and probably Canadian butter of equal quality would have tasted as good to the Bard of Avon as Danish. But conditions appear to have changed since then, and it is for the Canadian butter maker to educate the English taste to a proper appreciation of the Canadian product.

If Canadian butter can be made so good that the shrewd Britisher will pay the Danish price for it, because it bears the Danish brand, surely it is not too much to hope that the Englishman may in time be brought to pay as good prices for it, even when branded Canadian. The Danes are Canada's strongest opponents in the butter markets of the world, and to ship their product as Danish is for Canadians to admit inferiority. Canadians can make just as good butter as any people in the world, if they would. They should aim to do it, and, having accomplished their object, they should brand their product Canadian, that the country may benefit by the good reputation.

UNCLE SAM A POOR LOSER.

The people to the south of us are mighty poor losers—perhaps the poorest in the world. In one way they cannot be blamed for feeling badly when they do lose, because they bluff high and turn so many sharp corners—winning methods when dealing with tenderfoot nations. When success crowns their efforts and methods their manner is equally bad—certainly not at all that of polished diplomats and gentlemen.

They are now whinning over a little friendly talk we are having with mother on preferential trade—a little family affair. Characteristically they wish to interfere and threaten all kinds of things. Just a case of "bluff" over again. Looking at it from a business standpoint, imagine a level-headed business man going out of his way to antagonize his best customer.

One is weary of this threat to withdraw the bonding privileges. We don't think we could suggest anything greater to Canada's advantage than the withdrawal of this same privilege. It would mean the building up of our own Atlantic ports—St. John, Sydney and Halifax, the finest harbor in the world, and perhaps Hudson Bay.

We are ready to do business with Uncle Samuel on honorable give and take lines, but under no other conditions. Canada is destined to be a richer country than ever the United States will be, and if Uncle Sam will just keep his eye and ear open for the next five years, he will hear and see much that should be to his advantage.

WATCHING McBRIDE.

Next to the monstrously unfair method of taxation, railway extension is the most important question confronting the people of British Columbia today. The failure of the McBride government to encourage the construction of railway lines in various parts of the province is doing more than anything else to check private enterprise and the general development of the province. Railways are sorely needed in East Kootenay, Cariboo, Boundary, Similkameen, Okanagan, Nicola, Cassiar and North Vancouver Island, but although there are people who are ready and willing to build in almost every instance, the hold-up methods of the McBride outfit leave them without a reasonable opportunity to commence operations.

If McBride imagines that his despicable conduct in this particular connection is known only to himself and his "chums" he is very much mistaken. The Miner and several others are well informed as to the game that is being played. We could, if we chose, spring a sensation concerning McBride and his railway schemes that would stagger the people of British Columbia, but as it would serve no good purpose at the present time, we hope to withhold it for a month or so. There is not the slightest need to fear that McBride will escape the ignominy and shame that will follow the revelations which we intend to make eventually. At the proper time McBride and his "chums" will be shown up in their true colors. Then there will be nothing left for them but lasting disgrace and political oblivion, and B. C. Conservatism will then be freed from the domination of rascals.

THE LEAD BOUNTY.

British Columbia silver-lead miners having unanimously decided upon a policy which has for its chief motive the subsidizing of lead ores mined for export, the Nelson board of trade lost no time in heartily endorsing the proposal.

It is the unquestionable duty of the Rossland board of trade to also lend its unqualified support.

So long as lead and silver remain at the present low market value, it is impossible for mines like the St. Eugene to work advantageously, but with the very reasonable bounty that is asked of the Dominion government, they can operate to their full capacity. When it is remembered that the St. Eugene is one of the largest silver-lead mines in North America, the importance of having it operating in full swing is readily appreciated. It means much, not only for the owners, but for the whole of industrial Canda.

WESTERN FLOUR AND JAPAN.

The likelihood of the greater portion of the inhabitants of Japan acquiring the habit of using flour is dwelt upon by more than one observer of the ways and manners of the Mikado's subjects. In modeling the Japanese army on the most advanced military standards of Europe, the important matter of diet has not been overlooked. The standing armies of the great powers are fed largely on wheat products; the Japanese regiments, argue the Mikado's advisers, must, to some extent at least, have the same food. Hence the decision said to have been arrived at by the Japanese government that every soldier in the armies of Japan will in the future get a daily ration of flour. This will mark the beginning of an important area in commercial history, as it will mean that the people of Japan generally, who are eager to keep abreast of whatever is decided to be progress along modern lines, will take to using flour. With Japan as a wheat consuming country, the world's market for wheat would be considerably enlarged.

A SHORT NEWSPAPER TALK.

The benefit that the local newspaper affords an embryo town is known to some. The majority of people do not realize the important part the newspaper plays in the building up and growth of a community.

The town is known from the outside to a great extent by the paper it produces. Its columns are scanned to note its business enterprises and establishments. The advantages and prospects of the town are there set forth. In short, it advertises the town.

The newspaper is also the medium through which local improvements and government assistance are obtained by its constant agitation. It is the town's spokesman; it is your spokesman; it is your paper. Then it must merit your support and patronage. Every new enterprise established here, every improvement in the town in any way increases the value of your business and real estate. It is to your interest to see that the local paper is kept alive.

Aside from all this, we want to give you a direct return for your money. To the subscriber, a paper of news interest; to the advertiser a means of telling the people about his business.

If business is slow have recourse to the local paper, and it will help you to help yourself. If business is brisk push it on still more.

MISSOURI'S GIFT TO LITERATURE.

That is a significant item from down Missouri way. We will mention the particulars. The students of the state university, after a period of experiment, lately informed the defenseless faculty that they were getting too much to eat. A petition was respectfully presented, in which the authorities were requested, for reasons at length set forth, to reduce the number of daily meals from three to two. There was scant originality about the reasons set forth. They embodied the well-bred theory that enough food is better for the system than too much, especially where mental labor is to follow. But it is not hygienically or gastronomically that we wish to allude to this matter. It is from another and wholly different standpoint, that of future fiction. All ambitious writers, all authors in prospect of the Great American novel, can not well overestimate its literary importance. It strikes without doubt a new note of pathos. It opens up new stores of fictional realism. It is close to nature, if not to nature's heart. It will sell. We await then with suspense the Dickens of the hour who, with at least a semblance of that great master's skill, will extract therefrom the theme of a Missouri "Oliver Twist." The dining hall thronged with fat, unhappy students; the tables heaped with tempting food, untasted; and Oliver's successor, well fed and healthy, staggering under a tray of richest viands and sobbingly asking for less. Missouri is hereby advanced ten numbers.

THE INDIAN VICEROY'S SPEECH.

In the discussion over the budget in the governor-general's council at Calcutta, the viceroy, Lord Curzon, availed himself of the opportunity to review his administration of the affairs of India during the past five years. As he is preparing to visit England, speculation has been rife concerning his purpose in doing so, the possibility of his not returning to the dependency and his possible successor. The suspicion had been aroused that Lord Curzon's visit was being timed when Mr. Balfour's administration is tottering, in anticipation of being invited by the King to assume the premiership and form a ministry in the event of the defeat of any vital government measure and the overthrow of Balfour, as he was regarded before accepting the viceroyship of India as the one man then in public life in England who was in line to become prime minister. However, he put a stop to all gossip in this direction, saying that he intended to return to India.

But the most important part of his speech related to the purposes of the revenues which the budget proposed to raise. This involved an explanation of the attitude of the Indian and home governments toward the independent states contiguous to India. These have hitherto been known in British politics and diplomatic intercourse as buffer states, on the preservation of whose independence the integrity and safety of India from invasion is dependent. Lord Curzon created a new situation for them and for India. The latter he described as a fortress, and Arabia, Persia, Afghanistan and Siam as the glacis or parapet surrounding it, which must be kept clear to insure perfect security.

His comments on the attitude of the Indian government toward Thibet were suggestive and full of meaning, if not direct. While disclaiming any desire to annex new territory to the empire, he clearly intimated that the Younghusband expedition was a necessity forced upon India by the unfriendly conduct of the Thibetan government during the past five years and the persistent efforts of Russia to encroach on that country and menace the safety of the dependency from that quarter. He did not mention the name of Russia, but it is clear that he had her in mind when he said that he would "suffer any imputation rather than be an unfaithful sentinel and allow the peace of the country to be compromised by encroachments from the outside which could only have one meaning." He refrained from explaining the ultimate purpose of the military expedition, but it is not difficult to read between the lines that it is the Indian government's intention, through this, to make it impossible for Russia to approach in that direction nearer the Indian frontier than she is at present.

JAPANESE MILITARY PLANS COMPLETE.

The plans of the Japanese military movements on land are evidently matured, as the first party of newspaper men, consisting of sixteen foreign war correspondents, chiefly American and British, has left Tokio for the front. They will be carried to Moji, Japan, from which they will be taken in transports to some destination not yet revealed, sailing on the 6th of April. This announcement throws no light on the subject of the first scene of active military operations. Secrecy is maintained by the Japanese government on that point for the obvious reason that it will prevent the enemy from being enlightened and give it no chance to prepare for the assault.

Nothing would please the Russians better than to know in advance where the Japanese intend striking the first serious blow on land. They are looking for it on the line of the Yalu river, basing the belief on the activity of the vanguard of the army in Korea that an attempt will be made to force the passage of that stream and endeavor to turn the Russian flank in the neighborhood of Wiju and Antung. They have been preparing for such a movement since the opening of the campaign. They are evidently fearful, however, that the northern Korean demonstration is merely a blind, veiling a movement in some other direction. The suspicion is, in fact, growing stronger in the Russian mind that the first real land attack will be made at some point on the Gulf of Pe-chi-li, possibly at New Chwang. Now that the river there is open neutral vessels are leaving, as the Russians intend to block the passage of the river and mine the harbor. The frequent excursions of the Russian ships at Port Arthur into the gulf are construed in St. Petersburg as meaning that Makaroff expects the Japanese invasion of Manchuria to occur in that quarter and that he will make a vigorous attack on their transports and convoying war ships whenever they appear.

It is not unlikely, however, that the Japanese may have a great surprise for the Russians and military experts, and that the first serious blow struck on land will be at some point not yet considered by either. The release of the foreign correspondents is apparently proof positive that every arrangement for the land movement has been completed, the point to be attacked selected and that the Japanese commanders are confident of success.

They would scarcely allow the foreign war correspondents to go to the front if they entertained even the possibility of failure.

If the report which has reached London is true that another attack was made on Port Arthur on the night of March 30th and 31st to cover the taking of soundings at the mouth of the harbor over and between the sunken ships, it indicates clearly that the work of bottling the port is to be renewed without delay and that the imprisonment of the Russian cruisers and battleships is essential to the success of the land operations which the Japanese generals are now ready to carry out. With the newspaper correspondents at the front the secret of the Japanese campaign will soon be out.

ABOUT MILK TESTS

SUGGESTION IS MADE TO TEST FOR DRUGS AS WELL AS FATS.

WHY ORDINARY METHOD OF TESTING FOR FAT IS UNSATISFACTORY.

Many citizens who have given the subject consideration are not disposed to put much weight upon the monthly milk tests as conducted here, although the ordinary system of taking milk samples is practiced here. It is maintained, however, that a genuine average sample of milk sold by a dealer can only be secured under conditions that cannot be secured locally, and that unless this actual average is obtained the result of any test is too unreliable to be of any material value.

If the test included an analysis to ascertain if milk was diluted or adulterated with any deleterious compound for preservative purposes the test would be of real utility, and it is suggested in some quarters that this be done if at all possible.

The difficulty of securing average samples of milk has been an issue in numerous Canadian towns and cities, and everywhere it is admitted that the undertaking presents numerous difficulties. At the creameries in Ontario where milk is paid for on the basis of its percentage of butter fat the sample is taken when the milk is running through a trough in the factory and a perfect average is thereby secured. This is impossible in the case of the milk vendor. The ordinary method of taking samples is to pour a little milk from one or more cans and test the quantity thus obtained, but some remarkable anomalies have been developed in instances where the efficiency of the system has been under test. In one case samples were taken just as a dealer drove into town with his cans full. The sample was taken from the top and ran high in butter fat because the cream had gathered unduly on the surface. Later in the day other samples taken from the same can after the cream had b
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MR. L. WEAVER, GALT.

Who desires to publicly confirm the history of his remarkable recovery, as published quite recently by the daily press of Canada. Mr. Weaver was as bad a case of Consumption as might well be imagined. He was employed for five years in the grinding room of James Warnock & Co's, better known as "The Axe Factory," in Galt. Here he contracted consumption from the steel-laden dust. He persisted with local physicians' treatment for over a year, also consulted a number of lung specialists. They all did their utmost to cure, but declared Mr. Weaver's an incurable case of grinder's consumption giving him but three months to live. Mr. Weaver himself, despaired of a permanent cure, as two of his brothers before him had already died of consumption.

It is but seldom that any remedy receives such strong endorsement as Psychine is receiving daily. Seldom indeed that the cured come forward voluntarily to state their case a second time so that all may be convinced of the truth. The instance herein reported from the busy town of Galt, Ont., is a typical instance of what is occurring in every city, town, hamlet and country-side in this broad Dominion. Scores of people living in Galt were long ago conversant with the facts of this notable case; while to others the publication of it in the daily press came as a revelation.

Scores of people recently called upon Mr. Weaver to see if all that had been published was really true. Medical men evidenced a desire to see the good work wrought with Dr. Slocum's famous remedy, Psychine (Si-keen). Mr. Weaver has also been the recipient of hundreds of letters from all parts of the country enquiring as to his case.

Sad and sorrowful is the first chapter of the story told by the man whose case has excited the interest of Lung Sp
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