

reply to the Budget Speech, so that it looks as though the action taken by his Leader, Mr. Borden, was an afterthought. The usual rule is for the member who replies to the Budget Speech to move whatever resolution has been decided upon by the Opposition, as this gives the key-note for subsequent speeches and avoids members traversing the same ground twice over. Mr. Osler's trenchant criticisms elicited a characteristic speech from Sir Richard Cartwright, chiefly made up of sarcasm, taunts and remarks of "You're another" class, all amusing enough, disagreeable enough probably to the person assailed, if he is a young parliamentarian, but utterly without influence over the electorate.

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The resolution submitted to the House by the Leader of the Opposition was a condemnation of the policy of granting tariff privileges to Great Britain without receiving some return in kind. This has been debated several times in the House; Sir Charles Tupper having taken strong ground against Canada conceding any preference without reciprocity. The Premier made it quite clear that it was hopeless to appeal to the British Government for some fiscal change by which Canadian goods would be special favoured by the British tariff. Until the Imperial authorities are prepared to discriminate in favour of Canadian imports the whole question must rest. The difficulties in the way of such a radical change in the fiscal policy of Great Britain are numerous, and, at present, insoluble. The only effective help that could be given to Canada in this regard, would be for Great Britain to impose a duty on foreign grain and meats, and admit those of Canada free, or at a lower rate. The feeling of the people of the old land against a tax on food was spoken of by one member as "superstition." Admitting that it is "superstition," the difficulty of removing it is greater than if it were based on some reasonable principle. So the prospect of Great Britain abandoning Free Trade is only darkened by attributing the British popular sentiment in its favour to "superstition." Whoever proposed in the Imperial House of Commons to place a tax on food, would raise a howl of indignation all over the United Kingdom.

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General Botha is stated to have rejected the peace terms offered by Lord Kitchener, which had been approved by the Home Government. We shall know in a few days what those terms were, but anything more favourable than unconditional surrender would be not justified. Botha and De Wet have known for months how utterly hopeless were their efforts. Unless they are insane, they have known for months that they might as well cry for the moon as fight to wrench the Transvaal and Orange Free State from the grasp of Great Britain. They have kept up a dreadful campaign of sheer brigandage, of revenge, in pursuing which they have caused hundreds of brave

men on both sides to be slaughtered, morally, indeed, to be murdered, whose blood is upon the heads of Botha and De Wet, who are operating without a vestige of authority from any existing government. Having rejected terms of peace, doubtless far more magnanimous than any other nation would have offered, Messrs. Botha and De Wet ought now to be treated to "the rigour of the game."

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Subscriptions to Dominion Iron and Steel Company stock was an unqualified success. The largest subscriptions came from the States. The stock is selling freely on 'Change. Bonds selling at 88, 89, of these eight millions are outstanding, eight millions of preferred stock came next, selling at about 90, and the common stock at 38-39. The total capital being twenty-eight millions, comprising eight millions, first mortgage gold bonds; five millions preference stock, ranking next after bonds, and fifteen millions ordinary shares.

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The Mayor of Winnipeg having expressed disapproval of the Manitoba Government's railway policy, has been answered by the Mayor of Boissevain, who deals some heavy blows at the Winnipeg chieftain. He tells him that the vast majority of the people of Manitoba are in favour of the railway policy, and that it is only opposed by "a few persons who are favoured with retainers from the C.P.R." He affirms that, "all persons living in Manitoba who are not directly or indirectly interested financially in that great corporation are unanimous in their opinion that we require genuine competition to the C. P. R. to force that company to anything like reasonable rates." He proceeds to tell all and sundry, that it is too late now to appeal to the Dominion Government to coerce Manitoba, as the Province will not tolerate any such interference with their right of self-government. The Mayor of Boissevain's letter to the Mayor of Winnipeg has a manly ring which will echo through the Province and rally the settlers on the side of the Government.

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A case was decided this week at Ottawa which shows how the city's money is wasted in vexatious litigation. Over two years ago an aged man named Cassidy, well known as one of our most expert gardeners, was seriously hurt by the Patrol waggon when it was being driven furiously to pick up a drunken man. Cassidy when picked up, bleeding, was shockingly abused by being flung into the waggon as though he were a culprit, or a dog. After a long illness, attendance upon which deprived his daughter of her livelihood, Cassidy died. Suit was brought for very moderate damages; it was given against the city; it was appealed, and again the city lost; then it was carried to the Supreme Court, and a third time the city was condemned to pay damages claimed and costs. At each trial the city's case was so weak that wonder was expressed at any attempt at a defence