

London Advertiser

Founded in 1863.

ADVERTISER BUILDING, Dundas Street, London, Ont.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One week by carrier..... 10c
One year by carrier..... \$5.00
One year by mail, outside city..... \$5.00
One year, delivered, outside city..... \$5.00
Weekly Edition..... 75c

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

3670 (Private Branch Exchange, Connecting All Departments.)

NIGHT CALLS:

6 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. and Holidays.
3670—Business Department.
3671—Editors.
3672—Reporters.
3673—Job Printing Department.
To call night numbers use the word "ONLY" after giving the number.

[Entered at London Postoffice for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.]

The London Advertiser Printing Co., Limited.

LONDON, FRIDAY, APRIL 25.

THE TORONTO ELECTRICAL SQUABBLE.

The Toronto Electric Light Company is about to spend \$3,000,000 in equipment, which will duplicate the hydro-electric system. The Toronto hydro-electric commission must also raise \$2,000,000 within the next two or three years for extensions which would not be needed if the two plants were amalgamated.

The Toronto Board of Control thought it an opportune time to try to extinguish by purchase this wasteful competition. Sir William Mackenzie, who holds the controlling interest in the Toronto Electric Light Company, consented to its sale on condition that the city should also acquire the local street railway, another Mackenzie concern.

The negotiations culminated on the eve of the prorogation of the Legislature. Unless the city got permission during the present session to submit the proposal to the ratepayers, the Mackenzie offer could not be acted upon for another year, and might be withdrawn. In addition, the Toronto Electric Light Company's tentative contract for \$3,000,000 worth of supplies could be cancelled now, but not next year.

The Board of Control committed the double sin of ignoring the Minister of Power and of consulting his hydro-electric colleague, Mr. McNaught. Mr. Beck threatened to resign from the Government and to fight the council and the bylaw if the Legislature obeyed the city's behest. The City Council, by a vote of 18 to 2, braved his displeasure and applied to the Legislature for permission to submit to the ratepayers a bylaw for the purchase of both the Mackenzie concerns. Mr. Beck was more fortunate with the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature, which insisted that the two proposals should be voted upon separately. At least two members of the Government voted to give the city a free hand, as did Mr. McNaught, who sits for North Toronto.

The defeat of one of the bylaws will, under the conditions asked by Sir William Mackenzie, destroy the whole scheme. No doubt the Minister of Power will use his influence to wreck it. Defeat will mean the continued competition of the Toronto Electric Light Company, which, according to Mayor Hocken, has the cream of the power business in Toronto. The hydro-electric enterprise has been everywhere carried out with utter disregard of justice to private interests. The London Electric Company, for example, offered to sell out at a fraction of its capitalization, but Mr. Beck advised the city to pay nothing and to crush competition by an unlimited use of the municipal credit. Public ownership is not incompatible with fair play to private capital, but the hydro-electric promoters act as though it were.

GERMANY'S PERIL.

The jingo politicians and papers of Great Britain and Canada have had a great deal to say about the danger to the Empire from the ambitions of Germany. But the course of events is showing that the latter nation has perils of her own in prospect altogether unconnected with England. And this fact has been only emphasized by the German Chancellor, in his speech before his Parliament, advocating greater expenditures on the army. The rise of a new Slav power in South-eastern Europe has a threatening aspect for the peace of the old world.

So long as the region of the Balkans was the home of several little principalities, whose conflicts with their hereditary enemy, the Turk, had been of little benefit to them, they were a negligible quantity in European politics. But their condition is different today. Allied, but unaided by neighboring nations, they have driven the Turk to the verge of Europe, and broken his strength forever. The great powers of the continent have recognized their success, and guaranteed them in the possession of their new territory to a large extent. The Balkan allies will have to be reckoned with in the future.

But the new power is Slavonic; so is Russia. Instead of having an opponent at the south, holding the key to the Mediterranean, Russia now has a powerful friend, somewhat intoxicated, it may be, with its success. And the Slav is anti-German. Will he settle down contentedly, and allow the European powers to regulate the results of his victories, and limit his boundaries? The one redeeming feature is that while the Balkan States are ethnically allied, there are local jealousies of long standing which weaken the ties that bind them together.

Another disturbing feature is the prosperity of France combined with the still rankling humiliation of former defeats. There is an element of the

French population which is openly antagonistic to Germany, and will not be satisfied without an attempt to regain the lost Alsatian provinces. And the German authorities have thus to keep a watchful eye on both the Slav and the Gaul.

But, after all, the chief danger to peace in all the European nations is not the ruling classes, so-called; nor is it to be sought in the antagonistic sentiment of the majority in any of these countries. The trouble lies largely in the language and conduct of the unruly minority. Governments may desire to keep the peace. But there are always a few people who are ready to stir up national prejudices. It may be for political reasons; it may be from sheer folly, or a love of the sensational; it may be through the influence of shipbuilders and gunmakers anxious to make sales; but whatever the cause, the result is the same. Some trifling incident is magnified into a national insult; yellow journalists take up the cry; popular feeling is aroused without just cause; and the Government is forced into some action that has disastrous results.

So far as Germany and Great Britain are concerned they have no cause for quarrel; they have no special rival interests; their boundaries are not contentious; their policies are not antagonistic. Germany has something else to think of than a contest with England; and England need not be alarmed over German war scares.

THE FIRST CHINESE PARLIAMENT.

The first Chinese parliament has been in session this month. In it are two houses, the senate, elected like the United States Senate by the provincial assemblies, and a lower house elected by direct popular vote.

For the parliamentary franchise, there are educational, moral and property qualifications. An opium smoker is excluded. The Chinese abroad where there are populous communities of them, as in Java, Sumatra, are allowed representation—a very interesting matter. An extension of this last principle, which is nationalist at present, rather than imperialist, may have results so far-reaching as not easily to be imagined.

Already two leading parties have emerged, the one more radical-socialist, the other more conservative. Dr. Sun is the most conspicuous leader of the Radical group. Probably because of his pronounced and conspicuous opinions he has felt that the presidency had better just now be filled by a man of less decided party color, though of strong personality and administrative capacity. He has prudently and patriotically advised Yuan Shih Kai for the position, effacing himself.

What parliament has to do is to solve the financial problem, develop the internal communications of the vast Chinese Empire, organize the army and navy on a scale suited to Chinese population and resources, realize and conserve these resources. It is an enormous program of work, but the new parliament represents far the largest nation of the world and consists of men inspired by great sacrifices and struggle, by a vision of their country's future, and by a racial renaissance which may prove more important than even the rousing of Europe out of the settled life of the Middle Ages or of Japan in recent years. Since Tennyson wrote, about 50 years of Europe being better than a cycle of Cathay, 50 years of Japan have shown almost more surprising developments than did a cycle of Europe before the time of Columbus. What will China do in the next quarter-century?

Probably we shall soon cease to think of the celestial realm as in the far east. It is in the last great west. The course of republicanism if not of empire has taken a last accidental flight. One more daughter has been added to the family of the Mother of Parliaments, and the sound of British debate will have a strange echo further west than the Islands of the Blest, or those summer isles of Eden, as Tennyson calls the coral islands in the Pacific. Success to the new democracy. May it help the world to peace rather than to war.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech at Toronto on May 5 may be the opening gun of the fight in the country.

Mr. Proudfoot laid his charges because the public accounts committee refused to allow him to insert the probe.

Do our Conservative friends think it proper that a cabinet minister should take party subscriptions from a Government contractor?

The Montenegrins are more experienced fighters than were the Boers, and have a country easier to defend. If Austria invades Montenegro she may meet her Tugela River before her Paardeberg.

The Toronto Mail and Empire, the chief Conservative organ, says of the city of Toronto bill:

"Except by people who are bound to be unfair, it must be admitted that Toronto's taking over of the two companies would promote the cause of cheap power."

Mr. Beck is wounded in the house of his friends.

An archbishop and ten bishops of the Anglican Church in Canada issue a manifesto against the proposals for church union put forward by a group of Anglican clergymen. Time is on the side of the clergymen, not the bishops. In this case, it will probably be found that the majority of the Anglican laymen are even now on the side of the clergymen also.

What the Free Press said concerning the purpose of the aldermen who prevented a vote upon electrification in January has been fully justified by events. Obstruction, not information, was their purpose.—London Free Press.

The so-called electrification slate has been in control of the council for four months. There has been no vote on electrification yet and no date set for one. Are the majority of the aldermen this year also obstructionists?

HIS SYSTEM.

[Life.]
Madden—How much does Bailey pay for his clothes?
Wilkins—About one instalment, I think.

MORE COMPANIONSHIP NEEDED.

[Toronto Star.]
Anyhow, the old notion of a hard and fast line between the young and the middle-aged, and between the middle-aged and the old, is false, and the new idea of companionship is sound. The basis of the home and of family life is the companionship of both sexes and of all ages upon common ground. The children should have their play. There are differences in taste and capacity, of course, but the more companionship the better.

INDIRECTLY INTERESTED.

[Vancouver Province.]
A woman's journal considers that it is none of men's business what kind of clothes women wear or how they wear them. Still, they have to pay for them and hook 'em up the back.

A DOUBLE KNOCK.

[Pittsburg Dispatch.]
A New York state senator, accused of soliciting a bribe, has been acquitted by a vote of 28 to 21. Which recalls to the New York World the language of an indignant English judge to an acquitted prisoner: "Sir, you have been acquitted by a jury of your peers, and if they had not been your peers they would not have acquitted you."

USELESS.

[Washington Post.]
A young fool never believes what an old fool tells him, so what's the use of anybody either giving or taking advice?

MISPLACED.

[New York Sun.]
First Cinder—Why so angry?
Second Cinder—I've been wasting time in a glass eye.

OUR INGRATITUDE.

[Toronto Star.]
The hen, although she lays an egg for our indulgence need not beg. Since eggs are cheap with scorn we view her.
And so behold her first, then stew her.

IF YOU WOULD.

[Emporia Gazette.]
If you'd be considered wise
Bolt the germs and swat the flies.

CREATING AN ORGAN OF DIS-UNION AND BITTERNESS.

[H. W. Massingham in London Daily News.]
She (Canada) is to have a seat on the Defence Committee in the person of a regular Minister of her Government. But this gives the committee a new status and power. Admittedly, it knows a good deal more about the real issues of the Empire than the House of Commons, which has been denied the right to have a word in the conclusion of the ratification of treaties. Now, this secret, unrepresentative, essentially military committee gets additional prestige and power. But Canada's claim does not end here. She wants a permanent organ of imperial policy. Again, how can this organ possess a representative basis, though it must obviously have great indirect powers of influencing taxation? And what will the share of the dominions be? If it is large, our (Britain's) powers are unduly limited. If it is small, their people may be taxed at our mandate and will. In any case, the old colonial relationship is gone. A new and formidable organ of war, of policy, of fear of dishonour and bitterness, will have been created.

A MERCENARY VIEW.

[Toronto Star.]
It is said that even men killed in the Balkan War cost \$10,000. But this is a very mercenary view. Such things as \$10,000 and human lives do not weigh against glory.

AN UNNECESSARY LESSON.

[Ottawa Free Press.]
One paper asks its readers if they are teaching their children how to spend money. Generally speaking, that is one of the endowments that all the youth of the land possesses.

A KANSAS BULL.

[Niagara Falls, N. Y., Gazette.]
Speaking of bulls, it is a beast that will pending in the Kansas Legislature which says that "when two trains approach a crossing both shall stop, and neither shall go ahead until the other has passed by."

WHERE JINGOISM ORIGINATES.

[Kingston Whig.]
What's been long expected is now coming true, or coming out, that the main man really responsible for all the war talk and the woeful waste of money in the munitions of war. They talk and boom war as a matter of business, and it's a mighty poor business.

A COMMUNITY'S BUSINESS.

[Philadelphia Record.]
Every man who pays a premium to a fire insurance company has a direct interest in keeping down the invitations to conflagrations. No one here needs to be told that when the fire hazards increase insurance rates go up, and when they are reduced, they go down. It's not especially the business of the underwriters to prevent fires; if there were no fires their business would be at an end. It is the business of the community.

PRETTY, BUT PRETTY EXPENSIVE.

[Montreal Herald.]
There was displayed a very keen insight into human nature when a Toronto grocer said that the high cost of living was kept high partly because people want to pay for pretty packages and expensive bottles with the things they buy. He says that the housewife will no longer buy bulk pickles, but insist on getting bottled ones, which are identical the same plus the additional price of the bottle. Give heed, oh ye people!

HOW TO BE SAFE.

[Winnipeg Tribune.]
If you deliver the goods you won't be caught with them.

WHAT RELATION.

[London Daily News.]
"It's quite simple, sir," remarked a woman witness at London Sessions yesterday. "The prisoner is my husband's brother's wife's brother."



One thing about old automobiles—their hides will never serve to make baseballs.

The reporter who climbed part way up St. Andrew's spire, was asked to describe how it felt. "That's rather difficult," he replied. "It just felt something like this"—and he gave an imitation of a man's knees knocking together.

AFTER THE SWAT.



Spring is the time to swat the fly. And when you've swatted it, go forth and make arrangements for New paper for the wall.

We venture the remark that no one will seek to examine the job of painting the tower to the steeple on the weather-vane on St. Andrew's steeple.

Also, none of us has noticed any life insurance delegations climbing the tower to claim the gentleman as a good risk.

Speaking of still-life pictures, how about a few miles of macaroni soaking in a pan of water? Or a mackerel?

Have you seen any moving picture men on the mayor's trail? Neither have we.

If those burglars should come to our house and get anything we'll make them give us half.

LISTEN TO THIS, MABEL.



In days when we have women cops We hope they will not wait. Before pursuing burglars and Before putting their caps on straight.

Some who go to get the big ones, come back and eat codfish.

We believe in the home team, but we haven't yet offered to let our whiskers grow until Deneau's Daughters win the pennant.

One of life's little consolations is that no matter how large the mayor's head may become, he is always close to the large sizes.

Some people are not fond of pork, especially when it is in the form of stray toothbrush bristles.

THE GENTLE SUFFRAGETTE.



Though she will buildings set aflame, And dynamite use still, She's promised in her own sweet way No Englishman to kill. She always has been ladylike, This proves she always will.

What has become of the old-fashioned father who made everyone in the family polish his or her shoes?

We have received a letter beginning, "You are an awful fool and I enjoy you accordingly." However, we are rather doubtful about issuing shares on our maudlin tendencies.

If our team can't win this year, we hope it will be funny enough to laugh at.

Calculating it by western measure, the population of London is now 95,000.

If \$10,000 has been wasted on the courthouse so far, whatever will happen if they start to spend \$700,000 on electrification?

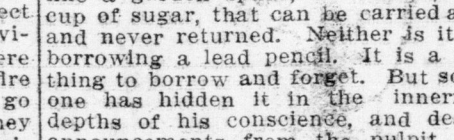
EXPLAINED.



She said unto the grocer man, "This butter is half water, see?" "It passed through all those spring-time floods," answered he. "And that's the reason," answered he.

Who's got the roller? It belongs to the Tennis Club of New St. James Church, and it has mysteriously disappeared. Now a land roller is not like a garden spade, or a book, or a cup of sugar, that can be carried away and returned. Neither is it like borrowing a lead pencil. It is a hard thing to borrow and forget. But someone has hidden it in the innermost depths of his conscience, and despite announcements from the pulpit and searches by members of the club, the whereabouts of the grass-flattener remains a mystery. Two men were seen hauling a roller up Colborne street last night. A newspaperman gave chase, but discovered that they could prove an alibi.

MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



The birds are singing in the trees, They're happy as the day is long; If we could get our food free we Would also warble merry song.

It's a shame to print a picture of "Rube" Deneau that makes him look like one of the Younger Brothers, or Tracy the Outlaw.

There isn't much hope left in the world when a seasoned and supposedly conservative telegraph editor begins to turn his hat down in the back.

Dress Goods 29c

Sale Continued Today and Saturday

An extensive line of Dress Goods at an extremely low price. Every yard should be sold today and Saturday. Included are Serges, Crepes, Cashmeres, Satin Berbers, Lustras and other lightweight spring dress goods, in navy, sky, rose, tan, brown, cream and black. Regular 50c, 75c and 85c values. One of the biggest bargains we ever offered. At yard... 29c

Boys' Wash Suits and Blouses

BOYS' INDIAN PLAY SUITS, made of strong khaki. Fit boys from 5 to 12 years. Regular price 75c. Just a few left 45c

6 DOZEN BOYS' WASH SUITS, in Buster and Russian blouse styles, light and dark colors; fit boys from 2½ to 8 years. Prices, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

2 dozen Boys' Linen Suits, extra pair of trousers and cap with suit. Fit boys 6 to 12 years. Price... \$1.50

Boys' Blouses, 20c

5 dozen Boys' Wash Blouses, soft, turnover attached collar. Good washing materials. Sizes 5 to 11 years. Regular price 35c. On sale at... 20c

Curtain Scrims

Duplex Curtain Scrim, in cream, white and ecru, floral stripe. Perfectly fast color, 36 inches wide. Yard... 19c

Women's Suits

Black and Navy Tailored Suit, new style coat, set-in pockets, high-waisted skirt, women's and misses' sizes. Price, suit... \$12.50

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO., 239, 241, 243 Dundas Street

CHAPMAN'S ALTERATION SALE

We have a reason for all this bargain giving. Alterations are about to begin in our three stores, and we want to clear as much stock as possible before the dust can get a chance to settle on the goods. Everything is new and very desirable, so it is best to sell it while it is in the pink of condition. This makes the bargains so much the better.

Dresses and Waists

60 ONLY WOMEN'S WASH DRESSES — Gingham, muslins and prints, in light and dark shades; stripes and spot, neatly trimmed. Worth \$3.50, \$4.00 and \$4.50. On sale at... \$2.95

5 DOZEN WOMEN'S HOUSE DRESSES—Low and high necks, short and long sleeves and front and back fastenings. Good variety of colorings. Worth \$1.25 and \$1.50. On sale at... 98c

Colored Nets

Allover Embroidery. Point d'Esprit Net, for yokings and waists, 18 inches wide, in brown, rose, Copenhagen, lavender and reseda. Regular price \$1.00 yard. On sale at half price. Per yard... 50c

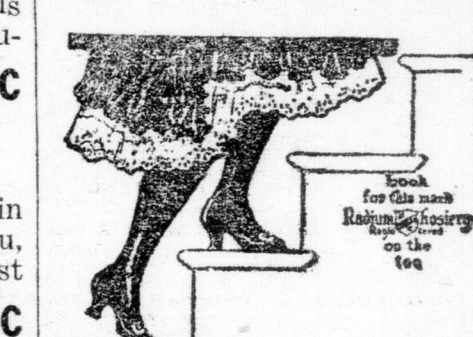


Table Linen

60-inch Bleached Table Linen, regular 45c value, at per yard... 35c

25 DOZEN EMBROIDERED LAWN WAISTS, three-quarter sleeves, open back, very dainty lingerie and batistes. Worth \$1.50 and \$2.00. A complete size assortment, 34 to 42. An exceptional bargain. On sale at... 98c

28 Short Kimonos, beautiful materials and patterns, trimmed with ribbon. Regular prices \$1.25 and \$1.75. On sale at only... \$1.00

Byron Collars

10 dozen Stiff Byron Collars, plain linen or handsomely embroidered, with hem-stitched edge; some are embroidered in colors. Were 25c and 35c. On sale at... 19c

New Hosiery

Women's Mercerized Lisle Hose, in white and black, reinforced in all wearing points. These are "Radium Brand." Sizes 8½ to 10. Per pair... 25c

Men's Black Llama Cashmere Socks, our best 25c line, sizes 10 to 11. This week only. Per pair... 21c

WOMEN'S LISLE GLOVES, 12-button length, in black, tan and white, sizes 6 to 7½. Special, per pair... 35c



Perfect Comfort in Underwear

The disadvantage to low cut vests has always been that the straps slip over the shoulders.

Every woman is familiar with this annoying feature and will rejoice in the perfect comfort of Cumfy-Cut Vests. The straps of Cumfy-Cut Vests are so knitted that there is absolutely no tendency to slip.

Cumfy-Cut Vests and Union Suits can be obtained under the famous Hygeian or Peerless brands. They are tailored to fit the form perfectly, a quality imperative with present day attire.

Cumfy-Cut Vests and Union Suits are made in all sizes for ladies. Three grades—Cotton, Lisle, Mercerized and Silk.

AT ALL FIRST CLASS DEALERS EVERYWHERE IN CANADA.

R. MOODIE & SONS Limited Hamilton