

London Advertiser

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LONDON, FRIDAY, JAN. 22.

A PEST-HOUSE, INDEED.

Mr. J. A. Nelles' letter in today's Advertiser demands the immediate attention of the civic authorities. The condition of the smallpox hospital, which he describes from his own observation and the experience of his son, who was a patient there for some weeks, is a stigma upon the community which must be removed as soon as possible. The city of London has poured out money for hospital purposes, and still it puts smallpox victims into a pig-pen! This cooking had to be done in the room occupied by a patient. The bed linen was unchanged for days. In one of the compartments there was no heat; another was heated merely by a stove-pipe. There was a shocking lack of the simplest sanitary conveniences. The place seems to have been literally a pest-house.

The medical health officer claims it is not his duty to attend the patients. The board of health must decide that point at once. It is amazing to learn that there was no provision for regular medical attendance. Even the telephone had been removed from the building, and a physician could not be summoned in a case of emergency, nor had the inmates any means of communicating with the city. One woman had to do the nursing and cooking. In calling attention to these facts, Mr. Nelles has performed a public service.

THE POPULAR VOTE.

The claim is made by Conservative journals that the figures of the popular vote in the recent Dominion election show that the Opposition is not represented in the House of Commons in proportion to its strength in the country. If representation in Parliament should correspond precisely with the popular vote, a government would rarely have a working majority. The Toronto Star puts the matter clearly:

"Suppose one party polled 1,000,000 votes and another 1,100,000, the successful party would have 110 members in a House of 210 if representation by population were carried to its logical conclusion. This would not be a working majority, and as the two parties are usually almost upon an equality in the popular vote, a working majority would rarely be obtained."

The election returns give the Government the substantial margin of 25,000 votes to the good, and are interesting also as an illustration of the growth of the population. The total vote cast was 1,176,104, as compared with 952,496 in 1900. The census of 1901 showed the population to have been 5,371,315, or 5.64 as large as the number of votes cast. If the same proportions are taken now the population at present is 6,632,640, or an increase of 1,261,235 over 1901. If the same rate of increase is maintained, when the next census is taken, two years hence, it will be found that Canada has a population of upwards of 7,000,000.

In this connection the figures as to the vote in the western provinces are of interest. In 1900 Manitoba cast 41,780 votes; in 1904, 48,122, and in 1905, 68,064. The Northwest Territories in 1900 cast 23,618 votes, and in 1904, 46,576—an increase of nearly 100 per cent. Alberta alone, in the election of last year cast 45,962 votes, or nearly as many as the whole Northwest four years previously. Saskatchewan's total last year was 58,412. This makes 104,214 cast in the two new provinces, or close on four and one-half times as many as in 1900. The total for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta was 172,378, or almost as many as Nova Scotia and New Brunswick together. In 1900 British Columbia cast 26,451 votes; in 1904, 25,184, and in 1905, 37,368, beating Prince Edward Island by about 9,000 votes. It will thus be seen that the Maritime Provinces are now outvoted by those west of Lake Superior.

DUST AND HEALTH.

The Chicago health department gives this excellent advice: "Get all the good pure air you can, and your chance of avoiding pneumonia and consumption will be increased proportionately." The truth of this has not yet been fully taken to heart, either by communities or individuals, for it too often happens that neither out-of-doors nor in homes is proper care taken to insure the purity of the air people breathe. As regards tuberculosis, particularly, nothing is as essential as pure air. In New York State a vigorous fight is being waged against the "white plague," but in spite of that the deaths from the disease in November last, according to the official health report, exceeded 1,100, or an increase of 29 per cent over the number for the corresponding month of 1907.

This unsatisfactory showing is attributed largely to the dust—a nuisance from which Londoners last summer suffered to a greater extent than usual. Owing to the scarcity of water many of the residential streets were neglected for days in succession by the sprinklers, thus allowing the germladen dust to be carried by the wind in all directions and into homes. This is an aspect of the local water shortage to which the authorities do not seem to attach due importance. Often the big sweepers are put to work on the down-town pavements, when the latter are quite dry, whereas it would not be a serious drain on the reserve water supply were a little sprinkling done beforehand.

Everybody is hoping that efforts at present being put forth to augment the supply will be successful, and that before another dry spell comes there will be water a-plenty in the mains for all purposes, even if there is not sufficient pressure at the back of it for fire-fighting. In that event, there will be no further excuse for the dust being allowed to blow about at will in any of the city streets. It is not too early now for the council to make provision for the abatement of the nuisance. With an abundance of water there is no reason why the pavements should not be flushed at least three times a week in the very hot weather. It is good for the sewers as well as for the pavements, and medical men advocate it as an excellent sanitary measure. Then the area in which street sprinkling is done should be enlarged. At present any person owning unoccupied land in a block—even a non-resident—may, by refusing to join in a petition for sprinkling, prevent the laying of the dust in front of it, to the annoyance and possibly danger of every resident. The council should take the matter into its own hands and extend the boundaries of the street sprinkling area. This is the only way in which the mass of citizens can obtain what they feel they are entitled to.

Any measure to restrict the windbags and bores of the House of Commons will be interpreted by Mr. Foster as a personal insult.

In yesterday's Advertiser it was asserted that a new leader for the Ontario Opposition "will" be chosen by a Liberal convention. It was a misprint for "may" be chosen, which is a very different matter.

Our local contemporary asks if it would be an honorable deal to drive the London Electric Company out of business. Mr. Beck says the company has no claim to consideration. These great exponents of the Niagara power problems are at sixes and sevens. Which of them knows more than the other?

The member for Comox-Atlin, B. C., has resigned his seat in favor of Mr. Templeman. The latter was defeated in Victoria by an inexcusable appeal to prejudice against the Orientals. His re-election will give the Coast Province a worthy representative in the cabinet, and will reflect its sober second thought.

A Virginia man who has colored blood in his veins, but not enough to classify him as a negro under the law, has been sentenced to 18 years in jail for marrying a negro. If he had married a white woman and beaten her he might have escaped with a month. The race problem is sadly infecting the law across the line.

Two thousand people are ill in a suburb of Pittsburgh through drinking raw river water. It is said the filtering apparatus was defective. The only safety is in having the water pure at its source, and in not trusting to artificial means to purge it of contamination. London is fortunate in this respect. There is no danger now that it will throw away its advantage.

Japan is keeping faith with the United States in regard to emigration, but some of the cheap politicians of California are trying to catch votes by irritating legislation. Japan is keeping faith also with Canada, and some of the cheap politicians of British Columbia defeated Mr. Templeman and other Liberal candidates by the cry that a vote for Laurier was a vote for the Mikado.

The party leaders at Ottawa argued that the British practice of appointing a speaker for life is unsuitable to Canada, as the occupant of the office would have to drop other pursuits as in Great Britain. This is not an insuperable objection, as the Canadian speaker could be paid a liberal salary. But has the present system caused any grievance? Has the office not been filled satisfactorily on the whole? There have been no complaints to justify a change.

THE POSTMASTERSHIP.
 [Toronto News.]
 London-the-Less is in a turmoil because of the appointment of Dr. Peter Macdonald, ex-M.P. for East Huron, and deputy-speaker of the House of Commons from 1900 to 1904, to be postmaster of London in succession to the late John Cameron. No exception is taken, of course, to the fitness of Dr. Macdonald for the position to which he has been appointed, but the cry is that the office is a local one, and that a local man should have been appointed. We count the office as a local one, and with these disturbers of the public peace. In the event of a similar vacancy occurring in this city, Brantford people would certainly not take kindly to the importation of a postmaster from Hamilton or London to fill the position. However, the London incident will not be without benefit if it hastens the day when the patronage system will be a thing of the past.

THE ODOR OF SANCTITY.
 [Montreal Herald.]
 With the Rev. Donald Hossack in charge of the Ontario Liberal Library, if it happens—and the Rev. J. A. Macdonald in charge of the Ontario Liberal newspaper, there is really nothing left but for Sir James Whitney and the Toronto Mail to take holy orders.

THE HINDERING TOUCH.
 [S. E. Kiser.]
 "I'll have a heart for any fate."
 He resolutely said:
 "I'll learn to labor and to wait.
 No danger whether small or great,
 Shall make me pause in dread.
 My goal is set upon the height,
 And daily I shall win delight
 In travelling ahead."

A STORY ABOUT JOHN BURNS.
 [From British House of Commons Debates.]
 Mr. Crooks wanted an assurance that the bill would not interfere with a public meeting. Such interjections were the salt of a meeting. The president of the local government board had made some of his most brilliant efforts at meetings where he had had to deal with interruptions. At one meeting, he remembered, somebody interrupted Mr. Burns and others present wanted to throw the interrupter into the Thames. "No," said Mr. Burns, "I am not responsible for the purity of that river." (Laughter.) Under this bill the right honorable gentleman could not have got that off. (Laughter.) He was anxious to retain all the joy of a public meeting, while avoiding real rows. (Cheers.) Was a man to be run in for shouting "ho!" He hoped not. (Laughter.) Political fights would not be worth taking on at all if a man's liberty were restrained in that way. (Laughter.) He therefore asked for an assurance that the bill would not prevent honest criticism and interjection, so long as there was no wilful desire to smash up the meeting. (Cheers.)

1909 RICH IN ANNIVERSARIES.
 [London Nation.]
 Anniversary celebrations usually call forth one or more biographies of the person commemorated, and there is no lack of rich in anniversaries. Here is a list of some distinguished people who were born in 1809:
 Edgar Allan Poe.....Jan. 19
 Mendelssohn.....Feb. 3
 Darwin.....Feb. 12
 Lincoln.....Feb. 12
 Fitzgerald.....Mar. 21
 Lord Houghton.....June 19
 Mrs. Cowden-Cleland.....July 2
 J. S. Blackie.....July 23
 Kinglake.....Aug. 5
 O. W. Holmes.....Aug. 6
 Fanny Kemble.....Nov. 27
 Gladstone.....Dec. 29
 This year also sees the centenary of Thomas Paine's death on June 8; the bicentenary of the birth of the first Lord Lyttelton, on Jan. 17; that of Dr. John S. Blackie, on Feb. 10; and of the first Lord Chamberlain, on Feb. 10. Finally there is the centenary of the Quarterly Review, the first number of which was published in February, 1809.

A LITTLE SERMON.
 [New York Post.]
 A little sermon.
 A little boy.
 A little sick.
 A little sad.
 A little holy.
 A little splash—
 Oh, little boys,
 Don't be so rash.

SOME KINDS OF MEN.
 [New York Globe.]
 There's the man who tells your story.
 And who spoils your every joke.
 There's the man who's so effusive
 When he happens to be broke.
 There are pests, the very kind,
 But I've found a worse one yet:
 That's the man who always asks you:
 "Have you got a cigarette?"

OBSTRUCTIONISTS.
 [Washington Star.]
 She was a solemn suffragette.
 And he a man whom people knew
 For scientific lore. They met
 By chance beneath the mistletoe.
 "It is a well-known fact," said he,
 In careful and well-chosen terms,
 "That oscillation of the air is an excellent
 A medium for transmitting germs."

Quoth she: "The topic, I should say,
 Is quite unworthy of debate."
 The custom in this learned day
 Is frivolous and out of date."

And swains and ladies still drew near
 Where Wisdom "neath the mistletoe"
 Shook her head, and with a look austere,
 While Cupid vainly twanged his bow.

BACHELOR DAYS.
 [Adele M. Whittegreave, in Smart Set.]
 Ah, our bachelor days,
 And our bachelor ways,
 What a charm they possessed for us then!
 When we thought of a girl
 Was a peach or a pearl,
 And we trusted the friendship of men.

When we lighted our pipe,
 And we dreamed half the night,
 And we longed—with the longing of men—
 For the ships and the sea,
 That for you and for me
 Have never been sighted since then.

From the smoke of my pipe
 Comes a face in the night,
 And it brings back the parting of ways;
 And my heart is aflame,
 For I love her the same
 As I did in my bachelor days.

ABOUT THE SIZE OF IT.
 [Puck.]
 Mabel—I do not use a rat, thank you!
 Abel—What is it, then? An elephant?

BLANKET YOUR HORSE.
 [Toronto News.]
 Do not leave your horse in the cold
 Without throwing a blanket over him.
 How would you like to stand shivering
 For three hours outside of a saloon.

DON'T BE SO CERTAIN.
 [Brantford Courier.]
 London Grits have for some time been in disorganized state, and this latest incident will serve to make the confusion worse confounded.

A CURIOUS TRAIT.
 [Chicago Record-Herald.]
 Some women are willing to wear almost nothing on the stage so that they may appear in the clothes of the stage.

MOTHERHOOD.
 [Elbert Hubbard.]
 The male lion can be starbated by a mouse. And so can a highly cultivated, modern lady. But have a care how you write the mother of lions. Even an elephant does not stop to argue with a lioness. She never counts the cost—she never thinks of her own safety—caution to her is unknown. She will throw herself like a whirlwind upon an enemy, no matter how great, if once aroused. The life of the race is involved! It is more than the comic urge that is now predominant. She is acting, tooth and claw, in behalf of threatened and outraged nature.

And as motherhood was once the supreme thing in nature, so must it be again. The man who has a slave for a wife probably have slaves for children. And when men are sensible they will cease to breed human chattels. The mother of John and Charles Wesley, and seventeen other Wesleys, was a natural woman—courageous, healthy, spontaneous, unexpressed, unfrilled, original, individual, her heart filled with love, but not of the kind that cuddles, crows, creeps and does goose-step on the order of a milk-maid.

Being honestly loved by a man who knew her worth, she was free. And being free, she greatly blessed and benefited the world.

WHAT A WIFE-BEATER IS.
 [Montreal Star.]
 A wife-beater is a traitor, a violator of his word, a betrayer of the most sacred trust, an enemy of the family as an institution, a danger to society, a coward, a soulless brute, a thing without heart or conscience. He should not be allowed to add to his cruelty towards his wife by filling prison while she starves. He should be made to work for her support while in jail, and have his term punctuated by the lash. When a wife-beater comes up for a second sentence, he convicts our system of justice of utter inadequacy.



"San Toy" Tonight.

Sam Collins, the well-known eccentric, who proved himself a strong favorite in his home town of London, is giving a season of four and a half months during which the Imperial Opera Company presented its famous comic opera repertoire at the Alexandra Theatre, has tonight comedy role in "San Toy," which will be presented at the Grand tonight, Saturday and Saturday matinee. Mr. Collins will have the role of Li, in which he has ample opportunity for the display of his eccentric fun. This fascinating Chinese-English musical comedy is full of ludicrously funny situations. The music is bright and catchy and the plot allows for gorgeous stage settings and costumes.

Hilda Spong.

In "A Man and His Mox," the new play which Hilda Spong will present at the Grand on Monday, there are many new and unique roles, played by actors who have been individual stars with varying success, but the most ingenious and appealing part of them all, outside Miss Spong's role, is that of Choo Long, played by the well-known English actor, Mr. Herbert Percy. He is said to have originated a type of stage "chink," that of an imprudent, emotional, educated fellow, who is willing to give up his life even, in order that the woman whom he hopelessly loves with doglike devotion may be happy. The other parts of the play have credit done them by artists of ability.

NEWS FROM WESTERN ONTARIO

Charles Clifford of Anderson Township, had his hand caught by the accidental discharge of a shotgun yesterday.

Florence Wicks, a Chatham girl, appeared before Judge Houston yesterday charged with forging her mother's name on the check for the amount of the note and was dismissed.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Southwestern Traction Company will be held in St. Thomas to consider the advisability of taking over the St. Thomas Street Railway.

"Cap" Doughty of Grimsby has been arrested, charged with perjury in swearing when challenged at the recent local option election. He was bailed.

Sidney Smith, the crown prosecutor, in the Moir case, in an interview at Stratford, stated that he believed the verdict to be the only just one under the circumstances.

The residents of Tilbury have presented a petition to the council asking that steps be taken at the coming session of the Legislature to have the place incorporated as a town.

George Chalmers, Elmer Ainslie, Alvin May and W. W. Wellwood, who have means of summoning medical aid, the sufferings of the poor young man of whom I speak might have been greatly lessened.

Nor is any care taken to provide satisfactory food for the patients. But for the intervention of friends of the patients there would have been no Christmas dinner for them, and, as it was, the turkey they had that day was

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Rural free delivery service has been established between Stratford and Amiens.

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Rev. T. B. Clarke, of this city, gave an illustrated lecture on a trip to London, England, at Elderton, Wednesday.

M. J. Fitzgerald, an Ingersoll printer, passed away at his home Wednesday, aged 57.

The death of Fred McCleary, aged 28 years, took place at Delhi.

Mary Ann Wright died at Dundas in her 53rd year.

The benedict and bachelors of Highgate gave an assembly at the Centennial Club Wednesday.

The attendance figures at the Pelee Island Methodist Sunday school show a marked increase for the year.

John Trenaman, agent of the Grand Trunk at Prescott died Thursday.

Salt destroys weeds, noxious insects, blights and other pests infesting the soil. It checks an abnormal growth of steam and leafage, thus strengthening the plant, consequently by this is better able to resist the attacks of parasitic fungi.

Saturday Specials J.H. CHAPMAN Read This List

Women's Coat Clearance

Who would be without a handsome warm winter coat when it can be bought for half price? Right here in our Mantle Department we are selling Ladies' \$12 Coats for \$9 and \$10.50 Coats for \$6.25. Other prices halved the same way, but we have a larger quantity of the two lines mentioned, so we will give you a fuller description of them. Come Saturday and try a few on. You will be surprised at the value.

\$18 COATS FOR \$9—Handsome Satin Broad-cloth Coats, in green, navy and brown, 50 inches long, semi-fitting styles, body and sleeves lined. Our regular price is \$18. Take any one of them at.....\$9

\$12.50 COAT FOR \$6.25—These are warm, well-tailored Tweed Coats of wear-well fabrics that will keep out the cold.

Children's Combinations

Heavy Natural Color Union Combination Suits for children at clearing prices for Saturday. Marked as follows, according to size:

Sizes, 4 years, 5 years, 6-7 years, 7-9 years, 9 to 12 years.
 55c for 43c, 60c for 49c, 65c for 52c, 70c for 59c, 75c for 63c

INFANTS' OVERALLS — Black, All-Wool, Knitted Overall, with feet. Were 50c. Saturday.....43c

CHILDREN'S DRAWERS — Ribbed and fleeced, ankle-length. Worth 25c. Saturday.....15c

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO., 126, 128, 128½ Dundas St.

SHOCKING STATE OF AFFAIRS

Continued From Page 1.

room, is a dirty, pest-breeding lounge. At the foot of one bed stands the dining-table, an opposite that is a dirt-begrimed sink, the only place for the patients to perform their ablutions. In the centre of the room stands a baseboard, and a space between one of the beds and the wall is devoted to the wardrobe. This latter bed was occupied while my son was in the place by a woman in charge; the other bed by a young female patient. Thus we have in one room, cooking, sleeping, dining, washing and lounging. That is what Dr. Hutchinson calls "every convenience"—"bright, clean, wholesome, pleasant, and very comfortable quarters."

The two upper compartments are each about 12x15 feet. Through the floor of one comes the pipe from the baseboard, but there are no means of heating the other, so that in cold weather it is really unsafe to sleep there. Hence there were recently found in the one small room, four beds, each with a smallpox patient. To crown all, in one corner of this room, is an open closet leading to a cesspool, the stench from which is at times simply unbearable. For the two women in the house, there is not even this convenience. More of the doctor's "cleanliness."

During all the time this one batch of patients was there, the bed linen had not been changed once, and the only towel to be found was a small hand-towel for each patient per week. Is that cleanly, Dr. Hutchinson? Is it even decent?

While my boy was there the M. O. did not pay visits to the place often. One came there, through the floor of one comes the pipe from the baseboard, but there are no means of heating the other, so that in cold weather it is really unsafe to sleep there. Hence there were recently found in the one small room, four beds, each with a smallpox patient. To crown all, in one corner of this room, is an open closet leading to a cesspool, the stench from which is at times simply unbearable. For the two women in the house, there is not even this convenience. More of the doctor's "cleanliness."

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Last Day of the Half-Price China Sale

After Saturday we will begin clearing the tables in the China Room on the third floor. It is the last chance to participate in this annual half-price clearing sale. Many beautiful pieces of odd china and art glass left for your choosing.

China Mending

If you have a piece of broken china bring it to us tomorrow and we will mend it free of charge with the "World's Wonder Cement." We will like all our customers to take advantage of this offer before the demonstrator leaves us Saturday.

Embroidery Sale Continues

An hour among the Embroideries will show you just how much advantage comes to you in this big sale. Indeed, London has so appreciated the splendid values we are offering and the response has been so great that we will continue to show them on the long tables. Embroideries at each price kept by themselves. Easy choosing is possible for everyone.

Great Moving Sale Of Stoves and Graniteware

Two Steel Ranges, No. 9, 6-hole, 20-inch oven with reservoir, high warming closet, and thermometers. Regular \$57.00, now.....\$47.50

Two Steel Ranges, No. 9, 6-hole, 18-inch oven with reservoir, high warming closet, and thermometer. Regular \$52.50, now.....\$43.25

Two Cast-Steel Ranges, No. 9, 4-hole, steel oven with reservoir. Regular \$34.00, now.....\$27.00

One Steel Range, No. 9, 4-hole, 16-inch oven, with reservoir. Regular \$29.00, now.....\$22.95

Two Steel Ranges, No. 9, 4-hole, with reservoir. Regular \$19.00, now.....\$14.65

One King National Baseburner. Regular \$44.00, now.....\$34.75

One Royal Opal Baseburner. Regular \$36.00, now.....\$28.00

Twelve-quart Dishpan, gray graniteware. Regular 70c, now.....32c

Fourteen-Quart Dishpan, gray graniteware. Regular 85c, now.....42c

Double Boilers, gray graniteware. Regular 85c, now.....50c

Lip Saucepans, four sizes, at 23c, 20c, 18c and 16c

Painted Slop Jars, with covers.....37c

Tin Copper-Bottomed Boilers.....\$1.10 and \$1.30

ALL OUR NO. 9 WOVEN WIRE FENCING, 6, 8 AND 9 BARS HIGH IS SELLING RAPIDLY AT THE LOW PRICES. DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE THIS WEEK.

Westman's Hardware

436 RICHMOND STREET.

the only meat they got until three days later, and every one of them as hungry as hounds.

The law provides, and properly so, that due precautions must be taken that patients on fully recovering do not bring any infection with them out into the world. Here is the programme followed by one patient, and his case is but a sample of others: He bathed himself in a small tub placed on the landing at the head of the stairs; then wrapping himself in a loose covering, rushed downstairs, through the door, out into the open, and across the snow-covered ground to a shed a short distance away, there to be dressed in clean clothing by friends. This, I presume, especially appeals to the M. H. O. as up-to-date hospital convenience.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, let me just say this: London has spent thousands upon thousands of dollars on hospitals, and contemplates spending thousands more, to all of which I have no objection. But surely something can be done, so that the smallpox pest-house will not be dreaded more than the disease itself. Yours truly,
 J. A. NELLES.
 London, Jan. 21, 1909.

NEW QUEBEC MINISTERS
 Member for Hochelaga Appointed Minister of Agriculture.