

London Advertiser

MORNING. NOON. EVENING.

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TORONTO REPRESENTATIVE: F. W. Thompson, 56 Mail Building.

The London Advertiser Printing Co., Limited.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEB. 7.

Do your parcel posting early.

What do they drink in Mexico?

In times of frost, prepare for floods.

Just three days to get your parcels ready.

Mr. Gaby wants to save hydro from the jockeys.

What is this Villa, a half-caste or a rough-cast?

Be careful what you say or Detective Burns may get you.

So far this session the Borden Government has accomplished 0.

Money is getting easier, but this does not mean easier to get.

Mr. Burnham's bill to abolish titles in Canada was defeated. The King can do no wrong.

The latest aspirant to lightweight boxing honors, is named "Kid Troubles." He'll have 'em.

Canada will not abolish capital punishment so long as there are postmasters left to be beheaded.

Why this strange silence in Venezuela? We haven't heard of a revolution there for some months.

No matter how small he may be, the victor in a street fight, is sure to be called a big brute by somebody.

"How I Cleaned Out the Grafters in the Quebec House," by Editor Beck, is rapidly becoming one of the season's worst smellers.

If the Mexican rebel Carranza uses aeroplanes in his campaign, he will be the first to demonstrate the extent of their efficiency in warfare.

Couldn't we borrow Uncle Sam's Sherman law long enough to prosecute our Government for maintaining a tariff wall in restraint of trade?

A man found drunk in a dry town now becomes a matter of news, even though the dry man in a wet town never did cut much of a figure.

The Kaiser, as head of the nation, insists upon paying his share of the new German income tax, so he takes a million dollars from his purse and hands it to himself. Great!

A Chicago man, who years before had robbed his employer and could not return to the city, committed suicide while wearing his old home. Conscience is the great avenger.

A colored engineer on a southern road, lost his job because he stopped his train in order to drive back a black cat that had crossed the track. He must have left his rabbit's foot at home.

The lethargy at Ottawa continues. There is nothing to oppose except Mr. Burnham. It is a most disappointing sort of Government, saw its shadow the other day, took fright at it and retired to its hole for more sleep.

In one lady's muff: Purse, two car tickets, patches of dress goods, recipe for an onion poultice, three hairpins, chewing gum, doodads, the words of "I'll Meet You in the Gloaming, Maggie Dear," more doodads, and a mysterious bit of chamol.

Strathroy's new board of trade is under way with a new factory giving employment to one hundred hands in prospect. The able men placed at the helm of the organization leave no doubt as to its success. It will prove another link in the chain of Western Ontario prosperity.

A governor of the New York stock exchange says that speculation determines the value of securities. A motion to that effect would produce a lot of dissenting votes. The interstate commerce commission is fixing the value of most of them.

Sir Hugh Graham refuses to say whether he owns the Montreal Herald-Telegraph or not, but after a glance at the editorial page, there is but one conclusion to be reached. Already the Star's "emergency" hysterics are beginning to appear in the Herald.

It came out in the debate on capital punishment that a penitentiary guard, reprimanded for not winding his clock on time, replied that he had been cutting down a prisoner attempting to hang himself. "Let him hang, but wind your clock," was the superior official's answer. So time was more important than eternity.

PENSIONS AND BOUNTIES.

THERE would seem to be nothing more conducive to long life than a pension system. The United States has had a very instructive lesson in this matter. The civil war ended in 1865 for all practical purposes. That year the number of pensioners from disability was about 36,000. From that date there has been a steady increase until now the list has reached over half a million; not counting the widows who are some 300,000 more. Of course the Spanish war of 1898 has intervened, and that has swelled the total. But up to that date, the civil war pensioners had increased from 36,000 to over 400,000, and the widows from 50,000 to 250,000.

If the pension system prolongs life, the bounty system discovers it. A few years ago, Canada decided to pay a bounty of \$100 to the Fenian Raid survivors. Ten thousand men had been actually called out in the little disturbances of 1866 and 1870. The number who got within sound of a rifle shot were probably not much over two thousand. In forty years a large proportion of these would, under ordinary circumstances, have been dead. But already 16,470 have received the bounty; and as many more are claiming it. If they get the money, it will mean that more veterans will have received the bounty than were actually called out forty years ago.

Of course, there is an explanation. In view of the troubles, actual and prospective, during the Fenian raids, a large number were "enlisted," that is, they were "listed," and ready for active service if required. The total number was according to the returns laid before Parliament a few days ago, 166,672. And the bounty is evidently being paid to many men who never went out on service, but whose claim is based on the fact that they were willing to go if required.

We are unable to see any excuse for paying bounties and pensions to people who never did anything to deserve pecuniary recognition. That a man should be willing to serve his country when it is in danger is no virtue; it is the duty of every citizen. To take up arms and expose himself to danger is also a duty; but it is a duty that may very properly be acknowledged by the bestowment of honors or by pecuniary aid—especially if that is needed. To pensions and bounties for those who have accepted discomfort and taken risks for the protection of their neighbors and the defence of their country there can be no reasonable objection. But when it comes to rewarding a man for only being willing to do something he has not done, it is time to draw the line.

MR. GABY CORROBORATES.

THAT he was sharp, but fair and intelligent in every criticism he made, was the worst, or the best, that anyone could say of John G. Richter while he was a member of the city council.

One of the criticisms of the hydro-electric administration was that its officials did not make proper charges for depreciation. Engineer Gaby, of the Ontario hydro-electric commission, proves to be the man to corroborate Mr. Richter's charges. In a letter to the board of water commissioners he instructed these gentlemen that they were not naming a proper charge for depreciation; that a charge of five per cent should be levied against the capitalization of \$434,362.64, and that as a consequence the so-called surplus of \$38,411.64 should be reduced to the extent of \$21,716.49. Mr. Gaby also pointed out that the same charge should have been made in 1912, which would have wiped out the apparent surplus of that year.

No one believes today that hydro-electric can be wrecked except by the wrongful administration of it. But Mr. Gaby is to be complimented on having the courage to notify the board of commissioners of the error they have fallen into. Of course, these same gentlemen would have been inclined to call anyone else who made such a suggestion an enemy of the people.

The citizens of London can lay down the rule for themselves that nine times out of ten John G. Richter was right on a question of finance. They can thank machine tactics and dishonorable methods for his absence from public life at present. Just as he has been vindicated on the question of depreciation and the illegality of many other matters, he will live to see his record strengthened until there will not be a citizen who will withhold from him the credit richly due him.

THE CANAL SITUATION.

PRESIDENT Wilson's announced intention of asking Congress to repeal that section of the Panama Canal act which exempts American coastwise vessels from paying tolls, will appeal to most people as the only action possible. It is a matter of national honor, a keeping of faith with another nation, and we think all fair-minded Americans will applaud the President for his determination to carry out the conditions of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, which puts all nations on the same basis as regards use of the canal. It will remove at once what threatened to become an ugly situation and improve international relationships. This applies particularly to Great Britain, as the British merchant marine promises for a long time to be the greatest carrier through the "Big Ditch." And at this time, too, when the two great English-speaking people are about to celebrate a hundred years of peace, it would have been unfortunate had

THE LEAMINGTON DISTRICT.

CLOSELY approaching the productivity of the Carolinas and the southern parts of the State of Ohio, the Leamington district along the shore of Lake Erie in Essex County, is probably the most versatile tract of land in the whole province. Almost everything in the agricultural category will thrive on the sandy soil, and fortunes have been made through the outting of large 100-acre farms into pieces of 5 and 10 acres. Land that formerly supported one family, sometimes with difficulty, now supports from ten to fifteen families and the type of home and the "style" of the places make certain that thrift dwells inside.

Thrift attracts thrift. Live men come where live men are. The opportunity has only to knock for one and another hears it. Many of the people in the Leamington district have been attracted from the outside, and the land at present is in great demand among the city farmers. Any man who has the "back to the land" germs in his blood, will succumb to a virulent attack of the disease after he has been imbued with the Leamington spirit.

The soil is good, but the men on it are working harder to get more from it, playing fair with Nature at the same time, than many other men on poorer land. The logic is that there are better things to be derived from agriculture by a scientific treatment of the soil than are now derived in most parts of Western Ontario. Leamington is a lesson in progress along modern lines of husbandry. The town is fit companion to the district. Prosperous and full of activity, it seems to be past the threshold of its full development. It has grown more than a thousand inhabitants in a year. Its district attracts industries. Its locality is chosen of the gods. It has progressive rulers and will be one day a thriving city.

Going Together

[Baltimore American.]
"What have you got hidden in your hand, boy?"
"A knife, sir."
"A knife? Then fork it over."

NONSENSE.

[Boston Transcript.]
A savant predicts that the world will come to an end in 15,000,000 years owing to the freeing up of the sun. Nonsense. Edison will have invented a substitute for the sun long before then.

WHY ARE THE CONSTABLE?

[Cincinnati Enquirer.]
The tramp who ate a breakfast good, Said, when he ceased to chew it: "You saw me see your cord of wood. But you won't see me saw it."

SIZING UP A HOST

[Yonkers Statesman.]
Teacher—"What is a host, Tommy?"
Tommy—"I dunno, ma'am."
"Suppose your father gave a dinner to a number of his friends, what would he be?"
"He'd be the 'goat,' I reckon."

DOMESTIC AMENITIES

[Kansas City Journal.]
"Can't you stop hammering at me once in a while?"
"Don't talk that way to me. I'd have you know that you married a belle."
"Seems more like a gong."

THE LAST TEST

[Detroit Free Press.]
Louis VI. of France sat yawning in his Louis XIV. drawing-room. It was

ent, and she will be able to do so many washin's now that he can spend all his time down to the grocery store to keep this nation off the rocks.

Hod Peters of this town was held up last Thursday evening by two bold highwaymen near his home and was robbed of one pound of creamery butter. Constable Ezra Hand is at work on the case and home talent is suspected.

It never was, ain't now and never will be with twenty-five cents to have a parlor car porter make a couple of passes at you with a whisk broom.

A man kin make out that he is twice as sick as a woman and not feel half so bad.

One of the quickest ways to wear diamonds is to go to work and earn them.

Excuse baggage. Oldcloth sleeve protectors. Brown porcelain doorknobs. Crayon portraits. Country butter. Strictly fresh eggs. High wheels, motor cabs. Depot omnibuses. What-nots. Crinolines. Hand-painted neckties.

ABE MARTIN



Lots o' fellers are not known by th' company they keep. So many clerks seem to have missed their callin'.

an April morning in the year of disgraces, 1180.

"Faint with ennu!" cried the king. "Call the catiff Enochbus!"

Trembling, little Enochbus, the court jester, stood before him.

"Now shake thy withered brains and make me laugh, thou mis-shapen funeral director!" roared the king. "Four days has thou monkeyed around this court without stirring in my royal breast any emotion save that of disgust. You are as funny as a gullio-tins in the hands of the mob. Mask of tragedy make me laugh this instant or I shall have you hurled off the highest battlement to the unfeeling flagstones, a thousand feet below!"

"Your highness," quavered the shivering jester, "if it pleases your grace, I should probably feel more pane if you had me hurled through one of the royal windows."

King Louis clapped a hand to his emulated brow.

"Rotten!" he cried. "Old and awful. But for the effort, small gloom dispenser, thou shalt have one favor. Choose thy window so that it be above the thirteenth floor."

TO MY MOTHER.
[John Wirth.]
Deal gently with her, Time; these many years Lay thy hand too harshly on her now.

But trace decline so slowly on her brow That like a sunset of the northern clime, When twilight lingers in the summer time, And fades at last into the silent night; Ere one may note the passing of the light.

So may she pass—since 'tis the common lot— As one who, resting, sleeps and knows it not.

From Western Ontario Press.

A FINE RECORD.
[Kincardine Reporter.]
During the month of January there was only one death in the town of Kincardine, being the late John Oliver, and only one body was interred in the cemetery here. This is most remarkable for a winter month.

TO INDEMNIFY CLERGYMEN.
[Geoph Mercury.]
It is quite likely that Windsor churches will be required to insure their pastors, as it is well known that the marriage fees were held out as an inducement to accept a smaller salary in Windsor than elsewhere. To say the least, it is not putting the work of a minister on a very high level to force him to juggle his marriage fees to make up his stipend.

REASON FOR OPTIMISM.
[Galt Reporter.]
An optimistic spirit pervaded the annual meeting of the South Waterloo Agricultural Society yesterday. And there was good reason for it. The past year was a successful one, the fair being among the best held in the district. The society showed an improvement, although still carrying a small balance on the wrong side of the ledger. The new house was being erected, and a revived interest among the farmers in the district.

KEEPING BOY ON FARM.
[Theftford Tribune.]
At the National Farmers' Congress the chief problem was held to be keeping the boys on the farms. It will come about when the farms are made more attractive to the boys. The mistake of those who give advice in this matter is their suggestion that the farmer's boy work hard all day and real agricultural literature at night, gaining his entertainment from sombre bulletins and reports. If the boy is worth his salt he has a right to the joys of life. If he cannot have recreations near his home he will

The Mutual Life Assurance Company of Canada

HEAD OFFICE

WATERLOO, ONT.

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR

The forty-fourth annual meeting of the Company was held at its Head Office on Thursday, February 5. The detailed report of the transactions of the year indicated that 1913 passed into history as one of exceptional prosperity, as may be gathered from the following:

SIGNIFICANT FIGURES

Payments to Policyholders	\$ 1,396,445	Gain over 1912	\$ 120,558
Income	4,169,660	"	470,095
Total Assets	22,252,724	"	2,181,921
Surplus	3,816,612	"	344,279
New Assurances	14,412,962	"	3,291,538
Assurance in Force	87,392,026	"	9,470,883

Surplus Earned During the Year, \$852,163

This excellent result of the year's operations cannot fail to be extremely gratifying to the policyholders of the Company, as it guarantees to them the continuance of the payment of very generous dividends.

The usual booklet, containing in detail the complete financial statement and a report of the proceedings of the annual meeting, will be mailed to every policyholder in due course.

E. P. CLEMENT, K. C., President.

GEORGE WEGENAST, Managing Director.

C. E. German, General Agent, 421 Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

RESORTS, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Marlborough-Blenheim

CAPACITY 1100 ALWAYS OPEN
The Leading Resort House of the World.
PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE TO CANADIANS
During January and May
Atlantic's Great Winter-Spring Season.

The proximity of the Gulf Stream and the Southern exposure contribute a climate delightfully mild without being enervating.
Two blocks of ocean front. 400 private baths with hot and cold sea and fresh water. Golf, Rolling Chairs, Theatres and countless amusements.
Ownership management.
JOSIAH WHITE & SONS COMPANY.
ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Voice of the People

Military Drill in the Schools.
To the Editor of The Advertiser:
Your report of the recent meeting of the board of education is interesting and shows the attitude towards military training in the schools, a word from one who has had experience from both the military and educational points of view may not be out of place. I think the delegation missed the issues by bringing in Mr. Slater's name. Happening to know the gentleman, I am able to state that the better one will respect him. The conclusions reached are irrefutable. For abnormal children and those having physical peculiarities, specific exercises are indispensable, but for the average normal child the spontaneous play and games in the supervised, open-air yards are far superior to any and every formal exercise ever devised. Fifteen minutes of active, joyous play—running, stooping, swinging, shooting, and the fresh air—is worth more for the physical well-being of a lot of children than an hour's leg-striding and arm-stretching. The first is to the other as no quality to skim-milk. The schools that employ the sprightly action song for relaxation and flexion at each midsession of the day, are really progressing in wholly substituting therefor the joyous, precise, body-bendings in the dictatorial physical exercises. There is joy in a good calisthenic, but the stiff gymnastic has no quality of a visceral tonic. Now military drill is a specialized kind of formal physical training, aimed at the efficient performance of certain kinds of adult duties. For children, it is inferior to the best series of formal exercises, as these are inferior to the best play. Careful study of Dr. G. E. Johnson's experiments and researches will interest any doubter. Indeed, uniforms, mimic arms, etc., are found to be almost indispensable in holding the interest of even big boys in this kind of physical training. The reasons are obvious to every student of children. There may be money or "tatt" or both for teachers who undertake this work, but unless it is regarded as a superadded extra, they cannot but feel that "there is a more excellent way." Ratepayers who are friends of the children have at least two reasons for opposing taxation for military drill in the public schools.

TEACHER.

exhibit their canine teeth at the dog show. Eh, what?

Wonder if the smoke bylaw covers Building Inspector Piper's pipe.

First Aid to the Injured.
For a broken heart, try a little hartshorn.

And now they propose to put Abdul Hamid to work. Ham should be able to land a job in one of our Canadian-Turkish cigarette factories.

Has Anyone Seen That Government Grant?

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day.
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,
The grass is growing on the Federal Square
And Coles and all the gang are quite at sea.

McGill University students will make a diet test. Lots of newspapermen are doing that every day, but they don't call it a test.

The Revised Version.
Father, dear father,
Come home with me now,
With hydro electric
They're milking the cow.

Yesterday we read of an aviator who spent more than fourteen hours in the air. Almost equalled Mayor Graham's record.

Judge Coulter has decided that Aylmer is still "wet." Our memory has it that the roads of that town, at least, were in that condition the last time we drove over them.

The Question Drawer.
Revered Col. Conductor—Your stuff is simply great and I wish to ask you the following questions:

1. Is your brain larger than ordinary, or do you eat a certain kind of breakfast food that enables you to think up so many funny things?

2. Is Cynthia Grey?

3. Why can't we buy egg sandwiches at the old price of five cents?

FOOD ADMIRER.

Answers.
1. Our daily breakfast consists of eight quarts of shredded heat mixed with a gallon and a quarter of air. As for our brain being extraordinary, we will have it measured at once.

2. Not that we've noticed.

3. The higher cost of egg sandwiches is no doubt due to the salary increases given the chickens who wait table in the restaurants. We can't think of any other reason.

A Sherlock Holmes Deduction.
From Oshkosh to Batavia,
The story has been told,
Whenever the weather isn't warm
It's likely to be cold.

Mousseau is broken down, according to dispatches from Quebec. Sort of another incinerator, eh?

Musical Notes.
The Municipal Motor Monopolizers!

Perhaps.
Perhaps a year or so from now
On Sunday cars we'll ride,
Providing the agreement
Is ever ratified.

When we see the alarming decrease
In western grain profits, we are quite
Satisfied to remain in the newspaper
game.

Why not persuade local dentists to

show where he can get them. Criticize it as we may, this is an amusement loving age, and the desires of the farmer's boy and girl are as natural as those of the city youth. To leave this fact out of the discussion is to miss its vital point. Boys will not stay on the farms if they are supposed to merely to vegetate there. They want to move about and see things.

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