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LONDON, SATURDAY, JAN. 8.

DR. SMYTH'S WARNING.

There was a note of warning in the speech of Rev. Dr. Patterson Smyth at the Canadian Club yesterday. Dr. Smyth is fresh from contact with the social problem in the old land, having come from the city of Dublin two years ago. He finds that some of the worst conditions, which he thought he had left behind, and which were in the new world, have been found to associate only with older civilizations, are being reproduced in this country. In Great Britain the evils are so crying that neither the church nor state can ignore them, and heroic remedies are being applied; but in Canada they are a new growth, and Canadians have not fully awakened to their seriousness. Mr. Smyth found the housing problem as serious in his own parish in Montreal as in Dublin, but he did not find the same reforming agencies at work. His testimony bears out that of a distinguished Manchester clergyman, who visited Canada a year ago, and said that he saw more disgraceful slums in Montreal and Toronto than in his own city. If reports are true, Winnipeg is open to the same reproach. Overcrowding in the cities of Canada is less excusable than in Great Britain; the land here is not monopolized to the same extent, and there is not the same chronic, hereditary poverty. Prevention is better than cure; the mischief may be prevented in Canadian communities by a little foresight, but if it becomes rooted the cure must be a long and costly process.

Dr. Smyth's address breathed a fine spirit of social service. He believes in applied Christianity, and there was a profound significance in his assertion that if the church is to hold the masses it must practice a social religion as well as preach an individual religion; it must save souls by striking at the root of soul-destroying conditions.

GOOD TIMES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

In spite of the avalanche of blue-ruin prophecy, industrial conditions in Great Britain are steadily growing better, and foreign trade is soaring higher than ever before.

The Board of Trade returns for December, 1909, show an increase in exports of £4,388,000 over December, 1908. The figures are even £1,000,000 better than in December, 1907, the record year. Both exports and imports were £2,000,000 (£25,000,000) better last month than in the same month the year before, and the increase of imports was not in manufactured goods, but in food and raw material.

The improvement has been continuous. In October last exports increased £2,212, or 27 per cent, over 1908, and in November the increase was £2,009,000. Unemployment is decreasing; the situation is infinitely better than last winter. And this prosperity is returning in the months which are usually the shickest.

The revival is, of course, grist to the mill of the Government, and in the same degree disconcerting to its opponents. The Unionist campaign is built upon the assumption that the budget spells financial and commercial disaster. The whole fabric reared by the fears and prejudices of the peers and their supporters therefore topples to the ground. No wonder the Chancellor of the Exchequer jubilantly waves the trade statistics in the faces of his accusers.

The other day the financial editor of the London Times, who appears to be honest and non-partisan, stultified the political editor of the same journal by a frank explanation of the causes of the slump in British securities. While the leader writers of the Thunderer were bombarding the budget, the financial writer on another paper let the cat out of the bag in this fashion:

"When Mr. Chamberlain determined to alter the fiscal system of these islands he thereby found it necessary to maintain that British industries were dying; that if our present system is maintained, disaster and destruction must be the ultimate fate of the empire. The time that he performed so ably has been repeated with variations by the whole host of his lieutenants, and followers, and a chorus of Cassandra has sung our approaching doom in crashing and crushing harmony."

"Since the present Government came into office the Cassandra chorus has redoubled its efforts, convicting the administration of all the crimes in the calendar, and making our flesh creep with all the horrors that must follow if it is allowed to work its wicked will."

"Such is the prestige, however, of home investments, impaired but still so pre-eminent that they remain to

a certain extent a fancy article, the holding of which involves some sacrifice. And it may be some consolation to those of us who are not compelled by political exigencies to toll the passing-bell for our country's financial greatness to remember that quite reasonable economic influences have had something to do with these quite natural happenings, which are used so effectively by politicians of both parties."

Cassandra's prophecies came true, though no one believed them. The prophecies of the British croakers, though many have credited them, are being falsified by events. The budget lays no hand upon British industry, but seeks to free it from the strangle-hold of land monopoly.

THE ONTARIO FARMER FORGES AHEAD.

Ontario farmers are to be congratulated on the splendid and progressive showing in crop production, according to the official returns recently issued by the census and statistics office, Ottawa. The field crops of Canada for 1909 reached a market valuation of \$522,922,199, of which no less than \$200,598,000 was contributed by the Province of Ontario. The latter is not standing still either, as the return shows an increase of \$15,588,000 over 1908. Ontario's product is more than double that of any other one of the provinces of Canada, and if to the total were added, as might properly be done, the increased value accruing through feeding these crops and converting them into the more highly priced products of beef, mutton, bacon, butter, cheese, poultry, eggs, etc., the field crops of Ontario for the year would amount to about half, if not more, of those of the entire Dominion.

And the extent of her possible productive capacity in many directions is only beginning to be realized. The system of farming where live stock is fed and fertility returned to the soil also sustains its productiveness and assures a continuance of good crop yields—a contrast with the dwindling returns characteristic of the skin game of continuous grain growing. There is room and need for more people and skilled labor on our farms. There is every assurance of a continuance of the present profitable prices for farm products, which, with the many advantages of rural life under Ontario conditions, will more and more attract people to the country. The enthusiasm and improved methods now being applied to various lines of farming will during the next few years bring the greater advances ever witnessed in the province, and nowhere will this be more noticeable than in Western Ontario.

This city will never be perfect until Mr. Joe Lawrence has full control.

The London Times chides Sir Wilfrid Laurier for his friendly references to Germany. This is a real compliment to Sir Wilfrid.

The Mail and Empire, having accused Sir Wilfrid Laurier of every other crime in the calendar, now finds him guilty of blasphemy, because he quoted from the Scriptures. Nobody will ever accuse the Mail of drawing inspiration from the same source in its treatment of public men.

There are 4,000 cases of typhoid in Montreal, due to drinking raw river water. The theory that running water purifies itself in a short distance has been exploded. Communities are fortunate which, like London, draw their water from comparatively pure sources, and are in no need of artificial methods of purification.

The present Lord Durham is campaigning for the peers against the people. His distinguished ancestor, whose memory Canadians will always honor, became a political outcast, because he was too Radical even for the Whigs; but history has vindicated him. A family tree is often like any other—the higher up, the smaller the branches.

So far as abusive and insulting language can do so, the leaders and journals of the Unionist party from Mr. Balfour and the Times down, are striving to provoke a war with Germany. The Boer war gave the Unionists ten years of office. They would readily pick a quarrel with Germany for the same stakes.

There would be no housing problem in Montreal or elsewhere if there were even a few men of light and leading in each community like Rev. Patterson Smyth to give concrete expression to the protest which the poet made when he wrote:

God gave his creatures light and air
And water open to the skies;
Man locks them in a stifling lair
And wonders when his brother dies.

Says Lord Lansdowne: "They (the colonies) are stretching out their hands to us. How long are we going to be foolish enough not to grasp them while there is yet time?" This is a mischievous misrepresentation, so far as Canada is concerned. The Dominion will always stretch her hand to help the mother country, but she is not stretching it out for favors.

WELL—YES.
(Cleveland Leader.)
"If you want a thing well done"—
"Get an expert to do it for you. Ain't that more sense than what you were going to say?"

CHEAP AT THAT.
(Cassell's.)
Bung—So you have succeeded in tracing back my ancestry. What is your fee?
Genealogist—Twenty dollars for keeping quiet about them.

ANCESTOR OF PICTORIAL POST-CARDS.

(London Globe.)
It was in Switzerland that the mania for pictorial postcards first arose, and we well remember the astonishment evoked some dozen years ago at see-

ing at the Theodore Hut the excitement of a party of Germans upon their ascertaining that they could dispatch thence, via Italy, a sheaf of views of the Matterhorn. If one may judge from the very interesting collection of old Alpine prints now on view at the Alpine Club, Saville Row, our ancestors were also eager to carry away souvenirs of scenes unlike any to which they were accustomed, and of which the terrors and dangers were doubtless not unexaggerated. And so the Swiss, who were among the earliest to exploit uncovered engravings, provided them with material with a sufficient spice of exaggeration to satisfy those who stayed at home. These they dedicated to the amateurs of the marvels of nature, and for them they crowded into a single landscape a dozen Staubbachs, and any number of aiguilles and glaciers, with artists portraying them and peasants holding festivals beneath them.

FATHER TIME.

(Washington Star.)
Of Father Time's steady step along, Sometimes singin' a doleful song; Sometimes a-weepin' I'm a cloudy sky An' den ag in smilin' as he dances by. An' den young an' de old An' den stout an' slim When he lifts his time March along wif him.

It sound in de wind when de branches rock;
It sound in de tickin' of de old hall clock;
It's dar when de robin's note is hold,
Or de ol' dog's whinin' cause de weather's cold.
It stabs wif 'terly,
An' it change to 'late,
An' you's got to keep movin',
'Cause time won't wait.

How far he travels dar's none to say,
Nobody keep along wif him—not half way,
But his song, no matter if it's gay or bad,
Is de sweetest music dat is to be had.
So we steps along,
Wif our heads up high
As Father Time
Goes a-wingin' by.

GIVING AN IMITATION.

(London Opinion.)
"Well, dear, I hope you've been a little mother to your brother whilst I've been out."
"Oh, yes, I have. I've smacked him quite a lot!"

TRUE FRIENDSHIP.

(Pilegende Blaetter.)
"Why did you tell your friend that the dressmaker had totally ruined your dress?"
"Oh, I simply thought it would make her happy."

THE REASON.

(Cleveland Leader.)
"When a bunch of women get together, why do they all talk at once?"
"So they'll be able to get through and get home sometime."

DESERVING OF PITY.

(Chicago Record-Herald.)
Pity the sorrows of the man who has a disagreeable boss in the office and another at home.

CONSOLATION.

(Toronto News.)
Lord Denbigh says he feels lonely any day that he is not described as "an assassin, murderer, executioner or parasite." He should not repine. Perhaps somebody will call him a corporation lawyer.

SLEEPY.

(Washington Star.)
"Some folks said Uncle Eben, 'Is so hopeful of wakin' up an' findin' de self's famous dat dey puts in mos' o' de time goin' to sleep.'"

WELL POSTED.

(Detroit Free Press.)
"Is he a well posted man?"
"I should say so. He knows exactly what all this trouble with Nicaragua is about."

EVERY YEAR IS A FRESH BEGINNING.

(Peter Newell.)
Resolutions are for sale. In old January's shop; New and the year's new, or stale. Or revivals from last year's croak. Habits, whims and sins galore. May be checked outside the door.

FALLEN FROM GRACE.

(Galt Reformer.)
Mayor-Elect Geary, of Toronto, is a West Middlesex boy. It is hard to see how a man brought up in a Conservative home could be politically to the extent that Geary has.

LET IT STAY THERE.

(Caldwell News.)
The seven-day evening newspaper has come to stay on the other side of the line.

REAL WAR.

(New York Evening Post.)
The tragic fact that Mr. Winston Churchill and his mother are now being cut by his aristocratic friends once more, emphasizes the truth of General Sherman's description of war.

LIVING UP TO IT.

(Goderich Signal.)
Lord Milner's motto is "Damn the consequences." His lordship will probably carry it into effect when he reads the election returns.

A SIMILARITY.

(Chicago Post.)
"Have you ever noticed," asked the man with the rebellious eyebrows, "the likeness between the spiritual and business worlds?"
"I can't say that I have," replied the man with the monogram on his vest.

"Well, it's remarkable. Yesterday I heard a merchant and a minister both complaining that collections were poor."

THE SMITHS.

(London Chronicle.)
As to Smith, a correspondent points out that while there are now about 350,000 members of the great family in England alone, in Old Testament times, according to the First Book of Samuel, "there was no Smith throughout the land of Israel." This verse the late Bishop Wilberforce spotted as the hardest to find in the Bible to quote without smiling.

IMPERSONATION CHARGED.

Ottawa, Jan. 7.—Charles Kirk, one of the scrutineers in Monday's municipal elections, has given Mayor Hope-well the names of at least three men who were impersonated in Rideau ward, and the mayor has promised to take action to punish the guilty parties. The men impersonated were sent from the city, and the men who voted deliberately took the oath that they were the men whose names were entered on the roll. Interesting developments are expected as the men who brought the alleged impersonators to the polls are known.

KINGSMILL'S The Reliable Store KINGSMILL'S

Great Carpet Sale Now On

Carpets, Curtains, Rugs, Linoleums, Furniture Coverings, Etc.
Read this short list. Bring room measurements. Come Monday.

\$1.75 Axminsters, Sale Price \$1.25
This Axminster, "The Perfect Carpet," comes in crimson, two-tone greens and fawns; borders to match. It is our regular \$1.75 Axminster. Sale price.....\$1.25

65c Tapestries, Sale Price 48c
BORDERS TO MATCH.

Bargains in Rugs, Linoleums, Curtains and all Homefurnishings.
See Window Display.

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FIRE PROTECTION AND INSURANCE

Board of Trade Heard the Matter Discussed Last Night.

WELLS AND PRESSURE

Hon. Adam Beck Says There Will Be Plenty of Water When the Horton Street Scheme Is Completed.

Fire protection for London was one of the topics discussed at the meeting of the board of trade last evening, and a lot of valuable information was obtained from many sides. The census of opinion was that it would be better to wait until such a time as the new waterworks system was in first-class shape before making any demands on the underwriters. When it was demonstrated that there was plenty of water and good pressure, then the city would be in a position to dictate to the underwriters.

Paper By Mr. Angus.

The subject was introduced by Mr. Robert Angus, who read a paper on the subject of fire protection. He pointed out that London was rated a third-class city by the underwriters, and that there was a great lack of pressure when 10 streams were playing. As a result, the insurance rates were increased, and the businessmen in the congested district were compelled to pay \$40,000 a year more than formerly. The Globe-Casket Company fire was another glaring instance of the insufficiency of the fire protection of the city. There was plenty of water to be had now, but Mr. Angus did not think there would be any increased pressure. And the pressure were not better, the city would not secure any better fire protection. Mr. Angus advocated larger distributing mains throughout the city.

Advocates More Engines.

Added to that, the city should have three new fire engines. The cost of mains would be \$95,000, and the fire engines would cost \$18,000. This equipment would put London in class A. The annual expenditure on these improvements would be approximately \$10,000, and the businessmen on reduced insurance would save \$40,000 a year. It was a large item, in addition to having adequate protection. London was a long way behind other cities in fire protection. There had been serious losses from fire in Canada, but London had been so fortunate, more so than could be expected in the future. Mr. Angus thought the outskirts of the city were better protected than the city center.

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The Wells Scheme.

Mr. Beck then outlined his scheme, in which he pointed out that the normal capacity of the seventeen wells was 2,000,000 gallons, but in an emergency, such as a break in the Springbank main or a great fire, the quantity could be increased by forcing until it reached four millions, the quantity received from Springbank. Thus the city would have a duplicate system. The pressure, he anticipated, would be from 80 to 90 pounds. With that quantity of water, and that pressure, it would not be an easy task to convince the underwriters to reduce the rates on insurance.

Advocate Larger Mains.

Mr. Beck advocated larger distribution mains. He advised the commissioners to obtain the advice of a quantity of water, and that pressure, these mains. With this system, it would be an easy matter to have good pressure.

"I am positive that when my plant is in working order you will be able to throw ten streams of 200 gallons a minute," said Mr. Beck. "That should be sufficient."

Mr. Beck referred to certain changes he had made in the building. When his contractor had reached a certain point, he feared quicksand. The reservoir made five feet shallower, but was spread out until the capacity was the same, 1,000,000 gallons. As a result of this, \$3,000 had been thrown out of the cost of the building, and the efficiency was increased. He had closed two wells, and instead of turning over thirteen wells, as first intended, he had seventeen wells, all of excellent flow. He considered it might be advisable for the city to have a reserve.

High Pressure.

"It was originally intended to have high pressure in connection with this scheme," said Mr. Beck. "We have the plant. We have the water, and we have the room for the installation of such a system. For \$175,000 we can have high pressure, thus making the cost of the scheme \$200,000, over \$100,000 less than the scheme first voted on."

Non-Tariff Companies.

Mr. A. W. White advocated non-tariff companies. He thought that the underwriters raised the rates on the slightest excuse.

Mr. Alf Talbot suggested a conference between the board of trade, the city council, and other bodies, and the underwriters.

"When we get the new system in operation, with abundance of water and low rate of pressure, we can take the underwriters by the throat and enforce our demands," said Mr. J. W. Jones.

Mr. T. F. Kingsmill, jun., advocated a remark. He said that the city council had been offered that a large percentage of the fire in the city were due to badly kept cellars.

A vote of thanks was tendered. Mr. Angus on motion of Mr. F. E. Leonard and Mr. J. W. Jones.

WARM TRIBUTE

Continued from Page One.

me. Let me now and here offer my sincere thanks.

Coming as this invitation did from an organization in which all parties are represented, and all shades of opinion, I appreciate all the more the motive which has prompted you to forget the things in which we differ, simply to remember the things in which we are united, and the one thing of all in which we are united, is the welfare of our country, the pride which we have in its past, and the hope which we have for its future. You were kind enough, Mr. Chairman, to remind this audience a moment ago of a remark which I once offered, that the nineteenth century had been the century of the United States, and the twentieth would be the century of Canada. Everything that has taken place since seems to conform one in the opinion that this sentiment was not overstated, not too sanguine. Evidence here and there, now a few, but many—coming from all sides, and from all parts of this country, to the effect that during this twentieth century, which now only commences, Canada will fill the place which was so largely filled by the United States during the nineteenth century. Sir, I can say that I could wish for my country, for our country, no greater career, I have never made for my part, any other than this observation, that I have the deepest admiration for our American brothers. I can call them brothers since we spring from the same stock, or most of us do. I admire their pluck. I admire their courage. I admire their spirit of enterprise. But of all things I admire most of all their intense devotion to their country.

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never will be. A great conflagration is well nigh impossible here."

There is not one of the 80,000,000 of Americans who are now on the soil of the United States who is not convinced, who does not say, who does not say on every occasion that his country is the country of all countries. And it is true—if we do not take Canada into the reckoning. We cannot boast of the variety of climate and production which they can boast of in the United States. We do not grow lemons—(great applause and laughter)—or oranges, but we are blessed with a cold northern climate which produces strong men and strong women. If there is one fault which I might urge against the Americans it would be that, perhaps, in the appreciation of their country they are very apt to exaggerate, and if I had one citizen it is that they do not sufficiently appreciate their country.

"When I was a boy, I lived in a small town in the State of New York. I was a student in the University of Toronto. I do not know anything so beautiful as a beautiful winter day in Toronto—your country have everything in Toronto—just like we have in Ottawa, in Montreal, or in Quebec, where the rays of the sun extend upon the white snow which glides as far as the eye can go towards the horizon. There is nothing beautiful winter night, when the lights of all cities are studded with millions of lights never seen to such advantage in any other country."

"Beneath this can't be in proper time we know that there is a soil to produce crops perhaps equalled but not surpassed in any of those lands which claim to be blessed with perpetual summer."

Concluding, Sir Wilfrid said: "It cannot be expected that the policy which I have followed in the past, and which I may follow in the future, can be appreciated in the same light by all. It is not in human nature that it should be. But I can entertain the hope that I may continue to enjoy the esteem of those who wish me, and the respect of those who differ from me. I shall reach the only ambition which I have for in my public life. In the Indian mutiny, when the rate of English rule in India was trembling in the balance, a distinguished general, Lord Dufferin, died, and I was only inscription which he left behind to have on his tomb was: 'Here lies Henry Lawrence, who tried to do his duty. No greater incentive could be present in the mind of any man than to try to do one's duty by one's country, and I desire, for my part, no other mention in connection with my name than that I have tried to do the best that was in me for Canada, its prosperity, and its glory.' (Loud and prolonged cheers.)"

Conservative's Eulogy.

Mr. A. K. McNaught in unveiling the portrait of Sir Wilfrid, said he was glad that the day had passed away when a Canadian had to look upon a political opponent as an enemy, unworthy even of decent treatment. Ever since I have known Sir Wilfrid I have felt that in him I have had a personal friend, for he has given evidence of this time and again when I have gone to him to ask for something in connection with Canada's great national exhibition, by always according me an immediate and sympathetic hearing. Not only this, but his promises to me in this regard have always been carried out. Sir Wilfrid may have his faults, like the rest of us, but in my opinion, his virtues far outweigh his faults.

"While I do not pretend to see eye to eye with him in political matters, I do admire him as a man, and so far as my personal judgment goes, there is today no more loyal man in the life of Canada. He has been in the limelight of Canadian political life for over a quarter of a century, and yet no breath of scandal has ever connected with his name. During his career Sir Wilfrid has not only much to elevate the public life of this country by his personal example, and has also performed such distinguished public services as will give him an assured place in history as a great Canadian."

Mr. McNaught paid tribute to Sir Wilfrid's statesmanship, and loyalty, and to his work in unifying the races in Canada. The verdict of the historian of the future and of posterity would be that the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was not only a leader to the French-Canadian people, but true and loyal British subject who did his duty to his country as he saw it; and was worthy to rank alongside of those other great pathfinders of empire whose names all true Canadians delight to honor and revere. (Loud cheers.)

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in replying, expressed his pleasure at hearing the kind words said of him by Mr. McNaught, his old friend. He felt specially indebted to Mr. McNaught, because "now I have

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GEO. McCROOM, Inspector.
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J. F. MAINE, Supt. Industrial Branch