

London Advertiser.

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LONDON, THURSDAY, DEC. 10.

School Board Reforms.

In Toronto, where the usual apathy as to the personnel of municipal bodies has prevailed as in other cities, there is a stirring of public interest over the changes in the educational administration of the city. Hitherto there have been three separate educational boards—public school, high school and technical school, with a combined membership of forty or fifty. The public school board has been elective, and the other boards appointive. All three are to be amalgamated next year, and the new board will consist of twenty members, elected by general vote, the ward system being abolished. An experiment will be made in cumulative voting. Every elector will have twelve votes, and he may distribute these as he pleases, providing he does not give more than three for any one candidate. If he happens to have a strong preference for four out of the twelve candidates, he may give three votes to each of the four. It is claimed that this plan will enable a minority or a particular class of the community to concentrate its support on the candidates of its choice, so that special interests will have representation on the board. The four controllers of the city, who will form the executive of the city council, will be elected by a similar method, every elector being eligible to cast four votes, which he may give to one candidate or distribute them as he chooses. Whether this system will work out as satisfactory as its advocates profess to think remains to be demonstrated. No doubt many voters will be puzzled and a good many irregular ballots will greet the scrutineers.

The fact that the school management of the city will be intrusted to a small board, directly responsible to the people, has appealed to many prominent citizens, who realize the necessity of having competent candidates in the field. A citizens' educational committee was formed, composed of representative men and women, who have selected twelve names to place before the electors. Among the twelve is the general manager of the Bank of Commerce, Byron F. Walker. It is a good sign when men of his standing will offer their services to the electors. Whether the candidates of the citizens' committee are successful or not, the movement is a gratifying token that the best thought of the community is beginning to take an interest in municipal problems.

There is no reason why the board of education in this city should not be wholly elective, excepting the representative of the separate school board. The board consists of fifteen members—eight public school trustees elected by wards, six high school trustees appointed by the council, and one representative of the separate school board. The appointment of high school trustees is a survival of the old system of independent public and high school boards, the former being elected and the latter appointed. The two boards having amalgamated, the high school trustees should be chosen by the electors, to whom they should be as directly responsible as are the public school trustees. The electors are as competent to make a proper choice as is the city council, which too often appoints trustees because of their party or personal pull. There is no excuse, either, for retaining the ward system in school board elections. Why should the aldermen be elected by general vote and the public school trustees by wards? The board of education might be reduced also to ten or twelve members without impairing its efficiency.

Mr. Sifton's Sensible Speech.

Hon. Clifford Sifton's speech before the Canadian Club, Ottawa, is evoking much comment in Great Britain and Canada. It is the first deliverance on Chamberlain's policy from a member of the Dominion Government since Mr. Chamberlain opened his campaign. A sojourn of the better part of a year in Great Britain, in connection with the Alaska boundary tribunal, during which he was in touch with the official and public life of the country, gave Mr. Sifton a wide opportunity to study the conditions of the fiscal problem. He admits "that a British duty on grain from foreign countries would be a considerable benefit to Canada by enhancing the price of Canadian grain and stimulating its production." The trouble was, however, that Canadians did not know exactly what they would be asked to give in return for a British preference. "Until there is a decision upon this question, and we meet the representatives of Great Britain for the purpose of negotiating; until we find what their proposals are, and what they are going to ask us to do, we cannot know, and we do not know, what they wish us to do, and they cannot know, and do not know, whether we shall be able to meet their wishes or not." Some things had been suggested in Great Britain to which Canada would not agree. Said Mr. Sifton:

"One suggestion was that we would not establish new manufactures; that we would refrain from establishing new manufactures for the purpose of giving the British manufacturer a chance to develop upon lines in which we are not at present competitors. I do not fancy that anybody in Canada will seriously suggest the adoption of an idea of that sort. (Cheers.) The idea of six millions of people, with the natural resources we have, drawing the line, saying that they were not going to manufacture anything except certain things which they produced at present, is, from our standpoint, too preposterous to

think about. (Applause.) I merely mention that as an indication of the fact that there is very great difficulty, and I sympathize myself with the difficulty, on the part of English public men in discussing these questions, in getting an accurate idea of the conditions in Canada, and they are hampered to a very considerable extent when those conditions are brought into the discussion as an important factor in the conclusions at which they are trying to arrive."

Mr. Sifton pointed out that the Government of Canada made certain propositions last year, and if Great Britain should accept these the bargain would be struck, but if she asked for something additional, Canada would have to consider whether it could be granted. He had felt humiliated at times to find Canada represented in the British press as a squalling infant, crying for preferential trade and threatening to break up the empire unless its demands were granted. He spurned the suggestion that Canadian loyalty could be bribed or bought.

Mr. Sifton's attitude, we take it, is that of every Canadian who realizes that Imperial preferential trade has a business as well as a sentimental side. Some enthusiasts profess to see no difficulties in the way and try to defend themselves and others into the belief that Canada is to get a preference in the British market free of cost. There must be give and take and Canada is entitled to know what she is expected to give before she assents to any tariff scheme or treaty. Mr. Sifton strikes a note of national self-respect when he says that Canada should be prepared to give as much as she gets. This is a rebuke to some classes in this country who hurrah for the Chamberlain policy and would shut British manufacturers out of the Canadian market if they had the power.

The Opposition expects to carry North Renfrew on a pair of bobs—Bob Birmingham and Bob Gamey.

The surveying for the Grand Trunk Pacific goes on apace, just as if the London Free Press had not declared the road would not be built.

President Roosevelt tells Congress that the United States should be well satisfied with the Alaska boundary award. Roosevelt is too fond of making sensational statements.

Lord Onslow repeats the slander that the admission of Canadian cattle to the British market would introduce disease. Why not be honest and congressional? The embargo is designed to prevent Canadian competition. Are they so ashamed of protection in England that they dare not give it its proper name?

The prices brought at the provincial timber sale yesterday were the largest on record. The highest estimate by the Commissioner of Crown Lands was \$2,500,000, but the sale realized \$3,577,337.50. The standing pine on the crown lands of Ontario is rapidly increasing in value, as the quantity decreases. A wise policy of reforestation will preserve a great public asset, and the Government is alive to the problem.

Bob Birmingham is running Mr. Whitney's campaign in North Renfrew. He is the man who two or three years ago threatened to reveal damaging secrets, if the Conservative party did not give him back pay as organizer. Prior to that he became famous as the author of the telegram, "He was a first-class man in North Bruce," referring to Freeman, who was convicted in Winnipeg of wholesale ballot frauds in the election of 1896.

Gotham a Polyglot Town.

[New York Sun.]

There are 66 languages spoken in New York. This may not seem so many when one knows that there were 22 spoken here before the revolution. New York has always been a gathering place of the nations. There is one school, the one at Mulberry Bend, where children of 29 nationalities are acquiring such Americanism as may be instilled into them before they are big enough to get their working papers. There are 49 newspapers published in foreign languages in New York.

The Minstrel Boy.

[Thomas Moore.]

The minstrel boy to the war has gone,
In the ranks of death you'll find him;
His father's sword he has girded on,
And his wild harp slung behind him.
"Land of song!" said the warrior bard,
"Though all the world were to betray thee,
One sword at least, thy rights shall guard,
One faithful harp shall praise thee!"

The minstrel fell, but the foeman's chain
Could not bring him proud soul undying;
The harp he loved ne'er spoke again,
For he tore its chords asunder,
And said: "No chains shall sully thee,
Thou soul of love and bravery!
Thy songs were made for the pure and free,
Thy shall never sound in slavery!"

"Fiscalitis" an Ancient.

[New York World.]

It has been discovered, apropos of Mr. Chamberlain's disturbance, that "fiscalitis" is a disease that flourished in England as far back as the fourteenth century, only the tax that was then imposed upon foreign goods was a broken head to the maker of them.

When Wat Tyler's people entered Southwark in 1381 their anger was so great against the Flemish weavers and other workers that they made the pronunciation of "bread and cheese" a test of the honest home-worker, and whoever failed to pass it was deemed a Fleming and put to death. A century later Cade's Kentishmen had for one of their cries, "The foreigners forestall the market, and so Englishmen want to starve."

About 1585 England was called the Asylum Christian, so many were the foreign weavers, brewers, silk workers and jewelers who settled there, and a popular saying in Henry VIII's reign, "The French teach us how to make hats and how to take them off," shows the importance of foreign-made goods.

Sips From the Punch Bowl.

[Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.]

Whisky cannot talk, but it tells on a man.
A single quill often makes a goose of many men.

Perfectly Safe.

[Philadelphia Telegraph.]

Gentleman (to peddler)—Call those safety matches? Why, they won't light at all!
Peddler—Well, wot could yer 'ave safer?

The Pig in a Poke.

[Hamilton Times.]

Mr. Sifton is right in wishing to know what Chamberlain will ask of Canada before unqualifiedly approving of his plans, and in declaring against any scheme which calls for the surrender of any part of Canada's self-government. There should be no uncertain note from Canadian statesmen on these points.

Some Pumpkins Now.

[Toronto Star.]

A few years ago Canada was little prized by Great Britain, and trade proposals made to Washington were rejected without courtesy. Today England is discussing the abandonment of her free trade policy to draw Canada closer to her, and the United States, for the first time in her history, begins to worry about her trade with us—begins to value it, and to wonder how at least cost she can retain it.

U. S. AND COLOMBIA

Americans Will Prevent Invasion of Panama.

With respect to the entry of Colombian troops into Panama was said yesterday to be to prevent a conflict before it commenced. When seen today Lieut. Gen. Young, chief of staff, authorized the statement to be made that the war department was ready to dispatch troops to the isthmus on short notice should their presence be demanded. Although the statement heretofore has been denied, it is learned that the department has taken notice of the repeated reports that Colombian troops were assembling at different points with the avowed purpose of making a hostile demonstration against Panama, and has perfected all military plans to repel such an invasion. Gen. Young said that should he be called upon to assist the navy it would not be necessary to send to the isthmus more than a regiment or two. The joint army and navy board yesterday discussed the isthmian situation. Both the army and navy are now in a state of preparedness for any conflict with Colombia which might arise.

MUSIC AND DRAMA

"MORE THAN QUEEN."

The Montreal Gazette says, concerning "More Than Queen," which appears at the Grand for matinee and evening performances Saturday: "So familiar to every household is the name of Napoleon Bonaparte that even today people are eager to see a man who can impersonate the little Corsican."



An i. Sutherland as Josephine in "More Than Queen" at the Grand on Saturday.

can as he was before his glory faded. More Than Queen, at Proctor's this week, is one of these performances, and William Humphrey has the ability and personal appearance to fill it fittingly. Miss Anne Sutherland, as Empress Josephine, is well adapted to this great part. The whole performance is carefully prepared, well staged and particularly ably acted.

"A COUNTRY GIRL."

Great preparations will be made at

THE OLD RELIABLE

Absolutely Pure
THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE

Washington, Dec. 10. — The policy of the United States navy department is to effect that Colombian naval vessels are participating in the movement toward the isthmus, but it is said at the United States navy department that they are so insignificant in power and size that the smallest of the United States warships now on the east side of the isthmus could speedily terminate their activities.

Timber Limit Sales.

Toronto, Dec. 10. — All previous records were broken by the sales of timber limits held in the legislative chamber at the Parliament buildings yesterday. The 826 square miles of limits sold at \$3,577,337.50, the average price per mile being \$4,450. The largest amount realized at a previous sale was \$2,315,000 on Oct. 12, 1892, when 623 miles were sold at an average price of \$3,657.18.

Denmark in Line.

Copenhagen, Dec. 10. — King Christian of Denmark, following the recommendation of his ministers, has recognized the Republic of Panama as an independent state.

Use Lever's Dry Soap (a powder) to wash woollens and flannels,—you'll like it.

UP-TO-DATE SELECTIONS OF
LADIES' NOVELTIES

Our stock of Ladies' Novelties was never more complete than at this season, excellent quality and low prices being inseparably linked.

Ladies' Handkerchiefs.

Our Handkerchief counter was never better prepared to serve the Christmas shopper—never able to save you more money.

Finest quality Irish linen, artistically hand-worked, hand embroidered Handkerchiefs. Specials for the Christmas trade at..... 75c to \$2 25
Ladies' Embroidered Handkerchiefs, especially good for holiday gifts at..... 12½c to 18c

Holiday Neckwear.

Our great holiday selling of Ladies' Fine Neckwear has commenced. We have on hand a very handsome and well assorted stock of Ladies' Collars.

Silk Chiffon, beaded applique, with silk velvet trimming, all sizes and colors, at from 25c to \$3 00

Ladies' Hose Supporters.

The "Foster" Hose Supporter, silk elastic and silk top, silk finish, silver buckles, at..... \$1 25

The "Foster" Hose Supporter, satin finish with silver buckles, at..... 75c

The "Hookon" Corset Hose Supporter, at..... 25c to 50c

The "Grecian" Pose Hose Supporter... 40c

The "York" Rubber Button Hose Supporter, velvet grip, all sizes. Children's sizes..... 10c

Leather Novelties.

We have just received a handsome new stock of Pocketbooks, Chatelaine and Wrist Bags, Card Cases, Shopping Bags, etc., all made of real leather.

KINGSMILL'S

Dundas St., LONDON.

a copy of resolution which the Toronto Board were forwarding to the Ontario Government, any which they asked the local trust to approve.

The resolutions asked the Government to devote a larger proportion of the funds arising from succession duties to the aid of the hospitals of the province, and also to set aside a certain quantity of timber lands as a source of revenue to be devoted to the same purpose. The Government to amend the charities act so that aid may be given to the hospitals in behalf of persons paying towards their maintenance \$3 50 per week, and that all hospitals of the province shall be placed upon the same footing as regards the basis of computing the Government aid; and that in view of the increased cost of hospital maintenance, the charge to patients in the public wards ought to be raised to 50 cents per day.

OTHER MATTERS.

Superintendent Heard was instructed to ascertain the cost of installing a qualified dispensing chemist at the hospital, so that the house surgeons may be relieved of this branch of the work.

A check of \$59 was received from Mr. W. A. Martin, secretary of the Irish Benevolent Society, for the further furnishing of the room fitted up by the society in the hospital.

The Ladies' Advisory Board were given permission to hold a usual Christmas entertainment for the benefit of the patients. In this connection the Advisory Board especially thanked Miss Mayou for the manner in which the funds handed over to her last year had been expended.

Chairman Lehart, Mayor Peck and Trustee Screenshot were present, the

meeting yesterday being the first Mr. Screenshot attended since he was chosen trustee.

TREASURE OF A CONSTABLE

Officer Carried Part of Human Ear for Some Time.

Finally Lost It—Indian Row Ventilated—A Conviction.

A large amount of contradictory evidence was given at the sitting of the county court yesterday and this morning, when Martin Ninham was brought up on a charge of assaulting David Williams. Both were of the same tribe, Oneidas, of whom there were a large number in the courtroom. The story adduced in the evidence was one of a fierce battle between the two braves. Differences had existed, it appears, and when Ninham went to Williams, asking the latter to take back the statement that he was afraid to fight, the result was a bad mix-up, both being severely punned. Several witnesses were called, and all gave evidence rather against Ninham.

When the defendant was in the box he was asked what caused the row and answered unhesitatingly, "Whisky." The first time a Middlesex constable was known to have carried part of a human ear around with him came to light. The constable arrested Ninham and for some time carried the part of the ear Williams was alleged to have bitten off, finally losing it.

Lengthy addresses were given by Mr. Ed Meredith, K. C., and by Crown Attorney Magee.

The jury was out for some time, returning with a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation for mercy. Court was then adjourned, the sentence being reserved.

Was Unable to do any Work for Four or Five Months.

Was Weak and Miserable.

Thought She Would Die.

Doctor Could Do No Good.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills

Effect of a Complete Cure in the Case of MRS. CAROLINE HUTT, Morrisburg, Ont.

She says: "It affords me great pleasure to speak about what your Heart and Nerve Pills have done for me. About a year ago I was taken ill with heart trouble and got so bad that I was unable to do any work for four or five months. I got so weak and miserable that my friends thought I was going to die. The doctor attended me for some time but I continued to grow worse. At last I decided to try Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and after taking two boxes they made me well and strong again. I cannot praise them too highly to those suffering from nervous weakness and heart troubles."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50 cents per box, or 3 for \$1.25 at all dealers, or THE T. MILBURN CO., Limited, TORONTO, ONT.

Ed Meredith, K. C., and by Crown Attorney Magee. The jury was out for some time, returning with a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation for mercy. Court was then adjourned, the sentence being reserved.

Christmas Gifts.

Feather cushions, 50 cents each; down cushions, tea caddies, feather pillows, in art tickings. Feathers sold by the pound. Mattresses, springs, iron beds, large stock of stoves at J. F. Hunt & Sons', feather pillow and mattress manufacturers, 583 Richmond Street, north. Telephone 397.

London to New York and Philadelphia

In going to the above points you will find the Grand Trunk and Lehigh Valley will give you the best service. Five fast express trains daily from London. For tickets and Pullman call at G. T. R. city or station ticket office, 63-6.

Coughs, colds, hoarseness, and other throat ailments are quickly relieved by Vapo-Cresol Inhalant in a 50-cent bottle. All drug stores.

The Northeastern Railway of England is building at its York works two automobiles to run on its railway, each of which will carry a complete apparatus for generating its own motive power. The carriage approaches closely to the train type. In fact, the vehicle will be a train saloon with an engine compartment at one end and a conductor's compartment at the other, says the London Times.



Dainty shirtwaists and all the nicer and more delicate articles of feminine wearing apparel are made delightfully clean and fresh with Sunlight Soap when used according to the directions on the package. In that way the best results are obtained, although used in the ordinary way Sunlight Soap demonstrates its superiority to common soaps in a marked manner. Sunlight Soap is made of pure oils and fats and is absolutely free from any injurious ingredients.

SUNLIGHT SOAP

ASK FOR THE OCTAGON BAR
Sunlight Soap washes the clothes white and won't hurt the hands.
LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED, TORONTO.

A communication was received from the secretary of the Toronto General Hospital Board of Trustees, enclosing

THE HOSPITAL TRUST WILL
THIS YEAR HAVE A SURPLUS

Superintendent Heard Makes a Gratifying Statement—Statistical Report for Year.

Supt. Heard, of Victoria Hospital, yesterday presented his report for the year ending Sept. 30, 1903, to the Trust, at its regular meeting.

There was much interesting information in the report, including the statement that during the year 1,703 patients had been treated. Mr. Heard, by way of comparison, pointing out that ten years ago but 600 patients were treated in the institution. Mr. Heard also stated that the financial statement this year would show a surplus.

The report showed that the receipts for the year were as follows: Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1902, for maintenance \$568 76; Ontario Government maintenance grant \$1,894 57; city of London grant or in payment of patients' maintenance and extraordinary repairs \$15,550 00; County of Middlesex \$2,841 08; patients \$19,511 73; income from endowments, etc., \$491 16; other sources

\$153 26; bank overdraft, Sept. 30, 1903, \$700 48; total \$54,901 20.

STATISTICS OF PATIENTS.

The annual statistical return for the year was as follows: Patients remaining in institution on Oct. 1, 1902, 907; patients admitted during the year, 1,572; births during the year, 41; total patients under treatment during the year, 344 males, 359 females; total, 1,703; discharged, 1,481; deaths, 90; patients remaining on evening of Sept. 30, 1903, 117.

The religion of the patients was given as follows: Protestants, 1,548; Roman Catholics, 123; other, 27. The nationalities—Canadian, 1,356; English, 145; Irish, 62; Scotch, 32; United States, 62; others, 26. The patients came from the following places: City of London, 1,332; County of Middlesex, 175; other counties, 135; United States, 35; other countries, 5.

MORE GOVERNMENT AID.

A communication was received from the secretary of the Toronto General Hospital Board of Trustees, enclosing