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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1909.

THE DRIFT TO THE TOWN.
James J. Hill, the United States railway magnate, tells the American Bankers' Association that the United States will within the next ten years be importing instead of exporting wheat, unless the movement from the farms to the cities and towns is promptly checked. The farm, Mr. Hill points out, is the country's main reliance, every other activity depending upon it. The farms are now adding annually over \$8,000,000,000 to the total of the country's assets—a total which, unlike that of manufacturing and other industries, represents not value conferred by human labor upon some material already existing, but value actually created out of elemental things.

What Mr. Hill complains of is the failure of people to realize practically the declining status of agriculture. They are misled by the statistics of farm values, and products, mounting annually by great leaps, into thinking that this absolute increase implies a relative advance of this industry as compared with others. When he contends that exactly the opposite is the case, Mr. Hill refers not merely to the quality and results of tillage, but to the setting of the human tide away from the cultivated field and toward the factory gates or the city slums. This, he says, is something whose consequences for evil are as certain as if the aggregate deposits in all the banks of the country were decreasing by a fixed percentage every year, while the city population, which thrives only by making drafts upon the land and cannot live a year after these cease to be honored, rises at its expense. Yet, says Mr. Hill, not only is such a crisis approaching, but is being hastened by legislative stimulation in favor of other industries while overlooking the greatest of all.

Statistics quoted went to show that in 1790 only about 3.4 per cent of the American people lived in towns; that at the time of the civil war the percentage had risen to 16, and that in 1900 more than 31 per cent of the population was urban. Mr. Hill is confident that the coming census will show the portentous change to have proceeded in the last ten years with accelerated speed. In spite, he says, of the warnings of economists, the amelioration of farm life, the opening of new and attractive employment on the land through the spread of irrigation and the growth of the fruit industry, the encouragement of public men and the wider dissemination of agricultural education, the percentage of the population who work on the farm constantly declines. Mr. Hill predicts that if this proceeds too far business and commercial breakers will be long overtake the nation, and he appeals to the farmer to take the soil, and to the bankers to discourage the movement of the farmers to the cities and towns.

TREE CULTURE IN THE WEST.

The recent annual meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association at Regina will doubtless receive interest in tree planting in the west. This association has proven a great aid to the forestry branch of the interior department in its efforts at afforestation in the prairie provinces. Much has been accomplished during the past few years. It is not many years since the Dominion Government undertook the work of educating the settlers of the west as to the value of tree culture, particularly in a country where forests are unknown. A beginning was made by the department procuring a small supply of young trees, which were offered free of charge to farmers who would agree to plant them on their farms and give the necessary cultivation. Barely a dozen men in the whole of the Northwest Territories accepted the offer when first made. The department persevered, and from this small beginning the work, has steadily advanced, until last spring, upwards of two and a half million trees were sent out from the forestry nursery station at Indian Head, to farmers of the west. This policy the Government continues.

The plan followed is simple enough. In the first place, the farmer is required to prepare his ground, and must make application a year in advance for the trees. Then one of the department's inspectors examines the ground and prepares a rough sketch of the farm, showing the location of buildings and the most suitable place and manner in which to plant the trees. The winter months are devoted to working out these sketches to a scale, showing the number of trees of various species required for planting, and how they should be planted, and the preparation of necessary instructions. If the farmer has properly carried out his preparation work, the trees are shipped to him when the time for planting comes around. An inspector visits the farm subsequently, giving necessary advice, and if at the end of a couple of years the farmer is found to have faithfully performed his part and he desires more trees he is given them. When properly attended to the trees invariably flourish.

The delegates to the association's convention, accompanied by a number of other persons, visited the Indian Head station, where what five years ago was an open prairie has been transformed into a beautiful spot by the planting of belts of trees, which in turn provide shelter for other species of trees as well as flowers and shrubs. The experimental work carried on there is interesting in the extreme, and shows what can be accomplished in the way of afforestation by properly directed efforts.

JAPAN IN KOREA.

In spite of Prince Ito's assurance to the contrary, there are strong reasons for believing that Japan is following a policy of conquest in Korea. The convention of July 12 last invests Japan with a degree of power in Korea with a little short of actual annexation. All that is now left the Koreans is control of their home, commercial, agriculture and education departments, while Japan secures control of the military power, finance, foreign affairs, judiciary and communications of Korea. The abolition of the Korean war office is not matter for surprise, seeing that the Korean army was disbanded a couple of years ago, making a ministry of war, with a highly-paid staff, an anomaly and a useless expense. On the whole the Koreans are well aware that the change of regime must necessarily mean an improvement on the old system notorious for bribery and maladministration.

The concessions granted her give Japan a tremendous base for her projects on the mainland, in connection with which the trenches she has thrown up in the Korean peninsula, which to her is the natural bridge leading across to the coveted Manchuria, must be borne in mind. In her recent treaty with Russia Japan declined to follow Russia's example in recognizing Chinese sovereignty over Manchuria in accordance with the Portsmouth treaty. The question of policing the Antung-Mukden lines was among the points left in abeyance. In effect this railroad is a prolongation of the Korean trunk line, connecting Fusan, Seoul and Wiju, and it is as such—that is, as connecting Japan across Korea with Manchuria—that it provoked the stubborn struggles of which only the first phase recently came to an end with the apparent defeat of China. The question of Chinese sovereignty in South Manchuria, however, must sooner or later be met; the issue is only postponed.

Japan's consolidation of power in Korea will show at an early date whether it includes actual progress in which the Koreans will share. It is by such pioneer work only that Japan will be able to build up a solid bulwark for herself from which to make good her claims to Oriental imperialism.

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PAUPERISM.

A report has been made public which has been awaited with keen interest by the people of the United Kingdom. It is that of Hon. John Burns, president of the Local Government Board, and it deals with the first year's operation of the old age pension scheme. It shows that the number of pensions payable in England on March 26 last was 369,037, and in Wales 24,663. The total for the whole of the United Kingdom was 647,494.

Mr. Burns reports that in the first few months over 400,000 claims had to be dealt with by the committees, but in spite of the fact that the work was unfamiliar to them, and that it had to be done at high pressure, it appears to have been zealously and efficiently carried out. Warm praise is given the pension officers, whose work during the first few months must have been performed at great personal sacrifice.

The section of the report dealing with the administration of the poor law shows that the general decline in the number of persons receiving relief which occurred in 1907, was not maintained last year. In the first half of the year pauperism ranged between 0.6 and 3.4 per cent in excess of the figures for the corresponding period of 1907, and after a slight decline in the summer the excess rose to over 5 per cent in November, declining in December. The total number of persons in England and Wales receiving relief on Jan. 1 last was 959,848, or 31.17 more than in the previous year. The proportion per thousand of the population was 27.2, as against 26.6 on Jan. 1, 1908, or higher than any rate shown for the corresponding dates in the past ten years, with the exception of 1905.

Including the special classes of insane and casual paupers, there were

on Jan. 18 last 35,700 more indoor paupers and 34,976 more outdoor than on July 18, 1908—increases of 15.5 and 6.8 per cent respectively in the half-year. The total expenditure on poor relief in England and Wales for the year ended Lady Day, 1908, was \$71,542,130, or \$1,756,010 more than in 1906-07. These are melancholy results of trade depression, but the worst is now believed to be over.

Paupers are excluded from the benefits of old age pensions, but the Government intends to amend the act next year, so that the fact of having received charity will not disqualify a man or woman of 70 years from receiving the pension. This will greatly and permanently reduce the number of paupers and the expenditure upon poor relief.

Lord Rosebery says he has not left the party, but that the party has left him. He is right. He has been standing still while the party has been moving with the times. If he still calls himself a Liberal, he is like the raw recruit who complained that everybody else in the line of march was out of step.

PAST THE 10,000 MARK.
[Buffalo Express.]
This autumn the length of the Canadian Pacific Railway lines in Canada will cross the ten-thousand-mile mark. The road has 9,575 miles of track, and is building 403 additional miles, most of which will be completed this season. Including controlled roads in the United States, the management operates 14,501 miles of track.

CHALLENGED.
[Puck.]
"Are you a lady dat has de prize purp?"
"I am de owner of Pasquita, winner of de blue ribbon for three consecutive years, if that's what you mean."
"Dat's it. Well, I lives at de lower end of de avenue, and dis is me purp, Runt, and de boys have raised a purse of two dollars and twenty-eight cents dat says he's de champion of dis ward. Now, if youse don't let yer purp an' him fight widin two weeks, de title goes to Runt by default."

THE PACE THAT KILLS.
[Philadelphia Record.]
How many of the busy men of the country will take warning from the fate of Edward H. Harriman and seek succor from business cars ere it is too late? Quite likely none. Harriman's untimely end was not the first warning these men of large affairs and ceaseless energy have received. Rogers and Gould and Flower—all three paid the penalty of a too strenuous life. They were literally "worked to death."

COOK AND PEARY.
[Hamilton Herald.]
Peary asserts that his rival, Cook, "has simply handed the public a good bluff." Well, the bluff will have to be assayed by experts. In the meantime it will be unfair to class Cook as a swindler on the unsupported word of Peary. If he is a swindler he is a remarkably plausible one, for the Dutch scientists and Arctic experts (and in Denmark they know a lot about Arctic exploration) accept Dr. Cook at his own valuation.

HIS HEART DESIRE.
[Los Angeles Express.]
I would not be a millionaire.
With seeds of cash to bother me;
Such wealth requires too much care,
Too many worries here and there.
That rich I would not be.
I only crave a modest sum
To keep from getting on the bum.
I would not be a magnate grim.
And side in state from day to day;
I envy not the likes of him.
Though I could pamper every whim
If I were built that way.
Enough to pay my wife's way through
Down at the beach one month would do.
I am not seeking after wealth.
By ways both tricky, dark and vain;
To get a bank account by stealth
Is not conducive to one's health.
It is unrighteous gain.
But oh, I'd like to roll in bills,
To spend a week out in the hills.

MUSICAL COMEDY.
[Illustrated Bits.]
The Author (to the leading lady)—Excuse me, but last night you layed the third act first. I don't think anyone noticed it, but it shows a want of system.

EARLY FASHION NOTE.
[Illustrated Bits.]
"Why did Edo give Adam the apple?"
"I suppose she wanted to get rid of the fruit so as to wear the basket for a hat."

LOST OPPORTUNITY.
[Boston Transcript.]
Wife—I remember the night you proposed to me, I bent my head and said nothing.
Hub (comfortingly)—I know it worries you, dear; but never mind, you've made up for it since.

CONVINCING ARGUMENT.
[Toronto Star.]
Farmers are fighting the hydro-electric line with shotguns and injunctions. The latter method is perhaps more modern, but at the same time the yawning muzzle of an able-bodied shotgun is extremely convincing.

WORKED BADLY IN ENGLAND.
[New York Times.]
There is at least one Englishman who has concluded after trial that he does not like American ideas.
He is a London drygoods merchant, who returned from the United States with notions about predestination being the chief of time remarkably developed. He brought with him a number of cards bearing the excellent printed maxim, "Do It Now," and hung these up in his office and about his store.

Within a fortnight of the advent of the cards the chief cashier departed with the sum of \$9,000, three clerks and deputations from two departments waited on the proprietor with requests for increased salaries, and his best lady typewriter eloped with a business-like and good-looking shop walker.

The cards have been removed.
TO BE CONGRATULATED.
[Hamilton Spectator.]
French-Canadian aldermen of Montreal have denounced Hon. Mr. Lemieux for his refusal to grant and municipal corruption. We congratulate Hon. Mr. Lemieux.

THE RETURN OF HALLEY'S COMET.
[Boston Monitor.]
Halley's comet, the sighting of which has been announced by Professor Wolff, of Heidelberg University, was discovered by Sir Isaac Newton's friend, Edmund Halley, LL.D., F.R.S., one of

CORSETS
New model in C-C A la Grace Corsets, long hip and skirt, medium bust, four garters, a handsome corset... \$1.50

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO.
THE BUSY STORE

Ladies' High-Class Tailoring Dept.
Man tailors; style and workmanship guaranteed. Select your materials today, and leave your order for a tailored suit.

SATURDAY A GREAT SHOPPING DAY HERE

Some of Our New Tailored Suits for Women

Fair Week presages the beginning of fall, and urges women to get heavier suits and coats. We are well-pleased with our preliminary fall stocks, which show all the variety that women can ask.

Ladies' Tailored Suits at \$12.50

Smart Autumn Costumes of Fine Quality Imported Venetian, in black, brown, navy and green. The coat is 40 inches long, semi-fitting; lined throughout and finished with self buttons. Full-gored skirt. Perfect in fit and finish. Special... **\$12.50**

Other Tailored Suits at **\$15.00, \$20.00, \$22.50, \$25.00 to \$35.00.**

New Winter Coat Model

Ladies' Broadcloth Coats, 54 inches long; half-fitting style; new military collar; self-strapping on front and back. Colors are navy, brown, taupe and black. One... **\$10.50**

Black Caracul Coat

Ten dollars is the modest price for a Black Caracul Coat, which comes only in large sizes, principally for elderly ladies' wear. Caracul is a popular coating for this season. Style is full back and double-breasted. Sizes 38 and 40. **\$10.00**

Stylish Voile Skirts

Ladies' Handsome Black Voile Skirts, rich black, full width skirt trimmed with five rows of satin bands and satin buttons. A perfectly tailored model. All sizes. Special low price... **\$4.85**



MEN'S SUITS Saturday \$9.95



An unusual buying chance for men. 100 new Suits in four patterns and colorings. They are a manufacturers' "clear out" to us at a great sacrifice, and are actual \$13.50 and \$15.00 values. Materials are dark olive, blue and brown tweeds and worsteds. Nothing could be newer in style and pattern. All new goods, just placed on our tables. It shouldn't take long Saturday to sell the hundred, for the Suits are as unusual as the price. Your early choice... **\$9.95**

Solid Wool Blankets

Three specials in Pure White Wool Blankets, thoroughly dependable qualities of scoured and shrunk wool; very light; the real home-made Blankets; soft and fluffy. Every pair guaranteed solid wool. Buy now.

SIX-POUND WEIGHT, \$3.25 PAIR
Blanket measuring 60x80 inches.
SEVEN-POUND WEIGHT, \$3.75 PAIR
Blanket measuring 64x84 inches.
EIGHT-POUND WEIGHT, \$4.50 PAIR
Blanket measuring 68x88 inches.

FALL DRESS SUITS

ESTAMINE CHEVIOT SERGES, in solid colors of navy, royal, burgundy, green, brown and black. Very suitable for ladies' tailored suits and dresses. We can talk up this suiting, for it is remarkable in quality and value, for a yard... **50c**

NOVELTY SUITING—Broadcloth finish, in extra heavy weight for tailored suits. Seven different combination stripes in new fall shades. 50-inch; a yard, **75c**

BROADCLOTHS—An extensive range of Fine English and French Broadcloths, in glove, chiffon and sedan finish. Correct weights for ladies' tailored suits and costumes. Full color range, at **\$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50**

CHEVIOTS—Soft finish, West-of-England Suits Cheviots, very popular for tailor-mades. Black and colors; per yard... **\$1.00**

Our Dollar Glove

As soon as Kid-Gloves weather returns, the demand starts for our Real French Kid Glove at one dollar a pair. Made especially for us of soft and pliable skins. Every point carefully stitched. We fit them at the counter and guarantee them. Black, tan, brown, mode, wine, grey, navy and white. All sizes... **\$1.00**

35c Tan Hose, 25c

Ladies' Tan Cashmere Hose, fine quality, double heels, toes and soles. All sizes. Regular 35c value. Saturday, **25c**

Fall Millinery

We invite visitors to an early showing of Hats for fall wear. In addition to the big display of New Trimmed Felt Hats and Shapes, are numerous styles of Silk and Satin Hats, which have become most popular for early wear. Whatever you want to see in the new styles, we think we have it here.

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO.

126, 128 and 128½ DUNDAS STREET, LONDON.

the greatest astronomers and mathematicians of the seventeenth century. This, of course, was but one of his achievements, but it was one he was destined to make his name familiar to the ages. Writing on the subject of this visitor in the heavens some years ago, Professor Simon Newcomb referred to it as "the earliest and most celebrated of all the periodic comets." There exists even a belief that the comet that was visible 47 B. C. is identical with Halley's.

Messrs. Cowell and Cromwell, of the Greenwich (England) observatory, have gone deeply into research leading to accurate calculation as to the date of the comet's perihelion in 1910. The date finally set is April 8. On May 12 of next year the comet will be nearest to the earth, but at this time it will still be something like 23,000,000 miles distant from this planet.

For months to come telescopes by the thousand will be directed toward the constellation Gemini, near which Halley's comet is travelling. Popular interest in the phenomenon will doubtless increase until the comet comes within the range of ordinary vision, but happily there will be lacking this time the anxiety

and fear attending former appearances because, throughout most of the world, the old-time superstition will also be lacking.

THE DIVORCEES.

[Puck.]

"What disposition is made of the children of the couple?"

"They will spend six months with the servants of each parent."

HER DISCOVERY.

[Harper's Bazar.]

Husband—Think of it! Here is a hair-pin I have found in the soup!

Wife—Now I know where our things have gone! A shoehorn disappeared, too!

WHY DO MOSQUITOES BITE?

[Cincinnati Inquirer.]

It is surely an astonishing thing that a mosquito, living as they must on some sort of vegetable substance, the moment a human being comes within range of his supernatural powers of perception, should pounce on him with such ferocity and

persistence, indicating that he had been brought up on a diet of blood and had been taught when he left the paternal roof-tree just where to find it. Will anyone tell us why mosquitoes bite?

EXPLORATION ETHICS.

[New York Tribune.]

That ethics might play a part in polar explorations probably was not dreamed of in the earlier days of the art, science, or whatever it may be called. It now seems possible, however, that in future the would-be discoverer of poles and the like will be compelled to take a course in polar ethics before he can secure his license. According to the statement of one of the physicians who accompanied a former expedition poleward, if the newspaper accounts may be relied upon, Dr. Cook, even if he did discover the North Pole, ought to be disciplined for "violating the ethics of polar expeditions" by using a portion of the route which another discoverer had laid out.

POLARIZATIONS.

[Kincardine Review.]

We still put a note of interrogation after the dash to the North Pole.

Some of these explorers should be arrested for corrupt practices at the pole.

This "Dr. Cook hat" is the latest, but the doctor seems to be able to talk fairly well through the one he has now.

It's too bad for all those other fellows who thought they had a line on the North Pole, to find they have been short-circuited.

The one great advantage we see about being at the North Pole is that you can't move without going south. It's a great thing to be assured that no matter which way you go you stand to better your position.

When you strike a temperature of 8 below zero and you find your feet getting cold, when the gloom and silence of the icy altitudes becomes too oppressive to sing "Home, Sweet Home"—then, sir, you may rest assured you have discovered the North Pole.