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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY,
LIMITED.

London, Ont., Wednesday, Sept. 24.

PAYING CANADA'S DEBTS.

In an address before an audience of young
businessmen at Ottawa a few days ago Hon.
Sydney Fisher drove home some facts regarding
the economic situation in Canada, which have
been covered to a considerable extent recently
in Advertiser comment, but which cannot be
repeated too often at the present time. This
country has an enormous debt which must be
paid in some way. The yearly interest on the
national debt is \$115,000,000, to which must
be added the pensions bill of at least \$35,000,000,
making an annual fixed charge of \$150,000,000.
The total expenditure this year will reach \$620,
000,000, and the estimated revenue is \$280,000,
000, leaving a balance of \$340,000,000 which
must be met by borrowing.

Obviously this is a situation which cannot
continue. There is a limit to the country's
borrowing capacity, and every dollar borrowed
adds to the nation's obligations in interest and
principal. How would a businessman go about
paying this? Mr. Fisher asked, and he
offered three alternatives: Repudiation,
liquidation to the United States or "a manly
determination to do in peace as well as our
boys have done in war." The first two solutions
are out of the question, therefore only the third
remains, and to carry it through there must be,
first, a revision of our system of taxation, and
second, a tremendous speeding up in production.
Nearly ninety per cent of Canada's taxes are
raised on consumption, thus placing the great
bulk of this burden on the shoulders of the
consumer, while both the United States and
Great Britain have lowered the tax on living to
the minimum and placed the greater part of it
on property and income. Thus Canada's system
has tended to increase the cost of living to
an extreme, placing the additional burden on
the country of strikes and heavy wage increases,
which, in their turn, are passed on to the con-
sumer.

Only by getting down to business in the
matter of production can this country finance
its way. Hon. Mr. Fisher would have 20 per
cent of the people now engaged in distribution
and other non-productive employments, turned
over to productive work, he would apply sci-
entific methods to business, eliminating waste
and developing short-cuts wherever possible. This
is a business problem and it can be met only
by co-operation on the part of businessmen and
employees. The wheels must be made to turn
faster and faster still in proportion to the
hortening of the work day. Unless this is done
one Canada is liable to become a bankrupt
nation.

THE INFLUENZA.

Already the predictions of medical men
that we would have a return of the influenza
are being verified. Cases have been reported
near Port Burwell and in other places about
London and through the province. The fact
that the epidemic is liable to be lighter than
last year should not permit us to relax precau-
tions. In its last stage the plague numbered
victims by thousands. Few homes escaped
and many of the sufferers still bear traces
of the malady. Many of them, indeed, are said
to be carrying dormant germs of the disease
which they have been unable to shake off.

With ample warning given a repetition of
the epidemic in serious form should not be
followed. By using sprays, gargles and disin-
fectants its spread can be prevented. By going
to bed and calling a doctor at the first sign of
the symptoms, now so well known, each person
can do his own part toward the general well-
fare.

AN AMAZING ARGUMENT.

The Detroit Free Press, which is bitterly
opposed to the league of nations covenant, puts
up some amazing arguments in its attempts to
discredit President Wilson's part in framing
the document. Denouncing the giving of votes
to the British dominions the Free Press says
Michigan, being a "sovereign, self-governing"
state, has more right to a vote than Canada.
The Detroit Journal wishes to give the impres-
sion that this country is not really self-govern-
ing, that no matter what issue might come be-
fore the league of nations, Canada and the
other dominions would of necessity cast their
votes with the London Government. This is,
of course, misrepresentation. The Free Press
forgets or ignores the fact that Canada is no
longer a colony, that the Imperial Government
and Parliament does not ask that Canada shall
follow its lead, no matter how serious the
issue. To decide for ourselves is our splendid
privilege. That is why we have not and do not
desire a say in the affairs of the London Gov-
ernment, except as they affect us directly. We
are thus left free to think and act as we please.
We are not tied to the apron strings of the
motherland.

There is no parallel between Canada and
Michigan in this question. Michigan is auto-
matically bound to follow the lead of Washing-
ton whatever policy that Government or Con-
gress may decide upon. On the other hand,
Canada does not subscribe to any acts of the
British Government or Parliament unless her
own Parliament or Government so decides. Once
the United States Government declared for war,
Michigan and every other "self-governing" state
were in it willy nilly, but this Dominion and
every other dominion of the empire required
the sanction of its parliament before a single
man or gun could be sent overseas.

And this same independence will, of course,
be in all matters that come before the league
council. It is quite conceivable that many
issues might come before that body in which

the imperial delegates would not have the sup-
port of the dominions' representatives. We will
stand then as we do now, on our own feet.
Just as much as France, Italy, the United States,
Australia, New Zealand or any state which
ballots.

OHIO'S LIQUOR BATTLE.

The efforts being put forth in Ohio to de-
feat prohibition are typical of what is being
done in many states, and go to show that even
with prohibition a fact its enemies will not ad-
mit defeat. In Ohio, which with the new boot
service between Cleveland and Port Stanley
becomes London's nearest American neighbor,
four of the five questions which appear on the
ballot for the state elections in November have
to do with the propaganda of the wet interests.
A constitutional amendment is to be submitted
to vote providing that "no beverage containing
two and three-quarters or less per cent of
alcohol by weight shall be deemed an intoxic-
ating liquor." A second amendment proposes
the repeal of the state prohibition amendment
adopted one year ago. Another proposal would
submit to popular review the action of the legis-
lature in voting to ratify the prohibition amend-
ment to the federal constitution, and still an-
other proposal would submit to popular review
the action of the legislature in establishing
machinery for enforcing prohibition.

These questions all attack prohibition from
the standpoint of the state, while efforts are
also being made to attack in the courts the
federal prohibition amendment. No stone is
being left unturned by the wet interests to re-
turn to the old order of things. By having a
vote submitted on four different points they
are hoping that popular desire for liquor or in-
difference in the matter will permit them to win
out on at least one point on which they may
take further action if necessary.

Even should the federal government pro-
hibition law be repealed, the states which voted
dry will still be dry and the fact that prohibi-
tion is attacked from every conceivable side
should be sufficient to warn the anti-liquor in-
terests everywhere that their campaigns must
be planned to continue long after prohibition
becomes effective.

LEAVE THE PRINCE ALONE.

The refusal of the resolutions committee
of the Trades and Labor Congress to concur in
a resolution urging the Prince of Wales to se-
cure clemency for defaulters and deserters
should meet with general approval. Such a re-
quest is entirely out of place, displays bad taste
and is an exhibition of poor judgment. Prince
Edward is here as our guest and as such stands
outside the affairs of this country. It is unfair,
unkind and inhospitable that any attempt should
be made to drag him into a controversy. The
prince himself would consider such action as an
impertinence, as he possesses neither the right
nor the power to intervene. The only way in
which the matter can be taken up is to approach
the governor-general, who would then act under
advice of the cabinet. Any other method
would be unconstitutional. The sentiment of the
vast majority of Canadians is certainly against
subjecting the royal visitor to the annoyance
of forcing him to take one side or the other in
what is purely a Canadian issue, as it would
bring a discordant note to what is proving a
strikingly happy event.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Imagine how peeved over this fiery flame
situation D'Annunzio's publishers must be.

Canadian cheese is higher, we are informed,
but it has a long way to go before it gets as
"high" as some of those European brands.

The Regina Herald says Ontario folk don't
know how to cheer. Just wait until prices drop
to normal and we will show the Herald some
cheering that is cheering.

On the champion Cincinnati team are
Heinie Groh, Jacob Daubert, Eddie Rousch,
Reuther, Schriber and Koph, but it was Pat
Moran who led them over the top.

At present it appears as though London
may have to vote at the next election on money
bylaws for new schools, new fair grounds, new
city hall, new Springbank dam and street rail-
way purchase—at least. It will not be long
before we can call it New London.

The government prosecutors in the United
States claim to have evidence that the "Big
Five" packers control twenty-two of the most
important stockyards in the country and thus
are in a position to dictate both prices and
policies to the producers. By this means they
were able to direct the amount of livestock
raised, the points to which it would be shipped
when ready for the market, the prices paid and
also the prices charged to the consumers.

Zionists of America have convened in Chi-
cago and heard reports from Justice Louis D.
Brandeis and Felix Frankfurter, on their ob-
servations in Palestine, whence they went to
learn how soon the Jewish trek to the promised
land might begin. As a result it is proposed to
commence action at once, beginning with the
inauguration of sanitation methods, the pur-
chase of land on a large scale and the develop-
ment of forestation and irrigation.

The head of an American university de-
clares that President Wilson is touring the
country urging the people to strike against the
United States Government, and does not hesi-
tate to compare the head of the Government
with Emma Goldman. Of course non-Republican
Canadians are not supposed to understand why
the American Government is not elected to
carry out the wishes of the American people,
and why the President has not the right to en-
lighten the people on the provisions of the
treaty.

A special committee representing the On-
tario and Dominion Governments was present
Tuesday at a demonstration given in Prescott
County as to the possibilities of peat as a fuel.
A bog being worked there covers an area of
about 7,000 acres, with a possible output of
20,000,000 tons. This all looks very encouraging,
but there is a fly in the ointment. It develops
that before peat can become a marketable com-
modity it must go through a process of manu-
facture, and owing to the prevailing cost of
labor it cannot thus be prepared and sold as
cheaply as coal.

From Here and There

WIVES ON INSTALLMENT PLAN.

In Uganda the average cost of a wife is four
bulbs, a box of cartridges and six sewing needles.
A Kathi lady, according to the social status of her
husband, is worth from ten to ten cows. A Navajo
girl cannot be bought for less than ten horses. In
Tartary a woman is paid for by her weight in butter:
the Samoyede father-in-law prefers reindeer in pay-
ment, while the Khasans of India content themselves
with some rice and a rupee. A rich Mishmi of North-
eastern Assam has to pay twenty oxen for a wife,
but a poor fellow may get one for a mere hog. In
Timorant, Malay Archipelago, payment must be
made in elephant tusks.

In Unyoro, British East Africa, they can marry
on the installment plan, but the wife is not delivered
to the purchaser until the husband has been paid for
her. Among other tribes in Africa, Asia and
America, the son-in-law has to serve his father-in-
law, even as Jacob served Laban. The amount due
for the wife is gradually deducted from his wages
until the full price has been paid in work.

THE KING OF BIRDS.

The giant moa bird, thought by scientists to
have been extinct for 500 years, has just been
discovered by an Englishman who solemnly testifies
he was savagely attacked by the moa in the New
Island, New Zealand, forests, and barely escaped
with his life.

The savage moa, which was said to be 14 feet
in height and to weigh 1,000 pounds, is of intense
interest to scientists of the world.

Called moa, this bird's scientific name is dinornis,
meaning "terrible bird."
But from discovered remains scientists have esti-
mated this creature to be of the height and weight
just stated.

THE RACE.

(Mildred Flew Merriman.)

A hundred shining sails put out to sea:
One white ballooning sail leaps free,
And like a card that slips from out the pack,
Alone, it veers about the splashing track.

A hundred shining sails put out to sea:
One settles to the course unswervingly:
The rest are caught, colliding, at the gun:
Bright squares of white, a-shuffle in the sun.

Long sulken gusts crawl darkly on the blue:
One straining, close-reined sail holds true:
The rest, like diving gulls with wings
Droop to the water, limp and quivering.

A hundred shining sails put out to sea:
One greying sail fulfills its destiny:
Far off there sounds a sea bell's guiding drone,
As, through the dusk, one sail rides on alone.

BOTHA'S GOOD ANGEL.

(A. M. Drysdale, in the London Chronicle.)

There were days in the first weeks of the late
war when everyone in London was gloomy about
South Africa. Of course, it was said, the Boers
would seize their chance, join with the Germans and
secede from the British Empire. This kind of talk
was somewhat depressing, and in other
hopes—prevailed pretty well over the whole world.
Then one morning mankind was thrilled by the
news that Gen. Botha, the Boer leader without rival,
had decided himself to join the British Empire.
The British expedition into German Southwest Africa.
Only very clever men know what speeches mean;
an act on the big stage, seen by all eyes, gets home
to the most rudimentary understanding. The Boers
were with us, and all the world knew it instantly.
And simultaneously, it was one of the moments
which are as great as ages, and Botha was his
kindred man.

Then, as ever, Gen. Smuts was by Botha's side,
his good angel. "I cannot conceive anything more
fatal and humiliating," he said to those who coun-
selled a darker course, "than a policy of lip loyalty
in fair weather, and a policy of neutrality and pro-
German sentiment in days of storm and stress." The
words might have been spoken by Botha himself,
for they precisely expressed his heart.

A Unique Collaboration.

Indeed, the collaboration between these two great
men was unique in the history of partnership. In
England at least artistic and literary partnerships
are familiar—Beaumont and Fletcher, Gilbert and
Sullivan, Beane and Rice, for example—but it is so
easy to make a close political partnership, in other
words, a partnership to break the heart of Addition-
ton, the persecution with which Addison's friends
pursued Canning to his grave, the malignant destruc-
tion of Peel by Disraeli—all members of one and the
same party—are better known to us than political
brotherhoods. George the Third, the pioneer of the
payment of members, knew what he was talking
about when he said that politics was a trade not for
gentlemen, but for rascals.
Other and better, however, have found
politics the loftiest and most disinterested of human
concerns, and in that higher region co-operation is
natural. Gen. Smuts, like Botha, desires a large
good with more zeal than he desires his own, and
this characteristic will be found at the root of his
policies and of his personal triumphs.
It is no doubt very singular that an indifferent
lawyer and undistinguished journalist should have
developed almost as suddenly as the call of the
Boer War into a brilliant soldier; but, in fact, there
is nothing mysterious in the harmonious leading of
men—and that is what brilliant soldiering comes to
—by a man whose mind has no room for jealousies
and paltry suspicions.

Like Napoleon, he draws the best men to him
because they know that he will not cheat them;
a single ray of the glory which they have earned.
Small men attract small men, and great men men
who are great. Up to the eyes in the thickets and
jungles of German East Africa for weeks at a time,
hidden but not lost in the forests of South African
politics again and again, Gen. Smuts always has had
and always will have with him comrades as handy
as himself, but handy in other ways.

A Young Premier.

He has not the popularity of Botha, and popular-
ity he has never sought, but his public spirit will
attract all the virtues and graces to the service of
the public, the popularity of the popular as well as
the sleepless counsel of the factum.
Gen. Smuts, who was state attorney in the old
Transvaal Republic at 28, is now prime minister of
the South African Union at 49. His government
is not a coalition, but it is necessarily affected by
the coalition spirit of the balance of parties is even
more perplexing than in Great Britain. He is a
Liberal, a description, of course, of a very wide and,
indeed, liberal comprehension.

He settled the labor troubles of South Africa in
1913-14 by advising the proclamation of martial law
and the high-handed deportation of the labor leaders,
and he gave a conscription lead to the rest of the
British Empire in 1912 by his Union defence act,
which makes every citizen between 18 and 60
British or Boer—liable to military service in time
of war.

On the other hand, he is responsible for an edu-
cational system which in the long run will make
white South Africa one of the best educated com-
munities in the world. He is unusually open-
minded, progressive, practical and conciliatory. His
versatility and industry are written in his work.
From leader-writer at the Cape to member of the
imperial war cabinet in London, from his Cambridge
double-first to his supremacy of South Africa.
I heard him unfold his noble conception of the
British commonwealth of free nations two years
ago, when he was the guest of the Houses of Par-
liament, in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords.
"So the Boers are not only white, but even
blonde," said the member for Sark, admiring the
handsome, soldierly Scandinavian. He had the light
golden hair and beard, the blue eyes, the slender
height, the grace and the smiling suavity of Prince
Charming. He lives plainly and is always fit—an
example of cause and effect perhaps worth making
a note of.

A Remarkable Speech.

Many may like to be reminded of the gist of the
remarkable speech then delivered, and I can put
it into a few words of my own:
"The British Commonwealth is a system of
nations, each of which is encouraged to develop
individually according to its own variety. Its
mission is a mission of liberty. It is the only league
of nations that has ever existed; if it rises to its
destiny it will be the nucleus of a world league of
nations."
It was a speech, like all those from the same
speaker, packed with the quality of thought, and
it set every other mind in the room working.
Need I add that this realist and idealist, this
veritable hero of the Napoleonic breed, is the un-
questioned author of the league of nations plan
which the peace conference adopted? Yet to my
mind he attained a greatness even more and more
distinguished when he had the courage to remind
the Allies, exhilarated with victory, of the ideals
which they had professed in the penitence of defeat.

The Advertiser's Daily Short Story

(Copyright, 1919, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)
By A. W. Peach.

THE BEE IN THE BONNET.

By A. W. Peach.

Rena Thatcher's pity for her patient
was immediately by young Dr.
Case when he explained the situation.

At the same time there was a faint
suggestion that he was holding some-
thing back that he did not care to tell.

"I am sure, Miss Thatcher," the doc-
tor said, "that here in this splendid
house of yours in this beautiful city of
London, you will be happy and contented."
He was harmless—just a little out of
his head. All you have to do is to
keep him interested—keep him from
brooding. He is a fine specimen of
manhood except for the bee in his bonnet.

Rena waited with interest the com-
ing of Craig. She had had a nurse
training, and her professional instinct
was aroused.

"Rena thought as she took him in
charge that he certainly was a hand-
some fellow. Deep-chested, broad-
shouldered, he seemed physically so
strong that no mental trouble could
diminish his manly dignity. His
eyes were a puzzle. She saw them
rest upon her with a look of approval,
but from discovered remains scientists have esti-
mated this creature to be of the height and weight
just stated.

"The old colonial residence, which
had been the home of her people for
generations, was situated in a quiet
and she began her guardianship by tak-
ing him along the lovely roads. He was
both amusing and interesting. He
would get his coat on wrong-side-out.
He combed his hair in weird ways until
she would have to take it off and
she combed and arranged the thick,
wavy, rebellious locks with as much
pleasure as she would have experi-
enced with the attractive hair of a child.
His mental trouble appeared clearly in
his conversation. He would talk coher-
ently enough for a space and then sud-
denly shoot off into some foreign sub-
ject.

So the days went by. She scolded
him, praised him and petted him as
Pat would a child, but she could find
no way to aid him. She watched him
one day while, dressed for work, he
was examining one of the horses which
he particularly favored.

"What a lover he would make for
some girl," she thought, but she knew
she realized what she was thinking.
"If he were only normal!"

Another look toward Case came
and she reported. "As much of a fool
as ever," the doctor said brutally in
front of his patient. "I'm not surprised.
I used to think he was half-baked when
he seemed to be normal."

She caught a gleam in the dark eyes
of her patient. "Hush," she interrupted
Case, "he understands what you are
saying."

"Oh, no," the doctor replied. "He
may look intelligent, but he isn't!"

The physician decided to leave him
with her for another week. It was an
unusual one. Little things came up
during their strolls together that con-
vinced her that for a moment, Craig
in his strange way was clearly falling
in love with her.

She thought of the time when he
had and at the same time around her
pity. She had slipped her arm through
his and he had held it so long that
he would not let her withdraw it.

She found it necessary at times to "show
him" and she would quietly but firmly
over the illegal thought began.

She might be called to the tele-
phone. She thought it strange enough,
and the wonder deepened when he
turned from the phone and said to her,
"Let's go for a stroll, Rena."

"She agreed willingly enough, for she
had come to enjoy the walks with him,
even to fancy that she was walking
with a sane and normal man whom she
more than pitied or liked."

When they reached the river road and
the light breeze brought to them the
fragrant perfume of the southern flow-
ers, he caught her hand suddenly and
drew it under his arm. She thought
nothing of the act, for it had long been
familiar. But she was dumfounded
when he stopped suddenly and turned
to her.

"Hang it! I can't wait any longer!"
he said as if to himself. Then—
She found herself drawn by strong
arms close to him—in a strong man's
grasp which she had never known. She
was frightened, but she kept control of
herself.

"Harvey, you mustn't do that. Please
let me go. We'll walk on to the falls."
The arms tightened. She turned her
face on his shoulder until she could see
his. He was smiling, and there was
some odd change in it. His voice as he
went on was full of emotion. She
trembled as she listened.

"My dear girl, I forgot that Case and
I have been deceiving you. I have
been making believe I was dippy.
I had to. The best friend of mine tried
to save a fine business from being
stolen from an old lady by a pair of
crooks. In order to do it he had to
embezzle funds. He broke the law.
The crooks nailed him. I was the one
man whose testimony could convict
this pal of mine. I happened to be
in on the deal. We fixed it up to be
out but for a time I was to be men-
tally erratic. Case was called in, and
the rest was easy. That telephone
message told me that my friend had
been able to get evidence against the
crooks, who were playing for the old
lady's bread and butter. It may sound
wild to you, but under the circum-
stances it was really true. The
worst of it is I have been in love with
you from the moment I saw you. Now
I am going to tell you the truth. You
tell me you love me—or you do
not? Which is it?"

Her mind was in a turmoil. He did
seem at that moment beyond question
utterly sane—voice and manner had
completely changed. But the whole
story seemed so unusual—at two men
of chivalry type decided to do just what
they had done.

Suddenly she decided. She did love
him, as he had been, with a mother's
love; she could love him as a lover.
If—so she lifted her lips to his and
was swung in his strong arms bodily
from the path into his embrace.

It left her breathless, dazed, but
even in her confusion she saw him
remembered as they hurried
back the doctor's pleasure in saying
for saying me to my face in front of
you when I could not say a word.
The blare of an auto horn sounded
faintly. Craig looked up and caught
her hand. "Case has come. Come on,
honey. I want to get even with him
for sassing me to my face in front of
you when I could not say a word."
She remembered as they hurried
back the doctor's pleasure in saying
for saying me to my face in front of
you when I could not say a word.

"Cut out the explanation. Doc,
apologize to her and then to me and
then—congratulate both of us!" sug-
gested Craig, drawing her beside him.

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I'm the Ragtime
Souise,
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self, and thereby keep the stomach
strong, digestion good, blood pure, com-
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WORM
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Contain No Narcotics
WHEN your child is restless, peevish,
sleepless, or when convulsions threaten,
it indicates the ravages of worms and that
the little one is in need of being kept
undermined. Miller's Worm Powders get
promptly at the root of the trouble and
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You'll Find the Fellows Who Have
Learned to Use Stuart's Dyspepsia
Tablets Right on the Job for
Work, Play or Food.

Dyspepsia or indigestion may follow
a glass of milk as easily as a plate of
bacon and eggs. Today you may eat
heartily and feel fine. Tomorrow you
may bolt a glass of milk and two
crackers and get a stomach ache, gas,
sour risings, biliousness, a feeling of
bloated heaviness and other distress.
Indigestion is due to lack of inflex-
ibility of old age, no matter what you eat,
so the thing to consider is how you may
eat freely, get away with time, and
not suffer any of those distresses of in-
digestion. Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets
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love; she could love him as a lover.
If—so she lifted her lips to his and
was swung in his strong arms bodily
from the path into his embrace.
It left her breathless, dazed, but
even in her confusion she saw him
remembered as they hurried
back the doctor's pleasure in saying
for saying me to my face in front of
you when I could not say a word.
The blare of an auto horn sounded
faintly. Craig looked up and caught
her hand. "Case has come. Come on,
honey. I want to get even with him
for sassing me to my face in front of
you when I could not say a word."

"Cut out the explanation. Doc,
apologize to her and then to me and
then—congratulate both of us!" sug-
gested Craig, drawing her beside him.

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Souise,
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