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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM IN OPERATION.

A first installment of civil service reform was given to Canada on the first day of the present month, when the act passed at the last session of Parilament went into force. For the present at least only the inside service—that is, employees in the departments at Ottawa—come under the operation of the provisions of the act, but the Government is empowered to bring, by order-in-council, the outside service within its scope.

The new Canadian civil service system is modelled after the British, the object being to make character and ability the criterion in the selection of civil servants, and divorce the service from the patronage system. The act is based throughout on the recommendations contained in the report of the civil service investigating commission, presented to Parliament at last session, and the operation of the measure is placed in the hands of an independent, permanent civil service commission. The commissioners appointed—Prof. Adam Shortt, of Queen's University, and Mr. M. G. Larochelle, a prominent Montreal barrister—have already entered upon their work.

The first duty of the commissioners is to test and determine the qualification of candidates for the service, and to furnish certificates of merit, or of qualification where promotion is sought or where an exceptional salary increase is applied for. It will also be the duty of the commissioners, whenever the head of a department, through order-in-council, asks for their services, to examine into the management or organization of such department, to perform that service and report upon the subject to the governor-in-council.

The act makes all appointments to the service probationary, the necessity for which will be recognized when it is remembered that only by competitive examination is entry into the service possible. Besides, there may be exceptional cases where an applicant who has very creditably passed an examination may, from some cause or other, not prove a success in practical work. Such cases are met by a provision of the act which enables the officers of the department, after two months' trial, and before the expiration of six months, if they have reasonable ground for so doing, to report to the commission that the clerk is unfitted for the work to which he has been assigned. If the commission considers the ground alleged renders the clerk unfitted for any other work in the Government service, his name will be removed from the list; but if the reason for his rejection by the officers of one department leaves ground for the belief that it was on account of something peculiar in the department or in the work to which he was assigned, rather than any disability on his part, then the commission may assign him to the vacancy.

There has long been a demand in Canada for civil service reform, and that it should be left to a Liberal Government to introduce it is in the nature of things. The working of the new system will be watched with interest by every thoughtful Canadian, and it may profoundly affect public life and politics for the better.

THE WESTERN UNIVERSITY.

The Provincial Government's appointments to the Western University board of governors are unexceptionable and emphasize the undenominational character of that institution on its new basis.

It is hard to understand why Mr. Beck has delayed them until the eve of the opening of the fall term. His procrastination has seriously embarrassed the officials of the university, as no plans could be made for the term until the reorganization had been effected. Mr. Beck has been aware of this for months, and has on three or four occasions promised to conclude the business by a certain day, but in no case kept his word.

It is now the duty of the city council to appoint four municipal representatives without loss of time and without regard to anything but fitness for the position. The constitution of the university provides that the eight representatives of the Government and the council shall elect four others, and these members, in conjunction with the chancellor and the president, shall form the executive or governing board. It is to be hoped this body, backed by the university senate, the city council and the member for London, will bring strong pressure upon the Provincial Government for an annual grant of money to supplement the aid given the university by the city. It can no longer be refused on the pretext that it is a sectarian institution. From this city and this county thousands of dollars are taken every year in the form of succession duties and given directly to Toronto University. This is not a square deal when the taxpayers of London are supporting a local university. A reasonable grant from the Province will place the Western on a financial basis which will enable it to do a surprising work for London and Western Ontario. If it is given this start, it will convince the people of London that they have made a good investment.

A YANKEE IN CANADA.

An American who spent his summer holidays in Canada gives the New York Sun a two-column record of his observations, and shows that he brought with him not only open eyes, but an open mind. Of course, he comments on Canadian "slowness," a word which American visitors have a habit of flinging at us, though they are sometimes puzzled when asked for an explanation. The Sun correspondent, however, does not use it as a term of reproach. He says he likes Canadian slowness, because it means that Canadians are quieter and steadier than his own countrymen. He was surprised at finding English Canadians so much like Yankees that he could not tell them apart—a supreme compliment from an American's point of view. He is surprised, also, that he heard no mention of Taft or Bryan, and that Canadians evidently "didn't care a continental which one is elected"—which is true. A novel experience was his inability to get a drink of liquor after the legal hour of closing, a state of affairs which he naively characterizes as un-American. He then hands us this elaborate bouquet:

"Some Americans I met said they didn't like Canada because it was poky and the people lacked push. That was the reason I liked it. The Canadians don't push, and they ought to be thankful that they don't. But they are reliable, and their standard of usage among their fellows is higher than that of the American who does push. They have time to be polite, time to think of some other interests than their own, time to equip themselves better for their every-day living, time to make good laws and observe them, time to remember that honesty is the best policy, time to save a little for a rainy day, time to enjoy themselves rationally, time to think that money isn't everything, time to make of themselves a people our own people would be better if they were more like them.

"In proof of which I offer the plain business fact that Canadians when they seek work of any kind in this country of push always find it, and the service they render is such that employers retain them as long as possible. That is the practical test, and it counts.

"Concluding, I may say that the States might be Canadianized to their advantage in more than one regard."

This may not be fully deserved, but it is at least impartial. The difference between Canadians and their American cousins is not one of energy, but of temperament and nerves. We are not so highly-strung as they, and are consequently more leisurely in our methods and habits. Life is more than the means of living, and perhaps Canaditns get as much out of life as their neighbors, even if less of their time and attention is absorbed by the pursuit of the dollar.

Mr. Borden will be accompanied on his tour by four premiers, but that is as near premiership as he will get.

Sir Charles Tupper is again predicting a Conservative victory. When a man is over 80 it is hard to shake off the habits of a lifetime.

If Laurier's entourage consisted of provincial premiers what a row the Conservative press would raise! How it would shriek at the "unholy alliance!"

Mr. Fielding predicts that Nova Scotia will again send a solid Liberal 18 to Ottawa. But the Liberals will have to keep the pint flasks from voting.

The Conservative party is unfortunate in its senior organs. The Mail and Empire and the News are both ably written papers, but they are too rabidly partisan and ill-tempered to appeal to any class but hard-shelled Tories. They should take pattern of the Victoria Colonist, which mixes a spirit of fairness and reasonableness with its Conservatism.

The G. T. P. will have 660 miles of road in operation this autumn, from Winnipeg westward. A Conservative contemporary says the early opening was decided upon at the urgent request of settlers, who want their grain moved as quickly as possible. These settlers know which political party to thank for railway facilities. But perhaps there would be few settlers in the district but for the advent of the G. T. P.

TOO LOW.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

"This gas bill is only for 10 cents."

"Well, sir?"

"Can't you add $4? I've been writing my wife that I'm spending my evenings at home."

A FEW SARCASMS.

[New York World.]

Mrs. Earl Hallan has now signed a statement that George Richardson is not the negro who made the attack on her which precipitated the Springfield riotings and lynching. So it was because the enlightened lynchers of Springfield were not permitted to burn, strangle, stab, shoot and otherwise entertain themselves with an innocent man, that they demolished the restaurant of the miserable publican who helped save him, burned down large portions of the town which they flatter Abraham Lincoln by inhabiting, murdered a harmless old man of 84, together with other fellow-citizens, got all too few of their own numbers shot down by the militia, and generally drew down on their city, their state and their country the horrified contempt of the civilized world. Rather a heavy price to pay for their failure to torture an innocent man.

THE TACTFUL LAMP, ETC.

[Princeton Tiger.]

In the parlor there were three—
Girl, the parlor lamp and he.
Two is company; no doubt
That is why the lamp went out.

RHYME AND REASON FOR TAFT.

[B. B. Valentine, in New York Tribune.]

The man most surely must be daft,
Who thought it could be aught but Taft.

A statesman wise, and foe to graft
Is what is said of William Taft.

He's frank, and ne'er beguiled with craft,
So cast your votes for brilliant Taft.

The grand old partys platform draft,
Tho' made by Roosevelt, just fits Taft.
All those who have both scoffed and laughed,
In the White House will find Taft.

In flowing bumpers gayly quaffed,
We'll hail you President, noble Taft.

Let's then throughout the Union waft
The news, the people's choice is Taft.

OF COURSE.

[London Globe.]

"Send me up two bags of oats and a bale of hay?"

Voice—"All right, sir. Who is it for?"

"The horse, of course, you idiot!"

SOME PHILOSOPHY.

[Atchison Globe.]

A great trick of a pretty woman is not to be very fond of anyone.

The remedies most people recommend they do not use themselves.

Everyone feels like laughing when he sees an old lady reading a love story.

Generally when the household goods are all removed from a burning house the building is saved.

Every wife believes down in the bottom of her heart that it is only her patience that keeps the roof from flying off the house.

Every woman has a way of looking at her husband as much as to say that she understands him thoroughly, but it is Too Late.

The worst thing that can happen to a poor man is to get in the way of associating with men who have a good deal of money.

We never hear of the mother of a good boy that we don't feel like taking off our hat. A mother has so much to do with the making of her children.

When troubles come to a man in his office he lacks the great comfort afforded to his wife under similar conditions, that of weeping on the kitchen towel.

The old-fashioned woman who thinks it is a sin to read in the daytime lives in Atchison, and will not allow a book to be opened in her house until after candlelight.

BORDEN'S SURE THING.

[Hamilton Herald.]

Win or lose, Leader Borden will continue to draw his salary.

THE RUDIMENTS OF THE GAME.

[The Sketch.]

Old Golf Professional—Na, ye'll no mak' a gowffer—ye've begun ower late and ye're ower muckle pottle; but it's juist possible if ye pr-ractise har-rd, verra har-rd, for twa-three years ye micht—

Jones (expectantly)—Yes?

Professional—Ye micht began to hae a glimmer that ye'll never ken the r-rudiments o' the game.

AN "IF" STATESMAN.

[Montreal Herald.]

Mr. Stanfield says that he is innocent, but will resign if, and if, and if. Mr. Hyman didn't know anything about it, either, but he cut out the ifs and resigned.

NO HOPE FOR THEM.

[Toronto Globe.]

The average man who hears Tory campaigners boasting of their chances of carrying the country in October would do well to remember that the Government majority is 74, and that the best the Tory Torono World could do when it tried to put the figures on paper was to secure a Tory majority of three.

THE ONE REGRET.

[Montreal Herald.]

About the only place where there is any objection to the appointment of Dr. Adam Shortt as civil service commissioner is at Queen's University, where he has been professor of political economy since the chair was founded, which position he will now resign.

THE JOY OF LIVING.

[Washington Herald.]

To folks who're no great shakes,
And have no pile,
What flavors life and makes
It worth our while?

Due thought the answer brings
In just a word.
It lies in doing things
We can't afford.

DETERMINED TO DO JUSTICE.

[Catholic Standard and Times.]

Tourist—What's that crowd down at the court house?

Native—Oh, they're tryin' the case o' Sam Johnson, suh.

Tourist—Sam Johnson! Why, that was the man that was lynched yesterday, wasn't it?

Native—Yaas, suh, but today some o' th' boys got to feelin' cur'ous to know whethah he was innocent or guilty, suh.

IN PROSPECT.

[Harper's Weekly.]

Returning home at close of day,
Who quietly chides my long delay?
Who greets me in a cheerful way?
Nobody!

Who caters to my every care?
Who makes me take the easy chair
Who puts my cosy slippers there?
Nobody!

Who has my dinner steaming hot?
Who for my welfare cares a jot?
Who heeds if I am sick or not?
Nobody!

But who will presently do this?
Who's going to give me every bliss?
Who—must you know?—well, it is Miss
Somebody!

John Nicholson was an Irishman bearing a Scotch name who became a saint in India in the days preceding the mutiny. He led the assault at Delhi, in which he was mortally wounded.

CLARKE THE MAN FOR SOUTH ESSEX

Is Again Made the Unanimous Choice for the Dominion House.

Windsor, Sept. 9.—By unanimous vote the Liberals of South Essex again selected as their Parliamentary candidate Mr. A. H. Clarke, K. C., M. P., No other name was placed in nomination. The convention, which was held in the town hall at Leamington, was thoroughly representative, being made up largely of prominent farmers and tobacco-growers in the district. The sentiment among the delegates was most harmonious, and the best of feeling prevailed. Among those seated on the platform were Hon. R. F. Sutherland, Speaker of the House of Commons; Mr. Gordon, of East Kent, Dr. Sharp, of Tilbury; and Mr. Louis Arner, of Anderdon. The convention was called to order at 2 p. m. by the chairman, Mr. C. E. Naylor, of Essex, and after some routine busines nominations were called for, and Mr. Clarke's name was immediately placed before the convention amid cheers. Mr. Edgerton Scratch was formally recognized by the chairman as the mover of the resolution. In his speech of acceptance Mr. Clarke, after thanking the delegates for their hearty support and confidence, expressed the opinion that the confidence shown there would be ratified at the coming election, whether it be early or whether it be late. He paid a well-deserved compliment to the first commoner of Canada when he stated that Hon. R. F. Sutherland had given better satisfaction than any speaker in the House who had held the chair for years. Passing on to general topics the speaker declared the present administration had done more for the farmers in Canada than any previous government in the country's history. He reviewed what had been done by the Laurier Government since its accession to power twelve years ago. In the matter of immigration some of it had been very undesirable, and this called for very strict laws by which this undesirable class of citizens should be excluded. He also spoke briefly on the question of tariff revision. With reference to the Lemieux act Mr. Clarke said that after two years of operation its provisions had been found most satisfactory, and any serious struggle between capital and labor had been averted. He declared that in the present strike of the C. P. R. mechanics public sympathy was not with the men, for the reason that they refused to abide by the decision of the board of arbitration after having at first agreed to do so. The meat inspection act, in which Mr. Clarke's constituency is greatly interested, brought forth the statement that since its adoption Canada's export trade in ham and bacon had increased over $15,000,000 annually, and a tremendous trade had been built up. The tobacco question was also given close attention. Mr. Clarke believed that within the next year or two a Government experimental tobacco farm would be in operation. Addresses were also made by Mr. Speaker Sutherland and Mr. Gordon, of East Kent, as well as by several prominent local Liberals.

The annual meeting of the General Reform Association, which takes place in the Temple building at Toronto today, promises to be a most representative gathering, over 120 delegates having intimated their intention of being present. These include a number of M. P.'s, senators and M. P. P.'s. Among the speakers will be Hon. G. P. Graham, minister of railways, and Hon. A. G. MacKay. The proceedings begin at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Gamey has thought discretion the better part of valor and will not face Hon. Mr. Aylesworth in North York. The Conservative nomination is now said to lie between Mr. John Armstrong, reeve of King, and Mr. T. H. Brunton, Newmarket.

The Liberals of East Simcoe meet at Orillia on Saturday to chose a standard-bearer.

NO SETTLEMENT YET WITH GRAND TRUNK

Trainmen To Resume Negotiations the Beginning of November.

Montreal, Sept. 8.—G. T. R. conductors and trainmen, who have been in session here for some weeks revising the present wage schedule, which expires this year, have had several conferences with the officials, but they have returned to their homes for the present without a settlement having been arrived at. The report circulated in the west that the questions at issue have been settled, and that the men have been granted a general increase equal to about five per cent, is incorcorect.

The committee will return here again in the beginning of November, when the executives of the other organizations whose schedules expire this year, will also meet to consider the changes that are continually necessary.

So far as the trainmen are concerned it is a question of reduction of hours and re-arrangement of train runs, rather than a question of wages.

SICILIAN'S VENGEANCE

Young Italian Stabbed to Death by Rival in Love.

Cleveland, Sept. 8.—Rivalry for the hand of a woman, which began in Sicily several years ago, resulted in a murder here today, when Angelo Mazzo, a Sicilian, was stabbed through the heart by Carmen Bulone, also a Sicilian. Both men loved the same girl in Porta, Sicily, but Mazzo won and married the young woman. Bulone swore vengeance, and in order to escape his wrath the couple fled to America. Bulone, however, followed them, and this morning on a crowded thoroughfare killed Mazzo with a stiletto. Bulone was captured at the Union Station as he was about to board a train for New York.

Demand Carling's Malt Extract. A highly nutritious liquid food and tonic goods. Go and see him. 54k xvty

JAPS LOCATE SUNKEN WARSHIPS

Sent to the Bottom by Russian Mines During Recent Disturbance in Far East.

Victoria, B. C., Sept. 9. — Advices from Japan state that the sunken battleship Yashima has been located by the steamer Saruhashi Maru, a salvage vessel, sent out by the navy department to search for Japanese warships lost during the war with Russia, and investigations are being carried on to ascertain if the battleship can be raised. The Saruhashi Maru has also located the Russian warship Sebastopol, and the approximate place where the cruiser Takasago sank has been located. She is now searching for the battleship Hatsuse.

The sinking of the Yashima and Hatsuse was due to the placing of mechanical mines by Rear-Admiral Wiren on May 21, 1904. The Russian officer observed that the Japanese warships, while engaged in beleaguring Port Arthur cruised continually over the same ground, and a mine field was laid into which the vessels steamed, and the Yashima, Hatsuse and cruiser Yoshino went down the same morning, all with heavy loss.

News of the sinking of the Yashima was suppressed for six months by the Japanese Government, and reports of her loss were always officially contradicted, with the result that not until news of her destruction was published in the official reports at the close of the war was it generally known that she had been sunk when the Hatsuse and Yoshino went down.

Advices from Vladivostock state that the six Japanese of the crew of the seized sailing schooner Myic Maru, sentenced to be shot, have been reprieved. Russian official advices state that the schooner was captured while in the act of raiding the Copper Islands, and her crew were also guilty of landing at Kurinka, a village on Medni Island, and pillaging the villagers' houses. Stocks of grain were carried away from barns and the warehouses of the Kamchatka Commercial Company was looted and coal, nets, etc., stolen.

As a result of the trouble which has arisen between Japan and Russia regarding the seizure, many Japanese papers advocate that Japan, having an interest in the preservation of the seal herds since the Russian rookeries came into her possession, should join with America and Britain to prevent the extermination of the seals.

GERMAN SETARURY GUARDIAN EXPERT

Job of Secretary Goes Begging, But Kaiser Finally Selects Herr Sydow.

Berlin, Sept. 9.—For weeks the job of secretary of the treasury of the German empire went begging. But it has become evident that the Kaiser at last has succeeded in finding the right man for the job of bringing order out of chaos, known as German imperial finance. He is Reinhold Sydow, who recently was promoted from the under secretaryship of the German postoffice department to the post of chancellor of the exchequer. Bankers, businessmen and finance ministers of minor German states refused the portfolio because of its brilliant opportunities for making a mess of things, as had befallen the last two incumbents of the office—Baron von Thielmann, former German ambassador at Washington, and Baron von Stengel, of Bavaria.

On Treasury Burden.

Herr Sydow—whose name is pronounced Zee-doo—took up the treasury burden with considerably more authority than was vouchsafed his predecessors, as the Emperor took the novel step of making him an ex-officio member of the Prussian ministry, with the full rights and rank of a minister of the crown. Previous exchequer chancellors held the less authoritative title of secretaries of state, and many of them have ascribed their failures to the circumscribed jurisdiction.

Herr Sydow, who looks much like a successful American bank president and is said to be just as up-to-date, is 57 years old. He has been in the Government service since 1883, and has advanced from a district attorneyship to judge, to postoffice department chief and then to the under secretaryship of Germany's immense postal system, with the telegraph and telephone services as his specialties. He is famous as a hard worker and is unusually free, for an official brought up in the strict bureaucratic atmosphere of German Government service, from circumlocutory methods. At the international wireless telegraph congress in Berlin in 1906, over which he presided, it was a linguistic treat to hear him conduct parliamentary proceedings in German, French, English, Russian and Italian with equal facility.

Bankruptcy of Empire.

Some absurd reports have been printed in the French press about the "bankruptcy of the German empire. It is true that the empire's government finances are in an exceedingly tangled condition, but Germany is as sound and solvent as any of the great governments, and with assets—in the shape of colossally profitable state-owned railways—which no other power in the world possesses. Neither has she begun to exhaust her taxation resources. Beer, tobacco, alcohol, and inheritances are taxed much more heavily in England, France and Austria-Hungary, while there is a variety of taxable things from which other countries derive rich revenues and from which Germany hitherto has refrained from extorting toll.

Apart from all this the tremendous accumulated wealth of Germany must be taken into account. This has been rising by leaps and bounds since she became a great industrial nation.

EARL POULETT WEDS ACTRESS

And His Noble Relatives Welcome the Former Gayety Star.

London, Sept. 9.—Fred Story, father of the Gayety girl who this week married Earl Poulett, seventh of his name, apparently does not altogether advocate the fusion of the peerage and the stage. "It is pleasant to think it should all be so happily fixed up," said he, after the wedding, "but it does strike me as curious sometimes how many of the nobility should look to the stage for their partners in life."

Story did not attend his daughter's wedding, because he was busy putting the finishing touches on some scenic work he had in hand, for he is an artist as well as an actor and dancer.

"To be frank," said he, "these little matrimonial affairs are not much in my line. It is a love match. I cannot say how long the earl and my daughter have known each other, but it is some little time now, and the earl acted just as other young men do, or should do, when they fall in love with a young woman who has a father. He came in just the ordinary way and asked my consent to their marriage, and I found him an excellent and desirable young man. They had made up their minds, and there really was nothing else for me to do.

Earl's Family Welcomes Her.

"The earl's mother, too, was nice. When she was told how the young couple were shaping their destiny she gave them her blessing and was extremely kind to my daughter, as were all the earl's relations."

There was just a touch of regret in Mr. Storey's voice when speaking of his daughter's stage career. He said:

"I think perhaps she would have been a greater success if she had stuck to the provinces, but when we came to town she went to Seymour Hicks and has been associated with him in the 'Gay Gordons.' Latterly she had a part in 'Havana' at the Gayety, and now, well, she will give up the stage.

"I think she has experienced a little of its disappointments, as a good many young girls do who enter upon the career, hoping that the promise of good parts will be fulfilled, and often hoping in vain."

Actresses Who Wedded Well.

Miss Story is the first actress to wed a peer since Frances Donnelly married Lord Ashourton in 1906, but the list of members of the profession, particularly in the ranks of musical comedy who recently have made "good matches" is a long one. Camille Clifford is wedded to the Hon. Lyndhurst Bruce, eldest son of Lord Aberdare, Eva Carrington to Lord De Clifford, Hilda Harris to Mr. Drummond of the same banking family into which Mrs. Marshall Field now is married, Barbara Deane to Basil Loder, and Denise Orme to the Hon. J. B. Yarde Buller.

The list might be considerably expanded, in fact, it is considerably expanded by a few of the London papers, which apparently accepted as gospel the statements made by some theatrical managers, all of whose geese are swans, and which print half a column or so names of Gibson girls who are said to have married Englishmen of alleged wealth and family and reputed American millionaires whom nobody ever heard of.

In this category is another much-heralded forthcoming "Gayety Girl's" wedding to a young man whose claims for consideration are that he occupies a box at "Havana" nightly and possesses seven motor cars, one for each day of the week.

THIS NEW DUKE MUST ECONOMIZE

The Devonshire Estate Is Badly Crippled Through Death Duties.

London, Sept. 8.—The new Duke of Devonshire made a very pointed reference a few days ago to the effect of the death duties on estates such as he has just inherited.

The great houses and estates of territorial magnates, like the late Duke of Devonshire, the Derbys, Norfolks, and Westminsters, are kept up at enormous expense. In fact, one may well suppose that unless in these estates is included much valuable town property or mineral bearing lands their existence would have ceased long before this.

The late Duke of Devonshire used to say that Chatsworth House, whose myriad windows with their gilded beading make such a splendid spectacle in the setting sun, cost him £1,000 a year in putty. The upkeep of these places is on the same scale all through. Sir William Harcourt's death duties have crippled many of the owners. But for a while the new inheritor always suffers, and, as must be the case, many suffer with him.

The late Duke of Devonshire only held the estates for some twelve years. After that comparatively short time his successor has to pay out the heavy duties once more, for he succeeds as a nephew, and the more distant the relationship the higher are the duties.

So it is that at Eastbourne the other day the new duke announced to his Eastbourne tenants that he had been compelled by the heavy death duties to curtail considerably the scale of expenditure maintained by his predecessor. The occasion was the sale of the entire herd of pure Southdown sheep bred by the late duke.

"I can assure you," said the duke, "that it is through no wish of my own that I have found it necessary very considerably to curtail my operations in many respects, and I hope you will believe that, although these flocks and herds have been dispersed, it does not show any feeling of lukewarmness or lack of interest in agriculture. I hope that later on it may be possible for me to do something on the lines on which my late uncle proceeded."

By its quality

Stephens' Ink

has held the home market for 75 years against all foreign attacks and has forced its way through every tariff abroad.

Resolutely refuse substitutes

Amusements

Have Made Hits.

The bill at Bennett's this week has certainly caught on with the theatre-going public, and the theatre has been playing to large houses this week so far, the report on the show being that it is one of the best ever seen in that popular theatre. Ward and Curran, and Holden's Manikins, and Mack and Williams, as well as Cooper and Cooper, and the balance of the bill have been decided hits. Manager Driscoll's new Saturday matinee scheme has proved to be quite popular, as the house is almost sold out now for that performance.

"A Pair of Country Kids."

It is a pleasure in announcing the coming of an entirely new rural play that is a novelty and with its principal interest in a pair of up-to-date country youngsters who manage to present an evening of lively amusement in their wildest and fondest hopes. "A Pair of Country Kids" will be the attraction at the Grand Friday evening.

"Paid in Full."

The New York Globe, in speaking of "Paid in Full," says:

"The quality which makes "Paid in Full" of value is its absolute fidelity to the little things in life. One might have been watching a room from which the fourth wall was removed. The characters are severely interesting. They are familiar types grouped around a familiar topic, and if the ultimate conclusion leaves something to be desired, one can only further compliment the author on his faithfulness to a popular point of view. "Paid in Full," with a brilliant cast of players will be seen at the Grand on Saturday next.

Donald and Carson, the Scotch team of humorists, seen at Bennett's last season, are at Bennett's Hamilton house this week. It is to be hoped that General Manager Bennett and Manager Driscoll will have this sterling act here this season. It's one of the best in the business, and Donald's witticisms are still used by local vaudeville lovers.

The voting contest as to the most popular act that has played Bennett's Theatre during the last season has proved a much bigger success than Manager Driscoll expected. The Blonde Typewriters are ahead in the contest now by 175 majority, having in the neighborhood of some 600 votes. The first five acts in the contest will be brought back here this season. Ballots may be had on entering the theatre, from the ushers, and filled out and left at the door on the way out of the theatre. This voting contest will continue for some weeks yet.

The Bennett Dramatic Prize Sketch Club, will undoubtedly become very popular as Manager Driscoll has already heard from several local clubs desirous of producing short sketches at this theatre during the coming season.

Laura Burt and Henry Stanford are early bookings at Bennett's. They will appear in a short sketch entitled "The Order of the Bath."

Daisy Harcourt is an early booking at Bennett's.

Clark Brown, New York representative for the Bennett Theatrical Enterprises will pay London a visit in a few days. He is coming here to interview Mr. Bennett in regard to several European novelties which he has under consideration.

May Duryea will be seen at Bennett's in the near future in a new sketch.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.

Sept. 8.—At New York—Kaiser Wilhelm II., from Bremen; Masaba, from London.

At Father Point—Manchester Mariner, from Manchester; Marina, from Glasgow.

At Philadelphia—Siberian, from Glasgow.

At Queenstown—Merion, from Philadelphia.

At Liverpool—Mauretania, from New York; Lake Champlain, from Montreal.

At Libau—Corea, from New York.

At Bremen—Kron Prinzessin Cecilie, from New York.

At Antwerp — Kroonland, from New York.

At Cherbourg—President Lincoln, from New York.