

FOUR.

London Advertiser

MORNING. NOON. EVENING.

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TORONTO REPRESENTATIVE:

F. W. Thompson, 55 Mail Building.

The London Advertiser Printing Co.,

Limited.

LONDON, TUESDAY, JAN. 27.

Why not have an all-the-year-

round straw hat club in London?

One can't quite get into the way of

calling him anything but Mr. Borden.

Barring the baseball variety the most

abid fan on earth is the chicken fan.

Manitoba's non-compulsory school

system produces a little Krafchenko or

two every day.

These corn shows may be all right;

but why not let the folks with bunions

hobble into the limelight for a change?

Beauty of a passenger caused an air

pilot to lose his heart and then his

head, and as the drop was a half mile,

deep he lost her hand.

A subscriber asks what use are sub-

marines. Offhand one might reply that

they rank with the aeroplane in the

manufacture of martyrs.

If your resolutions have been strong

enough to go into the last week of the

first month, they have legs to carry

them through the year.

A Michigan man was brought to his

senses by a blow from a brick. With

her experience with Englishmen this

will astonish Mrs. Pankhurst.

Come, come, Smiths, Smyths,

Schmidts and Smits! If you all sought

and won the Stratheona fortune there

wouldn't be a penny apiece for you.

In spite of the pessimists who believe

that honesty is still widespread. Why,

there isn't a man in London who, with

the thermometer 40 below, would steal

a furnace.

This grand old thaw is making the

poets digress to turn off stuff about

robins and violets, but that restlessness

on the part of mother is caused by

dreams of a spring cleaning.

A Detroit man named Stork is going

out of the piano business because he

can't sell any more baby grand. There

is another party of the same name who

is doing a fine business in grand

babies.

An advance style note just received

from Paris states that the spring hats

are to be very high. Father says there

was no need of sending a warning as

the spring hats are never anything else

but that, anyway.

In the last six years 618,112 Ameri-

cans came into Canada, but 594,919

Canadians went into the United States.

Canada's net gain, therefore, is about

4,000 a year. There is need for a "Stay

in Canada" or a "Back to Canada"

movement.

Sunday was the 55th anniversary of

the birth of Robert Burns, and time

does not appear to have lessened his

popularity. Like Shakespeare, his only

rival in the constant affections of men,

he touched the heartstrings and be-

cause of it his lustre will never be

dimmed.

The Canadian Government has

decided to postpone its naval policy until

"the ravages of time" give it a majority

in the Upper house. To a majority

seems to be more heartless than

anything on this side.—Pittsburg Dis-

patch.

Looks like trying to kill off the Sen-

ate with malicious animal magnetism,

does it?

"APPARENTLY."

A LAWYER at Listowel has taken

advantage of a technicality in the

liquor license act whereby a bar-

tender who sold liquor to a minor has

been acquitted. Whether or not the

"joker" in the clause had been dis-

covered before is not known, but it cer-

tainly has not caused the comment it

should occasion. The clause referred

to is as follows:

"Any person who gives, sells or

otherwise supplies to any person

APPARENTLY or to the knowledge

of the person giving, selling or otherwise

supplying the same, under the

age of 21 years, shall incur a penalty

of not less than \$10 and not exceed-

ing of the act, and subsequently

acquitted the defendant.

"Apparently" did the trick. The

magistrate confessed himself perplexed

and everyone will agree there was a

dilemma. Other magistrates have

closed their eyes to the "apparent" age

of the minor and registered a conviction

when the age was proven. And the

act undoubtedly leaves a breach

as wide as a farm gate, and places a

magistrate in an awkward position, if

the literal reading were to be applied

in each instance. No doubt there are

honest bartenders, but there will not

be one who will admit that the "ap-

parent" age of the minor was under

21 years when the time for facing a

charge arrives. Neither the bartender

nor the magistrate are so much to

blame as the act itself. "Apparently"

is a pretty weak word to appear in a

liquor law concerning the sale of liquor

to boys, anyway. Some men are boys

in appearance at 25, while others are

matured sufficiently at 18 or 19 to pass

as men. While it may have been in-

tended that the magistrate should de-

cide the "apparent" age of minors, the

Listowel magistrate did not take this

view of his duty, and no one can say

that he lacked justification. The sell-

ing of liquor to minors is one of the

most serious offences, and such a loose

law should be strengthened. Other-

wise any bartender who can hire a

shrewd lawyer will be able to sell to

minors and go free in most instances.

The offence is committed by the bar-

tender, and he is undoubtedly the in-

dividual for whose benefit the "ap-

parent" is admitted, for if it applies to

anyone it must be to the man accused.

"Apparently" should be struck out

of the act. No man of even 21 years

will be seriously injured in more than

his dignity, if through the too keen

discrimination of some "wine clerk" he

is refused liquor on the ground of

minority. And hundreds of minors who

would get liquor "apparently" because

of an easy conscience behind the bar

would be halted at the gate of the

road to ruin.

THE NEED OF A UNIVERSITY.

C HANCELLOR Meredith empha-

sizes the need of a university in

London and Western Ontario. There

is another point also to consider, and

that is that a university is wanted to

create the need of it.

Why is it that upwards of a hundred

students residing in Kingston attend

Queen's University, though that city is

only one-third the size of London? Why

is it that nearly half the arts students

in Toronto University are from the city

of Toronto? The presence of a well-

equipped university, well administered,

energetically brought home to the peo-

ple, and treated in a friendly spirit by

the Government, creates the need and

desire for higher studies in the region

adjacent. The university not only re-

sponds to an expressed need, but makes

for refinement and justifies itself more

and more as time goes on.

What proves as much as anything

London's need of a university is that

the city shows itself less aware of its

needs in higher education than pro-

portionately do Kingston and Toronto.

ELECTORAL REFORMS.

A FEW days ago The Advertiser

referred to the conviction of the

treasurer of the New York Democratic

committee for receiving a contribution

from a corporation, contrary to the law

of that state, and suggested that some-

thing of that kind would not be amiss

in Canada. That the Government

would do anything there, was no ex-

pectation. When in Opposition Mr.

Borden was very indignant over elec-

torial corruption. If he should be given

opportunity he was going to introduce

drastic remedies. Of course, the cor-

ruption was chiefly on the Liberal

side; there was nothing doing among

the Conservatives, except, perhaps,

when some weak brother undertook to

fight those wicked Grits with their own

weapons. But that should be all stop-

ped. There should be no hiding of

corrupt practices by a sawing-off pro-

cess. All protests should be promptly

brought to trial. There should be a

special officer to prosecute all charges;

there should be full publicity of all

contributions for campaign service, and

so on.

But Mr. Borden as Premier and Mr.

Borden in Opposition were in different

conditions. If he had the inclination

to carry out his pledges as Leader of

the Opposition, he did not find it con-

venient. This is his third session, and

nothing has been done. The Macdon-

ald election protest hung on for two

years, and then came to a termination

without trial by the defendant con-

fessing guilt. The electoral reform

laws that were to be enacted were not

even introduced. And there has been

no intimation that they would ever

see daylight.

However, the opportunity that he

could not make for action will now be

offered him. Col. McLean, the Liberal

member for Halifax, will submit to

Parliament some resolutions proposing

that Mr. Borden suggested and

more. The publication of subscriptions

ticians" among his colleagues, who are

experts in running elections. And ex-

ports find it convenient at times to

operate by ways that are dark and

tricks that are not up to the highest

moral standard. They will have some-

thing to say about it.

It will be interesting to watch the

course of the Government when a Lib-

eral offers them what their leader had

advocated. Mr. McLean brings for-

ward his proposition in a way that

leaves it open for the Government to

adopt it without any sense of humili-

ation. What will it do?

THE MEXICAN CHANTY.

TEN Mexican statesmen were hav-

ing a good time, Diaz cleared

out and then there were nine.

Nine little Mexicans monkeying

with fate, Madero got murdered and

then there were eight.

Eight little Mexicans scowling under

heaven, Huerta killed another and then

there were seven.

Seven under Huerta doing dirty

tricks, he put a knife in one of them,

then there were six.

Six little devils murder, rape and

rive, one other got his and then there

were five.

Five little Mexicans, Villa, and four

more, Uncle Sam scared one and then

there were four.

And so on to the happy ending. The

Kilkenny cats wouldn't be in it with

the last duel when it comes, and the

two Mexicans left make one by elimi-

nation of the less fit.

CONTROLLING THE WEATHER.

W HEN you come to think it over

that proposal of Sir Oliver

Lodge to control the weather looks

possibilities for unlimited trouble. Sup-

pose for instance that unscrupulous

captains of industry were to secure

control of the Government. Can't you

see the weather department chief or-

dered to keep the temperature at zero

right through until May to meet the

wishes of a combined ice and coal

trust? And do you suppose for one

moment that the Baptists are going to

stand for a thunderstorm in the middle

of their annual picnic whilst the day

before the Methodists revelled in sun-

shine? If you do you don't know the

Baptists. And if the farmers demand

a wet summer can't you see the base-

ball fans arising in mighty wrath and

demanding the resignation of the Gov-

ernment. And if some Ontario weather

overflowed into New York State and

colliding with another type of weather,

let loose a cyclone, we might have a

serious international situation on our

hands, as well as furnishing Sam

Hughes with a fine excuse to