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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8.

The Burden of Empire.

The military burdens of the British Empire show an appalling growth in recent years. In 1899 the aggregate naval expenditure of the empire was £26,000,000; of France £11,900,000; the United States £9,700,000; Russia £8,700,000, and Germany £6,000,000. In 1904 the order stood: British Empire £36,200,000; United States, £18,800,000; France £12,500,000; Russia, £12,300,000; Germany, £10,200,000. In the same period, the aggregate value of the maritime commerce of the British Empire increased from £1,200,000,000 to £1,400,000,000. In other words, while the value of the interests to be protected increased in five years by about one-sixth, the cost of protecting them increased by more than one-third. This illustrates the principle that the protection of maritime commerce depends not upon its volume, but on the naval strength of its possible assailants. This is not a comforting maxim for Great Britain, in view of the progressive naval policy of other nations, Germany and the United States in particular. To make matters worse the British army expenditure has increased by leaps and bounds, having risen in ten years from £36,000,000 to £86,000,000, or considerably more than 100 per cent. In addition the national debt has increased more than a billion dollars by reason of the South African war. And the military budget is to be further swollen by the huge cost of providing new artillery. Yet Great Britain, unlike any other great European power, does not require a large army for home defense, thanks to the Dover Channel. Her defense is her fleet. The explanation of the huge army expenditure was given by Premier Balfour in this passage from his recent speech at Edinburgh:

"What is it that the British army exists for—rather, what is the great problem which each minister of war in power has to face? It is not the problem of home defense. That by itself is a very simple and easy matter. I think, with the help of the auxiliary forces, a very small regular force would be amply sufficient to supplement that which is the real defense of these shores, the British fleet. The problem of the British army is the problem of the defense of Afghanistan. It is the problem of the changes which are being carried out of a kind which will enable this country more effectively to intervene in any contest upon the north-western frontier of India, but in India itself, through the strong hand of Lord Kitchener, there is in process of development a reorganization of our Indian forces which will add enormously to their efficiency."

If it were not for India, Great Britain would have an immeasurable military advantage over her European rivals. They are compelled by mutual distrust to maintain huge standing armies for the defense of their frontiers. Great Britain could maintain her relative supremacy on the ocean by reducing the cost of her army establishment, if the problem were only the defense of the British Isles. It may be doubted whether India is worth the cost, but the government of that vast empire is regarded by the British nation as an almost sacred trust. British rule was founded in rapine and commercial greed, but it has redeemed itself by justice and good works. The welfare of the natives is now its aim and mission, and if it were withdrawn, India would be plunged into anarchy again or become the prey of Russia. If the Indian people, however, could develop a spirit of nationality and a capacity for self-government, which would assure order, the protection of life and property, and commercial freedom, Great Britain would probably be glad to lay down the burden.

The Quebec Revolt.

It is not possible to determine as yet whether the mutiny in the Parent cabinet is a personal matter or whether it can be defended on public grounds. In 1897 the Liberal party, under the leadership of the late Mr. Marchand, swept the province on the cry of retrenchment, as the expenditure had for years exceeded the revenues, and the provincial debt had become alarming. The Marchand Administration redeemed the pledges of the party by a policy of strict economy, which restored the financial equilibrium. Mr. Parent, who succeeded Mr. Marchand, has maintained his policy and given the province clean and thrifty administration. Before he became Premier he had made a splendid municipal record as mayor of Quebec, and did for the ancient capital what Joseph Chamberlain had done for Birmingham—made it almost a new city. He has retained the office of mayor, and is also a member of the Quebec bridge commission. One of the complaints against him is that he has too many irons in the fire, but his great administrative ability is not denied.

The first sign of revolt in the Liberal party was the repudiation by many Liberals in the St. Louis division of Montreal of their member, Hon. Mr. Rainville, whose candidature was incited by Mr. Parent. Mr. Rainville had shown himself too friendly with grasping corporations to please the majority of his Liberal constituents. He was defeated by Mr. Langlois, the nominee of the anti-Rainville Liberals, and Mr. Parent's prestige was damaged in consequence. There can be no doubt that the best elements of the party were opposed to Mr. Parent in this instance, but whether these are represented by the succeeding ministers, Messrs. Gouin, Turgeon and Weir, or not, it is difficult to say. There are charges, not very specific, of maladministration in the crown lands department, of which Mr. Parent is the head,

and of undue subservience to corporate interests. Messrs. Gouin, Turgeon and Weir refuse to discuss their reasons for resigning until the Lieutenant-Governor gives them permission—a proper and constitutional course.

Mr. Parent has secured a postponement of the meeting of the Legislature until March 2, and in the meantime the air may be cleared by public explanations. The verdict of the people will probably find expression in the caucus of the Liberal members of the Legislature. If Mr. Parent is not upheld he should hand over the control of affairs to the majority, and abide by its decision.

What do you think of the new Cabinet?

Paul we know and Cephas we know; but who is Pyne?

London ought to be fairly well satisfied: it has a cabinet minister in each House.

One of the most creditable features of the new cabinet is the absence of Nesbitt and Gagey.

The Advertiser was the only paper, Conservative or Liberal, to predict that Nelson Monteth would be Minister of Agriculture.

The fate of the procurator-general of Finland is another reminder of the saying that the Government of Russia is a despotism, tempered by assassination.

The surprise of Mr. Whitney's Cabinet is Dr. R. A. Pyne as Minister of Education. The most surprised class will be the teaching profession. He has never been associated with educational matters, except as a member of the Toronto public school board, and is a man of very ordinary attainments. Perhaps he is warming a place for someone who is better qualified and who is not yet in the Legislature.

The London Morning Post shows its ignorance of Canadian politics by censuring Sir Wilfrid Laurier for exercising his privilege as a citizen of Ottawa by speaking in behalf of the Ross Government at a public meeting there. Wonder if Canadian comments on British public affairs appear as ridiculous in the old country as the general run of British newspaper comment on Canadian affairs appears to Canadians?

So great a scientist as Sir Oliver Lodge is authority for the statement that a process of extracting gold from sea water has been discovered, and that \$500,000 of the precious metal can be won at a cost of \$50,000. If this is a fact, and the process becomes public property, it would precipitate the greatest financial and commercial crisis in history, unless the Governments of the nations interfered by regulating the amount of gold production. If gold could be produced at \$20 per ton—the price named by Sir Oliver Lodge—it would cost to be standard of value, and its place would probably be taken by silver, but the transition would have appalling consequences. The world, however, appears to regard Sir Oliver Lodge's announcement as a fairy tale.

To Be Cured, Not Killed.

[Toronto Star.] As for the Liberal Opposition, it will stand for a party that has voluntarily gone on the operating table, but has no intention of giving up the ghost.

A Correction.

[Washington Star.] "I understand," said Miss Minnie Brown, "that you appeared to be feeling yoh oats at de pahler social yesterday."

"Dat wasn't oats," answered Mr. Erastus Pinkley. "Dat was rye."

A Hot One.

[Philadelphia Bulletin.] Mr. Cutting Hintz—There is one thing that always struck me as being very strange.

Mrs. Cutting Hintz—What's that?

Mr. Cutting Hintz—That all the women who have distinguished themselves by a display of brains look so much like men.

Police! Police!

[Rochdale, England Observer.] Smart Larn Wanted for Butchering. Apply 8 Spoutland road.

Secret Out.

[Chicago News.] "What is the secret of your success?" asked the very young man. "I look sharp, and in selling I look just as ignorant as I can."

The Main Product.

[Washington Star.] "What is the chief product of the United States?" asked the teacher in a European school.

And without hesitation the bright pupil replied, "Money."

More Than He Ordered.

[Boston Transcript.] Diner—I say, waiter, there's a chicken in this egg. Hello, what are you doing?

Waiter—Changing your check, sir. Chicken is 50 cents.

The Medicine.

[Philadelphia Ledger.] Willie—Pa, what does "panegyric" mean?

Pa—Let me see. O, yes! It's a medicine to make you sleep. I used to have to give it to you nearly every night when you was a baby.

Future of Ontario Liberalism

[Pembroke Observer (Lib.).] The support which the Observer gave to Mr. Ross and the Liberal candidates was actuated by the conviction that, with the platform adopted the new spirit which that convention

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Sunlight Soap

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Your money back for any cause of complaint.



awakened and made dominant throughout the party, the best interests of the Province would be served by the return of the Liberals to power. That conviction, quite plially, did not possess the majority of the electors. The platform remains, and the new spirit will still animate the party, and with that the Liberals go into Opposition neither to sulks nor to obstruct, but to discharge their responsibilities in their new relations.

A Liberal Hope.

[Montreal Herald.] The Libs., with a burst of fine brotherly love, hope that Mr. Whitney, in constructing his cabinet, will hit himself on the thumb.

Complimentary.

[Chicago Record-Herald.] "The woman I marry," he said, "must look upon me as the greatest man in the world."

"Oh, well," she answered, "you may find one. When a woman loves she is not only blind, but absolutely devoid of sense."

A Century of Great Men.

[London Truth.] From 1730 to 1830 is the most memorable period in modern history. Six great men made their marks—Napoleon, whose name was ambition; Nelson, courage; Washington, independence; Wellington, thoroughness; Pitt, statesmanship; and George Stephenson, industry.

Nelson have secured the affection of posterity. Washington and Stephenson have done the most for mankind. Wellington enjoys the reputation of a Pitt has our admiration and Napoleon will forever excite the wonder of the world. Napoleon endeavored to remodel Europe; George Stephenson succeeded in doing so; Washington and Stephenson together had independence, observation and ingenuity—the three qualities which are of the most service to humanity.

FUNERAL AT DORCHESTER

Remains of the Late Brakeman Neigh Interred.

The funeral of H. W. Neigh, the C. P. R. brakeman, who was instantly killed at Elmstead, near Windsor, on Sunday morning, took place yesterday from the residence of the deceased's parents, Dorchester. The services at the house and grave were conducted by the pastor of the Dorchester Methodist Church, while a service was also conducted by representatives of Union Lodge, A. F. and A. M., of which Mr. Neigh was a member. There were two sets of pallbearers, one representing the C. P. R. employees, and the other the Masons. The former were Messrs. Joe Moyer, Thomas Kinsella, Alfred Jackson, Charles Keller, James Strong and Frank Perry. Friends and relatives in large numbers from all parts of Dorchester, where he deceased was born and resided for four years ago, attended the funeral.

Mr. Neigh was working with Conductor Moyer, of this city, when he met his death. Seven cars were being placed in the siding at Elmstead, it appears, and Neigh was riding where the train was to be broken, when he supposed to have alighted, before the engine stopped, to disconnect the air hose, and in doing so, slipped and fell. He was struck by the engine, and in doing so, he was killed. Neigh failed to come from between the cars he went to learn the cause. Moyer was astonished to find Neigh lying across the rail, the body almost severed at the chest.

Neigh is survived by his parents and five sisters.

CONDENSED LOCAL NEWS

—Six rinks of Queen City curlers from Toronto will meet an equal number of Thistle rinks on Tuesday afternoon next.

—Mr. Albert Clarke, who has been spending a few weeks in London, is expected to return with his sister, Mrs. Kennedy, who has been seriously ill.

—The London and Western Trusts Company has been appointed administrator of the estate of John Loxton, of the city of Chicago, who left considerable property in the county of Lambton.

—Capt. H. Kemmis Betty has been gazetted adjutant of No. 1 Company, I. C. R. and succeeded Capt. Kaye, transferred to the First Hussars.

—Michael Lane, of Forest Ont., died a short time ago, having made a will, but not appointing any executors. On the application of his widow, who is entitled to the income of the estate during her life, Judge MacWatt, of Sarnia, appointed the Canada Trust Company, of this city, administrator.

INJURED BY A HORSE.

—Mr. John A. Little, of London Junction, has received word that his son, Sergt.-Major Ray Little, of the South African Constabulary, met with an accident in December and had been laid up for several weeks with concussion of the brain.

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At Ottawa yesterday the railway commission heard the application of the C. P. R. re the fixing of inter-switching charges in London. The C. P. R. had procured an order providing for a G. T. R. switch to the C. P. R. line. No time limit was set, so the G.

Wentworth's Little Liver Pills are a most reliable and effective remedy for all the troubles of the liver and bowels, such as Biliousness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, etc. While their remarkable success has been shown in curing

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Come at once if you wish to secure the best bargains, the greatest variety and the greatest value for the money. Stocktaking will be finished this week, and from now till Saturday, February 11th, all remnants must be cleared out at great bargain prices. Unexceptional bargains for economic purchasers. Come first and secure the best.

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REMNANTS OF SILKS, DRESS GOODS, TWEEDS AND CLOTHS.

Remnants of Tissues for Trimmings for Evening Wear.



Remnants of RIBBONS, LACES and TRIMMINGS

REMNANTS OF SHEETINGS, TABLE LINENS, TOWELINGS, FLANNELS, FLANNELETTES, PRINTS.

"What We Advertise Is So."

KINGSMILL'S

Great Remnant Clearing For This Week.

WERE ALLOWED TO GO

Boys Who Stole Shoes Given Another Chance.

Sentence was suspended on Arthur Turner in the juvenile court this morning on a charge of stealing a pair of shoes from the factory of Sterling Bros. The other boy, who was arrested as a result of the statements made by Turner in the police court yesterday, was also allowed to go with a warning.

Turner, it became known, was not actually guilty of the theft, and had, as he stated, taken the shoes from the boy at the factory as a payment for playing hockey on the factory team. The boy was arrested, and he admitted that he had given the shoes to Turner. He was tried in the juvenile court, and his case was transferred. The police magistrate was willing to give them a chance and he trusted that the disgrace which he had brought upon themselves would be sufficient warning to them to desist from such practices in the future. They both had good chances and he trusted that they would take his advice and be honest above all other things.

A STITCH IN TIME.

Do not neglect that cough. If you do, it is only a matter of time when it may become chronic or incurable. Take Angier's Emulsion. It will soothe the throat, heal the inflamed or torn membranes, cure the cough and prevent its recurrence. Tens of thousands' testimony to its power to cure.

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Indicators to show oil supply.

No Smoke. No Odor.

Best Oil Heater in the market.

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