

## London Advertiser.

FOUNDED IN 1863.  
NOON AND EVENING DAILY.  
WESTERN ADVERTISER WEEKLY.  
THE LONDON ADVERTISER CO.,  
Limited, Publishers,  
191-193 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

PHONE NUMBERS:  
Business Department ..... 191  
Editorial Rooms ..... 193  
Job Printing Department ..... 195

TO SUBSCRIBERS.  
Readers of the Advertiser are requested to favor the management by reporting any irregularities in delivery.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.  
Daily, Delivered by Carrier in City: 50  
One year ..... \$5.00  
Daily, Delivered by Carrier Outside City: 55  
One year ..... \$5.50  
One month ..... 50  
Daily, by Mail, Outside City: 60  
One year ..... \$6.00

The Advertiser is on sale regularly at the following news stands, where subscriptions may be left:  
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## LONDON, FRIDAY, JULY 2

## SOUTH AFRICA.

The last obstacle in the way of a United South Africa seems to have been cleared away by the final vote of the people of Natal. Out of a total poll of 14,822, those in favor of union numbered 11,121—a substantial majority. That the majority was so great indicates a high degree of patriotism, rising above local considerations.

Natal is emphatically a British colony, in contrast with all the other South African states, where the Dutch element predominates. To go into a union which would create an apparently Dutch South Africa, where the British ideals of Natal would be held only by a minority, was a condition not pleasant to contemplate. With memories of the late war still in mind, with the practices of Kruger and his associates not forgotten, and with occasional incidents cropping up which showed Krugerism not altogether extinct, it was but natural that there should be more hesitancy—even some bitter opposition. But after careful thought, by a pronounced majority, Natal has laid aside its fears and its prejudices, Britain has joined with Dutchman, and the confederation is practically accomplished.

The people of Natal appear to have realized the necessity for union. Had the little colony remained outside, the South African Confederation would have been incomplete. It would have lacked the influence of the British colony—perhaps necessary if South Africa is to remain British. It would have lacked an important piece of territory, with a valuable sea coast and sea ports. On the other hand, Natal isolated with an antagonistic Dutch Africa adjacent, would have suffered greatly. The lesser of two evils was chosen, the risks involved were assumed, and Natal will take its place in the union.

The condition of affairs in South Africa has thus taken on a new aspect. The position is somewhat startling. Men of alien races, who a few years ago were fighting, are now joined, not in an alliance, but actually in a political union. Boer soldiers and pro-Boer statesmen are now the leading men in a British over-sea state. What will be the result? Extremists in Africa, and pessimists throughout the empire, will predict failure. And yet it is not necessary that failure should follow. There is a British element in South Africa, though in a minority; there is a progressive Dutch element, led by men like Gen. Botha. With these two united, the anti-British element should be kept under control until in time experience and education smother the anti-British spirit. If the more progressive Dutch prove loyal to British, South Africa will become as British as Canada. There is today none more loyal to the British crown than the French-Canadian; in the future the Dutch African may rival him in loyalty.

It may be only an experiment; but it was certainly an experiment worth trying. For certainly it is the only plan which, if successful, can make South Africa a prosperous community. There spreads a vast area, with untold wealth and magnificent possibilities, which can only develop under the British system of government in connection with British methods of business and British ideals of life. The Boer of the Kruger type may desire the isolation of the patriarchal system. Perhaps he would be happier with it. But it means a dull stagnation, under which there can be no progress—no progress for the South African white—no liberty and development for the South African black. So in their own interests, as well as in the interests of the empire, we welcome the South African provinces to their place among the Dominions of Greater Britain, and hope for, and believe in, the success of the new experiment in the Dark Continent. Northern Africa, where Carthage was the rival of Rome, held a high place in the then civilized world. May South Africa take a higher place in the truer civilization of the future.

## FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA.

The annual report on fire insurance issued by the department at Ottawa deals only with companies operating under Dominion charters, and as in all the provinces there are companies doing business under provincial charters the figures in the report by no means represent all the fire insurance bus-

ness done in Canada. The official statement is interesting, nevertheless. It shows that during 1908 the fifty-three companies reporting to the department at Ottawa—twenty-one of which are Canadian, eighteen British and fourteen United States concerns—received in cash premiums the immense sum of \$17,937,329, or about \$900,000 more than in 1907. Fire losses called for the payment of \$10,278,321—an increase of about \$1,300,000 over the amount paid the previous year. The net amount at risk on Dec. 31, 1908, was \$1,700,883,514.

In spite of the fact that the losses last year were greater than in the preceding twelve months, there was left in 1908 a balance available for appropriation either as dividends to shareholders or to strengthen the revenue. As usual the British companies had the largest share of the business last year, and the risks held by them on Dec. 31, totalled \$976,873,409, or considerably more than one-half of the risks carried by all the companies reporting. This is no doubt due to the fact that the long experience in business of the British companies has enabled them to build up very large reserves, and people seem to have most confidence in companies which can make the biggest showing in this respect.

The report shows the average rate charged by the British companies to have been \$1.48 per \$100; by Canadian companies \$1.52, and by United States companies \$1.54. This slight difference is attributed more to a variation in the business taken than in the rate charged. The range of difference between the average rates of different companies was from \$1.06 per \$100 to \$2.10, this difference of \$1.04 being also due to the character of the business undertaken. More marked was the difference in the rate of losses. During the year one company, doubtless less particular than others as to the character of risks it accepts, paid for losses an amount 28 1/2 per cent in excess of its net premium income; but the average proportion of losses to premiums was 60.33 per cent, compared with 52.41 per cent in 1907. During 1908 Canadian companies suffered the most from fires, their losses amounting to 69.33 per cent of their premium income. The British companies' loss ratio was 58.23 per cent, and that of the United States companies 56.18 per cent.

## REPRESSION IN RUSSIA.

That there has been no diminution of repression by the Russian Government since the Duma was first established is evident from the statistics of capital punishment made public by the ministry of the interior. Under the ordinary penal code capital punishment is not recognized; it is the court-martial that sends offenders to their death. According to Prince Kropotkin, the whole country is practically under martial law, governors ruling their provinces like despots.

The number of persons executed in 1905, after trial by court-martial, was 10; in 1906 it increased to 144; in 1907 to 456, and in 1908 to 825. In the first three months of the present year there were 235 executions, which is at the rate of 540 for the year. Prince Kropotkin claims that executions are carried out by the governors' orders without even the pretence of a court-martial, and that fear of losing their positions prevents officials from showing leniency to accused persons.

The prince gives details in support of his arraignment of Government methods. The minister of the interior and all the provincial governors possess the power to banish persons to Siberia or the northern wastes of European Russia without trial, and it is a power which is fully exercised. The number of Russians now in exile is placed at 75,000, among the victims being eighteen former members of the Duma. About 240 ex-deputies and over 400 newspaper editors have been sent to prison. The prisons are said to be terribly overcrowded. In February last there were incarcerated in them 181,137 persons, although they are capable of accommodating not more than half that number.

Evidently under Premier Stolypin Russia is suffering from the iron heel as much as under any of his predecessors.

## THE SEAL FISHERIES.

[Winnipeg Free Press.] It appears likely that the proposed conference between the Governments of Canada, United States, Russia and Japan, to discuss the question of pelagic sealing, will be held at last. The matter has become one of considerable urgency owing to the depletion of the seal herds by Japanese sealers, who are not restricted in their operations as are the sealers of Great Britain and Canada, of the United States and of Russia, who are not allowed to take seals except in certain seasons and then not within a distance of sixty miles from the Pribyloff Islands. Japanese sealers are at liberty to take seals at any time of the year and within three miles of the islands' shores with the result that the seal herd is threatened with extermination. The question has been the subject of long negotiations between the governments interested, and Russia, Japan and the United States have all agreed to the proposed conference. The assent of Canada is understood to have been so far withheld owing to the difficulty of securing adequate as-

urances from Washington of the compensation which would be paid to Canadian fishermen in the event of sealing being entirely stopped for a term of years; but this, it is understood, is not an insuperable difficulty, and there is every reason to hope that it can be overcome. The proposed conference has for some years been agitated for by the sealers of British Columbia.

## DENISON ANSWERED.

[Winnipeg Free Press.] Col. G. T. Denison, the "Savior of the Empire," has not had long to wait for the answer to his lament that the empire would go to the dogs unless a system of protection, with preference on the side, were not adopted at once. The foreign secretary, Sir Edward Grey, was the mouthpiece of the British Government, and he points out, quite rightly, that not only do the tariff reformers want the self-governing states to be free to interfere in the domestic politics of Britain, but that if the Denisonian policy were adopted the mother country must by the mere force of its power in the combination, have the right to say to the Dominion what duties they must impose. It does not require a deep student of politics, or even of human nature, to come to the conclusion that instead of being a bond of union such a policy would be a source of discord and perpetual friction. Freedom to legislate according to the needs of each individual portion of the empire has been the basis upon which the empire has been built; to transform it into a system of compulsion, either in the direction of free trade or of protection, would undo the work of generations. Canada would welcome a preference in the British markets as against the foreigner, but if such a preference were to be bought at the cost of fiscal independence it would be a sorry bargain.

## THE BIRTHPLACE OF BURNS.

[Robert G. Ingersoll.] Though Scotland boasts a thousand names of patriot, king and peer, The noblest, grandest of them all, was loved and cradled here. Here lived the gentle peasant-Prince the loving cotter-king. Compared with whom the greatest lord is but a little thing.

'Tis but a cot roofed in with straw, a novel made of clay. One door shuts out the snow and storm, one window greets the day; And yet I stand within this room and hold all thrones in scorn; For here, beneath this lowly thatch, love's sweetest hard was born.

Within this hallowed hut I feel like one who clasps a shrine. When the glad lips at last have touched the something deemed divine. And here the world through all the years, as long as day returns, The tribute of its love and tears will pay to Robert Burns.

## A CLUB FOR CANADA.

[Hamilton Times.] The United States Senate has adopted the Brown amendment as to the duty on wool pulp, giving the President power to double it against any country restricting in any way the export of pulpwood therefrom; also, to double the duty upon paper exported from such country as the United States. These amendments are a kind of club intended to be used against Canada, Ontario and Quebec, forbidding the export of pulpwood from their crown lands. As a coercion measure, it will prove a flat failure.

## ORVILLE WRIGHT IN WONDERFUL FLIGHT

His Aeroplane Cirls Eirdlike Before Thousands at Washington.

Washington, July 1.—Orville Wright today encircled the Fort Meyer drill grounds time after time in his aeroplane in three successful flights, while thousands of spectators cheered him.

After the unsuccessful attempts of the past two days the performances of the flying machine today were inspiring. While the machine oscillated at certain points in its flights and dipped and rose suddenly at other points, it was evident from the regularity with which these things happened that they were due to the condition of the atmosphere and not to any fault of the machine.

Previous to the flight the field had been cleared by a troop of cavalry. After the motor had been tested, the weight which gives the aeroplane its start was hoisted, the propellers were cranked and Orville turned on the motor. The screws whirled around at what seemed like greater speed than on the previous occasions and as Orville climbed into his seat Wilbur put his hand on the right wing ready to run along with the machine. Nodding to his brother, Orville released the machine and it started down the track at a rapid rate. As it neared the end of the starting rail, Orville turned up the forward horizontal rudders and the machine arose into the air.

It was a beautiful start and the crowd cheered lustily. Down the field the aeroplane sailed, curved gracefully about the lower end and back up the east side of the field along the edge of Arlington cemetery. It was behaving beautifully. Mr. Wright was making very short turns, but as he seemed to regain familiarity with the ground over which he was travelling he increased the radius of his trips. The first round was made in 50 seconds. Five times the machine skirted the field, attaining a height which varied from 15 to 30 feet.

## MESSINA AGAIN SHAKEN BY QUAKE

Terrific Shock Thursday Morning Starts a Panic.

## DAMAGE IN COUNTRY

Sicily Is Once More Stricken by a Dreadful Seismic Shock.

Messina, Sicily, July 1.—Earth shocks both here and in Reggio at 7:30 o'clock this morning created a panic among the people of these two cities. Walls of houses that were not completely destroyed in the visitation of last December were shaken down, and the inhabitants rushed from the streets towards the open area. A woman and a child were caught under wreckage and sustained serious injury and the woman subsequently died.

Shocks More Intense. The earth shocks have been becoming more intense recently, and last night they were sufficiently severe to cause alarm. The shocks of this morning were accompanied by deep roaring sounds. The first one was followed by an explosion like the roar of cannon, and lasted between eight and ten seconds, which seemed an eternity to the terrified population. It is said that this quake was of greater severity than the fatal one of the night of Dec. 28. The wood of the houses and huts erected for the accommodation of people seemed to be thrown from one side to another. Cries filled the air as the people fled in terror.

As on the night of Dec. 28 the first shock was followed by an irregular movement of the ground. Many five minutes later there came another quake, accompanied by further roaring sounds. This completed the destruction. The remains of the devastated houses collapsed, and the entire district was covered by a dense cloud of dust.

Detachments of troops and carabinieri were dispatched for the protection of the wooden huts built with American money that had not yet been distributed. The population, fleeing from the districts where the houses threatened to fall upon them, rushed toward the American huts with the intention of taking forcible possession of them.

Between 8 o'clock last night, and twenty minutes past 7 this morning, a total of eight shocks were experienced here.

Messina, July 1.—The instruments at the Observatory have registered a total of ten shocks of varying severity since 7:30 o'clock this morning. News that has come in here from the provinces shows that damage has been wrought there, but it is as yet impossible to estimate the extent of the disaster. Sailors, soldiers and policemen have been sent out through the district to prevent looting and give courage to the people.

Reggio, July 1.—A strong earth shock was experienced here at 7:30 o'clock this morning. Many walls were thrown down, but up to the present time no casualties have been reported. The people have been in a condition of panic which has been added to by the contradictory reports of the severity of the earthquake at Messina.

King Grieved. Rome, July 1.—King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena were deeply grieved to learn of the second earthquake at Messina, and they inquired anxiously for details.

Her majesty was gratified to learn that the village of Regina Elena, built on the outskirts of Messina, under her auspices, had escaped uninjured. The houses in this village all are of wood. Father J. H. Hagan, director of the Vatican Observatory, was the first person to inform the Pope of a strong earth shock. His information was confirmed shortly afterwards by telegrams from the Archbishop of Messina and the Bishop of Mileto.

Buried in House. Messina, July 1.—The woman who lost her life was standing in the doorway of the house when the first shock occurred. She rushed inside and caught up a child eight months old, and started to make her way to the street. The woman was killed by the shock, and both mother and child were buried. Soldiers hurried to the scene and began a work of rescue. The child was taken out alive, but up to the present time the woman has not been found. She was heard ten minutes after the second shock crying for assistance.

## YELLOW FRIEND OF WHITE GIRL SLAIN

Everything of Value Taken From Laundry Where Young Blonde Visited Him.

New York, July 1.—A Chinaman was murdered today in his basement laundry at 124 Stanton street. It is not known whether white men or Chinamen killed him. It appears to be clear that two men had a hand in it. The Chinaman was Ung Yow. He had been five years in this country and had worked with his brother, Ung Fong at 202 East Houston street, for a couple of years past. He bought the Stanton street laundry from Tom Lee, a former partner and started business for himself.

The janitress of the building at 124 Stanton street is Mrs. Rose Rabnowitz, and her 3-year-old daughter Sadie quickly made friends with the Chinaman. Sadie used to go every day to the laundry window from the court in the rear, and Ung Yow each time gave her candy or lyeche nuts. Sadie got to like the Chinese girls,

# CHAPMAN'S

## EMPLOYEES' JULY SALE

OPEN SATURDAY NIGHT UNTIL TEN O'CLOCK!  
July Starts, Just as We Promised, With Wonderful Bargain Offers. And Here Are More Big Bargains For SATURDAY

See the Window of These Muslins  
A fresh bargain displayed in our east window today—Twenty-five pieces seasonable Light Sheer Muslins, including Dainty Organdies, Mull Muslins, Flowered Muslins, Mercerized Effects and Large Spot Printed Chiffon Muslins. Very dainty high-class goods for mid-summer wear. These are broken patterns of regular 32c, 30c, 25c and 20c quality. Saturday, at the lowest price such High-Grade Muslins have been offered this season; a yard ..... 13c

Lovely Princess Dresses  
Ladies' Princess Dress, made of Fine Quality Imported Lawn, with small and neat patterns. Collar and sleeves are finished with lace; deep flounce on skirt. Sizes 34 to 38. \$4.35  
Special price ..... \$4.35

Lace Curtains For Saturday  
For another great run on Lace Curtains we offer \$1.50 values Saturday at 97c a pair. Nottingham Lace Curtains, full 3 1/2 yards long, finished top and bottom, strong color-berth edges. The pattern is an empire wreath, with plain centres, relieved with small wreath. Saturday, only, a pair ..... 97c

TWO PIECES FRINGED FILET CURTAIN NET, 36 inches wide, fringed at both sides; suitable for inside drapes, door and window curtains. A very dainty and substantial net. Regular price, 45c a yard. Saturday ..... 21c

July Sale of Bed Spreads  
White Crochet Bed Spreads, English Bed Spreads, size 2 1/2 x 2 1/2 yards. Regular price, \$1.50. July sale price, each, ..... \$1.19

Satin Marseilles Bed Spreads; super qualities. Size 76x96. Regular price \$3.00. July sale price, each ..... \$2.29

Fine Bleached Sheetings Reduced  
English Bleached Sheet, 72 inches wide; heavy, round thread; plain and twilled; best 32c value. Sale price, a yard ..... 27c

Cottons in the July Sale  
English Long Cloth, of extra heavy quality; also a special in Half-Bleached Cotton. Both lines are 36 inches wide, and regular 12 1/2c and 14c qualities. Sale price, 10c a yard, or 10 yards for \$1.00 ..... 10c

Today Sadie walked straight to the laundry window when she got up. Not finding the laundryman she called her mother, who went to the window and was frightened and horrified to see Ung Yow doubled over two washtubs, with his head under water in one of them. She sent for a policeman, who broke in the door. In a few minutes there were men at hand from the homicide bureau at headquarters and from the Eldridge street station.

Ung Yow's body was in the rear room of the basement. The police found that he had been attacked in the front room with some sort of weapon that cut his head on one side. The wound bled profusely, as the tracks on the floor and walls and bloody finger-prints on his body showed. In the struggle a hempen rope had been tied tightly around his neck. The coroner's physician said that Ung had died of strangulation.

Everything of value except the clothing had been taken from the place. Ung Fong said that he did not think his brother had much money, having only recently bought the laundry. The till had been pulled out from the wall, the drawer being left on a nearby table. Everything had been ransacked, even the Chinaman's bed.

The police incline to the theory that it was not Chinese, but strong-arm men of the district who did the murder and that robbery was the motive. Ung Yow, according to neighbors, was visited on Wednesday evening by a white woman, a young blonde, in company with a man, some said; some said alone. One girl said that when she took laundry to the shop she saw white girls there almost every time.

## GIROUARD NOW GOVERNOR

All-Red Route Proposal Dropped for Present by the Government.

London, June 30.—Col. Sir Percy Girouard has been appointed governor of the East African protectorate. He is a Canadian.

It is understood that no further action will be taken by the Government in connection with the all-red route, which has been abandoned at least for the present.

Owing to the absence of organization, little so far has been done here in connection with the offer of free space to exhibitors by the Toronto exhibition. No action has been taken by the London Chamber of Commerce and nothing has been done at Strathcona's office.

Premier Asquith receives the press conference deputation re cable rates on Wednesday. The Financial News supports the proposal to list G. T. R. stocks in Canada.

## 72 Days of Dish Washing

You spend two hours every day washing dishes. That's 720 hours a year or 72 days of ten working hours each. This means that half the time is wasted. For with Taylor's Borax Soap you finish your work in one hour instead of two. Isn't it worth five cents to have 36 days a year to yourself—to have cleaner and sweeter dishes than ever before with less than half the work?

## Taylor's Soap

This wonderful soap is unlike any other you have ever known. It digs into the corners of dishes and loosens the dirt almost like magic. It cuts away grease and leaves the surface clean and polished.

Hard water makes hard dish washing, but Taylor's Borax Soap softens the hardest water and so makes the work easy. But it does more than soften the water—it softens the hands and leaves them even whiter than before.

With this soap you save all the bother of rubbing and most of the scouring. You simply have no idea of the work this soap can save—it's the greatest surprise you have ever known.

The glassware has a lustre that fairly sparkles with brilliance. The china ware looks as fresh and inviting as new. Yet you work only half as hard with this astonishing soap. No soap could be purer than this, for during the boiling process we run thousands of gallons of clean water through the soap. Thus every impurity is carried away and the soap is absolutely clean.

Borax also sterilizes and sweetens. It kills every germ and leaves a clean scent that is simply delightful. This wonderful soap costs no more than the ordinary. We spend twenty-one days to make a single cake. We use the labor of more than 200 persons. Yet we make such enormous quantities—millions of cakes every year—that we buy at the lowest prices and give you the very best of quality. Try one bar and judge for yourself.

