

The Planet.
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ALL READ NEWSPAPERS

"The newspaper which circulates among the people, all the people, is the medium in which I advertise my most expensive carpets and rugs," said a high-class dealer to the Philadelphia Record. "Rich people do not have papers of their own, but read the most enterprising. Some of the people who buy costly goods may make you wonder where they get the money to do it. Anyhow, they do not read the magazines, but do read the newspapers. In short, everybody reads the newspapers."

FIGHTING FOR THE FORTRESS

Russia's growing anxiety to relieve Port Arthur is fully betrayed by the latest developments, points out the Mail and Empire. Both by land and by sea Russia is now directing its movements to that end. Evidently the pressure of Alexieff has quite prevailed over the scruples of Kouropatkin. The Vladivostok squadron was making the dash for Port Arthur, so long anticipated, when it fell in with the Japanese transports in the Straits of Corea. The loss of life inflicted upon the Japanese, serious though it undoubtedly is, will hardly compensate if the squadron should fail to reach Port Arthur. The harbor is now open for cruisers and possibly for battleships. So that with the prospect of reinforcements the Russian fleet might again emerge from its retreat and become, for a time at least, a factor in the naval situation. The importance of this becomes apparent when it is remembered that the Japanese transports are daily carrying supplies and troops to the army in the field. Activity on the part of the Russian fleet would menace the Japanese communications and hamper its operations against Port Arthur. These plans, which appear now to have been delayed, have been accompanied by important military movements. The relief expedition sent by Kouropatkin was allowed to make a considerable advance into the Liao-Tung Peninsula.

The point at which the Japanese elected to offer resistance, Fu-Chow, is some seventy miles north of Port Arthur. Here another of the important engagements of the war was fought, and again the Japanese were victorious. Upon the Russians the moral effect of a disorderly retreat, abandoning guns and ammunition, must be serious. It can only be explained by the superiority of the Japanese artillery, which has everywhere done such marvelous work. For the time the attempt to carry aid to Port Arthur has been defeated. By the logic of events, the caution of Kouropatkin has been justified. But the task once undertaken cannot be abandoned, for Russia will have to return in greater numbers and strength to the succor of the besieged garrison. Meanwhile the situation stimulates Japan to greater and more determined assaults upon the fortress. Japanese siege guns are now in position to pour a deadly deluge among the defenders. As the confidence of the Russians is weakening the desire of the Japanese to complete the mastery of the strategic point is, no doubt, increasing. Port Arthur is still the storm centre of the war. And its fate may soon be known.

BY ORDER-IN-COUNCIL

It is unusual for a Government to embody a stamp speech in an order-in-council. Yet the Fisher episode has been so prolific of new precedents that the latest innovation need surprise nobody. The motive appears clearly on the surface. It is an effort to enable the Government's vengeance to pursue Lord Dundonald across the Atlantic by placing in the hands of the British public a false and prejudicial statement of the case in the guise of an official declaration. The order-in-council is by long odds the least honorable phase of this affair for it sets forth an entirely untruthful version of the difficulty. It actually asserts that Mr. Fisher interfered to guard against political manipulation, although Col. Smart has certified that political hostility was the sole cause of Mr. Fisher's action. But the most remarkable feature of the order is its perverted statement of our system of government. The order sets forth that owing to the extent of Canada it has been necessary "to attach a special responsibility to each minister for the public affairs of the province or district with which he has close political connections." The theory here advanced is that Canada is divided into a number of districts, each of which has a minister, who supervises every department of the Government. So that in the Eastern Townships Mr. Fisher is

Minister of Agriculture, Postmaster General, Minister of Militia, of Marine, of Justice, of Customs, of Finance, etc. Like the famous cannibal chief he is "a king of his own 'coun-tee.'" Every official is subordinate to Mr. Fisher in his own district, and to a different Minister in every other district. Such a system would create sufficient confusion if the Dominion were definitely apportioned off to the various Ministers. But as matters now stand it would be the very climax of chaos. Where, for instance, are the districts ruled by Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. Sutherland, Mr. Paterson and Mr. Hyman? These Ministers represent constituencies closely bunched together. If they had districts they must overlap each other again and again. How is a bewildered general to know which of these distinguished military authorities is his superior officer? Must he on one side of the Grand River subordinate himself to Sir Richard, and on the other bank make obeisance to Mr. Sutherland? Under these conditions, which are now solemnly set forth by order-in-council, complete subordination could only be ensured by constant study of the topography of the country. We are not aware that district maps have been established to indicate the bounds of Ministerial authority. Undoubtedly the ridiculous theory is a figment put forward to justify the intervention of Mr. Fisher. Sir Wilfrid Laurier should have reserved this piece of equivocation for campaign purposes and confined the order-in-council to the facts. It is not within the power of the Premier to abolish responsible government and substitute the French bureaucratic system. Parliament has declared that one Minister has responsibility and authority concerning the Militia Department, stick to the British system, and we want no foreign substitute. The attempt to misrepresent the facts in a solemn order-in-council merits the censure of all lovers of truth and fairness.—Mail and Empire.

FISHER AND DUNDONALD

The Canadian Military Gazette takes the ground that Lord Dundonald was right in his exposure of Mr. Fisher's interference in militia affairs. That paper says: Lord Dundonald had two courses open to him. One to take the responsibility by allowing the militia to be destroyed by political partisanship, under the cover of his great name and experience and higher reputation, or of publicly expressing his disapproval of what apparently went to the country as his work. Discipline is one thing, but concealing the improper conduct of a superior is no offence against military law. A naval secretary of a captain in the royal navy was dismissed from the service with his captain because the authorities held that he must have known of, and that it was his duty to expose, the misconduct of his chief. Why is not the auditor-general dismissed for exposing the frauds of other cabinet ministers? The position of the Government is quite untenable, and Lord Dundonald, the best general Canada has ever had, has done nothing but what any honest man would feel it to be his duty to do.

Now, let us look at the other side of the question and consider Mr. Fisher's position. He is as much a servant of the public as Lord Dundonald, and is he to be above criticism? What is his position? He used the most persistent efforts to interfere on political grounds, and stubbornly prevented a political opponent from being allowed to serve the country. When called upon to defend his course in the House, Mr. Fisher made a plausible statement, denying that he had interfered for any reason except efficiency, declaring that "he took no exception to anybody's appointment on political grounds alone," and then wound up his speech with the statement that what he had said absolutely disproves "the charge that for political reasons I had undertaken to strike out a name that had been submitted." Such was the statement that he gave out to the House and to the country; he, a servant of the public, speaking to the high court of Parliament, and through it to the people whose servant he is. Then, when it was proved that his first statement was not true, he coolly changed his ground and admitted that he had acted differently. "To that extent he pleaded guilty of interference on the grounds of politics; he was not going to have 'the regiment a Tory preserve.'" His pretended ground of desiring efficient officers was fully exposed by his recommending five men, two of whom (unqualified) accepted the positions, the other three lacking the most essential qualifications of all in the militia of Canada, namely, the spirit of loyalty and self-sacrifice which is the foundation upon which the militia of this country is established and maintained. Lord Dundonald has only done his

duty, and allowed the public to know that he was not responsible for what was going on.

Mr. Fisher interfered flagrantly on political grounds with the militia, which belong to us all. He tried to deceive the House and country by denying what he had done, and, cornered and exposed, he changed his ground and brazenly admitted that he had done what he had just denied, and the real question now is not as to Lord Dundonald, but whether Mr. Fisher's usefulness as a servant of the people of this country is not gone, and whether the honest men among his colleagues should not at once demand his resignation in justice to themselves and to Canada.

Already the exposure of the political process as applied to the militia is having its effect. The colonelcy of the Governor-General's Body Guard has been vacant for a long time and Major Merritt has been entitled to the position. But the Government would not Gazette him. Two days ago Col. Sam Hughes put a question on the paper, asking for the reason for the delay. Yesterday the appointment was made.

FORGETFUL CANDOR

Toronto News, Ind. Hon G. W. Ross states, in an interview with the Montreal Herald, that he is opposed to Mr. R. L. Borden's plan of national ownership of the transcontinental railway. He is made to say: "They (Government railways) are bound to degenerate into political machines and likely to be run more in the interests of the party in power than for the benefit of the people." Can it be that Mr. Ross was thinking of his own Government's Temiskaming Railway when he used these words?

IF YOU AND I

If love were what the rose is,
 And I were like the leaf,
 Our lives would grow together
 In sad or singing weather.
 Blown fields or flowerful closes,
 Green pleasures or gray grief;
 If love were what the rose is
 And I were like the leaf.
 If I were what the words are,
 And love were like the tune,
 With double sound and single
 Delight our lips would mingle,
 With kisses glad as birds are
 That get sweet rain at noon;
 If I were what the words are
 And love were like the tune.
 If you were April's lady
 And I were lord in May,
 We'd throw with leaves for hours,
 And draw for days with flowers,
 Till day like night were shady
 And night were bright like day;
 If you were April's lady
 And I were lord in May.
 If you were queen of pleasure
 And I were king of pain,
 We'd hunt down love together,
 Pluck out his flying feather,
 And teach his feet a measure,
 And find his mouth a rein,
 If you were queen of pleasure
 And I were king of pain.

NATURE'S CURE FOR CHILDREN.

Soothing medicines, opiates and strong drugs should never be given to little children, any doctor will tell you this. Baby's Own Tablets should be used because they cannot harm the smallest, weakest infant. These tablets instantly relieve and promptly cure all stomach and bowel troubles, break up colds, prevent croup, destroy worms, and allay the irritation accompanying the cutting of teeth. Thousands of mothers say they are the best medicine in the world; one of these, Mrs. R. Sculland, Calabogie, Ont., writes:—"I have tried many remedies for children, but Baby's Own Tablets is the best I have ever used. I have been giving them occasionally to my child since he was six months old. They have always kept him well, and he is a big, healthy baby." All medicine dealers sell these tablets or you can get them post paid at 25 cents a box by writing to The Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

THE SEA.

Come down with me to the moon-lead sea,
 Where the long wave ebbs and fills—
 Are these the tides that follow
 As the lunar impulse wills?
 Nay, rather this is the heart of God,
 Naked under the sky,
 And we hear its pulse with wonder—
 The shore, and the clouds and I!
 Unearthly, awful, uncomprehended,
 Eternity framed in clay,
 The urge of exhaustless passions
 Rocking beneath the gray!
 Its life is the blood of the universe,
 Through cosmic arteries hurried,
 With the throbb of its giant pulses
 God feeds the veins of the world!
 And the lands are wrinkled and gray
 With time
 And scrovel with a thousand scars,
 But the sea is the soul of the Infinitive,
 Swinging beneath the stars.

NOT THE SLIGHTEST DANGER

In using Dr. Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut for constipation or piles. Highly recommended because they cause no gripping pains. For prompt and certain cure use only Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Price 25c. The heroes of mankind are the mountains, the highlands of the moral world.

DAYS OF AULD LANG SYNE

Interesting Events of Ye Olden Times Gathered from The Planet's Issues of Half a Century Ago.

Continued From Page 9.

other died of his wounds a few days subsequent to the affair. These two were Oliver Brown and Watson Brown. The third one, Owen Brown, escaped, and we have it from a source correctly informed that he is safe from pursuers. We do not know where he is and do not wish to know, and if we did know we would not say even as much as we have above, for while we can in no way excuse the actors in that mad foray, we certainly should let the Virginia officers catch their own insurgents. But Owen Brown was in the affair and is now safe. Whether he was buried in Pennsylvania by fugitive slaves, as was Merriam, who a few days since turned up in Canada, we can't say, but he got safely away either on an underground or upper-ground railway.

On Thursday last a resident of Harwich named Allan Ferguson was found dead in bed.

Prof. Carr gave a magical entertainment in the town hall.

John Brown was born in Tarrington, Ct., May 9, 1800.

The feminine gender should be applied to all ships and vessels afloat except mail steamers and men-of-war.

A young man in New York advertised for a wife. In less than two hours, we are told, eighteen married men sent in word that he could have theirs.

At a Norfolk fair grounds a man ran ten miles in one hour and four seconds. But for the four seconds he would have received a prize of \$200.

Thackeray's new serial is announced for next year. He is to have 3,000 pounds a year. Mr. Thackeray has hardly the temper for an editor and his own style is worn out. He failed on the Times and Daily News and though a smart novel writer he is rather a dimer out than a journalist.

John A. Hoon is prepared, as usual, to furnish the public with a genuine article of sausages, also a good assortment of family groceries and provisions. One door east of R. Smith & Co.'s cabinet ware rooms, King street.

ROSES

And all High-Class Flowers, Floral Designs and Sprays a Specialty.

Tuson
Floral Artist, Windsor

Orders taken at Tschirhart's Music Store, opp. the Market, Chatham, Ont., where will be found at all times a large assortment of Cut Flowers at lowest prices.

BAKING

Give your wife a chance and she'll bake bread like that mother used to make. For rolls and biscuits—that require to be baked quickly there's nothing like Gas.

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King St. Phone 81

F. B. Proctor,
Commission Broker.

N. Y. Stocks, Grains, Provisions, Cotton.... No better service anywhere. Why don't you trade at home? In formation free. Telephone 240.

Carpets Cleaned By Our New Process.

They are cleaned and relaid. Drop us a card or call at office, opposite Piggot's office King St., Chatham. Chatham Carpet and Mat Works.



The Traveller
*Hotel life has taught him—till now he's quite sure,
 An ounce of prevention is worth pounds of cure;
 So he always provides, when packing his grip,
 Enough "Abbey's Salt" to last through his trip.*

Travelling isn't always pleasant. Irregular eating—changes in cuisine—different water—no wonder the stomach rebels! Those who want to enjoy their trips on land and sea, should take a good supply of ABBEY'S SALT with them. It strengthens the whole digestive tract—neutralizes the evil effects of hasty eating—regulates the bowels—keeps one well and strong.

Abbey's Effervescent Salt
Makes Travelling a Pleasure

THE REASON THE
Gas Company Sells Jewel All
Steel Gas Stoves.



They are the Very Best. See for Yourself at The Gas Company.
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CHICAGO

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Windsor Salt 75c. by the Barrel.
Good Salt 85c. by the Barrel.

The Canada Flour Mills Co. Limited
 Chatham - Ontario.

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WHITE VS. PINK SALT.

Have you ever compared them? It would surprise you. Everyone buys

Windsor Salt
 Especially at present cut prices.
35c. to jobbers, 95c. by the barrel

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 Chatham, Ont.