The Advertiser

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THE WESTERN ADVERTISER. (OUR WEEKLY EDITION.)

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> LONDON, - . CANADA. Gods in his heaven, All's right with the world.

Never bear more than one kind of trouble at a time. Some people bear three kinds-all they have had, all they have now, and all they expect to have. -(EDWARD EVERETT HALE.

London, Tuesday March 6.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, with its morn ing and evening editions, covers the ground. With one exception, it is THE ONLY EARLY MORNING DAILY IN ONTARIO, outside of To-

-Only those communications to which the writers are willing to have their names appended in print will be published in these columns. Neither the writing nor the pubication of anonymous letters can be justified.

-A lazy man's hard times last six years out of half a dozen.

-The British Tories have their Primrose Clubs; the Liberals now have their Primrose Premier.

-The Montreal Star confesses that the duty on coal oil is 200 per cent., while perfumery gets in at 30 per cent. This will be welcome intelligence to the masses of the Canadian people, who, of course, regard perfumery as a necessary of life !

-Toronto chief of police asks that mounted policemen be appointed to cover suburban districts. The northwest could very easily assign a hundred or two of its mounted police force but for the necessity of watching the Canadian and United States frontier to prevent trade between the two peoples.

-Lord Rosebery, the new British Premier, among his many enterprises, has become a milkman, one of the most exteneive in London, but he does not have his name on his milk wagons as Lord Rayleigh does, preferring to carry on the trade under the names of his managers. Two other peers who turn an honest penny i the same way are Lords Londonderry, retail coal, and Portsmouth, fruit and garden truck.

-It is announced that a marriage has been arranged between Mr. Asquith, Home Secretary, and Miss Margaret Tennant, daughter of Sir Charles Tennant, of the Glen, Peeblesshire. Miss Tennant is the only unmarried daughter of Sir Charles Tennant, and possesses not only considerable personal attractions, but intellectual gifts of a high order. The marriage, which will take place early in June, disposes of the matrimonial fate of a lady who, a year ago, was represented as being engaged to Lord Rosebery, now Premier of Great Britain.

-Some remarkable revelations are made in the Dominion Attorney-General's report just made public. Last year the Ottawa Government expended for all purposes the enormous sum of \$42,148,000, of which over \$10,000,000 was for interest on the public debt. Though there was no revision of the Dominion voters lists last year \$17,500 was expended under this head. The Attorney-General is kept busy looking after the shortcomings of the extravagant Administration. He insists that "new irregularities" are creeping in to an alarming extent and he points out that the estimates were exceeded by \$706,000.

-There will be widespread sympathy in Canada with Lady Aberdeen, who mourns the death of her father, Sir Dudley Coutts Majoribanks, Baron Tweedmouth, which occurred suddenly on Sunday afternoon. The deceased was a Liberal of advanced views, and a life-long friend of Mr. Gladstone. He was M. P. for Berwick from 1853 to 1868, and in 1881 he was knighted. His son, Edward Marjoribanks, M.P., chief Liberal whip and patronage secretary, will succeed him in the peerage. By the parliamentary vacancy thus caused in Berwickshire the first contest under the Premiership of Lord Rosebery will be caused.

-It was fifty years ago-the 5th of March, 1844-that the Toronto Globe first made its appearance. George Brown, its founder, lies in his grave, and there also sleep many of his old colleagues such as Alexander Mackenzie and Archibald Mackellar. During all those years the Globe was in the thick of every fight against privilege and on behalf of the interests of the mass of the people. There has been no time from that day fifty years ago that the Globe could not fairly be considered the leading newspaper of Canada. On moral questions its influence has been during the whole half century progressive and wholesome. The copyright of a long-established newspaper becomes gradually valuable, and under conscientious management is practically indestructible. But, then, to grow a copyright is like growing a tree. A valuable copyright cannot be grown in a day; but when once well rooted it seems next to impossible to uproot it. Tempus fugit ! Half a century since the establishment of the Globe! Time flies, indeed, for all. It is now going on 31 years since the establishment of the London Advertiser. Success to the well-managed and welledited Toronto Globe, and may it be relatively as influential and as useful when it celebrates its hundredth year.

LONDON FIRST.

Now that Mr. W. R. Meredith, of Toconto, has been nominated by the London Tories, a few editorials by the party's iournals on constituencies that have to go abroad for representatives would be in order .- [Hamilton Times.

They will not protest in this case, though only the other day the London Free Press vigorously indorsed the view that too many Toronto lawyers represent outside constituencies. Of course, the remark must be applied, like charity, to begin with, at home. London is simply too self-respecting city, has too much regard for its future, to accept the city solicitor of Toronto, who years ago deserted London, as its representative. Mr. Meredith cannot serve too masters. He cannot serve a city which is the rival of every other city in On-

tario, receiving \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year as his reward, and this important western center of trade as well. And our city contemporary being the witness, albeit it has already characteristically recanted, the majority of the citizens of London do not mean that he shall be placed in that anomalous position. If the city solicitor of Toronto wants a seat, let the city of Toronto provide him with one. London is important enough to demand that it shall have a representative entirely devoted to its interests and unentangled in the affairs of a community that is our keen competitor. Such a representative, we feel assured, the Liberal candidate will be. Meanwhile, let every independent citizen refuse to pledge himself to the agents of the Toronto city solicitor. The coming man for London will doubtless be placed in the field in due SHOULD THE LEGISLATURE ONLY

MEET ONCE IN TWO YEARS? This week a motion in favor of biennial sessions of the Legislature will be seriousy debated in the Ontario Assembly, despite the fact that the change can only be brought about through the intervention of the British Parliament, which has not hitherto been called upon to consider such a request from any part of her Majesty's dominions. The proposition that the Legislature should only meet every two years provides, as Hon. James Young points out in a letter to the press, for a great decrease in Ministerial responsibility and for an enormous increase in the power of the Ministers. So long as a Premier possessed of sound discrimination and honesty like Sir Oliver is in power, there might be little danger; but let an ill-balanced Premier and a reckless, incompetent and dishonest Cabinet get hold of the Government, and there would be a lamentable lack of check if the House only met and took cognizance of their doings once in two years. Every year a great deal of private bill legislation comes up. Would there not be great hardships to many under the biennial meeting system? It may be said, Let the Ministers be invested with powers to settle all this private bill legislation. Is it in the interests of the people that responsible government should be turned into autocracy? The Ministers are even now charged with doing too much without consulting the Legislature, The same men that raise this cry want to load up the Ministers with more responsibility! They are consistent in their inconsistency. It is in the public interest that all representative bodies should meet once every twelve monthsnot necessarily for a lengthened period or to indulge in law making merely to make a show of working, but to take stock, to closely scrutinize public expenditures, to remedy shortcomings, to promote necessary reforms, to obtain public assurances that the trustees of the public are doing their duty.

No one ever suggests that the shareholders of the banks and of the loan societies should not have an annual meeting, or that the Anglican Synod, the Presbyterian General Assembly, the Methodist Conferences and the Baptist Unions should only meet every two years. The financial institutions, the church bodies and the friendly societies hold it to be eminently proper that their trustees shall give an yearly account of their stewardship, and that the balances shall be struck, not for 24 months, but for twelve. The annual legislative stocktaking cannot be done away with at the suggestion of any unsafe political experimenter, hard up for cause of offense against the cautious, safe and withal economical Ministers now in command. Perhaps it might be an advantage to have the British North America Act tinkered, but not in this direction. The British Parliament, which passed it, experimented in regard to both methods. As early as the reign of Edward III. a statute was enacted providing that parliaments should be held "every year, or oftener, if need be." The determination of some of the autocratic kings to govern without parliaments caused the people much trouble, and the failure to hold a meeting of the representatives of the people every year resulted in the perpetuation of some of the worst outrages on the liberties of the people that have been chronicled. Historians are united in declaring that the excesses in the reign of Charles I. chiefly originated in the long intermission of parliaments. Such outrageous imposts as the levying of ship money would never have been undertaken if the rulers of the day had been compelled to meet the House of Commons every year. In the reign of King William all

uncertainty on the subject was put an end

to by the passage of a bill enacting annual parliaments for the purpose of insuring a strict approximation of the public revenue according to votes of supply. The Whigs (the antecedents of the Liberals) supported the measure, and the Tories generally opposed it. King William at first refused his assent to the law, but the Commons, with commendable pluck, declined to abandon so important a measure, and finally the royal assent was given to it in 1694. From that day to this there have been annual parliaments in Great Britain, and in every portion of the empire where representative institutions have been established the rulers meet annually for stock-taking and needed legislative purposes.

THE TRADE RETURNS From the Canadian trade returns for 1893 we glean the following figures regarding the business done with the undermentioned countries:

Freat Britain\$107,391,070 1892. \$106,551,688 102,957,064 6,314,080 4,258,228 2,675,770 2,816,741 2,888,687 Newfoundland..... British West Indies.. Spanish possessions in Pacific Ocean..... Outch East Indies.... British Guiana..... 650,284 728,613 Australasia 504,431 Great Britain and the United States still continue to take the overwhelming proportion of our trade, as will be seen from the following summary statement: British West Indies.
Other West Indies. Newfoundland..... Other British possessions ... Other foreign countries.....

The total trade of the Province of Ontario last year, according to an Ottawa investigator, amounted to \$77,834,000, of which \$47,607,000 was with the United States and \$27,086,000 with the British Empire. Ontario's trade with the United States was, therefore, 61 per cent. of her trade with the whole world; with the British Empire it was 35 per cent. Ontario's trade with the world outside of the United States and the British Empire was less than 4 per cent. of the total. Ontario sold to the United States goods to the value of \$18,588,000, and to Great Britain, \$10,-689,000. Ontario bought from the United States \$28,447,000, and from Great Britain \$15,694,000. All these figures refer to goods the produce of Canada. Of \$908,-000 worth of minerals sold last year by Ontario the United States took all except \$8,000; of Ontario's fish, \$454,000 worth, the United States took every pound; of products of the forest Ontario exported \$9,874,000, of which the United States took all save \$54,000; of animals and their products, cheese, butter and hides, Ontario exported \$7,391,000, of which Great Britain took \$4,858,000 and the United States \$2,-524,000; of agricultural products Great Britain is credited with buying \$4,941,000 and the United States with \$2,694,000. Ontario exported \$3,381,000 worth of manufactures, of which the United States bought \$2,141,000 and Great Britain \$828,-000. Taking the returns for the whole Dominion it is seen that the total exports of agricultural products was less in value last year than in 1877, sixteen years ago.

Some of the importations into the Dominion, compared with 1892, were as fol-

Iron and steel manufactures.......\$10,113,000 Woolen manufactures.. 10,946,000 \$ 9,968,000 10,341,000 4,333,000 3,992,000

The duty collected on iron and steel goods was \$2,878,000, an increase; on cotton goods, \$1,295,000, an increase; on coal, \$991,000, a decrease of \$7,000. The importation of coal oil increased from 5,793,-636 gallons to 6,222,290, and the duty collected from \$417,000 to \$448,000. The quantity of raw sugar imported fell from 327,000,000 pounds in 1892 to 252,000,000 pounds in 1893. Over \$3,000,000 worth of ron and steel was imported free by manufacturers. The stress of hard times is shown by the fact that the consumption of tea declined by a pound per head of the population. The value of horses exported was \$1,588,000, an increase of \$100,000; of cattle, \$7,745,000, about the same as last year; of sheep, \$1,288,000, a decline of \$140,000. There was an increase in the value of meats exported from \$1,984,000 to \$3,188,000. The gradual death of the barley trade is shown by the following figures: Exports in 1890, 9,975,000 bushels; in 1891, 4,892,000 bushels; in 1892, 5,202,-000 bushels, and in 1893, 2,044,000 bushels. The export of wheat was a little over 13,000,000 bushels, a decline of 600,000 bushels. The decline in value of wheat was marked, the figures being for 1892 \$12,056,000, and for 1893 \$10,152,000. The quantity of hay exported increased from 85,000 tons to 151,000 tons. The value of household effects exported out of the country increased from \$1,227,000 to \$1,357,000. The duty on imported sugar fit for use was at the rate of 22 per cent.; the quantity imported fell from 17,000,000 pounds to 3,000,000 pounds.

England's credit was never so good as The Government issued treasury bills this week for \$5,000,000, received applications for fourteen times the amount, and raised the money at 1 15-16 per cent. Consols this week also reached the highest



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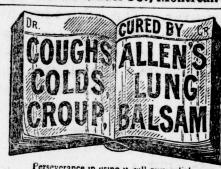
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