

an announcement to the British investing public that they had better beware of placing their money in a country, the Government of which is presumably composed of rogues. Mr. Carvill discloses his motive in this paragraph:—

My desire to give publicity to an act of spoliation, for which I should think it would be hard to find a parallel, is attributable not only to the duty which I owe the shareholders in the Klondyke Government Concessions, Limited, but also to a duty to the investing public whose moneys will surely be at grievous risk if they are placed at the mercy of a minister whose boast it is that he does not regard, and is not bound by the acts of his predecessors.

The grievance against the Minister was carried to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who naturally treated it as a departmental matter. If any appeal to public opinion was to be made it should have been made in Canada and not in London. Presumably, when there is a controversy, and one party to it tries to damn investments in the country concerned, as Mr. Carvill has done, and the other is a Minister of the Crown, the King's servant is a little more likely to be in the right. If fair play is not given to British capital by a Canadian Minister, the place to fight the matter out is primarily in the Canadian House of Commons, and not in the columns of the London "Times." There are plenty of able men at Ottawa anxious to prove the Minister of the Interior a blunderer. The Klondyke Concessions method is spiteful, little, absurd, ineffective, and inevitably casts suspicion on those who use it.

THE LATE MR. T. G. BLACKSTOCK.

The death of Mr. Blackstock removes from Toronto circles an interesting figure. In his prime, so far as years and apparent vigor went, he was prostrated last year by a complication of diseases, the result of excessive application and exposure in connection with the activities of Mr. Gooderham and himself in British Columbia and elsewhere. The best medical advice and the greatest care and nursing could not save his life, and after three months or more in bed he died on Tuesday a victim of overwork.

Mr. Blackstock's was an active life, though not a long one, for he was only in his 55th year. The son of a clergyman, fresh from Upper Canada College and Toronto University he studied law, and was called to the bar in 1877. He became a member of the legal firm of Beatty, Blackstock & Chadwick, and spent almost the whole of his professional life in connection with it, becoming widely known in financial and corporation circles.

Representing the late George Gooderham, whose son-in-law he was, he had an intimate interest in such projects as the King Edward Hotel, the James Bay railroad, the War Eagle and Centre Star mines at Rossland, and he worked with an energy and a steadfastness that were part of his nature.

A manly, lovable man, with a brisk heartiness of manner, he made friends easily and kept them long. He had generous instincts, too, and his intimates only know his many benefactions. His tastes were literary; he had read much; and but for the pressure of business and professional calls he would doubtless have been heard from either on the platform or in the press. His interest in sport was strong, and "Tom" Blackstock was known to many as both patron and rival in such competitions as shooting and yachting, while he preserved to the last his interest in all clean sports. It was a great rarity to hear a disparaging word about him, while his friends were many and their attachment sincere.

At a dinner in London of the New Liberal Colonial Club, organized to discuss colonial questions from a Liberal party standpoint, the Hon. W. P. Reeves, Agent General for Australia, said the standing dangers to the British Empire was the mutual ignorance of the Mother Country and the colonies.

Anything that will affect the dairy industry adversely is the hardest blow Canada can get, says Dr. Creelman, of the Ontario Agricultural College. Seventy per cent. of the cheese on the English market is Canadian. This amounts to thirty million dollars per annum. Hence anything that would affect this industry would be fatal. The danger is lack of help.

LIFE INSURANCE.

The plague in India continues to take its toll of human life. Out of 603 claims made on the Oriental Life Assurance Company, 109 were due to this malignant scourge.

Thirty-nine years in the service of one company as chief accountant is a long period. This is the record of Mr. James Mann, of the Royal Insurance Company. He is retiring, and the staff have made him a presentation.

Mr. C. W. I. Woodland, joint manager with R. I. Griffin of the Canadian Branch of the Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation of London, England, sailed yesterday for this side on the "Empress of Ireland," after spending about five weeks in the Old Country.

Many friends will sympathize with Mr. Hugh Scott, the well-known Toronto underwriter, on the death at Huntsville of his only son, William Iqéland Scott. A fine-looking well-built young man, fond of athletic sports, he seemed destined for long life and activity. But for several years he had been quite laid aside from work. Mr. W. I. Scott was with the Queen City Fire Insurance Company for a number of years, first as inspector and latterly as assistant secretary.

There are over sixty societies in the United States and Canada affiliated with the National Fraternal Congress, which was organized in Washington twenty years ago. Its annual meeting this year will be held in Montreal, on August 15th to 18th. The purpose of the body, which represents 5,000,000 members, is to discuss and settle matters of interest and importance to the fraternal system of life assurance and sick benefits, as well as to guard against inimical legislation. From 300 to 500 delegates, ladies and gentlemen, are expected. Mr. A. K. Talbot, of Lincoln, Nebraska, will preside. The delegates will be accompanied by about 1,000 visitors. Eight Montreal committees are arranging for their accommodation. One of the questions for decision will be the consolidation of the National Fraternal Association, and the associated fraternities of Canada.

For Provincial Government Insurance.

Mr. T. C. Livingston, of the Provident Life Assurance Co., proposes a curious plan of guaranteed Government Life Assurance to the British Columbia Legislature, whereby that company should deposit \$50,000 with the Minister of Finance, and \$25,000 annually, until half a million shall have been deposited for security of policyholders, or such larger sums as shall be more than sufficient to reinsure all the company's outstanding policies. In view of these deposits, the payment of all policies should be guaranteed by Government, and in consideration of this, the company would lend its funds to borrowers in British Columbia at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent.

Mr. Livingston contends that among the advantages of the plan would be the prevention of the present enormous outflow of money from the Province in the shape of premiums paid to insurance companies, and interest to loan companies, and would bring into the Province from abroad millions of dollars for investment at low interest. It would add largely, also, to the revenue of this Province, and (to add still more to its glamor), this increase would come mainly from the United Kingdom, the United States, and the Eastern Provinces. As a further bait to the Provincial Government, it is mentioned that in the ordinary course there would be hundreds of live agents all acting as boomers of its lands and resources.

AN EXAMPLE FROM GUELPH.

"I live in Guelph; I have faith in Guelph. Within the last six months I have invested nearly \$10,000 in vacant unimproved land in Guelph, worthless unless Guelph improves and develops; it is needless to say that I am with you in my desire to make Guelph, the Royal City, an important, progressive and attractive city."

So spoke Alderman Lyon, the new president of the Guelph Board of Trade, on his inauguration. Mr. Lyon translates his civic patriotism into financial deeds. He offers to build a factory or factories at his own expense, on a railway switch, at the very best location in Guelph. The conditions are that the firm must be a responsible one, whose undertaking would be reliable. Mr. Lyon would give, free of cost, ample ground to build on, and for future extensions. The building would be sold to the incoming firm at 5½ per cent. over actual cost, and a thousand dollars of principal with 5½ per cent. interest, to be paid annually for ten years. Mr. Lyon would arrange for extensions on the same conditions. For a business employing 125, well paid, male hands, he would be willing to build a factory costing \$20,000, taking a mortgage for security. The mortgage would cover a substantial quantity of machinery or some other security.

There is no doubt that new-coming manufacturers will be liberally dealt with by the city council. Fixed assessments can be secured, and possibly other advantages.