

## London Advertiser.

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London, Thursday, Dec. 23.

## HOW WARD REDUCTION SHOULD

MAY BE CARRIED OUT.

Toronto, like London, is engaged in a

movement for the reduction of the wards

within the municipal boundaries, and a

vote is to be taken on the subject at the

ensuing elections. The Empire takes

strong grounds in favor of a reduction of

wards, and for these among other reasons:

"Most certainly the leading feature of

this scheme is the abolition of the ward

system, and it is one much to be commended.

It is just a question whether it goes far

enough in this direction, and whether,

having broken up the divisions into wards,

the additional step of having all the alder-

men elected by the people at large might

not be taken. In any case, the ward

system is responsible for much that is

amiss in city government, and its almost

complete wiping out will have good effect."

One objection, and about the only objec-

tion that we have heard to a reduction in

the number of wards in this city is thus

met by our Toronto contemporaries:

"It is declared by what are called

'practical men' that if you do away with

the ward system the election of aldermen

at large will render it much more difficult

for them to secure places in the council.

Well, there seems to be no pressing reason

why aldermen should be actively canvass-

ing for re-election, and no one doubts that

leaving the election of aldermen to the

voluntary action of the electors, as it is

now, would be a material benefit to municipal

life. Under the proposed method there

would be a strong tendency to get men with

broad views on the subject of civil welfare,

and with less of sectionalism in their notions

of expenditure. Let no one fear that with-

out special representation localities will

suffer in the distribution of patronage and

the carrying out of public works. Each

locality may be trusted to look out for it-

self, and will in every case get all it should

in justice to the common weal receive."

Toronto now has 13 wards and 39 alder-

men for a population of 230,000. This

gives an alderman for about every 5,000

citizens. Under the new system, the num-

ber of wards will be reduced to six and the

aldermen to 24. This will give an alder-

man for about every 8,000 citizens.

Some inconsiderate people in London

have been charging those who advocate

ward reduction for this city with leaning

to centralization. It is hard to see

where the centralization comes in.

As at present constituted, there is one

alderman for every 1,700 or 1,800 of the

people, whereas Toronto, which has one

alderman to every 5,000, thinks it has a

much too large representation for the good

of the people, and is likely to vote that one

alderman for every 8,000 will manage the

business of the city with greater dispatch

and economy. If the London taxpayers

reduce the number of wards to three, and

the number of aldermen to nine, there

will still be an alderman for every 3,500 of

the population, or a far fuller representa-

tion, in point of numbers, than the city of

Toronto now has.

There would be no difficulty in equalizing

the city into three wards, each to embrace

a fair proportion of suburban property

as well as a substantial share of the central

or business district of the city. This is

proved in the present draft division, pre-

pared at our request by Assessment Com-

missioner Grant:

FIRST WARD

To include No. 6 ward, that part of No. 1

ward south of Dundas street, west of Rich-

mond street, and that part of No. 2 ward

north of Dundas street, west of Richmond

street and south of Albert street.

SECOND WARD

To include that part of the city north of

Dundas street, east of Richmond street, and

west of Richmond street from and includ-

ing the north side of Albert street.

THIRD WARD

To include all that part of the city south

of Dundas street and east of Richmond

street.

A division of this description would be

about as equal as any that could be struck.

The population respectively would be in

No. 1 ward, 78,011; No. 2, 12,083, and No.

3, 10,821, while the assessment would

amount in No. 1 ward, to \$5,271,975; in

No. 2 ward, \$5,058,807, and in No. 3,

\$4,861,722.

—In the January number of the Forum

Dr. Austin Flint, of New York, will pub-

lish an article on "The Revolution in

Medicine." Dr. Flint explains the method

not only of Dr. Koch's treatment for con-

sumption, but the probable early extension

of a similar system of treatment to most

of the other diseases that are caused by

bacilli, such as diphtheria, typhoid fever

and measles. This is perhaps the first

comprehensive and philosophical explana-

tion that has been made for lay readers of

the practical applications of the results of

bacteriology. In the same number of the

Forum Prof. Emile de Laveleye, the

famous Belgian publicist, will have an

article explaining "The Division of Africa"

among the European nations, accompanied

with a map showing the territory claimed

by each. Mr. Thomas G. Shearman will

discuss the probability of "The Coming

Billionaire," to show how a continuance of

the present system of taxation will be sure

to bring him.

## LAURIER ON PROFESSIONAL

"PATRIOTS."

Hon. Mr. Laurier, in his great speech at

Halifax, gave the men who ostentatiously

advocate their loyalty, and thank God they

are not like other men, a great settling out.

He remarked that it had always been the

policy of the apologists for class privileges,

when their party was in danger, to allege

that their opponents were disloyal. He

continued:

"I don't know how it has been in Nova

Scotia, which your people had to fight the

battle of responsible government years ago,

but when my forefathers in the Province of

Quebec had to fight the battle of responsible

government there the Tory cry was that it

would be 'disloyal' to England, although

some of the very Tories who then shouted

loudly about loyalty did not subsequently

hesitate to vote against the Governor-General

and burn the Parliament Buildings as an

evidence of the depth and strength of their

excessive loyalty. (Applause and laughter.)

I remember distinctly the Tory cry was that it

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## pursued make it difficult to supply the

home market, and this ought to be the best

market of all. As long as the best of the

cheese is exported, and only the culls are

kept to supply the home demand, the in-

dustry cannot hope to thrive as it should.

This is the fly in the ointment. It is a

subject of almost universal complaint in

Ontario that a fine quality of cheese cannot

be procured of the home make, although

consumers are willing to pay the best

prices. Wholesale dealers who buy culls

because they can be had for 3 cent or 1 cent

per pound less than the price of prime

cheese are only in part blameable. The

cheese manufacturers themselves are chiefly

responsible, and if they would but consider

that the greatest margin of profit is to be

found in supplying the home market they

might be persuaded to mend their ways.

The consumption of cheese per head has

been more than trebled in England during

the last twenty years as a consequence of

the improved quality of the article put upon

the market. Let the dairymen's associa-

tions consider this aspect of the question,

and we are persuaded that if they try to