

London Advertiser.
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LONDON, THURSDAY, AUG. 31.

A Damaging Report.

The British Board of Trade has issued a blue book, containing a report upon the wheat production of the Canadian Northwest by Mr. James Mavor, professor of political economy in Toronto University. Professor Mavor's conclusions will be far from welcome in this country, and their publication in an official document is calculated to injure Canada in the estimation of the British people. He holds out no hope that the Canadian West will ever be able to supply the demands of the British market. He estimates the total area available for wheat production to be 13,750,000 acres and concludes that 35,445,000 bushels is the utmost yield that may ever be expected in a single year.

Sir Gilbert Parker, who is in this country, takes sharp issue with Professor Mavor, and questions his fitness, as a man who is concerned chiefly with theories and has no practical acquaintance with the subject of wheat production, for the task assigned him by the British authorities. The Canadian western papers are indignant and pronounce the report a slander on the country. For example, Professor Mavor credits Manitoba with only 2,800,000 acres of available wheat land. The Winnipeg Telegram points out that according to the official report issued by the provincial department of agriculture last June, 2,642,583 acres of wheat were actually above soil in Manitoba at that time. The area of the whole province is 50,000,000 acres, and the far lands of Southwest Manitoba alone comprise 12,500,000 acres. Again, the professor's report includes a colored map of the Northwest "showing approximate areas of land relatively susceptible of wheat cultivation," the portions marked in blue being designated as areas "not suitable for wheat cultivation, but at present timbered and largely suitable only for pasture even where cleared." Practically the whole district tapped by the Canadian Northern Prince Albert branch from Dauphin north and west to the Pasqua Hills is thus described, as is also the Gilbert Plains districts west of Dauphin. Professor Mavor, says the Telegram, will no doubt be surprised to hear that this latter district promises a record yield, and he will also be interested to read the following excerpts taken from the last Canadian Northern crop report, and which refer to points in a district he ascribes as "not suitable to wheat cultivation":

Gilbert Plains—Crops progressing splendidly and cutting high.
Grand View—Crops in excellent condition; weather favorable.
Ethelbert—Cutting commenced; conditions excellent.
Minitonas—Cutting general; crops very good; weather fine.
Susan—Wheat cutting general; weather warm.
Melfort—Wheat ripening nicely; harvesting has begun.

These facts are sufficient to discredit Professor Mavor's conclusions, which were no doubt stated in good faith, but were evidently based upon information obtained at second hand. It is to be hoped some steps will be taken to dispel the damaging impression which his report may make in quarters where it is important the truth about Canada should be known.

Anglo-French Good-Will.

The English mail brings elaborate accounts of the courtesies extended the officers and men of the French squadron which anchored for a week at Portsmouth, in return for the visit of a British squadron to Brest. The French tars were greeted with unfeigned cordiality at every public appearance. Admiral Caillaud and his officers were dined by the Lord Mayor of London and the Premier of Great Britain, and were given a round of entertainment in the metropolis. They went straight to the core of British affections by saluting Nelson's monument as they marched to the Guildhall. The Parisian press is effusive in its acknowledgment of the sincerity and warmth of the British welcome, and is convinced that the Anglo-French agreement is based upon feelings of genuine friendship for France in the heart of the British people.

Nothing could have been more tactful and appropriate than the speeches of Premier Balfour and Mr. John Morley, representing the two great political parties. Mr. Balfour proposed the toast of "The French Navy," calling attention to the fact that the company was assembled in a hall—Westminster Hall—which had been built 800 years ago by a son of that William the Conqueror who came over from French shores to found a dynasty. It was a melancholy reflection to think how much of those 800 years had been spent by both countries in mutual suspicion and distrust, or in active hostilities, but through peace or war the two countries had exercised a mutual influence upon one another, in their modes of thought, their civilization, art, and philosophy, which had been of advantage to both. There had been times when the idea of national friendship, except for the purpose of annoying some third party, hardly came within the view of the practical politician, but he was glad to think those days were far gone. He believed that for the future France and Great Britain would feel that their world interests were identical, that they had no rivalries over which to fight, that each

had a great mission to perform which could best be performed under peaceful conditions.

Mr. Morley claimed to speak for his party colleagues in saying that the two historic parties of Great Britain were of one mind as to the Anglo-French entente. It was in the union of France and England, with all their great and noble traditions, their interest in great ideas, and in great enterprises, that the progress of the world must depend. Their fraternization meant no ill to any other nation, and there was no idea that any sparks from the illumination at Brest and Portsmouth should set Europe on fire. The good understanding between the two countries was one of the greatest steps ever taken for the advancement of civilization and the order and peace of the world.

These sentiments were echoed by the spokesman of the French navy, and have found a response in the French press. A wonderful change of opinion has been wrought in two years, for which much of the credit belongs to the initiative of King Edward. In Canada, the buying of the hereditary enmity between the two great pioneers of civilization is a matter of special rejoicing.

Great Britain and Japan.

The Associated Press claims to have information that a new treaty of alliance between Great Britain and Japan has been signed. The report is not officially confirmed, but it is generally believed. Now that peace has been declared, the British foreign office is expected to give the details to the public.

The former alliance was a masterpiece of diplomacy. It enabled Japan to measure her strength with Russia without fear of interference by a third power. But for her bond with Great Britain, France or Germany might have gone to Russia's rescue. It has prevented also a combination of powers to deprive Japan of the fruits of victory, such as ousted her from the Asiatic mainland ten years ago.

The treaty has been no less advantageous to Great Britain. The war has demonstrated that, in the words of the late Lord Salisbury, British placed her money on the right horse. She has discovered, to her surprise, that her ally is the greatest power in Asia. Her traditional policy of the open door in China, for which she appeared to be waging a losing battle, has been firmly established by Japan's triumph. Her Asiatic possessions are more than ever secure.

The old treaty required each power to come to the assistance of the other in case either was attacked by two or more powers. It is said the new treaty takes a wider scope by binding the signatories to assist each other, even though the attack comes from a single power, but only in case the attack is directed against their Asiatic possessions.

This would solve the problem of the defense of India. If Japanese armies could be thrown into India, the fear of a Russian invasion, which has always haunted Great Britain, would disappear. It might smooth the approach to a permanent understanding with Russia as to the delimitation of British and Russian spheres of influence in Asia and Europe, a consummation which would bring universal and perpetual peace appreciably nearer.

With Great Britain on terms of amity with Russia, France, Japan and the United States, the only remaining source of disturbance would be Germany. Germany's ambitions are sweeping and are so far from realization that she shows no desire at present to tie her hands.

The general impression is that Gen. Lincolnton is in luck.

Most of the great events of the war and the declaration of peace were first published in evening papers.

The Ontario Municipal Association attacks the Commence Act. So did the Conservative party before it was in office.

The fact that Russian peasants are in revolt will raise them in the estimation of free men. We have been accustomed to regard them as dumb, driven cattle.

If there is any triumph for Russia in the peace negotiations it is well that M. Witte should have the credit. The more prestige he can carry home the better for the cause of freedom.

ness: others upon the evolution of gold production, the geological history of the Victoria Falls of the Zambesi. At the joint meeting of the geologic and geographic sections, Prof. W. M. Davis, of Harvard, is expected to take part. Not least interesting or useful will be the work of the educational section, which, though of recent institution, is already firmly established. The president, Sir Richard Jebb, will show the growing importance of university education as a factor in the life and development of the nation, with special reference to the conditions which exist in South Africa. Other subjects are rural education as applied to colonial life, the higher education of women, and the important questions of native education. The burning question of the day in Johannesburg does not seem to be approached except in two papers on the life history of colored laborers in the Transvaal. We must not omit to record among the distinguished company bound for the Cape, Dr. J. A. H. Murray, chief of the Oxford English Dictionary, who, not without a wrench, we must believe, takes his first real holiday in a quarter of a century.

Towel Was Damp Brown.

[Salt Lake Herald.]
Senator Pettus, of Alabama, on a bright April morning, was defending the Government's bestowal of seeds upon the farmers. "Those who oppose this custom," he said, "are ignoring the fact that the farmer's work and of the farmer's needs. They are as ignorant as a little Alabama girl of whom I heard the other day. 'This little girl's mother handed her a damp towel.'"
"Minnie," she said, "take this towel into the kitchen and hold it in front of the fire until it is dry."
"Yes, mamma," said the child, and she threw the towel over her shoulder and departed.
"The mother continued her work. She forgot all about her daughter. Ten or fifteen minutes passed. The child, who was sitting on the floor, looked up at the mother and said: 'Mamma, it called, 'is the towel done when it's brown?'"

The Lazy Man.

[Washington Star.]
"You can't beat de lazy man," said Uncle Eben. "When de weather's bad he says he can't work, and when it's fine he says it's a shame not to enjoy it."

Long and Short of It.

[Chicago News.]
Stranger—Is the cashier of the local bank a tall man?
Native—Physically speaking, yes.
Stranger—Physically speaking?
Native—Yes; otherwise he is short—something like \$3000. That's why he has taken a trip abroad.

The Future Fire.

[Catholic Standard and Times.]
"You look happy, old man," said Jenks.
"I am," replied Goodman. "I have just renewed the best and cheapest fire insurance a man could possibly have in this world."
"You don't say."
"Yes, I just paid my premium."

Real or Fancied.

[Catholic Standard and Times.]
"What can I do for you, sir?" asked the drug clerk.
"Well," replied the man, "my room was full of rats last night, and I want—"
"Yes, sir," interrupted the bright clerk, "bunno for yourself or styrene for them?"

Shocking Insinuation.

[Philadelphia Press.]
Mrs. Nuritch—I told Widow Downes to send her boy to you and you'd give him a position.
Mr. Nuritch—Well, I didn't give him no position. He came with a note from her, an' she said: 'I must find employment for my boy, even if he works for a mere pittance.' The nerve of her callin' me 'a mere pittance'!"

The Bear Old Days.

[Anonymous.]
Gimme back the dear old days—all the boys in line—
"Boy stood on the burning deck," an' "Bingen on the Rhine."
"Twas midnight, in his guarded tent," he spent his lonely hours,
While Mary trotted out that lamb "whose fleece was white as snow."

Gimme back the dear old days that
Mentry loves to keep.
With "Pilot," 'is a fo'cast night, there's danger on the deep."
The old-time awkward gestures, the jerk about for a bow,
We said that "Curfew should not ring," but, lord! it's ringing now!

Gimme back the dear old days, with Nick Wilson at his desk,
An' when we all threw sheepskins at the girl that we liked best;
"Twas always fun an' fightin', sometimes good an' hard,
But that is now all history, and we leave it for the bard.

Gone like a dream forever—a city hid the place
Where stood the old-time school house; an' no familiar face
Is smilin' there in welcome beneath a mornin' sky.
There's a bridge across the river an' some have crossed an' said good-bye.

Mortuary.

[Philadelphia Bulletin.]
He is called the undertaker, but he overtakes us all.

The Dull Season in Lil'ovet.

[Lil'ovet (B. C.) Prospect.]
Paul said the Athenians loved to hear new things, and so do subscribers today. Here is about what it amounts to:
Local—Two cows went up street, a white one ahead of a black one. As we go to press, they are coming back down, the black leading.

His Wise Assumption.

[Washington Star.]
"Do you know anything about golf?" asked the energetic person.
"Yes," said the indifferent man. "Enough to talk about it and too much to play it in the hot sun."

Mr. Hay Passed It.

[San Francisco Chronicle.]
Walter Hoff Seely, the insurance man, tells this: "I was taking lunch about a year ago in the Pennsylvania station at Jersey City, and was seated on a stool at the lunch counter, when the Congressional Limited came in, and among other passengers was Secretary Hay. Rushing into the lunch counter he seated himself next to me and ordered a sandwich and a cup of coffee. On the other side of the secretary was a typical American, who did not the slightest idea that his neighbor on the left was the American premier. Mr. Hay's face was a study of amusement when he was suddenly jabbed in the

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fibers by the elbow of the man, who at the same time addressed the secretary after this fashion: "Say, sport, ferry over the confectionery, will you?" The interesting part of it was that John Hay passed the sugar."

PERSONAL MENTION

Miss Clara Sanderson has returned home from Goderich.

Mr. Abraham Slater is holidaying in Montreal with his two sons, Chauncey and Ellis.

Miss Knowles, of this city, is the guest of Mrs. O'Reilly, Colborne street, Chatham.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reynolds, Grey street, are holidaying at Toronto, Hamilton and the Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Dibb have gone to Denver, Colo., to see Mrs. Dibb's brother, who is seriously ill.

Miss Alice Palmer, of 442 Pall Mall street, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Frank D. Waldo, Toronto.

Mrs. J. Pierce and children of this city, are the guests of Mrs. E. Pierce, of Cherry street, Port Huron.

Mrs. (Dr.) F. N. Harvey and daughter, Miss Platt, are visiting Mrs. Sarah Shore of White Oak.

Miss Agnes Boyd, daughter of ex-Ald. John Boyd, has returned home after a year's stay with Prof. and Mrs. Hall, of Clarksburg, Mo.

George Munnoch, of Waterloo street south, left on the harvesters' excursion. A large number of friends were at the station to bid him good-bye.

Mrs. Patrick Grace and son Joseph, who have been visiting friends here, for the past month, returned to their home in Colorado Springs, Col., yesterday.

Rev. Dr. Robert Johnston, of Montreal, was here yesterday, and left in the afternoon for Kincardine to visit relatives, in company with Mrs. Johnston.

Miss Waneta Brodie has returned to her home in Leroy, Mich., after spending a pleasant two months' vacation with her aunt, Mrs. A. A. Boston, of West London.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Hay, of 145 Waterloo street and their niece, Miss Viola Hay, of Palmerston, are visiting eastern points, and will see the Toronto exhibition on their return trip.

Mr. and Mrs. George McTavish, of Pittsburg, Pa., are visiting their parents, Mrs. A. McLean and Mrs. A. McTavish, Iderton. Before returning home they expect to visit relatives in Detroit.

Good Roads Convention.
Port Huron, Mich., Aug. 31.—In an address before the good roads' convention, Provincial Highway Commissioner Campbell, of Toronto, said that the century upon which we are entering will be recorded as an era of good road-making on this continent.

He urged the employment of competent engineers to supervise the construction of all highways, and made many valuable suggestions as to construction.

A. N. Johnston, highway engineer of the department of agriculture, in his address said fifty million dollars were being expended in the United States in maintenance of roads, and that it was a conservative estimate to say that half one-half of this was wholly wasted by poor methods.

Perils of the Sea.
New York, Aug. 31.—The schooner John Bossert arrived in port today from Georgetown, S. C., leaving from the effects of a collision with an unknown sailing vessel on the night of Aug. 26, while off Cape Hatteras. She brought ashore Captain Charles A. Brown, his son, and the crew of four men of the schooner Charles C. Witter, which they had abandoned in a sinking condition the same night, after a collision with the John Bossert, leaving London at 9:00 a. m., stopping only at principal points, and arriving at Fair Grounds 12:01 noon, and Union Station 12:05 p. m. The round trip rate is only \$25 on these dates, and \$30 during the balance of time; all tickets being good returning until Sept. 12, 1905.

By selecting the Grand Trunk you have a choice of splendid service returning from Toronto at 7:30 or 7:35 a. m., 12:01 noon, 1:00, 4:40, 7:00 and 11:30 p. m.

Secure tickets at Clock Corner, 15, De la Hooke, agent, or at Depot office, 97 lb.

\$10—Atlantic City Excursion—\$10
The last ten-dollar sea shore excursion this season, Friday, Sept. 1, via Lehigh Valley Railroad. Tickets good 15 days. Stopover allowed at Philadelphia. Tickets good on regular express trains, leaving Susquehanna Bridge 2:50 and 7:15 a. m. and 6:20 and 10:15 p. m. For tickets and further particulars call on or address Robert S. Lewis, passenger agent L. V. R., 10 King street east, Toronto. 1-g

Special Excursions to Toronto, Via Canadian Pacific.
The special low rates to the Canadian National Exhibition on Aug. 29 and 31, Sept. 2, 5 and 7, should induce everybody to visit the big show. The rate is \$2.55, good to return until Sept. 12. Exceptionally good train service via Canadian Pacific. Call on W. Fulton, city passenger agent, 161 Dundas street, for tickets and all information. 7c

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