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Industrial Warfare. One of the facts which it is necessary to recognize, at the opening of the new century, is that in the world of trade and industry Great Britain no longer holds the position of easy supremacy among the nations, which for many years she had enjoyed. Of recent years she has had formidable rivals in Germany and the United States, and that rivalry steadily grows more formidable. Attention has been especially called to this of late by the successful competition of American with English firms in the steel and iron trade, and that under circumstances which might be supposed to be especially favorable to the English. Such facts, and the general trend in industrial and commercial affairs, which they are supposed to indicate, have been the subject of a good deal of discussion of late—much of it of a rather pessimistic tone—in British newspapers. They have also called forth remarks from some of the leading public men of Great Britain. Before the Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce, Lord Rosebery recently spoke of the great industrial struggle which the development of other countries—especially Germany and the United States—was making inevitable for Great Britain. The British nation had led the world as a trading people, and they had been scornfully nicknamed a nation of shopkeepers, but now every nation wishes to be a nation of shopkeepers. His lordship made particular mention of the American people—their alertness, their incalculable natural resources, their acuteness, their enterprise, their vast and growing population, which make them most formidable competitors,—and of the Germans whose persistency, scientific methods and conquering spirit, devoted as these qualities now are to preparation for trade warfare—make them little less formidable than the Americans. One feature of the American competition Lord Rosebery alludes to as especially formidable—that is the massing for purposes of trade of the vast personal fortunes which have been so rapidly accumulated in the United States. These combinations of capital constitute a power which, wielded by one or two minds, is almost irresistible. Suppose this tremendous power directed in commercial warfare against any particular trade in Great Britain by underselling all its products, though at a loss for the time being to the American trust, and what will be the result? What has been done in the green tree does not forbid the supposition that operations upon so colossal a scale may be undertaken in the dry. The growing accumulations of capital in the United States and in Germany, the power and passion for money making among Americans, and the plodding, indomitable, scientific spirit among the Germans, turned to industrial affairs, are facts which, in the opinion of Lord Rosebery, as well as of many others, may well cause John Bull some apprehension.

The Remedy. "What is the remedy for this? What is poor old John Bull to do before he shall be suppressed and defeated by these new competitors?" This is the question which Lord Rosebery asks, and although he modestly disclaims any ability to instruct the Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce in the matter, he does venture to indicate one line along which, as he thinks, a part of the answer is to be found. The remedy is in part "Education" for the promotion of industrial and commercial-national activities. "I do believe," said his lordship, "that our commercial men require educating, training scientifically from the bottom, if I might say so without impertinence, to the top," and his statement was received with cheers. Lord Rosebery went on to show that among those who had thought and written upon the subject there was a general agreement in the opinion that there was a certain lack of training and preparedness in this matter. There were not so many British commercial travellers abroad as there should be, and equipment for this work in a thorough knowledge of foreign languages was wanting. The training British commercial men receives is also too insular. There is not the requisite readiness to go abroad and learn what can be learned of other nations, and thus

to secure training which is not available for them at home. His lordship noted with pleasure that there were indications that something was now being undertaken in that direction and commended it as worthy of imitation. Something too was already being done in the establishment of schools for a more adequate training for commercial pursuits, and there was reason to believe that some excellent schools now established will prove to be the precursors of many others of like character.

The King's Message
to his

Colonial Subjects. "To my people beyond the seas—The countless messages of loyal sympathy that I have received from every part of my dominion over seas testify to the universal grief in which the whole Empire now mourns the loss of my beloved mother. In the welfare and prosperity of her subjects throughout Greater Britain the Queen ever evinced a heartfelt interest. She saw with thankfulness the steady progress which, under the wide extension of self government, they had made during her reign. She warmly appreciated their unflinching loyalty to her throne and person, and was proud to think of those who had so nobly fought and died for the Empire's cause in South Africa. I have already declared that it will be my constant endeavor to follow the great example which has been bequeathed to me. In these endeavors I shall have confident trust in the devotion and sympathy of the people and of their several representative assemblies throughout my vast colonial dominions. With such loyal support I will, with the blessing of God, solemnly work for the promotion of the common welfare and security of our great Empire, over which I have now been called to reign.

(Signed), EDWARD."

The Opening of The ninth Parliament of Canada met in its first session on Wednesday, the sixth instant. Its first duty was the election of a speaker. Mr. Louis Philippe Brodeur, member for the electorate district of Rouville, was nominated by Premier Laurier for that office. The nomination was concurred in by Sir C. H. Tupper on behalf of the Opposition, and the election of Mr. Brodeur was unanimous. On Thursday afternoon Parliament was formally opened by Lord Minto, the Governor General, with the customary formalities. In "the speech from the throne," there was first of all appropriate mention of the death of the Queen, of the illustrious virtues which had characterized her, both as woman and sovereign, throughout her long extended reign, and the universal regret and sympathy with which the news of her death had been received in this country. The address proceeds to pay a tribute to the valor and good conduct of the soldiers of the Canadian contingents, who, during the year, had seen active service in South Africa. It remarks with gratulation the federation of the Australian colonies into one Commonwealth, on lines similar to those of the Canadian Confederation, and also the progress being made with the Pacific Cable scheme. The Governor General states that an invitation to His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cornwall, to visit Canada during the coming summer had been accepted, and expresses the hope that the visit will still take place. Last summer Lord Minto made a tour through Canada as far as Dawson City, and was much impressed with the great activity displayed in the development of the mining and agricultural industries of the country, the substantial increase in population, as well as the thrift, energy and law-abiding character of the immigrants. The speech notes with pleasure Canada's excellent display in the Paris Exposition, and the testimony to the excellence of Canada's cold storage facilities seen in the fact that a number of her fresh fruit exhibits secured the highest awards. Other points noted in the speech are the improvement in the St. Lawrence route by the widening and deepening of the channel, and the increasing volume of trade and revenue. It is intimated that measures will be submitted to Parliament for the better supervision of the export trade in food products, also in connection with the Post Office, the Pacific Cable and various other subjects. The speech concludes with invoking the divine blessing on the important labors in which Parliament is about to engage.

Political Frauds. A great deal has been said with in the past few years respecting the prevalence of venality and fraud in election contests in this country, and it must be admitted that certain facts which have recently been brought to light, as well as the current reports in reference to the late general election, go to confirm the conclusion that the evils have not been exaggerated. In the East Queens, P. E. I. election case, which has been recently tried, with the result of voiding the election, the evidence adduced was of a character to cause the presiding judges to speak in very plain terms respecting certain men and matters connected with the election. Mr. Justice Hodgson is reported to have said: "After hearing the evidence that has been given, I feel bound to declare that never before has there been brought to my notice such shameless corruption and debauchery in connection with an election contest. It will be our duty to report some of those—perhaps not the least shameful of them—who seem to have deluged the country with liquor, bringing opprobrium and disgrace upon this province, with the earnest expectation that the laws of the land may be invoked against them." Justice Fitzgerald, who was associated with Justice Hodgson in the case, said: "I agree with what has been said by my learned colleague. I do not think there has ever been in Prince Edward Island such a revelation in the way of deluging a country with intoxicating liquor. I am ashamed, as a life-long resident, to find that an electorate during a campaign could be wholly debauched by liquor. I for one would like every man within the sound of my voice to know that when my hand lights it will light heavily upon those who bring such disgrace upon the country, and if I am asked to disqualify I shall not hesitate to do it, in view of what I have heard today."—The attempt to add by fraudulent means the names of several non-residents to the voters' list of Kings County N. B. is another case in point. How many or what persons were concerned in this unsuccessful and stupid fraud will perhaps be made known in due time. It is, we believe, not disputed that the person or persons concerned in the fraudulent transactions were actuated by a purpose to promote the interest of the Government party in the county. It is but right however to say that some of the Liberal papers, and particularly the St. John Globe, have severely denounced the attempted fraud, and called for the punishment of the guilty parties. Referring to the matter, the Globe in a recent issue says: "It has not yet appeared that the Liberal party is in any way responsible for this proceeding, and we are pretty sure that it does not intend to assume any responsibility, no matter who may be primarily responsible. The great thing to be achieved is to have the wrong which has been done righted in the public interest, and to have the offenders awarded punishment in whatever way it can be properly administered; and to secure that result honest Liberals—and that means the Liberal party as a whole—are just as anxious as their political opponents." We hope this is quite correct. It certainly ought to be so.

Alberta. The territory of Alberta possesses resources in its coal fields, its fine ranching country and rich grain lands, which, with a favorable climate, are destined in the not very distant future to make it the home of a large population. It is estimated that the Edmonton district produced last year about 2,500,000 bushels of grain, and there is also a considerable agricultural development in the southern part of the territory. The ranching business is assuming very considerable proportions. It is estimated that 20,000 head of cattle were exported from the territory last year. The construction of the Crows Nest Pass railway and the consequent reduction of transportation to the Kootenay district and other parts of southern British Columbia has been of great advantage to Alberta by opening up a market for the products of its farms and ranches. There are some parts of this large territory which, while possessing fertile soil and other advantages, are not adapted to successful grain-growing, owing to the liability to late and early frosts. The area upon which grain-growing can be successfully carried on is being gradually determined by experience, but unfortunately the experience has in some cases proved rather costly to new settlers who year after year have seen grain crops, which in the early summer gave magnificent promise, cut down and ruined by untimely frosts and snows.