London Advertiser.

TWO EDITIONS DAILY - WEEKLY

TELEPHONE CALLS.

Business Office 107
Editorial Department 124
Job Department 175

LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 5.

To Christmas Shoppers.

Do your holiday shopping early. The merchants have laid in the bulk of their Christmas stocks, and the customer can have a better choice now than later on. The stores are less crowded, the goods are bright and new and have not been handled by a throng of shoppers. Too many people postpone their Christmas purchases till the eleventh hour, when they have not the same range of presents to choose from, the same length of time to make their choice, and the same chance of receiving prompt and adequate attention as two or three weeks before Christmas day. The early purchasers get the bargains. In consulting their own interests they will consult those of the merchants and their staffs. The holiday rush is very trying for the clerks, and a little forethought and kindness on the part of the purchasing public will spare them many weary hours and add to their Christmas pleasure. There is no necessity for crowding a month's shopping into two or three days. The ladies of London, who do most of the purchasing, may earn the gratitude of scores of merchants and hundreds of their assistants by taking this advice, besides getting better service in the stores.

There is another duty of which intelligent shoppers do not need to be reminded. That is to read the advertisements in this journal. These will be very suggestive and helpful in the choosing of Christmas gifts, and will save a great deal of running around. The enterprising merchants have presented in these advertisements a pretty complete inventory of their Christmas stocks, and the newspaper is better than a store window for the shopper's purposes.

Is the World Growing Worse?

Rev. Morgan Dix, the rector of Trinity Church, New York, said to be the richest in the world, gave his congregation a Thanksgiving sermon that had more of gloom than gladness in it. He saw the forces at work making for the decline of the republic, and drew up a categorical indictment of the age which is worth discussing, count by count.

"1. Class alienation; the insolence of wealth and the angry discontent of the poor."

In an old country class distinctions are inherited, and most people accept them as a matter of course, but why have they grown up in the great American democracy, where Jack is presumed to be as good as his master? Is it possible the American people are no more democratic at heart than the "subjects" of a monarchy? And is an aristocracy of wealth better than an aristocracy of birth?

"2. The growth of luxuries, riotous living, the misuse of money, and its reckless squandering on pleasure and pride."

Riotous living is bad, but the growth of luxuries is a cause and effect of civilization, and is not an economic evil. Before the age of luxuries our ancestors were running around in furs or breech-cloths. Luxuries that reflect taste, culture, refinement, are the ornaments of life, without which it would be hard and bare. The conditions which enable people to accumulate inordinate wealth may be unjust, but if they have the money it is better. They should put it into circulation again, than hoard it. They cannot spend it without giving employment to labor. The theory that money spent in luxuries is an economic waste is an exploded one. It is true the money may be spent wisely or unwisely from a moral and social standpoint. A man may eat or drink himself to death, or he may build libraries or buy pictures. But luxury per se is not to be condemned, and the more freely money is spent by a community or nation the higher will be its standard of living. Political economy is against Thoreau. A multiplication of wants means a richer and more complex civilization.

"3. Education without religion.

There are those who hold that education and dogmatic religion are one and the same and cannot be separated in the training of the young. There are others who maintain that education is the duty of the state and religion exclusively that of the home, the church and the Sunday school. Others take the middle ground that the Bible should be a text-book and religious exercises given in the schools; but denominational and doctrinal differences have so far stood in the way. Dr. Dix inferentially condemns the secular public school system, a question over which honest and enlightened men differ.

"4. The steady breaking up of homes by divorce and adulterous remarriage."

This indictment is only too true. Even the smart set was shocked the other day when two divorced persons, in fashionable society, were married at Newport an hour after the woman had been divorced from her first husband. No clergyman would marry them, and the ceremony was performed by the judge who granted the woman's divorce decree. Five of the ten guests had been themselves divorced. In 1900 the census takers found 114,677 divorced women in the United States, but this is an underestimate since many divorcees pronounced themselves single. Lax divorce laws in many of the states are responsible for this social evil, but what are laws but a reflection of public morality?

"5. The appearance of vast systems of religious imposture, and their success in making converts."

The United States has been the greatest breeding-ground in the world for religious sects. The rise of the Dowieites and other systems based on similar beliefs may not mean a subsidence of religious faith, as the followers of Dowie and other impostors are doubtless honest and sincere. They are misguided, but these movements do not imply spiritual stagnation.

"6. The spirit of gambling in every place where it can be practiced."

The recent sensational bull movement on the stock market no doubt tempted scores of thousands into speculation for the first time, but they have had a bitter lesson, and will never burn their fingers again. There is no evidence that the spirit of gambling is more rife in normal times than it used to be. In the early part of the last century gambling was still the favorite pastime of polite society, but it is now a reproach to any circle.

"7. The cold-blooded assaults on private property by those who attack corporations and drag them down to bankruptcy for their own advantage, in order to enrich themselves by the losses which their acts bring about."

The preacher's invective might better be directed to the corporations that gulled the public into purchasing watered or worthless securities. If they have been dragged down it is because nine times out of ten they deserved it. The drop in the market price of their stocks was merely the baling out of water. Perhaps Dr. Dix referred to the attack by Morgan and Schwab on the shipbuilding trust; but Morgan and Schwab represent the type of corporations that have preyed on the public and on which the public is now justly revenging itself.

"8. The insecurity of life, through contempt for the law, and the freedom of assassins, whether sane or insane, to wreak their will upon their innocent victims."

The charge is well founded. The lax enforcement of the law has its root in popular disrespect for the law. This is one of the gravest menaces to the republic.

"9. The steady decline of womanhood from its old ideals, and its deterioration through copying the ways and invading the sphere of men."

The divorce record is hard to get over, but the statement that womanhood has deteriorated through invading the spheres of men will not pass unchallenged. Her entrance into many occupations once closed against her has given woman a wider outlook and a greater resourcefulness and independence. She is no longer dependent and helpless in anything like the same degree as she was fifty years ago. The tendency is toward absolute equality of the sexes in all human activities, and it is a grave thing to say that this must be at the expense of woman's moral ideals. An exact observer might say that deterioration is visible chiefly among the votaries of wealth and fashion, who are under no necessity of invading the spheres of men.

The New Assessment Law.

The special assessment committee of the Ontario Legislature has made sufficient progress to agree on the basis of a new assessment law. It will meet in a fortnight to reach final conclusions and formulate its report to the Legislature. The committee wisely declare against the discredited personalty tax, which some of the municipal officers wished to retain. The business tax is accepted as the substitute for personalty, but the proposed house tax is rejected. In lieu of a tax on the franchise of public service corporations, such as electric light, telephone, waterworks and gas companies, as proposed by the royal commission, the committee suggests a tax on the gross income. The exemption of incomes up to $1,000 is also favored. It is likely the business tax will be graduated so that wholesale houses will pay on a larger assessment than retail stores, and banks, theaters, hotels and distilleries on a still larger scale, than wholesale premises. The significant admission was made by counsel for the Grand Trunk Railway Company that the railroads expect to pay more taxation than at present. The amended assessment of the railway corporations will be one of the important questions with which the committee has still to deal.

The committee has not followed precisely the lines advocated by the royal commisssion, but it has accepted the main principle of the commission's report—the abolition of the personalty tax. This in itself will be a reform and a long step toward a more scientific and equitable assessment law. It is to be hoped the Legislature will deal resolutely with the matter at the next session.

The ghost of the Ontario Conservative Associataion will not down.—Toronto Globe.

With another election coming on, it is natural the ghost should walk.

If Seymour Gourley, K. C., M. P., lived across the line he would stand a good show for membership on the new Anglo-American arbitration tribunal, as an impartial jurist of repute.

The business of selling ears has been reduced to commercial principles in the United States. Pretty soon there will be a tariff on foreign ears.

The Winnipeg Telegram, Conservative, hastens to say that no one proposes a Dingley tariff. No one in the West does, who values his public life; but President Drummond, of the Manufacturers' Association, declares for a tariff equal to that of the United States. If that isn't the Dingley tariff what is it?

"I hardly think the Conservative party in North Renfrew has fallen so low as to require the services or assistance of a man like Gamey," says Mr. W. R. White, K. C., one of the leading Conservatives of the riding, and a member of an historic Conservative family. Is there any moral difference between employing Gamey in Muskoka, and employing him in North Renfrew?

Where Wisdom Steps.

[Washinton Star.]

"Lots o' men," said Uncle Eben, "kin look wise, an' lots kin talk wise; but de man dat kin act wise is mighty scarce."

Other Gudgeons.

[Toronto Star.]

The fact that Dowie owes $750,000 is proof that he doesn't monopolize all the faith in Chicago.

Sign of Prosperity.

[London Punch.]

The American millionaire who published the fact that he was willing to pay £1,000 for an ear has been inundated with offers, and he is said to be now considering whether, being a millionaire, he could not wear more than one set of ears. What would strike us over here as ostentatious would not necessarily be considered so in America.

Where Eliza Was Struck.

[Hawkinsville (Ky.) Republican.]

Some careless boy or girl threw an apple out of one of the windows of the photograph gallery while the high school was being taken Friday morning and struck Eliza Harnum just west of the drug store, inflicting a large bruise.

An Estimate of Darwin.

[Sir Leslie Stephen, in the Atlantic Monthly.]

"I had the privilege of seeing something of Darwin in his later years. To me, and my opinion was not exceptional, he appeared to be simply the most lovable person whom I ever encountered. A little party of us used at one time to take long Sunday tramps in the neighborhood of London. Those were days to be marked with a white stone when Darwin received us at the famous house at Down. It is in the quiet region of chalk downs, which had been left untouched in the gaps of the network of railways; and still looked as rural as it had a century earlier. One could expect to meet the old smugglers whose paths from the coast to London were laid through the unfrequented district. There Darwin found an admirable retreat for contemplating flowers and bees and worms, and for slowly elaborating the thoughts which had revolutionized science. He was as free from pretensions as if his investigations had no more claims to respect than those of a commonplace pigeon fancier. The simplicity of the man was evident in the delightfully easy terms in which he lived with a family which was worthy of his affection. I could sympathize with the young German who burst into tears on leaving the house, touched by the contrast between the famous thinker and the sweet-natured, quiet country gentleman, so free from the pedantry which sometimes haunts the professor's chair."

Not Strong on Facts.

[Montreal Witness.]

The Rev. Frederick Campbell, D.Sc., of Brooklyn, recently did Canada the honor to travel over 2,000 miles of her territory, and now he has written all about it in The Christian Work and Evangelist. He certainly writes entertainingly, but, like Mark Twain, he is "not very strong on facts." Of the St. Lawrence, he says, for instance, "The dangers of navigation are so many as very seriously to paralyze Canada's commerce, which is decidedly declining." That is just about as true as to say that black is white.

Montreal's Grain Exports.

[Baltimore Sun.]

Montreal during the exporting season now closing has made a record of 30,000,000 bushels of grain exported, against 20,000,000 last year. Much of this grain was water borne over part of the distance between the wheat fields and the sea. But for the holding back of grain for higher prices, the exports via Montreal would have been, it is believed, much larger. As it is, the northern farmers will not have to keep their grain through the winter and rush it to market in the spring, with bad effect, it is feared, on prices. The rates given by the Canadian railways on grain have been close to three cents a bushel and have left little profit to the carriers.

Ease Up Little, or Down Will Come the Buildings

Request Made on Behalf of Fire Limits Bylaw Breakers—The Year's Work.

On Tuesday, Dec 8, the cases of the Clarence street business men, who are alleged to have broken the fire limits bylaw—and which cases have been hanging fire in the courts for some time—will again come up before Police Magistrate Love. It appears that the defendants thought they would be within the bylaw if they covered with sheet-iron the wooden portions of the structures they erected, but Engineer Graydon could not see matters in that light.

The engineer has been harassed so long about permitting alleged infringments of the fire limits bylaw that he concluded to take a determined stand in the cases and find out where he was at and what the law said regarding such cases. Mr. Graydon obtained from the city solicitor a definition of the law, and according to this concluded to take a determined the fire limits laws to allow the structures erected to be covered with sheet iron. In order to come within the law, the buildings should have been built of stone or brick, or iron, and Mr. Graydon, in order to do his duty as he sees it, insists that the law be carried out.

Today a letter was received from Mr. R. K. Cowan, solicitor for the parties being prosecuted, stating that if the engineer did not ease up a little in his demands, it would be necessary for the parties interested to pull down their buildings at a great personal loss and to leave the land idle. Mr. Cowan says it will be utterly impossible for his clients to do what Mr. Graydon asks under the law, and the appeals to the council to take action at its next meeting, and, if necessary, so remedy the fire limits bylaw that the covering with sheet-iron of the buildings in question will place them within the law.

TWO MORE MEETINGS.

There will be two more meetings this year of the council, when various reports will be submitted and the usual nice things said of the aldermen by brother aldermen. Reports will be presented by the various committees, showing the work done during the year. Of these, Engineer Graydon says that despite the overdraft of the board of works, that body will have nothing to feel ashamed of, as the board this year got better value for the money spent than ever before. The engineer thinks that the permanent improvements effected are by far the larger and most satisfactory of any year yet. In this connection, he points to the pavements on York street, the two blocks of asphalt on King street, the macadam roadway laid on Albert street and Wellington street, between Pall Mall and Central avenue, both of which were paid for out of the general fund; the large number of culverts laid throughout the city and the retaining wall built at Hyman's tannery on Richmond street. The annual report of No. 1 committee is as a rule not very interesting and will likely maintain its reputation this year. No 3 committee's report, however, will show something to the good, and amongst the chief works performed the increasing and strengthening of the fire brigades.

A QUEER BYLAW.

London undoubtedly has some very funny bylaws, but none which in point of humor are qualified to stand in the same class as this Toronto bylaw, It seems singularly appropriate that a "bull" should be made in connection with a cattle bylaw, as is the case in this instance. The point of the paragraph of the Toronto bylaw is that which says that "cattle, pigs and sheep must not be driven through the streets unless they are led by halter, rope of otherwise by persons having full control over the same."

NEW SURTAX RULES

Important Pointers for Canadian Importers.

Ottawa, Dec. 4.—The regulations established by order-in-council respecting the surtax on goods imported to Canada, have issued from the customs department. The regulations in force since the introduction of the resolution in Parliament have not been amended in essence, but the following interpreting clause has been inserted:

"In determining whether or not any article imported into Canada which has been produced, improved or advanced in value by the labor of any country other than Germany, is subject to the surtax by reason of a portion of the value thereof having been produced in Germany, the fair market value of the article or material grown, produced or manufactured in Germany, which has entered into the manufacture of the article imported into Canada, shall be held to be the value produced in Germany within the meaning of the tariff act respecting the surtax."

For the information of intending importers the following illustrations are furnished as to certain cases (amongst others) to which the surtax will apply. Take the case of neckties made in Great Britain or in any other country from silk fabric manufactured in Germany (out of materials produced in Germany or elsewhere). If the fair market value of the silk fabric as sold by the exporter in Germany to the importer in Great Britain or other country, represents more than fifty per cent. of the value of the neckties, in condition ready for export to Canada, the neckties would be subject to the surtax.

Take the case of hosiery made in Great Britain or in any other country from hosiery yarns spun in Germany (from wool produced in Germany or elsewhere). If the fair market value of the hosiery yarn as sold by the exporter in Germany to the importer in Great Britain or other country represents more than fifty per cent of the value of the hosiery in condition ready for export to Canada, the hosiery would be subject to the surtax.

In 60 years the annual per capita consumption of whisky has gradually decreased from two and a half to one and a fourth gallons. In 40 years the consumption of beer has increased from less than two to more than seventeen gallons per capita.

Law catches flies and gnats and such small deer in justice tackles the hornets.

LIBERAL CONVENTIONS

Ontario Dates for Nominations for the Dominion House.

Toronto, Dec. 5. — The following Liberal conventions have been called to nominate candidates for the Dominion:

North Ontario, at Beaverton, Monday, Dec. 14.

Center York, at Richmond Hill, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

South Grey, at Durham, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

East Lambton, at Watford, Thursday, Dec. 17.

Coughs, colds, hoarseness, and other throat ailments are quickly relieved by Vapo-Cresolene tablets. ten cents per box. All druggists

The Best Fuel Known

to give you glowing coals instantly; lights with paper; no wood required. Your grocer keeps it. Beaver Brand Charcoal. Ten cents per sack.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Save Money, Worry and Trouble

By lighting your fires with Beaver Brand Charcoal. Ten fires ten cents. All dealers sell it.

ENGLISH TESTIMONY—Colds, Headache, Influenza and Catarrh relieved in 10 minutes by Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

Prominent people throughout England, the United States and Canada praise Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. It will cure you.

Miss Blanche Sloan, London, England, the only sister of Tod Sloan, the world-famous jockey, says: "I have suffered for years from catarrh and colds. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder gave me relief in ten minutes. Is worth all other remedies combined."

Claude G. Wood, Palace Theater, London, England, writes: "One puff of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder will cure any headache."

Miss Bijou Russell, 10 Keppe street, London, England, says: "One bottle Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder cured me of chronic colds or catarrh. It relieves in ten minutes."

Dr. Agnew's Heart Cure relieves Heart Disease in 30 Minutes.
Sold by C. McCallum & Co. 31

CHRISTMAS LINENS.

ONE of the most important features of the Christmas season is the embellishment of the festive table. Fine Linens occupy a prominent place amongst the decorations. We carry a full and complete range of Fine Irish Table Damasks, Napkins and Centers, also Fine Fancy Linens, exquisite patterns; dainty and patient needlework on fine flax fabrics; pieces for all sorts of house use and home adornment, and yet the moderate prices bring them within everybody's means.

Novelties in Tray Cloths, Centers, Doilies, Tea Cloths, Pillow Shams.

Teneriffe Wheel Lace Work from Funchal, in Doilies, square or round. From 25c to $1 35.

Fine Linen Doilies, Tray Cloths and Tea Cloths; worked by the Japanese of Tokio; finest goods on the market in hand-drawn work.

Doilies from 15c to 48c. Tray Cloths from 75c to 97c.

Centers from 48c to 75c. Tea Cloths from $1 25 to $1 50.

Very fine Irish hand-embroidered, in beautiful, heavily-worked designs, in Tray Cloths, Tea Cloths and Dresser Covers, etc.; a full assortment.

Swiss Embroidered Pillow Shams; exquisite designs with Dresser Covers to match.

Fine Irish Linen Hand Loom Table Damask and Napkins in sets. A full range of designs, made of pure flax, from $6 00 to $30 00 per set.

Irish Table Damask in all widths, absolutely pure flax, twenty different designs.

Irish Table Napkins in endless variety; all sizes and prices.

Plain Irish Linen, hemstitched for drawn work—Center Pieces, Tray Cloths and Tea Cloth sizes.

Fine Sheer Linen for Handkerchiefs and Centers, 36 inches wide, in many qualities, from 50c to $1 65 per yard.

Art Denims, French Sateens and Draperies for Cushions and Easy Corners. The latest designs at from 18c to 32c.

KINGSMILL'S

REXALL HOUSEHOLD DYES.
The latest and most improved dye in the world. Will dye wool, cotton, silk, jute or mixed goods in one bath. Ask your druggist, Cairncross & Lawrence, 216 Dundas street; H. J. Childs, 632 Dundas street; T. H. Janes, Wortley road, for a sample. ywt

A layman between two layers is like an angleworm between two hens.

A rolling stone gathers no moss, but it loses its rough corners and will in time become a perfect sphere.

Money makes the mayor go—at an election.

When the old maid frolics it is no child's play.

They All Welcome It.
Guests, husband and children alike welcome the appearance of CLARK'S LUNCH TONGUE on the table. 701-5-31

TWO KINDS OF CHILDREN

Children that grow too fast and those that seem hardly to grow at all, both need Scott's Emulsion.

It gives that rich vital nourishment which is the secret of all healthy growth. It rounds out the long limbs, and helps children to grow without using up all their strength in growing.

Mothers ought to know more about the wonderful help which Scott's Emulsion would give their children.

We'll send you a sample free upon request.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Toronto, Ont.

Notice is Hereby Given

That a special meeting of the shareholders of the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway Company will be held at the head office of the company on Monday, the 30th day of November, 1903, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to consider and deal with a certain agreement made between the directors of the company and the Pere Marquette Railroad Company, bearing date the 1st day of October, 1903, providing for trackage and other rights over the lines of railway and property of the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway Company, except the London and Port Stanley Railway;

And further, that on the shareholders of the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway Company consenting thereto, as provided by law, application will be made to the Governor in Council for his approval of the said agreement.

Such application will be made to the Minister of Railways and Canals, at the Department of Railways and Canals, at Ottawa, on Monday, the 4th day of January, 1904, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and all persons interested may then and there appear and be heard on such application.

Dated at Walkerville, the 26th day of October, 1903.

J. H. COBURN,
40h-t Solicitor for the Applicants.

THE LONDON LOAN COMPANY OF CANADA.

DIVIDEND No. 53.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of Six Per Cent per Annum for the current half-year has been declared, and is payable after the 31st day of December, 1903.

M. J. KENT, Manager.

Get a Big Lovely Dressed Doll FREE

DOLLY WIDE AWAKE LOOKING FOR ITS MAMMA.

Girls! do you want a Lovely big **Sleeping Doll**, a beautifully dressed imported German beauty, nearly

1-2 YARD TALL

This lovely imported Doll is neatly and **handsomely dressed** in the very latest French doll fashion. Dolly is a **beauty** prettier than any baby you ever saw; she has Bisque head, rosy cheeks, **sleeping eyes**, lovely long curly hair (dark or blonde), pearly teeth fancy lace trimmed dress, fancy dress underwear, with hat, shoes, stockings, etc., complete and **stylishly dressed** from head to shoes, an elegant and lovely doll, sweet and **pretty as a rose in June**, she shuts her eyes and goes to sleep as natural as baby herself.

Girls! now is your opportunity to obtain one of our lovely dolls before any other girl gets ahead of you, **drop everything else and write to us**, we are giving away hundreds of lovely dressed, jointed and sleeping dolls for selling only 15 packages of our **Famous Marvel Washing Blue**, the best bluing made, at **10 cents** a package. **Don't send any money.** Order to-day, we will send Bluing by mail pos paid, you sell it at 10 cents a package, and with each package a certificate is given entitling cus omer to **a valuable silverware present from us.** Marvel Washing Blue, the great wash day help, sells in almost every house, you can sell the 15 packages in a few hours; when sold return us the money, $1.50, and we will carefully pack and promptly forward to your address one of our **handsome dolls.** Note—We **arrange to prepay all charges on your doll** right to your address, so that you receive your lovely doll without cost, and besides the lovely large doll we also send you a beautiful little **Bisque Baby Doll** with lovely long hair and jointed body, you can put the baby doll to sleep with the large Mother Doll and have **lots of fun**, remember we send the two dolls for selling only the 15 packages, and we also send **another lovely extra present** if you are quick in replying.

We want every honest girl to write at once, we will treat you fair and right, and expect the same from you.

Please understand, this is no catch-word scheme to deceive our little friends, but an **honest proposition** made in good faith, by a well-known reliable business firm to advertise our business. **Don't delay**, order the Marvel Washing Blue at once and be the first in your locality to receive these **lovely presents.** ADDRESS: **MARVEL BLUING CO.**, DOLL DEPT., 223 **Toronto, Ont.**

FREE
LADIES' FUR SCARF

This beautiful fine quality rich black Fur Scarf is

OVER 44 INCHES IN LENGTH

made from fine selected full furred skins. It has six lovely large black Martin tails, it is made in the latest New York Style, and is in every way equal in appearance to any high class Fur Scarf made. In order to introduce **Marvel Washing Blue**, the great wash day help, we will send this lovely Scarf Free to any one for selling only 20 packages at 10 cents a package. Marvel Washing Blue sells quickly as it is the best bluing made and every family needs it. Each customer buying is entitled to receive a handsome silverware present from us. Just send your name and address, and we will send the Bluing by mail, postpaid; when sold send us the money, $2.00, and we will send you this beautiful fur Scarf. You need no money, we trust you with the goods till sold. Write for the Bluing to-day, and have the swellest scarf in your town. Address MARVEL BLUING CO., DEPT. 503 TORONTO, ONTARIO.