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Special Articles

Life Insurance and Social Progress.
By W. W. SWANSON.

Conditions in the West.
By E. CORA HIND.

Breeds of Farm Livestock in Canada.
By ERNEST H. GODFREY, F.S.S.

Canada and the British West Indies.
By HARRY J. CROWE.

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Prophetic "Punch"

THE editors of London "Punch" might advantageously reprint a couple of cartoons that appeared in that journal many years ago. We happened to notice recently some numbers of "Punch" of seventeen years ago, which now seem to have been prophetic. On Nov. 7, 1901, "Punch" published a cartoon by Bernard Partridge, with the title, "Colonel Jonathan J. Bull, or what John Bull may come to." The picture contains two figures, representing England and America. The American eagle has the face of the British lion; John Bull wears a star spangled hat, and striped trousers, while his spacious bosom is covered by a waistcoat made of a Union Jack, in the crosses of which are shown numerous stars.

Another cartoon by the same artist was printed on December 11, 1901, entitled "Out of Drawing." A spectacled artist of characteristic German cast, is painting a portrait of John Bull, depicting him as a madman brandishing in each hand a bloody dagger. John Bull, finding the artist at work says, "Here, hang it all, I'm not like that; there must be something wrong with those glasses of yours."

John Bull has "come to" the happy situation which Partridge forecast many years ago, and Germany is endeavoring to persuade her people that John Bull is the kind of man portrayed by the German artist in 1901.

The Need for Export Trade

ALMOST every country in the world is making preparations for after-the-war trade with the possible exception of Canada. It is true that spasmodic efforts have been made here from time to time, but apparently no constructive policy has been adopted by the Government, the manufacturers, the shipping interests and others vitally concerned with this important problem.

At the present time there are in all the warring nations thousands of factories engaged in manufacturing munitions and other war supplies. When war ceases, many of these factories will be minus an outlet for their products, so unless there is to be economic and industrial chaos the government must prepare for the re-adjustment period, or the turning from war activities to those of peace.

Canada has hundreds of thousands of men overseas who eventually will return to their native shores to resume their former occupations. Unless they are to become a drug on the labor market, some provision must be made for their employment. Further than that Canada's factory capacity today is far in excess of her own requirements, so unless these

factories are to be dismantled and their tens of thousands of workers thrown out of jobs it will be necessary to turn to new fields of enterprise. During these years of war Canada has piled up an immense debt, the interest on which must be paid year by year. The only one way to pay debts is by producing and by selling foodstuffs and raw materials, or by manufacturing and selling the finished article. As a result of the shutting out of German and Austrian goods from the world's markets there are many opportunities for Canadian manufacturers to capture a large share of South America's trade as well as that of Australia, South Africa, India and the Orient.

It just remains for the Government, manufacturers, shipping men and the others interested to say whether Canada shall become an exporting country or continue to go on in the same old way. Scores of arguments suggest themselves in favor of developing export trade and scarcely one against it.

Canada and the British West Indies

WE publish to-day an interesting article from the pen of Mr. Harry J. Crowe, who strongly advocates the union of the British West Indies with Canada. The advantages of commercial union between the two countries will be widely admitted. The difficulties in the way of political union are many, but Mr. Crowe thinks they can easily be overcome. He seems to contemplate the meeting of local conditions by giving a local legislature to each of the West India Islands, a scheme which would add many Provinces to Canada. To most readers, probably, it will appear that the union of these islands under one government is a necessary first step, and that if local jealousies will not allow this, there is little prospect of the broader scheme of union finding favor. The question, however, is one of much interest, and Mr. Crowe, a Nova Scotian temporarily residing in the Adirondack Mountains, brings to its consideration a knowledge and an enthusiasm which make his article well worthy of attention.

A Labor Gain

AN interesting feature of the great movement in England towards the early supremacy of the Labor party is the attitude of Mr. John Burns. Mr. Burns was the first workingman to be admitted to the British Cabinet, yet he was not a representative of organized labor. It was Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the wise old Liberal who preceded Mr. Asquith in the Premiership, who saw that