

Mr. John Burns lost favour with the labour party by accepting office, but they will pay respect to his plain speaking and sound advice.

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ACCIDENT TO OGILVIE'S ELEVATOR, FORT WILLIAM.—A remarkable accident occurred a few days ago to the Ogilvie Flour Mills Company's elevator at Fort William, by which it was moved a number of feet from its foundations. An intelligible explanation of this accident has not been discovered. The structure was not as seriously injured as might have been supposed from such an accident. The bars and machinery were left intact and a large force was operating to remove the grain. The structure was regarded as one of the most fire-proof buildings of its class.

Mr. Thompson, vice-president and managing director, has said that, "if the loss had been 4 times the total value of the building and contents, the undivided profits of the company were more than sufficient to provide for it."

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POPULATION AND TRADE OF UNITED STATES.—The following shows the growth of the population of the United States from 1850 to 1900, with that of the foreign trade from 1870 to 1900:

	Population.	Imports.	Exports.
		\$	\$
1850.....	23,191,876		
1860.....	31,448,321		
1870.....	38,558,371	435,958,408	391,771,768
1880.....	50,155,783	667,954,746	835,635,658
1890.....	62,947,714	889,310,409	857,828,684
1900.....	76,085,794	849,941,184	1,370,763,571
1906 (est).....	84,000,000		

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SAN FRANCISCO IS SETTLING DOWN.—News from or about San Francisco is very scarce. If "no news is good news," the city is gradually becoming more settled and business activities are being resumed. Some of the fire companies are advancing money on claims that are still unadjusted, deferring payment of the balance until the extent of the company's liability is settled.

It is reported that head offices consider that Coast representatives are showing an undue anxiety to favour the assured as against the companies, which opinion has led to the resignation of Mr. Dornin, as Pacific Coast Manager of the National Fire of Hartford, and is likely to lead to other resignations.

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AN ARCHITECT'S VIEWS AS TO SAN FRANCISCO.—Mr. Barnham, a leading architect of Chicago, has just returned from San Francisco, where he had been called by the Committee of Citizens. He said: "The principal talk of San Francisco is rebuilding. Even the poorer people who lost their homes are preparing to build again on a more substantial and artistic scale. San Francisco in the

future will be the most beautiful city on the continent." The people are, however, inclined to go slow.

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THE AMERICAN CENTRAL INSURANCE COMPANY, of St. Louis, has decided to increase its capital by \$1,000,000 to be issued at \$200 per share thus creating \$1,000,000 additional net surplus. The company announces that it will meet all its San Francisco claims without any assistance.

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THE ALLIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY, Philadelphia, is making an assessment of \$15 per share to make good its San Francisco losses.

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SIR WILLIAM P. HOWLAND, has our congratulations on his 95th birthday and recovery from an operation. This veteran is reported to be engaged in writing the story of his own life and times, which would be an exceedingly valuable contribution to Canadian history, covering, as it would, many years before Confederation and dealing with that event and the political events which followed in which Sir William actively participated.

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NEW BANKS.—When the bill to incorporate the Colonial Bank of Canada, was before the Senate several senators advised their colleagues to proceed slowly in increasing the number of banks. Senator Ferguson thought there was no public demand for new banks, and that it would be better to enlarge the capital of the present banks than to establish new ones.

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THE CALGARY & EDMONTON LAND COMPANY'S capital having been shown to be in excess of requirements Mr. Justice Buckley has sanctioned the reduction of the capital from £211,321 to £120,755, and the shares from 17s to 10s.

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GUATEMALA IN REVOLUTION.—This little Central American State is having its periodic revolution. One of the recreations of the Guatemaltecos is the excitement of a revolution. No sooner is a President installed than the opposite party commence a revolutionary movement. The turn over leads to strange incidents. One President on being deposed was engaged as a letter carrier, and afterwards regained the presidency by orgaining a revolution. One thing is a fixed feature in the Republic of Guatemala, the powers that be do not see why they should pay the debts of the State punctually, that is common ground for all political rulers in the Republic. The recent revolution is no matter of surprise, it would be, however, create astonishment were the new Government to commence paying the debts of the State.