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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY, LIMITED.

London, Ont., Tuesday, Sept. 19.

BRITISH IMPERIALISM.

THERE are four important stages in the growth of modern British Imperialism: (1) The Canadian-British preference act; (2) the co-operation in the Boer war; (3) the act creating the South African Union; (4) the present war.

Of these, perhaps, No. 1 was the most important. It was the starting point, the difficult thing—the beginning. It was made more difficult than necessary, like the naval plans later, by the opposition of our pocket-and-mouth patriots in Canada. It's author was Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He forced it through in the teeth of Tory opposition.

PROHIBITION BENEFICIAL.

THE premiers of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta have been asked to answer the following two questions:

"(1) Do you find the prohibition of the liquor traffic has been beneficial to your province; (2) Have the results reached your expectations?"

The two first mentioned premiers have replied as follows, the answer from Alberta not having yet been made. Premier Norris of Manitoba writes:

"I have your favor of the 18th instant on my return to the city today (Aug. 29). In which you make some inquiries in regard to the working out of the temperance act in this province, and in reply would answer 'yes' to both questions."

Premier Scott of Saskatchewan writes:

"Replying to the direct questions contained in your letter of 18th of August concerning the results of operation of the anti-liquor legislation adopted by Saskatchewan and made effective July 1, 1915, I have to say quite unreservedly 'yes' to both questions. The measure has proved decidedly beneficial to the province, and the results more than reach my expectations. The new system is operating beneficially in such marked degree that the opinion expressed against any possible return to the license system is almost unanimous."

In these provinces as much liquor per capita was drunk as in Ontario, if not more, yet the premiers are more than satisfied with prohibition. Why should it not be as successful in Ontario?

WESTERN FAIR SUGGESTIONS.

AT THE Rotary Club meeting yesterday suggestions for the betterment of the Western Fair were called for. The opinion was universal that the fair had outgrown the present grounds, and the hope was expressed that before long new grounds would be obtained. Many valuable suggestions were made and Mr. Hunt, the secretary, who was present, noted them, and in a short speech replied.

The location of the new grounds should be made part of a general plan for the enlargement of the city. The new bridge which we trust will come here built at the foot of Richmond street would make a good starting point. From this run a wide boulevard south to Brick street. It would be necessary to swing to the east, in crescent form, a short distance, in order to escape the new buildings, but the land south would be almost without a building until Brick street is reached. Then turn westerly, following Brick street, until west of the Wharfedale highway, then northerly through the farms and lands till the pipe line is reached, then back to the Wharfedale and under the subway north and over the bridge. Continuing northerly, bending where necessary, and adopting the boulevard to the lay of the land until the grounds of the new Western University are reached, then crossing the river by a new bridge, which would be necessary for access to the university, and continuing easterly, skirting the river as closely as practicable on the south side until the asylum side road is reached, then southerly, either down the asylum side road or east of the asylum grounds, which would be the better way, then continuing south on Hale street, widened as far as necessary to the Hamilton road, then southerly over the Meadow Lily mill bridge and then southerly to Brick street, then westerly along Brick street until the point is reached south of Richmond street.

The new fair grounds could be located at many points along the boulevard, where a good view of the city could be obtained and access easily made to all railways.

The proposed boulevard would furnish a drive of several miles and would give visitors to London a just opinion of its beauty. Drives and good roads have become a necessity. This would fit in with Springfield Park. At the pipe line a drive west through Springfield Park, across the bridge at Byron and returning by the road north of the river would form a pleasant addition to the boulevard. The present grounds could be

kept for an east-end park. Lands could be got for the fair grounds that would suit for park purposes as well. The suggestions of the late Mayor Cowan could be adopted as far as now possible. He had in mind a park along the river, taking in the Harvey and Huron College river fronts. The university grounds of over a hundred acres could be utilized and at other points many advantages could be secured.

It would require some money, but grants for the fair grounds could be obtained from the Dominion and Provincial Governments. There would be many direct advantages to the city. When the Provincial Exhibition was held once in four years in London it was admitted that the exhibition at London was better than Toronto, Kingston or Ottawa, the other three places at which it was held. If this position cannot be entirely regained it can be measurably so.

Our suggestions are:

1. Select the new grounds for the Western Fair as part of a new and general plan for the city of London with a boulevard such as that described.
2. Reorganize the Western Fair board on a basis that will take in Western Ontario counties.
3. Secure the co-operation of all the counties necessary to show what Western Ontario can do in fruit, tobacco, grain, roots, etc., etc., all its manufacturing and other activities. Make it a Western Ontario fair.

WORKINGMEN'S CLUBS.

Now, where is there to go tonight? This is a question which will be asked by hundreds of men in London and throughout the province, who have been accustomed to spend part of their evenings in wandering from one bar to another, chatting with friends in each and having a glass of some one of the various liquors dispensed by the man behind the counter.

To say that the great majority of these bars still remain open, and that there is nothing to hinder these men from continuing in their old way, only imbibing non-intoxicants instead of liquors, is an answer. Without intoxicants the bar is no longer a place where many men went to spend their time; they will go in for refreshments when they want them, but they will not use it as "the poor man's club-room."

The word "club" suggests that some real clubs might be established without loss of time to take the place of the former resorts and to reconcile the objectors to the new law. For the well-to-do there are clubs in London and all big centres, but for the workingmen they are lacking in this city. To the men who maintain homes, the need is not great, but for the hundreds whose home is a bedroom in a boarding-house, some place where there are warmth, light and cheerful companionship is a necessity.

In other lands, workmen have their clubs, where they may sit at ease, smoke, read magazines or papers, play a game of pool or billiards, and enjoy soft drinks and sandwiches. Why not here? The duty of organizing such resorts does not lie entirely with the men who need them, but, at least partly, with those who have lent their aid to the bringing about of prohibition. It is a constructive work which should immediately follow the work of destruction.

In London there are at present several vacant buildings which could be quickly and at little expense be fitted up as clubs, where many forms of recreation and amusement could be provided. Committees of the members would be able to so organize that practically all expense, with the exception of rent, furnishing and the wages of one caretaker and attendant would be eliminated. Such institutions are self-supporting elsewhere, and should be fully as prosperous here.

Of course small charges would have to be made for the use of pool or billiard tables and for refreshments, as well as the annual membership fee, but any profits would go to the maintenance of the club.

It will be to the interest of all temperance or prohibition advocates to take an active interest in the formation of these or other plans for providing recreation and some home comforts. After the war, the liquor question will be brought before the people for settlement. The liquor forces will not be idle during this time, and every point at which prohibition has worked hardships will be given all possible prominence. If, when the vote is taken men have found that there are other more comfortable and profitable places to spend their evenings than the bars, they will mark their ballots against a return of old conditions. If nothing is done to help them find such places, they may vote to re-establish the liquor traffic, with its accompanying bars. Now is the time to begin constructive work.

THE TERRIBLE TANKS.

NOTHING has aroused more intense curiosity among Britons than these new armored cars which are now being used against the Huns on the western front, and which shell craters, trenches and entanglements are powerless to stop. What manner of machine is it? Can it crawl up and down perpendicular sides? What is its like in appearance? These and numerous other questions are being asked everywhere.

No greater surprise has been sprung during the war than this machine. Unheralded by the press of either side it has suddenly appeared where it was most needed and won its fame in a few moments. Dispatches have told of super-zepplins, of marvelously powerful guns and other terrible engines of destruction, which were to be or are now in use, but not a word of this new car had reached the allied nations, and the astonishment of the

enemies proves them equally unprepared.

The German espionage system has been looked upon as something almost superhuman. There has been a generally accepted idea that nothing done in Britain or France was kept secret from the foe and that his agents managed, in spite of all difficulties, to keep Berlin advised of every fresh move. But in this instance they have failed, signally. This must mean that along with other progress made by Britain, spies have been weeded out and underground means of communication with Germany closed. There are spies in the islands still, but their numbers are appreciably less.

It is unlikely that we will have the satisfaction of seeing intimate pictures of the "tanks" for a long time. There are ways of sending information from this continent to Hunland still open, and British authorities are not going to give away their secrets while it is possible to keep them. We must remain content to know they are aiding tremendously in the smashing of Germany's defenses.

Machine guns have been looked upon as one of the most formidable weapons of the enemy. There seemed to be no way of guarding our men against them until the "willies" appeared. They are, apparently, too heavily armored to be injured by these guns, and at the same time they carry similar weapons right up to the Huns and pour in their deadly fire. Thus they are able to quiet these wasps and give comparative safety to the advancing infantry. This protection is one of their most satisfactory accomplishments.

A German officer, referring to the "tanks" is quoted as saying: "We thought the British slow and stupid, despite their courage and stubbornness, and they gave us a surprise like this." There is much the Huns have yet to learn about the British. They have realized the bravery; the organizing of an immense army in two years should dispel all illusions about slowness, and now they are finding how mistaken was their estimate of the British inventive brain.

One other effect of this strange engine of war is worth more than passing notice, the terror it caused among the Germans. "There was no standing against that sort of thing. Of course, we surrendered—those of us who were alive," declared one of the Kaiser's captured officers. Here is one of the German weakest points clearly exhibited: the forces are panic-stricken and ready to surrender when some force is used against them with which they are not familiar. Provision has not been made for defeat in their training, and they are at sea. Against this place the behavior of the Allied soldiers when the first gas attack was made by the enemy. They coughed, choked and died, but they did not run or surrender. They fought it as their individual brains advised, until better ways were discovered. They were enraged, but not panic-stricken. Many new devices may yet appear on the fields of battle, and the Allied way of meeting them spells success.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The blight of optimism: Germany is going to build many freight ships.

Sloan goes Conservative. Is it permissible to remark it has been slow to can Bowerman?

Now, honestly, did you really feel the lack of the customary drinks yesterday?

Quebec liquor merchants believe it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good.

How do those who kicked on the names of past Greek premiers like Kaleropoulos?

The doctor who dresses the wounds of a thousand men in one week is doing his bit in a way to earn the greatest gratitude.

There's a suspicion that those prominent Americans who allowed themselves to be fleeced by a blackmail gang had something to hide.

"No prisoners were taken by either side." This extract from a report on a battle between Serbians and Bulgarians tells a story of bitter hatred.

If King Ferdinand of Rumania is as successful in his battles with the enemy as he was in his fight with his Hohenzollern instincts, victory will come soon.

Belgians capture German cities in East Africa. On these might be levied fines equal in amount to those the Huns have extracted from Brussels.

Things were moving a bit fast, but I remembered what dad said, so I shoved the box into my jacket pocket and patted her shoulder, reassuringly. "I'll look over the landscape, Aunt Persis. If you wish, but I'll not promise to jump any hurdles—just yet."

"You haven't seen Grace yet," was all she would say.

Well, so far everything was lovely, and no harm done.

There certainly was no risk in motor-ing over to call on old friends, so I took my roadster and went over at ten. And after that I proceeded to make such a general all-around jackass of myself that I'm sitting up writing tonight instead of going to bed, for how on the earth am I going to tell Aunt Persis about the ring and everything? Oh, heavens, what a mess!

"Well, I was going along the road that leads to the Maple and just before I came to the big gate a little car jumped around a curve and I hit it. A girl flew out into some bushes as my car caught her and I carried it along a bit. I finally got the engine stopped and ran back as fast as I could, but the girl wasn't hurt a bit, and there she stood, fussed, with a smudge across one cheek, but laughing and looking too sweet for anything. I'll bet my heart hammered harder than hers. Such eyes, and, as I said before, the way her hair curled about her ears!"

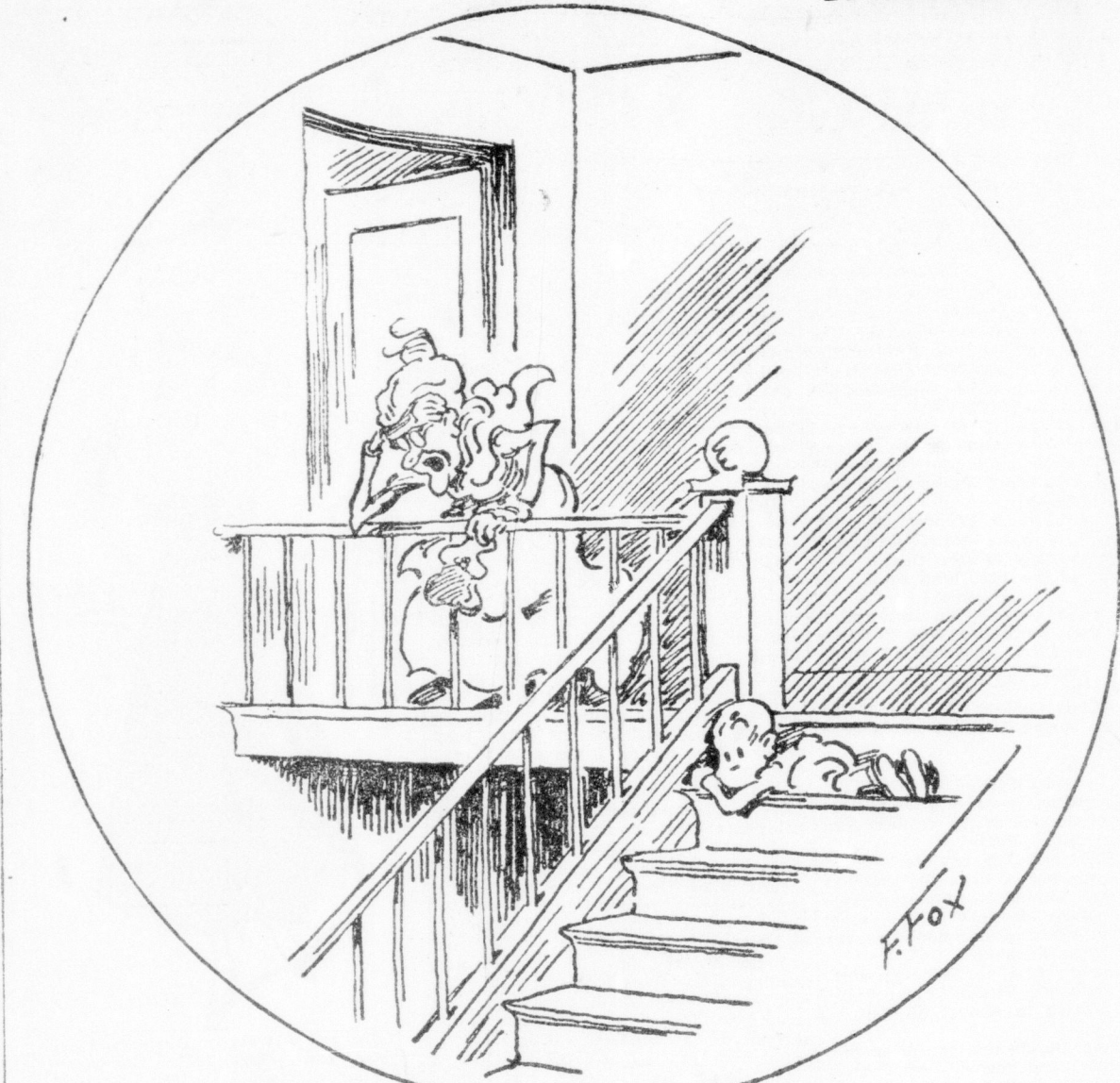
"Aren't you hurt?" I called.

"No, you certainly don't, but are you sure you're not? Have you felt all your bones?"

"Every one, tibia, fibula, femur, ra-

Extremely Narrow Escape of the Young Man Whose Tight-Fisted Grandma Gave Him a Dime by Mistake For a Penny.

BY FONTAINE FOX.



The Advertiser's Daily Short Story
(Copyright, 1916, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Aunt Persis Has a Plan

By Louise Oliver.

(Copyright, 1916, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

This morning I wakened at happy and carefree as a puppy on a farm; tonight I feel like the fellow in mythology who had to keep the world balanced on his shoulders. And what has made this wonderful difference in my outlook on existence since I opened my eyes at Curtis' polite "Your bath is ready, sir!" and the present moment?

A girl, of course!

And such a girl!

When I think of the way her hair curled over the tops of her ears and her eyes—teasing one moment and then as you can see—she said "I'll take it the next—it drives me mad."

Here is what happened:

I came yesterday on a visit to Aunt Persis. I came for various reasons. First because mother and father wished whole and entire and enjoyed a good breakfast—until Auntie said: "Addison, do you remember the little Lambie girl you used to play with next door? She one day got cross at one day for laughing when your pony threw you into the mud and whom you chased with a handful of burs and stuck them all through her curls?"

The memory brought a guilty flush. "Yes, I remember, Aunt Persis."

She nodded. "Well, Grace is a great favorite of mine now, Addison, and I've taken a notion I'd like to see you two married. She'd make you a wonderful wife. She's been educated to the last notch, but she's just as sweet and natural as that morning star. I love you two young people better than anything in the world, and I'm getting old," significantly. Then she went to a desk and brought out a box. "I've had another fancy lately, too. I've had my jeweler design a ring that any girl would be proud of. I should think. Do you like it?"

"I've had one for a long time, but I never seen anything so superb or unique as that ring. The platinum frosted with tiny diamonds held a large square cut diamond and sapphires in the centers."

"Wonderful!" I cried, with mixed feelings.

"You might put it in your pocket," suggested the old lady. "And now, Addison, don't you think you'd better apologise for the burs?"

Things were moving a bit fast, but I remembered what dad said, so I shoved the box into my jacket pocket and patted her shoulder, reassuringly. "I'll look over the landscape, Aunt Persis. If you wish, but I'll not promise to jump any hurdles—just yet."

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"Every one, tibia, fibula, femur, ra-

WAIT A MINUTE!

—By J. H. F.

When Greek meets Greek, there is a new cabinet formed.

Another Villa force has been wiped out. Some time these Villa men will quit being resurrected, with the result that Mexico may amount to something.

The Americans have removed the tax on face powder and paint. It looks as if the women's votes there will cut some figure.

It is estimated that it has cost about \$100,000,000 to catch Villa, with the bandit still about two billion dollars' worth in the lead.

The August rainfall in New York was the lowest in 47 years, but it was quite wet, nevertheless.

We hear the temperance fight has just started. Some of us thought it was the finish. It is a very fair imitation of the end.

After reading all the good things some apologists have to say about Camp Borden, we wonder how 40,000 soldiers could have been so mistaken.

It would seem that Billy Sunday is having his troubles in Detroit, trying to get the men's minds off baseball for a time.

A Newark man shot a boy who was stealing peaches. It seems that boys do not change much from age to age.

If Billy Sunday ever gets fat, about 95 per cent of his efficiency will be gone.

Some day soon, if prices continue soaring, a man will consider a pound of bacon as his most valuable possession, next, possibly, to his wife and kids.

The Allies are working the "squeeze play" basebally speaking, and it is getting the Huns up in the air.

An inspector in England has been sent to jail for grafting in war-time. That ought to be somewhat of a warning.

The dry summer has aided the geologists, we read. However, the dry fall and winter will not aid the hotelmen.

Cabarets may be installed in some hotels, now that the booze has gone. The music will drown the noise of some folks eating.

That new Greek premier may be all right, but we refuse to pronounce his name.

"Let us have peace," warbles an American poet, who never wanders from New York. Few want that kind of peace.

It is stated that New York is the diamond cutting centre of the world. That's where the cut-ups go, all right.

They have alighted one-piece bathing suits for girls in France. Winter was coming on, anyway.

The Americans are making a great deal of fuss about the Poles and their awful plight. As Germany has been in possession of this conquered land for some time, it is about due that the U. S. A. will place the blame where it belongs.

It is probably just a coincidence that on the battle line "tanks" were first used, at the moment when "tanks" disappeared in Ontario.

"My Michigan" was an enthusiastic lay sung by a lot of Windsorites on Saturday night, but that dear old Ontario looked good to a lot of persons who could not get home.

"Billy" Sunday claims credit for the temperance legislation in Ontario, when all the time he thought it was the prayers and hard work of thousands of women in this province. We beg Billy's pardon.

Law may be a bad thing, as a certain minister claims, but the divinity of law is God's masterpiece, in our judgment.

WE CAN STAND IT.

Oh, my! 'Tis dry! The bars are closed. The looked-for drought is here; No more wet slip the ruby wine, Nor quaff the foaming beer.

But only for a short time. Will things seem all awry? For very soon we'll cease to fret, Nor ask the reason why.

Crud fate raised up a Rowell, And gave to us a Hearst; And why these two should head us off, When we had such a thirst!

From going to the liquor store, Or visiting a bar? We'll realize that water Has all tonics beaten far.

So we will rest contented, Nor raise impotent yells, Nor take our buckets and repair To Adam's wondrous wells.

We'll fill ourselves with Adam's ale, Which has in it no foul; The same being pleasant to the taste When the sulphur is left out.

—THE OLD 'UN.

A Pennsylvania man was chased out of a school inspector's job because he took his wife's advice on school matters. She was probably right, at that.

All New York is walking, a habit that will not result in any bad effects. They need something else to arm exercise to keep fit.

There were fewer furs worn by the women folks this cold spell than during the torrid days of summer. Funny, that.

Soon it will be an old-fashioned man who will say, "I remember when you could get a drink of liquor there."

The old oaken bucket can be given some praise now. It is the great thirst-quencher.

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WOMAN ACCUSED OF MURDER.

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