

## London Advertiser.

FOUNDED IN 1863.  
NOON AND EVENING WEEKLY.  
THE LONDON ADVERTISER CO.,  
Limited, Publishers.  
191-192 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

PHONE NUMBERS:  
Business Department.....191  
Editorial Room.....192  
Job Printing Department.....193

TO SUBSCRIBERS.  
Readers of The Advertiser are requested to favor the management by reporting any irregularities in delivery.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.  
Daily, Delivered by Carrier in City: One year \$3.00  
One week \$0.10  
Daily, Delivered by Carrier Outside City: One year \$3.50  
One week \$0.15  
One month \$0.25  
Daily, by Mail, Outside City: One year \$2.00

The Advertiser is on sale regularly at the following news stands where subscriptions may be left:  
Burlington, N. Y.—R. J. Seidenberg, Ellcott Square News Stand.  
Chicago, Ill.—Chicago Newspaper Agency, 10 Madison Street.  
Louisville, Ky.—Kentucky International News Company.  
Montreal, Que.—Peter Murphy, Post Office News Stand.  
Toronto—Liquor Hotel News Stand, Toronto-Ross House News Stand, Windsor—V. E. MacIntyre & Sons.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 4.

## THE NORTH MIDDLESEX BY-ELECTION.

The by-election campaign in North Middlesex has not attracted much attention outside the riding. There have been only one or two public meetings, the candidates and their active supporters relying more upon a vigorous private canvass. The platform does not play so large a part in Canadian politics as it once did, or as it still does in the mother country. This is a matter for regret.

No sound reason has been advanced why the electors of North Middlesex should reverse their verdict of June, 1908. A very sound reason why they should repeat it is the excessive majority of the Government. The Legislature at present comprises 86 Conservatives, 18 Liberals and 1 Laborite. The administration has an absurdly large surplus above a fair working majority. Any addition to it is a source of weakness, not of strength. A strong Opposition is one of the best securities for good government. Mr. Mitchell is needed at Toronto. Mr. Doyle is not.

Both candidates enjoy the respect and goodwill of the community. Nothing of a personal nature can be alleged against either to his discredit or his disadvantage. Some criticism of Mr. Doyle, however, may fairly be offered upon his public record. When he ran for the House of Commons last year he advocated lower duties on agricultural implements. He must have known that such a plank could have no place in the platform of his party—the high tariff party. The tariff on agricultural implements is 20 per cent, which is considerably below the average rate of duty on manufactured products. To further reduce the duty on implements would be to single out one industry for an unfair attack. The Conservative party could not consistently do it, and Mr. Doyle, as a Conservative, could not consistently make such a promise. It savored of an election dodge; a trick to catch the farmers' vote.

Mr. Doyle's election card last year also bore the words: "No cash or land subsidies to railways, except in very special circumstances." This means nothing at all. Mr. Doyle could defend any railway deal on the plea of "special circumstances." One is tempted to ask whether, if he had been in the Legislature last session, he would have voted against the grant of 2,000,000 acres of land to the Canada Northern Railway Company.

Mr. MacKay, in his speech at the nomination meeting at Alisa Craig, spoke strongly, but not too strongly, of the unfairness of the recent redistribution as it affected Middlesex County. North Middlesex is particularly a "horrible example" of the gerrymander. The Liberal township of Lobo was torn from the riding, and Metcalfe and Strathroy added, in the expectation that it would be a Government "hive." In Huron, Essex, Ottawa, Peel and Toronto these tactics were successful, but North Middlesex was the one gerrymandered riding saved from the wreck. The majority of the electors honored themselves by condemning the outrage and electing Mr. Ross. They can administer another rebuke on Monday, and at the same time elect an admirable representative. Mr. John Mitchell is a man of whom everyone speaks well. He has a reputation for candor and straightforwardness, and will make no pledges which he cannot redeem.

## AUSTRALIA'S GREAT UNDER-TAKING.

The Government and people of Australia, as did those of Canada at the union of the provinces, have concluded that confederation cannot be complete until a railroad from ocean to ocean has been built.

Preliminary reports fix the cost of the railway, which is the most ambitious project the Commonwealth has yet undertaken, at \$20,000,000, but probably it will considerably exceed that amount. The obstacles to be surmounted are vastly different from those encountered by the men who built Canada's first transcontinental line. Instead of boring through mountain rock for a passage, the Australian railway builders have before them the great Victorian desert over which not even a wagon has yet passed. Three million dollars must be expended in providing water supply, necessitating the building of reservoirs in many places. The cost of bridges and viaducts, however, will not be very heavy.

The intention is to equip the road for a through passenger train daily, and three freight trains a week. The construction of the railway means the shortening of the time occupied in the transit of mails from England to Melbourne and East Australia by several days, while in the event of war sparsely populated West Australia will be placed within reach of reinforcements from New South Wales and Victoria.

To the Commonwealth itself, however, the chief direct advantage of the railway will be its unifying effect. It will save long and tedious voyages by water, bring the cities of the two coasts into closer relation, and promote the development of the interior.

## THE BATTLE BEGINS.

The speech of the British Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday sounded the keynote of the campaign. He declared that he would not for a hour remain in the cabinet unless it were determined not to hold office again without full power to carry House of Commons measures into law with or without the sanction of the House of Lords.

The Government's plan for destroying the absolute veto power of the House of Lords has not been disclosed, but no doubt it has been framed in readiness for the next parliament. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman proposed a constitutional amendment by which any House of Commons measure would become law within the lifetime of a single parliament, the Lords to have the right of rejecting it three times if negotiation failed to produce an agreement between the two chambers. Presumably a bill of this kind will be introduced by Mr. Asquith if his Government is sustained by the country, and takes office again; but probably it will not take office until the King consents to create a sufficient number of friendly peers to override the obstruction of the House of Lords. The present peers may pass such a measure rather than be swamped by newcomers, a process which would mortally wound the pride and authority of the upper chamber. It will be remembered that Gladstone used the same threat effectively when the peers refused to adopt his bill to abolish the purchase of commissions in the army. The struggle is the most fateful since the days of the Reform bill. The setback given the House of Lords was then only temporary. It will be permanently deprived of its power for mischief if the British people today show the same spirit as their forbears in 1832.

Most Canadians have a notion that the United States began a tariff war on Canada with the McKinley bill.

The municipal pot is beginning to boil. A few new ingredients might improve the flavor of the soup.

Major Beattie made a speech on the anti-betting bill all right, but what did he say?

It is to be hoped Strathroy and Metcalfe will again disappoint those who piteously forked them into North Middlesex to try to save the seat last year.

If the Liberals were represented in the Ontario Legislature in proportion to their share of the popular vote they would have 49 seats instead of 18. The present electoral system often works out unfairly for both parties.

Major Beattie says he represents a non-gambling community. Would that it were so. But sporting men say that London is the richest plucking for the bookmakers outside of Montreal and Toronto.

A Unionist victory in Great Britain means a tax of a shilling a quarter about three cents a bushel on Canadian wheat. If the British consumer doesn't pay it the Canadian farmer will. At all events it is no reason why Canadians should cheer for the House of Lords.

Great Britain maintains the ancient custom of spreading a general election over a fortnight. It has grave drawbacks. Constituencies where the pollings is late are likely to be influenced by the results of the first election, on the principle of being on the winning side.

Lord Rosebery has been stung into an angry retort by Lord Curzon's assertion that he led an army up to the walls of the castle and then ran away. Having deserted the Liberals, Lord Rosebery now finds himself reproached by the Unionists. It looks as though he were deeper than ever in his lonely furrow.

A budget can be made or unmade every year. If the Lloyd-George budget is so bad, the Unionists could have destroyed it when they returned to power. An election would have been held in two years at the latest. But the peers know that if the land taxes are once imposed they will never be removed. No Government would dare to cancel them.

JUST AS IT IS IN TORONTO.  
(Oxford Variety.)  
The average undergrader, when he comes to Oxford, seems to consider himself freed from all the trammels of ordinary "good form." All the various acts of discourtesy which in another town would be impossible are in Oxford matters of ordinary habit.

A BRITISH INVENTOR GRAVELLED.  
(New York Sun.)  
King Arthur had just invented the Round Table.

"Fine," they cried. "But can't you invent a bureau which would have as many drawers for a husband as for a wife?" Sadly he confessed himself incapable.

THE NORTH POLE SUNDAY.  
(New York Sun.)  
The North Pole Sunday is the latest soft drink at a confectioner's on Broadway. It is served in a low sherbet glass, and consists of ice cream, mousse, and whipped cream piled in pyramidal fashion. This is surmounted by a piece of banana about two inches high and covered with cream to represent snow. The

## London Life POLICIES

GOOD AS GOLD

Have you provided for those who are dependent upon you?

Good intentions or good resolutions will not count for much when your widow is struggling to make a living.

Ask for booklet, "Endowment at Life Rate."

GEO. McCORMICK, Inspector.  
GEO. F. EMMERSON, District Agent.  
J. F. MAINE, Supt. Industrial Branch

whole is topped by a silken flag, and it is served with a Cook-lee.

HIS USUAL POSE.  
(Louisville Courier-Journal.)  
"Some of our prominent men," suggested the photographer, "like to have their photos taken in a characteristic attitude."  
"Suits me," responded the subject, "photograph me with my nose against a grindstone. Got one handy?"

THE CHAUFFEUR'S OFFENSE.  
(Chicago News.)  
The Judge—Did you arrest this chauffeur for speeding?  
The Policeman—No, yer honor. I pulled 'im in for obstructin' th' road; he was goin' only 20 miles an hour, an' he was complainin' about bein' them that was ridin' at th' regular rate.

A WISE MAN.  
(Chicago Record-Herald.)  
"Are you in favor of woman suffrage?"  
"Yes, sir, I am—strongly in favor of it."  
"Why?"  
"Because I desire to spare myself as much trouble as possible."

HE REMAINS DEAD.  
(Chicago Record-Herald.)  
The fact that he was mistaken for a magnificent buck doesn't serve in the least to ennoble the slaughtered guide.

THE VERY OLDEST PRINTER.  
(Toronto Star.)  
As the question of who is "the oldest printer" is being discussed by correspondents in your columns, I am tempted to "shoot in" to use a classical phrase and claim the honor of being the very oldest printer. I was born on April 18, 1822, and started at the trade in 1836, as an apprentice to Mr. Thomas Dalton, publisher and editor of The Patriot newspaper, and continued until his death. The office foreman's name was Wac Myers; the names of the two of the compositors, that I remember, were James Austin, late president of the Dominion Bank, and James Mackenzie, son of the late Mr. William Lyon Mackenzie. During my apprenticeship I took part in printing the "appendix" to Lord Durham's celebrated report on Canadian affairs, a copy of which I have among my collection of old documents.

Richmond Hill, Nov. 17.  
M. TELFEY.

A HORRIBLE POSSIBILITY.  
(Chicago Record-Herald.)  
"Come, now, Willie, you must have your bath tonight. We are going to start for Canada in the morning, you know."  
"Yes, but what if I got my bath tonight and then something happened so we couldn't go to grandpa's tomorrow?"

ANOTHER BUDGET CRISIS.  
(S. E. Kiser.)  
Ma's arranged our Christmas budget; there's the device to pay.  
Looks as if there was a crisis not so far away.  
Ma's our little House of Commons; pa's the House of Lords.  
Every night we almost nearly hear the clash of swords.

Pa declares he'll kill the measure; ma ain't scared at all.  
Once I heard her tell him he was ridin' to a fall.  
Ma goes right on Christmas shopping; gee! but pa gets hot.  
Every time the subject's mentioned—often when it's not.

Ma says pa's become a heathen; pa don't seem to care.  
If you ask for my opinion, I think pa's a bear.  
Says he don't want any presents—not a single one.  
And he'll never pay another Christmas bill that's run.

Ma keeps right on goin' to it—shoppin' every day.  
Looks as if there was a crisis not so far away.  
Guess the best thing to be doin' is keep still and wait.  
Pa knows when to quit his bluffin'—he'll capitulate.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.  
(Walt Mason.)  
Do your Christmas shopping early, for the clerks are human too, and it makes them more and surly, and it makes them sour and blue, when the mob comes in

A Most Important Event Monday  
A Fascinating Display of New Blouses

THEY MAKE THEIR FIRST APPEARANCE ON MONDAY. COME!  
Silk Nets, Cable Nets, Embroidered and Point d'Esprit Nets. Very appropriate for Christmas gifts. The favored shades are ecru, black, Paris and white. Many are trimmed with Baby, Irish and Valenciennes Lace, lined throughout with excellent quality silk—very durable. The newest tailored effects, as well as the Lingerie Blouses, trimmed with the new Fillet laces are most charming. Some are beautifully braided in the best quality Japanese, Messaline or Chiffon Taffeta.

Come Monday. Prices \$2.25 to \$15.00

## Handkerchiefs for Christmas Presents

This department, with more than double its regular space, offers many Handkerchiefs values, which are daily attracting more people. Make your selections now. Nothing more pleasing to receive than

HANDKERCHIEFS PRETTILY BOXED.

Ladies' Hemstitched Irish Linen Handkerchiefs—Narrow hem. Very fine quality; 2 for .....25¢  
Ladies' Hemstitched Irish Linen Handkerchiefs—Special, 3 for .....25¢  
Ladies' Hemstitched Embroidered Irish Linen Handkerchiefs—Hand thread-drawn. Special, each .....17¢  
Ladies' Hemstitched Irish Linen Handkerchiefs, excellent value, each 20¢, 25¢  
Ladies' Fancy Embroidered Edge Handkerchiefs—Regular 25¢, for .....15¢

## Gloves for Ladies and Gentlemen

You, who have the most knowledge of Gloves, we want you to buy your Gloves here. KINGSMILL'S GLOVES represent the fullest measure of value, fit, finish and quality guaranteed. Prettily boxed.

Ladies' Two-Clasp "Waldorf"—Pique sewn, gusseted, Paris points. Most suitable Glove for tailored suits. Nothing better made to wear. In taupe, navy, green, brown, tan, white and black .....\$1.25

Ladies' Two-Clasp "Ascot"—Fine quality, over-seam, Paris points, gusseted, fit well and wear well. In tan, brown, navy, green, grey, white and black .....\$1.25

Ladies' Two-Clasp "Carlton"—Very fine kid Glove, perfect fitting and guaranteed to wear. In tan, brown, white and black .....\$1.50

Two-Clasp "Majestic"—The Glove of quality, style, fit and wear; pique-sewn, Paris points. In new shades of taupe, tan, brown, navy, white and black .....\$1.65

One-Clasp Tan English Walking Gloves—Pique sewn. Suitable for ordinary wear .....75¢

Two-clasp Black and Tan Suede Gloves—Hand-sewn and guaranteed to fit and wear .....\$1.50

## Men's Shirts

An elegant lot of new Shirts just arrived. QUALITY in material and making just as much as you could demand. Handsome designs in neat, light ground and medium novelty effects, 75¢, 89¢ and \$1.00.

## Men's Neckwear

A wide range of Ties which are second to none in London. The colorings are nifty, the style the newest, 25c and 50c

## Buy Ties and Shirts Here

## KINGSMILL'S

a-whooping just before the day arrives; when the crowds come in a-mooching for the bargains of their lives. Buy a raw-hide for his teacher, and his soul will cease to moan; for the loved and loving preacher buy a nice new megaphone; buy a lid for sister Annie, and a gun for brother Frank, and a pair of skates for Granny, and a kite for Uncle Hank. Try to make this Christmas sunny, joyous as a day in May; loosen up and blow your money in the good old-fashioned way. Press into the hurly-burly, where the Christmas shoppers go; blow your wealth, but blow it early—give the weary clerks a show! It's our thoughtlessness that smothers all the little good we do; we're forgetful of the others who their heavy tasks pursue; better let the children clamor vainly at old Santa's door than to bring more katzenjammer to the tired folks in the stores. Buy the children nice red autos, buy a monkey on a stick, sugar mounts and candy grotesques, gumdrops that will make them sick; buy them dolls with tresses curly, buy them wooden bears that dance; blow yourself, but do it early—give the weary clerks a chance!

DO IT NOW.  
(Hamilton Times.)  
Now is the time to plant Christmas ads, if you would reap a large crop of dollars.

A SURE LOSER.  
(Washington Star.)  
"Dar ain' no surer way o' losin' yoh present job," said Uncle Eben, "dan settin' around thinkin' 'bout how much better you could do somebody else's work."

GRAND OLD FALL.  
(Chicago Record-Herald.)  
One good thing about a fall that hangs on and on is that it keeps back the "beautiful snow" poems.

THE DEBATE IN THE LORDS.  
(Toronto Star.)  
A great debate has its uses, though the result may be a foregone conclusion. But the value of a second chamber is hardly

## Christmas Evening Wear

After you have viewed the new Blouses we should like to show you our "1910" materials for Evening and Reception Wear. Style with quality is the keynote.

42-inch Dainty Eoliennes—In silk and wool, small, neat designs in choice shades of pink, Nile, sky, helio, cream and black. A perfect weave for evening gowns. See them before making a decision. Per yard .....75¢

44-inch Muslin De Soie—A fine sheer silk mixture in pretty shades of Saxe, Copenhagen, light and dark browns, reseda, Nile, old rose, cream and black. A beautiful weave for evening gowns, yard \$1.00

42-inch Crepe de Chine—In shades of pink, French grey, helio, navy, fawn, cream and black. A good weave for reception gowns or evening wear. Special, per yard .....\$1.00

Silktaf Lining—In light grey, reseda, sky, old rose, cream, pink, etc. A suitable and durable weave for drop skirts or waist linings. Per yard .....25¢

## Ribbons

Countless are the gifts fashioned from pretty Ribbons. The Kingsmill Ribbon Section offers many suggestions.

MOIRE VELVET.  
Four inches wide, wistaria, Copenhagen, old rose, assorted greens, golden brown, etc. A yard .....25¢

Taffeta or Fancy Check, in all shades, suitable for hair ribbons or fancy work. A yard .....15¢  
Wider width, per yard, 40¢

Moire Silk—6 inches wide, wistaria, ashes of roses, nutmeg, sky, pink, moss, taupe, reseda, purple, etc. Extra quality. Especially suitable for sashes. A yard .....50¢

PLAID SILK RIBBONS.  
Extra wide width, superior quality. Very new and stylish. Just arrived. A yard .....40¢

## Mail Orders

Are a science with us. Let us help you with your Christmas shopping. Write us.

## BRO. JARED VINING

## WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Annual Meeting of St. John's Lodge, No. 209a.

At the annual meeting of St. John's Lodge, No. 209a, A. F. and A. M., last evening the following officers were elected for the coming year:  
W. M.—Bro. Jared Vining.  
L. P. M.—Bro. W. D. Taylor.  
S. W.—Bro. A. E. Smith.  
J. W.—Bro. Fred Palmer.  
Chaplain—Bro. Wm. O'Brien.  
Treasurer—Bro. John Graham.  
Secretary—Bro. J. E. Kennedy.  
S. D.—Bro. T. P. Elliott.  
J. D.—Bro. F. E. Hurley.  
I. G.—Bro. O. W. Fuller.  
Director of Ceremonies—Bro. George Logan.

S. S.—Bro. A. J. Smith.  
J. S.—Bro. J. H. Smith.  
Organist—Bro. W. D. Taylor.  
Tyler—Wor. Bro. John Robertson.  
Representative to Board of Relief—Bro. C. G. Morrow.

Representatives to the Board of Finance—Bro. T. A. Rowat, W. H. Lane, J. E. Kennedy.  
Auditors—Bro. F. W. C. McCutcheon, Bro. Kelly.

There was a large attendance of the members of the lodge, and many visitors. Keen interest was taken in the election. After the business of the meeting, refreshments were served, and speeches were delivered by the newly-elected officers.

Electric engines will haul the ships through the Panama Canal when the big ditch is completed.  
A number of youths at Leesville, Louisiana, put an opossum in a package, and addressed it to President Taft. It was left in the postoffice overnight, and soon after it was discovered that the animal had chewed up all the letters in the bag in which it had been placed.

MR. MICHAEL BUCHNER DEAD

Father of Mr. U. A. Buchner, of This City.

Mr. U. A. Buchner arrived home yesterday from Santa Monica, California, where he attended the funeral of his father, Mr. Michael Buchner, formerly of this city, who died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John McKinley, on November 16, after an illness extending