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TRY IT FOR A MONTH. THE WORLD, 16 King Street East, Toronto. The Toronto World. WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 27 1932.

TO SUBSCRIBERS. We have received several complaints within the last two weeks of the non-arrival of The World. We have made such changes that will prevent a recurrence of this annoyance.

STATE SOCIALISM AND THE NEED OF IT. Readers of the Fortnightly Review may have been struck with a remarkable expression in the "Notes on Home and Foreign Affairs" for September. Reviewing the session of parliament recently closed, the writer says: "No great measures were passed during the late session. All the English bills promised in the queen's speech have been postponed till another year. But some measure of considerable importance to the social and industrial development of the country have been passed into law. The electric lighting bill, the parcels post bill, and the bills providing for the extension of workmen's trains, are all noteworthy indications of the tendency of legislation towards a modified form of state socialism.

The fact that English legislation is going in the direction indicated speaks volumes. The legislation, be it remembered, is initiated by statesmen who are staunch free traders, and firm believers in the laissez-faire or let-alone system of government—in that doctrine that the best government is that which governs least. Of this doctrine Mr. Bright and Mr. Herbert Spencer are the most conspicuous spokesmen to-day; but it is believed in by nine-tenths of British legislators and political writers, taking both parties together, and for thirty years back has been acted upon by both parties respectively in power. Mr. Spencer goes to the very depth of philosophy to prove that the civilized world is going in the direction of contracting the sphere and duties of government, and also that for nations to do with less government is something that must go on concurrently with the progress of civilization. But certain rather obvious facts of the day do not at all harmonize with this philosophy. Much more in harmony with the facts is the doctrine advanced by the late Sir Arthur Helps, that as nations progress in material civilization they require, not less government, but more, in consequence of the many new and unexpected complications to which material progress gives rise. The point to be remarked upon at present is that a government, every member of which is a free trader, and of course also a believer in the let-alone system of government, should through the force of circumstances be driven to legislation, concerning which a friendly critic says that it shows a tendency towards a modified form of state socialism.

It does appear as if state socialism in some form or other was urgently required in both England and America; nay, that the need of it is growing more urgent every year. Let us say one who denies this, we say, circumspect—look around. Tell us where we are to look for relief from the heavy-handed monopolies of railway and telegraph companies; and of gas companies too, let us add. The electric light is now expected to help the public in what has appeared to be a hopeless struggle with the gas companies; but let it be whispered that without a strong infusion of state socialism into our legislation neither the electric light nor any other scientific invention for lighting will help the public a pennyworth. Unless the strong arm of the law interferes, the electric light companies will soon be as unconscionable monopolies as the gas companies, and the gain from the invention will not be to the public, but to a few speculators; nay, unless our legislation be made a good deal more socialistic than it is at present, what is to prevent gas and electric light companies from amalgamating, and so defeating public expectation altogether. These are considerations to be reflected upon by every one who fears the bugbear of too much government and stands in dread of socialistic legislation.

Mr. Gladstone's attitude towards social or socialistic legislation, demanded by the people as a means of getting their bread and butter and saving them from being elbowed out of their own country by foreigners, is being tested. A cable dispatch from London says that the proposal to introduce Chinese coolie labor has roused the indignation of the London democrats, who are about to appeal to the prime minister to influence the Chinese government to stop the invasion. Now look for a moment at the circumstances. England has such a redundancy of population, and so many unemployed, that philanthropists and men of public spirit devote themselves most laboriously to the task of promoting emigration to America and to the antipodes, as the only available remedy for a vast aggregate of distress. This being actually the case, what sort of statesmanship—what sort of humanity is it—that would for a moment tolerate a proposal to make England's grief of having too many unemployed still heavier, by importing in thousands the "heathen Chinese" to take the bread from the mouths of her own people? Such a proposal is more than unstatesmanlike—it is positively diabolical and inhuman. Only think of it—the great British empire so bound and fettered by the chains of what is called free trade that it must by the Chinese government as a favor not to send coolies to England, to drive English families to starvation. In the face of a great and terrible evil now threatening England, to England to be struck helpless, unable to move head or foot to save herself. We shall soon see, if the dangerous experiment be tried of bringing Chinese laborers to take the bread out of the mouths of the people in a country where there are far more laborers than can find work, as things now are.

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THUNDER TEST. The following is clipped from yesterday's Globe: A delegation representing the Qu'Appelle farm syndicate have just left the capital very much disgusted on finding that the Globe's exposure of the infamous system of land registration in the west of Canada had order of speculators who organize and promote the so-called colonization schemes has caused the government from very shame to cancel the regulations. That the Globe has had anything to do with the collapse of any of the land companies is simply false. As our editorial of yesterday on the subject shows that collapse has been brought about, without any assistance whatever from other journals, by the World. AGNOSTIC AFFIRMATION NECESSARY TO JUSTICE. Mr. Justice Burton in trying a case at the assizes in Prince Edward county the other day expressed his disapproval of the dominion law which refuses to receive the testimony of an unbeliever in the christian religion. All unjust law is an injury to society. The state recognizes no established creed, and those who disbelieve in the creed of the majority have their right of solemn affirmation before the law as a means of giving evidence equally with others. That they are in a minority is not a part of the question. But the injury done by this injustice falls on others besides agnostics. Any orthodox believer may stand in the utmost need of the testimony of an agnostic to save his property, reputation, or even life. The word of an agnostic which commands the respect of his fellow-citizens in social or commercial matters should be received in courts of law. Otherwise Archbishop Lynch, for example, may some day sustain serious loss for want of the evidence of one of these agnostics.

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CLOTHING ETC. SPECIAL NOTICE

We would request Our numerous Patrons to place their Orders for Fall and Winter Clothing as soon as possible, as Our Stock of Suitings, Trousers, and Overcoatings is Complete, and we are pleased to say it is Second to None On this continent.

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THE LION LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF LONDON ENGL. Subscribed Capital - \$4,000,000 British Government Deposit - \$100,000 Paid up - \$200,000 Canadian - \$50,000 HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA: 42 JOHN ST, MONTREAL. DIRECTORS: HON JOHN HAMILTON, Pres. Merchants Bank; ROBERT SIMS, Esq., of R. Sims & Co.; JOHN HOPE, Esq., of John Hope & Co.; ALEXANDER MURRAY, Esq., Man. Bank Montreal; General Manager - F. STANCLIFFE. DIRECTORS-HEAD OFFICE: J. J. Alport, Esq., Director Midland railway company; Lord Eustace Cecil, M.P.; Charles Eley, Esq., Director of the London & Lancashire Railway; E. H. Eley, Esq., (Limited); John Eley, Esq., Director London & C. Catharine; F. F. Eley, Esq., Director Fore & Co. etc. etc. HONORARY BOARD, TORONTO: His Honor John Beverly Robinson, Lieut-Governor of Ontario; Hon Wm Cayley, Director British America Ass. W. H. Murray, Esq., Director of the Dominion Bank; Hon F. P. Fisher, Esq., Director Imperial Bank; General Agents, J. E. & A. W. SMITH.

\$325,000.00. The above is the amount of the AETNA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY'S Assets in the Government of Canada, in connection with the large business in the Dominion. The amount is all in Government Bonds, and is nearly six times as much as most of the other life insurance companies have deposited—they only needing to deposit from \$30,000 and upwards to \$100,000 with their acceptances. And it is the purpose of the Company to continually increase its Government Deposits, as required from year to year by the Insurance Act of 1876, thus adding, probably, not less than \$100,000 A YEAR.

From the new Quarterly Official List, just published by Prof. Cherriman, Superintendent of Insurance in Ontario, the following figures are taken, showing a corrected list of the Deposits of the Government by all the regular Life Insurance Companies, containing those engaged in the best class, some of which later, however, do much life insurance business in Canada. CANADIAN: Canada, of Hamilton ..... \$5,000; Ottawa, Montreal ..... 75,000; Confederation, Toronto ..... 75,000; Federal, Hamilton ..... 75,000; Life Association, Hamilton ..... 75,000; North American, Toronto ..... 75,000; Ontario Mutual, Waterloo ..... 75,000; Sun Life, Montreal ..... 75,000; Toronto Life, Toronto ..... 75,000. OTHER COMPANIES: Equitable, of N. Y. ..... \$1,000,000; Lion, London, England ..... 75,000; London & Lancashire ..... 75,000; Standard, Edinburgh ..... 75,000; Star of London ..... 75,000; Scottish, Edinburgh ..... 75,000; Victoria, Hamilton ..... 75,000; Union Mutual, Portland ..... 75,000. Average of the foregoing for each of the 18 companies ..... \$325,000.00. During the past year the AETNA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY has paid for death benefits in Canada the large sum of \$79,645.25, and to the living holders of Mature 1st Endowment Bonds the further sum of \$28,164.00. Also, in Cash Dividends, or profits to the Canadian members of its Mutual Department, the handsome amount of \$407,449 in 1931; of \$457,973 in 1930; of \$457,713 in 1929; of \$457,000 in 1928; and of \$457,000 in 1927. Total profits to the Canadian members in five years \$2,247,135. This is in cash, not bonus, in which shape it would amount to nearly a million dollars of bonus additions to policies. Capital and Accumulated Assets, \$37,655,884.76. Surplus, as regards Policyholders, \$5,660,000.00. Policies in force \$7,564,428.44. Endowment Deposits received to date of \$10 and upwards, carrying insurance of from \$100 to \$15,000 on a single life, from the age of 10 and upwards. Reader, if you are in good health (and some others admitted) make application at once through the undersigned. Western Canada Branch: Adelaide St. East, Toronto. WILLIAM H. ORR, Manager.



