

EVENTS

Published Weekly.

Vol. 8, No. 8.

OTTAWA, AUG. 19, 1905.

Whole No. 334

Prime Minister and Premier.

WRITING in the New York Advertiser Mr. Evan Stanton says: "About a year ago the Hon. G. Bowles, M.P., asked Mr. Balfour, if he would say, for the information of the House, whether he was aware of any official recognized by law as a prime minister? The question excited roars of laughter, but it was not answered in parliament."

Nobody ever asserted that the position of prime minister was recognized in law, but call it by whatever name you please the position of the head of the government of the day must be designated by some name. So lately as in 1782, under the Shelburne administration, there appear to have been different gradations of power within the cabinet. They were thus quaintly described by Lord Shelburne himself, in conversation with Jeremy Bentham. First, the cabinet simply, including those who were admitted to that honorable board, but without possessing substantial authority. Next, the cabinet with the circulation, that is with the privilege of a key to the

cabinet boxes wherein the foreign despatches and other papers are sent round for the perusal of ministers; and, highest of all, the cabinet with the circulation and the Post Office, in other words the power of ordering the letters of individuals to be opened at the Post Office, a right which technically belongs only to a secretary of state, and would naturally be limited to the personages of the greatest weight and influence in the administration. And of the younger Pitt it was said that at the cabinets during his ministries he used briefly to discuss with Dundas whatever business they had not previously settled together, then inform his colleagues of his decision and tell them they might go. The defective condition of the cabinet during this period has been attributed chiefly to the fact that as a general rule it did not recognize the supremacy of any common chief. The man with the strongest character would rule. It was not until the accession to office of the younger Pitt in 1783, that the paramount authority of a

prime minister over his associates in a government was unreservedly confessed.

Mr. Stanton, whose article purports to be historical and technical, which is reprinted by so prominent a Canadian paper as the Montreal Daily Witness, is apparently as well informed with regard to the British system of government as the average American who does not write for the press. He fails to make any distinction between the prime minister of a monarch under prerogative, and a premier of a modern cabinet. The one was simply known as the king's favorite, whose rise and fall depended solely upon his retaining the good will of his royal master, while the other is the acknowledged head of a responsible administration whose tenure of office mainly depends upon his ability to command parliamentary support. The king's prime minister was a person hateful to the English people. One of the greatest prime ministers England ever possessed, Sir Robert Walpole, at one time resented the title of prime minister as an imputation, and yet, it was in his person that as leader of the House of Commons he asserted the authority of parliament against the king. He was the first prime minister who sat in the House of Commons. In 1741 when the king was asked by the House of Lords to dismiss Sir Robert Walpole, a protest was signed by 31 peers who declared their conviction that a sole, or even a chief, minister is an officer unknown to the law of Britain, inconsistent with the constitution of this country, and destructive of the liberty of any government whatsoever', so the fact that a first minister is not recognized by law was asserted in the Journals of the House of Lords over 160 years ago. It was under Pitt, about 1783, that the constitutional relation between the sovereign and his ministers underwent a change, and began gradually to assume their present aspect. Since then, by an easy gradation, the personal authority of the sovereign receded, and was replaced by the supremacy of the premier. Before the close of the reign of George III. this was taken as an accepted maxim. After he left office Mr. Pitt dwelt upon the "absolute necessity there is in

the conduct of the affairs of the country, that there should be an avowed and real minister possessing the chief seat in the council, and the principal place in the confidence of the king. In that respect there can be no rivalry or division of power. That power must rest in the person generally called the first minister, and that minister ought to be the person at the head of the finances." Under our system of government, when we say that the office of prime minister, or premier, is not recognized by law it is a mere quibble, for the constitutional law of England is not written, and men like Pitt, Peel, Palmerston, Gray, Russell, and Gladstone were the men who laid down the law, and the mere fact that the Consolidated Statutes make no reference to this position of premier cuts no figure. The fact that it was once remarked in the British House of Parliament, as late as 1806, that the constitution "abhors the idea of a prime minister," and the further fact that Lord Lansdowne observed that "nothing could be more mischievous or unconstitutional than to recognize in an act of parliament the existence of such an office", make no difference either. Legally and constitutionally one private councillor has no superiority over another.

The fact is that the premier or the first minister, or the prime minister, as he is indifferently called, is the commander-in-chief of the party in power. He alone can give authoritative expression to its views and aims. He disciplines or keeps out heterodox or refractory members of the party. He must, if he can, reconcile all differences, and keep his party in courage, unity, and content. He is not only the adviser of the crown, but he has a general supervision of all the departments of government. Having a predominant voice in council, he must thoroughly understand the subject under deliberation. As leader of the House of Commons, he is responsible for the conduct of public business. He receives most delegations, and looks into all grievances. He must have a thorough knowledge of constitutional and parliamentary law, and of political history. He must have unusual powers of debate and

persuasion, a ready tact and insight into the characters and motives of men. In fact, the prime minister governs the state, and this was true of Sir Robert Walpole, who for 20 years governed England, and of Pitt, who governed it for nearly the same period. For nearly 30 years Sir John

Macdonald governed Canada, and for nearly 10 years Sir Wilfrid Laurier has governed.

Here, in the person of the prime minister, unrecognized by written law, lies the main spring of our political institution.



TOM L. JOHNSTON

The Cleveland, Ohio, magnate who was on the presidential race.

EVENTS.

Published Weekly

ARNOTT J. MAGURN, Editor.

VOL. 8 AUG. 19, 1905 No. 8

THE demand for the new edition of Magurn's Parliamentary Guide and Work of General Reference, just issued, has been so large that the remainder of the edition will only go a certain distance. All orders should be accompanied by a remittance of \$2.00 and each order will be filled in its turn so long as the edition lasts. Revised and enlarged, 463 pages. Address A. J. Magurn, P. O. Box 1050, Ottawa.

THE Peace Conference between representatives of Japan and Russia which opened at Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 8, is still in session without final results.

THE Manitoba Free Press has issued an announcement stating that its circulation is now over 30,000. This is a growth in a year and a half of 10,000 copies. It is indicative of the growth of western Canada, particularly Winnipeg, which has doubled in population since the census was taken five years ago. It is now the third largest city in Canada, depriving Ottawa of that position. The Manitoba Free Press has been a distinct boon to the people of the West for a quarter of a century, and the history of that immense country is very well reflected in the files of the paper. At present a series of very interesting historical articles are being printed every Saturday by the Free Press from the pen of Professor George Bryce, the author of the history of the adventurers of the Hudson Bay Company. The articles are entitled A History of Winnipeg, but cover the history of Winnipeg is practically the history of Manitoba. Taken all round the Manitoba Free Press is probably the best daily newspaper in the Dominion of Canada, and certainly covers a wider field than any other daily.

THE Ottawa post office was burned Jan. 4, 1904. The Public Works Department of the Dominion Government undertook to rebuild it. The public have been shifted from one place to another and have

been waiting with great patience for the completion of the building, but after a lapse of eighteen months the department seems to have only gotten its second wind, and the present outlook is that possibly by January 1906, the work may be completed although the present generation have nearly given up all hopes of ever seeing the finish.

“THE WHITE ELEPHANT” is the title of a booklet by Cy Warman, published by the Canada Publishing Co. of Montreal. Mr. Warman's books, such as “The Story of a Railroad”, “Tales of an Engineer”, and so forth, have all been about railways, and “The White Elephant” as stated in the preface is, “to give the views of one who has studied the important question of government ownership or operation of railways.” The pamphlet begins by describing the government railway in Prince Edward Island. The author seems to be fully convinced “of the evil influence of government interference with railways.” In the course of his argument Mr. Warman devotes considerable space to a defence of land grants to railways in Canada. He is wasting his time, for no person in Canada can be found to advocate a policy of land grants. His remarks on government ownership in Canada are not made in any serious mood and contributes nothing whatever of value to the subject. The second part of the pamphlet is entitled “Safety on American Railroads.” It seems to be an attack on the Interstate Commerce Commission. After one has perused the pamphlet, which is very neatly printed and enclosed in an illuminated cover, you can readily believe his statement that no person asked him to write it.

FROM the report of the Dominion Superintendent of Forestry, as quoted in the Canadian Forestry Journal:—

“The protection of our natural forests is a matter of supreme importance to the whole country, and one that has almost been neglected in the past. The spectacle witnessed by the traveller passing through our unsettled forest country is sad indeed. On every hand he beholds the charred re-

mains of the old time forest. He sees this as he journeys through Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, the Northwest Territories, and, sad to say, this destruction is not least if not greatest in the giant woods of the Pacific slope. Everywhere this destruction of public property is before his eyes, and "it is humiliating to confess, as we must do, that the fires which caused this great loss were not only permitted, but in some cases caused by our own people."

THE editor of La Revue's scientific section, Dr. I. Caze, has a paragraph on "Alcoholism and Hypnotism." The disease of drunkenness he declares, is now being treated by hypnotism in Russia. The well known French doctor, Legrain, has made this practice the subject of an interesting communication to the French Society of Hypnology and Psychology. The Russian Government, he declares, has established dispensaries in a number of the cities, among them St. Petersburg, Mos-

cow, Kiev, Saratof, and Astrakhan, in which incurable drunkards by the hundred are treated by this hypnotic method. Liquor is kept from them during the cure, and they are informed that they do not want to drink any more. They are followed for some time by the care of the doctors, and the treatment is said to have already had very happy results.

IN the latest instalment of the life of Pope Pius X, which is now appearing in the Revue de Paris we are informed that the Pontiff's early life seems to have been altogether full of hardships, which have left an impression on his features and his mode of life; and he has had the good taste to preserve the simplicity of his youth amid all the pontifical ceremonial which his present position of dignity imposes. Having been severe to himself he does not hesitate to be exacting toward others in the service of the Church; he does not permit resistance or temporizing.



The Discouraged Author.

Canada's Customs Tariff.

THE main topic in Canada, politically, for the next nine months or more will undoubtedly be the tariff. The so-called commission, but which is really a committee of the cabinet, will likely begin its labors in less than a month from now, and from that on, until the day the Budget is brought down in the House of Commons, the affairs of the business of the country will probably absorb almost entirely the attention of those composing the commission. Mr. Fielding and Mr. Patterson will, of course be the leading members of the board of enquiry, while Mr. Bruden the minister of inland revenue, will probably be a third. Whether any person from the West will be one of the students of the revision or not we are unable to say, but it would appear to be desirable that some western man should take part in the enquiry.

This revision of the tariff will be of peculiar interest to the students of economics, for the reason that in Canada, at all events, for the first time it will be a purely business revision, based upon purely business considerations, and with the sole object of making the tariff conform to business conditions as far as the requirements of revenue will permit. The customs tariff came into the politics of this country to a degree in 1876 and 1877, and in 1879 a tariff was made to protect the manufacturers, and was, by the way, to protect everybody else, including the farmers, but the farmers found out that they could not be protected and it was their outcry against the discrimination which enabled the Liberal party to carry on a successful war against the tariff first framed in 1879. It was the chief struggling ground between the two political parties during all the

years the Conservative party was in power. After 1896 and when the Liberals had the authority to revise the tariff which they exercised in 1897, they approached the task at least with the knowledge of the difficulties surrounding the whole subject, but with something of a bias perhaps, against the protected manufacturer. Now, nearly ten years later, another revision is to be made by the Liberal government, and the subject will be approached without the bias, with enlarged experience, and with the sole desire to do what is best for all parties.

What the government is liable to go up against is the tendency of agitators to take advantage of any tariff legislation to create grievances in the minds of the people of the West. The bulk of the people of the West are young, active men, and among them are a sufficient number of ardent spirits to seize every opportunity to inflame sectional prejudices and to lead the people to believe that the iron heel of the capitalist in the East is grinding them in the dust. They will be able to point to three different resolutions adopted at representative meetings of the Liberal party.

First, at the great convention in 1893 held in Ottawa, the Liberal platform declared that the customs tariff should be based upon the requirements of the public service, and in another place in the same resolution the demand was made that the tariff should be reduced to the needs of honest, economical, and efficient government, that it should be so adjusted as to make free, or bear as lightly as possible on the necessaries of life, and should be so arranged as to promote freer trade with the whole world, more particularly with Great Britain and the United States.

Further on the resolution declared that "we denounce the principle of protection as radically unsound and unfair to the masses of the people."

Second, the Liberal party in convention assembled in Manitoba in December, 1901, passed a resolution as follows:

"This Convention feels confident that, with due consideration for the varied productive industries of the country, the Government, in so far as the just demands upon the revenue will permit, will continue to apply the principle of placing taxation upon the basis of Revenue Tariff, having special regard to the development of the great agricultural resources of Western Canada, keeping in view the fact that lumber, woollen goods, agricultural implements and coal oil are articles of prime necessity to the Western farmer."

Third, the platform of the Liberal party in Manitoba adopted in council March 25, 1903, as set forth in Magurn's Parliamentary Guide for 1903 on page 403, contained the following declaration with respect to the tariff:—

"The Liberal party in this Province is strongly in favor of the lowest possible tariff on imports and condemns the utterances of the present Premier favoring a repeal of the British Preference, and a tariff based upon that of the United States, and re-affirms the principles laid down on this question at the Liberal Convention in December, 1901."

It is safe therefore, to anticipate that no revision of the tariff can possibly be made in Ottawa with any regard to the business conditions of the Dominion that will meet with the full approval of the people west of Lake Superior. It only goes to show what a difficult country this is to govern, and bears in upon us the fact that the jurisdiction of Ottawa covers an immense area diversified in climate, in soil, and in natural resources. There is one encouraging factor in the question and that is the confidence reposed in Mr. Fielding and Mr. Paterson by the business community of Canada and in fact the whole Laurier administration has such a good record with regard to all those questions affecting the business of the country that there is a general feeling of confidence that whatever they do will be better done than it would have been by any other hands.

We might be permitted to make a suggestion to the Government and especially to the Minister of Customs to the effect that the customs tariff should be administered as it is passed by parliament and not as it is interpreted by certain officials of the department. In practice the interpretation, however wrong it may be, is the law and from it there is no appeal. These decisions often work gross injustice to imports and it surely can not be the intention of parliament that a plainly defined item in the tariff should be discarded and another substituted for it. To give an example. Copper in sheets or plates, not polished, planished, or coated, parliament made free of duty. Copper sheets planished or polished, parliament subjected to a duty of 30 p.c.. The idea of parliament and of the Government in making copper sheets or plates first mentioned free was, as the item plainly shows, to allow of its being made up and manufactured into industrial products by Canadian workmen and artisans. A firm in Ottawa is constantly importing ground copper sheets, which are neither polished nor planished, and are using them as the raw material with which Canadian artisans are engaged in producing an industrial product by means of skilled labor and modern machinery. This was taxed 30 p.c. A member of the firm went to the Department on Parliament Hill and asked for an explanation from the Commissioner of Customs, who called in one of the officials and the official coolly informed the importer that these ground copper sheets had been classified by the officials of the Department as planished or polished. For years, therefore, this firm and it is to be presumed similar firms in different cities of Canada, have been taxed on their raw material the enormous sum of thirty dollars on every hundred dollars, and this clearly against the intention of Parliament, clearly against the law, and clearly against public policy. Outrages such as these are not infrequent, and, if we have no other recourse, we can at least denounce a system of tyranny, for it is nothing else, which transposes items in the tariff, frustrating the policy of Parliament and overturning the intention of the Government which framed the law.

The Downpour of Fiction.

IT is difficult if not impossible to discern with any clearness of outline the dominant movements—if movements there be—in contemporary fiction. Yet the literary historian of the future must necessarily in self defence, be forced to classify in some way the enormous mass of books which at a glance seems quite heterogeneous. We need not, however, let the difficulties of that hypothetical gentleman oppress us. The Elizabethan knew nothing of the "Tragedy of Blood," or of the "Romantic Comedy;" we know nothing of the "American Problem Novel," the "Stevensonian Romance," the "Novel of the Wild;" or, at least, we are only vaguely conscious of such classes or groups. The literary historian of the twenty-first century will see these movements quite clearly, and others that do not even suggest themselves to us. The satiric imagination, indeed, may even delight itself with the vision of future post graduate students writing doctoral dissertations on 'American Novels of the Anthony Hope Type from 1890 to 1910,' or with the supersubtle specialization to which the academic mind tends, or "Kiplingesque Short Stories by Natives of Indiana in the First Quarter of the Twentieth Century."

But if we would view the fiction of our own time objectively enough if we could

assume toward it the justice and sterner attitude of future critics, how much more fruitful and how much less painful a mask would the criticism of books become. At present we pick up a volume—one here, one there—and produce the desired quantity of "copy." in literature alone could such a nerveless method of procedure be tolerated. But suppose the reviewer said to himself: "I have here a novel belonging to the American problem-novel type; variety 'Negro-Problem.' Hence, the main theme of the book is specific, temporary, geographical. Does it contain enough of the eternal, of vital, human things, their tears or laughter, to outweigh its more immediate and merely ephemeral appeal. No: then it need not be noticed." Vain dream! Review one book in a hundred? And how, if you please, is the reviewer to live, and shall the seventh-rate novelist be forsaken and his children beg bread? No doubt. Let us encourage the production of fiction as heretofore. Let it increase in more than geometrical ratio, as it has done within the last half century. Let us read and review until our mental fibre is completely relaxed and our very power of critical rectitude is lost. Then shall we read and review without twinges of conscience and be contented.

Imperial Defence.

Speech by Field Marshal Earl Roberts, K.G.

House of Lords 10th July, 1905.

ON the motion by the Earl of Weymes "That, in the opinion of the House it would be a danger to the realm and limit the power of the Navy as an offensive force in war to trust to it alone for home defence, and, inasmuch as it is admitted that the Navy cannot guarantee us against so called hostile 'raids' it is the more needful that our land defences should at all times be such that no nation would ever attempt in any form a hostile landing on our shores." which was carried unanimously.

I do not propose to discuss directly the question brought forward by the noble Earl, but rather to show—whether invasions or of raids on this country are possible or not—it is essential that we should possess armed forces, fit in all respects not only to protect our own country, but our large possessions abroad.

During the last few sessions the subjects of Army reform and Army administration has received a good deal of attention in your lordships' House, in the House of Commons, and in the Public Press, but, so far as I can remember, no allusion has been made, except by the Prime Minister in his speech of the 11th May last, as to the scope of the demands which the armed forces of this country must be prepared to meet, and how they can best be organized so as to ensure success when called upon to respond to those demands.

My lords, we may reform the Army to the end of time, and the system of Army

administration may be changed as often as the Government of the day may see fit to change it, and yet be no nearer than we are at present to the solution of our difficulties as regards having the kind of Army we require for our peculiar needs and responsibilities. That solution, my lords, must depend upon a correct, authoritative, and generally accepted definition of our military requirements both at home and abroad. For, after all, my lords, is not that the initial problem which we have to solve? We must take into consideration, not only the protection of these islands, but the protection of the vast commercial interests of our widely scattered Empire, upon which the very existence of the United Kingdom depends. I much doubt, my lords, whether the public generally have ever considered the subject in this light or have ever realized what the armed forces of this country will have to do should war break out, and, therefore, they have never thought it incumbent upon them to satisfy themselves that these forces are in every respect capable of carrying out any duties they may be called upon to perform.

Five years ago my lords, the great fact that the life and prosperity of these islands are bound up in the existence of what is now known as the King's "dominions beyond the sea" was forcibly brought home to the British public. For the moment they realized this fact, and, unprepared as they were for any such service, they sprang patriotically to the call

made upon them. But, my lords, five years have passed since then, and other subjects have engaged the attention of the nation; the lessons of South Africa have been forgotten, and I have no hesitation in stating that our armed forces, as a body are as absolutely unfitted, and unprepared for war as they were in 1899-1900.

The public still appear to restrict their ideas of precaution to the defence of the shores of this country. They lose sight of the fact that His Majesty's dominions are no longer a Kingdom but an Empire—the greatest Empire the world has ever seen—and that if we intend to maintain the integrity of this great Empire (which, my lords, means the prosperity of Great Britain), we must accept the burden which the responsibilities of such a charge entails.

So far as I can judge, my lords, these are matters in which the public think they have no concern.

They are much troubled with the smaller details of home defence, forgetful of the larger issues which mean so much to them, and which may, and probably will require our being prepared as a Continental nation to defend our possessions in the East, but to take an important part in affairs nearer home, either or both of which would necessitate our being able to place in the field an army as large and as efficient as any that might be brought against us. If, my lords, my appreciation of the state of affairs is correct, of what avail is a discussion within the narrow limits of the motion brought forward by the noble Earl?

The question with which we have to deal is one of infinitely greater importance; it may, indeed, be one of life or death to this country, and it cannot, therefore, be left to be settled by some impromptu action when the time arises. We must calmly consider the dangers with which we may be confronted, and we must do all in our power by timely preparations to ensure our being able to cope successfully with these dangers whenever or wherever they may occur. The mere fact, my lords, of doing this would surely put a stop to the annual discussions on the Army

estimate; being conducted in what I may be permitted to describe as a somewhat parochial spirit, and would enable us to arrive at some definite decision as to the strength of the regular Army both for peace and war; also, my lords—a matter of supreme importance—as to the part to be taken by the Auxiliary Forces, not only in the defence of these islands, but in the defence of the Empire. This would, moreover, my lords, have the inestimable benefit of giving a certainty to Army life, and would obviate that feeling of restlessness which now permeates all ranks, and which is so detrimental to the efficiency and to the best interests of the service. What we have to aim at, my lords, is to get the people of this country to identify themselves with the Army, and to take an intelligent interest in what the Army may have to do. The peoples of other countries are identified with their Armies, from the fact that every man has borne his share of military duties, and for the best years of his life is liable to be recalled to the colors. With us, I grieve to say, it is very different—the Army is looked upon as something quite outside the national life. No thought is bestowed by the civil population on the means available for the training of the troops; not only so, but the law is often invoked to protect the rights of individuals against the requirements of military training.

Modern war my lords, is not a matter of brute force, as it was more or less the case in former days. Both officers and men now need to be most carefully trained. The officers must be given every opportunity of educating themselves to accept responsibility, and to carry out the arduous duties, either as Staff Officers or Commanders, upon which success in the field mainly depends; the men must be given the means to practise shooting, so as to be able to use their rifles with precision and confidence when required to do so.

But, my lords, I would ask you how is it possible for these essentials to be obtained when manœuvring areas are so seldom available, and when, year after year, funds necessary for manœuvres are cavilled at, and either considerably reduced or deplect

altogether; when even ordinary training grounds are only obtained with the greatest difficulty; where ranges are few and far between, and where people object to the presence of troops in their immediate neighborhood—one class because the noise of firing may disturb their game, another class because of an unreasonable fear that soldiers may create disturbance; a fear entirely due to their ignorance of military life, and which has been entirely dispelled, I rejoice to think, in those places which have had soldiers amongst them during manœuvres.

I am not exaggerating my lords; these very excuses have been made to me as reasons why manœuvres should not be held, or gun or rifle ranges established in this or that particular locality. And yet, my lords, it is this Army, reduced to a minimum in numbers, trained in a most inadequate manner, with far too little musketry practice and without the auxiliary forces so organized as to form a sufficient and efficient reserve—a reserve, my lords, which can never be provided by the regular troops, by reasons of the conditions of our service; it is this Army I say, my lords, which the nation expects to perform the most trying and difficult service in foreign countries without ever a mistake, and which is condemned when a disaster occurs, consequent on its want of training. It is this Army which is expected to uphold the honour of the country against whatever odds may be opposed to it.

When war breaks out there is a sudden change of feeling towards the soldier. Too much cannot then be done for him; money is freely spent in providing him with comforts, on the sick and wounded, and in looking after the women and children; and I am sure that every soldier was most grateful for all that was done in this way during the war in South Africa. But, my lords, should patriotism end here? This evanescent enthusiasm does not entail any self sacrifice, and it passes off as soon as war is over and the danger has disappeared.

When we consider, my lords, the grievous disadvantages under which our offi-

cers and men labor I think it is nothing short of marvellous that His Majesty's troops should so often and so successfully have performed the severe and onerous duties which have from time to time been required of them in various parts of the world. But surely, my lords, such a haphazard state of affairs should no longer be allowed to continue. Will our fellows countrymen never realize the very grave risks we run—courting disaster, in fact—in attempting to maintain our position in the world under such eminently inadequate conditions as now exist, and when all the nations in Europe are so many nations in arms?

How can we expect to protect our own interests and keep our Empire intact unless the whole nation rises to the occasion by either bearing their share in the defence of the Empire or by enabling those to whom they delegate this responsible duty to become in all respects efficient for the work? I offer these remarks, my lord because I feel that I should be failing in my duty to the nation were I to keep silent on a subject which is of such supreme importance to its future prosperity, indeed, I may say to its existence as a first class Power.

I have long wished for an opportunity of stating to my fellow countrymen what I believed to be the true state of our armed forces, and what I believe to be in store for them unless they bestir themselves to remedy our great shortcomings.

I have no intention, my lords, of blaming the present Government, for having failed to realize the military requirements of the British Empire. For, my lords, is not every Government inspired and actuated by the national sentiment? And if that sentiment is apathic or merely critical, how can we expect a Government to take any decided action towards national improvement.

It is to the people of the country, my lords, I appeal to take up the question of the Army in a sensible, practical manner. For the sake of all they hold dear let them bring home to themselves what would be the position of Great Britain if it were to lose its wealth, its power, its position.

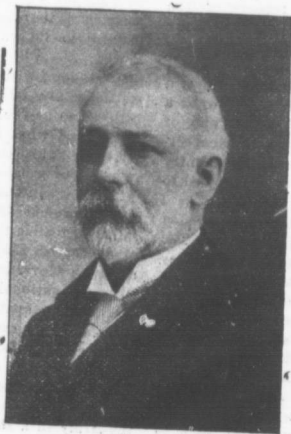
I would ask them not to permit the Army to be the shuttlecock of party politics, or its organization to be dependent on financial theories. The people of this country should return no member to Parliament upon whom they cannot depend to make a study of the services the armed forces may have to perform, and to consider in a broad and liberal spirit under what system of organization those duties can most effectually be carried out.

My lords, we do not require a large standing Army. It is comparatively easy to come to a satisfactory conclusion as to what the constitution and strength of that Army should be. It must continue to be constituted on the volunteer system, because one half is always abroad while the other half is preparing to go abroad, and there are certain fixed quantities by which its strength must be guided—as, for instance, the number of men required to garrison India, South Africa, Malta, Gibraltar, etc., and in, addition, the

number of men required each year as drafts to keep the several units abroad up to the established strength.

Behind this standing Army there must be a Reserve large enough to mobilise all the regular troops, and to expand the Army to, and maintain it at, such a size as circumstances may require. It is this Reserve, my lords, to which attention must be chiefly paid. The regular troops, as I have already explained, can only provide a very limited portion of the Reserve, the main body of which must be formed by the Auxiliary Forces and by the manhood of the country.

It is for the people of this country, my lords, to decide how this Reserve is to be brought about, whether by conscription or some practical system of universal training. For in no other way is it possible for Great Britain to possess an Army so organized and trained in peace time as to be equal to the probable demands of the Empire in war.



HON. W. S. FIELDING

One of the leading members of the forthcoming Tariff Commission

Will Hungary Follow the Example of Norway.

PANIC, crime, and disaffection are said to be contagious, and rebellion sometimes sweeps over a continent like prairie fire. The question is being discussed in the European press whether Francis Joseph is to share the fate of Oscar, and Hungary is to secede from the Austrian Empire. At present the Hungarian parliament is exhibiting what the newspapers call "passive resistance." The aim of the Emperor's command, by imperial rescript, to Baron

acute and irreparable. During the short time that this episode has lasted, matters have grown much more serious; it is true that before the spectre of despotic usurpation men have shown no terror, but their hearts have become embittered. Away, then, with this futile and needless cause of provocation, and let the ground be cleared for the erection of a government with a programme representing the wishes of the present majority."



Francis von Kossuth.

Fejervary to form a ministry has so far been checkmated by the House of Representatives, and Count Albert Apponyi speaks somewhat contemptuously of what he styles the "Fejervary Episode." In his own words:

"All considerations point to one unavoidable conclusion, namely, that the 'Fejervary Episode' must come to a quick end, before it entails a constitutional conflict,



Baron Geza von Fejervary.

Francis Joseph has acted with more uncompromising decision than Oscar of Sweden did; but according to Count Apponyi, he is tempting Providence, and endangering the throne of the Hapsburgs. "Even in Vienna," says the correspondent of the London Standard, "his action was considered ill advised, more especially at the present time when the example of Norway may incite the Hungarians to further

efforts in the direction of independence. The reference to Norway is obvious and natural, and according to Francis von Kossuth:—

"King and nation have stiffened themselves to mutual opposition, and it is to be feared that the constitution may be sacrificed in the struggle, in which the King of Hungary seems to forget that kings are made for nations and not nations for kings; for there are no kings without a kingdom, but plenty of kingdoms without kings."

The last words undoubtedly show that Norway was in the mind of the writer, who concludes by saying: "The Hungarian nation is like the Old Guard at Waterloo. They will die, but never surrender."

On the other hand Count Apponyi, in the London Standard, scouts the idea of a separation. Hungarians form nearly half of the population of the Austrian Empire, and Austria would fight rather than let them go. But they do not wish to go. He says—

"Do not the demands of Hungary in themselves portend a downfall—the dissolution of the dual monarchy? That is what others would have the world believe. . . As a matter of fact there is not a word of truth in all that; we seek not separation, but agreement, a definite agree-

ment, unhampered by the quibbles which have for centuries embittered our relations with Austria."

SEASIDE EXCURSIONS—LOW RATES TO FAMOUS WATERING PLACES.

The seashore with its refreshing and invigorating salt breezes has unbounded charms for those who are oppressed with the summer heat of inland cities, so the announcement of the Intercolonial Railway in another column should be read with especial interest at this particular time. The Seaside Excursions advertised by the I. C. R. from Montreal to the various points of the Lower St. Lawrence, to the shores of Northumberland Strait, the Bay of Fundy, and the Atlantic coast afford a splendid opportunity of leaving the Canadian Metropolis for a vacation at astonishing low rates. And by the splendid through trains, the "Maritime Express" and the "Ocean Limited" leaving Montreal at 12.00 o'clock and at 19.30 o'clock, a fast and luxurious journey is assured, the excellence of their dining and sleeping car accommodation being unequalled on the continent.



The Crops in Ontario.

THE August Crop Bulletin, about to be issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, will contain the following regarding conditions on the 1st of the month.:

FALL WHEAT—The harvesting of this crop was begun rather later than usual in most sections, but the weather was favorable for cutting, and with the improved machinery now in use many had completed the work, and some had even threshed, before the 1st of August. The crop will be a big one as regards the yield per acre, more especially in the Lake Erie counties. Most of the fall wheat stood up well, and there was not so much "lodging" as is usual in the case of a heavy crop. A number of correspondents speak of rust, but in almost every case it was described as being very slight. Some complain of the grain as being somewhat shrunken, while others speak of it as being plump; it may be generally classified as a fair sample. Three or four correspondents mention injury from either midge or joint worm, but all are silent as to the presence of the Hessian fly, which for the previous four years had been devastating our wheat fields. In short 1905 may be classed as one of Ontario's best fall wheat years.

SPRING WHEAT—Comparatively little spring wheat is now grown in the western half of the Province and in the eastern half the crop appears also to be decreasing in popularity. The fields were yet green as correspondents reported, but cutting was expected to be general during the week beginning August the 14th. The crop is described as being full in the head, with good straw, and promises more than an average yield. Odd mention only is made of rust.

BARLEY—This grain, like the other cereals, will go considerably over the average in yield per acre. The condition of the crop is variable, some correspondents speaking of much injury from rain and lodging, while others describes it as being

first class both in point of yield and quality. However, most of the barley raised in Ontario is now fed to live stock on the farm, and the matter of discoloration of the grain is not so important as it was some years ago when the bulk of the crop was raised for malting. While some were starting to cut about the 1st of August, most of the crop was more likely to be harvested about the middle of the month. Several correspondents speak of barley and oats being sown together as a popular feed mixture.

OATS—While in a few localities oats had been cut as correspondents reported at the beginning of August, the bulk of the crop had yet a week or two to ripen. The yield promises to be one of the largest, both as regards acreage and total yields several correspondents classing it as the finest crop in years. High lands gave magnificent yields, but in low places it suffered considerably from the wet. The straw is described as being long, bright and stiff, and the heads as being well filled, although in some cases lodging is complained of. Rust was reported in a few instances, and two or three correspondents spoke of the presence of wire worm.

The Western Bankers Association's reports of the crops of Manitoba and the territories compiled from 150 places, gives an average yield of 24.89 bushels for wheat, 35.79 bushels for barley and 50.17 bushels for oats. Taking this as a basis of calculation the harvest is expected to yield—

	Bushels
Wheat.....	99,681,000
Barley.....	15,527,000
Oats.....	71,887,000

Of this 61,513,000 bushels of wheat, 15,471,000 bushels of barley and 50,087,000 bushels of oats are credited to Manitoba, the rest belonging to the territories. At minimum quotations for these grains the yields represent an addition of over \$100,000,000 to the wealth of the country.

EVENTS.



The Countess of Shaftesbury