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MARCH 26, 1904

EVENTS

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WEEKLY

Parliamentary Proceedings.

The New Militia Act

A Painful Exhibition



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The "Boss" at Home

According to Cocker
A Sketch

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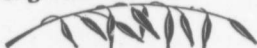
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EVENTS

Published Weekly.

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Vol. 6, No. 13.

OTTAWA, MARCH 26, 1904.

Whole No. 262.

Overlooking "The House."

MR. R. L. BORDEN professed not to be able to understand the appointment of Mr. Blair to an important office in view of the fact that Mr. Blair had differed from the government in regard to the transcontinental railway policy. He took the ground that if Mr. Blair's judgment was right it should have been accepted but if the government thought his judgment was wrong they could not consistently place confidence in him by appointing him Chairman of the Railway Commission. In the same debate a prominent follower of Mr. Borden's pronounced a eulogy on Sir John Macdonald as the greatest statesman Canada ever possessed. He was certainly an experienced public man, and it would not be unfair to judge Sir Wilfrid Laurier's action in this case by the practice of Sir John Macdonald in similar cases. There was a member of parliament named McIsaac who opposed Sir John Macdonald's transcontinental railway policy and, moreover, condemned every other item of government policy, yet Sir John Macdonald made him a judge, although he could not

have thought much of Mr. McIsaac's opinion or judgment in regard to the C. P. R. Mr. J. A. Ouimet denounced Sir John Macdonald's Northwest policy and his course with regard to Louis Riel yet Sir John Macdonald nominated him, which was equivalent to appointment, as Speaker of the House of Commons. Mr. F. D. Monk's predecessor in the representation of the county of Jacques Cartier, Mr. Girouard, voted against Sir John Macdonald in favor of wider treaty-making powers, the government taking strong ground against it, yet Mr. Girouard was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada by Sir Mackenzie Bowell and his colleagues just a short time afterwards. Many other examples could be given if any one thinks it necessary to employ the argument now in condemnation of Mr. Blair. If they do they condemn Sir John Macdonald, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Hon. Geo. E. Foster, and many others. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has the right to shelter himself behind history, although the only ground he took in defence of his action was that it was right.

Some comment was made both on the floor of the House of Commons and in the party press on the conspiracy of silence so called to describe the reluctance on the part of the government at Ottawa to carry on a debate on the Address. The Speech from the Throne may or may not outline the government programme during the session. There is no law to compel the government to show their hand in a public speech, and as a rule the speeches from the throne in this country have consisted of mere generalities and the really important measures of each session since Confederation have generally been those which were not mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. What happened in the present case? The Address was moved and seconded in the ordinary way, and then the leader of the Opposition rose and made his criticism and offered any remarks that occurred to him. To these the Prime Minister replied. Now if there was to be anything in the nature of a debate one would think that the position of the Prime Minister required a reply from the most prominent member of the Opposition aside from the leader himself. In some ways Mr. Monk was last session the most prominent man, in as much as he was a provincial leader; but this session he occupied a somewhat anomalous position, having resigned his leadership and returned to the ranks. Nevertheless he was asked by Mr. Borden, the leader, to follow Sir Wilfrid Laurier and then, when some member on the government side had replied to Mr. Monk, Mr. Haggart, an ex-cabinet minister, was to be the next speaker on the Conservative side. That programme would have looked like a debate clothed with some dignity and adhering to the traditions of the House of Commons. But what happened? Mr. Monk in the end refused to speak. That disconcerted Mr. Haggart to a certain extent so that he was not ready at the moment to rise, and so the whole thing fell to pieces and Mr. W. F. Maclean took the floor and talked about almost everything under the sun except the contents of the Speech from the Throne. It could not be expected that any person on the ministerial side would reply to Mr. Maclean be-

cause there was practically nothing to reply to. Then Mr. Casgrain, a prominent member of the Opposition, introduced a subject, the organization of the League Nationale. The League Nationale certainly not mentioned in the Speech from the Throne nor anything which could lead up to it, any more than was the subject of the position of Liberal lawyers who were members of the House and who acted as advisers or promoters of schemes before the government. As no person, therefore, was debating the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne the government was forced to remain silent. No government ever existed, the members of which could keep their seats when the Opposition dealt them hard blows. For instance, if Mr. Bennett, instead of incorporating certain accusations in a general speech had a real case against a ministerial supporter it would be expected that he would formulate the charge so that it could be acted on. When he neglected to do so the House did not take the matter seriously. The Opposition know very well that the debate fizzled out not because the government remained silent but because there was no attack.

Mr. A. J. S. Copp, the member in the House of Commons for Digby, N. S., has repelled the accusation brought against him by Mr. Bennett, the member for East Simco, to which we alluded last week. The charge was that Mr. Copp had made a bargain with the town council of Digby "to use his position as a member of parliament to get a large grant for the construction of a dock in that town and he was paid \$500 on account and was to be paid \$2,000 more on the completion of the dock." Mr. Copp made a statement on the floor of the House which seems to completely dispose of Mr. Bennett's accusation and the member for East Simco must either withdraw the charge and apologize publicly or he must accept Mr. Copp's challenge to bring the matter before the Committee on Privileges and Elections. From Mr. Copp's explanation and from the records it appears that the citizens of the town of Digby and the Council composed of Liberals and Conservatives indif-

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ferently, publicly urged Mr. Copp to enter into a contract for the construction of a dock but there was no idea of going to the government for assistance in the undertaking, nor did Mr. Copp ever apply to the government. He went to men interested in local industries and endeavored to enlist private capital. For this purpose he visited Montreal and other places and received \$500 for his expenses. He was to receive, if successful, \$4,500 more, to be given to the company or individual completing the work. Mr. Copp himself was to receive no part of that sum and no compensation for his services further than the \$500. The Mayor of Digby said it was better that the agreement should be cancelled than that it should be misrepresented and an entirely false construction placed on it merely for political purposes. It is up to Mr. Bennett.

In reply to a question in the House as to the extent of the area of the coal measures in Canada the government of Canada said that those areas were so enormous and extensive that all the information at the disposal of the government was inadequate to answer the question. This shows what a great country we have—and so busy too that we are not able to measure up our great natural wealth.

Mr. Bennett put a series of questions as to the amount of grain received at various ports during 1903. From the official replies given it is learned that 800,000 bushels were received at Quebec of which 548,000 came by vessel. The number of bushels of grain shipped from Fort William and Port Arthur to Buffalo was nearly 8,000,000, Port Arthur sending 2,376,000. Montreal received 1,022,000 bushels without bulk being broken. Midland received 13,545,000 bushels and Depot Harbor, which is the terminus of the Canada Atlantic Railway, received 14,765,000.

Mr. Bourassa worried about the flag which flies at the masthead on the tower

of the Parliament Buildings. A British flag with the Union Jack in one corner had been used for some years, and in purchasing a new one the government purchased one that was all Union Jack. Mr. Bourassa wanted the old Jack and objected to the new Jack. Mr. Bourassa must remember that the flag manufacturers would die of starvation if his objection to new Jacks was allowed. As an advocate of the Old Flag the member for Labelle appeared in a new role. Unfortunately for him he ran up against the Minister of Public Works who soon showed Mr. Bourassa that he knew all about flags.

Mr. Haggart, in a discussion of the Militia Bill on Tuesday, carried the House back a few hundred years by asserting that it was the prerogative of the King and of the Governor-General as his representative to appoint or dismiss officers of the militia, without reference to his advisers; in other words that we had irresponsible and autocratic government in Canada today. Extraordinary statements like these might justify the public in withdrawing confidence from some of those who sit on the front benches, and are regarded as cabinet possibilities.

Col. Tisdale criticized the way the Militia Bill was printed, that is, it did not show the changes from the present law. It might be well for some committee of the House to procure a few copies of the Congressional bills from Washington and make them a model. They are printed on good paper, the lines are far apart and numbered, and the margin is wide enough for necessary notes, or amendments, and where it is a consolidation or an amending Act the new matter is printed in italic so that the change made by the proposed law can be seen at a glance. It is one of the most extraordinary things that a young and progressive parliament like the one at Ottawa should have borne so long the very shabby kind of Bill and the very inconvenient one that is so well known to members.

At the annual meeting of the Parliamentary Press Gallery there were evidences of an organized revolution against the old dynasty. The younger and more ardent spirits prevailed, and elected their men to office. The most important officer is the Secretary. In matters of precedence, dignity and invitations to dine out the President of the Gallery, of course ranks first, but along the lines of Gallery work it is the Secretary who helps to break the dull thud of the daily routine. The new Secretary, elected last week, is Mr. H. F. Gadsby,



MR. H. F. GADSBY

a resident of Toronto. He claims St. Catharines as his birth place but Stratford was the scene of his brinzing up and preliminary education, which was rounded off at Toronto University where Mr. Gadsby graduated with honors and received acouple of letters from the alphabet with A. B. reversed. He is known in parliamentary circles as an observant and discriminating writer, independent, analytical. Mr. Gadsby is quite a stylist and has a nice conception of the value of words. This is why when he wants to say something nasty about a man the man usually squirms. He promises to make a popular secretary but

has to stand several hard tests before he can piume himself on achieving success. Already he is putting on airs in the matter of a new desk. The old one wasn't good enough. Fine feathers may make fine birds, but a roll-top desk of quartered oak doesn't always make a good [Secretary.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Macalaren of Huntingdon, to prohibit the manufacture, importation and sale of cigarettes was supported by an admirable address on the subject by the honorable gentleman. Probably no one in the House could have handled it as well as Mr. Macalaren. After all, although few cared to express an opinion, the sense of the House seemed to be against any interference with the liberty of an adult to smoke cigarettes. At the same time there is an overwhelming opinion that the law forbidding the sale of cigarettes to boys should be strictly enforced. One important aid to this was disclosed during the discussion, that business men will not employ boys who smoke cigarettes. The resolution did not reach a vote and will come up again later in the session. It is however, wasting the time of parliament to introduce such resolutions.

The Easter recess will last from Wednesday, the 30th inst., until Tuesday, April 5.

Mr. Bennett, the member for East Simcoe, takes the ground that it is all right for a member of the Opposition to give his professional services in cases between private parties and the public departments but all wrong for a ministerial lawyer to do so. He says that the ministerial lawyer is employed because he has a pull. This argument came out during the discussion which showed that in a case where Mr. Bennett accused Mr. Leighton McCarthy of an impropriety of this kind Mr. Bennett was also engaged in the same case. Mr. Bennett is not doing justice to his reasoning powers if he thinks the public will condemn a Ministerial lawyer for conducting a case before the government and not condemn an Opposition lawyer for doing the same thing. If such a distinction was a proper

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one to make it would never have been omitted from the Independence of [Parliament Act. That very strict law is carefully drawn and any member who does not come under it is not doing anything very objectionable. But it applies equally to both sides of the House. Members of the government are usually anxious to please members of parliament no matter on which side of the House they may sit and, in fact, in the case under discussion

Mr. Bennett himself told the House that when he went to Mr Sutherland, the minister in charge of the department concerned, that minister facilitated Mr. Bennett in his work by giving him every information in his power. There is no doubt that any minister or deputy-minister will facilitate any legal gentleman who is acting in a case between a private party and a department so far as that is consistent with public duty.



Driver Spence—Confound this cold weather ! The water's froze and they've all slipped off but the Premier—Saturday Night.

EVENTS

Published Weekly.

ARNOTT J. MAGURN, Editor.

VOL. 5. MARCH 26, 1904. No. 13

AT the opening of parliament last year the official who had the arranging of the seats, presumably the late Black Rod, seated the judges of the Supreme Court at the foot of the Clerk's table in the Senate Chamber. It had been usual to seat them between the table and the throne. The judges resented this and refused to attend the opening this year on that account. This year the bench for the judges was replaced in its old position showing that the arrangement last year was probably an oversight on the part of a new official. One would think that the judges of the Supreme Court of Canada had something better to do than to display petulance over a little thing like that. If it hadn't been for the newspapers very few persons would have known that the judges had stayed away and even as it was the throne did not totter on its foundations and parliament was duly opened. But we hope the dear old judges will come back if only for the sake of the picturesque appearance of the ermined robes, and the enhanced effect of the ensemble.

THE New Brunswick legislature is being asked to pass a law making the ballot a secret one. The bill is prepared by the Tweedie Administration.

THE King's Printer in Canada has been instructed by the government of the Dominion to print in the weekly report of the Department of Trade and Commerce an advertisement of a manufacturer's agent in England who desires to be employed on commission by some manufacturer in Canada. There is another free advertisement that manufacturers of ketchup and tomato sauce want agents in Canada "to push the sale of their goods." The Department of

Trade and Commerce will soon want an advertising manager and desirable persons should lose no time in making application.

ANOTHER sign of the progress of the Canadian West is the issue of a daily paper in Regina. There are many places of far less importance where a daily paper is published, and there is no reason why one should not succeed in the political, military and legal centre of the great province of Assiniboia. If parliament instead of devoting so much time to the discussion of politics would take some action to reduce the exorbitant tolls on telegraphic despatches it would make it easier for the publisher to give the people a good daily service at distant points like Regina, Calgary, Nelson, Rossland and other places in the West.

SIR THOMAS SHAUGHNESSY is reported as having expressed the opinion in New York to the effect that the prevailing sentiment in Canada is to place the tariff on exactly the same basis as that of the United States. Sir Thomas Shaughnessy evidently believes in reciprocity. Ever since he entered the administration at Ottawa Mr. Tarte spoke on matters of transportation with the tongue of Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, and now that Mr. Tarte has made himself an apostle of protection Sir Thomas Shaughnessy is returning the compliment by speaking with the tongue of Mr. Tarte. The President of the Canadian Pacific Railway recently expressed an opinion on the large question of empire preferential trade. Now it seems that he has expressed an opinion on fiscal questions. The popular impression that the president of a great transcontinental railway company is very busy with railway affairs receives rather a rude shock when we find that Sir Thomas Shaughnessy has ample time to study these great political questions sufficiently to form definite conclusions and express opinions.

MR. BLAIR'S decision in the telephone case at Port Arthur is, from the public point of view, as bad as it could possibly be. His two colleagues on the railway commission seem disinclined

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to agree with him, and we trust that the majority of the board will support the rights of the people in this matter.

CABLEGRAMS appeared in the daily press a few days ago stating that the Emperor of Germany had visited the King of Spain who took lunch with him in the harbor on board a German man-of-war and they conversed for three-quarters of an hour. The German Emperor is 45 years of age and succeeded to the throne when he was 29. The King of Spain is 18 years of age and the meeting of these two men, whose combined years and combined experience would not furnish sufficient capacity to run one department of the government of Canada, is heralded throughout the world as an important international event.

MILITIA matters in Canada have hitherto been run according to the King's Regulations. They have governed as part of the law of Canada. In the new Militia Act the King's Regulations have been turned down and the government have substituted regulations made in Canada. Under the same Bill there may be a Canadian commanding the militia. Under the same Bill a Canadian officer is put on an equality with a British army officer in this country. Under the same Bill a Canadian officer can be made a general. No, no. Mr. Bourassa is not the author of the measure. It is brought down with the sanction of the King's advisers.

A MEMBER of the House stated in the discussion of the Address that if we had more protection we would have more settlers in the West, more manufacturers in the East, and greater prosperity throughout the Dominion. When we had more protection, which means higher taxes between 1880 and 1897, the number of settlers going to the West rapidly decreased until such a small point was reached as to be almost invisible. There never was in the history of the Dominion so many settlers going into the West, so much manufacturing, or such a volume of exports as at present. It is a wise people who will heed the lessons which history teaches. Settlers are

pouring into Canada across the border from the United States to escape "more protection."

THE next general election cannot be discussed—or rather is never discussed without reference to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He became leader of the Liberal party of Canada in 1886 on the nomination of Sir Richard Cartwright and Hon. David Mills. He lost two general elections after that and won two. By virtue of the popular suffrage he, a French-Canadian, became Prime Minister of the Dominion. He occupied an unassailable position as an acknowledged leader in 1891; in 1896 that position was enhanced by the prestige of victory. Sir John Macdonald won five general elections after Confederation. If Sir Wilfrid Laurier wins the approaching contest he will be well on the way towards repeating the record of Canada's first and in some ways greatest premier.

THE Canadian government is put to an expense annually of \$10,000 to pay stamp duties in England which will give an idea of the oppressive taxes levied on the people of England that some persons in this country would be quite willing to see increased.

AN exchange says that a special writer of the Boston Transcript, sent to Ottawa to report on the political situation, writes that "Sir Wilfrid Laurier unites with the purity of the dove the wisdom of the serpent and the bull dog's relish of the fray." One cannot refrain from admiring a man who combines the dove and the bull dog. If that kind of thing goes on the people of Boston will expect to see Sir Wilfrid tagged in a museum of curiosities. By the way does the Boston Transcript really send a man to Ottawa? There is not an important daily paper in the United States that sends a man to Ottawa nor is there one in the United Kingdom.

A WEEKLY exchange says that it is currently reported, "in well-informed political circles", that Mr. Richard Cart-

wright is about to become High Commissioner for Canada in London. It is exactly seven years since the Toronto Mail published the statement that Sir Richard Cartwright was about to be appointed High Commissioner so that our weekly friend, whose delicate satire and keen wit lead him to miscall the honorable gentleman, is circulating as a current rumor, one that is many years old.

THE Winnipeg Telegram, the Ottawa Citizen and many other protectionist papers which continually bewail importations from the United States are constantly and regularly importing from the United States the pictures which they present to their readers and which can be made just as well in Winnipeg or Ottawa, Toronto or Montreal, as in the United States. These professed protectionists are all free traders when they think it suits their pockets.

WE did an injustice to Mr. Maclean, the member for East York, of which he has not complained, in stating last week that he took the floor in the debate on the Address in a sort of butting-in way. The fact is that owing to Mr. Monk's refusal at the last minute to follow the Prime Minister in debate some confusion in the Opposition programme arose and it was at his leader's request that Mr. Maclean took the floor and as he was not prepared it probably accounts for the inappropriate and rather disconnected address. Under the circumstances he did what he was asked to do very well, namely, fill in the time. To the spectators, however, the whole thing appeared to be a very raw performance. But it was not the fault of the member for East York.

IN the legislative council at Pretoria Mr. Raith, discussing the question of children in relation to the Chinese ordinance, supposed the case where the children were born in the Transvaal would they not, he asked, be British subjects? The Attorney

General replied yes. Then, said Mr. Raith, how could you repatriate them? to which the Attorney General replied, we might repatriate under the Peace Preservation Act. The section of the Act to which the Attorney General referred reads as follows:—

"It shall be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor on its being shown to his satisfaction that there are reasonable grounds for believing that any person within this colony is dangerous to the peace and good government of the country to issue order under the hand of the Colonial Secretary to such person to leave the colony within fourteen days after service of such order."

The South African newspapers are asking the public to imagine a two-year old Chinese child being expelled as dangerous to peace and good government. It is said that some of the Churches in that country are sanctioning the importation and slavery of Chinese, on the ground that it would afford a capital chance to make Christians out of them. We wonder if Christian slaves are any more acceptable than Pagan slaves. At the present moment the British public are hero-worshipping Japan the inhabitants of which are Pagans.

A DEPLORABLE report appeared on the front page of the Toronto World of Wednesday, to the effect that the Quebec members of Parliament would probably vote solidly against the new Militia Bill. The half column of stuff was wholly the work of a vicious imagination. There is nothing in the Bill that is not in the present law save improvements and a few changes of which the Quebec members heartily approve. The political cause which calls for the publication of false incendiary matter must be desperate. Mr. Tarte's paper, it is true, is criticizing the Bill on the ground that it is a new law making every able-bodied man in Canada liable to bear arms, but this is not a new law and is the law of every civilized country.



POPE PIUS ON THE PAPAL THRONE.

The New Militia Act.

ONE of the strongest Canadian measures ever introduced into the Parliament of Canada was the new Militia Bill introduced last week by Sir Frederick Borden. It refuses to recognize the superiority of British army officers over Canadian officers of the same rank and seniority. The Bill was described very clearly by the Minister, who classified his explanations under three headings, omissions, alterations and additions.

There were five principal omissions. First the disappearance of any reference to a naval militia, which is left to be dealt with by the Marine Department. The restriction in the present law which makes a Canadian ineligible to be appointed as the General Officer Commanding the Canadian Militia is removed. At present an officer of the British army takes precedence of a Canadian officer. That distinction is abolished. At present the officer commanding British troops at Halifax would in case of war, take command of the militia of Canada, no matter how junior he might be in rank to the officer commanding the Canadian militia. The Bill removes that anomaly. The reference in the present law to the King's Regulations is omitted in the new law. We are to rely in future upon regulations made in Canada. The Army Act is still to apply.

The chief alterations are the following: The permanent force, at present consisting of one thousand men, is increased to two thousand, and their pay increased from 40 cents to 75 cents a day, and in special cases to \$1. When it is necessary to aid the civil power it is provided that the active militia shall not be used unless the Permanent Force is not available or is in-

adequate in numbers. The period for annual drill is extended from sixteen days to thirty. This is not compulsory. The present practice is twelve days and under the new Act it will be possible, should it be deemed expedient to extend the annual drill to thirty days.

The principal addition to the law is to create three classes of cadet corps in the schools. The highest grade of these three may be attached to the militia for the purposes of drill and training, and all classes may be furnished with arms, ammunition and equipment. They will be trained in rifle shooting. The Bill creates the rank of brigadier-general under specified conditions.



Begins to look as if Canada were annexing
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The "Boss" at Home.

THE following sketch of the intelligence and empire-building character of millions of Englishmen living in London is from an English weekly paper, a Radical weekly, the Speaker:—

Apathy—that apathy which is the characteristic disease of the city race of London—is the predominant feature of the elections for the new County Council. Each successive election since the creation of the new united London, fifteen years ago, has seen this apathy deepen. No vision of better things, enthusiasm for an ideal or large civic patriotism, has come to illuminate those pathetic, toiling populations huddled round the centre of Empire. No resentment against progress or fear of the increasing expenditure can stimulate opposition. The loud cries of newspapers and politicians ring out clear in the neighborhood of Fleet Street or Westminster tremble off into the chaos of mean streets, and die out in weak echoes thin and faint and far away—Chinese Labour, Belgian Rails, Popular Management and the rest. The comparison is irresistibly suggested with Mr. Wells's nightmare visions of the death of a world; the "Martians" suffocating all living things with the black smoke; at the end in the sunlight a lifeless city covered with grey dust. In these obscure mazes of the slums and suburbs of London even the insistent cries of religious faction become shrill and suddenly silent and the whole gigantic hive, the homes of four millions of the Dominant Race, appears but a realm of mist and shadow where ignorant armies clash by night.

Experience of canvassing in the crowded districts reveal an indifference and ignorance which would be ludicrous were it not menacing. In one district a widely advertised meeting was attended by the candidates, and an ex-mayor in the chair. The audience consisted of one young girl—a non-voter. One evening's canvass of sixty houses revealed three citizens only who had so much as heard of the London County Council; none of the remainder wished to hear more or to ask any questions. A faint resentment at being required to vote at all is the prevailing spirit, mitigated by all the characteristic courtesy and kindness of the London poor. Only a vague fear of

the pains and penalties to come if the vote is eluded dings the majority to the neighbouring Board school to record its decision combined also with the persistent plaguing in waves of visits each succeeding hour on polling day upon all who have not voted. Work in this election, as in previous ones, has once again driven home the lesson of perpetual astonishment at the truthfulness and patience of the London working classes; wonder why so few promise to both parties and have done with it; why so few assert that they have voted already and so elude disturbance; why one so rarely hears of the murder—with violence—of a canvasser.

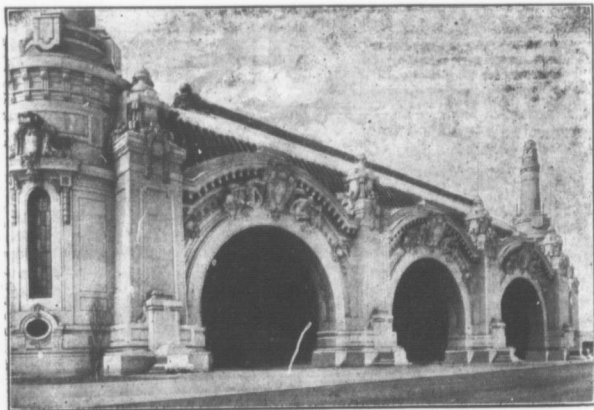
It is generally acknowledged that but for the one new factor of Education the Moderate Party would have ceased to exist at this election. In the matrix of London's mean streets it is the few who care that count, and the Radical organisations had united with the religious bodies to endorse the Progressive policy. These between them were accustomed to furnish that picked body of alert men and women who goaded and plagued the average voter (or some forty per cent. of him) into the polling booth as the lesser of two evils. But on this happy unity has fallen the bombshell of religious dissension. In some districts it has been happily smothered before exploding, and Church and Chapel unite to support the Progressive candidates. In others it has produced a kind of muffled detonation. Some Churches are with the Moderates, their neighbours with the Progressives. Feeling in these quarters is bitter against the recalcitrants. Meantime, as it has been unkindly asserted, honest men come by their own. The Progressives will win. In other districts the bomb has violently exploded and scattered the alliance to the four winds of heaven. And here, as in certain East End constituencies, the combat is fast and furious: district visitors picket the corners of the streets and endeavor to woo the bewildered labourer, dazed with his ten hours of toil, from "the party of Atheism." Rival Sunday schools of Church and Chapel, receiving, perhaps, the children of the same parents, exercise all the arts of exorcism on the delighted infants; while outside the party politicians cherish chapters of

Blatchford against "Christianity" and call down maledictions upon all.

These forecasts only apply to labouring London, for labouring London is the only part that is interesting. But there are other Londons also, called to send representatives to the work of government. In the West and centre there is the London that for six elections has steadfastly protested against progress and would continue to protest though one rose from the dead. In most of the suburbs, again, the battle has become frankly an inglorious scrimmage between Church and Dissent. Nothing is heard of general policy, except that vague insinuation of extravagance by which "Moderatism" catches the harassed suburban ratepayer on his weakest side. But Church is thundering against Chapel and Chapel against Church; the party organizers are brushed aside by swarms of eager canvassers, Christian Endeavourers or Guilds of Saint Aloysius; Sunday, instead of a day of short rest from political activity, is the day of Supreme Application; every pulpit, in veiled or direct form, appeals for its candidates and prays for the confusion of its enemies. Here the intervention of religion is likely to prove helpful to Progress. Dissent is strong, the

Church is weak. Enthusiasm for progress is low; the poor, as a whole, despised or feared. Respectability is the dominant idol, and respectability means Conservatism in Imperial, Moderatism in municipal politics. Three years ago the Progressives raided the suburbs and achieved remarkable victories. The exciting cause was not a united London, the housing of the poor, or the policy of progress, but almost entirely the menace of £40 cisterns of the London water companies, identified, by an almost incredible blunder in tactics, with the Moderate Party. This potent terror is now withdrawn; respectability would undoubtedly have reasserted its sway; but for the counter influence of religious enthusiasm. And there are hopes that through this influence the suburbs of London may be found to compensate the losses to progress of the central areas, and to send to the new Council representatives alien in all questions but that of education, to the type of civilisation which they represent and rejoice in.

And these are of the men who are capable of managing vast problems on distant continents.



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A Painful Exhibition.

THE extraordinary conduct of certain English public men has been made public officially. Mr. Balfour's statement in the House of Commons shows that he submitted two documents to the cabinet on August 14—one the notes on "Insular Free Trade," another certain propositions embracing preferential tariffs and the taxation of food. On the second of these documents there was disagreement, and the discussion was adjourned until September 4. Five days before this Cabinet was held Mr. Chamberlain sent his resignation, but nothing was said about it at the Cabinet. After the Cabinet the four Free Traders met and decided they must resign. The next day the Cabinet resumed its discussion, and the four Free Traders sent in their resignation believing that Mr. Chamberlain was still a member of the Government. On the 16th Mr. Balfour received the resignations, accepted three of them, told the Duke of Devonshire of Mr. Chamberlain's resignation, and on the 18th made known to the world that Mr. Chamberlain and three of the Free Traders had resigned.

Then followed a scene the like of which has perhaps never been seen since parliamentary government was established on its present basis. The Rt Hon. Lord George Hamilton, who was one of Mr. Balfour's colleagues at the time, said that Mr. Balfour had forbidden the Duke of Devonshire to tell the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Ritchie, and the other Free Traders in the cabinet, that Mr. Chamberlain had resigned. This statement Mr. Balfour, it seems, was unable to contradict, and the spectacle of His Majesty's advisers not only quarrelling among them-

selves but actually contradicting each other in public as to what took place within the privy council is only equalled by the other spectacle of Premier Balfour concealing from his cabinet the remarkable circumstance of Mr. Chamberlain's resignation several days earlier. Yet these men have the audacity to think that they could govern not only themselves but Canada and Australia as well. We think we have a few men who know a little better the principles of parliamentary government.

SOUTH AFRICAN LABOR QUESTION.



The Three Caskets.

Portia—South Africa.
Bassanio—The Colonial Secretary
Portia (to Bassanio) "I pray you, tarry;
pause a day or two before you hazard: for,
in choosing wrong I lose your company."
—Merchant of Venice, Act III, S cen

According to Cocker--VI.

Overcoated to the ears F. W. and his Achates, stand ankle-deep in the mud, on the tow-path at Henley. A sulky sleet is falling and the wind comes riotously from the north-east. Here and there are groups of reporters and indiscriminate persons with cameras, and others. Everyone is conscious of his nose.

Cocker (with shivering scorn): O, Cocker, Cocker, thy name is mud. Fool, Egregious Fool, ten thousand times a Fool!

Wisbech (gazing intently down the river through race-glasses): Here comes the boat, Like a machine, by Gad! O, well rowed, Willis. Pretty work, Graham.

Cocker (going on with the undaunted courage of a Pelion): Many times hast thou proved thyself Ass; this time dost thou justly deserve the Whole Vermilion Root!

Wisbech (equally engrossed): Yes, Jelf's all right! Ab so-lutely. A2, by Gad.

Cocker (apostrophising): Fall on, O sleet! Gust on, O Nor-Nor by Easter! If Cocker sets up catarrh and develops pneumonia, and walks into pleurisy, let every bolster chortle, every pillow guffaw, every tender sheet pucker into smiles! Fool, and pal of Fools, how well art thou served out!

Wisbech: Good old Stobart, good old Underhill! By Jove, Cocker, we're going to wipe those Cambridge smugs clean off the river. Have a go with my glasses, old boy.

Cocker: The only glasses I need are stiff ones—hot whisky with a dash.

Wisbech (anxiously): You don't seem to be entering into the spirit of the thing, F. W.

Cocker: I'd wallow in a barrel of spirits if I had but half a chance. O, why, why—

Wisbech: But my dear chap, I didn't suggest coming.

Cocker: That's it, blame me. Say I told

you so, and be a willy-nilly spinster. Go it.

Wisbech: Well, but, you suggested a night at Henley and a view of the practice. Now, didn't you?

Cocker: Luddenfoot wouldn't have taken advantage of my momentary softening of the brain as you did. Luddenfoot wouldn't have brought me down to this morass to watch nine muscular lunatics sow the seed of fati-degeneration. Luddenfoot is an honourable man.

Wisbech: What do you mean by sow the seeds of what's-it's-name?

Cocker: (loudly) Just that, Wis. Sport, d'you call it Sport? I call it blither. Who but Englishmen would spend weeks of the holiest period of their lives sittin' on narrow slidin' seats, to wag long streaks of wood in horribly wet water in the vilest time of the year?

Wisbech (fervently): I'd give ten years of my life to do it. I know that.

Cocker: But, then, you are the son of a long line of Wisbeches, and you out-Wisbech the lot.

Wisbech (with dignity): That's as may be. To be in the boat is the ambition of every healthy-minded Oxford man—past, present and to come.

Cocker: Hah! Hear him, Wind; hear him, Sleet! Here is a man who, for the sake of seeing his name in the papers, with a number on the right and weights on the left, like a stallion in a shire show would sacrifice the insinuat'ing cigarette, eschew the giddy aspic, turn a blind eye on the bubblin' fluid, and chase carts in slight clothin' in the misty mornin' air.

Wisbech: Yes, rather.

Cocker: "Yes, rather," says he! O! to be out of England now that Spring is here! Spring, and its concomitants—weather and the Boat Race. . . I have heard it said at

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tea-fights by Toynbee's Hall young men—athletes with consciences—that the Boat Race keeps one out of mischief, that it is an institution on the lines of Lent.

Wisbech: Well?

Cocker: Well, is it? Have you ever been to the Boat Race supper and watched the crew fall upon the viands and dip into the golden fluid? Have you ever been in London and seen them emerge into the street, like undammed waters, and flow through the town? Out of mischief! Ye gods!

Wisbech: Think how much more luscious everything is after abstinence!

Cocker: That's the remark of a horrid gourmand—an undiluted connoisseur. Take nothin' with tea in order not to spoil the dinner—the be-all and end-all of the British Boat Race. As an institution it is effete: as a means to an advertisement it is too expensive; as an appetiser it is far more bitter than bitters. If you must watch sixteen men pull their hearts out for fun once a year, let 'em sit on the floor of St. James' Hall in a long line and tug at sixteen Sandow exercises—the best man wins. Think what the nation would be spared. The unwashed; public running colds, the lower middle classes rheumatic fever, the upper middle classes horrid tempers and well-punished cellars—sixteen men heart disease and internal complaints. St. James' Hall can be warmed. Can the tow-path? St. James' Hall is a stone's throw from the Criterion. Is the tow-path? I put it to you perpendicularly. Answer,

like a man. Forget, for the fraction of a second, that you are a Wisbech, and speak from your soul and not from your muscles.

Wisbech (as the boat shoots past, and the coach yells encouraging terms of blasphemous execration through a dented megaphone): O, well rowed Oxford! Stick to it No. 2. O, number 7, feather a bit higher, a bit higher for my sake!

Cocker (like a Stentor, pink with excitement): More rat, number 2! Not so quick on the return, number 6! O Oxford, my Oxford! we have them wiped indeed. (Suddenly pulling himself up) Er—come away Wissy, come away. Even I am affected. Even I. Humiliated, made to shout incoherent twaddle, carried out of myself.

Wisbech (with a smile): So I noticed! Don't you think, F.W. that you do give way a bit to—well, er—of course pose is the wrong word, but it's something like it. What?

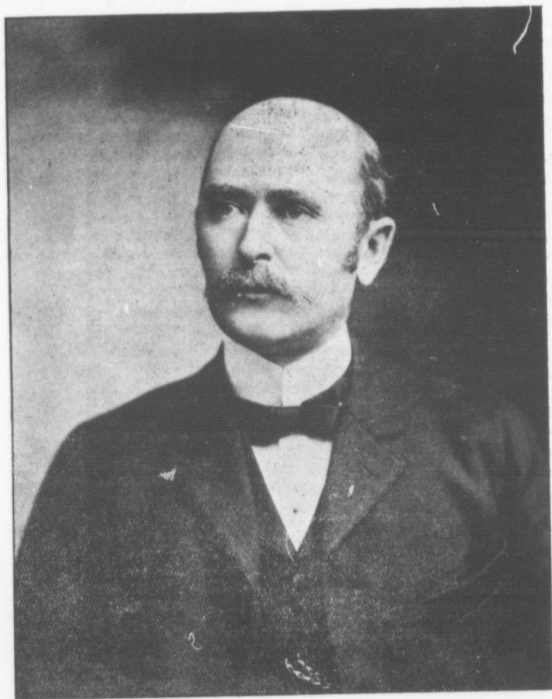
Cocker (staring blankly at Wisbech for a second and then turning like a Caesar away): Et tu Brute! How truly trite it is that a man is never a prophet in his own country. Don't follow me. I will return to our pub alone. I want to sit by the hob and think.

Wisbech: What about, old boy?

Cocker: Life, Wissy, and the vicissitudes thereof. Also a cherry brandy and the London train.

(He turns elaborately on his heel).

COSMO HAMILTON.



HON. F. R. LATCHFORD,

The Ontario Cabinet Minister who has gone South for his health.

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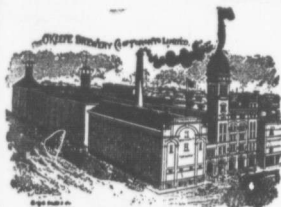
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