

The Toronto World.

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FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 6, 1902.

THE ORGANS OF THIRD PARTIES.

All the dissatisfied elements within the grip and tory parties are in a somewhat disorganized condition, without recognized leaders or machinery. It is quite manifest from the tone and manner of the organs that the party leaders are aware of their existence and fearful of their intentions. Two days ago the Globe made an elaborate but illogical appeal to the weak-kneed brethren to brace up. What they were to brace up for was not explained, except so far as the assurance was that only two parties would be tolerated in this country, and that there could be no united action upon public questions except at the bidding of either Sir John A. Macdonald or Mr. Gordon Brown.

Yesterday the Mail, as if by a preconcerted understanding, piped the same tune. "There is no hope of a political salvation within the tory fold," groans the grip organ, "but anybody who does not believe as we profess to believe has no right to join any other organization than the tory one." "The grip is utterly depraved," decries the Mail, "but any man who doubts the moral impeccability and political infallibility of the premier and the editor of this organ, who does not take pride in the Pacific scandal and the syndicate monopoly, has no right to separate himself from the grip."

Thus, have we heard, two slyster lawyers, Gougen and Chaston, assure some perplexed seeker after justice that as one of them was ready to be opposed to him, it was necessary that he should retain the services of the other. "Do we live in a free country? If we do, how is it that the party editors have the impudence to tell us that we have no right to think for ourselves? The records of both their parties are stained by every offence against consistency and honesty that politicians can well be capable of, short of real legal criminality. If there be no abiding place outside of the conventions and the caucuses of such parties, heaven help Canada and the Canadians. But the Mail, more especially, may be acquitted of any solicitude for the future of this people and this country. It is its prerogative to both as a paper might be expected to be that imports its ideas from England and its editors from the United States."

With that disregard for historical accuracy which is only less characteristic than its disregard for the personal proprieties of journalism, the Mail asserts that third-party is a new party—that it is a party that is never failed to prove ephemeral, and to perish by absorption without leaving a trace behind. It would be difficult to construct a more courageous perversion of the fact. There never has been a third party proper in Canada, because our colonial condition has prevented the growth of anything better than a system of parish politics in our midst, but the fortunes of nations have before now been made or marred by third parties. It was a third party that struck down the house of Cromwell and restored the house of Stuart. It was a third party that checked the fiery course of the French revolution and created a dynasty that was not Bourbonic. It was a third party that stopped democratic convulsion and brought about the restoration of the constitution of the United States. It was a third party that destroyed the dictatorship of O'Connell, and bequeathed a literature and a program of which Parnell is to-day the inheritor. And it is the Parnell party that now commences public affairs in Great Britain, rendering government difficult and party leadership an agony.

Even if a third party is absorbed by an old party, its platform and its principles must be absorbed with it, and leave the policy of the whole. A quantity of water is not lost because absorbed by a sponge. It is the sponge that is mistaken. The organs do well to be concerned. Their ranks are honeycombed by dissatisfaction. There are thousands of electors who can no longer be depended upon to do their leader's bidding, and thereby the leader's tenure is uncertain. The ballot box will tell some unexpected tales at the next election, on both sides of the fence.

It seems probable that a death blow will be given to the United States national banking system at the next congress. Mr. Buckner, who is a member of the banking and commerce committee and who has been chairman of that committee, announces that he will propose the rechartering of the 400 banks whose charters expire during the present congress. This would take out of circulation about 70 millions of national bank notes and Mr. Buckner proposes to issue greenbacks in their stead. This will be equivalent to wiping out 70 millions of the national debt and reducing the annual interest burden over two millions.

It has for some time been evident that the national banking system was doomed, for based as it is on the bonded debt, the moment the bonds are paid the system must collapse. What the hard money press calls the "deb-paying mania" has taken such a hold of the masses of the people that it is plain that no refunding scheme—which is merely a treacherous way of perpetuating the debt to furnish a permanent basis for national bank circulation—could be forced upon the country. At a meeting of representative bankers held at Niagara Falls last summer, this matter was discussed, and the substitution of commercial assets for bonds as a basis for circulation was suggested; in other words the adoption of a system something like our Canadian system.

It is difficult to conceive anything more in the nature of a gigantic, legalized swindle than the national bank system. It enables

monied men to invest their money at interest and beyond the reach of taxation, and still have the use of 90 per cent. of it to loan to the public. Besides this it practically gives to a compactly organized body almost complete control over the volume of the circulation, thus enabling them to dictate prices of produce, property and labor. It has been said, and said truly, that whoever controls the circulating medium of a country governs the country, and the national banking system entrusts an oligarchy of bankers, responsible to none but themselves, required to consult no interest save their own, as absolute dictators of the commercial affairs of the United States. The wonder is not that the system seems likely to be abolished, but that an intelligent and liberty-loving people have submitted to the imposition so long.

What shall be substituted in the question which will press for a solution. If the Canadian system of bank currency based upon commercial assets is to take the place of the present one, our neighbors will find that the change is not much for the better. For under this system our bankers are just as absolutely dictators of what shall be the volume of the currency as are the national bankers, and while the national banker gets two interests on his investment the Canadian one gets three legally, and—as at present—five rates illegally.

In the interest of the banks and of the stock gamblers the proposal to substitute a government currency, for a bank currency will be bitterly opposed, but it is somewhat difficult to think of any argument which could satisfy anyone with brains and without a bank stock. What is needed in a paper money is absolute security for the note-holder, and this the government can certainly give much better than any private individual. Indeed it has been found necessary in Canada for the government to guarantee the bank notes. Now why the enormous profit of issuing the paper money of a country should not be enjoyed by the government, is a question which has never yet been satisfactorily answered.

OUR CATHOLIC FELLOW-CITIZENS, at least those of them who take any active part in politics, are just now interested in a controversy between Mr. Peter Ryan and Mr. John O'Donohoe which is in progress through the columns of the Irish Canadian. Replying to some strictures of that journal upon his course in going to East Northumberland to oppose the conservative candidate, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Ryan asserts that he had done so in exercise of his rights as a member of the liberal party, and not as a Roman Catholic. He also took occasion to lay down the broad principle that religion and politics should be carefully separated, and that "in the palmist days, when the Catholic league was on a boom, I was never a member, nor did I sympathize with its objects."

Mr. O'Donohoe, as president of the defence league, takes up the cudgels, and rejoices that Mr. Ryan's statement could not be otherwise than true, as he (Mr. R.) had not at that time arrived in the country, but that the organization had nevertheless enjoyed the support of the hierarchy, and of such representative men as Senator Frank Smith, James Stock, Patrick Hughes, John O'Connor, M. P., Hon. C. F. Fraser, Senator Scott, James Dawson, of Sombra, and many others of weight and standing.

Mr. O'Donohoe proceeds to argue that the Catholic of Ontario theoretically enjoy political equality, just as the people of Ireland do, but that practically they do not. Mr. Blake, he says, has endorsed the principle of minority representation, which has been recognized in the formation of every cabinet from the days of Drummond and McGee down to those of O'Connor and Fraser. He further contends that the representative rights of the Protestant minority of Quebec are protected by section 80 of the British North America act. This point is worth quoting as a somewhat curious one: "By that enactment the limits of the electoral districts represented by Protestants were made unalterable, save by a majority of their representatives. The point was by this act taken from the majority of the representatives of Quebec, and reposed in the Protestant majority representing those districts. The districts so guarded against any innovation by the majority of that province are: Pontiac, Ottawa, Argenteuil, Huntingdon, Missisquoi, Brunsell, Shefford, Stanstead, town of Sherbrooke, Compton, Wolfe and Richmond, and Megantic. This enactment was a special protection thrown around the Protestant minority. Will Mr. Ryan point out any such enactment for the Catholic minority of Ontario? It cannot be found. It does not exist. Why? Simply because the minority in Ontario were without representatives in the House or in the Government."

Mr. O'Donohoe concludes his letter by the assertion of the belief that an overwhelming majority of his co-religionists will endorse his views and dissent from Mr. Ryan's.

It is a pity that religious opinions should so continually mingle with Canadian politics, but if the sectarian aspects of public life must be discussed, it lessens the evil of it that they are upon this occasion discussed, and temperately discussed by two clever men of the one faith.

BOUGHT WITH A PRIOR. The majority of the leading papers of the country continue to prostitute their editorial and news columns to medicine quacks. The Globe, for instance, publishes a news item, written in an editorial pitch, which pretends to give the opinion of a prominent citizen as favorable to the news written by the quack himself, and put in the Globe's editorial page as so much a line. The quacks then send this round to the smaller papers and pay them for copying it, and with strict instructions in every case to credit the Globe. In a word, the Globe consents to become the catspaw of Yankee

quacks—at so much a line, of course. Even the religious journals publish these puff, and the comic papers are well satisfied to throw in illustrations, perhaps at advanced rates. We see it stated that The World is "sore" because we have not the advertisement in question. The facts are that we hold a contract for a large amount with these people, and while we are willing to insert their advertisements in the regular advertising columns, we decline to prostitute our editorial or news columns for the benefit of any quack.

NORTH YORK AND MR. MULLOCK. The Markham Economist, in an article on the recent convention for the selection of a reform candidate in North York, approvingly quotes a portion of Mr. Wm. Mullock's speech in which he retired in favor of Dr. Wildfield, and expressed his desire to do all he could to consolidate the reform party in that riding. The Economist says: "Action such as Mr. Mullock has taken is well calculated to secure that end, and has, so far as North York is concerned, secured it in the fullest manner. We sincerely trust that in the interest of the liberal party throughout the Dominion every prospective candidate may be induced to take a similar line, so that it may be said of each of them, as we think it may truly be said of Mr. Mullock, that he deserves well of his party. We think most highly of Dr. Wildfield. He has done, and will do, good service to the party and to the country, and he cannot fail to carry the riding by a large majority. We trust, moreover, that Mr. Mullock's resignation will be a lesson to public affairs. Moreover, he is a man of undoubted ability, recognized not long ago by his election as vice-chancellor of Toronto university in succession to the late Chief Justice Moss. He is precisely the kind of man that the reform party must bring to the front."

THE FORTHCOMING JANUARY NUMBER OF THE CANADIAN MONTHLY, to be issued on Monday next, we learn, opens with a thoughtful article from the pen of Mr. W. D. Le Sueur, of Ottawa, on "The True Idea of Canadian Loyalty." The paper, we are told, has the true national ring about it, and has been called out by the article in the November number of the Monthly from the pen of Mr. Alpheus Todd, C. M. G., entitled "Is Canadian Loyalty a Sentiment or a Principle?" The article may be expected to excite considerable interest, as the "burning" question of National independence is now more than ever pressing for a calm and dispassionate hearing.

THE COMMONS' HEARING in the case of Dr. Lamson, the son of the American clergyman at Florence, who is accused of having poisoned his brother-in-law at Wimbledon with acconite, is still in progress. Some very elaborate experiments are being conducted by Dr. Stephen and Dr. Parnell. A case of poisoning similar to this had not taken place for a long time, the time being given by some persons at over a hundred years. It is natural, therefore, that the symptoms presented should be new, and in order to form an accurate judgment of them it is intended to experiment with acconite upon the bodies of animals.

THE EXTREME to which party feeling goes in Ireland is shown by the appeal of the queen's bench to have the corporation grant of the freedom of Dublin to Parnell and Dillon, disallowed because only a Burgess is legally entitled to that honor. The custom of conferring the city's freedom upon others than Burgess is one of long standing, and if the appeal is well taken it will disfranchise such men as General Grant and Gladstone as well as Parnell and Dillon. The conservatives are thus bringing their friends nose to spite their enemies' faces.

THE TELEGRAM complains that an unauthorized edition of Goldwin Smith's lectures and essays has been published. The professor's own edition is only intended for private circulation, but somebody has broken faith. Who is the pirate publisher? The Telegram ought to know.

AS THE DAY FOR THE OPENING of the assembly draws near, it may not be out of place to remind inquirers of the names of the Hay and Crighton stamps, that although the base drummer makes more noise than all the rest he is never promoted to the leadership.

THE IRISH CANADIAN says, that "if you stretch a girl you will find a tory." What you would find if you were to stretch a tory is not explained. Perhaps it is just as well.

THE EVENING EDITION of the Mail devotes nearly all of its attention to United States politics. It probably has a large circulation in Chicago and New York.

MR. MACNAB, who came so near being an alderman for St. Patrick's ward, can explain with the post: "Thou art so near and yet so far!"

GUYRAVE IS DOWN ON THE WITNESSES when they refer to his record. He probably fears that his record may lead to the wreck cord.

THE FIMBORIE has reached South Africa, and not before it was needed if the stories about native dress be true.

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When I propose to con- modation, and girl. She things and stordy, a milar and When I was outed be- head, that his brothe had a pro- ried out a simplicity. They as- wood at the offered the After the said, witho

Brook plain, hon- true At- your wife We are nich- I believe like my- things that has laugh in this we may i- have not a and you' you to kn- you're do- way, you- science? ova she be- The one oba- tate, plea- huskily, any peo- ing an eye I'm prou- ing to us a the family of us, and shall mar- now that I- no harm they're y- Roger is a- Well, now is no half- ending for in Roger's

"I didn't this," said eye, which said the as- time for u- and other a- from the couple re- with the re- Roger is h- some spe- sators in- Mrs. Will- gress, I- want equal- nothing to- You that ab- I'm de- dependent- from her- from her- should an- Before- tion. For- still gave her- of happi- ful and constant- request- Arnold

"You must be him; as will be much of go result- you must- were ki- person- write ap- or, you- It may- certainly- agreeable- him and- different- You will- that you- at your- make it- outgrow- years. But I- depend- pushed f- instead. Before- drol was- she cries- best I- falls in- never mar- him, such- are cert- and won- He is- her man- controlled- ad to long- her natu-

