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# Daily Whig.

## ABUSING THE SYSTEM.

The chief of the fire department in New York retires on $6,000 a year, and immediately goes into business. If active enough for the strenuous life, commercially, why retire from the direction of a civic department? If the man is simply wanting a change of occupation why give him so large a pension? The case reminds one of the judge in Canada who took his superannuation, presumably because his usefulness had been impaired by long service, only to plunge into politics, to become a member of parliament, and later a leader of his party. There is something clearly and radically wrong with the superannuation system or the man.

## SHOULD DO SOMETHING.

The women of New York will on May 6th—"vote for women's day"—parade and in that way demonstrate the forcefulness of their views. They are in this respect beginning the tactics of their sisters in England, who have made a nuisance of themselves. It is to be hoped the New Yorkers will be satisfied with parading, that they will not imitate the suffragettes across the water and undertake to force results by abusing and assaulting the legislators. The Political Equality Association, which is headed by Miss Belmont, a society lady, will not participate in the outing.

The idea of the women, the idea they wish to emphasize, is that they are as capable as the men, generally, to manage their own affairs, and hence that they are as capable to manage the peoples' affairs. Yet day after day the papers are filled with the fool acts of the women on financial matters.

If the paraders want to impress the people with the necessity of enfranchising them, and so fitting them to vote and legislate and rule, they will not admit anywhere that they are not equal to the masterful ways of the men they call husbands. The courts would be troubled a good deal less, and have less to do, if some of them would assert their high birthright and give an evidence of their power and independence.

## WILL GET HIS REBUKE.

The Brockville Times has answered the Whig's enquiry What good can accrue from the stormy discussion of reciprocity in the Ontario legislature? The answer is that the discussion will show the world what the sentiment of Ontario is with regard to the subject. By no means. The legislature does not represent public opinion. It does represent party opinion, and the parties outside of parliament are not united upon the issue.

The Times and the Whig are clearly opposed upon the question as to the duty of the legislature under the circumstances. The Times thinks the legislature should be used as an attachment of the federal opposition and repeat or re-echo the sentiments of that opposition for partizan purposes. The Whig does not see any merit in the proceeding. It recalls the discussion of Irish home rule in the commons, which occurred year after year. Did these discussions do any good? Did they help the cause along? Did they reflect opinion in Ireland or even in Canada?

Finally the Times tells us that the Whitney government is as well qualified to speak on the subject as the Laurier government. No. It is the business of the federal government. It is not the business of the Whitney government. Such is the difference between them. Later on there will be the evidence of what the people think in an election, and the Whig will be very much mistaken if Sir James Whitney is not severely rebuked for his prejudiced part in the reciprocity debate.

## CANADA'S WHEAT SUPPLY.

One of the speeches made by the opposition in Ottawa against reciprocity was that of Mr. Sexsmith, last week. He hails from East Peterboro, and claims to be a farmer! He also claims to have laboured hard, (and he might have added in vain), to convince himself with regard to the wheat trade of Canada. He started off with what appears to be erroneous information. He submitted three tables of the value of wheat from 1890 to 1909, in Ontario, the United States and Winnipeg, and he showed that the prices were lower on the American and Canadian sides. And at once the question follows, Why be alarmed about the wheat trade then? It will be governed by the higher prices, and wheat will not be shipped to the United States if there is a better market in Canada. That is a foregone conclusion.

But Mr. Sexsmith submitted statistics to show that the United States was producing less wheat than formerly, that in the last ten years the production has been decreasing. This is in accordance with the contention of our minister of agriculture, who says that the United States is consuming now all the wheat it can raise and must begin to import. It can import Canadian wheat now, free of duty, if it exports the equivalent of flour, and without recourse to the trade agreement can have all the wheat it wants for milling purposes. Mr. Sexsmith lays great store on what the Ontario Miller says about the American flouring industry. The Ontario paper is imbued with the ideas of the Ontario miller, generally, and opposes the trade agreement because they say the Canadian wheat will go to the United States and build up the milling and transportation business of that country.

Mr. Sexsmith had only one side of the case. The other side is presented by the Weekly North-Western Miller, of Minneapolis, Minn., one of the best posted papers on the subject. Its editor had occasion to write to the London Times, and point out that the American export of flour declined because the population of the United States consumed all the wheat and flour the nation raised. The decline followed the desertion of the soil by the people, so that where once ninety per cent. of them were engaged in agriculture only thirty-five per cent. of them were thus occupied at the time of the last census. Under such circumstances the time is rapidly approaching when the United States "must admit Canadian wheat free of duty, whereas there is now a duty of twenty-five cents a bushel upon it, or face a shortage which will be succeeded by high prices for flour and bread."

The farmers of Canada stand to gain immensely by an arrangement which will give him access to the markets of the United States and Europe. It does not pay either the United States or Canada to export flour. It costs money to grind the wheat, to barrel the flour, and to export it. It cannot be shipped in bulk. It cannot be sent abroad even in bags. Wheat can be stored and shipped and ground at any time. The United States cannot transport it any cheaper than Canada. All the Americans want is enough for their requirements to mix with the softer wheat of the south, and meet the needs of the U. S. consumers.

For this market the Canadian farmers will be benefited while Britain will be served as heretofore, and served at a profit, since the Canadian North-West will shortly, on high English authority, become the granary of the world.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

The law of the church is the law of Quebec with regard to marriage contracts. There's going to be a time of it getting a change. Is it possible?

In the new public school here there will not be any drinking cups. The cups should be abolished from all the schools. They are a menace to health.

What is the special committee doing about the Sir Oliver Mowat Memorial Sanatorium? It was supposed to have some idea about a site. Struck a snag already?

The New York Herald reports that the Canadian school teachers, (from Toronto), were disappointed in not seeing some of the harem skirts on Fifth avenue on Easter. Was that what they went to New York to study?

The trade agreement, says Mr. Foster, will pass. The real fight will come when the government appeals to the people. And according to the outlook, there will be another disappointment for the tories, and another excuse for the decapitation of their leader.

Mr. Foster's plea, in North Toronto, was that the federal government should have awaited the revision of the American tariff by the democratic party. The trade agreement secures that which has not been guaranteed or assured by any revision of the tariff. Why wait for something that cannot be got except by agreement?

There is more law with regard to the Alberta and Great Waterways railway, and the $7,400,000 which was borrowed before there was any use for it, will go into the hands of the men who are given more to distruction than construction, the lawyers. The young province is paying for the inexperience of the men who composed its first government.

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# RADIUM FOR CANCER

## THE SECRET MAY YET BE UNEARTHED.

**London Physicians See Significance in Radium—Like Matter in Human Tissues—Important Advances.**

While it is not yet possible to say that a cure for cancer has been found, some very tangible results have been obtained from the experimental work of which the Middlesex hospital is the chief London centre. Here cancer research is chiefly concerned with the remarkable act that human tissues contain varying quantities of radium-like substances and that there appears to be some connection between the presence of these and the origin of cancer. It is well known that radium and its congeners give off X-rays, and these rays, under certain circumstances, are known to lead to the production of cancer. Hence it has been suggested at the Middlesex, according to the medical correspondent of a London paper, that the secret of cancer is possibly to be found in the occasional over-charge of certain tissues with radium-like manner, for under such circumstances surrounding parts would be subjected to the continuous action of tiny doses of X-rays, which, although minute, might in the course of time be able to exert their cancer-producing effect. It will be remembered that it is only when human tissues are exposed for a very long time—say, for many hours a day and months at a time—that they are able to bring about such a result.

Up to the present time a number of important facts have been discovered which appear to confirm this view, and it is not improbable that this remarkable and lengthy investigation will eventually throw light on many of the obscure problems which surround the cancer question. Although no startling or sensational deductions have yet been made in the laboratories, a vast number of facts are being steadily accumulated in regard to this connection between radium and cancer, which, no doubt, will some day be made to fit into their proper places in a new theory of the cause of the disease.

One important advance that has lately been made at the Middlesex is the discovery of certain tiny granules in normal tissue-cells, which are not found in cancer-cells, and it is hoped that this discovery may ultimately lead to a valuable method of settling the question as to whether any growth of doubtful appearance is cancerous or not.

## Good Legislation in the Way.

Montreal Witness.

The democratic House of Representatives at Washington, has lost no time in getting to work on its reform programme. It has already, passed bills for the direct election of senators and for the publication of all election contributions. The first of these proposals the present senate cannot be expected to pass. It will be very hard to get any senate to pass a bill which means the expunging of the present constituency of each of its members. That looks like a struggle parallel with that of the British House of Commons against the House of Lords, and as such the measure may involve some national throes before it becomes part of the constitution. How far the present bad conditions would be remedied by direct popular election instead of election by state legislatures would only be known after trial. The other measure is of a very different character. Nothing could do so much to diminish government by money than the requirement that all election accounts shall be published, making known before the day who furnishes the money and exactly how it is spent. This is a measure that politicians have never liked, and it is a great credit to the democratic party to have passed it. The senate will not like it, but it is not easy to see how it can turn it down, unless it wants to furnish the nation with a new argument for its own reform.

## Getting Into Shape.

Toronto Star.

The conservative party is advised by the Guelph Herald (conservative) to "get into shape for whatever is to happen."

That must be what the party has been trying to do of late. While one conservative journal (the News) is earnestly interviewing everybody who can be induced to say that there should be a general election at once, another (the Mail) is charging that the government is thinking of springing the elections now in the hope of gaining a snap verdict. Thus the party "gets in shape for whatever is to happen." If an election doesn't come, it will be a sin; if it does come, it will be a wickedness.

One conservative paper (the Telegram) urged the party at Ottawa to light night and day, to refuse supplies and so force the ministry to withdraw reciprocity for the present and hold it over. Another (the World) declared that the party members at Ottawa were indignant because of a rumor that they had agreed to let the further discussion of reciprocity stand over until next session. It appeared from the despatches that one week they were fighting to postpone the discussion of reciprocity, and the next fighting to hasten it.

In Eastern Canada the leading journals of the opposition condemn reciprocity because it goes too far, and in the west they denounce it as not going far enough.

## Hard on the Masses.

Montreal Gazette.

Writers on public affairs in England comment on the indifference shown by the people to the political issues now before parliament, which involve the position and powers of the House of Lords, the integrity and continuance of the United Kingdom as it has existed since 1800, and the disestablishment in part of the Church of England. The situation is somewhat surprising in one way, but may not be so in another. Those who study and think they see the meaning of political movements are the few; the mass is satisfied if its personal idols stick on the pedestals erected for them. This is why revolutions generally are made by minorities.

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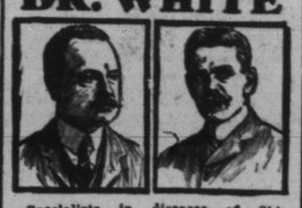

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# IN WESTERN CANADA

## GREAT RUSH OF BUSINESS IN WINNIPEG.

**That City Making Great Industrial Growth—Seeding at Edmonton Late, But the Prospects are Excellent.**

Winnipeg, April 18.—A splendid rain, general throughout the west, wound up in a snowstorm which, driven by a strong wind, made a bad break in the spring weather that had prevailed up to the 12th. As a matter of fact the storm was an excellent thing for the country, but it put things under a wintry coating for the time being.

Business generally was never better. The early spring and the big rush of settlers into the west have produced a rush of business that is a record, even for the west. Winnipeg bank clearings increased four million dollars for the week ending April 12th over the corresponding week of last year.

The rush from Great Britain is even greater. 1,400 entered Winnipeg and the west on the 12th, and 3,000 in one day on the 14th. This is a record for a single day, in the history of the great rush into Western Canada, which has been going on for the past five years.

Winnipeg is making splendid industrial growth. Twelve factories are to be erected in one section of the city, nine of them being already under way. The cost of the nine is $500,000 and the other three will make up at least $200,000 more. In this section of Winnipeg there are 92 industries located.

J. G. Rossman, of New York, has been appointed manager of the Winnipeg municipal power business at a salary of $6,000 a year. Power from the plant will be ready for delivery next July and this will undoubtedly do much to increase the industrial growth of the city, already astonishing for its rapidity and success.

Seeding around Edmonton is late but prospects are excellent. Winter wheat is in fine condition and the land is in splendid fettle for farming operations.

There were 6,723 homesteads and pre-emption entries made at the Medicine Hat land office during the fiscal year of 1910, which took up, altogether 1,075,680 acres.

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