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Daily Whig

OUTLOOK FOR POINTERS.

Our city council has sent away a deputation whose business it is to examine the streets and get an idea which can be carried into effect here. Deputations have been going away year after year, for this and other purposes, and what is there to show for it? The desire here is for a later dressing that will be an improvement on anything that is now in use.

Peterboro is making an experiment, and its experience could be had without any expense. We read: "The Patterson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., of Toronto, shipped five barrels of tarvia to this city, and it is being spread over Simcoe street, between Water and the little Market lanes. If it proves satisfactory it will likely be exclusively used in this city. The manufacturers claim that one coat will last for a whole season and probably more, also that loads may be drawn over it almost immediately after it has been put on the ground, thereby causing no delay, or tying up traffic on a street. There is absolutely no smell of the stuff, and it gives a very clean and neat appearance to the street."

This is something in which Ald. Carson will be interested, and, by the way, how is it that Ald. Carson, as the great advocate of tarvia, has not been put upon this deputation of civic sight-seers and discoverers?

DREAM OF THE FUTURE. As a result of the imperial conference there may appear the imperial advisory council, which will be the body always convenient and always expressing the mind of the colonies, or what is now more popularly called the overseas dominions, to the imperial government. On a recent occasion the prime minister was waited on and presented a memorial in favour of this new connecting link, which was endorsed and supported by nearly three hundred members of the imperial lords and commons.

The Canadian Gazette says the premier smiled benevolently over the transaction and commented on the fact that it was favoured more variously than any proposition he could remember in his public career. The Canadian Gazette expressed the current idea with regard to this advisory council. "The British public," it remarks, "have had their fill, and more than their fill, of pious empire aspirations; they want to see business-like means adopted to give effect to their aspirations."

Is this advisory council the prelude to that condition which has been the dream of statesmen for many years? Different Canadians, distinguished in political life, have contemplated the time when the dominion, now a young nation, would be represented in the imperial parliament. Canadians, some of whom have served in the Canadian parliament, are now members of the imperial parliament, but not as representatives of this country and not commissioned to express its views on current questions.

The Canadian Gazette says the high commissioners are, in a sense, an advisory council now. Something closer to the imperial government is desired, and it may be at hand. The next step will be membership in the imperial government itself, and when that takes place there will be a realization of the imperial idea of empire building with all parts of the empire interested in this mighty constructive work.

CRY FOR PURE WATER. Toronto has had an experience of its own with the water department. The intake pipe has been out of commission since the beginning of March. It then filled with sand and became unserviceable. Some of it became disconnected. At once the department began to spend money upon it, and the money has been going out until this date to no purpose. The work has been conducted under the direction of the city engineers, who ought to know their business. They have had the aid of Capt. Leslie, who, as a wrecker, has had a long experience.

A crisis came on Monday when the city council practically dismissed all who had to do with the work—engineers, divers, and officials generally—and transferred the contract to a special committee, with power to hire and consult, whom its members liked so long as they succeeded. The men who moved to this effect, and who are members of the special committee, had the greatest nerve, but they have tackled the job, and woe be to them if they fail.

In Kingston the water committee has been similarly at work on the intake pipe and without result. It has not been found right and the people here, like the people in Toronto, feel like

trying out in their impatience. Working under the water, and at varying depths, is difficult, and the diver only sees the pipe or feels it, and is baffled in determining what is the matter. There is a leak, a bad one, somewhere, and it is probable that there will always be the danger of this while the pipe is in an exposed condition.

Some day the pipe will have to be set in concrete and covered so that vessels with dragging anchors cannot disturb it. The great tunnel of the Michigan Central railway, at Windsor, is shielded by a concrete covering, so guarded that an anchor will slide over it and without gripping it at any point. That would be a suitable protection here, for the intake pipe, but it means that the pipe would have to be carefully set on a level, and securely jointed, and the work when complete would be expensive.

If eventually the filtration basin must be added the leak in the pipe need not alarm any one. Meanwhile the water committee will do well, if, having exhausted its energies to no avail, it turns to the city engineer, and casts upon him the responsibility of directing the repairs. This is an engineer's job, and Hugo Craig should be required to show what he can do about it.

THE TRUSTS ARE SHOCKED. It has taken five years to reach a decision on the Standard Oil case, to carry the appeals from one court to another. And the result? It cannot be deemed quite satisfactory.

Primarily a law was framed whose object was to prevent extraordinary and iniquitous combinations which had for their purpose a monopoly of a business and all that this implies. Some trusts, it is understood, and the supreme court has strengthened the position—are for the good of all concerned. They have led to the concentration of management and lowering in the cost of the same. The plea is that the plundering of the people is not intended.

There are, however, great trusts the plan of which is to bring many similar businesses under the sway of one dominating monopoly. Its aim is to rob the people and the exaction of undue prices, by manipulation, the law of supply and demand being set aside or ignored, is plain robbery.

The Standard Trust is indefensible. And because it is such must be dissolved. The original time for the separation of all the interests involved was a month. The supreme court makes it six months, and at the end of that time it will be continued, perhaps disjointedly, and under another name. The decision of the court affects other interests only incidentally. Wherever these trusts are unreasonable they will have to go. But the thing is to establish what they are, and herein exists the opportunity for the arts and deceptions of designing men.

The one advantage of the great suit is the lesson conveyed to legislators—that they can do something to break up the schemes of desperate

men to fleece the people. Congress may eventually completely circumvent them.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The lords see in the passage of the veto bill an ominous sign. Sooner or later the upper house will become something more than a machine for registering the edicts of the conservative party.

The Federation of Labour leaders, for their contempt of court, will not be sent to jail, but they may be heavily fined. That is, they may be made to bleed freely for their indiscretion without having any chance for glorification.

The Peterboro Times nominates J. H. McMillan, superintendent of the Trent canal, for the office of deputy minister of railways. He may be a mighty-smart man, but not the choice of the minister, and Hon. Mr. Graham is a man of discernment.

The question that is troubling some of the New York churches is whether or not the people should applaud that which they approve. The preachers do not like it, but the people do. And what's the harm if done in the spirit of Dr. Meyers' London congregation, and as a means of punctuating the sermons with amen.

Mr. McNaught, M.P.P., is quite satisfied that the Whitney government did the proper career by passing a resolution with regard to reciprocity. Yes? Well perhaps Sir James will have an early election and test the feeling of the people upon the subject? This would be a kindly act towards Mr. Borden.

The master of justice and the leader of the opposition questioned the wisdom of passing divorce bills—the evidence in connection with which was not clearly in support of the same. But parliament passes a questionable case with a chorus of "yes" that drowned out all opposition. Is this a sign of the judicial spirit which should prevail?

The trouble of Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison, originated in listing in their paper the Bucks Store and Range Company and inviting, in that way, the boycotting of the works. The firm was then non-union. It is now union and at peace with the labor party. Which changes the situation. The labour leaders are not being pursued by any one in this case. They will not be even fined.

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