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THE DANCE IN POLITICS.

The mayor of New York, a candidate for a second term, has undertaken to regenerate society. First he heard that the orgies at the restaurants were prolonged unduly and ordered that these places should be closed at 1 a.m. Those then in these licensed places were to be ordered or driven out by the police.

Then he heard that at certain hotels in the afternoons there was dancing of an unpropitious or vulgar sort. The ball rooms were thronged with young people. In the afternoons, and, horror of horrors, they were indulging in what society had approved, the "turkey trot," and "tango." The turkey trot is described by the mayor of one city as disgraceful. He was accustomed to sights, but this one overcame him.

The "tango" was something new, and the new York Herald describes it. "In dancing the tango," it observes, "a woman in a hobble skirt of the present mode has much difficulty, but with a skirt which unbuttons at the sides, the movements of the limbs are given more freedom. Hence in Mr. Rector's dancing establishment on the second floor above the main restaurant not one of the women who was dancing had omitted to have the buttons on her skirt undone." The slashed costume is all the rage, and the tango is on all the afternoon programmes.

But Mayor Gaynor will not have it, and a bill is being prepared for the legislature which will end the vicious dancing in certain resorts. Some people will wonder what the afternoon dances have to do with the politics of New York. They should remember that the mayor must do something to make the people talk, and just now he is looking away from Tammany Hall and towards those who are interested in morals and reforms.

WILSON'S PERSONAL MESSAGE.

The president of the United States has departed from many customs, and seems to be ready to depart from many more, at the outset of his official career.

It has been the practice of presidents, (all of them since the days of Adams), to carefully write his opinions on current questions, to call the whole his message, and to send it by special messenger to congress when it assembles. This speech may be deeply impressive, and it may not. Sometimes it is the thought of the president after he has communed with the leaders of his party. Sometimes it is his own thought, regardless of any one's views; it may, indeed, be hostile to the sentiments of some political allies, as in the case of Mr. Roosevelt. Mr. Wilson may have followed the example of his predecessors in office and discussed with leading supporters certain leading issues, the tariff for instance, but he does not propose to send his views by any one to the House of Representatives. He goes over there to-day himself, at such an hour as may be suggested and arranged, and he is going to speak his piece in his own way, and probably the members will think more of it than they would if given to them in the loud voice of the ordinary reading clerk.

The opening of congress will, therefore, not be unlike the opening of the Canadian parliament, when the governor-general enters the senate chamber, summons the faithful commoners, and delivers in person "the speech from the throne." Or when the king

attends the imperial parliament, and from the lords gives his speech, and outlines in it the legislation which will claim first consideration from his government.

There will be nothing "stagey" about Mr. Wilson's performance. He is not out for dramatic effects. He simply wants to get over to the legislators, to say to them the things that affect and move him, and it remains to be seen what the result will be.

ENGLAND'S EDUCATION BILL.

One reads of a great meeting of teachers, three thousand of them, representing the National Union and the Education Committee of England and Wales, at Weston-Super-Mare, to hear Lord Haldane expatiate upon the ideal education. England leads in most things, and it proposes to lead in education, by having, though somewhat delayed, a great national system, and so complete that it will cover the educational life of the individual from the kindergarten, (or nursery), to the college.

Lord Haldane's main idea is a system with a broad high road leading from the lowest to the highest, and a system of teaching in the highest which shall guide that of the lowest. He wants to ensure that the education of England shall be as good as that of any other country, that the old line of demarcation between those who work with their hands and those who work with their heads, shall be broken down, that the English people of the next generation shall have a foundation of knowledge and culture equal to that which obtains in Scotland and Wales, that the age limit shall be raised to fourteen and no child be allowed to leave before it for "beneficial education," unless he continues to attend a half-time day school until the age of sixteen or seventeen, that there shall be nursery schools for infants, and that the day of the uncertified teacher shall end.

These announcements are made by this forceful leader of public opinion—that he was seriously engaged in working out the details, with a committee of experts, that they were making sure of their ground and calculations, and that when the scheme was complete it would be launched with every assurance of success.

To be sure it would cost money, a good deal, but he did not opine that England would fail to provide the necessary sum, whatever it would be. The annual expenditure on education in the old land now is £20,000,000 a year, and the money is paid for a disjointed system and one that is faulty in many respects. The point is that England has no sham leaders in education, but earnest, thoughtful, progressive men, who are not dabbling, as in Ontario, in a business in a fretful, experimental kind of way.

The London Mail applauds the national scheme, but questions whether any more burdens should be put upon the people in the way of rates. Why should the national government "not find new sources of revenue." New sources? Where? The common people pay all taxes, whether these pass through the hands of the local collector or the chancellor of the exchequer. The average taxpayer staggers under his load of taxes, but for education he can stand a little more.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Germany's war budget—£102,000,000 this year—is being challenged by the socialists in the reichstag. They may delay its passage—as our commons may delay the naval bill—but the socialists will have to swallow it in the end.

An expert comes forward to say that conscription can never be supported in England. It can be attempted, without success. No political party wants it. The unionist party nibble at it, but, like tariff reform, they are afraid of it.

A politician in Montreal, a noisy fellow who wanted to make a point, declared that he had voted once for the liberal party when he was young. A good many liberals tar boast that they never voted for any but the liberal party, and that they have not been required to apologize for it.

In no other country under the sun, except England, are army and navy officers permitted, on retirement, to engage in a vicious and hurtful criticism of the national policy and to declare against its weakness. The nobles of Great Britain do not appear to be in very big business.

The only proposition of Mr. Borden is that he will let the naval discussion go on for days, and as long as the liberals want, but that the bill must be accepted as it is, without amendment. No compromise in that? It is not any more a case of emergency, but of mulishness.

Two clergymen in North Calgary are candidates for the legislature, and representing opposing sides. This is deplored. Why? Because their influence will be weakened. The service of politics is quite clean and proper in itself. The wrong comes in when the science is perverted by bad men. The clergymen ought to be like Ivoen in

public life, but Alberta wants more clergymen and fewer politicians.

Mayor Gaynor's orders in New York, for the closing of the restaurants at a certain hour, are being resented by hundreds. Night after night there are conflicts between the people and the proprietors, and the conclusion is irresistible—that as a vote maker his worship's ukase is a decided failure.

The London Mail suggests that the forcible feeding of the suffragettes be dispensed with, that they be allowed to go on hunger strikes if they will, to starve, be released, re-arrested, starve again, be released and re-arrested until they have completed their term. Deportation has been demanded. Whence? What country wants the undesirables?

PUBLIC OPINION

Has His Own Idea.

Jack Canuck.
A man loves a woman because he thinks she is pretty. It doesn't matter whether she is or not because he never really knows.

The First Stop.

Hamilton Times.
Nebraska has voted in favor of legalizing Sunday baseball. We suppose its first step in the desecration of the Sabbath was taken when its public libraries were opened on that day.

Morgan's Echo.

Hamilton Herald.
G. F. Baker, Mr. Morgan's successor as "money king," is of the opinion that the concentration of wealth has gone far enough. As Mr. Baker is possessed of a fortune estimated at \$200,000,000, his opinion cannot be said to involve the element of self-sacrifice to any great extent.

National Pride.

London Advertiser.
Australia shows her national spirit and self-reliance by organizing her own naval force. The New Zealand minister of defence advises his country to follow Australia's example. The Canadian people favor the same policy, but are prevented from putting it into effect by a government (elected on another issue), which declines to risk an appeal to the country.

A Serious Thought.

London Chronicle.
We do not suggest that Mr. Church will should have in the present instance come out into the open as a supporter of the Laurier policy, as he has done in support of the Borden policy. He should have avoided any appearance of influencing Canada's decision between them. But since he has failed to do that, we regret that his line has been one which must array much Canadian national sentiment against him.

Kingston Events 25 YEARS AGO.

St. Andrew's church was destroyed by fire this morning. The flames broke out about three o'clock, and an hour later, nothing but the walls were left standing. Services were held in St. Andrew's hall.

Sixty members were admitted into membership, on trial, in Queen street church, and eleven were received by letter from other churches.

The water in the lake is very low. Vessels that could reach the long dock at the foot of Brock street last summer will not be able to do so this season, if the water does not rise.

The steamer Pierrepont will make a start for the islands to-morrow. The choir of Sydenham street church, forty-one members, were photographed to-day, with the organ.

The attendance at the public schools is increasing.

Guardian.

Clavie Clare in the Christian Advocate.
Glad am I that I answered not in kind. The cruel taunt her envy flung my way.
Years passed: I met her on the street to-day,
A sad, lost creature—such we weep to find.

Glad am I that I turned aside to speak
And pressed the hand of one whose cause had failed;
Heartened, he wrought until the right prevailed,
And none might vainly use whom justice seek.

Glad am I that I plucked my choicest rose
And laid it in a sick child's wasted hand;
Smiling he passed to join the angel band—
The drooping flower the last the lids o'er close.

Glad am I for all these, but gladder still
For faith, when life's fond hope declined and set;
For now I know beyond all there's regret,
His love designed a higher to fulfill.

Relics of Volta Found.

A number of pieces of electrical apparatus constructed by Volta during his early electrical experiments have been discovered recently by Sir Henry Norman, a member of the English parliament, who found the material in a little curiosity shop in an out of the way section of a small Italian town. The uncle of the shopkeeper was Volta's cook and body servant for 20 years. On the death of the scientist he left much of his experimental apparatus with his body servant and they have since passed down from generation to generation. The collection comprises a cupboard full of old apparatus, a number of books, portraits, papers and letters, and some personal and domestic articles. Sir Henry Norman suggests that this collection be purchased and presented to the Royal Institution to remain alongside Faraday's original apparatus.

Wise and . . . Otherwise

This is some weather.

A man never quite realizes how much furniture he owns until he tries to walk rapidly through his rooms in the dark.

It may be true that North America was the land of Noah, but this is no time to spread the story if Noah is to continue to be held in proper veneration.

The person who pays as he goes is free not to come back if he can do better elsewhere.

Don't be discouraged, the snow shovel will be good for another winter.

Hohe, no matter where it be,
Or be it big or small,
Is just the one place in the world
That dearest is of all.

The Busy Boss.

A certain man in this town went to call at the office of a certain other man in this town. The office boy told the caller that the boss was out on important legal business and the caller went away. But the next morning (we tell what we have heard) the caller called again. "Where's the boss?" he asked. "Out! on important business," answered the office boy. "Look here, boy! I was here yesterday and you said the boss was out on some legal business." "Yes, sir," all, I went and found him up against a bar in the nearest saloon. Is that what you call legal business?" "Why ain't it? Is it illegal to get a drink?"

Lifting Words.

There is no cosmetic for homely folks like character.
Even the plainest face becomes beautiful in noble and radiant moods.—Newell Dwight Hillis.

Every right action and true thought sets the seal of its beauty on every person's face.
Every wrong action and foul thought its seal of distortion.—Ruskin.

Between the great things we cannot and the small things we will not do, the danger is that we shall do nothing.—Monod.

Truth is a strong thing, let man's life be true.—Browning.

From the Gazer Jar.

A. Bore—"Yes, I learned to play entirely by ear."
Miss Bright—"And have you never had an earache?"—Judge.

Brusque Customer (in music shop)—"Libretto 'Mikado.'"
New Assistant—"I speak no Italian."—Sketch.

Blotches—"Skinnum is trying to promote a new mining company. Did you fall for it?"
Slobbe—"No; I tumbled."—Philadelphia Record.

Briggs—"Everybody should lay up something for a rainy day."
Griggs—"True! But too many wait until it begins to sprinkle before starting to do so."—Boston Transcript.

"Queer Boston man over in that corner; I can't get him interested in Emerson or Longfellow or Phillips Brooks."
"Try Joe Wood on him."—Pittsburg Post.

"I say, old man, I need fifty dollars badly and haven't the least idea where to get it."
"Glad to hear it. I thought perhaps you had an idea you could borrow it from me."

Passenger—"Why are we so late?"
Guard—"Well, sir, the train in front was behind, and this train was behind before besides."

A Few Seed Thoughts.
The sympathy you hesitated to offer because it was all you had at hand, was the thing most needed by your struggling friend.—O. P. Fitzgerald.

Fame is what you have taken,
Character's what you give;
When to this truth you awaken,
Then you begin to live.
—Bayard Taylor.

Farwell Davis died April 14th at his home near Chatterton. He was born in the first concession of Sidney, seventy years ago. He was a farmer by occupation.

A good way to discover that you don't understand a woman is to marry her.
While a pull will help in politics, it is more satisfactory to work for your living.
When a man marries it is time for him to acquire better habits.

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