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RELATED BUT WELCOME.

One of the features of the Presbyterian Assembly, and none the less welcome although belated, was the greeting of the Mayor and Council of the city. The explanation of the Moderator bears out the explanation of the Mayor, at a Council meeting, and to the effect that the presence and importance of the Assembly were not forgotten, that the Moderator was asked to name a time for the presentation of a civic address, and had unfortunately lost sight of the fact. Those who thought, therefore, that one of the largest religious bodies in Canada had been overlooked will be glad to note that the city has appreciated the work of the commissioners. The visitors, most of whom have already left for home, will also carry with them the words that expressed the sentiments of our public men. Into the past week, and the long sessions of each day, the Assembly compacted a lot of serious service. All of the business was worthy of the consideration which it received, and some of it evoked discussions of the liveliest description. At all times there was a recognition of the amenities of debate and in this respect the Assembly was a model of its kind.

The facts as they come to hand picture Capt. Richardson, of Kingston, as a born leader of men. He is absolutely fearless in war. In two battles his clothes were riddled with bullets which shows that he was in the thick of the fight.

TEARING UP THE RECORDS.

The report from Winnipeg, and covering the evidence of Sir Rodmond Roblin before the Royal Commission, touching his part in the Parliamentary Buildings scandal, is surprising. He tells the Commission that he knew nothing of the contracts, or the details in connection with them, that like the other Ministers he left these things entirely to the responsible officials, and that he was not even suspicious of wrong doing until after the legislature had ended its last session. One wonders what responsible Ministers are for, if not to enquire into all the public expenditures and satisfy themselves that they are properly made.

It was never intended that the heads of departments should sign whatever papers are laid before them; and involving the use or waste of hundreds of thousands of dollars, without asking and knowing what they meant. The revelations in Winnipeg shock and astonish one.

Mr. Roblin presents the spectacle of a vexed and perplexed leader of a Government when he acknowledges that as the facts of the mismanagement were forced upon him, thanks to the activity of the Liberals, he tore up and destroyed all the records, including the records in the books. That was his way of blotting out the evidence of his folly, and the folly of his colleagues. The proceeding is not that of a sensible man, and it does not end the infamy. There must be a clean-up of the scandal irrespective of whom it affects or politically destroys.

THE SITUATION IN BRITAIN.

There is a danger of another crisis in the life of the Imperial Government, and one more serious than any that has yet occurred. The ideal of the coalition was that every party would be represented in the administration of public affairs, and that there would be nothing to distract it from the purpose of its

existence, namely, the conduct of a great war, the salvation and supremacy of the British Empire.

Some of the causes for the coalition may never be known. It is enough to realize for the present that they were serious and that Mr. Asquith was moved to remark that they warranted the putting aside of all political differences for the time being. He asked the Liberal disidents to waive all objections and stand beside or behind him in defense of the nation.

Unfortunately the Nationalists were not represented in the Cabinet, and in the truce which this representation involved. Unfortunately, too, the ambitions of political parties cannot be held in check, and already a big difficulty looms up. It has to do with an Irish appointment and with the elevation to office, by the Unionists, of one who is distasteful to the Nationalists because of his action in Ulster.

At once the old political feuds are revived, the old racial fires stirred up, and unless wiser counsels prevail—unless there is a real and abiding suppression of political animosities—there will be a war within the Cabinet as well as without it. Alas, the Mother Country, if these things continue, will cease to be a model to her dominions, the teacher of those ideals and object lessons that are so essential in critical times.

The greatest of men realize what it is to fall foul of public opinion. Mr. Bryan was the idol of his people so long as he suited them, but now that he has fallen from grace, or out of the U.-S. Cabinet, they are calling him had names. A politician's usual reward.

WAR IN BENEVOLENCE.

The District Committee of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, met in Kingston on Wednesday and manifested, by its reports, the energy that has been infused into its benevolent service, notwithstanding the depression of a great war. This Order has to its credit a long and honorable record. It has passed through experiences peculiarly its own, and experiences peculiarly its value of the obligations to which it is committed.

Oddfellowship is one of the institutions which has survived the severest tests. It had made great strides after its transplantation into America when the war of 1861 broke out, and in the following five years showed that it was devoted to the purposes for which it had an existence. It carried out more than its obligations. It was expected to lead in its charities and was equal to all the calls that were made upon it. It did more than this. When suffering generally prevailed; when widows and orphans were to be seen on every hand, as the result of the war; when the sick and maimed and invailed numbered many thousands; when every fount of benevolence was taxed to the utmost, the lodges of the Independent Order of Oddfellows stood and maintained their splendid work to the limit of their resources.

A similar test may not come to the Order in Canada, in connection with the present war, and it may, for the contingencies of the hour, whatever they are, the Order will make every provision. This is a position that is most worthy of its record and reputation.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Utilities Commission should do more than give evidence of lower power rates. It should have the city thoroughly canvassed for more consumers. The larger the use of power the lower the rates.

The Canadian Government should press for all the British and French and Russian contracts possible. Why should American contractors or middlemen grow fat upon the manipulation of their contracts to the great disadvantage of Canada?

A German writes predicts an invasion of Britain by troops, most Zeppelins, the latter subjugation of America, and the parceling out of the conquered territory among the members of the Triple Alliance. The dream of a lunatic, sure.

Kingston does not want to own and run a Street Railway. The Council cannot manage a plant of this kind economically and efficiently. The thing it can do is make a reasonable arrangement with the Company to have its cars run.

The Russian bear can stand a lot of prodding, but when it turns and hits back it hurts. The terrible Hun will presently learn something about bruin that they did not know before. They will certainly avoid his haunts or retreats.

Mr. Bryan is not the only man of peace, or the only advocate of peace in America. The woods are full of them. But in a time of war, when a royal madman seeks to destroy peace and all that it implies, even the peacemaker has to carry a gun and use it.

Robert Lansing, born in Watertown, N.Y., is likely to be the next United States Secretary of State.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

Eighteen horses were shipped today from Kingston to Syracuse via Cape Vincent. Two thousand tons of phosphate from points along the Kingston and Pembroke Railway will be shipped to the United States. Tenders for the rebuilding of St. George's Cathedral have been called for.

LATE JUSTICE MACLENNAN. Ex-Chairman Of Queen's Board of Trustees



The late Justice MacLennan was born at Lancaster in 1833, and after a course at the Williamstown Grammar School and Queen's University, he was called to the bar in 1857. For many years he was partner of the late Sir Oliver Mowat. For part of 1874 and 1875 he was Liberal member of the House of Commons for North Victoria. In 1895 he was appointed to the Supreme Court of Ontario and retired in 1909.

Napanee

June 9.—At the criminal court held in Napanee to-day before Judge Laywell, the following cases were heard and disposed of. The jury heard the case of Huffman versus Huffman. Both parties are from Moscow, and it was alleged that Kenneth Huffman, fourteen, occasioned bodily harm to George Huffman, a girl about eight years of age, by knocking her down, while riding his bicycle. The jury brought in a verdict of not guilty, and the case was dismissed.

WAR BULLETINS. William Jennings Bryan in- timated at Wednesday afternoon that he would immediately commence a platform campaign for peace through arbitration.

The British liners Mauritania, Transylvania and several other big ships have arrived in the Aegean Sea with 50,000 reinforcements for the Dardanelles campaign.

NOT SMOOTH SAILING. Difficulty With Office of Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

London, June 10.—The difficulty of filling the office of Lord Chancellor of Ireland has not yet been overcome. The Unionists claim the appointment for the Right Hon. James H. M. Campbell, Unionist member of the House of Commons for Dublin University, but the Nationalists claim it on account of Mr. Campbell's Ulster sympathies.

Sir Frederick E. Smith, the new solicitor-general of England, was knighted by King George on Wednesday.



THE NEW HAT

Man buys himself a new straw hat; it often leaves him justified when he has paid the price; and then, all swollen up with pride, he goes around with stately stride, and knows he's looking nice. He's thinking, when he's thus arrayed, that every widow, every maid, will say he's just too sweet; with vain imaginings like these he runs against the busy breeze that scoots, along the street. The zephyr takes his virgin hat and slams it down and knows it flat, and rolls it on its brim, and as he tries to run it down, most all the idiots in town are redly juggling him. Along the avenues and pikes, at record roasting gait he hikes, a cloud of dust behind; the widow and the winsome maid behold him as he hits the grade, and laugh until they're blind. The hat goes scooting forty miles with scores of other errant tiles, the brim is flopping round his neck, it is a dismal wreck; through the crown. The lid that made his hair sticks that made him scorn the common crowd, is spoiled beyond recall; while such disasters come to pass, we plainly see all flesh is grass, pride goes before a fall.

THE KIRK IN COUNCIL

(Continued from Page 1.) Probably everybody knows that there is just a little bit of friction among the conveners of certain church committees. How could it otherwise be? A husband, you like the Presbyterian Church, is just now having his "growing pains." But he will get over them like other slight ailments. His new suits of clothes don't just fit him. Some- thing doesn't want to ride in an air- ship when walking is the safest going. Then there gets into his head the idea of going to war, and such people usually can provoke a fight nearer home than France. Friction! No! It is only the fire and force of a youth generating power.

The General Assembly welcomed His Worship, Mayor Sutherland and members of the City Council. They did not bring the gold lace and cocked hats with them, as they had, no doubt, seen some of distinguished D.D.'s as frightened of "the cloth" as a minister priest of an orange ribbon. Why should the Mayor, therefore, be bothered about regalia when the "elect of the Kirk" prefer to dress like ordinary mortals? But we have some high church leanings ourselves, and would think that the Assembly was only thinking of its true dignity, if it ordered Rev. James Rollins of the next meeting to give passports only to those who brought their "Sabbath brava" with them.

But, by the way, it is the Mayor. He made quite a happy and hearty speech—Referring to his nervousness on interrupting the delegations, he put himself right with the brethren, by stating that he always found the men of the cloth to be considerate. Then he touched a live wire in congratulating the Moderator, and (telling the Assembly, that he was one of the most esteemed citizens of Kingston. Next came reference to Principal Gordon, C.M.G., and there were more cheers. And everybody was included, when His Worship stated that "our larch strings are always ready to admit the old graduates of Queen's and members of General Assembly to this city." (Great applause.) The Moderator replied in like terms and handed the distinguished visitor a copy of the "Blue Book" which his good Bishop also received.

The Assembly is now drawing to a close. There were 483 commissioners which cost the church \$10,872. for railway fares. "What waste," said somebody, "why was this not given to the poor?" That is just about \$23, each, about the value of the haberdashery of the element. Yes, the poor need it; the red cross could easily use it. But stop a moment! The principle of sowing and reaping cannot be violated. What if it should cost \$23 to buy the seed, for new spiritual sowing in all these eager minds and breasts? Many a man will go back with a new vision of life. No man after all these addresses can be just as he was. May it be that this "sacrifice of money" may be pleasing to God, and told as a "memorial" unto all men of love and service in the name of Him, who for us suffered the loss of all things.

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