

## The Daily Mail

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### MR. FIELDING APPRECIATED

The presentation to the Hon. Mr. Fielding of the handsome testimonial by his friends both in and out of Parliament, is not only a spontaneous expression of the goodwill with which they regard him personally, but it is also a fitting recognition of the many years valuable service he has rendered to his country. As is well known, Mr. Fielding is not by any means a wealthy man, and to his honor it may truthfully be said that he has never taken advantage of opportunities which his position has afforded him to turn them to his own personal benefit. In presenting him with investments of \$120,000 in value, his friends have chosen a most appropriate method of showing their appreciation of him, and at the same time relieving him of all care for the future when he may feel called upon to ask to be relieved of the cares of office.

It is to be regretted that there is in Canada no provision for pensions for retired cabinet ministers, as is the case in Great Britain. The necessity for such is greater in this country than in Britain, for the reason that British statesmen are as a rule, possessed of private means. Considering the position which it is necessary for a cabinet minister to maintain and the calls which must necessarily be made upon them, it is scarcely possible for any of them to save enough from their salaries to form a fund which however well invested, will provide an income sufficient to live in decency and comfort after vacating office. The judges of the country are all provided for in this manner, and there seems to be no logical reason why other men who devote the best years of their life to the service of the state should not be similarly treated for. Recognizing this, Mr. Fielding himself some years ago, promoted a measure having in view the provision of pensions for ministers, which was repealed, after being in force for one year. There seems to be no particular reason why it should not be re-enacted.

### THE GRAIN TRADE

At the opening of the season of navigation on the great lakes, there was a considerable reduction made in the rates charged on grain to the port of Buffalo for shipment to the United Kingdom through New York. As a result of the lower rates, the grain trade of the St. Lawrence during the present season was threatened. Within the past few days the Inland Rate Association which controls the lake and canal rates in Canada decided to cut the water rate from Fort William to Montreal from five and one quarter cents a bushel to four and three-quarter cents. The total rate for Canadian grain from Fort William to Liverpool via Buffalo or New York or Boston is 8.52 cents per bushel. By the all-water route via Montreal since the cut was made is 8.13 cents. To this must be added the slightly higher rate of insurance charged against the St. Lawrence route than is charged from either New York or Boston. The result of the reduction in rates has been highly satisfactory to the Montreal shippers and sufficient grain has been booked at the new rate to fill all the available space during the month of May.

In this connection, and it is one of the signs of the times, it may be mentioned that at the annual meeting of the Cunard Steamship company, according to a recent cablegram the chairman, Mr. Alfred A. Booth called attention to the great changes taking place in the Atlantic freight business. The increase in population in the United States within recent years has brought about a constantly reducing business in the agricultural food products and the present indications are, that it will not be very long before the States will absorb all their own products of this character and perhaps have to look elsewhere to supply a shortage. Certain it is that the export of agricultural food products from the United States is waning and causing the

steamship companies considerable anxiety. Mr. Booth is also credited with expressing the opinion that the future trade between New York and Boston and British ports will be done by steamships of forty or fifty thousand tons which combine passenger and freight accommodation to the exclusion of purely cargo steamers. That such is the view of Mr. Booth is borne out by the fact that he announced at the meeting that the directors were considering the construction of another large steamer for the New York trade.

Should the prognostications of Mr. Booth and Mr. James J. Hill, both of whom hold the same view regarding food production and consumption in the United States, prove correct there will be an enormous boom in western Canada during the next decade. Certain it is, that the prairie country of the west, which is destined to provide the wheat necessary to feed the population of Great Britain and other countries, which do not produce sufficient of this cereal to supply their own wants, is rapidly filling up with settlers of the very best class. Thousands of these are skilled farmers from the United States who understand not only the growing of wheat, but the requirements of general farming as well. What is better still they are familiar with the climate and with general conditions surrounding agriculture on this continent, and therefore better fitted to make successful Canadian farmers than immigrants either from the British Isles or other European countries, where vastly different conditions exist than prevail in the Canadian Northwest. The British race has always proved able to adapt itself to circumstances and a majority of those who settle in the west will make successful farmers, but the process takes time.

The development of the west means a great deal to the east as the export of their products for some years to come will be through the Atlantic ports of this country. No doubt the railways of the United States will make a hard fight for a share of the Canadian export trade. This is seen by the efforts made this year to take away a portion, or the whole of the trade of the St. Lawrence route by an arbitrary cut in rates which practically deprived the railway and steamboat companies of any profit in handling the freight. For the present this cut has been met by the St. Lawrence route people, but whether the reduction recently made will be met by Buffalo, New York and Boston transportation companies further reducing rates remains to be seen. In the end, however, Canada will win as the water route from Fort William to Montreal is cheaper than the water and rail route from Fort William to Buffalo and New York, but in considering this route the Erie Canal and its immense possibilities for cheap transportation must not be lost sight of.

### CANADA'S EXPANDING TRADE

The figures showing the volume of trade done by the country during the past fiscal year are a striking testimony to the growth of the country. Each month as it passes sees a larger advance in the trade returns and an increase of the enormous sum of \$117,000,000 over the total for last year is nothing short of marvellous. With this expanding trade, come also an increased revenue, which is equally satisfactory. Verily the country has no season to regret having placed the control of its affairs in the land of such men as Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fielding.

### PERSONAL.

Mr. W. C. Bauer of St. John is at the Queen.

Messrs. W. Parks and J. E. Henderson of McGiveney were in the city yesterday.

Mr. J. Alfred Clark of St. John is in the city.

Mr. Harry E. Davis of Montreal is at the Queen.

Mr. Geo. R. Munroe of Montreal is in the city.

Mr. M. Kelly of Toronto is in the city.

Mr. F. W. Munroe of St. John, is registered at the Barker House.

Mr. R. G. Hurley of Montreal, arrived in the city last night.

Mr. E. H. Cairns of St. John, is in the city.

Coun. Gordon C. Grant of Canterbury, is among the visitors to the city.

Some people talk so much that they have no time to listen to anything worth while.

## PREPARING FOR THE TORREY CAMPAIGN

Largely Attended Meeting Last Night—Address by Rev. J. H. MacDonald—Committees Met.

An interesting meeting was held in the vestry of the Methodist church last night. It was the first public service preparatory to the great evangelistic campaign to be conducted by Dr. Torrey and his associates. Rev. J. H. MacDonald was the only speaker. The detailed circumstances leading to the engagement of the evangelists gave a brief character sketch of the chief workers and discussed the plans of the campaign.

The speaker characterized Dr. Torrey as the strongest, sanest and saintliest evangelist in the English speaking world. Mr. Jacobi is not of the cultured and scholarly type of Dr. Torrey. He knows what it is to live on the lower levels and therefore he has a brotherly and helpful hand for the man who is down. Mr. Butler is a musical genius, not only able to sing well himself, but possessing the power of leadership in a marked degree. As a chorus leader he is in the same class as Charles M. Alexander. Miss Anderson, the pianist is described in one of the papers of the city, where the evangelists are now at work, as "a whole orchestra in herself." Dr. Torrey's private secretary, accompanies him and renders effective service in various ways. It is just possible that Mr. Young, who assisted Mr. Mahy here last autumn, may be one of the party.

Mr. MacDonald fully explained the financial side of the campaign. He said it would cost in the vicinity of \$2,000. Dr. Torrey now sets a figure on his own personal services. He takes a free will offering on the last two Sundays of his stay here. His fellow-laborers will cost us \$775; their transportation \$300 and entertainment about \$200. The rink will cost \$225; the seating, \$200; printing \$125; light and caretaking \$80. This amount with incidentals will bring the entire cost to about \$2,000. It is expected that between \$900 and \$1000 will be taken in collections. The churches back of the movement here already agreed to become responsible for the balance.

Speaking of the spiritual preparation necessary to the success of the campaign the speaker laid great emphasis on prayer. "There can be a great revival," he said, "without great preaching and without great organization, but there can be no great spiritual awakening without much prayer." He also suggested that in addition to the preparatory work already commenced in the churches, prayer circles be established in various parts of the city.

At the close of the service the various committees—Finance, Rink, Music, Helpers, Ushers, Publicity, Entertainment and Devotional—met. The whole campaign is being planned with an earnestness and enthusiasm which betokens success. The city is surely to be congratulated on being able to secure the services of this world-renowned evangelist.

### EMPIRE MUSICAL FESTIVAL

London, April 26.—Doctor Charles Harris personally will direct the initial concert festival on May 20th in the presence of the King, Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, in which a choir of 4,000 and a band of 4,000 and a band of eighty pieces. Everything is arranged for a musical festival throughout the empire commencing at Montreal next March.

So numerous have been the applications received from colonial artists anxious to take part in the special Colonial concerts to be given during the Festival of Empire, at the Crystal Palace, that special auditions have been and are being held by Mr. Walter W. Hedgecock, the Musical Director of the Crystal Palace, in order to select the most promising.

Applications have come from pianists in Australia, and New Zealand, and Canada; violinists from Nova Scotia, Australia and New Zealand. There are sopranos and contraltos from New Zealand, South Africa, New South Wales, Victoria, Melbourne, etc., and tenors and baritones from Canada, Australia, New South Wales and South Africa.

According to Mr. Hedgecock, he was much struck by the high musical ability shown by most of the artists. Some of the instrumentalists had been studying at the best schools on the continent for some time past and in many cases the highest proficiency was shown, both technically and artistically. Of course, there are many artists in the front rank in London now, who are Colonial born. No doubt many of these will appear at the Colonial concerts, but there can be no question that very great interest will be imparted to these concerts by the inclusion of many of the younger Colonial artists.

Minister (meeting a small boy on Sunday afternoon carrying a string of fish)—"Johnny, do these belong to you?" Johnny—"Yes, sir. You see that's what they got for chasing worms on Sunday."

April 25th 1910

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