

JOHN BURNS, M. P.

Distinguished Labor Leader in the Imperial Parliament

Has Strong Faith in Great Resources and Possibilities of Canada.

Toronto Globe: John Burns is not a man to whom to apply titles. A hundred years ago he would have been Citizen Burns, and Citizen Burns he is pre-eminently today. And John Burns is in Toronto, staying suppositiously at the Walker House. He is visiting Canada for a holiday, and nothing more, he says, and will go to the coast before he returns to England. But the labor men of the city are urgent to have him address a mass meeting on his way back, and he may yield to their persuasion.

Mr. Burns was a guest at the directors' luncheon on the last day of the Exhibition, Saturday afternoon. Mr. Allen Baker, a native of Northumberland county, Ontario, who has just been elected in Finsbury, in opposition to the Government candidate, was also present.

"You may say that the Labor party will be doubled at the next election," observed Mr. Burns to an interviewer. "There are fourteen members now, and there should be twenty-eight in the next Parliament. We are not like your nouveaux riches, who think numbers count, and quantity is to be desired."

CHAMBERLAIN SNOWED UNDER.

"Joe's busted!" he declared with great animation. "Absolutely snowed under. Sir Gilbert Parker may talk as he likes, but even he admits defeat. There is nothing left of Chamberlain at all. But I cannot talk about that now. Perhaps I'll have something to say later on—more perhaps than you will care to hear."

John Burns is getting grey, but he will not be forty-seven till next month. He is about five feet eight inches in height, and when you see him first there is nothing visible but two brown eyes that are clearer and deeper and sharper than any other eyes in the country. Broad in shoulders, pleasant in expression, easy in gait, his eyes seem to indicate more than anything else about him the tremendous force in the man's soul which has lifted him up to the most prominent place in the Labor ranks of the British Empire. But there is force, physical as well as mental and psychic, and his travelling companion, Mr. Allen Baker, M. P., for Finsbury, takes pleasure in describing such adventures as that in Paris, when attacked by a dozen ruffians, Mr. Burns howled them over one after another and was ready for more.

"I have from my earliest infancy been in contact with poverty of the worst possible description," he said on a memorable occasion at the Old Bailey nineteen years ago, and his influence with the whole of the laboring classes, his power among them as an arbiter of disputes, and the force of his moral example, as in his tremendous denunciation of the liquor evil last year, are due to the practical acquaintance he has had with the conditions of labor and poverty, and the sympathy the knowledge has kindled in his heart. The secret of his power lies in his being entirely disinterested, so that he throws his whole amazing force into whatever he takes up.

Mr. Burns is a quiet domestic man, taking joy in his home and his books which he studies profoundly, and with pride in his little son. He likes boating, and bicycling, and cricket, and is a lover of the simple life in all his works and ways. In writing of London recently, of which he is a County Councillor, and M. P., for Battersea since 1892, he said:—

"I see coming into the face of this London of ours the realization of my early dreams and visions, the rearing in happy homes of strong men and fair women, from whose loins will come proud, healthy, and strong children, rejoicing because they knew not sorrow in their childhood nor the lack of proper food."

Such dreams mark the practical mystics of whom Lord Rosebery said not long ago that they would rule the world.

SPEAKS AT EXHIBITION.

Mr. Burns was the last of a long list of speakers at the Exhibition directors' luncheon, and a fairly large gathering paid him the compliment of waiting for two hours to hear him. He was introduced by Mr. Baker, who said of him that he was a leader in all that made for the progress and enlightenment of the common people.

Mr. Burns, who was enthusiastically received, said that he had come to Canada for a rest after many years of close attention to duty. He was determined to avoid all of

the usages of the globe-trotter, whose anxiety to cover ground sometimes obscured the view of the impartial observer. He would especially avoid public meetings and big hotels, for there was nothing to learn about great hotels, and as for public dinners, he had come to believe that oratory was the eighth original sin.

He had received many impressions during the nine days that he had been in Canada, and the strongest was the convincing size of the Dominion, the kindly and genial hospitality of its people, its excellent climate, fine temperature, and beautiful atmosphere. He had already been privileged to meet with the farmer of Canada, the farmer's wife and the farmer's beautiful daughters. After a humorous reference to a twenty-mile drive which he had taken through the country, with himself as coachman and Mr. Baker as his passenger, the speaker showed his appreciation of country life in the Dominion was to him the virility of its men, the endurance of its women, and the physical beauty of its children.

A CANADIAN DANGER.

Canadians, he thought, were in danger of attaching too much importance to persons and institutions and too little to the really great things of the country, which were the fecundity of the soil and the bounteous way in which Dame Nature had showered blessings upon the country. He had come to Canada as a simple traveller, to know its industrial aspirations, to study its economic life to learn something of its municipal government, and, in a word, to get a sort of impressionistic view of the three and one-half million square miles of territory now tenanted, but not occupied, by six millions of people. He would remain in the country about nine weeks, and after his experience in the first eight or nine days he was becoming afraid that his sense of proportion might be disturbed by the too great geniality of the people. He wanted to be just and fair in the estimate that he would form of the country, but he felt now that the report that he would make would be a flattering one. Mr. Baker had been singing the praises of the country so long that he was afraid he would soon fall into the same strain.

As a mechanical engineer he was glad of the opportunity of inspection of the exhibition, and he had been much impressed with what he had seen. The products of the factories showed evidence of skill and high ideals. If there was anything that would speed him on his way with a light heart it was the kindly welcome that had been given him. It was a pleasure for him to be present on Children's Day, and he had been much struck with the resourcefulness and energy of the Toronto children.

SOLIDITY AND STOLIDITY. He had found more than that, however. He had found a solidity and a stolidity which was an essential characteristic of the British people, upon which he hoped they were erecting a superstructure containing not too much of smartness, not too much of superficiality, and not too much of advertising. Good goods came to be recognized without undue advertising. The greatest product of a country was great men, good women and healthy children; whose work was not altogether the making of money, but first a contribution to the happiness and glory of mankind.

About him were seated men whose faces were the true English, Scotch and Irish types, and if anything else were needed the music of the Irish Guards was another reminder that in being in Canada he was not away from home. He was in a country of fine ideals and great potentialities. If he could say a word to its people it would be that they should strive for honor in commerce, industry and labor and in incorruptibility in public life. By attaining these ideals which would they reach the high place which nature intended for them.

After his trip through the country he would speak freely and frankly, and in a kindly, sympathetic way would summarize the results. The people of Great Britain, irrespective of parties, would, he knew, assist Canadians in every effort of theirs to make the country a better place to live in, because they must remember that before factions made them partisans Dame Nature had made them men. They trusted Canadians to come out right and choose the straight and narrow path, and they would bid them. God-speed, good luck and prosperity.

BRAVE GIRL ATHLETE.

Helped Youth to Save the Lives of Five Men.

Boston Herald.—By the capsizing of a dory off Governor's Island Sunday morning, Martin McDonough of East Fifth street, South Boston, lost his life. Five other men who were in the dory were saved from a watery grave by pretty 17-year-old Bessie Bell and John J. Gleason, of Everett street, East Boston.

The six men are said to have been under the influence of liquor. Fooling and moving about the boat caused it to overturn. McDonough drowned before aid could reach him, but Miss Bell and Gleason, who were rowing about in a small dory about 100 yards away, pulled to the others

struggling in the water and managed to bring them all safely to shore.

It was not without the hardest kind of work on the rescuers' part that they succeeded, and one of them gave Gleason a battle which taxed all his strength to the utmost. Four of the men, separated in pairs, locked arms, and while Miss Bell rowed towards the fifth man, Gleason grabbed each pair with one hand and towed them along. When her boat reached the fifth man, Bessie dropped her oars, and leaning over the side, seized him and hauled him into the dory. She then picked up the oars and pulled to the shore, where the men were soon in their normal condition.

None of the men appeared to be able to swim, and one was just about to go down for the last time when Gleason seized him, but not seeming to recognize that Gleason was working to save him, he tried to break away.

Miss Bell and Gleason were sur-

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rounded by a crowd and the news of the rescue spread like wildfire over the island. All spoke in the highest terms of the presence of mind of the two young people and of the great strength shown by Miss Bell in rowing to shore with two passengers and four men in tow. Both have become known to the residents of the island and of Jeffries Point, East Boston, as experts in handling boats.

The police boat Watchman was soon on the scene dragging for McDonough's body. While the police were grappling, Bracken, who had recovered from the effects of the capsizing, dived and brought the body to the surface.

The accident happened only about 100 yards from shore on the western side of the island near Fisher's landing. The men in the boat with several companions occupied one of the cottages. They went to the island Saturday night from South Boston, as has been their custom every week during the summer.

Martin McDonough leaves a widow and a 6-months-old baby. He was but 22 years old, and was employed as a teamster for a Mr. Moulton. "He told me when he left that he would come up in the morning and take me down as usual," said the young wife last night. "I was just cleaning off the dinner table when the officer came and told me that he had been drowned."

Bessie Bell, the heroine of the day, together with her father and mother and the other members of the family, go to the island every Sunday for a day's outing. She is a very pretty girl, with dark hair and regular features, and well built. She lives at 262 Everett street, East Boston, and from rowing about the harbor almost daily she has gained the reputation of being an athlete.

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"Then came a bad attack of rheumatism, which laid me up in bed. I could scarcely lift the weight of a pound, and to stoop or bend was impossible. My druggist recommended Ferrozone, and he knew what he was talking about, for it rebuilt my strength, gave me abundant appetite, better blood and new nerve energy. The rheumatism has disappeared. I weigh more, feel refreshed and vigorous, and am able to work ten hours a day. Ferrozone did it all."

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BUY YOUR OWN PAPER.

A man who was too economical to subscribe for his home paper sent his little boy to borrow the copy taken by his neighbor. In his haste the boy ran over a \$4 stand of bees, and in ten minutes looked very much like a warty summer squash. His cries reached his father, who ran to his assistance, and, failing to notice a barb wire fence, ran into it, breaking it down, cutting a handful of flesh from his anatomy, and ruining a \$5 pair of pants. The old cow took advantage of the gap in the fence and went into the cornfield and killed herself eating green corn. Hearing the racket, the wife ran, upsetting a four gallon churn of rich cream into a basket of kittens, drowning the whole flock. In her hurry she dropped a \$25 set of false teeth. The baby, left alone, crawled through the cream into the parlor, ruining a \$20 carpet. During the excitement the oldest daughter ran away with the hired man, the dog broke up eleven setting hens, and the calves got out and chewed the tails off four fine skirts.—Kansas City Journal.

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