

TIME HONORED.

The Delegation to Ottawa One of the Institutions of the Country.

THOSE WHO SEEK AN AUDIENCE WITH THE POWERS THAT BE.

Their Mission Not Always in the In- terest of the Country.

(Montreal Herald.)

Ottawa, Jan. 6.—The delegation to Ottawa is one of the time honored institutions of this country. Its season is at hand. Just before the beginning of a session of Parliament the movement of delegations upon the capital commences. They continue to come until the session is well under way, then begin to drop off and finally disappear entirely with the closing days of the session and become for a time, extinct during the recess.

These delegations come for the purpose of impressing the government with the tremendous importance of something that is dear to the hearts of the men who compose the delegation. They have been coming and impressing governments since confederation. They will continue to come as long as laws are made and remade at Ottawa. They are a part of our commercial and social scheme.

Though nearly every commercial interest and every social group in Canada has at some time delegated a portion of itself to the capital and interview a government, though the practice has the endorsement of time and the warrant of custom, still the modern business methods. A type-delegation is not in harmony with written statement, which could be sent post free, should do the trick as well. It would be far less expensive.

WHERE THEY COME FROM.

The genesis of all delegations is the same. A group, commercial, social or religious, discovers that it wants something that only the Government of the country can give it. A number of leaders are named to form a delegation with instructions to repair to the capital and lay the matter before the powers of the land. The next step is for someone to arrange for a meeting with the Government, and the next the ordinary one of buying tickets and getting on the train. The engine does the rest. Almost before the delegate knows what has happened he is in the ante-room of the Prime Minister, smoothing his hair, adjusting his cravat, trying to swallow a lump, wondering why his throat is so dry and whether the other members of the delegation have the same curious feeling in the centre of the stomach. The spokesman of the party is trying to remember one-third of the things he had primed himself with. Then the summons comes and the representatives of the dry goods interests, the market gardeners, the brakemen's union, the associated churches or something else, finds himself in a big, light, warm room which has a hospitable aspect. Nothing has been done to justify the peculiar feelings he experienced on the other side of the red baize door which has just swung quietly too behind him.

Frightful Dreams.

Dull Headaches.

TERRIBLE PAINS AND A FREQUENT DESIRE TO URINATE. Such were the troubles of Mr. Joseph Leland, Alma N.W.T. He happily found relief in

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Instead he and his associates are requested in the most friendly fashion by the Prime Minister of the Dominion to take seats, and this after he has shaken each of them by the hand. The delegate begins to feel that Sir Wilfrid has been waiting anxiously for him, and he now is willing to remain all day and continue as much at home as he seems at the present moment. The carefully pondered words come back to the spokesman and he delivers himself of them under the kindly encouragement of one of the most remarkably eloquent pair of eyes he has ever seen.

Beside Sir Wilfrid there will probably be other ministers at the meeting. One of them, in fact, asks a question, and then the delegate thinks it remarkable that he had not noticed the member of the Government there before. The end comes with the conclusion of the spokesman's address. A query or two shows the interest of the government in the subject. The Prime Minister thanks the delegation for coming so far to call the attention of the government to the matter. He assures them that it will have the careful consideration of the Administration, and if it is found to be in the interest of the country the request will be acted upon without delay.

OUT INTO THE SMILING WORLD.

Then the delegate finds himself walking down the street assuring one of his companions that "Sir Wilfrid is a wonderful man," to relieve himself of a feeling that he would experience if he had been left a thousand dollars through the death of a distant relative.

It is sad to state that this probably is the last heard of the matter. The government carries out the promise of the Prime Minister to give the request serious consideration. When looked into the discovery is sometimes made that the granting of the request would be to the advantage of the men who made it, but rather, if anything, to the disadvantage of the rest of the people of the country. That is the end. It has been condemned, executed and disposed of within the precincts of the council chamber, and the world has long since forgotten the report of the arrival of the delegation at Ottawa. The country continues to progress.

Still the delegate has something to tell his family about—the time he waited on Sir Wilfrid, and the impression that he made upon the Prime Minister.

The business would have been as well done and the cause would have prospered as much if the matter had been forwarded as a written representation. The expense of the railway journey and the time of the business men on the delegation and in the government would have been sav-



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ed for useful works.

But there is an unquenchable desire in people who have axes to grind to meet the government face to face, and with eloquence and numbers to impress them.

So the delegates gather and so the crusades go up to the capital. The first of them have called and there are more coming.

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Robert Fitzsimmons the old man of the prize ring, and the greatest fighter of his weight in the world, is an interesting subject when he can be induced to talk of his ring experience. No other fighter has encountered so many opponents of varied styles as has Fitzsimmons in his three hundred or more battles during his ring career. Most of Fitzsimmons' battles have resulted in easy victories, for his great pile driving wallops were more than his victims could stand whenever he landed. Fitzsimmons played no favorites, and he was never known to have allowed an opponent to stay any longer than he could possibly help. The same may be said of his opponents, for his great punching abilities warned his opponents that they could take no chances.

Fitz says that Jeffries is the best man in the world, and that while Corbett was the cleverest boxer he ever faced, Sharkey had the stiffest punch.



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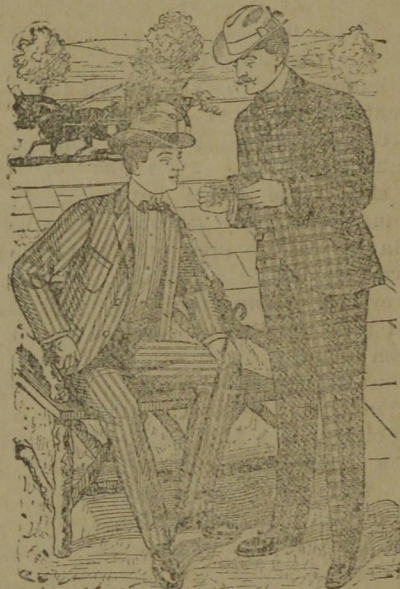
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All of which is respectfully submitted.

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