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MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL DESTINED
FOR THE LIBERAL LEADERSHIP.

He is Coming to the Front With an Irresistible Rush
and is the Chief Fighting Man on Liberal Side.

London, May 14.—Mr. Winston Churchill remains the most interesting personality in politics. His enemies are mainly responsible for his increased importance. They ridicule and revile him; and that is helpful for a rising man. Was not Mr. Disraeli in his time laughed and jeered into prominence when he persisted in making himself talked about by his eccentricities of dress, his theatrical style, his political romances and his swaggering independence as a free lance? Mr. Churchill has changed sides in politics early in his career, as Mr. Disraeli did, but he has acted more soberly and with less frivolity in abandoning Toryism on the Free Trade issue than the romance writer, whose affectation of advanced Radicalism had failed to carry him into parliament. His literary work has also been sounder and more dignified for his biography of Lord Randolph Churchill has not been marred by breaches of taste and whimsical freaks of cleverness such as characterized the early Disraeli novels.

If he has compelled people to talk about him and to forecast a brilliant future for him, it has been by sheer force of intelligence, by genuine talent for debate, by an instinctive faculty for discerning the trend of public opinion and by phenomena of displays of versatility and audacity. As his father had mercilessly assailed Mr. Gladstone and as Mr. Disraeli had violently attacked Sir Robert Peel, so Mr. Churchill has defied so masterly a tactician as Mr. Balfour and so resolute an opponent as Mr. Chamberlain and he has come to the front with an irresistible rush as a man of aggressive force, apparently destined for leadership, if his precocious genius for politics can be controlled by sobriety of judgment.

The abuse which Mr. Churchill has inspired are tributes to his increasing importance in public affairs. No other Minister on the front government benches is disliked and feared in the same degree. The prime minister is personally popular by every section of the Commons for his uniform courtesies in debate, his genial optimism and the good natured, pawky humor with which he answers embarrassing questions. Mr. Asquith, Mr. Morley, Mr. Bryce, Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Haldane and other ministers are honored on both sides of the House as valiant party men and efficient servants of the Crown. Mr. Churchill is singled out for contemptuous ridicule and acrid and intemperate criticism, to which his colleagues are not exposed; and it is not merely on account of his change of party, but mainly because he is a hard hitter of amazing energy and resource, with courage, coolness and dexterity requisite for every emergency. Whether he is smiling complacently when incisive questions about Colonial policy are to be answered, or with flushed face and vibrating tones is denouncing Mr. Chamberlain with scornful gesture, he is the lightning man on the Liberal side, and his opponents dread his impetuous attacks, and describe him as an insolent swashbuckler and reckless soldier of fortune.

Naturally the Liberals cheer lustily when he faces his most formidable opponent without flinching, and returns blow for blow; and the trade-unionists are drawn to him as a leader with democratic impulses in spite of his high lineage. With the prime minister smiling approvingly when he is flinging sarcasms across the table at Mr. Chamberlain, and with the jubilant shouts of the fighting radicals ringing in his ears, Mr. Churchill needs to be on his guard against the rashness and impetuosity of youth. So far he has not lost his self-possession and sanity of judgment.

COMPARED TO HIS FATHER

Remembering the career of the father, hostile critics are predicting a similar meteoric course and final catastrophe for the son. Analogies are frequently misleading, however, in the study of temperaments. Mr. Churchill has inherited his father's brilliant talents and independence of character; but he also has superior physical

THE ONLY YOUNGSTER IN SIGHT.

This conclusion is confirmed when the business of the present session is scrutinized. The Workmen's compensation, Trades Disputes and Merchant Shipping bills will be carried through standing committees, and Parliamentary reputations are not likely to be made in connection with them. During the next three months the Education bill will be constantly debated, and Mr. Birrell, accomplished and brilliant, as he is, with literary grace and original humor, which are safeguards against dullness, will be fortunate if he escapes the fate of Mr. Forster in dividing the Liberal party and in estranging from it the support of influential sections of opinion. It is a long time since the reputation of a minister can be impaired rather than strengthened by legislation on controversial questions, and while among the new members there is a group of dashing literary men such as Mr. Herbert Paul, Mr. Lehmann, Mr. Mason, Mr. Westerman and Mr. Harcourt, and while also in the opposition a most promising orator and phrase maker has been found in the young barrister, Mr. F. E. Smith, it is not probable that any fresh figure of commanding authority will force himself to the front. Mr. Churchill will continue to enjoy the unique distinction of being the only youngster in politics whose chances of leading the commons and becoming prime minister are seriously discussed. His astonishing canvass in Manchester and his success in tackling Mr. Chamberlain in two rounds have marked him out as a leader capable of imparting enthusiasm to his followers and of undertaking the most difficult service with confidence and self-restraint. His enemies themselves being witnesses, he is likely to go higher and to make a good deal of political history.

RUSSIAN OUTRAGES.

Bomb Exploded, Killing Several Men—Strikers Caused Bloodshed.

St. Petersburg, May 15.—Former Premier Witte pronounced the conference of members of the council of the empire, successfully insisting that the adoption of a reply to the speech from the throne should be postponed until a regular meeting of the council at which representatives of the press shall be present, in order that the country may be informed as to the arguments advanced on either side.

Nevertheless, the projected reply to the speech from the throne which probably will be adopted already has been drafted and has been seen by the Associated Press. Though delicately expressed, the reply virtually contains a demand for the amnesty for political prisoners who are not guilty of murder or robbery. In other respects the reply seems to be especially designed to disarm the suspicion that it is to be the role of the upper house to block legislation proposed by the lower house. After expressing the deepest loyalty to the emperor, the reply of the council of the empire contains these three principal points:

"1.—An unequivocal endorsement of a liberal regime.
"2.—Declaration of the intention to work in harmony with the lower house for large reforms.
"3.—Amnesty, the suggestion being so worded as not to wound the sensibility of the emperor, calling attention to the fact that all remarkable occasions in Russian history have been marked by an act of grace and urging the strong claim to clemency of those who, striving for liberty, transgressed lawful limits without being guilty of crime."

"Tommy," said the teacher, "don't you know better than to talk in school?"

PARLIAMENT'S DULL DAY.

Time of House Wasted in Second Hand Transportation Talk.

Ottawa, Ont., May 15.—The house wasted yesterday on second-hand talk. The Bennett resolution on transportation, which has been up several times, came to the fore as soon as opening preliminaries were concluded and talk that the house was heard a hundred times kept going on until adjournment at midnight.

Hon. Mr. Oliver introduced a bill authorizing the sale as town lots of that portion of an Indian reservation now within the boundaries of Canada. The sale of building lots in more. The bill, Mr. Oliver said, had been found the policy of merely giving leases of lots operated against the erection of permanent buildings.

Mr. Hall of Peterboro introduced an amendment to prevent binder twine to be sold for export without being tagged with its length. Mr. Hall said the twine manufacturers had no objection to marking the length of twine on packages, sold for Canada. They felt they should have more liberty in selling for export.

M. S. McCarthy corrected a statement he made on Thursday. From correspondence brought down he stated Senator James Ross has purchased lands from the government. Since then he had learned this was incorrect, and he desires to have the correction recorded.

Dr. Roche of Marquette, was told by the prime minister, the government had received a memorial asking that Manitoba be given power to appropriate telephones. The request had not yet been considered.

In a bill to incorporate the Western Loan and Coal Co. W. P. Maclean urged the passage of an act to make such companies furnish the government every year with a statement of its affairs for the benefit of the public.

Mr. Barker and R. L. Borden urged the closest supervision of the affairs of the trust companies which were frequently the executors of estates. Mr. Fielding said trust companies were not numerous and each was required by its act of incorporation to make a full report.

The finance minister told Mr. Lennox there would be an opportunity given for the discussion of the position of Canadian insurance. He had stated at the opening of the session there might be insurance legislation based on the report of the commission before the session closed. It now appeared that the commission would not finish its inquiry in time for this.

A gentleman was walking up the stairs of a certain establishment just behind a prepossessing young lady. A little way behind the gentleman followed another member of the stronger sex, evidently not supremely light-hearted. Suddenly the lady came to a standstill, and the first gentleman unable to stop himself in time, trod heavily upon the fair damsel's dress. In a frenzy of indignation she wheeled round upon the unfortunate young man and cried:

"You clumsy brute!"
Then quickly realizing that the gentleman was an utter stranger she said meekly:
"Oh, I am so sorry. I thought it was my husband."

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May 15—d61

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