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A PANACEA FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM INSOMNIA

THAT IS HOW THE SPEECH OF WM. MANSON, M. P. P., IN
MOVING REPLY WAS DESCRIBED IN A VANCOUVER
PAPER

Victoria, Jan. 21.—The initial debate of the present session of parliament, yesterday afforded little reward for the willing-to-be-interested citizens and citizenesses who filled both the speaker's and the visitors' galleries, and if taken as indicative of what the debates of parliament are likely to degenerate into in the absence of an effective opposition, entitle the members of the press gallery to the sympathy and commiseration of the entire province upon what they must stoically endure before prorogation is reached.

Mr. W. J. Manson, of Dewdney, had been billed to appear in the stellar role as mover of the reply. Whether or not he suddenly developed an attack of cold feet is not officially announced, but certain it is that he passed up the offered distinction in favor of another of the Clan Manson, and it was the William Manson, of Skeena, instead of the premier's understudy, who held the house spell bound for the greater part of an hour with an address, which in substance varied little from a recapitulation of Conservative campaign literature and provincial statistical reports.

Mr. Manson, of Skeena, means well, but he evinces in his orations about as much originality and inspired imagination as a moribund anglerworm, and an almost equal sense of humor. Mr. Manson's address in moving reply might well be preserved in pamphlet form for future campaign purposes of his party—or as a panacea and infallible remedy from those suffering from insomnia. The new member for Alberni, Mr. J. G. C. Woods was entitled to the congratulations of

the House in consequence of his being preceded by his prosy colleague for Skeena, for Mr. Wood did evolve some new and excellent ideas in his brief address, and those shone with the greater brilliancy when offered immediately after Mr. Manson's stereotyped effort.

The keynote and feature of the Alberni member's address was the pre-eminent necessity for good roads in the promotion of valuable colonization. While referring to Stratheona Park, with which he is especially familiar, he cited illuminative figures to show through the experience of similar public parks on the other side that Stratheona and other such pleasuring places in this province are virtually certain to become good business investments for the provincial community.

He also in his address made graceful recognition of the respect in which his predecessor in the Alberni seat is held by the House and country, remarking that "while the members of the house and the general electorate may have been unable to see political questions in the same light as Mr. Brewster, there is no one in this assembly who will not miss his courteous and careful opposition and who will not share with me the deepest sympathy for him in his recent sad bereavement."

As customary, the debate on the speech stands adjourned until Monday upon the motion of the new opposition leader, Mr. Parker Williams, who may be looked to for some caustic criticism and the occasional flashes of epigrammatic Welsh wit such as in the past have served to vary the tedium of legislative proceedings.

The house business of yesterday was limited to the presentations of petitions preliminary to the introduction of the bills for amending Vancouver's and Victoria's charter privileges, the incorporation act of the Okanagan Telephone Co., and the proposed incorporation of the cities of Port Coquitlam and Port Moody. In addition Messrs. Hayward and McGowan were formally voted to their respective positions of last season, as deputy speaker and deputy chairman of the committee of ways and means. The premier at the opening of the session took occasion to express the regret of the assembly for the recent death of Mr. H. D. Helmcken, K. C., for some time representative of Victoria in the House, and to record the sympathy of parliament with his bereaved family.

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JACK JOHNSON AND AL. PALZER MATCHED

Paris Secures the Bout—Johnson Is Guaranteed \$25,000 as His Bit.

Chicago, Jan. 21.—Jack Johnson has agreed to fight Al. Palzer in Paris on the night of June 25th, the eve of the Grand Prix race. Johnson sent Tom O'Rourke, Palzer's manager, a telegram today accepting the terms offered by R. Lippe, an American now in Paris arranging the match. The terms provide that the winner shall receive 60 per cent. of the gate receipts, with a guarantee of \$25,000.

Johnson's telegram follows: "Terms satisfactory. We will make arrangements when I see you in regard to the pictures and transportation. Wire Lippe O. K. Thanks."

Johnson says the match will be for the world's championship—no color barred.

Road Clear, Says Johnson.

New York, Jan. 21.—Tom O'Rourke insisted today that Jack Johnson would be permitted to journey to Paris to meet Al. Palzer on June 25th, the night after the running of the Grand Prix. O'Rourke exhibits a telegram from the negro saying that all of his troubles with the law, growing out of his boasting about his familiarity with certain white women will soon be smoothed out, and he will keep the Paris date.

Johnson will get a guarantee of \$25,000 and Palzer will get a licking if the match is made; but O'Rourke thinks the negro has gone back. He believes if Palzer makes a good showing against him he will be a great box card in this country.

WELLS AND MCARTY MEETING IS PLANNED

Monetary Demands of Bombardier the Only Obstacle in Way of the Bout.

New York, Jan. 20.—According to a cablegram received here recently, Bombardier Wells, the English heavyweight champion, has consented to fight Luther McCarty in New York the middle of February, provided the local boxing club managers give him the money he demands. If he gets his price, Wells will take passage for this country the latter part of this month.

JAKE GAUDAUR ON HIS WAY TO ALTAR

Toronto, Jan. 20.—Jake Gaudaur, the former world's champion professional sculler, is spending a few days in this city, en route to Halifax, where the wedding bells are to ring for him the latter part of the month. It will be Gaudaur's third matrimonial venture. Gaudaur is now 58 years of age and is living at Atherly, Ont. He relinquished the championship title to George Towns in 1901 and recently disposed of a hotel business in which he cleaned up a very comfortable fortune.

DOCTORS RELEASED FROM UNPLEASANT DUTY

London, Jan. 20.—The British Medical Association has decided by 115 to 135 to release doctors from pledges not to serve under the national insurance act, which provides for a monetary allowance and medical attendance to working people during sickness. The opposition of the doctors to the scheme was based on the amount to be paid them for their services, which they declared was too small.

MAWSON RETAINED BY CITY OF CALGARY

Calgary, Jan. 20.—Mr. Thomas Mawson, the famous London expert of the City Beautiful, has been selected by the Commissioners to devise a comprehensive plan of a civic centre and a system of parks for Calgary. The appointment was announced by Mayor Simeon at a meeting of the city planning committee. Mr. Mawson was selected from among forty applicants from Europe, Canada and the United States. His compensation will be \$25,000.

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