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SIR GILBERT PARKER

An author dear to the heart of every Canadian schoolboy has passed away in the person of Sir Gilbert Parker, whose death, at the age of sixty-nine, occurred this week in London. Who does not recall the thrill with which he first read those stirring tales based on French Canadian history—such tales as "When Valmond Came to Pondiac," "The Trail of the Sword," "An Adventurer of the North," and "The Seats of the Mighty"—stories marked by fine descriptive and dramatic qualities which still rank with the best adventure literature in the language. Other novels followed, with other settings but always with the thread of adventure running brightly through them: "The Battle of the Strong," "The Right of Way," "Donovan Pasha," "The Ladder of Swords" and "Northern Lights," to name but a few. Parker was a prolific writer, but his earlier work was probably his best. Born at Camden East, Addington, Ontario, Sir Gilbert Parker was educated at Ottawa and at Trinity University, Toronto. In 1886 he went to Australia and practised journalism. He also travelled extensively in the Pacific, and subsequently in northern Canada, where he derived much material for his romantic stories. A staunch Imperialist and early advocate of Imperial Preference, he distinguished himself in politics as well as in literature. His career has been compared, in this respect, to that of Sheridan's. Like Sheridan, Parker entered the British Parliament, and gained recognition by his vigorous Imperialistic policies. He was created a knight in 1902, became a baronet in 1915 and a year later was made a member of the Privy Council.

It is related that Sir Gilbert showed a group of his early stories to Archibald Forbes, famous war correspondent, seeking his assistance in having them published. Forbes told him they were "the finest collection of titles" he had ever seen. The young author then tore up the manuscript and began writing the series known as "Pierre and His People." These, Sir Gilbert often declared, started him on his way to success.

THE VIMY MEMORIAL

Answering criticism of alleged unnecessary delay in completing the Canadian war memorial at Vimy Ridge, Mr. H. C. Osborne, secretary of the Canadian Battlefields Memorials Commission has an informative letter in a recent issue of the Toronto Globe, explaining why this memorial has taken so long to complete. The body of the structure, Mr. Osborne writes, will certainly be finished before the end of this month. There will remain, however, before the memorial can be said to be finally completed, a very considerable amount of sculpture carving to be done. The memorial includes twenty sculptured figures of heroic size. Of those on the lower levels, one, representing the spirit of Canada, is finished, and is an object of great majesty and beauty; and the other figures and groups on the lower levels are well advanced. On the other hand the carving of other figures at higher levels involves a problem of some difficulty, and as there is a limit to the space in which the carvers can work, it is not expected that all the carving can be completed before the latter part of 1934.

It is not a fair criticism, Mr. Osborne says, to suggest that Canada is behind other Dominions in the construction of war memorials, or that there has been any official indifference. Indeed the contrary is the case. There are in existence seven Canadian battlefields sites bearing suitable memorials and two memorial plaques, one at St. Nazaire and the other at Mons. In addition fine roads have been constructed and lined with maple trees. One of these, leading to the

site at Hill 62 in Belgium, is over a mile long, and the other, leading to the Vimy site, is over two miles long. The last-mentioned road involved the clearing out and covering over of twenty dug-outs, some of which were forty feet deep. It is true that other Dominions have erected memorials. The most important of these, that of South Africa, is a fine masonry structure surmounted by one group of bronze figures. Another, that of Newfoundland, consists of a single bronze figure of a caribou. New Zealand has erected several memorials, but these are of simple character, obelisk form. In considering the time required to complete, none of these is comparable with the Vimy Memorial. Australia has a fine site at Villiers-Bretonneux, but that Dominion has considered it inadvisable to begin its memorial as yet.

It has been recognized that the Vimy Memorial will be an example of the standard which Canadians hold in a matter of this kind. If it is, as it is expected to be, an object of justifiable pride, the matter of little time more or less taken in its construction will be unimportant. If it is faulty in any preventable way, the members of the Commission and others engaged cannot excuse themselves by saying it might have been better if they had had a little longer to complete the work. The Canadian public may be assured that nothing is being left unturned to realize in stone Mr. Allward's magnificent conception, and thus to place on Vimy Ridge, which will be forever associated with the name of Canada, a memorial that will be not only worthy of the events which took place there, and Canada's whole effort in the Great War, but also a fine expression of artistic taste.

PROVINCIAL FINANCES

A booklet just issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics deals with the revenues and expenditures of the different provinces for the years 1930 and 1931. The provinces combined had total revenues in 1931 of \$179,143,460, as against \$186,154,910 in 1930, a falling off of almost exactly nine million dollars, or about five per cent. There were smaller revenues in all the provinces except Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The revenues of Nova Scotia totalled \$8,104,602, against \$7,862,066, the increase wholly due to larger receipts from mines and mining royalties and the new item as a result of the adoption of the act providing for the sale of liquor under Government control. The increase in the revenues of Prince Edward Island is but a few hundred dollars, the totals being \$1,149,570 against \$1,146,746. The revenues of New Brunswick reached \$5,990,914 last year, against \$6,583,728 the previous year, the falling off being almost entirely in smaller receipts from forests and lands.

On the expenditures side Quebec is the only province in which the outlay expenditures did not exceed the income. On the per capita basis Quebec also had the best showing, the total per head being \$14.21, against \$15.98 in Nova Scotia and Ontario, \$16.51 in Prince Edward Island, \$16.56 in New Brunswick, \$19.75 in Saskatchewan, \$20.70 in Manitoba, \$24.63 in Alberta and \$40.23 in British Columbia. The average per head of expenditures for all the provinces was \$18.13 in 1930 and \$18.41 last year.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The teaching staff of St. John's College, of the University of Manitoba, whose funds have been lost in the sensational maladministration case which is now exercising the province, have voluntarily accepted a salary cut of fifty per cent. so that the college work may be carried on. The sacrifice is a heavy one for the professors and lecturers to make and should be appreciated by the public.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Not long ago when a British headmaster said the modern schoolboy was "cowardly, untruthful vain and dishonest," Dr. James E. West, chief Scout executive of the Boy Scouts of America, denied the statement most emphatically. Now Dr. John Grier Hibben, who retired recently as president of Princeton University, asserts that the college students of today are better men than their fathers were on leaving college. Modern youth frequently finds delight in shocking the elders. It likes to be irresponsible, irritating and confusing. That is its traditional attitude. Still, somehow, it manages to keep those who know it best among its most loyal defenders.

Americans like to take a "poke" at the British telephone system which they think is not so efficient as their own, but there are times when they have to "hand it" to the British. The "Telex" system as it is called, has been installed for use in the London area, and already hundreds of applications have been received for it. Within two months it will be extended to the leading cities of Great Britain. "Telex" is a system of typewriting by an attachment to the ordinary telephone. When you want to send a letter to a business firm, or a friend, you call up the other number in the ordinary way, identify each other by word of mouth, throw a switch at each end, and then type your message on a keyboard. The message is instantaneously reproduced at the other end, just as fast as it can be typed. The cost of the device is \$250 a year including all servicing required. In this field Britain leads the world.

It was no slight upon Alderice, Chatterjee, Havenga, O'Kelly and Coates to say that the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa was dominated by the three busy B's—Baldwin, Bennett and Bruce. Upon the shoulders of these three Empire Statesmen rested the main burden of the job of finding the workable formula for Empire trade development. To their names should be added that of another industrious B—Beatty, of the C. P. R.

Let nobody assume because there is the prospect of a preference in the British market, that any old thing will do. Canada can compete in quality and steadily enlarge the quantity, but no slipshod method will serve. The British is an exacting market. It can afford to be, and only by meeting its reasonable demands may Canada get the full and steadily growing benefit made possible by agreements made at the Imperial Conference.

As a result of what has been accomplished at Ottawa, there should be a gradual return to better conditions. Certainly Canada should feel the impetus of the preferences that have been granted here in the markets of the United Kingdom by the removal of regulations that have interfered with Canadian trade in cattle and potatoes, and by the elimination of unfair Russian competition, while Great Britain and the Dominions will also receive the benefit of the important concessions. With John Bull's family pulling together, the Empire boat should go forward to new triumphs.

The Star of Windsor, Ontario, says: There have been few Prime Ministers of Canada who have been such prodigious workers as Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett. Few people know the long hours he puts in at his office, and to those who do know, it is a constant source of concern. He has, however, one saving grace. He makes it an unalterable rule that he will do no work on Sundays. This is less a concession to the moralities than to Mr. Bennett's ideas of regular living. He believes that every man should have a full 24 hours of leisure out of each week, if he is to do good work. Even during the stress and strain of the Imperial Economic Conference, he adhered to his rule, refusing to do any work on the Sabbath.

A young Tennessee lawyer, fresh from a long term of intensive study, and without the advantage of special training, defeated splendid swimmers whose preparation for the contest began early in the summer, and whose physical condition was as nearly perfect as it could be made by expert handling. Was this a triumph of mind over matter? The man of trained habits of thought, ambitious for success in his profession, is enabled to subdue the promptings of his

That Body of Yours By James W. Barton, M.D. REGULAR AND IRREGULAR DOCTORS

On one hand we have a man who has attended public or grammar school, high or preparatory school, two to four years at college getting a trained mind, who then studies medicine for six years acquiring a knowledge of physics and chemistry; anatomy—the study of the body-tissues and organs; physiology—the study of the workings of the body; pathology—the study of the "sick" body; therapeutics or the application of treatment to the sick body; surgery, the use of the knife to prevent death; hygiene and sanitation. He is graduated as a physician and is called "doctor." On the other hand we have a man who has not passed all the grades of the public or grammar school, no high school, university, or medical college training, attends or may not attend some special school of treatment for a short time, and he is called or at least calls himself "doctor."

Is it any wonder that the physician who by years of study and the application of this study has equipped himself to treat human ailments and give advice on preventive medicine loses patience with this other "doctor" who has not had the training that would make his treatment safe or helpful. The regular doctor cannot understand how intelligent people can consult one of these "irregular" doctors.

However Dr. Dietrich Klemptner, Chicago, suggests that research workers in colleges should study these other non-medical forms of healing and treatment and find out how much, if any, good there is in them. There is some good in them or there is not. If there is any good in them, that good, however small, should not be swept aside, but should be brought to light, and made use of by the medical profession.

If the medical students were taught what these irregular forms of healing consisted of, then they could quietly and with full knowledge of the facts tell their patients about them and the patients could use their own judgment as to whether or not to consult these "irregulars."



V. D. F.

You from Givency, since no years can harden The beautiful dead, when holy twilight reaches The sleeping cedar and the copper beeches, Return to walk again in Wadham garden We, growing old, grow stranger to the college, Symbol of youth, where we were young together, But you, beyond the reach of time and weather, Of youth in death forever keep the knowledge. We hoard our youth, we hoard our youth, and fear it, But you, who freely gave what we have hoarded, Are with the final goal of youth rewarded— The road to travel and the traveller's spirit. And therefore, when for us the stars go down, Your star is steady over Oxford Town. —Unknown.

The ideal make up for such a competition, of course, is the old one of the sound mind in the sound body. Those contenders who became utterly exhausted physically, whose bodies failed to respond to the lash of the mind, had no alternative other than to quit. It is those who were able to continue to the end to whom speculation applies as to what it was that enabled them to

Press of the Dominion Extols Ottawa Conference

We have been watching the editorial comments on the Imperial Conference in Canadian newspapers from the Atlantic to the Pacific and have been impressed by their almost unanimous enthusiasm over what was accomplished at Ottawa. Only about half a dozen extreme Liberal newspapers of an outworn school have had a word to say in criticism of the Conference and most of these are timorous about belittling the Anglo-Canadian and other agreements for fear of offending the business and farming interests in their own communities.

The Sydney Post, published in Cape Breton, proclaims the conference an epoch-making event in Empire development on the ground that it has deepened old trade channels and created new ones. The Windsor, N. S. Tribune says that "the Imperial Economic Conference has been an unqualified success" in that it has opened the door for wide expansion of Empire trade, which will bring a full measure of benefit to Nova Scotia. The Halifax Herald holds out great hopes of the advantages which will accrue to the eastern Maritime provinces. The Saint John, N. B. Telegraph-Journal and the Charlottetown Guardian call upon their people to be up and doing in order to reap the profits made possible by the agreements.

Coming to Ontario, most of the city papers have already been quoted in warm appreciation of what was accomplished in four weeks' time at Parliament Hill. In the words of the St. Catharines Standard, "there is universal satisfaction and confidence that Premier Bennett achieved a great success in the face of tremendous difficulties. There has been nothing like it in the history of Canada and time will show the benefits derived from disinterested statesmanship." The Galt Daily Reporter comments with approval upon the magnificent experiment that will now be made as to how units of the British Empire can be mutually helpful. The Kitchener Record thinks that Premier Bennett deserves the thanks of Canada and the Empire for what was accomplished in so short a time at the Federal capital. The Bowmanville Statesman quotes with approval Hon. T. L. Kennedy's statement as to the very extensive advantages which will flow to the farmers of Ontario from the Anglo-Canadian agreement.

In the view of the Chatham News, the signing of the agreement has rendered the prospects for Canada's farmers brighter than they have been in many years. In the words of the Simcoe Reformer, the signing of the trade pacts at Ottawa will be hailed as the dawn of a brighter day in the commercial relations of Canada and Great Britain. It adds that the Ottawa conference has made history by consolidating the Empire as one economic unit and ensuring the cultivation of Empire trade channels to the fullest possible limit.

In the language of the Meaford Mirror, "the Empire is moving on. The greatest thing is the unanimous desire of its leaders and its people that it shall continue in unity and progress." The Smiths Falls News-Record believes that prosperity will return through the new development of Empire solidarity, which was in evidence at Ottawa. The Welland Port Colborne Tribune remarks that the market for Canada's products has been greatly enlarged and that the benefits to accrue will be determined largely by the efforts which Canadian producers put into the task of preparing their goods and rendering them acceptable to consumers. This is an aspect of the situation which is dwelt upon by many newspapers. As Hon. Robert Weir, Hon. G. Howard Ferguson and Hon. T. L. Kennedy have pointed out, if Canada wishes to obtain a secure hold upon the markets of the United Kingdom, now open to it, it must build up and maintain a constant stream of high quality goods.

The Picton Gazette declares that very definite and concrete results have been achieved. The Goderich

Star observes that the success of the Imperial Conference is surely a feather in the cap of the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, who will go down in history not only as a great Canadian statesman but as a great Imperial statesman. The London Free Press has said: "The agreements will not bring a new heaven and a new earth overnight. It is, however, a great beginning. The Empire is now on the uproad. The whole spirit of the conference is one of hope. It should bring new confidence to a troubled world. The sentiment of the conference was promotion of mutual trade, not antagonism to the rest of the world. The British Empire has set an example to the nations."

The Fort William Times-Journal concludes a long leader with these sentences: "While the delegates have gone home in full assurance that their work has been crowned with success, the spirit of Ottawa must be maintained and kept alive through the years in order that the fullest measure of good may accrue to the Empire and to the world at large." That is very true. The final results of the conference depend upon the manner in which the agreements reached are carried out. We believe that every unit of the Empire will live up to the agreements, to which it signed its name, in the spirit as in the letter, and that the treaties will thus become far-reaching in their benevolent effects.

Travelling farther west we find the Winnipeg Free Press rather truculent and sulky in its attitude towards the results obtained by the conference, though those results are in large measure what the Free Press has been demanding for a generation or more. The Winnipeg Tribune forecasts a sharp trade revival throughout the Empire as a result of the Ottawa deliberations and it predicts a fresh re-establishment of stable economic conditions in Canada to be followed by an influx of British and American capital for the development of our natural resources. In the words of the Brandon Sun, Mr. Neville Chamberlain saw the Empire reach the goal striven for by his father, Joseph Chamberlain, so many years ago. It feels that the conference will be productive of good results to Canada and the rest of the Empire.

The comment of the Calgary Herald is that the farmers of Western Canada now have good reason to hope for betterment in their economic condition at an early date. In another article the same newspaper has observed that the conference laid the foundation of economic unity for the British Empire, more tangible and practical than any heretofore conceived. The Vancouver Province expresses sober satisfaction over what was done at Ottawa. "The conference has done something feasible and substantial towards larger and freer Empire trade. The nations of the Empire as between themselves have lowered some of the trade barriers which had grown up between them. It ought to be possible because of this conference for Canada to sell a larger portion of goods in the Empire next year than this year."

The Vancouver Sun says that if the new tariff board about to be appointed sets to work with the idea of building trade, a permanent relationship will be established of infinite value to the country. The Victoria Colonist notes that Mr. Bennett has seen his fondest hopes brought within realization. "He has, in fact, laid the foundation of a new era of economic so-

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PUBLIC FORUM BETTER ROADS ARE HERE Sir, I read a few days ago a letter from a taxpayer to the Editor of the Patriot. This gentleman, who pretends to travel all the roads of the Province, has never seen the highways in a more terrible condition. I wonder if this gentleman has been blind for the past four years and has had his eyesight suddenly restored. It appears that way to me, because I am certain if he could have seen the deplorable condition of the roads when the present government came into power, he would not venture to criticize a government that is doing its utmost to put the roads of our province in decent shape, and at the same time do this work as economically as possible. Furthermore, I would like to advise this taxpayer that if the Liberal Government bought machinery that is similar within the Empire. In doing so he has displayed that wider statesmanship for which there is an imperative call at this time in world affairs. If the newspapers of the Dominion reflect popular opinion throughout the country as they generally do, it may fairly be said that 90 per cent. of the people of Canada are pleased with the results of the Ottawa conference and that they look forward with confidence to the benefits which will flow from that conference—gradual at first, but in an ever increasing volume of satisfactory results. Tasmanian beans, three to five feet long and weighing 10 to 12 pounds, are being cultivated in Belmont, Mass., by Coy Orsett. The bean, when sliced and cooked tastes like veal steak. In Tasmania, Orsett said, the plant blossoms during the day, but in Massachusetts it reaches full bloom at midnight. I am, Sir, etc. ANOTHER TAXPAYER. LOBSTERS WANTED Sir, I will appreciate it very much if you will send me the names of one or two parties who would be in a position to furnish transportation of lobsters, and possibly other sea foods, from your section to this port. We are in a position to buy lobsters and pay cash for them upon delivery here—and we, in turn, will transport them from Machiasport to the Boston and New York markets in large motor trucks carrying six to eight tons each. With assurances that I will very much appreciate any assistance you can give me in this respect, I am, Sir, etc. LEON G. CATES Machiasport, Maine. Sept. 5, 1932. (Lobster men should get in contact direct.—Ed. G.)

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