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CALLING MARS

(Dominion News Service) LONDON, July 23.—Scientists are preparing for the great experiment of "addressing" Mars. The day of the attempt will be August 23. Mars will be then 34,600,000 miles from the earth, or nearer than any other period during the past hundred years. Apparatus of great electrical power is to be erected on the summit of the Jungfrau in Switzerland and signals at a wave length of 15,000 metres will be transmitted into space, carefully gauged, intervals. Scientists who believe that Mars is inhabited declare that the earth may receive return signals.

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THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1924

ELECTION THIS YEAR?

Will there be an election this year? This is the question that is causing considerable speculation at present. Premier Mackenzie King, when asked the question in the House of Commons, gave an evasive reply which meant nothing or might mean anything. He was like Pat, who, when brought into Court and was asked the usual question, "Are you guilty or not guilty?" replied "Sure, how can I tell till I hear the evidence?" The evidence as to the wisdom or unwisdom of bringing on the elections is now being heard. The members have returned to their constituencies and are busily engaged in feeling the pulse of the people.

What these members will find out now the people generally have learned long since, that is, that matters are rapidly growing worse in Canada. The people will recall the promises made in the Speech with which His Excellency the Governor General opened the recent session of parliament. According to this speech taxation was going to be reduced, the revenue was going to meet expenditure, trade had grown immensely, employment was sufficient to meet the growing demands of industry, a rigid economy was to be practised, &c., &c. None of these things have materialized. Trade has fallen off, with the exception of an increase in the export of raw material, unemployment has driven hundreds of thousands out of Canada, the reduction in duties has caused a serious decline in revenue, the debt of the country has greatly increased and is still increasing, instead of the rigid economy promised, there has been a veritable orgy of extravagance.

This is what the members are going to be told when feeling the pulse of the people. They will also be told that the longer the Mackenzie King government remains in power the worse its chances will be for re-election. Many of them, we believe the great majority of the members, will be told that neither now nor hereafter will they have a chance for re-election. These latter will advise postponing the election till the last possible moment and so give them an opportunity to get another \$4,000. Those who think they have a chance for re-election now—and "hope springs eternal" in the breast of the politician, will want an election before things get worse than they are.

The usual shouting will be indulged in by the Liberal press and the Liberal politicians. The "balancing" of the budget will be extolled, the wicked Senate which balked the Liberal game, will be denounced as a group of obstructionist Conservatives, and the people will be told that they are all satisfied with the Robb budget and with the great industrial revival which if not now here, is coming!

Will there be an election? The answer lies between those who hope and those who have no hope. In the circumstances ordinary prudence, if there is any left, will dictate an election this fall and extra emphasis on the blowing.

SOMETHING WRONG

There are in Charlottetown today, we are informed, more buildings in need of repair, such as re-shingling and re-painting, than ever before. The reason given for this is that the cost of such repairs is too great, that in many cases the owners cannot afford it and, in others, that the building is not worth the outlay. Thus, many buildings which might be saved are allowed to deteriorate year after year and will eventually be too far gone for repair.

The high cost is an all round one. Lumber is several times dearer than it was some years ago, nails

also are very much higher and the cost of labor added to all the rest makes repairing and building almost prohibitive.

Because of this condition many laborers are idle as there is a natural unwillingness to work for less than the regularly recognized scale of wages. Laborers quite reasonably feel that to cut down their rate of pay will mean an all round cut in wages. Besides this, the cost of living is so high that a man cannot support a family on much less than the present rate of pay and that at regular employment the year round.

There is practically a deadlock in employment at present and every effort should be made to break it. There must be some give and take on both sides. No property owner will deliberately allow his property to go to ruin through arbitrary refusal to pay a reasonable wage and no laborer can afford to remain idle and have his family in want through an arbitrary demand for a wage that an employer cannot afford to pay.

The high cost of labor in the lumber woods, in the lumber mills, in the factories has set the cost of lumber and other building material soaring so that building has become practically impossible. When added to the cost of material is an exorbitant wage bill, work necessarily comes to an end. This is the situation today. There must be an all round lowering of wages and with that lowering will come a reduction in the cost of living. Under reasonable conditions there is work enough for every man and woman in the country but when wages reach an exorbitant figure, prices become exorbitant, the cost of living rises beyond the reach of ordinary income and a deadlock and unemployment are inevitable.

SPLIT MILK

Sir Henry Thornton, on being asked what he thought of the Crow's Nest Pass arrangement by which freight concessions are given to the Western provinces, replied guardedly that naturally he was not in favor of reducing freight rates below cost but it was no use crying over spilt milk, the deficiency would have to be made up. This is good philosophy, the philosophy of a good business man who refuses to be discouraged by misfortune but is ready to "keep on going on."

The milk was spilt all right, the milk that is being provided for the Canadian National Railways by the Canadian people. Who spilled it? Not the railway, who spilled it? Thornton. The government spilled it to please their masters in the west, the Progressives and the two new western members who are to be elected at the next general election.

And who are to replace the milk that has been spilt? Eastern Canada of course. The deficit caused by carrying freight under cost on the western lines must be made good by the rest of the railway and the rest of the railway is in the east.

Any dissent between eastern and western Canada would be a misfortune to Canada and might lead anywhere. Yet the west is courting such dissent by demanding everything in sight for themselves at the expense of the rest of the Dominion. They have held the King government between finger and thumb and compelled it to disgorge. The time may come, and come soon, when the rest of Canada will refuse to be dominated by Progressives or by any other group or section and if the recent bleeding process is continued the sooner that time comes the better it will be for Canada, east and west.

Notes By The Way

We have a good form of government in Canada. Our people as a rule are intelligent, industrious and thrifty. They deserve the best administration of government and law that can be given them. But an evil has crept into our system of representative institutions. It is not new, it has not been confined to one political party. But it is an evil that has grown from year to year and has produced its worst fruits in recent years and under the party that is now in power in Canada. We refer to the practice of railroading through Parliament votes of scores of millions of money in the last hours of the session.

That was what was done on Friday and Saturday last in a session which lasted from 11 o'clock on Friday morning until 5:30 o'clock on Saturday morning. More than half of the 236 members had left Ottawa and gone to their homes before that. It was under these conditions that the estimates for the departments of Health, Militia and the Post Office, none of which had been touched so far, were voted and many items belonging to other Departments which had been held over. As fast as items after them were read by the chairman of committee supporters of the government shouted "Carried" and that ended the transaction.

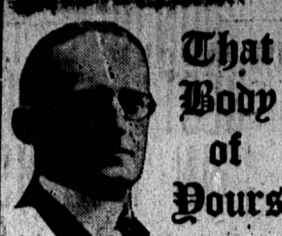
This sort of thing has been done before in days when the national outlay was small. This year an expenditure of \$445,000,000 was provided for, involving an outlay per head of our population far in excess of what the highly taxed people of England, Australia or the United States are called to pay. Although those countries are rapidly paying off their public debts while the Canadian debt mounts upward from year to year. The millions are tossed about in Ottawa as if they were too trivial for account. In a mad orgy of spending half the revenues of the nation are voted away by half the members of the House, as fast as the items can be read.

To sober thoughtful persons this hurried and wasteful recklessness is rather appalling. A city council or a county council is a prudent deliberative body compared with our national Parliament. It all goes to show with how little wisdom and in what slipshod fashion the Dominion is governed. But just why the Canadian Parliament should lead all the other parliaments within the Empire in financial recklessness is something that has yet to be explained or accounted for. That such is the fact is quite beyond dispute.

During the recent session a resolution was adopted by the Senate in favor of having a fixed date, preferably in January, for the annual meeting of Parliament. Much can be said in favor of the proposed change and but little can be reasonably urged against it. It would be businesslike. Almost all monetary institutions and the thousands of other business organizations have a fixed date for their annual meetings and accounting. So do the state legislatures across the border. With a fixed date for Parliament to meet there would be no excuse for any department not being in readiness for the meeting. The Government would know when its measures must be ready.

Meeting at the call of the Cabinet as is the present practice is invariably delayed by one or more laggard departments which are unready because the date of meeting is uncertain. Many members of Parliament have important business interests of their own and the knowledge of the time when they must be called to Ottawa would enable them to make arrangements so that public and private duties would not conflict. In like manner all persons having business of any sort with Parliament would benefit by the knowledge. Parliament would also meet earlier in the year and he would be hoped that the sessions would be shortened, and members could count on being able to return home in time for their spring activities.

Two of the three federal bye-elections now due are announced and the dates have been fixed. Both are in the province of Quebec. A seat is also vacant in Ontario, that of West Hastings, vacated by the conservative member Mr. Porter in protest against the white washing of Hon. Mr. Murdoch, the Minister of Labor. The date for filling this vacancy has not yet been announced. It looks very much as if the delay is intentional in order that ground more favorable to the government may first be tested. The



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Yours

THE EFFECTS OF HEAT ON THE MIND

One of the slang expressions used in bygone days in describing an erratic individual was "He is crazy with the heat." Is there any basis for this expression?

Yes. As a matter of fact you can put up with an occasional day of heat, or a couple of days, but a period of prolonged heat is bound to effect you.

You see everything seems to be out of order. The high temperature begins to effect your appetite. You don't fancy the ordinary foods. You look about for something "different," something that may tempt your appetite.

You put into your stomach unusual combinations, with distressing results upon your digestive apparatus.

Perhaps a diarrhoea is set up that wears you out almost completely.

An "itchiness" will come over the skin and you'll find yourself rubbing and scratching, so that an ordinary "thrifty heat" will become almost an eczema.

You are thirsty all the time and consume gallons of water.

And then added to all this is the inability to secure a good sound sleep at night.

You can readily see, that with all this combination, you are going to be nervous and likely irritable.

You will say and do things that you wouldn't do when the heat wave is not present.

Now you are in good ordinary health and yet behave in this manner, so what about a person who is not robust, whose whole body including the nervous system, is below par.

Why he simply is so erratic irritable, unreasonable, with a violent temper, that you are not surprised at the expression, "crazy with the heat." In fact there can be no question but that the further north you travel the more even tempered are the people.

And so don't be surprised, that if there is a period of prolonged heat, you find yourself "off your food," unable to sleep, a little irritable with everybody on the street or on the road.

And finally if you have any real mental work to do, that can be postponed for a short period, it would be well to leave it, because you'll not do justice to yourself, nor to your subject matter.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

MY SAILOR LAD

The wish had ever fill'd his heart To sail that broad blue sea; Along the shore, The breakers' roar Was calling him from me.

The angry billows beckoned him; He answer'd to their call, For Mystery's voice Had made the choice; He left us, one and all.

One summer morn was dawning bright, My laddie sail'd away. And from the strand As we had plann'd, I watch'd for him each day.

Each rising sun had brought me hope, Each setting sun, despair; But Time roll'd on, Till years had gone, No answer to my pray'r.

Thou boundless sea, where is my boy, So young and fair—my lad? Ah! now I know! Thy murr'ing low, Has told the story, gad.

—Lois Reynolds.

SIX HOURS AMONG SHARKS

(By Dominion News Service) LONDON, July 21.—Over six hours swimming in shark-infested waters in a rough sea during a thunderstorm. This was the ordeal of a native fisherman in the Bay of Bengal, reported by the S.S. Methura on arrival at Hull a few days ago. Flying into a temper, he leaped overboard, but the incident was not reported at once. When Captain Hanna heard of it he steamed back, and the man was sighted waving his jacket, and rescued after being in the shark-infested waters for six hours. Heavy squalls, with lightning and thunderstorms, prevailed at the time. The man's feet of sand were regarded as almost unique in sea-faring annals.

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Your Birthday

JULY 24—You often need to cultivate self-control. You are kind, sympathetic, loving and lovable, and devoted to your family. You are a little inclined to argue and are very persistent in maintaining your position. You are generally well liked. Try to see the other person's side of the question. Never give way to jealousy. Your birthstone is the ruby, which means contentment. Your flower is the water-lily. Your jockey color is green.

| | |
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| Plano solo "Scherzo E Flat Minor" Chopin | a. "Masur" Folk Song |
| Helen Mont | b. "Krakowlak" Moniuszko |
| Reading, "Last Leaf" Ward | St. Mary's Church Choir |
| Sylvia Mont | Reading, "A. the Photographer" Walker |
| Soprano and baritone duet from opera "Halca" Moniuszko | Sylvia Mont |
| Clara Skumarska, soprano | Tenor solo, "Aria" from opera "Halca" Moniuszko |
| Vincent Dembski, baritone | Waclaw Olczewski |
| Plano solos | Plano solo, "Hungarian Rhapsody No. 12" Liszt |
| a. "Valse E Minor" Chopin | Helen Mont |
| b. "Craoievne Fantastique" Paderewski | Chorus selection, "Excerpts from opera 'Halca' Moniuszko |
| Helen Mont | St. Mary's Church Choir |
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