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EMPTY RHETORIC

"Disastrous Record of the Administration Dealt with by Mr. L. R. Allen, Hon. W. M. Lea, A. E. McLean, M. P., and Thane A. Campbell speaking at Tuesday's Convention." — Patriot heading, Sept. 22.

"Hon. Mr. Lea said that as former Premier he had no apology to make for the acts of his administration. In fact, the Conservatives have shown their commendation of it by copying the Liberal policy as far as they could."

It is difficult to understand the logic of one who criticises as "disastrous" a policy claimed to have been copied from a policy for which, he says, no apology is required!

But why expect logic from disgruntled politicians? Sound and fury, the campaign weapons of Mr. Lea and his cohorts at the last provincial election, are again in evidence in the reported speeches of the party stalwarts at Miscouche.

No wonder, for the setting of such a performance, Summerside was deemed to be altogether inadequate! Meanwhile, the electors may well ask, what is all the commotion about? Are not these the very same gentlemen who, a year ago, were dismissed from office for incompetency and extravagance?

The present Government, despite unprecedented difficulties in the financial situation bequeathed to it, in the heavy fire losses subsequently incurred at Falconwood and Prince of Wales College, in the demise of one of its most active Ministers and the illness, caused by over work, of the Premier himself, has carried on with commendable enterprise. It has maintained the public services. It has expanded the facilities for public health administration, devoted attention to the requirements of our basic industry, agriculture, and launched new enterprises such as the programme of extensive road travelling with Island material.

So much for the facts. And it is by the facts, and not by windy rhetoric or vituperative abuse that the electors are most likely to be guided in deciding between the respective merits of the present candidates in the Fifth District of Prince.

A YEAR OF PROGRESS

Nineteen thirty-two, says the Monetary Times, will probably go down in history as one of the most momentous years of modern times. Not only, according to eminent economic authorities have the most acute phases of the depression passed but greater progress has been made towards international co-operation by the nations of the world than in any year since 1913.

It has been a year of conferences. First we had the disarmament conference at Geneva, which, while inconclusive in its results, could not be said to be a failure in that it saw many of the nations most vital

ly concerned more ready to see the other's viewpoint than they had been previously.

Then there was Lausanne which was a distinct success in that it brought France and Germany into greater accord than they have been for years.

The Imperial Conference at Ottawa has undoubtedly done much to further a spirit of co-operation among the nations of the British Commonwealth.

Then we have still to come the World Economic Conference at London from which great things are expected. If it can bring about an adjustment of tariff policies throughout the western world and further develop the spirit of co-operation its results will be tremendous.

There are of course obstacles which the world in general has to face. One is the Eastern situation which is not at all satisfactory while the attitude of the United States on reparations is not yet settled. It is evident, however, that everything cannot be expected to happen at once but such progress as has been made is ground for satisfaction.

EMPIRE TRADE TREND

While Canada's exports to Great Britain increased from \$7,275,569 in April this year to \$17,454,056 in August, our trade with the Antipodes also shows a heartening increase, and illustrates beyond challenge the value to Canada of the new trade agreements with Australia and New Zealand. Other countries within the Empire with whom our trade has increased include South Africa, West Africa, India, Newfoundland and Jamaica, our total export trade to Empire countries having grown from \$9,417,723 in April to \$20,906,112 in August. As already noted, if the lower world prices ruling are taken into account, the actual net increase in volume is seen to be considerably greater.

Commenting on these figures, the Montreal Star sees in them concrete evidence that the peoples of the British Empire countries have faith that the agreements drafted at the Imperial Conference will be of distinct benefit to them, and they have been willing to take chances as to the implementing of those agreements by their respective Governments. While our decreased trade with the United States must of course be accredited largely to the high American tariff wall, in regard particularly to agricultural produce, the ultimate result has been to increase our trade within the Empire. It is a good augury that before the agreements evolved at the Conference have come before the respective Parliaments for ratification, trade should have shown such a definite trend towards intra-Imperial development.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The P. L. A. Monthly, magazine of the Port of London Authority, points out that where now stands the new Lambeth Bridge, recently opened by His Majesty, there used to ply a horse ferry, from which has come the name Horseferry Road. The ferry was owned by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and was a source of considerable revenue.

It is no credit to the Liberal candidate in Fifth Prince that his speech at the nomination meeting was larded with derogatory references to his opponent. Neither was it to his credit that he endeavored to capitalize a Canadian Press statement attributed to Premier Stewart which Mr. Stewart has emphatically repudiated. It is significant of the weakness of the Opposition that resort should be made to such tactics at the very outset of the by-election campaign.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Two outrages by Chinese bandits on the Chinese Eastern Railway explain one of the chief reasons why China does not get ahead. When bands of armed robbers can derail an express train, kill and rob the passengers, and then repeat the performance the next night, it indicates that law and order are negligible quantities in the country. Other wrecks caused by bandits merely add their evidence to the case. There is supposed to be a central government in China, but it lacks authority. While regular troops may be putting down a bandit uprising in one section of the country, another group of rovers is doing its dastardly work in a distant part.

Once more presenting her plans for checking the depression and returning the country to prosperity, Miss Agnes Macphail, M. P., told a Kincardine audience: "I would take the taxes from where the money is." Then she advocated a "steeply graduated" income tax, an increase in the inheritance tax, and the issue of \$300,000,000 of Dominion money to be used by the Government for its expenses until absorbed. Mrs. Macphail is always interesting, but not always convincing. Taking the taxes from where the money is, is good! Pray where have the taxes been coming from all these years? Look at the income tax schedules now and see who is paying. Look at the inheritance tax figures and see who is paying. Of course, if the only woman M. P. had her fortune there would soon be no big fortunes to tax—they would be taxed out of existence. And then who would do the paying.—Border Cities Star.

The Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa came in the nick of time according to Viscount Ellbank, who has just made a trip across Canada. The English peer has this to say about the results at Ottawa: "The British Empire was at the parting of the ways when the Ottawa Conference was held. I think that the successes achieved there have been the cause of avoiding disintegration."

Some years ago, at the end of the Fall term, a candidate who could not answer any of the questions wrote on the paper "God knows. I don't. Merry Christmas," and sent it in. A week later he got it back with this report: "God gets 100 per cent. You get nothing. Happy New Year."

In between bursts of fighting and putting down Chinese bandits, the Japanese are going ahead with carefully laid plans for the development of Manchuria. They have chosen Rashin in Korea to be a seaport that will give them an outlet from Manchuria. Rashin is just 100 miles south of the Russian port of Vladivostok. The Japanese are to link it to Manchuria with a railway 100 miles long. Work is already started on the line. While the League of Nations puzzles about the future of Manchuria, Japan has no doubts nor fears. The Japanese are going right ahead to open up the territory and to use it for the advantage of Japan. There have been wars in China and Manchuria for years. These will continue. But while the fighting proceeds, Japan is following her planned course. Only armed force will drive her out of Manchuria. And no one is expressing any keen desire to tackle the Japanese in a war in that area.

Walking is perhaps not as extensively indulged in by Canadians as by the people of the British Isles, and this may account for lack of consideration given to footpaths in this country as compared to England and Wales. There, walkers are well organized and have just won a battle for the preservation of some thousands of paths along the more travelled roads, which were in danger of elimination to make way for motor facilities. The preservation bill had been before the House of Commons and the Lords for a number of years and has now been passed into law. It is a victory for beauty and the rights of non-motor owners as well as for the public safety.—Toronto Telegram.

Unable to find any other solution for her unemployment problem, Italy will introduce the five-day week. This solution offers many difficulties, both economic and moral. The addition of a day's holiday brings certain inconveniences which health statisticians try to refute. An extra workless day will increase the thirst for pleasures and indolence which are part of the human character. Unemployment and repeated holidays are for most people a training in laziness, a free training where the pupil becomes his own professor. And, from a religious point of view, we have only to ask the question: Is the Lord's Day better observed because it is preceded by a holiday or a half-holiday?—Le Droit, Ottawa.



That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

STROKE

Perhaps you are afraid of a stroke, a paralytic stroke, because you have learned that your blood pressure is high. Dr. H. O. Gunewardine, Great Britain, after observations on 150 cases of stroke with high blood pressure, tells us that strokes often attributed to shock, exertion, or emotion, are the result of an already existing pressure, which was increased by the influence of this shock, exertion, or emotion.

Further, although the blood pressure in a normal middle-aged individual is about 135 or 140, when the arm cuff of the blood pressure instrument is tightened up by air, pressures of 200 or over may not mean anything serious, if the pressure without the cuff—the natural pressure—is under 115. When the cuff is tightened by air it is called the systolic pressure, and when the air pressure is removed, the natural pressure of the blood against the blood vessels is called the diastolic pressure.

As you know everybody in speaking of blood pressure, speaks of the systolic or the high reading, and Dr. Gunewardine, and practically all research physicians are more concerned with the diastolic or the natural blood pressure.

Therefore those individuals who have been worrying about systolic blood pressure of 180 to 200 or more should first learn whether or not their diastolic blood pressure is 115 or under, because strokes occur very rarely under 115.

Another interesting point observed is that stroke occurs more often in those cases with high blood pressure which show neither an enlarged heart nor symptoms of heart failure, and occurs very rarely in those cases where the heart is actually enlarged and where there are symptoms of heart failure.

This means that the individual with actual enlargement of the heart, and active signs of heart disease—shortness of breath, swollen feet—is not likely to have a stroke of paralysis.

What is the lesson from these observations?

Stroke occurs most commonly in people who continue to work or play in defiance of their high diastolic pressure, without taking any thought of how easily a stroke may occur.

The thought then is that people with a high systolic pressure, but with a diastolic pressure of 115 or under are not likely to have a stroke. And even if they have 115 diastolic, rest and care may prevent a stroke.

The Poet's Corner

GRANDMOTHER

When she was old, grandmother used to sit Watching the sun-warmed fields, Serene, content. Once she had risen in the cool, pale dawn And helped to milk the cows. In early summer mornings she had churned, Worked the new butter finely smooth and dry, And packed it, slabs of gold, In brown, deep crocks, to use when winter came. Or, rocking the wood bowl back and forth, And patting with the ladle, She shaped firm rolls which she would sell in town. (She would have been ashamed To have the father buy the children's boots When he must pay for land.) And there were wild red raspberries to pick And store, sweet and thick-dripping, In wide-mouthed earthen jars Sealed with large corks and crusts of amber rosin. Hickory nuts dropped in the prickly stubble. The slowly drying, fragrant corn and pumpkin Stood by the kitchen stove when summer waned. Goddess of thrift and patient husbandry, Grandmother gathered in the garden's yield On still September days. Her hands must spin upon the great old wheel The yarn for all the stockings; How many thousand stitches did she knit In Sunday pairs, and pairs for every day? She made the quaint warm hoods

Liberal Comment

(Toronto Globe)

What Lord Hallsam told the Canadian Club of Toronto about the Ottawa Conference needs stating on every possible occasion until the restricted vision which attempts to make pro or contra political capital out of the event, or tries to find flaws in the industrial results, is overwhelmed by the larger view. Probably it will be easy for many an individual to say it has not helped him, or even has done injury. When the details are made known there is certain to be a tendency—in the words of his Lordship—meticulously to weigh whether one Dominion has got more than another, whether the United Kingdom is giving more than she receives, or gets more. Such inclination has appeared already, the fruit of individual or political selfishness declining to think in bigger terms. In all probability the agreements will find critics in every Parliament of the Empire because the spirit which the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for War credits to the Conference is lacking, or the objective sought is not desired. Lord Hallsam deserves the thanks of the Canadian people for telling "what we did at Ottawa," and the Canadian Club for affording the opportunity.

It was even enough for the legal luminary and former Attorney-General at Westminster to declare he was but giving his own personal view of what was done, for, few, if any, will doubt his competency to appraise the situation judicially, or dispute that the part he took, "however humble, in making these agreements" was the major one of brushing aside trivial obstacles and getting down to rock foundation. He told the Canadian Club he goes back "profoundly satisfied with the achievements which Ottawa has succeeded in making," although not more than "a beginning of our Empire policy."

It is in these latter words the patriots of the Empire will find satisfaction, and others will find a sting. "The Statute of Westminster," declared his Lordship, "has swept away every legal tie which unites the Empire, saving only, in the preamble of the statute, our common allegiance to his Majesty the King." "What we have done at this Conference," said Mr. Baldwin at the closing plenary session, "is to build a foundation on which we and future generations may erect as fair and stable an edifice as lies in their capacity to accomplish." A beginning has been made of a new Empire policy on the wreck of the old one, and yet a policy true to British traditions in world-wide helpfulness.

The principles enunciated as actuating the Conference in carrying out the policy of Imperial preference, it must be agreed, pave the way for fairer and freer trade, an example which the world greatly needs—by reducing tariffs on Empire goods rather than by raising tariffs on foreign goods. "We made it plain," declared the speaker, "that we regard excessive restrictions on international trade as an international evil, and we have made it plain that we in the Empire are going to set an example in trading to get rid of that evil, so far as we may." "Arbitrary restrictions piled up under a variety of names" are to be removed. Empire producers are to be put on an equality with domestic producers under a system of protection fair for both producers and consumers.

No aggregation of countries outside and sturdy dresses. She had to keep the house and bake the bread, And tend the newest baby in the cradle. Yet there was time to braid the soft rose mat. Grandmother had a saying— "Put tired on top of tired and go on."

A narrow, dreary life, you say? Ah, no! Her life was rich, simple and satisfying.

I knew it when I saw grandmother sit Resting at last from toil, Serene, content. —Mrs. Hall Linton, in Poetry Year Book.

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Empire Free Trade (London Morning Post). There was a time when we actually enjoyed Free Trade within the Empire. Paradoxical as it may seem, that advantage came to an end when this country abandoned the Corn Laws and her general system of protective duties. For the change, as it involved the withdrawal of preferences, both hurt and offended our Colonies. Canada, after bitterly protesting, retorted by raising a national tariff, which shut out British manufactures. The correspondence between the Governments at that time shows clearly that Protection in Canada (as afterwards in Australia) was the direct consequence of Free Trade in Great Britain.

Requiescat In Pace (Ottawa Journal). A brief cable despatch from London, England, announced: "Percy Fletcher composer of the score of the operetta, 'Chu Chin Chow,' which ran for five years more than a decade ago, died today at his home in Farnborough, Hampshire. He was 53 years of age." What memories such an announcement revives for many thousand Canadians! And by how much do they feel themselves indebted to Percy Fletcher! His Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, was one of the great rendezvous of the boys from Canada during the Great War. It was one of the features of their "leave to London," a haven of refuge from gueling war experiences. And there were carried back to the trenches and the deadly monotony, at times, of war drudgery, the pleasant memories of light and life and music and dancing surrounded with romance and artistry at their best. Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, the two chief figures in the presentation, became household names and the liting strains of the musical score for which Mr. Fletcher was responsible have passed into the classics of light opera.

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