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Morning Maxims In substance and effects the inner religious consciousness is the same for all men.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1933.

THE SICK LIST

Debate in the local Legislature has been considerably handicapped by the prevalence of illness among the legislators. The regrettable illness of Premier Stewart has prevented him taking his seat, while Hon. W. M. Lea has had to relinquish his leadership temporarily on doctor's orders. Other members have been temporarily laid aside, and in consequence debate has languished and discussions been desultory. Business has been speeded up however, and it is anticipated that as the budget will be brought down at an early date, the Legislature will be ready to close by the time Easter is here.

SANITATION

Councillor Day is to be commended for raising in the City Council the question of insanitary houses. Every house should be connected with the sewerage system, for, as Dr. Keeping, Health officer states, there will never be real sanitation in the city as long as there are residences without the necessary sewerage connections. It is absurd, in the extreme, that the City, in collaboration with the Red Cross, should spend a large sum of money annually on Public Health, and themselves fail to enforce the elementary Public Health regulations within their jurisdictions. Public Health, like charity, should begin at home.

CURRENCY

That there are differences in the Dominion Government on the question of currency is well known but there is no difference regarding the policy to continue for the present on the gold standard. The Prime Minister has clearly set forth the why and the wherefore of the Government's policy, and no authoritative opposition from any members of the party, or from the Leader of the Opposition has been forthcoming. This does not prevent individual members of the Government, or the front bench of the Opposition, holding and advocating diverse views should the opportunity occur for a change of policy. The Hon. H. H. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, for instance, is a believer in bi-metalism, and has not hesitated to express his convictions on the subject. Similarly, the Hon. Arthur Meighen believes in an increase in the basis of currency so that an increase in currency itself may take place, which is equivalent to saying that something more than the gold standard is desirable if there is to be a free flow of that which constitutes purchasing power. The United States has resorted to this expediency, and if we are to accept Premier Bennett's dictum that Canada belongs to the American Continent and must adopt her policy to suit American conditions, it may not be impossible that the Government is seriously considering following the example of the United States.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The annual report of the Department of Agriculture, tabled this week in the Legislature by the Hon. Mr. MacNutt, is highly encouraging from the production standpoint despite the general falling off in farm prices. As noted in the Livestock Superintendent's report, few years have been marked by such constructive development in the livestock of the Province than the year 1932. There has been a more intense study of problems concerned with greater efficiency and operation of the various units and machinery of production, and this study has established on many farms a system embodying a greatly reduced

NOTES BY THE WAY

Rev. John Samuel, an Anglican rector in Hamilton, asserts that families on city relief are driving motor cars and attending sporting events and places of amusement. Perhaps that explains why they are "deserting" in these distressful times. Nevertheless they should sacrifice some of their pleasures when they are enjoyed at the expense of others.

"The seriousness of the financial embarrassments of the United States is plain, says the Toronto Star, so plain, indeed, that it may blind the public to the true inwardness of the situation. For those embarrassments are of a temporary nature only. The United States still is the wealthiest country in the world. Her present troubles are due to a derangement of her imperfect financial machinery and of that of the world and when a few adjustments are made, as they will be made, that machinery will operate more efficiently than ever. The distressing developments of the last week have done more to convince the United States of the folly of her stubborn and stupid self-sufficiency than all the pleadings and reproaches of other countries during the last three years."

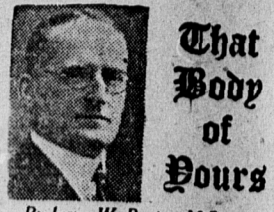
In 1904 tolls on canals were abolished. Up till then, \$28,166,203 had been received in revenue. The principal revenue derived now is from hydraulic leases, rentals, elevator fees, and wharfage charges. These amount to a little over a million dollars a year. For one year, the federal fiscal year ended March 31, 1931, operation and maintenance alone was triple that amount, costing \$3,329,616. When it is considered that the Dominion has an investment in canals of some 315 millions, it is evident that there would have to be radical changes if it were decided to place these on a sound basis from a commercial standpoint.

The case for inflation rests upon the quantitative theory of money. But it is not the quantity of money in circulation that determines the flow of business, but the rapidity with which it circulates. Now it happens that today in the United States there are some \$600,000,000 more in circulation than there were in 1929. This increase has not cured the depression, nor in fact made much of a dent in it. If the quantitative theory were sound, the pouring into the circulation of nearly a billion of additional dollars ought to have had some price-raising effect.

Canada has moved up from twelfth to fourth place in the list of countries supplying the British market. Evidence continues to pile up showing that a practical policy of Empire preference is already in full swing. Figures taken from the British Trade and Navigation reports and quoted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that Canada made far the best relative showing of any nation in the British market during 1932. To begin with in year 1932 only two major countries registered increases in the sterling value of their exports to Britain—Canada and Australia. The Australian increase over 1931 was slightly over one per cent; that of Canada 31 per cent. Other major nations lost ground. For example, the United States, in spite of retaining first place in total value of exports to Britain, saw a shrinkage of 24 per cent in her sales, as compared with the previous year.

It is taxes, increased out of all proportion with the development of agricultural, commercial and industrial activities, which are holding back business. The vices of such a system were not very apparent during the good years, but now that the crisis is raging and revenues have decreased, they are revealed with their sad consequences. It is becoming more and more evident that the authorities should reduce their budgets and take energetic steps to make the lot of the taxpayer more tolerable, for, if they do not, the depression will continue with us for many years yet. It is a painful operation; but it is better to resign ourselves to it, remembering that further delays and procrastinations will only aggravate the malady.—LaPresse, Montreal.

It is nonsense to say the world is no better than it was. Our hospitals, homes and asylums, service clubs and various other institutions and organizations in western civilization show that there has been an advance. Yet it cannot be denied that many of the people who support benevolent works do so from a selfish point of view. They join the service club or contribute to the charities, not because they have any desire to help but because it has become respectable to be associated with



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Hours

BACKACHE It is common experience that backache is the most prevalent ailment of which women in indifferent health complain, and the attention that has been paid to it is very slight considering the great amount of discomfort and ill health which it causes. This constant ache which makes life so miserable is due in the majority of cases to a simple strain of the ligaments supporting the bones in lower back and hips. Just as the ligaments supporting the arches of the feet get put on a strain causing painful feet, so the constant strain on these ligaments causes backache. And just as the treatment for painful feet is to give them rest and support by adhesive tape, or supports if necessary, so also must the ligaments of the back be rested and supported if the backache is to be relieved. While most of these cases are thin individuals, nevertheless when the abdomen gets too large in those who are overweight, its very weight pulls or drags on the ligaments supporting the back, thus causing pain. The rest treatment usually consists of lying face downwards with a pillow under abdomen which takes the strain off the back. As this is not possible in many cases, the use of a supporting belt is next best as it enables the individual to be about his or her work for a part of the 24 hours at least. There are all kinds of belts for this purpose and some corsets are made with these supports as a part of the corset itself. The main point about the support is that the front part should lift the abdomen upwards and thus straighten the lower curve in the back, and the back part should hold the back straight, also helping to straighten the curve. It is at this lower curve in the back that the ache occurs. Years ago we were taught that the use of supports was unwise because it prevented the muscles working and they would become weak. However by the use of this support the individual is kept free of pain and is able to be up and about the house or at business, thus keeping heart, lungs, stomach, and intestine and the health in general in better condition. Further, to be free of pain and able to take part in the activities of home and business means health of mind.

WORTHY OF HUMANE SOCIETY MEDALS Sir.—The splendid bravery and remarkable physical endurance shown by the two young men, Doyle and Riley, in rescuing the seal hunters, Arsenault and Richard, last week from the ice floes drifting seaward, as recorded in Monday's "Guardian"; should not be allowed to pass without official recognition of some nature. Would it not be in order to have an application made to the Humane Society for medals? If applied with full particulars of the episode, attended to by eye-witnesses, the members of the local Government would no doubt be only too glad to make the application and to present the medals if awarded. Character building is largely the result of imitation and emulation, and altogether apart from a general desire to show appreciation of unselfish bravery, advantage should, whenever possible, be taken to commend acts such as those referred to above. I am Sir, etc. H. K. S. HEMMING

PUBLIC FORUM

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Canadian Borrowing

(Mail and Empire) The existing premium of about 20 per cent on American exchange constitutes a heavy burden upon the Dominion, the several provinces and the municipalities which have to meet interest charges and principal maturities on outstanding bond issues payable in New York funds. It has been estimated that these obligations, including issues of the Canadian National Railways, aggregating several hundreds of millions of dollars, together with the bonds of corporations similarly payable, reach a total of about three billion dollars. Nearly all this indebtedness, payable as to both principal and interest in New York funds, was incurred in the decade 1920-1930. The Government of Sir Robert Borden had done its war financing in Canada. The following extracts from the last budget speech of Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance, delivered in June 1919, indicate the policy pursued at that time: "In considering the subject of our national debt an important aspect from the viewpoint of its bearing upon our financial standing and credit is whether it is owed to our own people or abroad. While national debt, no matter whether it is held within the country itself, that is to say, whether the people regarded in the aggregate owe it to individual members of the community holding their own Government's securities or whether it is owed to citizens of other nations. From the national standpoint a public debt owed to a nation's own people is not nearly so serious an obligation as if owed abroad. The interest paid upon it is disbursed at home and remains a part of the national resources. When the principal is paid there is a transfer of wealth from the Government to its own citizens which still remains an asset of the community viewed as a national unit. But if the debt is held abroad every interest and principal payment diminishes the resources of the debtor nation and increases those of the creditor nation. In this respect and bearing especially in mind the fact that before the war Canada's borrowings for federal, provincial, municipal and business purposes was principally in Britain and the United States and not in Canada, the situation as to our national debt may be regarded with satisfaction."

Maritime Transportation Commission

Hon. W. H. Harrison, K. C., president of the Executive Council, stated in the course of his address in the Legislature, that New Brunswick is prepared to bear its share of the expense in connection with the Maritime Transportation Commission. No more important announcement has been made in the Legislature for a long time. Following the findings of the Duncan Commission, legislation was passed which granted certain reductions in freight rates throughout the Maritime freight rate zone. The Maritime Transportation Commission was set up in order to safeguard any interest that the Maritime Provinces might have under such legislation, and to carefully watch any changes in railway freight tariffs which might affect the reductions granted to Eastern Canada. The members of the Commission gave their time without remuneration, and a great deal of practical work was done resulting in changes in the freight rate schedule which saved many thousands of dollars to the people of the Maritime Provinces. In spite of the fact that the Transportation Commission had justified itself from an economic standpoint, and had saved to the provinces many times its cost, it was discontinued through failure to obtain adequate financial support. New Brunswick has definitely committed herself to share in the cost of restoring the commission. Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia should not hesitate to follow the example of New Brunswick. It is safe to say that if the commission is again permitted to function, it will more than justify its existence and will again save each year to these provinces many times its cost. At the present moment there is no organization to protect the interests of those in the Maritime Provinces using Canadian railway services, and many of the injustices under which the Maritime Provinces suffered prior to the Duncan Commission are being reintroduced into the freight rate structure of this country. Without doubt the Maritime Provinces cannot afford to dispense with the services of a transportation commission; money cannot be spent to better advantage than to restore its activities. In spite of its extensive forests Australia imports nearly one half of its annual requirements of 924,000,000 board feet of lumber. presenting almost every family in the Dominion. Canada's exchange troubles have arisen mainly through a subsequent disregard of the sound general policy of making our public security issues payable in Canadian funds only. The present plight of the Canadian National Railways is due in large degree to reckless borrowings of hundreds of millions in the New York market. The lesson is plain to all the governments, provinces and municipalities of this country. The temptation of easy borrowing should be resisted. Needless borrowing for strictly productive or remunerative public undertakings should be financed to the largest extent feasible through issues payable solely in Canadian funds. Commitments in foreign money markets should be avoided as much as possible. New York especially is a particularly dangerous market—subject to quick and violent alterations in sentiment on the part of mercenary investors, and to the constant menace of adverse exchange rates.

The Unicorn

(Montreal Gazette) Among the many strange animals believed in by the mediaevalists is the unicorn. Sir Humphrey Gilbert, in the sixteenth century, writes of a unicorn's horn having been found on the coast of Tartary, and in 1577 Martin Prober found on the shore of a bay northwest of Labrador "a dead fish floating, which had in its nose a horn, straight and twisted, of length two yards, being broken at the top where we might perceive it hollow, into which some sailors putting spiders they presently died. By the virtue whereof we suppose it to be the sea unicorn." Here we have credited to the narwhal's tusk the efficacy of the unicorn's horn against poison. Ben Johnson mentions the horn as a cure for melancholy, in "Every Man Out of His Humour." "I am sorry for your heaviness; why had you no unicorn's horn?" But Webster, in "White Devil," refers to the horn and the spider: As men, to test the precious unicorn's horn, Make of the powder a preservative circle, And in it put a spider, so these arms shall charm his poison. Thus we find the powdered horn used as a cure of melancholy, black cholera and poison. The complete horn used as a drinking-cup gives immunity from poison, as also from epilepsy and an emetic. Shakespeare refers to the unicorn's tusk in "Timon of Athens," as also to the fact that the experienced hunter when charged by one, would slip behind a tree, in which the fierce animal would embed his horn. "Julius Caesar 2-1, 204: I can o'er sway him, for he loves to hear. That unicorns may be betrayed with trees. It is reserved to King James First of Scotland, in "The Kings Quair" to allude to the virtues of the horn and to the supposed capture by a virgin. Spenser in "Faerie Queene" uses the words "precious" and "rich," explaining that it was sold by apothecaries at a price more than ten times as great as that of a similar weight of gold. Was it a Rhinoceros? Was the unicorn a rhinoceros? This was the belief in the very early ages. Its proof was that the rhinoceros was jointless and that it could only be captured by virgins. Marco Polo identifies the rhinoceros: "They are not of that description of animals which suffer themselves to be taken by maidens, as our people suppose, but are of quite a contrary nature." As he had identified the rhinoceros the unicorn came back as a belief and was identified as the Indian ass. The rhinoceros does not seem to have been known in Europe until Pompey the Great celebrated his triumphs by exhibiting many eastern animals. Pliny notices it and mentions its combats with elephants. A suggestion that it may have been the result of a tale handed down from Saurian times must be ruled out. The great material collected by these intrepid explorers was displayed to admiring spectators at home, and so were responsible, in a very marked degree, for the research travellers. No doubt a great incentive to English travellers were the tales of Marco Polo and Sir John de Mandeville in the fifteenth century. Konrad von Gesner, a German, laid the foundation of modern natural history by publishing his "History of Animals, 1551. Topsell's "Four-footed Beasts," published in

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OH, EARLIER SHALL THE ROSEBUDS BLOW

Oh, earlier shall the rosebuds blow, In after years, those happier years, And children weep, when we lie low, Far fewer tears, far softer tears.

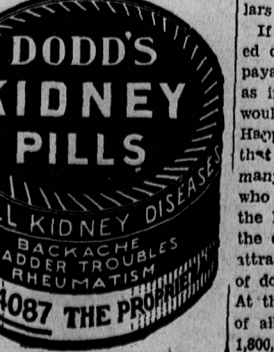
Oh, true shall boyish laughter ring, Like tinkling chimes, in kinder times! And merrier shall the maiden sing, And I not there, and I not there.

Like lightning in the summer night, Their mirth shall be, so quick and free; And oh! the flash of their delight I shall not see, I may not see.

In deeper dream, with wider range, Those eyes shall shine, but not on mine; Unmoved, unblest, by worldly change, The dead must rest, the dead shall rest.

—William Johnson Cory.

valent things. They may be morally without any principles in their own business, barely keeping within the law, but they desire to appear benevolent and law-abiding because it is the proper thing. This alone indicates that there has been an improvement in conditions in the western world; for one or two centuries ago the individual never worried as to whether he had a reputation for being benevolent or not.



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