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EMPIRE DAY

Tuesday being a school holiday, Empire and Arbour Day exercises will be held this morning in the public schools. At a time when all eyes are turning towards Ottawa as the scene of the forthcoming Imperial Economic Conference, it is particularly fitting that the meaning of Empire Day should be impressed upon all Canadian school children. It is not a day of proud boastfulness, but of reverent thanks for providential benefits enjoyed wherever British justice and civilization have penetrated.

In an authoritative booklet, entitled "The Wonderful British Empire," published in the motherland, we are reminded that the British Empire is the greatest political factor in the world; it is the most extensive Empire the world has ever seen, having an area of about 14,000,000 miles, or one quarter of the earth's land surface. It has increased by about 4,000,000 square miles during the last sixty years. The Empire includes the ancient United Kingdom, the mighty Dominion of Canada, the giant commonwealth of Australia, the vast union of South Africa and the splendid Empire of India. Its states and provinces are found on every continent and in every ocean. Its islands, scattered over the globe, both in salt and fresh water seas, are without number. Canada alone is nearly as large as all Europe and larger than the United States with all its possessions.

Of the Empire's area, it is pointed out, about 8,000,000 square miles are new countries. These new lands have about 20,000,000 inhabitants and could sustain 30,000,000. The Empire is the largest landowner on the continent of Africa, also the largest landowner in the Eastern and Western hemispheres. It possesses more of the coast line of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans than any other power. The greatest section of the Empire is in North America and the smallest in South America.

The British Empire is the most populous the world has ever seen, having about 450,000,000, or a quarter of mankind. It includes more races, languages and religions than any other Empire that ever existed.

The guiding principle of Empire rule has been liberty and justice. That is of more importance than all the material wealth and power which is comprised within its vast estate.

The strong bond between Canada and the Empire could not be illustrated better than by the fact that Empire Day is among the most popular and widely observed of Canadian holidays. Closely associated with its celebration is the observance of the natal day of Queen Victoria. It was only natural that the thought of Empire should be joined to the name of Victoria, under whose beneficent reign so much progress was made in Empire building.

IN FAIRNESS TO ALL

A special income tax on judges and members of the military, naval, air and police forces, who are exempt under the salary reduction applying to the civil service, was criticised on its introduction in Parliament last week by Hon. Ernest Lapointe and other Opposition members. Mr. Lapointe took the ground that the tax violated two great principles of British constitutional law. He alleged, (1) that it was discriminatory, and, (2) that it was taxation without representation. These contentions were answered by Premier Bennett in a statement which admirably illustrated the Prime Minister's intimate knowledge of constitutional law and his ability to express that knowledge in clear-cut phrases.

First, the Premier said he believed the salaries paid to members of the bench in Canada were wholly inadequate. In any event, these salaries could not be decreased; but when it came to a question of making a contribution to the state when others had done so and were doing so, it was proposed, in order that there might be no invidious distinction, to obtain that contribution equitably by means of a tax levy.

"We are imposing that tax" he said, "upon the judicial class, the bench, upon army, navy and police officers, the last three having offered voluntarily to have the deduction made from their salaries. How can it be said that that is discriminatory legislation any more than it could be said if I imposed a tax upon any man who went into a theatre to-night; certainly, he who goes into the theatre pays it. He who does not, does not. You discriminate, certainly, against the man who attends the theatre, and you collect from him a tax. You collect none from the man who does not go to the theatre. So far as that is concerned, the man who occupies a position on the bench contributes ten per cent, and he who does not does not."

The Premier was surprised to hear the ex-Minister of Justice suggest that the principle of taxation without representation had any application in this case. Taxation without representation never applied to individuals or their avocation. The House of Commons reflects the whole opinion of the nation; it reflects every vocation and every profession. The minute Parliament passes any taxing law, that minute it exercises the power reposed in it by the whole body of the nation. The old philosophic principle as to how the rule of majorities came into being finds expression there, and once the majority has acted then the statute is a statute of the Canadian people, and not of one party or of a majority in the House.

Members of the class mentioned in the taxation measure, Mr. Bennett added, had expressed an earnest desire that they might be able to participate in the work of rehabilitation in this period of depression by making their contribution to the revenues of Canada. It was in that sense and for that purpose that the legislation was introduced. Had it not been felt strongly that to reduce salaries would be a wholly improper exercise of power and an invasion of the independence of the judiciary, a different course of action would have been taken. The present act thus affords an opportunity, "not to render to Caesar what is due to Caesar, but by the application of a law to every member of the judiciary, and alike to every member of the military, to make that contribution which is made by members of the public service."

A MORAL TALE

A curious story was related by a speaker at a convention of the American Therapeutic Society in Brooklyn, New York, recently. It relates to a patient in Philadelphia who was "so crazy" that he accumulated a fortune before an administrator could be appointed to take charge of his affairs.

The patient, it appears, had paresis, or softening of the brain, which made itself manifest by turning him from a conservative business man into a wild Wall Street speculator. When an administrator was appointed for him, it was found that in his speculations "he had made several hundred thousand dollars which otherwise he never would have made."

There are enough morals in this little story to inspire a volume of sermons.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Duke of Montrose, Honorary President of the Scottish Trade Mission now in Canada, says: "We Scots are not going to sit down, with folded arms, and wait for things to come to us; we are going out to look for business and prosperity." There, comments a Canadian exchange, speaks the spirit that has landed the Scot among the world's greatest traders.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Senator Dill of Washington sees a warning for United States broadcasting companies in Canada's radio nationalization program. He told the Senate that if American programs were not kept up to the standard of Canada's there would be a demand for Government ownership in that country.

It is natural for humans to like the sunny, warm, lazy weather that fills them with a sense of well-being and comfort. When the "dirty" days come they step outdoors, the cold, wet wind drives a sharp cutting rain into their faces, and they turn up their collars, shiver and complain about the miserable weather. Yet it is the dirty weather that the race needs. It is the dull blustery days that makes old Mother Earth turn smiling green fields to tomorrow's sun. It is the dreary, dark rainy weather that gives her a chance to do something for the peoples of the earth. Here in Saskatchewan there can be too much sunshine. The country needs to be pelted by rain, to shiver under dark skies, to be beaten in the face of Nature in a surly mood. What we need in this country is a poet to sing a joyous lay to a dark, cold, miserable wet, bone-piercing day. There has been too much toadying to the sunshine poets.

If Great Britain has to lay down the main lines of an Indian Constitution owing to the entire failure of Indians to agree, the Constitution ought to be one in which Britain retains effective control. There must be no risk of Britain giving an arbitration that she is not in a position to see carried out and honoured. Such a risk is intensified by the decision of the Government that they are only going to lay down a provisional scheme.

It does no good, says the Boston Transcript, to say that France should yield in order to promote the greater welfare. France has its own problems of defense—or thinks it has—and any ministry which put the nation's security in jeopardy would find itself thrown unceremoniously out of office. M. Tardieu was perhaps unnecessarily brusque in rejecting the American proposal, but it is difficult to criticize him for the position he has taken. To think of the safety of one's country is, after all, merely a patriotic duty.

The interest of the modern world is economic, not political. The average man is getting to be stirred little by talk of liberty so long as he is made more prosperous every year. The Roman plebs wanted bread and circuses, and today in Germany the demand for the coming times is lower priced bread and free seats in the cinema for the unemployed. The modern man in the street wants movies, a car, and what he calls his "standard of living." Political democracy has brought neither social nor economic equality.

It is no concern of Great Britain, says the London Daily Express whether the impoverished Danube States are formed into a Customs Union or not. On the other hand, it is a matter of the greatest concern to France. These countries are her satellites. She holds the hegemony of the Danube. She has purchased their support for French power, and now she is anxious about her investment. Great Britain will not pay to retrieve French losses. Even if Mr. MacDonald is doubtful on that point, the British nation is of one mind. This is 1932 not 1914.

Once more at Washington the demand for the death penalty for kidnappers has been raised. Had it been in operation in New Jersey how would it have helped the Lindberghs? How will it help other parents in the future when a child may be stolen? It will simply reduce whatever chance may exist of recovering the child alive.

A Chicago professor says he is convinced that the social structure of the world is being crushed under a tide of individualism, which rather contradicts equally learned assertions that it is being smothered under a load of mass stereotyping. But perhaps both surmises are wrong.

The smallness of the surplus and the magnitude of the nation's effort to achieve it point to the seriousness of the situation ahead, says the London Daily Express. The limit of taxation has been reached. The limit of the Government's wage reduction has been reached. How then can we make the budget balance next year without imposing a burden that would prove ultimately disastrous? 1. By increasing production at home. 2. By developing trade with the Dominions. 3. By bringing about complete Free Trade between Britain and the Colonies.

For the second time says the Sherbrook Record (and it may be repeated by hundreds of newspapers all over Canada) we must repeat that our roads are not racecourses; they are highways. Those who want to travel at a devilish speed had better go and risk their necks at Indianapolis or some other place where motor racing is indulged in. Streets of towns and highways in the country are not intended for this purpose.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D

CHILDREN AND WEIGHT

Some months ago I watched a procession of school children—boys and girls—and as I noted their banners I knew just what section of the city each group represented.

Where the group represented a district where the people were foreign born, they were not as tall as those representing districts in which the parents were natives of this country. They were however a little more rugged in appearance; that is they had wider shoulders and hips and were a little heavier even for their age.

In other words it would appear that our children while taller than the children of previous generations are not really as strong. That they are taller has been proven by the record of one of our older preparatory schools where the grandchildren of former pupils have been found to be too tall, too long for the beds in which their grandfathers slept comfortably.

It has been found that while a few generations back the number of these long slender individuals numbered about one in five persons, it has now increased so that it constitutes about 50 per cent among the present generation of children and young people.

Now what about this type of young person from the health standpoint?

If the youngster is fond of play and the outdoors, which develops a good appetite and good digestion, he usually gets along all right, though a little below the weight of other boys his age.

However a great many of these youngsters feel tired all the time during this growing period, have no appetite, and are actually weak from lack of nourishment.

Now weight isn't everything to growing children. You know many strong 'wiry' youngsters who are really a little underweight; but in a general way weight gives a good idea of the health of the child. The underweight youngster is more likely to be nervous, feel the cold more, have more colds, stands poorly, and is more likely to develop tuberculosis than the youngster of normal weight.

And having a little extra weight right up to the age of 25 to 27 is important as our insurance companies have shown that 'in the early twenties, the death rate increases about 1 per cent for each pound below average weight for age."

So watch the rapidly growing youngster. See that he sits and stands erect. See also that he gets nourishing food and plenty of sleep. Sleep and food should increase weight, and weight is most important at this age.

The Bombay Riots

(Montreal Gazette)

For the past few months affairs in India have been comparatively quiet, thanks to the firm policy adopted by Lord Willingdon, who put teeth into the law and gave notice to the Nationalists insurgents that their civil disobendience campaign is illegal and that seditious propaganda would not be tolerated by the British authorities. The Viceroy's decree had a salutary effect. Unfortunately, however, the hostile feeling between the Hindus and Moslems is still a menace to the peaceful administration of the Indian Empire. The bitter rivalry of these communal groups ever smoulders beneath the surface, ready upon the slightest provocation to burst forth into such disgraceful scenes of mob violence as during the past few days have resulted in the killing of sixty-four persons with many hundreds wounded and whole districts in the Bombay Presidency thrown into a state of seige. Fierce fighting has taken place throughout this area, which has become notorious as a dangerous centre of disturbances of this character. It is reported that in this instance the trouble began with an attack made upon two Hindu boys by a group of Moslems.

However trivial the cause, under prevailing conditions it becomes as the match is applied to tinder, and the upflare of senseless rage speedily developed into pitched battle in a dozen different centres, the mobs arming themselves with stones, knives, pieces of iron, bottle, anything available as weapons to hand for the clashing parties to main each other and continue the fight. Widespread looting of the Moslem shops also seems to have been a feature of this mad upheaval. The authorities lost no time in dealing with the outbreak, calling out troops to aid the police forces and ordering several regiments of soldiery to Poona whilst armored cars were speeded towards the scene of the disturbances in an effort to restore law and order. It is to be hoped that the measures taken to quell the rioting will be effective and that the disorders will be stamped out, those who are responsible for this splenetic outburst being made aware that the British Raj will enforce justice and spare no pains to preserve the peace.

But the latest ugly incident connected with the ominous clashes which from time to time have occurred in India between the Hindus and the Moslems, who religiously not less than politically stand at deadly odds against each other, plainly shows that the power of the British executive is still needed in that country. These racial hatreds go deep into the soils of history. They have a tremendous hold upon the imagination of the people clamoring for supremacy in the Indian provinces and in the federated councils of the nation. The scheme of self-government for India presents all the difficulties attaching to the mooted proposals of the esfablishment of a United State of Europe along with some stubborn religious factors peculiar to the diverse racial elements in the Indian Empire itself. It will take a long time to mitigate these conflicting influences so as to prepare the way for a general plan of all-round progressive and peaceful confederation, and, as yet, there are no reassuring signs of such unified sentiment. The Lahore Swarjaists, who vehemently claim the right to speak in behalf of the whole of the people of India, have never yet conceded the claim of the Moslem minorities to a position of proportional control in the Indian provincial assemblies or in the central legislature.

Until this ticklish problem is somehow resolved and a mutual understanding reached between the two parties involved, home rule for India in any workable sense or fashion will still be a floating cloud island in the sky. In the meantime, the British executive must hold the balances with even hand, and in the interests of all sections in this vast community keep guard in behalf of the maintenance of law and order throughout the country. It is the prime duty of every responsible government, and the British executive will not shrink from the due fulfillment of this onerous task.

"It is too serious a time to talk unless something serious and constructive is said, something of real use to the community."—Cardinal O'Connell.

"By the degree of their courage and faith men themselves determine how long they will live."—Bruce Barton.

The Poets' Corner

FROM "A HYMN OF EMPIRE"

Lord, bind our realms in brotherhood,
Firm laws and equal rights,
Let each uphold the Empire's good
In freedom that unites;
And make that speech whose thunders roll
Down the broad stream of time,
The harbinger from pole to pole
Of love and peace sublime.

Lord, turn the hearts of cowards who prate,
Afraid to dare or spend,
The doctrine of a narrower state
More easy to defend;
Not this the watchword of our sires
Who breathed with Ocean's breath,
Not this our spirit's ancient fires
Which naught could quench but death.

Great God, uphold us in our task,
Keep firm and clean our rule,
Silence the honeyed words which mask
The wisdom of the fool.
The pillars of the world are thine;
Pour down thy bounteous grace,
And make illustrious and divine
The sceptre of our race.

—Archdeacon F. G. Scott.

London Police Initiative

(New York Times)

Although the New York City police department has equipped its patrol cars with radio sets to receive alarms and hurry to the scenes of reported crimes, the Metropolitan police force of London is ready to go New York one better. Scotland Yard officials, says a report from the English capital, are considering a plan to have policemen on their beats carry tiny radio receivers in their helmets so that headquarters may keep in constant touch with them.

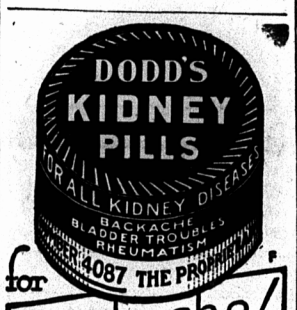
The device is in two parts. There is a miniature receiver which fits into the pocket, without inconvenience or attracting notice. It is a two-bulb set and is rendered specially powerful, according to the inventor, by reason of a new circuit which has been patented.

An inconspicuous flex runs from the receiving set to the helmet, where it connects with another miniature piece of mechanism secreted in the crown. This is not an earpiece, but serves the same purpose, conveying its message directly through the skull and not through the ear. The inventor described this apparatus as consisting of a small magnet, not quite as large as a head-phone unit. The lining of the helmet, in the form of a cone, is attached to it. When the pocket set and the apparatus in the helmet are connected, the unit, small as it is, gives reception, which is described as perfect.

This equipment, for which a minimum range of 100 miles is claimed, will increase the weight of the constable's helmet by one and one-half ounces.

At present the set is only for reception, but it is believed it could be adapted for transmission as well if a legal objection were removed. The chief use of the device would be to enable headquarters, and police cars to communicate with patrolmen on duty.

"In comparison with Europe, America seems to have a bad case of nerves."—Silas H. Strawn.



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