

IMMIGRATION

Senator McRae of Vancouver is advocating the resumption of immigration from Great Britain, and recommends that at the coming meeting of the Premiers of the Western Provinces prior to the Imperial Conference the matter should be discussed. He argues that what ever may be the case with other provinces the future of the Prairie Provinces depends upon the development of their open spaces. "A back to the land" policy he urges will be the first step in solving the present world problem of unemployment and depression. He further argues that Canada is too industrialized, there being 54 percent of our people located in cities and towns, and 46 percent in the country. A return to agriculture, he contends, will provide healthy occupation for men, women and children; and while there may not be the luxuries and conveniences of highly developed city life it will at all events insure a livelihood and comparative happiness. This is no new song of General McRae. When he was in the House of Commons he fathered what is known as the Peace River Settlement Scheme. He urged upon the then government the desirability of subsidizing immigration to that fertile area, contending that it alone would support a population of 2,150,000. He argued that the brush land there could be cleared at \$12.50 an acre, and cultivation could be started without delay. That was in 1929, and the General is of the same opinion still. The difference, however, is that while his opinion remains the same conditions have changed. The government is not in a position, provided it were of the mind, to subsidize immigration even to fill the huge vacant areas in the West, and that will have to wait. Of course Senator McRae's present policy is to barter immigration for the wheat market, and possibly that may carry some weight with the powers-that-be here and in England. We must have markets and if they can be obtained by settling farmers on our undeveloped areas the proposal is worthy of consideration. The danger of immigration always is, however, that people are attracted by the inducement to go on the land who are often totally unfitted for farm life, and they quickly make their way to the cities; hence the greater proportion of urban citizens in Canada. General McRae makes a proviso, however, that his scheme of immigration should be shared by Canadian provinces as well as Great Britain, on a fifty-fifty basis. That is, for every citizen of Great Britain who may obtain facilities for settling in the Peace River district a Canadian citizen should have a similar opportunity. That may carry weight with the Western Premiers. At all events, it is largely a question for the West itself. Here the only class of immigrants who could be beneficially settled are those with capital, who are in a position to buy and farm lands for themselves.

COMING VISITATIONS

A goodwill tour of the Maritime Provinces has been inaugurated which will bring many prominent visitors to Charlottetown next month. The tour, starting from Toronto July 3, is being conducted by the Maritime Provinces Trade Commission and will include parties from Montreal and other parts of Quebec as well as from Ontario. The date of this visitation to Charlottetown has not been announced, but will probably be during the second week of July. The Tourist Association is planning for the reception, and will appreciate the co-operation of all our citizens. Efforts will be made to enable the visitors to see as much of the Province as possible during their stay, and the time will be ideal for seeing Prince Edward Island at its best. Later in the season, namely on

NOTES BY THE WAY

The opening of the Hudson to Albany, and the new emphasis placed upon the Erie Canal, calls attention afresh to the activities of powerful interests in New York State and other Atlantic coast states which are bent upon the development of an all-American route to the sea in preference to participation in the deepening of the St. Lawrence waterway by co-operation with Canada. The battle for the St. Lawrence waterways is not yet completely won. The Dominion can scarcely afford to have more of its traffic in grain and other exports diverted through American channels.

For the life of us, says the St. Catharines Standard, we cannot understand the so-called democratic complex of people in Canada who object to non-hereditary titles and who would be the first to put on their best bib and tucker to rush off to some university of Canada to take the degree of LL.B. or some other honorary title with which to embellish their names and enhance their claims to distinction. The Standard feels that the resolution of 1919 asking His Majesty to cease from the bestowal of honors in this country was the result partly of hypocrisy and partly of a post-war brain-storm. We believe that the majority of people in this country respect the curtailment placed upon His Majesty's prerogative in this respect.

FATHER'S DAY

One of the most incisive and wit-tiest criticisms penned of modern sentimentality was that it substitutes "Sales Days" for "Saint's Days" and endeavors to get the Churches to hallow them as festivals. Examples particularly cited were "Mother's Day" and "Father's Day". But like all wholesale, indiscriminate criticisms it oversteps the mark. This is a progressive world; every generation develops its own ideals and standards; and surely it is not to the discredit of the present one that it endeavors by sentimental means to forcibly impress upon the "rising hopes" that the old Commandment still holds good:—"Honor thy father and thy mother." "Mother's Day" has been for long a social institution, and for the past five year an endeavor has been made, with yearly increasing success, to set aside another day for remembering "father" particularly. It is not necessary the remembrance be trivial, but not unnaturally enterprising business people take advantage of the occasion to advertise suitable memorials, which may enhance the good wishes children extend to their father. It happens that Sunday has been set apart—by whom is of no consequence—for this particular celebration, and corresponding with the beginning of our real summer weather, it should not be difficult to select an inexpensive, fashionable present that will show to all a dandy and sundry that the uncomplaining, tolling breadwinner has been remembered by one or more of his loved ones. Dad won't mind the form the remembrance takes so long as he is not forgotten. Sunday may be looked upon as a Dad's Universal Birthday, like All Saints Day, and many there be who will appreciate it.

CENTRAL BANK

One of the questions to be decided at the coming Conference is the advisability of establishing an Imperial Central Bank. In the latest issue of the United Empire, Mr. W. H. Loveday contends that in the establishment of Imperial Economic co-operation it is necessary to find means to bind with lasting bonds Empire countries into an economic whole. By joint action to develop the Empire on sound economic lines, the most rapid and stabilized progress could be achieved. One important feature of an united effort would be the removal of costly competition between Empire countries for Imperial and world trade. Demand would be met collectively. In laying such a foundation it is of paramount importance that an Imperial Central Bank, acting as a clearing house of Central Banks of

EDITORIAL NOTES

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Australia and Ottawa

What Australia can give is a matter which can only be fairly considered when it is realized what Australia is doing to help British trade. I am well aware that it is commonly said that what Australia has done is to impose a prohibitive duty against British manufactures, and then put a few more bricks on the wall against the foreigner. Many people believe that. I have taken the pains to have a precise examination of the facts by a competent officer. He has taken the years 1928-9 and 1929-30, and has examined the imports from Great

That Body of Hours

It has been my privilege to examine many of the outstanding boxers and wrestlers—Dempsey, Carpenter, Walker, Gains, Renault, Dundee, and others among the boxers, and London, Lewis, Sonnenberg, George, Steve's Peak among the wrestlers, and the outstanding feature in these men, during the training period, is the slowness and regularity of the heart beat. In those cases where the blood pressure was taken I found that it was a few points lower than that of the average healthy man. And now they are finding that the metabolism—the rate at which the body processes work—is actually less than in normal healthy men who are not engaged in athletics. What does it mean when we find that athletes have a slower heart beat, a lower blood pressure, and a lower rate of metabolism or cell action?

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The Poet's Corner. PRELUDE. 'Till south I went and west and south again, Through Wicklow from the morning till the night, And far from cities, and the sights of men, Lived with the sunshine and the moon's delight.

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