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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1926

STABLE GOVERNMENT.

The Ontario provincial election, scheduled to take place on December 1, and the campaign for which is now on furnishes food for serious reflection on the subject of stable government.

As in the recent federal election, there are some half a dozen different groups, Conservatives, Liberals, United Farmers, Progressives, Independents, Labor, some of these being sub-divided into other groups with professed leanings towards one or other of the two main groups, for those two, Liberals and Conservatives, are still regarded as such. He would be an optimist indeed who would believe that all in the known groups who contest the election are doing so in the interests of stable government. The opinion is very general that not a few of these wear the tag that is most likely to secure the most support for them and, once elected, they can ally themselves either temporarily or permanently with the Government or the Opposition as exigencies may dictate.

The Conservative party in Ontario, as in the Dominion as a whole is the only party having and holding to a consistent policy; it has never "bowed the knee to Baal" nor allied itself with any of the minor groups. It may have and still may absorb a group or individuals of a group or groups, but the absorbed must come in as Conservatives. On the other hand the Liberal party, federal at least, has absorbed all the political beliefs and unbeliefs, protectionists, free-traders, annexationists, separatists, anti-Imperialists and any line of policy it may adopt must be modified or adulterated to meet the various complexities.

In this democratic country of ours any man or woman has a perfect right to tag himself or herself as they please, politically or otherwise, and, if they receive the nomination, to contest an election, but no one will expect a stable government from such a combination. There are no political creeds which cannot find room in one or the other of the two principal parties and the sooner we return to the two-party system, in provincial and federal policies, the sooner we shall arrive at stable government.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Although the Chinese have not made an all-round success of their civilization they have some customs which presumably more highly civilized countries might do well to follow. One of these is the holding of the parents or the family responsible for the illegal doings of one of its members. An extreme case was reported in yesterday's Guardian which, perhaps, carried the custom beyond what western civilization would permit. A young man was arrested and jailed for the delinquencies of his employer, the latter having skipped. The young employee had no connection whatever with the illegal acts of his employer, yet this was the Chinese law and, right or wrong, the law strikes where it threatens.

In our western civilization, the young offender, if under age, is admonished and warned not to do it again under threat of being again admonished—a threat which has about the same effect upon him as the proverbial drop of water on the duck's back has on the duck. The owner of the property stolen or destroyed has no redress. If the parent or guardian of the young culprit were obliged to pay for the damage done, he and the young hopeful might settle the matter between them and the latter would thereafter have more respect for the property and the rights of others.

One of the main causes of crime in our western world is the almost certainty of escape from the consequencies of wrong-doing. We have laws and prescribed penalties for every offence that can be committed, but there is almost invariably a way of getting around every penalty. We shall never have a clean country until our laws are respected and their penalties exacted when guilt is proved.

In the case of young offenders the responsibility, logically falls upon the parent and if it fell effectively and unvaryingly it would be a powerful deterrent to youthful delinquencies.

MEIGHEN'S PERSONALITY.

R. E. Knowles, writing in the Toronto Star, Liberal, says: Wherefore, when I hear about this cold, "non-mixing" statesman, I always recall the little I have seen of him, with the result that there rises before me the figure of a very gentle and kindly personality; face strong and a little sad; smile rare but refreshing; voice low and authentic; masterful in mien but modest as a child, with obvious title to confidence and power. I have never met a man more qualified to compel the confidence, and to win the love, of his friends than is the Right Honorable Arthur Meighen.

WANT HIGHER TARIFF.

The Canadian Horticultural Society has presented a memo to the Advisory Tariff Board asking that the duty on American potatoes be raised from its present figure of 35 cents per one hundred pounds to 50 cents. The duty on Canadian potatoes entering the United States is 50 cents.

No one of the tariff reductionists has yet given any reason why the Canadian tariff on agricultural products should not be as high as the American, or, for that matter, as high on any product as the tariff of any country to which we sell and from which we buy. The policy of the Conservative party, as laid down by ex-Premier Meighen was to make it as hard for any foreign country to get its products into Canada as it is for Canada to get its products into that country and no unbiased politician or business man can show why this should not be so. If the American farmers put up a tariff wall against the Canadian farmers surely the latter have an equal right to do the same. Had this policy been adopted in Canada when the Fordney-McComber tariff was put on in the United States the chances are that both tariffs would have been reduced long before this.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Mackenzie King evidently enjoys talking to the British newspapers.

Yesterday, Trafalgar Day, like the battle which it commemorated, began boisterously but ended gloriously.

Blest is the land that never knew and does not expect a hurricane or tornado. The sympathy of this undisturbed island goes out to the people of its sister island, Cuba which suffered so severely from the hurricane reported yesterday.

Our Liberal friends are greatly exercised over the fact that the Hon. Hugh Guthrie was once a Liberal. There is nothing strange about that; some of the worst criminals have reformed and become good, honest, law-abiding citizens. From the comparatively mild sinfulness of Liberalism to respectable Conservatism is a much shorter step.

There still are differences of opinion regarding the full glare auto headlights. Two cars met on a country road the other night. One had its lights dimmed, the other full glare. The former stopped as they came within a few yards of each other and honked; the other thinking help was needed, kindly asked 'Anything wrong?" And the answer came fiercely "turn off your lights, you d—— fool! I can't see to get past you!" And there you are.

Notes by the Way

Since the first Imperial Conference in 1887 there has been no other like assembly of greater significance and importance than that now sitting in London. There has been since the Versailles treaty was made a growing consciousness of nationhood in the leading Dominions and some advance in their status has been freely admitted by the Mother Country, but doubts have been felt and expressed as to the extent and the limits of the change.

The Locarno pact of last year was shared in by Great Britain and it involves serious responsibilities which may yet bring her into a great war. The Dominions were apparently expected by the British Government to endorse the pact and formally become parties thereto, but several of them, including Canada, have so far held aloof. With this condition existing, we have the statement of the Home Government that "the treaty will impose no obligation on any Dominion which does not signify acceptance of it."

If it be true that the Locarno Treaty imposes no new obligation, it is difficult to see that it in any way relieves the pre-existing condition which was tersely stated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that "When Britain is at war Canada is at war." While Canada remains a part of the British Empire this must remain true, and obviously she cannot be in and out of the Empire at the same time.

The question arises, How could any one of the Dominions remain neutral if Britain were at war? International law defines the condition of neutrality, both as to its privileges and limitations. It is that attitude of a country or state in which it does not take part directly or indirectly in a war between other countries. A neutral state is allowed to supply to either of the belligerents any supplies or stores which are not contraband of war. It may also enter into treaties or engagements with either side provided that such engagements are unconnected with the subject of the war.

Armed neutrality is the state of a country or nation which holds itself armed in readiness to resist any aggression of either of the belligerents to which it is neutral.

An eminent writer in a recent issue of the London Outlook lays down this further result of neutrality:

"But any Dominion which was neutral when Britain went to war would be obliged to make no distinction between Britain and her enemy, even closing its harbors to the British navy. Thus, by Locarno, the British Empire may be under sentence of dissolution."

The Toronto Globe refers to the fact that "it has ben claimed by some critical observers that the pending Conference has elements of disintegration not previously existing. They note that three Dominions will be represented by Premiers whose support comes from anti-imperial' races, namely, Canada, where the Liberal majority is largely from French Canada; South Africa, where the Boers are in control; and the Irish Free State, where the ties of Empire have been weakened in recent years."

There are many in Canada who feel grave concern lest the ties of Empire may be further weakened notwithstanding Premier King's patriotic pledge and the assured loyalty of Australia and New Zealand to our British connection. But the feeling of anxious concern is not unmixed with hope that the Conference deliberations and resolves may prove to be comparatively prudent and harmless.

Sir Henry Thornton pleased the delegates at the Canadian Board of Trade banquet in Saint John by a super-optimistic address. He told them, among other things, that Canada stands on the threshold of the greatest opportunity that ever faced any country; that he would rather live in Canada than in any other country in the world; that he believes Eastern Canada will be one of the largest industrial areas on the face of the globe, and that Canada cannot avoid prosperity, — we've got to have it whether we like it or not! Fortunately it won't be unpleasant to take.

Queen Mary has quieted the rumor that the Heir Apparent is soon to be married. She had asked an old servant, "Is there no word yet of a husband for your daughter Violet?" "Not yet," the old woman replied. "How about the Prince of Wales?"

"No, there is no wife in sight for him yet," confessed the Queen. There is a general feeling that the Heir to the Throne ought for reasons of state to be now married and that he may make a judicious and happy choice in selecting a royal consort to share his exalted station in the years to come.

It now transpires that the reason for the resignation of Attorney-General Nickle from the Ferguson Government was his declared opposition to the adoption of Government control of the liquor traffic. The election compaign promises to be a lively and exciting one from present indications.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

INSULIN FOR BOILS

As the cooler weather comes along the natural inclination will be to eat more food, usually of a solid nature. This is natural and for most of us is the proper thing to do, because the extra three to five pounds of weight we carry in the cooler weather, not only serves as a protection, but is a sort of reserve in case of illness of any kind.

I am of course referring to folks of proper weight for height and age, and not to individuals who are overweight.

And the natural taste or appetite of most of us inclines us to candy, sugar, rich pasteries and so forth.

Now research men, looking into the causes of that distressing ailment, boils, tells us that most of these cases are caused by a high percentage of sugar in the blood, even although there be no sugar in the urine. All sorts of local remedies have been used, and injections of vaccines have certainly been of help in clearing up the condition, where there was a "crop" of boils. In fact some one has pointed out that the injection of vaccine for boils was one of the first triumphs for the vaccine system of treatment.

However, working on the theory that too much sugar getting into the system was really the cause of boils, a Western physician has had considerable success by treating these cases as he would diabetes.

This not only means the cutting down on vegetables, fruit, ordinary bread and so forth, but also the actual administration of insulin as in diabetes itself.

After estimating the amount of excess of sugar in the blood he gives a corresponding dose of insulin fifteen minutes before the noon meal, gradually reducing the dose as the amount of sugar in the blood grows less.

This is worth knowing because in years past meat has been blamed for boils more frequently than vegetables or bread.

The treatment of a crop of boils should be in the hands of the family physician.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "it is a different kind from what we saw." Say "than what."

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: employee. Accent last syllable, not the first.

OFTEN MISSPELLED: pianos (plural); not oes.

SYNONYMS: boldness, impudence, effrontery, audacity, insolence.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: MARTYRDOM; the condition or fate of a martyr. "He was a picture of resignation and martyrdom."

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

October 22, 1926

THE HEART OF GOD—"The Lord said unto Him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication; . . . I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there forever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually. 1 Kings 9:3.

PRAYER—May Thy heart, O Lord, never be grieved by our wrong-doing.

THE FUNNY LITTLE FELLOW

'Twas a funny little fellow
Of the very purest type,
For he had a heart as mellow
As an apple over-ripe;
And the brightest little twinkle
When a funny thing occurred,
And the lightest little tinkle
Of a laugh you ever heard!

He laughed away the sorrow,
And he laughed away the gloom
We are all so prone to borrow
From the darkness of the tomb;
And he laughed across the ocean
Of a happy life, and passed
With a laugh of glad emotion
Into Paradise at last.

And I think the angels knew him,
And had gathered to await
His coming, and run unto him
Through the widely-opened gate,
With their faces gleaming sunny
For his laughter-loving sake,
And thinking—what a funny
Little angel he will make.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

PEARLS

Condensed from Nature Magazine, (April '26.)

Paul Bartsch, Curator, U. S. National Magazine.)

There is scarcely a people which did or does not count pearls among the most valued of its possessions. Pearls were among the earliest jewels prized by man, and have been found in ancient burial places.

A Chinese legend of more than 5000 years ago tells of a certain pearl so brilliant that its radiance made it possible to cook rice a hundred yards away. Mystic qualities are even now ascribed to pearls by the Chinese, for we find them prescribed by their Old School doctors, crushed to a powder or dissolved in acid, as medicine.

They are mentioned in the Vedas, while the Old and New Testaments, the Talmud and the Koran all exalt them as symbols of beauty and purity. The Persians, long before Christ, valued them highly, for pearls have been found in their burial places.

The Romans were particularly fond of these gems, and Caesar, to stop race suicide among the better classes, issued a decree that no woman without husband or children, under 45 years, might wear them.

What are pearls? One poet says they are "the tears of a goddess dropped into the sea—caught to the heart of the pearl oyster and there treasured as the purest gem of the ocean."

Dubois, the scientist, said: "The most beautiful pearl is nothing more than the shining sarcophagus of a worm," and his description is accurate. They are produced by the pearl oyster, the fresh-water clams, the abalone, and in lesser degree by other mollusks, and are the result of an effort on the part of the mollusk to seal up an enemy, or an irritating substance that has found its way inside of the shell, or has bored into the flesh of the animal. The most perfect spherical pearls are usually started by the baby stage of a fluke worm that must live for part of its early life in some mollusk.

These young worms burrow into the flesh of the mullosk and live upon it until they have reached a certain growth. The mollusk attempts to lock up this undesirable parasite by secreting a shelly capsule around it, and if successful, it kills the parasite that way. But having once begun to secret nacre—the shiny substance of the pearly shell—it can't stop, and so puts layer after layer of thin coating around this nucleus, and thus the pearl continues to grow until the mollusk dies or some lucky fisherman captures the prize.

Another way in which pearls are formed, and this is usually the history of the irregularly shaped ones known as "baroques" is that a grain of sand or some other hard substance is accidentally froced into the mantle cavity of the mollusk. This will be promptly walled off against the inside of the shell and covered, layer by layer, with a smooth coating to reduce irritation.

Sometimes little water mites attack the gills of our fresh-water clams in large numbers, and these usually cause the irregular pearls known as rose pearls. Then again a small fish or crustacean may sometimes dart into the mantle cavity seeking protection from some pursuer. This, too, will be walled off and fixed to the inside of the mollusk shell and covered with nacre until it develops into a pearl with the shape of the fish or shrimp. But no matter what its shape, whether a mere blister, baroque, rose pearl, or perfect sphere, each pearl represents a hurt overcome.

Perfect shape, size, uniform color and even luster are the criteria that determine the value of a pearl. So from long ago man has been desirous of wresting from Nature the story of pearl culture. In these efforts, China and Japan have been in the lead by centuries. In the National Museum at Washington are some specimen shells from those countries, on the inside of which are numerous little images of Buddha, all done in pearl. We are told that these are sold to or bestowed upon pilgrims visiting certain sacred shrines as miraculous manifestations of that great teacher. These little images are really the forerunners of our cultural, or artificially grown pearls.

The method used by the Buddhist priests in producing the pearl images was to insert a small wooden wedge between the two shells of the animal. All mussels can open their shells a little way, just enough to extend the foot by means of which they slowly plow through the mud of the bottom, and the two tubes for feeding and refuse. The wedge once quickly and carefully slipped in makes it possible to work in the interior. Then when the priest had carefully forced the mantle for a little way from its attachment to the inner bottom edge of the shell, he took a number of small images of Buddha stamped in tin, upon the inner side of which he placed some sticky substance—probably a bit of beeswax—and, after carefully lifting the edge of the mantle, he inserted them and fixed them row upon row on the inside of the shell.

All that was necessary now was to return the mussel to the pool where it would shortly repair the injury done to the edge of the mantle, and overcome the irritation produced by the irregular surface of the tin images by coating them with nacre. So after a year or more, when these mussels were taken from the pools, killed, and opened, the images would be found fixed to the inside of the shells just as they were placed, but now nicely coated with shining pearly nacre—miraculous manifestations of the great Buddha, and as such highly prized.

In Japan the cultural pearl industry has assumed great proportions. Their early efforts resulted in the formation of hemispheres and buttons. Polished pieces of mother-of-pearl, that is; pearl shell in perfect hemispheres, were introduced into pearl oysters much in the way in which the little tin images of Buddha were introduced, and the mollusk shells returned to the sea for further development and later gathering.

Many such cultural pearls are now on the market. They are not the perfect spheres which one finds strung on a chain of pearls. They require a metal setting that will hide the side by which they were attached to the inside of the shell that produced them. More recently, I am told, the Japanese workers have produced perfectly spherical cultural pearls. Their method of so doing is kept a secret.

"What about the value of the string for which I paid a fortune," you may ask. Don't worry! Science has shown a way to tell the natural from the cultural pearl. By the use of X-rays the nucleus used for the cultural pearl will be revealed, and since the price is intimately associated with the rarity of the thing, the value of your string should not be involved any more than it was when man devised machinery that would turn a perfect sphere from a piece of pearl shell—which, no matter how lustrous, still shows the grain.

Practically nothing has been done in our country in the way of cultural pearl production. This is the more surprising because in the fresh-water streams of the United States are to be found the greatest number and the finest species of fresh-water pearly mussels in the world. This splendid material should certainly tempt American ingenuity and enterprise to wrest from the Orient the leadership in an undertaking which produces great returns.

QUEEN MARIE WAS DRESSED WITH GREAT SIMPLICITY

NEW YORK, Oct. 21.—If any New York cat availed herself of the traditional privilege yesterday she saw the gracious Marie, Queen of Rumania, a not very tall woman of middle age, dressed with simplicity, but richly. The royal coat of Burgundy and lynx stopped about twelve inches from the ground, to reveal beige stockings, and opera pumps of reptile skin. Over her titian hair the queen wore a close fitting cloth of gold turban, with a small brim of brown georgette and a glycerined ostrich brush over the right ear. She carried brown gloves and a gold bag.

The observant feline turning from the royal figure to others of the Queen's party noted Princess Ileana, sixteen, and slim, and tall. The Princess has dark gray eyes and dark brown hair shingled closely to reveal the contour of head and neck. Her complexion is creamy with a glow inserted by her outdoor life, on horseback, or on the golf links or the tennis court.

The two young men who accompany the Queen are her son, and her nephew, Nicholas and Hohenloe-Langeburg. Nicholas, who was educated at Eton, and in the British navy, is a little nautical in his bearing. Nicholas' cousin, Hohenloe, a great grandson of Queen Victoria, is a serious prince. He has come to America to study industrial and commercial relations. Both the princes are twenty-three years old.

The last member of the royal party proper, probably caused the cat to turn and nee, although he displayed an oversize waistline, and a penchant for silk-clad ankles. His name is Craig, and he is a cocker spaniel. Craig shows scant respect or etiquette, preceding the prince, and princess, on all occasions, close at the royal heels.

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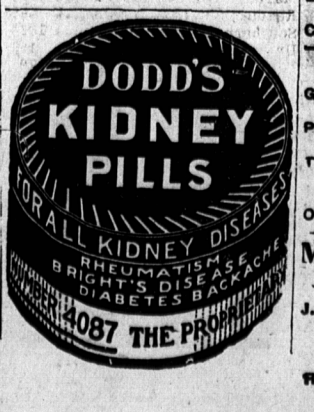

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