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Notes by the Way

The return of the Baldwin candidate for Scarborough-Whitby by-election last week is another victory for protection and intra-Empire trade preferences. The Conservative majority of over 2,000 was obtained in an intensive campaign in which the Lloyd George candidate had the united support of the official Liberal and Labor parties. If the trend continues and sufficient by-elections are held, the dissolution of Parliament may be forced sooner than is contemplated in the Liberal-Labor pact.

The Border Cities Star quotes a pastor as saying, "One would think to hear people talk during the last year or so that there had never been hard times before." As a matter of fact, there have been business depressions in the past in which people actually starved. They are not permitted to starve nowadays, owing to an awakened civic consciousness. There have been famines due to lack of transportation and trading facilities in which thousands died of starvation. Except in a few remote parts of the world such tragedies are no longer possible.

Even the man and his family who are unemployed and on relief are able to have a piece of meat to eat. There was a time when under ordinary conditions a laboring man was fortunate if he ate meat once a week. There has been too much harping on how things used to be better. They never were.

An Edmonton Exchange says: "If we are to inaugurate a plan of unemployment insurance it will have to be dominion-wide and derive from the federal treasury the public support that is required. The provinces are in no position to assume any of the burden and, if some of them entered into the scheme while others did not, the former would inevitably have burdens thrust upon them that would be quite unfair. Obstacles to the moving of labor from one part of the country to the other would be created which could not be in the national interests."

The new Spanish republic has much on its hands. There is Communism, there is a tendency to desire complete sectional independence, there is always the Carlist shadow. Above all there is Spain's traditional adherence to the monarchical form of government and to the maintenance of the conjunction of church and state. One of the great mistakes made by the republican Cortes of 1873 was its attempt to separate church and state, and if the new chamber now tries to throw Communism a sop by proposing similar action Alfonso will, as likely as not, be called back and begged to reoccupy the throne.

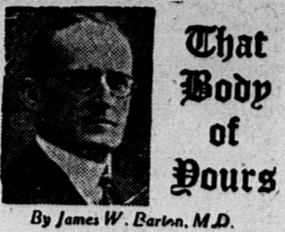
While others are worrying about earning their dividend requirements, says an American Exchange, undertakers look forward to the balance of this year with optimism. Report recently released by the Institute for Mortuary Research shows that there were 417,611 deaths in the United States in the first quarter, an increase of 51,236 or eight per cent. over the first quarter of last year. The report also points out that closely settled industrial regions are now spending more on funerals than a year ago.

President Ibanez of Chile, is announcing to the world his policies, says that payment of the external debt and the interest thereon is a financial obligation of prime importance, and that it is the Government's intention to live up to the confidence placed in Chile by foreign capitalists. Evidently Ibanez is proud of his country's good name and wishes other nations to know that honesty is to be his guiding star.

The Rev. Dr. T. S. McWilliams, of Cleveland, and formerly of Montreal, recently returned from an extensive tour of Russia, and he gave before the Canadian Club in Montreal an illuminating account of the economic development that is going on under Soviet rule which, by ruthless methods, has got complete control over the inhabitants of the country. He described activities in these new factory towns and told of the excitement that is stirred whenever new machinery arrives. Workers may be subjected to strict and even severe discipline, but evidently there is no lack of artisan eagerness to achieve the ambitions of the rulers. Current reports from Russia bear out the authenticity of Dr. McWilliams' word-picture.

A month ago Premier Taschereau of Quebec gave a press interview in which he claimed that his Government would win more seats in the next house than it had in the last, and professed to feel regret over the prospect of a weakened Opposition. A few days ago, following a lengthy Cabinet meeting, he made the laconic statement to the newspaper re-

porters: "No elections." Mr. Taschereau seems singularly disinclined to start the process of sweeping the Province.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

DENTISTRY IS A DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

When the war broke out one of the important things, recognized by headquarters, was that soldiers, to keep healthy, must have some grinding teeth. The requirement was not severe; all that was necessary was that the recruit should have one upper and one lower grinding tooth which met one another, either on the right or the left side of the mouth.

And yet this requirement could not be met by as many as seven in every twenty recruits.

A little later dental plates were allowed and many more men were thus qualified to go overseas. And the importance of digestion to health of having grinding teeth must be recognized.

But after the men got into training camps and into action it was found that just having enough teeth wasn't all that was necessary. In fact it was soon found that this matter of trying to save teeth for chewing purposes could be overcome. The general public and the older dentists have always had the idea that as no artificial tooth could be as good as the patient's own tooth, therefore it should be saved at all costs.

And some one has said "a patient may die from having his tooth extracted but he'll never die from having it filled."

Thus with the idea of saving the tooth and having no accidents from extracting it, this tooth was allowed to remain.

What happened? Many of these recruits began to have various forms of ailments—headaches, were easily fatigued, pains in muscles and joints, failing eyesight, indigestion and so forth.

As the X ray showed real trouble about the roots of the teeth, the teeth in most cases, particularly the grinding teeth were removed and plates put in.

Although the dental corps did this work without supervision from the medical corps, nevertheless the dental corps was under the authority of the medical corps. A little later when difficult jobs about the face and mouth, due to war wounds, had to be done, sometimes a skillful dentist did it, and more frequently a surgeon.

In other words it was found that dentistry is but a branch of medicine and surgery, and owing to the great number of ailments caused by infected teeth, the two professions got close together during the war.

It would be a great thing for patients if they could get their family doctor, their family dentist, and the X ray specialist together where any question of an ailment being caused by the teeth has to be considered.

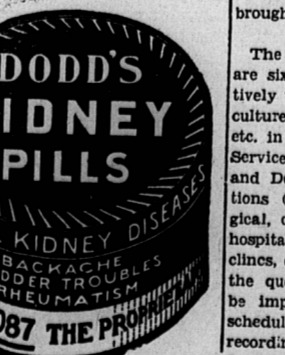


ALL THAT'S PAST

Very old are the woods; And the buds that break Out of the briar's boughs, When March winds wake, So old with their beauty are— Oh, no man knows Through what wild centuries Roves back the rose.

Very old are the brooks; And the rills that rise Where snow sleeps cold beneath The azure skies Sing such a history Of come and gone, That every drop is as wise As Solomon.

Very old are we men; Our dreams are tales Told in dim Eden By Eve's nightingales; We wake and whisper awhile, But, the day gone by, Silence and sleep like fields Of amaranth lie.



The Coming Census

Objects and uses of the Census.

(Continued)

With the census of ancient times we would today have little sympathy. Originally the Census was no more than a means of mustering men for foreign wars and of enabling kings and oligarchies to tax their subjects. So far are we removed from this conception that it is now expressly forbidden to use census data for any such purposes.

In Canada the fundamental legal reason d'être of the Census is to determine the representation in our federal Parliament. As is well known, the British North America Act gave the Province of Quebec a fixed number of seats (sixty-five) in the Dominion House of Commons. The number assigned to the other provinces was to pro rata, with an arrangement that the first readjustment should take place on the completion of the Census of 1871, and that a similar readjustment should follow every subsequent decennial census. The Census is thus taken primarily to enable a redistribution bill to be passed by Parliament.

But the Census has far wider uses than to fix electoral representation. It constitutes, in fact, under the modern system, nothing less than a great periodical stocktaking of the Canadian people, designed to show from the widest angle the point that has been reached in the general progress of the nation. It is difficult within brief compass to explain how this function is fulfilled. Fundamentally, the importance of the Census hinges upon its analysis of the human element or man power of the country. The people themselves after all are the basic asset of every state. Their numbers, sex, age, occupation, racial origin, language, education, etc., etc., are facts in themselves of the greatest moment. They constitute, moreover, the background against which almost all other facts must be projected if the latter are to have real significance. The well being of the state—physical, moral, economic—(including such varied phrases as birth and death rates, education, transportation facilities, financial conditions, etc.) with its converse in any form, can be apprehended and interpreted only through the medium of population statistics. Even if the Census went no farther it would be the basis of all study of our social and economic conditions. Linked with other official data, however, it rounds out the scheme of information by which as a chart the Government directs the national affairs.

Without the Census, it is literal truth to say that legislation and administration would be carried on in the dark, and that there would be no means of knowing whether the country was on the road to success or disaster. So cogently is this felt that censuses at five year intervals, instead of ten, are universally advocated, the chief drawback being the heavy cost.

As the practice of nations in regard to Census-taking tends more and more to uniformity, the Census affords the inestimable benefits of comparison with other countries and enables our national problems to be studied in their general setting. Especially is this true of the countries which constitute the British Empire. The censuses of the various Dominions, India and the Crown Colonies are now taken in the same year and within a few weeks of each other; so that when the results are completed we shall have a large and harmonious body of data at command for the study not only of the relations of the dominions inter se but also of the place of the Empire as a whole among the nations of the world.

As a result of the work of the International Institute of Agriculture, which has been investigating the requirements of a Census of Agriculture and the means by which it may be made uniform in as far as possible for all countries, we will now have for agriculture a body of data which can be compared with those of other countries.

As already remarked, the primary task of the Census is the enumeration and description of every man, woman and child in Canada. Good business dictates that when so large an organization as this requires has once been created, it should be put to every available purpose. In other words, the "overhead" must earn its maximum. The Census therefore should deal not only with the people themselves, but directly with the people's institutions and affairs, insofar as the latter can be properly brought within its scope.

The Census Schedules. The schedules used in the Census are six in number dealing respectively with (1) Population, (2) Agriculture, (3) Live Stock, fruit growing, etc. in towns, (4) Merchandising and Service Establishments (5) Blindness and Deaf-Mutism, and (6) Institutions (penal, mental and neurological, hospitals, sanatoria, dispensaries, clinics, day nurseries). Merely to state the questions asked on these would be impossible here. The population schedule carries some forty columns, recording for each person the name, family, kind of dwelling, age, sex, written several books and George E.

conjugal condition, birthplace, citizenship or nationality, racial origin, language, religion, education, occupation, unemployment etc. etc. in all necessary details. To meet the pressing demand for facts regarding the number of unemployed and the reasons therefore, a number of questions have been inserted, after consultation with Dominion and Provincial Government authorities and leading labour organizations. This information will be of first importance in assisting the Government in its policy regarding unemployment and labour problems generally. The schedule relating to agriculture was also drawn up in consultation with Dominion and Provincial Agricultural Departments and other agricultural authorities, and in the light of the suggestions made for a World Census of agriculture by the International Institute of Agriculture. It will elicit a wealth of information on such features as farm acreages, land values, buildings, implements, crops, fertilizers, farm labour, orchards, small fruits, farm gardens, live stock, poultry, animal products, forest products, land tenure, irrigation, drainage, cooperative marketing, farm mortgages, etc. etc. The schedule on animals, etc. in towns is supplementary to the agricultural schedule, there are of course a considerable number of horses, cattle, poultry, bees, etc., within urban limits and their products, and those of market gardens, town orchards, etc., are in the aggregate important. The schedule on industrial and business concerns collects only the name, address and class of each; this is for the use of a subsequent detailed inquiry which will be conducted through correspondence by the Bureau, and which will afford a considerable body of new data covering the whole field of distribution. The record of the blind and of deaf-mutes is to facilitate the work of educational and other institutions for these classes. The population in institutions will be enumerated in the regular way by means of the "Population schedule proper, but it is intended that a special inquiry shall be handled direct from the Bureau with the heads of institutions in order that not merely the numbers of men, women and children committed to such institutions may be obtained, but also facts regarding the characteristics of the inmates, causes of commitment and other information which will furnish the basis for a complete analysis of problems incidental to social life, and act as a guide to the Provincial Governments and organizations engaged in social and welfare work.

In connection with these somewhat elaborate and searching series of inquiries the following points should be clearly understood: (1) that no question has been inserted merely for the gratification of curiosity or because the information would be interesting, but only because it has a bearing on basic, social or economic conditions; and (2) that the answers given by the individual are absolutely confidential, every employee of the Census being under oath and penalty against revealing any individual item and the Bureau of Statistics itself being forbidden to issue any statement that would lay bare any personal matter. Though the name of each person is taken down this is not for the purpose of associating the individual with any of the facts that are recorded, but merely as a check on the accuracy of the enumeration. The Census is first and last for statistical purposes and cannot be made the basis of any direct administrative action. Let it also be noted that census enumerators are required to use courtesy and tact in collecting the information, though refusal to answer a census question is penalized by statute.

(To Be Continued)

Literary Politicians

(Saturday Night) The recent discovery that one of the new members of the House of Commons, Thomas Reid, of New Westminster, is adept on the bagpipes suggests the remark that besides skill in politics there is in Parliament and in the Senate much talent of one sort or another. We have no Winston Churchill, not even, perhaps a Colonel John Buchan, but there are literary men of some distinction in their own country in the Green Chamber and in the Red. The leader of the opposition, Mr. Mackenzie King is author of several books. He himself was amused, by the way, by the remark of Professor Stephen Leacock that when the future leader of the Liberal party turned from poetry to politics Canada lost an able man of letters in return for a very ordinary man of affairs.

Mr. Bennett, it appears, has not been so prolific in a literary way. He himself observed recently that his only contribution to Journalism was an editorial he wrote one week for a New Brunswick newspaper when the editor was away fishing. In the Red Chamber perhaps the most illustrious figure in this department of life is Senator Thomas Chapais, but John Lewis is the author of a biography of George Brown. Rodolphe Lemieux has written several books and George E.



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