

# Men of the Day

## France's New President

**P**RESIDENT RAYMOND POINCARE, in his first message to the French Parliament, states that if France is to preserve peace she must have a strong military force. To be effectively pacific, France must always be ready for war. Premier Briand agrees. In Canada, the other rule is laid down; to preserve peace, many Canadians would have neither army nor navy.

President Poincare touched another new point when he informed the Batonier of the Paris bar that he wished his name retained on the roster of barristers during his term of office. President Jules Grevy withdrew his name when he took office because he could not, according to the rules, live "dans ses meubles," that is, in his own apartments within the city. He thought residence at the Elysee was not within the limits. President Poincare thinks otherwise. He is the principal legal adviser of Princess Stephanie, of Belgium, widow of Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria, in her claim for a portion of the estate of her father, the late King Leopold.

Like President Wilson, of the United States, President Poincare is a man of letters. He is one of the forty Immortals, members of the French Academy. He has published several volumes of essays and speeches under the title, "Idees Contemporaines, Questions et Figures Politiques, Causes Litteraires et Artistiques." They are not wonderfully original, but they do reflect the opinions of the French people. They show him as a man of principle; not a mere opportunist or time-server. His ideas of politics as a science differ from those of several prominent Canadians. He says:

"The foundation of all politics is ethical. Politics are founded on a belief in goodness, in justice, in the love of truth, in the respect of human conscience, in the destinies of our country. Politics which are worthy of the name cannot live from day to day on empirical measures and contradictory expedients."

A writer in an English paper prophesies what the Poincare policy will be as follows:

"I do not think that his Home Policy will be one mainly of social reform. It will mainly be a policy of Republican concentration and of resistance to lawlessness.

"Even as his Home Policy will be mainly a policy of resistance to the party of disorder, M. Poincare's Foreign Policy will be mainly a policy of resistance to the encroachments of Germany. We may expect a firm though conciliatory attitude in international affairs, and a strict adherence of France to the Triple Entente. And this vigorous Foreign Policy will entail increased Naval and Military expenditure. That is another reason why his Home Policy cannot be one of Social Reform. Social Reforms cost a great deal of money, and for the next seven years all the available resources of France will be claimed by the exigencies of national defence."

All of which has since been confirmed by his first message to Parliament.

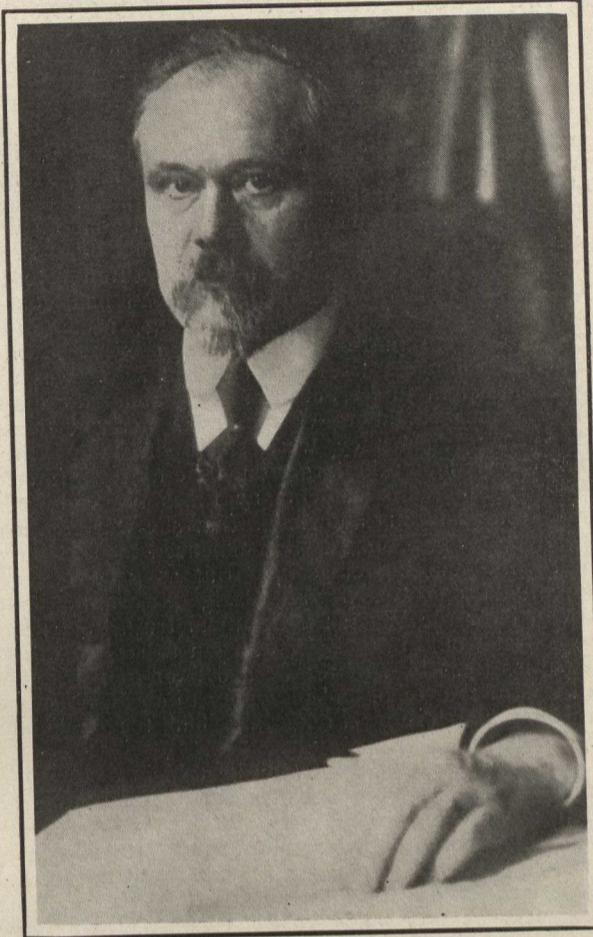
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## President Mellen and the G.T.R.

**M**R. CHAMBERLIN, of the Grand Trunk, and President Mellen, of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railway, have been indicted in the United States for having contravened the Sherman law in restraint of trade. The case is now pending, and while no serious results are anticipated, these two gentlemen are having a rather trying time in explaining their actions to the court.

In January, 1910, an act was passed by the Assembly of Rhode Island to incorporate the Southern New England Railway, leading Grand Trunk officials being among the incorporators. The object was to extend the Central Vermont Railway, owned by the Grand Trunk, into Rhode Island, so that there would be another outlet for Western grain coming over the Grand Trunk Pacific and Grand Trunk Railways during the winter season. The New Haven Railway, which is the largest transportation corporation in New England, was not favourable to this move on the part of the Grand Trunk. The Boston people, nevertheless, invited the Grand Trunk to go to that city, as well as to Providence, and New England feeling was quite worked up on the subject.

Suddenly there was a change. An announcement was made that the Grand



M. RAYMOND POINCARE  
New President French Republic.

Trunk had abandoned its building operations in New England and everybody was disappointed. Those who were most interested began to investigate and they came to the conclusion that Mr. Chamberlin, of the G. T. R., and Mr. Mellen, of the New Haven, had made an arrangement to eliminate competition. Acting on this assumption, they laid the matter before the authorities at Washington and both gentlemen were indicted for an infraction of the Sherman law. The case has aroused considerable interest, because Boston and Providence would



LT.-COL. MORRISON, D.S.O.  
Director of Artillery on the Headquarters Staff.



MR. CHARLES MELLEN  
President N.Y., N.H. & H. Railway.

like to share in the export grain trade, which now goes exclusively to St. John and Portland. The Maritime Province portion of Canada is interested because it looked to the Grand Trunk Pacific to greatly increase the amount of export grain which would pass out through Canada's winter ports. Mr. Chamberlin's reply is to attack the validity of the signature of Mr. Hays to the articles of incorporation of the Southern New England Railway.

Mr. Charles S. Mellen began life in the railway business in 1869, as a clerk in the cashier's office of the Northern New Haven Railway. His advance was rapid and continuous. In 1903 he became president of the N. Y., N. H. and H. R. R., and seven years later added the presidency of the Boston and Maine. He is also president of the N. E. Navigation Co., and a director of the First National Bank, of Boston, and of the Old Colony Trust Co. The only other railway of importance with which he has been connected is the Union Pacific, of which he was general traffic manager for three years.

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## From Civic to Military Life

**C**OLONEL the Honourable Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, takes as his leading officers the best men wherever he finds them. He is not a slave to seniority, nor is he averse to taking a good military officer from the inactive militia and putting him in the active militia. One of the most notable instances of this is his appointment of Lieut.-Colonel E. W. B. Morrison, D.S.O., as director of artillery on the Headquarters Staff. Colonel Morrison has commanded the 8th Artillery Brigade of Ottawa while performing his duties as editor of the Ottawa Citizen. He was known as one of the best artillery officers in Canada, but his sudden transfer to an important position on the Headquarters Staff is almost without precedent. However, the results will probably justify the Minister's choice, as Colonel Morrison is an aggressive and efficient administrator.

Colonel Morrison was born in London, Ont., in 1867, and educated mainly at Dr. Tassie's famous boys' school at Galt. He commenced his newspaper work on the Hamilton Spectator, and became editor of the Ottawa Citizen when the Southams added that daily to their string. He was an officer in the Hamilton Field Battery and then transferred to Ottawa. He was made a Captain in 1901 and a Major in 1905. Colonel Morrison served in South Africa in 1899 and 1900. He was mentioned in dispatches and given a D.S.O.

In addition to these activities, Colonel Morrison has taken a deep interest in the Boy Scout movement, and three years ago was chosen as one of two commissioners by Earl Grey to organize the Boy Scout movement in Canada. To this work he devoted a great deal of attention and his duty was successfully performed. Two years ago he was given special authority by the Kaiser to visit the famous Wassel Garrison, in Germany. Last year he took a special course in England and accompanied the Minister of Militia on his visit to the military depots and manoeuvres.

Colonel Morrison has given special attention to the use of artillery in winter. He has conducted experiments of an original character and has thus contributed to the progress of this, the most efficient of the arms of the Canadian service.

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## A Notable Career

**A** FEW days ago Sir Alexandre Lacoste celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his admission to the Montreal bar. Sir Alexandre is one of the most notable links between the public life of yesterday and that of to-day. He became a legislative councillor of the Province of Quebec as far back as 1882, and was called to the Dominion Senate two years later. In 1891 he became Speaker of that body, but held the office for a few months only when he was made Chief Justice of Quebec. He was created a Privy Councillor of Great Britain in 1892 and knighted by Queen Victoria. In 1907 he retired on pension, but still retains his connection with his law office. In the early days of Sir John Macdonald's rule at Ottawa, it is said that Sir Alexandre refused a portfolio in the government for the simple reason that he did not feel he could afford it. In those days a Minister's salary was small, and Sir Alexandre had a family to provide for.