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# "BOBS," KITCHENER AND JAPAN

Without considering the lack of tact shown by the Japanese statesmen who openly discussed the advisability of requesting Great Britain to reform and strengthen her army, it may be said that the incident will tend to support Lord Roberts and others who are loudly demanding just what Japan would propose if she could do so without giving offence. The new British government is pledged to a reasonable expenditure for the upkeep of both army and navy, but the change of administration, together with much harping upon the burdens growing out of the Boer war, work against anything like a considerable increase in the fighting strength of the army. The people are content to hear no more about increased expenditure for military purposes. They want peace, which is very proper and very reasonable, but they are apt to forget that the South African war bill was doubly large because of the unpreparedness of Great Britain for the struggle about which the country had repeated warnings. These warnings would have been heeded by almost any other nation. Now comes Lord Roberts, an authority who cannot be silenced or despised, to assure the public that the unpreparedness which was so costly in blood and treasure only a few years ago, and would be so again, has not been remedied. The British will have none of this. They do not want a large standing army like that of France or Germany; yet they are quick to cry out for war when the rights or dignity of the nation have been attacked, and they have scant patience with statesmen who are long suffering when such questions arise. The counsel of Japan, in fact, awkward as it is, is virtually the same as that which Lord Roberts has been offering for a year, and the vital importance of which he is now seeking to impress upon the new government.

Lord Kitchener comes forward with similar advice. In defending himself recently against the charge that he wished to set up a military autocracy in India, he replied that the civil power is and must be paramount, but that plain military necessities must not be overlooked or dodged. Russia is down and out for the present; but not only for the present; England, for a generation, but only for ten years. A nation in revolution, as history teaches, usually ends by throwing up a great soldier who is the founder of a new dynasty; and who, partly by bias of natural genius, and partly for the sake of strengthening his rule by the sale of foreign war. If the Russian revolution follows this course the world's peace will assuredly be in peril. Much water, of course, must run under the bridge, but this happens, but Lord Kitchener thinks that the period during which Russia must remain preoccupied with its own domestic troubles will not be longer than ten years.

Ten or twenty, there is force in his contention that the interval should be used to make the Indian frontier safe.

## PARLIAMENT

The Dominion Parliament is to assemble on March 8, which is a much later date than was proposed last fall. There would seem to be no particular reason to expect a long session, but that was said before the sessions of 1904 and 1905, and both were long drawn out. The House will meet earlier next year, it is expected, and the spectacle of the members in debate at midsummer will not recur. In the view of the country generally there might well be more business and less talk at Ottawa in any year, but this is a reform scarcely to be expected. The Tariff Commission's report is the principal subject of debate now in sight, though the recommendations of the Transportation Commission, which are most important, may occupy considerable attention. The matter of transportation, however, is not an exciting field for the opposition, and consideration of this subject, which should really be kept outside party politics, should not provoke the sort of debate to be expected when the tariff has the floor. When the statements made by the Tariff Commission were made it was expected that they would lead to an increase in the rates, and that such an increase could not be expected more than some readjustments. But that there will be in Parliament a repetition of the old fight between high and low tariff advocates is sure enough. The British elections have reacted upon this country to some extent, and the result in the Old Country will be placed in evidence by Canadians on both sides of the tariff fence. By the time the House meets, too, it is possible that the United

States and Germany will be making tariff war upon each other, in which case valuable evidence as to the results following tariff reprisals may be forthcoming.

## ANOTHER SLICE NEEDED

Mr. Shonta, chairman of the Panama Canal Commission, says the canal zone now possessed by the United States is not wide enough. He wants another slice. "In reply to a question he said that he thought it should be made so wide that no other nation could get close enough to blow the United States out of the canal."

"That," the Boston Herald thinks, "sounds a good deal like cheap buncombe." When the head of the commission became more definite he declared that the zone should be large enough so that the taxes to be formed should not extend into countries not under the control of this government.

If Mr. Shonta persuades the Washington government, or the president, that another slice is necessary, ways and means to get it can be found or invented. When Colombia proved a hard bargainer a time revolution was fomented, and there suddenly appeared the new and dollar hungry Republic of Panama. Should Panama hesitate about parting with more territory a smaller revolution might do the business. The Herald points out that the "great ditch" is not making satisfactory progress.

"Under the grant, from the Republic of Panama the canal zone was to extend five miles on each side of the centre line of the route of the canal to be constructed. It was supposed that when \$40,000,000 was paid to the French company for their rights, plant, etc., and \$10,000,000 to the Republic of Panama, created for that purpose, expenditure for the right to be given work at least was ended. Now, judging by the testimony of the head of the commission, Uncle Sam must buy more rights to hold territory so that he may protect himself. Possibly Panama may not be willing to make a further trade on terms acceptable to Uncle Sam. In that case are we to have another secession and the establishment of a new republic made up of the territory of Panama which the canal commission desires to acquire? Every day evidence continues to accumulate that this canal business was entered into in a bit or miss manner, with little consideration for a number of questions, all of which are of great importance, many of which are as yet entirely unsolved."

The United States secured the right of way two years ago, but thus far the work of digging has scarcely begun. Moreover, there is still going on a war of opposing experts, some of whom favor a canal at sea level, while the others assert that a lock canal is the only sensible plan. These questions do not bother Mr. Shonta very much. He needs elbow room; and another revolution may be necessary to give it to him.

## THE FIRST LORD

Lord Tweedmouth's statement that he would be prepared to extend the protection of the navy to the colonies without contributions by them has, naturally, attracted much attention in Canada. For one thing this attitude of the First Lord of the Admiralty is very different from much that Canada has heard on the subject from across the water. Lord Tweedmouth does not tell us that we are "the paring of the ways." He believes the colonies will become rich and powerful without cutting the painter. The Toronto Star suggests that his speech is likely to do much good in this country. The Star admits our obligation, and believes the country will move more quickly toward some form of contribution when reproaches and misrepresentation no longer appear in the British press. It adds:

"There is good politics, too, in this speech of Lord Tweedmouth, for the people of Canada will work themselves up to the point of contributing towards the support of the navy much more quickly than they can be worked up to it by reproaches from the press and politicians of England, of which something has been heard in the past few months. Voluntary money is the only kind that a twentieth century colony will export to an Imperial treasury, and the largeness and generosity of Lord Tweedmouth's talk will inspire generous impulses here."

Very different feelings are aroused by sneers as to the cupboard love which Canada bears the Mother Country, in connection with the suggested preference on our products, and by some bitter allusions to our failure to bear our proportionate share of naval and military expenditure."

## A MODEST SOLDIER

Gen. Nogi, who wielded the human hammer that pounded Port Arthur into submission, is not pleased with himself. This is not usual with successful generals; but the Japanese are different. We do not know how long the British public or the British government would have permitted a British general to throw his troops at a fortress like that Nogi finally carried. We do not know what the Japanese public thought of Nogi's failure to carry it sooner; doubtless there was some impatience. There was much more of the sacrifice of men is not likely. The Japanese expected sacrifices. But it now appears that of the generals returning to Japan from Manchuria Nogi received the most enthusiastic reception. The people and the newspapers praised him to the sky. But, we read:

"In his report of his army's operations, Gen. Nogi severely blames himself for failures in his flanking movement at Mukden, stating that his delay in throwing forces across the right rear of the Russians saved Kuropatkin from annihilation. Critics in press reviews of the campaign, however, say the delay was unavoidable."

They are carried away by some of his successes and are too likely to be lenient in examining what he conceives to have been his failures. He does not even give himself the benefit of the doubt. There is little danger that the generals of other nations will take pattern by this Japanese. Many nations are learning some of the lessons taught by Japan while she was beating Russia, but this example set by Nogi will not prove infectious. The Japanese, as has been remarked by many, are a peculiar people.

## A SERIOUS DIVISION

When Mr. Chamberlain had Mr. Balfour as his guest, at dinner the other evening only a few trusted Unionist journals were informed of the event. These same journals, this morning's despatches announce, take the public into their confidence somewhat further by making it known that the statesmen "have agreed to disagree." Mr. Chamberlain desires that a general meeting of the opposition be called to agree upon a fighting platform for the future and to choose a leader. Mr. Balfour is said to be unwilling to follow this course, though as he was beaten in Manchester and was obviously responsible in no small measure for the defeat of his party, it is difficult to see how he can resist the demand for a convention and reorganization.

Mr. Chamberlain would make protection his, and his party's, slogan from this time forward. Mr. Balfour, early in the recent campaign, declared that he was opposed to protection in theory and in practice, and that he "belonged to the free trade wing of his party." He is unwilling now, it would seem, to have that party confessedly dominated by the protection wing. He would be willing to adopt enough tariff for retaliatory purposes, perhaps, though he is not very enthusiastic about even that. The Unionist split holds public attention in Great Britain for the present, and the developments will be worth watching. Mr. Chamberlain, personally successful and having positive convictions, is likely to crowd Mr. Balfour to the wall. But that Mr. Chamberlain will soon make a formidable fighting machine of the party that was so badly beaten in the recent elections may be doubted. Protection is no word to conjure with in England, for the present at least.

## AN "EXCITED" CANADIAN

Mr. Beckles Wilson, a Canadian whose residence in London has caused him to lose the calm and collected viewpoint, it ever had it, is savagely attacking Canada because he has discovered here a reluctance to have this country used as an insane asylum, a poor farm and a convict station for the undesirable of the British Isles. Mr. Beckles Wilson contributes to "Canada," a new illustrated weekly published in London and Montreal, an excited appeal against foreign immigration to Canada, in the course of which he exclaims:

"The praters of new blood and increased population will, perhaps, declare that I tell them that a few weeks ago in Canada I shed tears at the equator and meanness and vulgarity which I saw invading like a pestilential vapor the villages which had been so calm and clean with the calmness and cleanliness of England. I will proclaim it aloud from the housetops of London and the tree-tops of Quebec that the vilest Londoner has more of decency in him, of civility, of inherent reverence for order, of love of fair play, of honor, than the Sicilian, the Neapolitan, the Canadian, the Magyar, whom my friend Mr. Preston is so feverishly anxious to transfer in their lowliness and ignorance and surly speech to my native land."

Mr. Wilson proclaiming from the treptops of Canada the virtues of the Londoner will be a moving spectacle, but the emotion to which he will move Canadians by this novel outcry will not necessarily be grief and shame. Canadians are easily moved to laughter, and there would be some to say that Mr. Beckles Wilson was making a monkey of himself by chattering from the leafy perch he mentions. There is no good reason why Mr. Wilson should assail our immigration system if he can prove that it is peopling Canada with the scum of Southern Europe; but Canadians, while they do not want the undesirable of Europe, are equally unwilling to look after the Londoner for whom Mr. Wilson speaks so warmly. He recalls what Australia, New Zealand, Virginia and the Carolinas did with even the worst elements of the population unloaded upon them, and asks:

"Why, with England's teeming millions, should Canadians go crying up and down the four quarters of the earth begging every filthy Armenian, Croatian, Slavonian, Latin and Slav to come and sit down in our orchards and our hamlets and grow fatter and filthier and preach anarchy and democracy to our young men, pistol in their hands, and poison in their mouths? England is coolly asked to pick out her filthiest scum, reared under the most favorable conditions, and ship it off to Canada, while being at the same time requested to keep all her struggling, reared, her destitute, her hungry out-of-work, languishing for the fields and pastures which would make them a credit to the race, to keep those in her streets and tenements! Canada, we are told, has no need for these; she is in too great a hurry to assimilate them; she owes no duty to the race; she is scrambling for herself, fighting for the possession of the swart, low-browed mongrels of Europe over ramparts formed of hundreds of thousands of Englishmen who have paid taxes and are starving to death in England's hurried cities."

Mr. Wilson, it will be perceived, needs a sedative. The editor of "Canada," which publishes the Wilson hysterics, feels called upon to dissent from the much the same article contains. "The belief," says "Canada," "that even the 'unemployables' of the crowded English cities are better raw material for the making of a nation than the foreign elements which now form a third to one-quarter of the annual influx of Canadian immigrants. While admitting that he pleads his case with eloquence and obvious sincerity, we do not think that the exclusion of all classes of alien

immigrants would be justifiable. The racial cognateness of the Briton-Swede, Norwegian, Dane, German, and so forth, have a high ethical standard, are soon assimilated and absorbed, and make the best of citizens. It would be very unjust to exclude them. Moreover, justice demands that the French-Canadian, who has played his part in the building of the Dominion, should be allowed to admit his own European kinsmen to the liberties of life in Western Canada." As regards other types of non-British immigrants, "Canada" suggests that their fitness for entry to the Dominion should be carefully scrutinized, which contention is sound enough. A man is not necessarily undesirable because he is "unemployed." If he be "unemployable" it is quite another matter. Mr. Wilson does not appear to know it.

"Canada" interviewed several public men in regard to Mr. Wilson's statements. Sir A. Conan Doyle said: "The virile stock of Canada can absorb anything." Mr. H. Rider Haggard: "Take Anglo-Saxon population while you can get it." Sir Gilbert Parker: "I am not at all opposed to the introduction of aliens, for I believe that they can be absorbed and assimilated; but naturally I should like to see an immense larger importation of British-born subjects." The Hon. A. T. Bracey: "The power of Canada to assimilate Russians, Poles, and Italians depends on the number of these immigrants. The United States has only been able to assimilate immigrants of other than British race by insistence on the English language being the medium of education." Admiral Markham and Mr. Archer Baker saw no cause for alarm in the present immigration to Canada. No one who was interviewed shared Mr. Wilson's excitement or attempted to explain it.

Before very long Canada will be compelled to exercise greater care in admitting immigrants from Southern Europe, and to pay more attention to securing British, German, and Scandinavian. The British are most welcome. But the country needs workers, not criminals or "unemployables." If the newcomer can and will pull his own weight in the boat, there is room for him and success ahead of him. But to bar healthy, industrious Europeans in favor of England's "undesirables" is another matter. Those who will not be loaded upon Canada even were half England's population as excited about it as Mr. Beckles Wilson appears to be.

## NOTE AND COMMENT

The last cold strike was settled long before the presidential election. The Republicans did not wish to go to the country in the face of an industrial disturbance in which the public was so keenly interested. They may not be able to suppress the greater disturbance, which is now threatening. If the mists of soft and hard cold strike together next summer or next fall some of the Hearst pattern will not fail to take advantage of the conditions which will follow.

Friends of Dr. R. F. Quigley are hopeful that he will succeed Judge Wilkinson as county court judge of Redjougou, Gloucester and Northumberland. They point out that in addition to many other qualifications which he undoubtedly possesses, he speaks French fluently, having lived in Paris as well as in Montreal. This knowledge of the two languages is held to be most necessary for a county judge in the territory in question. Dr. Quigley's legal and scholarly standing is unquestionably very high, and his friends are confident that his claims will have careful consideration. He is a native of the North Shore.

## The Goosebone Prophet

The goosebone prophet ate a goose  
A day or two ago;  
Call out the band and turn 'em loose  
And let the tubs blow.

He dried the breast bone near the fire  
Over a charcoal stove;  
Strike up the band there, Hezekiah,  
This winter will be mild.

The goosebone prophet told us so,  
He got it from the goose.  
He says that we'll have lots of snow,  
But winter will be loose.

In February there will be  
Some real old zero starch;  
And maybe we will have a March,  
Some frosty days in March.

But on the whole King Winter's grip  
Won't be so very strong;  
Front time to time he'll take a trip,  
Nor will his stays be long.

So get the band and turn 'em loose,  
Let horn and fife be blown;  
Hurry for that old prophet's forecast,  
Three cheers for his breast bone.

E. A. G. in Detroit Free Press.

## Canada Forever

When our fathers crossed the ocean  
In the glorious days gone by,  
They breathed their deep emotion  
In many a tear and sigh.  
Though a brighter day before them  
The old land held that bore them,  
And all the wide world knows now  
That land was Canada.

Our fathers came to win us  
This land beyond recall,  
And the same blood flows within us  
Of Britain, Celt and Gael.  
Keep alive each glowing ember  
Of our sires' old memories,  
Our country is Canadian  
Whatever may befall.

—Mr. W. H. Drummond, in "Canada."

## Medals for Life Savers.

Ottawa, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—L. L. Borden, leader of the opposition, formally opened the Borden public school to-night.

Lady Grey at City Hall this evening presented a number of medals given by the Ottawa Humane Society for acts of bravery in saving or assisting in saving life. There were six in all. The parties who received the honors were: J. Pollock, Master; Richard W. Wicking and Master Harry Stubbs.

## AIMS BLOW AT STANDARD OIL

Mr. Campbell of Kansas Wants the Trust Under Interstate Commerce Commission

SAYS IT MAKES OWN RATES

Criticizes Its "Decree" to Missouri Officials to Stop Prosecution Under Threat of Retaliation.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.—When the house of representatives took up the railroad rate bill yesterday Mr. Campbell, of Kansas, offered an amendment, designed, he said, to get at the Standard Oil Company. His amendment emphasizes placing all private car and transportation facilities under control of the interstate commerce commission. He announced that later he would press for its adoption.

Mr. Campbell quoted from the testimony of railroad officials showing that the beef packers practically make their own rates, that the Standard Oil Company had dictated in the same manner, and that poultry, fruit and dairy products were subject to the same control. Then, reverting to the Standard Oil Company, Mr. Campbell declared:

"But yesterday they issued a decree to the attorney-general and the governor of Missouri that further prosecution of a suit now pending in the court against them must be stopped, or they will destroy the value of billions and billions of property within the state of Kansas and the Indian Territory."

Mr. Campbell read a resolution presented to the New Jersey legislature, directed against the Standard Oil Company, and remarked: "It must have been said this morning down in New Jersey that the Standard Oil Company had dictated in the same manner, and that poultry, fruit and dairy products were subject to the same control. Then, reverting to the Standard Oil Company, Mr. Campbell declared:

"If the bill answers any useful purpose it will be as a scarecrow," was the assertion of Mr. Perkins, of New York.

## HE HAD \$500,000; WALL STREET GOT IT

Warren Ferris, of West Farms Road, is Now Working for a Contractor for Wages.

New York, Feb. 1.—From a speculator in Wall street with \$500,000 to a superintendent for a contractor for wages, Warren Ferris, of West Farms road, Westchester village, has had a change of fortune. The final blow in his case fell yesterday afternoon, when he was told he had day after tomorrow to get out of the country. He had owned a mortgage on a property owned by Mr. Rogers, a contractor for the Erie railroad, and in order to try his luck he took \$500,000 he had inherited for that purpose. The result of his experience was the loss of the money.

## DOWIE'S FAILURE SAYS ONE OF HIS ELDERS

OHIOAGO, Feb. 5.—Followers of John Alexander Dowie were amazed yesterday to hear from the platform of Shiloh tabernacle in Zion City the frank admission that the work of their leader had failed. The statement came from Elder W. H. Cossum in a sermon.

The elder declared that his conception of Dr. Dowie was that of a man who had been permitted to look forward into the future and grasp the principles of the millennium and had attempted to apply them to present conditions. "He has not succeeded," said the elder. "I hesitate to say it, yet I will say it with love, realizing something of what the fullness of my statement means. He may not have measured up to the great vision which forced him to seek to establish some of the great idealistic principles in the Kingdom in Zion City in this church and in the ideals which he thrust into business life, but he has not succeeded."

## Maine Woodsman Killed.

Damariscotta, Me., Feb. 2.—Norman Sidlinger, aged 55, of Damariscotta, was killed today while felling trees. A large pine was carried by the wind against another tree and the top was broken off. This fell upon Mr. Sidlinger and inflicted injuries from which he died shortly after. He leaves a wife and several children.

"Katy, have you laid the cloth for breakfast yet?" "Ah, sure I have, mem, and everything else by the eggs, an' isn't that the old hen's work, sure?"

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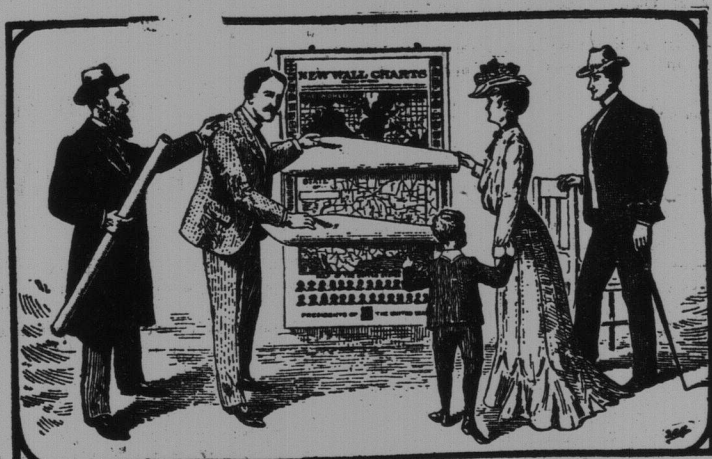
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