

PRINCE COMES OF AGE

The month of June will see a great change in the position of the Prince of Wales. An heir-apparent attains his majority at the age of 18, and thus on June 23 next the Prince of Wales will reach manhood's estate. Many preparations will be made to celebrate the event. The Queen, ever since her return from India, has had this auspicious occasion in view and has been very busy superintending all the work, both at Buckingham Palace and at Windsor Castle, connected with the new suites of rooms to be set aside for the exclusive use of the Prince. These suites will be quite extensive, for the heir-apparent will have his own household and will be in a position to entertain his own friends, and, if he so wishes, to lead a life altogether independent of the rest of the royal household.

The prince will not, however, disavow himself altogether from the affectionate family life to which he has been accustomed.

He will spend some of his time, and will often take his meals in the company of his parents, sister and brothers, but will be able to dine alone should he wish or invite his own particular friends to luncheon or dinner in his own apartments.

The King will, of course, continue to advise and supervise his son's occupations and pursuits, but there will be a governor and controller of His Royal Highness' household and equerry and two secretaries. There will be a large staff of servants, including special pages, coachmen, grooms and a chauffeur.

Invitations will now be sent direct to the Prince and not through the King. He will also be able to accept invitations on his own account, although His Majesty will doubtless be often consulted.

The Queen's regency, created in the event of a prolonged absence or of dire misfortune to the King, will cease automatically on June 23. The Prince of Wales will be of age and legally enabled to take His Majesty's position, should any emergency occur.

There will probably be a formal dinner party at Buckingham Palace on June 24 in honor of the occasion. This will be the first occasion on which the prince will be the principal guest at a banquet.

CANADA'S TRADE

Canada's total trade for the past fiscal year, which ended March 31, amounted to \$862,699,732, an increase of no less than \$103,603,343, as compared with the preceding fiscal year. Imports totalled \$547,382,582, an increase of nearly \$86,000,000. Exports totalled \$315,317,250, an increase of nearly \$18,000,000.

The year's increase in trade, over 14 per cent, is one of the largest, if not the largest in the history of Canada. According to present indications the Dominion trade for the current fiscal year will run very close to the billion dollar mark. Of the total imports for the past year \$335,204,452 were dutiable goods, while \$186,144,249 were free goods. The customs revenue totalled \$87,548,452, an increase of \$14,250,909.

Exports of domestic products for the year totalled \$290,223,857, the principal items being agricultural products, \$107,143,375, animals and their products, \$48,210,654; mines, \$41,324,516; forests, \$40,892,674; manufactures, \$35,836,284; fisheries, \$16,704,678.

The increase in agricultural exports was approximately \$24,500,000. In manufactures the increase was not quite \$500,000. Fisheries exports increased by a little over \$1,000,000. On the other hand there were decreases of a little over \$4,000,000 in the exports of animals and their products, and nearly \$5,000,000 in the exports of the forest, and \$1,500,000 in mineral exports.

During the year Canada imported coin and bullion to the value of \$26,033,881, as compared with only \$10,206,210 for the preceding year.



Immigration Increases

The total immigration to Canada during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1912, was 354,237, compared with 311,084 in the previous year, an increase of 14 per cent. Of the total arrivals during the year 215,138 were at ocean ports as compared with 183,817 in the previous year. There was an increase in the number of arrivals from the United States from 121,451 for the fiscal year 1910-11 to 133,710 in the fiscal year 1911-12. Of the total immigration 211,266 were adult males, 82,922 adult females and 60,049 were children. The increase in the number of males as compared with the preceding year, was 26,068, in females 11,884, and in children 5,891.

CHEAP MONEY FOR U.S. FARMERS

Washington, May 28.—Cheaper money for the borrowing American farmer is the object of an investigation recently undertaken by the state department through five of its ambassadors in Europe.

In America the farmer today pays a higher rate of interest for his money, proportionate to the security which he offers in his farmland mortgage, than almost any other class of investors in the country. In Europe the farmer borrows on equal terms with the biggest railroad, industrial corporation, or municipality.

President Taft wants to introduce the European system in this country so that the American farmer can raise money on his farm through a bond salable in any part of the country. Cheap money, thinks Mr. Taft, will put it in the power of the small farmer, or the tenant who wants to start out for himself, to get his farm on a paying basis without shouldering a staggering burden at the outset. It would thus do more than all else to advance the "back-to-the-farm" idea. It would enable the farmer to adopt the scientific methods of farming which the government is teaching him and which always cost money at the start.

The investigation is considered one of the most important undertakings yet attempted in dollar diplomacy. Myron T. Herrick, the newly appointed ambassador to France, is Secretary Knox's right-hand man in the investigation. Mr. Herrick is himself the product of an Ohio farm and has made the "problem of the farmer" a hobby for years. When the work in Europe is completed the state department will prepare an organization plan to fit the scheme to American conditions and a legislative program will probably be mapped out for the president to submit to congress. The investigation is centered about the Credit Foncier of France and the Landschaften of Germany.

CANADA'S EXHIBIT BARRED

Canada has been barred from making an exhibit at the Wisconsin state exhibition this year, the state immigration authorities having protested against Canada being allowed to make a showing. They declare that Canadian immigration literature is false and misleading, and that this has been discovered by people who have been induced to go from Wisconsin to Canada and have "returned poorer and wiser."

The immigration authorities at Ottawa state that there is no foundation for the charges against their literature, but say that the state of Wisconsin objects to losing good citizens at the rate they have been moving to Canada for the past five years. Wisconsin is not the first state to refuse Canada space in which to make a display of its products, though a few years ago they used to urge Canada to come and gave free all the space desired.

However Canada has always been on hand when the crowd collected. Whenever exhibition authorities have barred the Dominion from the grounds, Canada has hired a building in a more conspicuous place than the exhibition, and has put in a first-class display which has attracted great attention. This will be done at the Wisconsin fair this year. The immigration authorities will see that Canada's advantages are made known to all who attend the exhibition. The action of American authorities in barring Canada is taken as a testimonial to the advantages of the Dominion and the success of its immigration work.



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PAIRING OFF

On the morning of election a farmer came into Hiram Morse's blacksmith shop to have his horse shod.

"Purty busy this mornin', Bill!" inquired Morse, as he raked embers together on the forge.

"Yep," answered Bill. "Hain't got hardly time ter go ter th' village and vote."

"Wal, I'm purty busy myself," said

Morse casually. "I'll tell yer what we'll do," he added, after a moment's thought, "'Long's yer a Republican an' I'm a Democrat, we'll pair off, jest as they do in Congress, an' neither of us will vote. What do yer say?"

Bill agreed to the proposition, but after election it was found that the blacksmith had paired off with every Republican customer who had come into the shop.—Metropolitan Magazine.