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SAINT JOHN, WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 3, 1910

THE NEW ACCESSION OATH.

After passing the British House of Commons by an overwhelming majority the accession declaration bill was given its second reading in the House of Lords on Monday without a dissenting voice and is now certain of adoption. The form of the new accession oath will abate a grievance, which, though more sentimental than practical, has been keenly felt by many loyal subjects of the crown. The development of a spirit of tolerance which is marked by the change is almost epoch making in its importance.

The changes in the oath have a double significance; first in reference to Roman Catholicism, and second in reference to Nonconformity. The intent of the old oath was to assure the independence of the sovereign from the Church of Rome, and, framed in days of bitterness and intolerance, it was made to contain not only that assurance but also an unsparing denunciation of certain essential doctrines of that Church. Today the British people, while as determined as ever to maintain the Protestant succession, realize that an accession or coronation oath is not an ecclesiastical polemic, and are satisfied with simply an unequivocal declaration that the sovereign is "a faithful Protestant." Protestants can rightly ask no more than that their sovereign shall be a faithful Protestant, and Roman Catholics cannot object to the sovereign of a Protestant country being a Protestant any more than Protestants can take exception to the sovereigns of Roman Catholic countries being Roman Catholics.

The other significance of the change was unexpected and is really the greater of the two. It will be observed that the King is not to avow himself a Protestant of the Established Church, but merely a Protestant, which might mean a Nonconformist of any of half a dozen denominations. In view of this fact it is all the more noteworthy that the Archbishop of Canterbury, who spoke on the second reading in the House of Lords, said he had taken a share in drafting the bill.

The act will, of course, make no change in the laws and constitutional provisions which establish the relations of Crown and Church, and which make the sovereign the civil head of the Church. But it is none the less a most significant thing to have all mention of the Established Church purposely omitted from the royal oath, and the sovereign left, so far as that affirmation is concerned, free to be a Methodist or Baptist or Presbyterian.

BISLEY TEAM'S UNFOUNDED COMPLAINTS.

Members of the Bisley team who returned from England on Saturday, says the Montreal Gazette, are quoted as complaining that they did not receive fair treatment at the meet this year. Fortunately they give specific instances of alleged unfair treatment. For instance, it is complained that in the Prince of Wales trophy contest Capt. McHarg, of Vancouver, was tied for first place with a Britisher named Wellington. The committee decided that as Wellington had put most central bulls he should be awarded the prize. "That ruling," it is admitted, "was all right, but when in the grand aggregate Private Steele, of Guelph, shot 241 and tied with a Scotchman named Ommundsen he had to shoot off again, although he had put in more central bulls than had the Scotchman. There should be no making fish of one marksman and flesh of another."

Now, as the complainant in this case admits, the Prince of Wales' prize was fairly awarded to Capt. McHarg's competitor, the grievance comes down to the failure to give Private Steele first place in the grand aggregate because he had more centrals than his opponent. Unfortunately for the cause of the complainant the Bisley regulations have for years provided that ties for first place in certain important matches, including the King's, the St. George's and the Grand Aggregate shall be decided by shooting off and not by counting off. Consequently there could not have been any attempt on the part of the committee of judges to do an injustice to a Canadian, for the procedure followed was that specifically called for by the regulations, a regulation in this instance that had been in force for years and was plainly understood by all competitors who read the rules.

But this is not all. Complaint is made because Sergeant Morris was first posted as second in the King's, whereas the revised prize list put him in third. The mistake was a disappointing one to the sergeant certainly, for second place was worth £60 and third only £40, a difference of nearly \$100. The complaint in this instance is formulated as follows:—"Another rule had been dug up which said that the score at the last three ranges should be counted, and on the nine hundred yards range Morris had dropped further behind than he had gone ahead at the 1,000 yards range."

The posting of Morris in second place was plainly an error, for the rule regarding ties reads:—"If at more than one distance by the range totals in order of distance, commencing with the longest." That was the rule under which Sergt. Morris was placed third instead of second. It is not a new rule. Every rifleman knows it. Sergeant Morris had no complaint, and it is doubtful if he made any.

The Canadian team did well enough at Bisley this year to render it unnecessary for any of its members to come home and set up a howl about being robbed. To do so when there is no evidence of anything of the kind having happened is far from sportsmanlike.

A PROVINCIAL PRISON FARM.

An experiment of Hon. W. J. Hanna, provincial secretary of Ontario, in the establishment of a provincial prison farm at Guelph, appears to have justified his opinion when he outlined the scheme three years ago that it would be an ideal solution of a difficult problem. Mr. Hanna has succeeded in doing away with the confinement and degradation of a barred prison and has substituted something which appeals to a man's better nature.

Commenting on the success of the scheme, the *Can. Herald* says:—

"Now, only three years later, his scheme is in full working order. Nothing less than a revolution has been accomplished. To anyone who is acquainted with 'life in Ontario's central prison, with the high stone walls, the armed guards, the separate cells, the isolation of the prisoners, it would seem as if he was in 'More's Utopia' if he were transplanted to Guelph. In that remarkable dream book written in 1516, More declares the idea of punishment or reformation to be 'nothing else but the destruction of vice and the saving of men.' He advises that prisoners be so treated that 'none is hopeless or in despair to recover again' and 'his former state of freedom by giving good tokens and likelihood of himself that he will ever after that live a true and honest man.'"

In Guelph the "boys," for that is the name given to the prisoners there, may be seen living all together in a light, airy building, sleeping in well ventilated dormitories, eating the best food in a breezy, clean dining-room, working at the various duties of a farm, and doing construction work on the property. The handful of guards are foremen rather than sentinels. The prisoners do not have an easy time. They have to work hard, and are under salutary discipline, but they are being trained in self-restraint, and are being raised from the hopelessness of the criminal to the hopefulness of the man who has been treated with kindness, and who is going soon to be given another chance. Mr. Hanna's plan is to be commended as one of the sanest and best worked out propositions of the kind yet undertaken.

A DISTINCT LOSS.

It is sad news which the fashion papers bring us. The "hobble" skirt is doomed. Its popularity has not come up to expectations. Yet, viewed from the standpoint of mere masculine nonentity, there appears to have been merit in the "hobble" skirt, which has been overlooked.

Take, for example, that always delicate question of a woman's age. According to reliable report, the "hobble" skirt went a long way to settle this embarrassing problem. Women clad in it are said to have looked their real age or even a little past it. Some cynic, of course, might suggest this as a reason for the skirt's unpopularity, but it is surely more gallant to commend the ladies for having adopted it in a belated spirit of fairness in the first instance, and accord them their undoubted privilege to change their minds.

As for the scenic value of the skirt, from a rear view especially, there was much that was new and original. It had all the slow grace of undulation so characteristic of a Turk's full dress trousers, or the hind legs of an elephant. It even approached that elegant abandon of a suit of men's clothes. Furthermore the economy in construction was a strong point in its favor. A garment that could be built with only two seams and a puckering string was surely worthy of a longer life in these days of the "survival of the fittest" in family finance.

Still fashion has decreed that the "hobble" skirt must go, and there's no use talking. We are convinced however, that its full value has never been realized. If its merits had been more widely known it would doubtless have become popular. Now, alas, it is too late!

The organ of the dredging grafters is again starting a campaign of mendacity and misrepresentation. In an alleged interview it makes a St. John business man say that the roads in St. John, Kings and Queens counties, have never in his experience been so bad as they have been during the present summer. The Telegraph has no limit to the ideas it entertains as to credulity of its readers. It is a well known fact, and inspection has proved that, considering the conditions consequent on the frequent heavy rains, the roads of the province are in far better shape than they have been for years. It would be interesting, by the way, if the Telegraph would institute a contrast between the condition of the bridges of the province today and when the old government went out of power.

CURRENT COMMENT

(The London Times, England.)

Another instance of the growing popularity of the Strand as the headquarters of the Colonial governments in London is furnished by the fact that the offices of the province of New Brunswick have been removed from Laurence Pountney-hill to Southampton street, Strand. The new premises will be opened by Lord Strathcona next Monday. They are spacious and easily accessible, and, following the practice already carried out by the Ontario offices and many others, an attempt will be made to arrest the attention of passers by. At the outset, however, the windows will not be filled merely with an exhibit of the products of the province; a more elaborate pictorial effect is to be attempted. Workpeople are at present engaged in building up a scene which will represent a typical Canadian settlement.

(Buffalo News.)

British cotton mill, employer and employee, have agreed on terms for five years, during which time nothing shall be said of rise or fall in wages or change in hours. The deal was made necessary to hold trade. Rivals in other countries were getting business away from Britain because of labor troubles, with free trade added to make competition harder to meet. The Stove Founders' Defence association and the American Federation of Labor have reached a peace agreement. On both sides of the ocean it is realized that peace pays better than war, and the continental nations are pushing for world trade so effectively that there is double reason for mutual concession and for peace to meet them in neutral markets.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

Those American newspapers that have been so hearty in their condemnation of the British coronation oath, and have decanted on its offensive character, might now turn their attention nearer home, and take a few crumbs in their own oven of allegiance. Any Canadian, or other British born citizen, before he can get a vote in the United States, must not only swear allegiance, but particularly forswear any allegiance to the King of Great Britain. This is a relic of the Boston Teaparty, but it is offensively insisted upon.

(Kingston Whig.)

A new and very serious difficulty has befallen the British legislators. It is the punctation of the common prayer book. A comma has been displaced or lost from the Lord's Prayer, and the home secretary does not see how he can replace it or restore it without special legislation. They do take things seriously around the pond.

THE FINAL GOAL OF MYSTICISM.

The cultivation of the intellectual is an essential task; but this is a step still to be taken. The wizard builds his tower of speculation by the hands of human workmen till he reaches the top story, and then summons his gull to fashion the battlements of adamant, and crown them with starry fire. The final goal is that ecstasy in which all our finite personality, thought and self-consciousness drop away, and melt to a oneness with the absolute, wherein no shade of difference enters.

—PLOTINUS.

JOSH WISE SAYS.

"Oatsake—advertised: 'Perfect gentleman wants a housekeeper.' But he didn't get a reply till he changed to 'ter read 'wealthy invalid.'"

On her deathbed Maggie extracted

a solemn promise from Bill that he would never marry again; furthermore if he should marry again, she would scratch through the ground and come back to punish him. But a few months later Bill married again. "Aren't you afraid of poor Maggie's threat?" asked a relative. "Don't you worry about that," said Bill. "I buried her face downwards so she can't see me scratch, the further down she'll go."

Where none admire 'tis useless to excel;
Where none are beaux, 'tis vain to be a belle.

—Lytleton.

The citizen was getting subscriptions for a statue to a great scholar. A certain merchant declined to subscribe, remarking: "There is no necessity for a monument to Mr. ——. His fame is enshrined in the hearts of his country." "Is he enshrined in your heart?" "He is sir."

"Then all I have to say is that he is in a mighty tight place."

The Eel—What's the hammerheaded shark doing to the cable?

The Lobster—Shh! He's wire-tapping.

BUSINESS GOOD

IN DALHOUSIE

Harbor Crowded With Shipping

and all Her Industries a

Hum—Interesting Budget

From Thriving Town.

Dalhousie, Aug. 2.—Dalhousie is

one of the busy centres of the Mar-

time Provinces. The excellent har-

bor and many industries call for a

large number of vessels each year to

carry the exports to foreign ports. At

present every berth is taken by ves-

sels loading or discharging cargoes.

At the Dalhousie Lumber Company's

wharf lies the SS Manchester Engineer

Powell at the ferry wharf. The SS

Canada does not go to Campbellton now

and it is found necessary to obtain sup-

plies of coal, provisions and water

at the public wharf. This adds con-

siderably to the business interests of

the town.

The SS Fram arrived here on Wed-

nesday to load pulpwood from the

Dalhousie Lumber Company. This

mill is turning out the material fast-

er than one vessel can carry it away.

The SS Tuddal came down from

Campbellton on Wednesday to finish

loading here. She could not get a

berth until today when one of the

vessels moved.

The I. C. R. agents say that there

was never such a volume of business

as at present. The freight team is con-

tinually crowded and the truck teams

are over worked. The merchants find

an increase in trade since the disaster

at Campbellton.

Considerable improvements have

been effected this season so far. Alex

McKay has altered his harness shop

and has now an up to date estab-

lishment. John Potts purchased the

Polquin building on Main street and is

remodelling it into a residence. The

Dalhousie Lumber Company has shift-

ed several buildings and are fitting

them up rent. Wm. Gallop has add-

ed to his business by erecting a re-

pair room for autos and he finds his

hands full of this work.

Dr. Byrd, dentist of Campbellton,

has located here for several months.

He will take up the rooms formerly

occupied by the late J. C. Barberie.

Two gentlemen have been looking

over a site to erect a cash and door

factory. This industry should thrive

here under prevailing conditions. Such

material has to be imported from

towns in the southern part of the

province.

There is a strong endeavor to have

a civilian's rifle association organized

here. The necessary steps have been

taken and at present about 40 mem-

bers have enrolled. The idea has met

with the hearty support of all who

have been approached on the subject.

A range can be easily secured at a

short distance from the town, and

those interested are looking for an

early organization of a strong, en-

thusiastic club.

On Monday a large number of the

navies from Mission Point opposite

Campbellton paid Dalhousie a friendly

visit. Men, women and children were

among the visitors.

It seems strange that every man

and boy carried a suit case or some

other receptacle in which there seem-

ed to be considerable goods, but,

thinking that their supply was cut off

at Campbellton, the suspicion of the

officers was not aroused until about

train time, when one young brave ac-

cidentally dropped a loaded revolver

in front of Officer George Seeley. The

young man was lodged in jail and his

grip was found to be filled with the

mixture that makes the braves mer-

ry. One older Indian loaded up inside

too heavily boots and stockings. He

put in the jail, his suit case was also

full of liquor.

There is to be a celebration at the

Mission Point in a few days, and the

liquor was for that purpose. Wm.

William Miller of Black Lands,

Kent County, who met with such a

serious accident in Bearinger and

Chapin's mill last week, is rapidly im-

proving. Mr. Miller was turning on a

belt on a wheel driven by a shaft re-

volving about 800 times a minute,

when a key caught his coat. He was

taken around with the shaft a few

times and divested of all his clothing

except his boots and stockings. This

was the only thing that saved him.

Two ribs were broken and one arm

badly cut.

W. H. Mott was in town on Mon-

day. Mr. Mott has been appointed

clerk of the peace in the place of

James S. Harquail, Jr., who died this

spring. He intends buying a residence

and making his home here in the

future.

On the first Sunday in August, the

St. John's Presbyterian church will

hold its anniversary service. Rev.

Robert Haddow will have charge. Mr.

Haddow was born here and is now

editor of two papers in Toronto, and

with his family, spends the summer

months with his father, Geo. Haddow,

of the Customs Department. The

special collection will go towards the

building fund of St. Andrew's Presby-

terian church in Campbellton.

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Aluminum Utensils

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pair room for autos and he finds his hands full of this work.

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