

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE MONTH

The Jamestown Exhibition to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the first British settlement in America, was opened on April 26.

The British Army has removed its ban on Chicago canned meats, and will again use them as long as their manufacture is properly supervised.

Ex-President José Lizandro Barrillas, of Guatemala, was murdered on April 7, in the Mexican House of Commons by a young Guatemalan, 19 years of age, named Cabrero.

The valuable new Atlas of Canada just issued by the Department of the Interior is described as the most elaborate work that has ever been issued from the Government press.

A London report says that Japan is planning to have built for her, in England, the largest battleship in the world. It is to have a displacement of 21,000 tons, and its cost will approximate \$11,350,000.

The latest achievement of the Röntgen Ray experts is the photographing of the breath. It is expected that the discovery will play an important part in the diagnosis of tuberculosis, and all respiratory diseases in that it shows the sympathetic action of the lungs and heart. The inventor of the method is Dr. Koehler, of Wiesbaden.

The notorious trial of Harry Thaw for the murder of Stanford White, with which New York and the continent has been reeking since the 23rd of last January, was closed on April 12. The jury announced itself divided—seven for a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree, and five for acquittal on the ground of insanity. The prisoner was remanded to the Tombs without bail.

The new Governor of Jamaica is Mr. Sydney Olivier, C.M.G. Mr. Olivier is the principal clerk of the West African Department of the Colonial Office. He has been Acting Colonial Secretary of British Honduras, Auditor-General of the Leeward Islands, secretary of the West India Royal Commission in 1897, Colonial Secretary of Jamaica from 1899-1904, and Acting Governor in 1900, 1902 and 1904.

Finland is the first country in the world to open its parliament to women. In the recent elections for the Diet, nineteen women were returned. During the agitation which brought this about, the women of the country are said to have been so in earnest in the matter that they warned the men if they did not give the women the vote they would have to stay at home and cook their own meals, and tend their own babies.

The French play of 'La Rafale' recently given in Montreal, has been denounced by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of the city, as the production of misguided minds and corrupt hearts, and the theatre in which it was produced was placed under the ban until the managers promised for the future to put no play before the public until it had first been approved by a committee of censors. This was promptly agreed to by the management.

In the Dominion Senate last month, Sir Richard Cartwright gave a detailed explanation of his proposed plan of old age annuities. The scheme is in no way to encroach upon the field of life insurance, as no annuity would exceed \$400 a year, but they would be inalienable, and there would be no forfeiture. Everything a man paid should go back to him in some form. If he died before reaching the age at which he should receive the annuity what he paid would be returned to his heirs.

In France the sensation of the hour is the announcement by M. Clemenceau, the Premier, that the custom of civil and military authorities taking official part in the celebration of the defeat of the English by Joan of Arc must be done away with. An influential deputation was sent hot foot from Orleans to plead that the abolishing of the celebration would be disastrous to the city, but they were answered by the premier with withering sarcasm. The Cabinet is known on the streets as 'Clemenceau and Co.,' and he is declared to be the only man in it that counts.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in welcoming Mr. James Bryce to Canada last month, said the new British Ambassador had already turned a new leaf in the history of this continent; he was the first British Ambassador to the United States to visit Canada during his term of office, and he had been proof against both the American and Canadian reporter. Mr. Bryce had long ago shown that he knew more about the United States than the Americans themselves, and he did not despair that some time or other we might have from the same pen a book that would reveal Canada in the same light.

Through the combined efforts of the two postmasters general, the Rt. Hon. Sydney Buxton and the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, the postage on newspapers, magazines and trade journals between Great Britain and Canada has been reduced from eight cents to two cents per pound. In making the announcement in the British House of Commons, Mr. Buxton said the concession must not be regarded as a precedent for a reduction in other classes. It was based on the special and peculiar position offered by Canada, geographically and otherwise, by which British newspapers, etc., were unable to obtain a footing in Canada. The arrangement, Mr. Buxton added, was experimental, and was limited at present to four years.

Lord Cromer (Evelyn Baring), who, since 1883 has been Britain's plenipotentiary on the Nile, has resigned owing to advancing age and ill-health caused by long years of overwork. Lord Cromer, in his reports on the various administrative departments of the Egyptian Government, published on April 3, dealt at length with the anti-British movement known as 'Egyptian nationalism,' which he described as a plant 'of exotic rather than indigenous growth,' and as being 'deeply tinged with pan-Islamism,' thereby meaning, he added, 'a combination of all the Moslems throughout the world to defy and resist the Christian powers.' Viewed in this aspect, the report continued, the movement required to be watched carefully by all European nations, as it might possibly lead to sporadic outbursts in different parts of the world. He added, 'We were within a very measurable distance of such an outburst last spring, when the European inhabitants of Egypt flocked into the towns. Their alarm was not at all unreasonable.' According to Lord Cromer's report cohesion between the Egyptians and foreigners can be secured only by the creation of a local International Legislative Council, composed of thirty-six members, sixteen to be nominated by the government, and the remaining twenty to be elected by interested prominent foreign residents. Sir Eldon Gorst, who succeeds Lord Cromer in Egypt, has been assistant under secretary of state for foreign affairs since 1904. He is a son of Sir John Gorst.

The Colonial Conference will henceforth be known as the Imperial Conference, and its character will correspond with its name. On April 23 a resolution was passed providing for the creation of a 'General Staff of the Empire,' to be selected from the forces of the Empire as a whole, to study military science, disseminate

military information, prepare schemes of defence, and advise as to the training and war organization of the military forces of the Crown in every part of the Empire. The colonial premiers have nearly all expressed the opinion that the colonies should cease their general contributions, which are lost sight of in the general naval expenditure of the Empire, and instead, man and keep up a certain number of ships, maintain coaling stations, and ammunition and food depots. On this question Sir Wilfrid Laurier has alone been silent leaving it to be understood that Canada does not favor participation in Imperial defence. The Transvaal and Canadian premiers continue to be the striking personalities of the Conference, and seem to have formed a strong personal friendship, General Botha having given Sir Wilfrid Laurier a cordial invitation to visit the Transvaal. Sir Edward Grey, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in speaking at a dinner in honor of the visiting premiers, last week, said the British were a people, not of great plans, but of great results, and he was convinced that Britain's future lay, not so much in what her people planned as in the tendency they had to be true to one another.

INCREASE OF INTERNATIONAL POSTAGE ON PERIODICALS.

CANADIAN PAPERS FOR CANADIANS.

Beginning with May 8, an almost prohibitive rate of postage will be in force for newspapers and periodicals passing between Canada and the United States.

The reason for this is the refusal on the part of the Canadian Government to continue any longer the existing arrangements whereby tons upon tons of American newspapers and periodicals were carried over Canadian railway lines, and distributed to the remotest parts of Canada, at enormous expense, and without one cent of compensation from the American Government.

Of course, the arrangement was supposed to be a mutual one, but inasmuch as 'Americans' have always made a point of cultivating and supporting American periodicals, the amount of Canadian matter of this class distributed free throughout the United States amounted to a comparative bagatelle.

In addition to this one-sidedness, in which all the benefits accrued to the United States Post-Office, the United States publishers, and the United States paper-makers, the advertising carried by these American publications drew immense wealth across the border and away from Canadian producers. A change, therefore, was inevitable, and this change comes into force, as stated above, on May 8. Although entirely unsought by the publishers of the 'Canadian Pictorial,' the working of this new act will undoubtedly help this paper. Canadians have continued to be very large supporters of illustrated papers from over the line, largely because these papers were continually thrust upon their notice, and because they did not realize that the demand for pictures of high class was being met right in their own Dominion. They did not know the 'Canadian Pictorial.'

Just at this time, therefore, when many of these people will, on account of increased postage, be dropping their subscriptions to illustrated papers from the United States, the subscribers of the 'Canadian Pictorial' will confer a favor alike on the publishers and upon their own friends by drawing their attention to this national illustrated monthly, and recommending them to give it a trial.

THE COVER PICTURE.

The picture on the cover, so full of life, shows one of the feats of horsemanship for which Italian cavalry officers are famous. From stereograph, copyright, by Underwood and Underwood, New York.