

different to-day, in that our acquired or traditional progress, transmitted by the process of education, and accumulating from age to age—not in our blood and bone and brain, but mainly in books, whereby the non-transmission of the results of education is circumvented in a sense—has reached the point at

which the laws of racial or inherent progress has been revealed to us as to none of our predecessors. Having the knowledge of these laws, it is possible that we may avert our predecessors' fate by putting them into force. If we do not we must ultimately become "one with Nineveh and Tyre."

A CANADIAN RADICAL IN LONDON

HIS VIEW OF THE NAVAL DISTURBANCE

London, 21, 4, '09.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN COURIER:

Sir,—A few remarks on the war scare, at present disturbing the peaceful citizens of Europe, by a Canadian observer in London, might be of interest to the readers of the COURIER. As your readers know the yellow press of this country, presumably instigated by a class of persons of whom I will speak further on in this letter, and who would probably like to conceal their motives, is doing its best to excite the fighting passions, usually dormant among Englishmen—not that Englishmen are averse to fighting, by any means, if occasion demanded.

among the aristocracy, especially those living on unearned incomes, are the people who really want war. The instinct of self-preservation has a lot to do with it. They are probably right in thinking that a war fever would divert the attention of the people from economic questions, which are evidently becoming too hot for them. If they would only be content to confine their sphere of "uselessness" in providing news for the society columns of the fashionable dailies, much harm would be left undone.

Already one-half the revenue of Europe is spent on military and naval efficiency. Unfortunately the prospects are that this useless expenditure will assume larger proportions. This money is sadly

policy of the two-power standard, but there is nothing in it to be proud about. A large boy has no occasion to wear laurels, because he happens to be the victor in a fight with a much smaller boy. Blake or Nelson achieved victory by their ability and courage. Nelson's pillar in Trafalgar Square would have assumed the dimensions of an ordinary tombstone if the English fleet had been stronger than the French fleet at the battle of Trafalgar.

Diplomacy, I think, is a cause instead of a preventative of war. Business between nations should be above-board. Secrecy in international affairs is out of date. If you could only get the people in the different countries to trust each other, there would be no need for war. Instil international confidence and war will cease. One has every reason to be optimistic over the establishment of this confidence. The commerce between nations has sown the seed of a better feeling, and unless war-scare artists provoke a war, peacemakers have every reason to be hopeful.

I noticed with extreme regret that the Dominion Government passed a resolution offering to help this country in the event of war. Although I have no fault to find with the sentiment of this resolution, I think it would have been much better for that sentiment to have been understood. Canada at the



The Day of the Summer Picnic rapidly approaches

PHOTOGRAPH BY PRINGLE & BOOTH

This country is suffering from *Dreadnoughts* on the brain, and I believe that certain people are encouraging this panic from personal motives. It is estimated that \$1,200,000 is the profit made by the builders on one *Dreadnought*. Obviously these builders will not object to more *Dreadnoughts*. This will merely suggest how one of the vested interests will benefit. The case of the man who amasses wealth during a time of war is too well known to excite comment, although it cannot fail to excite suspicion when he clamours for war. It is much easier to get rich in this patriotic way than in honest commerce in times of peace. The yellow press, which is now bursting with patriotism, is writing loud articles on national insecurity, but everyone knows what a war, or even rumours of war, would mean to the yellow press. Some of your readers may be surprised to learn that the yellow press has even a greater influence over the people here than in America, and if a war should arise between this country and Germany, I am confident that the yellow press in both countries will be responsible for it. Personally I can conceive of no meaner men under heaven than those who will use their admittedly brilliant talents in provoking a war, knowing well themselves that they will never fight. Just a word of the class to whom I referred above, who are aiding the yellow journals. Those

needed for more productive purposes. A mere fraction of the amount of money spent on *Dreadnoughts* in this country would provide a comfortable shelter for the poor unfortunates who are forced to sleep in the open. A stroll along the Thames Embankment about 2 a.m. would convince the possessor of the most hardened heart that immediate relief should be given to these people. The only reason the present government has for not giving more assistance to the submerged tenth of this country, is that it cannot afford it. Much more money should be spent on education. England spends comparatively an insignificant amount on education. The readers of your paper can readily judge the standard of education for the poorer classes here, by a certain type of Englishman met with in Canada.

There is a huge difference between bigness and greatness, but it is very hard to make people here appreciate that difference. For instance, a man would be a big man if he measured six-foot-three in his stocking feet, and weighed 250 pounds, but that would not make him a great man. A great man is one who will develop as far as possible the deeper and better feelings of his nature. As it is with men, so it is with nations. England has achieved bigness, and to a certain extent greatness. I would like England to be a great nation. There certainly is a substratum of common sense in the present

time of the South African War clearly demonstrated to the world her willingness to aid the mother country. My objection to the resolution is that it will help to fan the present flame of panic, from which no good can result. Scare-mongers are urging the government to follow the brilliant example of the colonies. Some of the exponents of the conservative party are using this resolution for party purposes. It will be remembered that Canadians did not exactly relish Lord Dundonald's criticisms on Canada's military affairs. Now I do not for one moment suggest that the Dominion Government had any intention of embarrassing the Liberal party here. Unfortunately national defence has become a party question. It has been the curse of more than one big national problem that it has degenerated into a mere party squabble. The Liberals are now accused of being the unworthy fiduciaries of a great trust. Canada should carefully weigh and consider any offer it makes to this country. No rash promises should be made. In the time of Britain's need Canada would not be found wanting, but much harm would be done in fanning a flame which threatens to swamp civilisation.

Yours very truly,

A. W. HAYCOCK.