The Albertan

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LONG LIVE THE KING

The British people are less acquainted with King George V. than with his father when he became the ruling sovereign of Great Britain. The late King had assumed some of the social functions of monarchy long before he wore the crown. However, though King George V. has been to a great extent overshadowed by his illustrious father, he has visited all of the Dominions and held many important offices. The journey of the present King around the world in 1901 was a very important one. It was at the conclusion of that visit, in a speech in England, that he warned the British people that they must wake up, and revealed to them something of the future greatness of the colonies, which did more to direct the attention of the old land to the Greater Britain than perhaps anything else.

King George comes to the throne at a critical moment. The responsibilities of monarchy may not be as great as in years gone by, but the responsibilities facing the new King are greater than any of his immediate predecessors had to face when entering upon the monarchy. There has been some doubt about his ability to meet the crisis with the wise and tactful hand of King Edward VII. But it is to be hoped that the wisdom and tactfulness that characterized to such an eminent degree the late king will have descended in full measure upon his successor.

THE KING IS DEAD

"Well, it is all over, but I think I have done my duty." Such, we are told were the last words of the dying monarch. While face to face with the grim monster and gazing into the great beyond, the passing sovereign could honestly declare that he did his duty to his people and to his God.

And that will be the verdict of history. King Edward VII was a worthy monarch of a great people. He approached his responsible duties with sincerity and with the greatest tact. It was his fate to rule over the greatest of nations at the very zenith of its power. The ten years of his occupancy of the British throne, though, to a great extent peaceful, were extremely important years. It is likely that history will recall that it was during this period that the great nations of the world began to realize the fruitlessness of war. If so, it will further say that a mighty impetus was given to the general desire for international peace, by the tactful efforts of Britain's King, who by his own personal influence made international friendships which were secure and lasting. If history does reveal to the future these facts it will crown the memory of King Edward VII as among the greatest of the world's immortals.

He was a wise, tactful ruler. He was a worthy representative of a great nation. By his gentle manner, his generous disposition, his noble bearing he made the throne popular throughout the world, and made the propaganda of the nihilist and anarchist impossible in Great Britain.

Kind Edward VII died as he lived, a courageous, courteous British gentleman. He was a true, manly, noble Briton.

DIFFERENCES IN THE FAMILY

The little twin brother, the Edmonton Journal, has an interview with Chief Justice Sifton and tells the world that that gentleman will not retire from the bench to enter politics.

The big twin brother, the Calgary Herald, says editorially that "there is nothing between Mr. Sifton and the premiership except the announcement of his acceptance," and abuses as selfish persons all who have accepted the word of the little twin brother as truth.

It is distressing to see such differences in the family, but it is pretty safe to say that one of the brothers has guessed right. As the little twin brother gives its information as news and the big twin brother uses its information merely as a sort of bludgeon to batter those whom it dislikes, the family need not be surprised if the public prefers to accept the word of the smaller, but more truthful twin.

MOTHER'S DAY

The May issue of the Canadian Home Journal contains an article on Mother's Day, which it is proposed to celebrate tomorrow. The following quotation affords an indication of the tone and purport of the article: "This new movement for Mother's Day is in itself more significant than any monument and, by associating itself with flowers, gives a peculiar sweetness and pleasing suggestion to the memories of the day. No matter how world-weary or troubled the woman or man may be, the very thought of the old home and childhood associations will bring refreshment and healing. Perhaps it was a farmhouse on the wide acres of a Canadian homestead where there was room and to spare for a band of merry youngsters. There was such a fine old orchard, such an alluring creek for small feet to wade in, such a glorious hayloft for a romp on a holiday! But, best of all, was the mother's face smiling from the kitchen doorway as the tired small persons came home from school or play. What a fine old kitchen it was, with its wide flags and savory smells! There were all manner of good things, spiced and preserved and stored away, and from the old stove came the appetizing whiff which told of baked apples or hot biscuits for tea. The home scene comes back, borne on the scent of a white carnation, which, strangely enough is mingled with other perfumes—the fragrance of apple-blossoms in the large orchards, the lilacs in the old lane, and the heavy scent of the flowers which rested on the coffin. Wherever the old home may have been, it was a fairy spot and the modern world shows not its like to weary hearts. There are many houses along life's road, but there is only one old home—and its queen was the Mother, whose love has followed her children all around the world. There is the magic in the white carnation."

The Mother's Day movement was started by Anna Jarvis, in Philadelphia, in 1908. It has spread through the entire country and it was celebrated in London, Ontario last May, for the first time in Canada. The Canadian Home Journal is making an effort to have Mother's Day celebrated tomorrow by every person in Canada.

GROWTH OF CANADA'S TRADE

Canada's trade is surely growing by leaps and bounds. The figures for the fiscal year ending last month, reached the record of $677,142,189. This is an increase of no less than $117,506,238 over the figures for the previous year, or over twenty per cent.

It is more than $26,000,000 over the highest previous figurs of 1907-8. At the present time the monthly increases of trade amount to $10,000,000 a month over the corresponding period last year.

The total imports for the year were $375,783,663, an increase of $77,659,968 over 1908-09. Export of domestic products totalled $279,211,527, an increase of $36,607,951 for the same period.

Exports of foreign products totalled $22,146,992, an increase of $3,238,419. The chief items of export for the year, with comparative figures are as follows:

	1908-09	1909-10
Agriculture	$71,997,207	$90,433,747
Forest	39,667,387	47,517,033
Animals and their produce	51,349,646	53,926,515
Mines	37,257,699	40,087,917
Manufactures	28,957,050	31,494,916
Fisheries	13,319,664	15,627,148

The total duty collected for the year amounted to $61,010,489, an increase of $12,969,475.

The total trade for the month of March last was $66,564,208, an increase of $12,969,475 over last year.

Imports for March were $43,391,991 an increase of about $10,000,000 over the same month last year.

Exports of domestic products for March totalled $22,199,275, as compared with $18,397,974 in March of last year.

This unprecedented prosperity under the Laurier administration is the best evidence possible that the people do not desire or require any change in government. Everything points to the current year's total trade reaching the eight hundred million dollar mark, and the total revenue will not be far short of $110,000,000.

It took the Conservative government eighteen years to increase the total trade $66,000,000. Compare this with last year's increase of $117,000,000. In other words under the present government, total trade increased nearly double in one year, over amount of increase secured by the Conservatives in eighteen years.

LOCAL OPTION

A Local Option bill for Scotland has passed its second reading in the Imperial House of Commons. The object erof the measure, it is said, is to confer on the electors in prescribed areas control over the granting and renewal of license certificates; to secure a later hour opening for public houses, and to amend the law relating to clubs. Mr. Roberts, who introduced the measure, explained that he embodied in the bill of the measure, it is said, is to considmany of the suggestions which were made when a similar bill went through grand committee last year. There was an overwhelming majority for it before the general election, and that majority was now increased by one. The real reason for the stubborn hostility to it was the electioneering power of the liquor trade, which controlled one party in the House, captured the second Legislative Chamber, dictated to constituencies, and marked down candidates for political extinction. Against that trade he claimed an enlarged power of self-protection and an increased measure of control. Mr. Eugene Wason, the chairman of the Scottish party, seconded the motion for the second reading of the bill, "as a moderate drinker," Scotland, he said, was more advanced than England in this matter, and Scottish members would not rest until they had secured the passage of this measure into law for the protection of Scottish homes. The rejection of the bill was moved by Mr. Bottomley, who declared that drunkenness was five times greater today in Glasgow, which had restrictive legislation, than in Sheffield, which was free. The debate on this bill occupied the rest of the afternoon. It found support from Mr. Barnes, the chairman of the Labor party, who said he voted for it on physical and moral, rather tha non economic grounds. Sir Frederick Banbury opposed. Mr. Hilaire Belloc, while strongly criticising the bill, declared himself in favor of it on the ground that Scotland wanted it, as shown by the fact that 61 Scotch members out of about 70, were in favor of it. The bill was read a second time by a majority of 110. Mr. Ure, Lord Advocate for Scotland, on behalf of the government, said no obstacle would be thrown across the path of the bill. This was as much as could be said at the present juncture, but he expressed the personal hope that the political situation would so develop that the government would abandon this attitude of benevolent neutrality and render positive aid to the measure.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What the Synod Did

Editor Albertan:

Owing to some slight misconception as to the precise action of our recent Synod in Edmonton regarding the establishment of a theological college in Alberta, I have been asked to submit to you the exact overture by which the mater will be introduced to our General Assembly in June. It reads as follows:

"Whereas, the matter of theological education within the bounds of the province has occupied the attention of the Synod for several years past; and,

"Whereas, in April, 1907, the Synod expressed its belief that a theological college in connection with the Provincial university should be established as soon as advisable after the university is established; and,

"Whereas, the situation now, after the lapse of three years, evidently calls for immediate action, by reason of this organization and development of university sentiment, the expansion of the educational system throughout the province, the exceedingly rapid growth of the whole country, demanding a specially vigorous Home Mission policy on the part of the Presbyterian church, and the actual presence of students in attendance at the university, who are looking forward to the ministry as their vocation; and on other grounds:

"Therefore, it is humbly overtured by the Synod of Alberta that the General Assembly, taking these urgent circumstances into consideration, should sanction the establishment of an institution which might serve the two-fold purpose of a residence for Presbyterian students and a hall in which regular theological instruction may be imparted to the young men who desire to equip themselves for the ministry.

"A. MAHAFFEY,"
Calgary, May 3, 1910. Synod Clerk.

Who is Anglo-Saxon?

Editor Albertan:

An item in your issue of Monday (May 2) afforded an interesting example of the rapidity with which the term "Anglo-Saxon" (once strictly an ethnological expression) is passing out of the realm of ethnology, becoming naturalised in the dominion of linguistics.

In the item above referred to, your Winnipeg correspondent remarks: "Over ten thousand newcomers arrived in the west last week, and of this number about four thousand came from Europe and six thousand from the United States. . . . About ninety per cent. of the newcomers are Anglo-Saxons."

Here we observe that a denizen of the United States is reckoned as an "Anglo-Saxon"; as also the Scots and Irish (who, of course, are in reality Celts). Yet it is well known (and can be proved by statistics) that 70 per cent of the United Statesers are not of Anglo-Saxon birth (nor even of Anglo-Saxon descent) at all, but originate from all parts of the world, chiefly Europe.

But all United Statesers speak English.

Hence, the term "Anglo-Saxon" is ceasing to possess any real ethnological significance or value, and now, usually merely means a white man who employs the English (or Anglo-Saxonic) tongue in transacting the business of his family and working life.

We see almost exactly the same phenomenon and evolution of meaning in the word "Latin." There was a time, about 1,000 B. C., when this term designated an inhabitant of Latium, in Italy, and also his language. Then it gradually came to mean any one speaking Latin as his language of every-day life (or, in other words, it designated a citizen of the western half of the Roman Empire). Still later, it came to mean a Christian acknowledging the supreme religious authority of His Holiness the Pope (or High Pontiff of Rome). And so it still remains. I could quote other examples, but I fear to grow tedious, and therefore I forbear.

ETHNOLOGIST.

The Immigration Regulations

Dear Sir—Permit me space for a few remarks apropos of the interesting article by Mr. Chiozza-Money (reprinted in last Monday's Albertan) on the subject of the increasing emigration from the Motherland. That this enormous emigration from England into Canada is of the highest benefit to Canada is patent to everyone, whatever his nationality, and needs not to be dwelt upon here. It is a self-evident fact. But the question I now propound (and it is a question I have very rarely heard propounded) is this: "Is this continual and increasing exodus oversea of the natives of England likely in the long run to be of benefit to England?"

Let us turn our eyes a moment back, and take a cursory glimpse of past history.

In 1492 Spain was the foremost power of Christendom, or, to state the case more correctly, the King of Spain was the foremost monarch of Christendom (for in those days kings were nations). In that year Columbus discovered the New World; and instantly a stream of emigration began from Spain, westward across the Atlantic into the newly revealed countries. This emigration lasted fully two centuries, carrying in its current out of Spain all the men of the breed of Cortes and Pizarro (that is, all the men of energetical enterprising character, willing to face privation or danger for the sake of wealth or fage). At the end of those two centuries, by the time of Louis XIV (about 1700), Spain was of third rate importance in the calculations of diplomatic circles. Today, two centuries after Louis XIV, she is but of some sixth rate importance.

As it would seem to me, this decay of the once powerful and energetic Spanish nation is due directly to the constant drain of its best material into its American and insular colonies oversea.

The decay is usually ascribed to the effect of the Inquisition, which arrested and burnt everyone who was guilty (or suspected of being guilty) of independent or creative thought, under the name of "wizard" or "heretic." Hence, indeed, it is that in recounting the story of the world's scientific and scholarly achievements no Spanish name (or scarcely any Spanish name) crops up in the tale. In the main, however, I am much inclined to believe that Spanish decadence is traceable rather to the perpetual drain of Spain's most enterprising and energetic manhood oversea, out of the cradle of the race, into distant lands.

Assuming this view to be correct, in no long time, historically speaking (for to the historian a century is but little), England must necessarily undergo the same fate as Spain; for, like the Iberian Peninsula, her best, most enterprising and most energetic manhood is emigrating from the Motherland to settle down to other fields of action in Canada and the United States.

There is a certain class, and its admirers, which perpetually incites the English nation to throw up their jobs and emigrate oversea? They perpetually yell that the Anglo-Saxon has a peculiar and unique genius for colonisation, and, therefore, adjures him to seek new lands and islands (east, west, north and south) to conquer and to colonise. They carefully omit to remark that there is one land before all other lands, which the English could most easily colonise if the idea ever occurred to them: That land is the land now absurdly called the Land of the Angles—England. Today that land no more belongs to the English than the Transvaal before the war belonged to the Uitlanders. England, in truth belongs to that small and select circle of wealthy men of whom the head and front is the House of Lords; who, historically speaking, are the representatives of the Norman-French conquerors at Hastings, A. D. 1066. This is the class (whose immense, and absurdly immense, estates render impossible the colonisation of England, and thereby compel emigration), which perpetually preaches to the deluded English people to go away and colonise something else (preferably something on the other side of the world, as far from the Motherland as possible). This is the class which bawls and clamours for what it amusingly calls "a spirited foreign and colonial policy," and perpetually incites the too credulous English people to "gird up their loins" and depart to the arduous and disagreeable labors of the "conqueror" and "pioneer" in howling wildernesses and lonely frontiers. For all such enterprises undertaken by the deluded listeners, serve to put off and postpone the dreadful day when the English, awaking from their hypnotic sleep, shall arise in their wrath and invade England!

Yours very truly,
TRUE ENGLISH PATRIOT.

PANAMA CANAL IS REALLY A LAKE

Its "Ditch" Aspect Will Be Chiefly In The Culebra Cut—Canal in Three Parts

That the Panama canal will be ready for use by 1915, probably before, and that the work on it is being done very honestly, efficiently and quickly, are the opinions of Gerald Mygatt, who apparently knows what he is writing about, and whose findings are in the "Columbian Magazine" under the title "The Truth About the Panama Canal."

After frankly admiting that his article is in no sense technical and that for the proofs of his statements the reader must consult the records or go to the isthmus, the writer addresses the laymen who really want to know what the canal is and what it is going to look like when finished:

"The Panama canal, to all intents and purposes," he says, "will not be a canal at all, but a lake—a broad fresh water lake, 32 miles long, and with an area of 164 square miles, a lake which will flood the country in some places far beyond the 10-mile limits of the canal zone, from within seven miles of the Atlantic to a distance of but nine from the Pacific side of the isthmus.

"Most persons do not realize that. They picture the waterway as a big ditch, which it is not. For only nine miles through Culebra cut will the work be very much like what the average mind seems to have conceived. And when it is finished, even that Culebra section will form part of the lake itself. Provided you're going from New York to San Francisco by boat five years from now, that is what will happen when you get to Panama:

"At Colon, on the Caribbean side, you will run into a broad, deep, channel, which has already been dredged out of the soft, sea-level swamp land for seven miles, in to Gatun. There you will see ahead of you a low, gently sloping hill, stretching for a full mile and a half from one side of the valley to the other. That will be the Gatun dam—but it won't look like a dam at all, because the whole slope will be as easy as that of a sea beach.

Triple Flight of Locks.

"At the left is a triple flight of locks—part of them is built already—to lift your steamship up to the level of the lake, 85 feet above the sea. You may pass another boat going down, for the locks are in pairs to permit of traffic in both directions at once.

"Now you're on Gatun lake, and the captain gives the full speed jingle, because it's a wide, clear channel, with but an easy turn here and there, and long, clear straightways in between, and the ship keeps on thus for 20 miles or more. Then hills loom up ahead, and the channel narrows from 1,000 feet to 800, and then to 500, and at last you ease down for the nine-mile passage through the backbone range of the American continent—Culebra cut. If you choose—where the channel gets down to its minimum width of 300 feet, enough for two vessels to pass in comfort, and with lots to spare, but not enough for a 20-knot clip.

"You are through before you know it, and into the Pedro Miguel lock, which lets the ship down 30 feet into a little lake or basin, a mile long, at the far end of which are the two twin locks of Miraflores, completing the descent to the sea. And then it's a run of nine miles through a straight, broad, lowland channel—most of that, too, has already been dredged—and you are out in the Pacific. That's all. The bulk of the canal length lies in Gatun lake, right through Culebra cut to the Pedro Miguel lock, a distance most of which can be covered at full steaming speed.

"The canal work itself may be divided into three parts; the sea-level entrances, the cut through the divide of the Cordilleras at Culebra, and the dam and lock construction at Gatun, Pedro Miguel and Miraflores. Each of these brings in work of a different character.

500-Foot Canal Completed

"On the Atlantic side the canal will consist of a sea-level channel 500 feet broad and 41 feet deep, extending from deep water in the Caribean to Gatun, seven miles inland. This portion of the work has already been practically completed, and is put to daily use by the tugs and cement barges running into Gatun. Although the rest of the canal will have a minimum depth of 45 feet, the Atlantic channel has been given only a 41-foot depth on account of the fact that the average oscillation of the tide is only about a foot, six inches above and six inches below the mean water, with a maximum variation of 18 inches. Should a deeper channel ever become necessary, however, by reason of a much greater increase in the draught of ships than is now anticipated, it would be a simple matter to dredge to any further required depth, and that without any interruption of canal traffic. Two break-waters will be built off Colon to protect the canal entrance, and to make passage possible even during the violent 'northers' which sweep in at times during the winter months.

"The nine-mile sea-level channel at the Pacific end has also already been mainly completed, and in much the same way as the Atlantic division, by dredging through the swamps and bogs of the coast lowlands. On both ends together, however, between 12 and 14 dredges are still at work, some of them old French marines and two of the present suction form—big ocean steamships they look like—now in use in New York harbor. A four-mile breakwater is being thrown out to one of the small off-shore islands, not on account of storms, for they seldom blow on this coast, and never with any violence, but to prevent shoaling of the channel from silt-carrying cross currents. That breakwater is well toward completion."

WASTE OF CHILD LIFE.

Great Loss in United States by Preventable Disease

Two hundred thousand children die annually from preventable diseases in the United States. Such is the assertion of the United States Census Bureau, which has just completed a compilation of vital statistics for 1908. The bureau refers to this mortality as a waste—more serious than race suicide. Present day knowledge of sanitary measures, it says, should step in and stop the waste. The registration area for which statistics are presented includes only about one-half of the total population of the United States. For this registration area 691,574 deaths were returned for 1908. Nearly one-fifth were infants under one year of age and over one-fourth of children less than five years of age. The bureau notes in passing that the brute force of the figures representing the actual deaths are more impressive than any ratios or the rate of infant mortality.

Dr. Cressy L. Wilbur, who assembled the statistics for the government, asserts that no children should die in early infancy of childhood, except from the comparatively small proportion of accidents that are strictly unavoidable. The bureau points out that the general death rate of the country is largely dependent on its infant mortality because the death rates of infants and young children are high, and affect a relatively numerous element of the population. Exact study of the incidence of disease upon infancy and childhood is most important, the Census Bureau asserts, and it is imperatively necessary that there should be more effective registration throughout the United States for this purpose. Attention is called to the fact that the rate known as "infant mortality" is the ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age; not the ratio to population, but to the number of children born duirng the year. This important ratio, the bureau says, should be readily available for the comparative study of deaths of infants in every state and in every city. In collecting the vital statistics for the last year the government discovered that the registration of births in most of the States is absolutely worthless.

Commenting on the statistics the bureau was able to get together, Dr Wilbur says that in the light of the figures at hand it would seem that practical sanitation has only made a beginning in the work of preventing the occurrence of infant and child mortality. "The ground has only been scratched over," says he. "Deep stirring of the soil and thorough cultivation of all the means available, with our present scientific and medical knowledge for the guarding of young human lives, would produce startling, and from past human experiences, almost unbelievable results. Public health, as a function of government, is itself only a creation of the middle of the last century, dating from the utilization of the knowledge available as a result of the operation of of the English laws for the registration of vital statistics. Even in England, however, no systematic efforts have been made until very recently to utilize the utmost possibilities. It is time that greater attention be given to the subject in the United States."

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