TRIBUTE TO BRITISH COURTS OF JUSTICE

The Power of the Judge Well Exemplified in the Crippen Case — How He Hurries Along the Proceedings and Sifts the Evidence for the Jurvmen.

New York, Oct. 24—A London despatch to the Sun reads as follows: Nothing so strongly grips the popular imagination as one of those big murder stories which from time to time are added to the ever-lengthening list of "historic crimes." Such a murder was that for which the American doctor, Hawley Harvey Crippen, was sentenced to death by the lord chief justice of England, after a trial occupying four days and a half at the Old Bailey. From the time of Crippen's flight with his mistress, Ethel Claire Le Neve, and the subsequent discovery of the mutilated remains of his wife under the cellar floor of their house, down to the opening day of the trial, the "Hilldrop Crescent murder" maintained the foremost place in the public mind. This was plainly shown on the opening day of the trial, when London seethed with excitement and when the approaches to the Old Bailey were jammed with dense masses of people throughout the day. It was impossible to pass through this crowd without feeling something of that electric thrill of emotion which a large crowd always seems to communicate to its surroundings. Although a British court of justice where a murder trial is proceeding is always characterized by quiet, passionless decorum, combined with a steady, business-like dispatch, when one of these big murder cases is being tried there are always beneath the surface tense excitement and deep emotion, which only come to the surface when the jury retires and again on its return to give its verdict.

Lord Alverstone, lord chief justice of England, is the most impressive and dignified figure on the British bench. Robed in ermine and scarlet and attended by the lord mayor and sheriffs wearing their official robes and gold chains of office, he is the personification of judicial strength, of which the black and gold scabbarded sword is the emblem. Beneath him sat the black gowned, white wigged clerk, and in the well of the court between him and the prisoner's dock, where Crippen's dapper, insignificant figure was dwarfed by the burly forms of three warders, sat gowned and wigged counsellors at a large table, at which the instructing solicitors with books and papers were also seated.

Three loud knocks behind the judge's seat warned the court of the chief justice's entrance, preceded by a mace bearer and accompanied by the officials already mentioned. The judge and the standing court exchange bows, and forthwith the trial begins. Twelve men file into the jury box and are sworn one by one to see justice between "Our Sovereign Lord the King" and the prisoner. Three jurors, and this is very exceptional, are rejected by the prisoner's counsel. It is done by an almost inaudible word. The men's personal appearance was sufficient explanation of their rejection. Three others are brought in, and within eight minutes of the judge's entrance the jury is empanelled, the prisoner is arraigned and the clerk reads the indictment to Crippen, who pleads not guilty.

"Mr. Muir," says the judge, and the leading counsel for the crown stands up and begins his statement of the case for the prosecution in calm, passionless language, without a gesture, without the slightest attempt at rhetoric, with no trace of feeling against the prisoner, frequently even pointing out facts which may tell in the prisoner's favor. In eighty minutes counsel gave a lucid masterpiece of narrative, throughout which he confined himself to the admitted facts of the long story of the relations between Crippen and his wife and his mistress.

Once only in the four and a half days did the counsel protest at anything that happened. This was done by counsel for the defence, who objected to the introduction of a crown witness after the case for the crown had been closed. The judge said: "I will admit the evidence so far as it is justified by the prosecuting counsel's opening statement." Counsel for the defence remained standing a moment in further protest.

"I will take care of you, Mr. Tobin," said the judge. Counsel bowed and took his seat. The incident occupied hardly a minute.

Not a single witness was examined or cross-examined by counsel on either side without the judge's intervention, sometimes requesting counsel to make his question clearer, sometimes helping the witness to couch his answer, always making every effort to save time. It mattered nothing whether it was a crown or defence witness, when counsel had finished with him or her the judge would say: "Now I want to ask a few questions." Then in three or four lucid questions he would elicit in plain, concise form what counsel would take twenty minutes and innumerable questions to get out. Then the judge would ask a few questions, always straight to the point, which counsel had overlooked or did not desire put.

A good example of the manner in which Lord Alverstone took the case into his own hands was his dealing with the medical witnesses for the defence. The identification of the mutilated remains apart from the fragments of garments buried with them and from mere inference, depended upon whether a mark on a piece of flesh was the scar of an operation or merely a mark caused by folding and pressure when beneath the bricks of the cellar floor. The medical experts for the crown brought overwhelming evidence to prove the mark was a scar, and it was known that Belle Elmore had such a scar, the result of an operation.

The medical witness for the defence gave a directly opposite opinion. After both counsel had finished with him the judge took him in hand, pressed him and shook his evidence. Then, expressing regret that the witness had absented himself from the court when the crown witnesses gave their evidence, he called one of the latter into the witness box and made him demonstrate on a piece of skin and flesh his grounds for declaring the mark must be a scar. This done the judge said to the witness for the defence, "Now, after hearing and seeing Mr. Pepper's reasons for declaring the mark must be a scar resulting from such an operation, is not your opinion modified? Do you not think it may be a scar?"

The witness adhered to his own opinion, but when he left the witness box there was no doubt that his evidence has been robbed of all value, in the jury's eyes. Earlier in the case, when numerous exhibits of the dead woman's jewelry were produced for identification by witnesses, the judge examined all and selected a few for the jury to inspect, dismissing the rest as of commonplace, ordinary appearance and thus of no value for purposes of identification, so that it would only be a waste of time for the jury to examine them.

Again, when counsel for the defence outlined the story of Crippen's arrangement with the quartermaster to hide him on board the steamer Montrose, after the first sentence the judge interposed, asking: "Do you produce the quartermaster?"

"No, my lord," counsel responded.

The judge nodded, and the weak story, evidently shortened, fell ineffective from counsel's lips. So it was throughout the trial; the judge would pull up counsel when, after receiving an answer from a witness they worked around to the same question.

"He has answered you," Lord Alverstone would say, "and you must take his answer."

Frequently he would interpose, telling counsel: "It is now time to establish this point," or to press another point as being important. It was the judge's questions that made Crippen contradict himself on an important question, the date of the purchase and who purchased, whether himself or his wife, the incriminating suit of pajamas, part of which was found with the remains.

Twice the judge intervened in behalf of Crippen, once when the prosecution was pressing him as to what he meant by the word "it" when he said to Inspector Dew of Quebec: "It is only fair to say I told Miss LeNeve nothing about it." Crippen said he had meant he had told her nothing of his series of lying letters and telegrams. The judge made counsel accept the answer, but in summing up he drew attention to the weakness of the explanation. Again he refused to put a question a juryman suggested because, said he, "it is rather argumentative."

In fact, it is hardly too much to say he was the chief conductor of the case both for the crown and the defence. What little could be suggested in Crippen's favor he pointed out in summing up. What points might be considered debatable—and they were very few—he stated, saying it was for the jury to decide on them. But his whole lucid retelling of the story from the evidence could not have been more damning had it come from the mouth of the prosecuting counsel. Indeed, its impressive delivery and its aloofness from all personal feeling made it far more convincing of the prisoner's guilt than the final address of the prosecution to the jury.

MARRY AND SO LIVE LONG

Dr. Bertillon's Advice Has Statistics Back of It.

On the subject of matrimony Dr. Jacques Bertillon, the French statistician, differs in his advice from Punch, which summed up its counsel to those about to marry in the one word "Don't!" Dr. Bertillon on the contrary explains his reasons for believing that marriage and longevity go hand in hand.

He calls in the aid of statistics to prove his contention that a married man or woman has three times as much chance to attain a ripe old age as a bachelor or a spinster; and with regard to men he shows that the mortality among widowers is greater than among married men. Dr. Bertillon says that his father went thoroughly into this question and obtained statistics from other European countries which completely support this opinion, while he himself has studied later figures in France. So his advice to young men runs:

"Marry; you will do well even from a selfish standpoint. But watch carefully over your wife's health, as even from this egotistical point of view her loss will be a terrible misfortune, for your life depends in a great measure on her own."

Addressing himself to young women he says:

"To you I give the counsel to marry in your most selfish interest, as married women have less mortality than spinsters of the same age, at least after the age of 20; but the difference is less for women than for men. The mortality among spinsters is much greater than among married women, but it is not twice as great, as in the case of men."

Dr. Bertillon does not take a cheerful view of the lot of the widow. He says: "The mortality among widows is distinctly much greater than among married women of the same age. The sweet state of widowhood is, on the contrary, fatal to young widows. Their death rate from 20 to 25 years of age is twice that of married women at the corresponding age."

He gives the reason why matrimony conduces to longevity thus:

"Married people lead a more regular life. They are more surrounded and therefore more controlled, discreet though this control may be, and it must be discreet if it is to be useful. Their physical life, like their moral life, is healthier, quicter, more natural."

In the French statistics of one year which Dr. Bertillon has selected the deaths in a thousand men among bachelors between the ages of 35 and 40 were nineteen, while those of married men were only eight. Between the age of 55 and 60 the figures were forty-one for the former and twenty-three for the latter.

With woman the mortality was twelve and eight between 35 and 40, and twenty-four and eighteen between 55 and 60. The death rates among widows and divorcees were respectively twelve and twenty-one women a thousand.—New York Sun.

SCHOOL BOWLERS.

Here are some genuine school bowlers, from recent examination papers, which have the merit of being new:

What are fossils?—Fossils are those remains of plants and animals which keep best when left to themselves.

A volcano is a very powerful rock.

What is the feminine of bachelor —Old Made, Axminster.

The minerals of Holland are gin, linen, pickles and crockery-ware.

Name some English sovereigns who died violent deaths—Queen Elizabeth. She fell into a deep sleep.

Henry VII. He died by fits.

Richard I. He had his head extracted by an unskilful physician.

What is an interdict?—It is caused by bad sewage.

What is a patriot?—A grandfather.

How could the king have let all the people at a distance know that they must prepare for war?—He might set fire to a deacon on the top of a hill.

What are the provisions of Oxford?—Salt beef, ham and bacon.

Between whom were the wars of the Roses fought?—Between the Turks and the Sadducees.

What was the use of a city of refuge?—When a man had been murdered accidentally he might jump up and run to it.

Give the character of Henry VII.—He had a downcast in his left eye.

The feminine of Robin is Robin Redbreast.

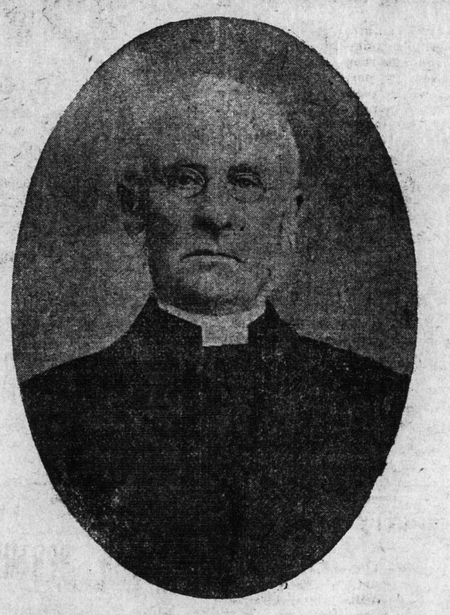
What would you have done if you had been an ancient Briton and wanted warm clothes for winter (the absence of shops, etc., had been fully impressed?)—I should have cried.

To clean white felt hats put some borax in a piece of cheese cloth and clean the hat with it, rubbing quite hard, then brush off with a clean brush. If it is not clean, repeat the process.

SCENE OF $2,000,000 FIRE IN VICTORIA, B. C.

A view of Government street, the principal thoroughfare in the retail store district in Victoria (B. C.), which was visited by a great fire Thursday.

SUSSEX FAREWELL TO REV. I. N. PARKER



Sussex, N. B., Oct. 30—(Special)—The meeting held in the Methodist church on Friday evening in honor of Rev. I. N. Parker, was a remarkable tribute to a much loved and highly respected clergyman. Mayor McLean presided, and spoke in the warmest terms of Mr. Parker as a citizen. Judge White followed, emphasizing the great service done by Mr. Parker to the cause of religion during his long pastorate of fifty years.

Greetings and good wishes were conveyed to Mr. Parker by Reverends Saunders and Alton of the Baptist churches, while Rev. Mr. Dawson, speaking for the Methodists, gave statistics which spoke eloquently of the departing clergyman's worth.

J. A. Murray, M.P.P., stated that though the perfect and upright man was generally supposed to be a Presbyterian, he believed Mr. Parker met the conditions demanded by perfection to a remarkable degree. He closed with an eloquent and loving tribute to the guest of the evening.

Rev. Frank Baird, speaking for the Ministerial Association, presented a purse to Mr. Parker, who bade a fitting and graceful adieu to brethren and friends.

At a social function held in the Methodist church on Thursday evening, Miss Bessie Parker, daughter of the reverend gentleman, was presented with a beautiful brooch, a sunburst of pearls, by the members of the Sunday school.

FORMER FACTORY GIRL WHO DIVORCED U. S. NAVAL CAPTAIN

Boston, Oct. 24.—Charlestown Navy Yard social circles are much interested in the divorce suit brought by Mrs. Mildred B. Tracy against her husband, Captain James Kennard Tracy, U. S. N., which it is expected will come up for trial before Judge Pierce in the Suffolk county divorce court on Monday.

Mrs. Tracy charges that her husband deserted her four years ago. Captain Tracy has not yet given an idea of his line of

MRS. JAMES KENNARD TRACY.

opposition to the granting of the decree, but his friends say the suit will be warmly contested.

Mrs. Tracy was a factory girl at Portsmouth (N. H.), when Captain (then Lieutenant) Tracy married her. He is the son of the late Lieutenant Commander Chas. K. Tracy, at one time commandant of the Charlestown Navy Yard.

Captain Tracy's parents objected to his marriage, but the ceremony was performed in 1901 in the Catholic church at Portsmouth after an engagement of one month.

You can make an old ice-chest look like new by scrubbing it thoroughly with a strong washing powder. Let dry, put on a thick coat of white enamel and let stand overnight. When dry, add the second coat. Finish outside with a coat of varnish.

One of the very best health guards is the drinking of a great deal of water.

ENGLISH DUKE TO ESTABLISH READY-MADE FARMS IN THE WEST

Calgary, Oct. 29—A cablegram from the Duke of Sutherland, London, requests the colonization department of the C. P. R. to proceed with the preparations of his Grace's ready-made-farm colony at Brooks, in the eastern section of the irrigation block. The duke is purchasing an area of some 1,300 acres, nearly all of which is irrigable land. This will be divided into 16 farms of 80 acres each. In the centre His Grace proposes to erect a home for himself, where he and the duchess may reside two or three weeks each summer.

The C. P. I. D. has undertaken all detail work in connection with the erection of buildings, improvements, etc.

The duke proposes to send out as occupants of these farms married sons of his principal tenants, practically along the same lines as the C. P. R. adopted in connection with their ready-made farm scheme It is expected the first contingent of British farmers to occupy these ready-made farms will come over in the spring of the coming year.

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

(Julia Ward Howe.)

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His Truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;
His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel:
"As ye deal with My contemners, so with you My grace shall deal."
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

In the beauties of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.

A paste of almond meal and peroxide spread on the inside of the gloves will bleach the hands. Almond oil and rice powder used in the same manner will soften the hands.

NOVEL IRRIGATION SCHEME IN DAKOTA

Pumps on Barges on the River Missouri

Success of Williston, N. D., Project Assured -- Electric Power Sent Twenty-Eight Miles -- Profits of $1,000 an Acre Made on Onion Crop.

Williston, N. D., Oct. 25—The floating barges which support the pumps that lift water for the great Williston irrigation project, the only one in North Dakota, are being taken from the Missouri River in the same manner that steamships are taken from the water, upon ways. This is to prevent damage to them in the spring rush of ice. The removal of the pump barges marks the close of the first full year of the operation of the plant, a year's experience which has convinced Engineer Sanford, who is in charge, that the project is a great success and will make possible very profitable cultivation of at least 25,000 acres of land heretofore considered waste. One man this year raised onions by this irrigation, harvesting 820 bushels to the acre. These found ready sale at $2 a bushel and the farmer's profit, after allowing for all expenses of seed and cultivation, was $1,000 an acre. This gives some idea of the future of irrigated land hereabout when the farmers have changed from small grains to vegetables. Most of them are preparing to make such a change.

The irrigation project here is unlike any other project on account of the behavior of the Missouri River. The stream is subject to sudden rises and falls and the channel frequently shifts. Because of these conditions the floating barges have been introduced, fitted with pumps and flexible pipes. Thus an engineer's ingenuity has mastered the idiosyncracies of an erratic river which at first, and for a long time, had threatened to make practicable irrigation in this district impossible.

Another natural element, however, helped the engineer—lignite. At a distance of a mile from the river an electric power plant was constructed which now develops 2,000 horse-power. The fuel for this comes from a mine of lignite coal in the immediate vicinity. This mine covers 1,000 acres. The coal passes to the power plant down an inclined shaft and is crushed at the end of the shaft, and then passes to the boilers. It is estimated that one acre of lignite coal develops 1,000 tons to the foot of vein. With a nine-foot vein Engineer Sanford estimates that there is fuel enough to last 1,000 years if the plant were run twenty-four hours a day every day in the year; so there is no possibility of an immediate shortage of the supply. The power developed at this plant lifts water a maximum of eighty feet in two lifts. Power is also transmitted from this plant to the pumping barges at the Buford-Trenton plant, twenty-eight miles away. This power is transmitted over a high-tension transmission line.

Two acre-feet of water delivered to the land in 100 days will produce a crop and practically insure successful cultivation. This year water was delivered to 1,520 acres of land which was sowed, about 600 acres of wheat, 240 to oats, 200 to alfalfa and some to miscellaneous vegetables and some small grains. The best yields of wheat were thirty to thirty-two bushels to the acre. Alfalfa produced three to three and a half tons to the acre, and alfalfa is worth $15 a ton here at Williston.

The best paying crop this year was the alfalfa seed crop of Seneca Brownell, which will return to him more than $60 an acre. Alfalfa seed is worth twenty to thirty cents a pound, or $22 to $28 a bushel, depending on the variety. Alfalfa raised for seed is usually cut only once in the season, which makes it possible to get a crop of both seed and hay, and a good part of the alfalfa land is sowed with wheat as a nurse crop.

The cost of construction of this plant is charged against the land under the project and is to be paid in ten annual installments, without interest. The cost of installation is $38 an acre for the acreage under the ditch, and when it is paid the plant goes to the Water Users' Association. The operation charge, which is for the supply of water, will be perhaps $1.50 to $2 an acre each year, which looks like a small sum to pay for absolute crop insurance and largely increased values.

The principal difficulties in the way of the administration of the project, up to the present, have been the change from the old methods of dry farming, over large tract of land, to the new methods of intense cultivation under the irrigation system. It has been difficult to convince farmers who have been accustomed to farming a quarter to a half section of land that better results and greater profits may be obtained by the closer farming of forty or eighty acres. Yet it is certain that this change will come about and that most of the farms hereabout will be of small tracts, and that, therefore, the population will be what might be called dense for a rural district.

A GOLFING "DON'T."

Golfer—"You've caddied for me before. Will you give me some hints before we start?"

Sandy—"Well, if ye'll just no' dae what ye're gaein' to dae, ye'll no' dae sae bad."

GENESIS OF SOME FAVORITE HYMNS DUE TO REMARKABLE INCIDENTS

(Ottawa Free Press).

The claim of William Huckel, the Kingston penitentiary convict, serving a seven years term on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, to have written the hymn Just For Today, recalls the strange circumstances that inspired some of the favorite melodies of hymnology.

Nearer My God to Thee, the favorite hymn of the present king, was written by a woman, Mrs. Sarah Adams, a Unitarian, and the daughter of a couple who met in Newgate jail, where her father had been sent for six months in atonement for the "heinous crime" of defending the French Revolution and criticizing the conduct of one Bishop Watson.

In 1879 Mr. Flower—Mrs. Adams' maiden name was Flower—met Miss Eliza Gould, who was ministering to the prisoners in Newgate jail. They were subsequently married, and the birth of their daughter Sarah followed. It is said that Sarah composed this hymn at an early age, receiving inspiration from her father's noble act which landed him in Newgate jail.

Cowper, moved by a spirit of resignation and joyful submission, tried to take his life several times, believing that it was a sacrifice to God required at his hands. First, so the story goes, he tried hanging, but the rope broke. Then he used drugs, also without success. The last time he attempted to drown himself, but the cold water caused him to see the error of his ways, and, returning home, he penned the famous hymn, of which the first verse is:

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants his footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.

The would-be suicide's hymn has been a solace to many thousands of persons, and there are few who cannot remember times and seasons when its comforting assurances have not helped to give fortitude and tranquility.

Cardinal Newman's immortal hymn, Lead Kindly Light, has also a curious history attached to it. On June 16, 1883, the cardinal was hastening to England from Sicily, believing that he had a message to the English people. In his haste he had embarked in a small vessel carrying cargo to England. The vessel was becalmed for two days in the Atlantic and then a frightful storm came up and the ship was driven before the winds.

While on board the ship the cardinal wrote the verses, so familiar to both young and old, and it is said that as he finished, the storm broke up and the captain recovered his bearings, bringing the cardinal safely to England.

Come Thou Font of Every Blessing has for a hundred years been a great favorite. It has been attributed to different sources wrongfully. Its real author was one Robert Robinson, of whom a rather pathetic story is told.

In his later days Robinson fell somewhat away from grace, and having imbibed rather heavily of the cup that cheers was displaying such levity in a stage coach as to lead a prim old lady opposite him to upbraid him. As a final shot, all unknowing who the stranger was, she quoted his hymn, saying what a blessing it had been to her. Thereupon Robinson burst into maudlin tears, saying:

"Madam, I am the poor unhappy man who composed that hymn years ago, and I would give a thousand years, if I had them, to enjoy the feelings I had then."

Jesu! Lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly;
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me! oh my Saviour hide
Till the storm of life is past,
Safe unto the haven guide,
Oh receive my soul at last.

As befits so beautiful a poem this has a suitable legendary origin. It is said that Charles Wesley was sitting at his desk when a dove, pursued by a hawk, flew in at the window. The baffled hawk did not dare to follow, and the poet took his pen and wrote this famous sacred song.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

This has become the universal doxology of all English-speaking people. Bishop Ken, the author, led a rather troubled life. He was clapped into the tower along with the other eight bishops for refusing to read the declaration of indulgence. While in the tower, pending trial, he employed the time in writing hymns, this being one of the results.

There are thousands of other traditions associated with various hymns. For instance, Augustus Toplady wrote the famous Rock of Ages as an airy dart at Wesleyanism, never knowing that he had created a masterpiece. Bishop Heber dashed off the missionary hymn, From Greenland's Icy Mountains in half an hour one evening, to be sung at a next morning's service. Sir John Bowring wrote In the Cross of Christ I Glory during the Chinese opium war, when in serious danger of being sliced up by the Chinese.

SIDE-TRACKING LORD KITCHENER

Should Have Place of Power in the Empire

No Soldier Has an Experience Such as His—His Work of Untold Value to His Country.

A correspondent to the London Daily Mail writes the following of Lord Kitchener:

"We must indeed be a fortunate people when we can dispense with the services of a man like Lord Kitchener.

"Cincinnatus was ploughing his lonely furrow when a deputation from the senate informed him that he had been chosen dictator. We are told that he left the plough with regret and repaired to the battlefield where his countrymen were hard pressed. I wonder when the British nation will send a deputation to Lord Kitchener on the golf links.

"Are we really so richly endowed with administrators that we can afford to indulge in this reckless extravagance? What should we think of the business house that shelved its most experienced director at the moment when his advice would be most valuable? Yet this is precisely what our government has done. There is no soldier in the empire with the experience of Lord Kitchener. His conquest of the Sudan and South Africa does not give the measure of his experience, and the conquest of the Sudan did not, as some imagine, begin and end with the battle of Omdurman any more than the conquest of South Africa began and ended in a block-house. Having proved his capacity in the field, we sent Lord Kitchener to India in order to apply to our defences in the East some of that practical common sense for which he is distinguished. Despite all obstacles, he accomplished his task and left India stronger and more self-contained for defensive purposes than at any time since the mutiny. Even critics of his tactics in the field cannot deny Lord Kitchener's capacity as an organizer and administrator. Last year, at the end of his command in India, he was despatched on an imperial mission to Australia and New Zealand and made a study of their military resources, the results of which are to be seen not merely in reports, but in improvements already made by the governments of these dominions.

"If I repeat this familiar story, it is in order to emphasize the wastefulness of the government at home. How did the cabinet and the war office propose to make use of these experiences acquired at the expense of the state? They proposed to maroon Lord Kitchener on the island of Malta; to give him a palace in the Mediterranean; a free passage to Egypt and South Africa; and permission to inspect a few isolated battalions in various parts of the empire.

"It is well known that Lord Kitchener accepted this banishment under pressure from exalted places, and that immediately on his return to England he sought and obtained leave to withdraw his acceptance. And now comes the significent sequel. To this command in the Mediterranean, which the Duke of Connaught resigned because it was a sinecure, was attached a seat in the imperial defense committee. No man could have occupied that seat with greater advantage to the empire. Yet because Lord Kitchener refused a command which had already been rejected as a useless expense, the empire has been deprived of his services on the imperial defence committee.

"It is no secret to the bureaucracy that Lord Kitchener is a masterful man. What he wants and insists upon is not place but power. When the power goes and leaves only the husk of office and emolument, Lord Kitchener begins to pack his bag and to look up a time table. He showed this in dramatic fashion during his first days in India, when Lord Curzon and the commander-in-chief came to loggerheads over the military member of the governor-general's council. Lord Kitchener's victory in Simla has not been forgotten in Whitehall. Had he been more pliable—more accommodating—he might have returned to India as viceroy, but a masterful servant is the terror of bureaucracy.

"What is Lord Kitchener's proper place? As a field marshal he is on the active list of the army—an official euphemism for idleness in his case, for he has no duties to perform. The suggestion has been made that he should supplant General Sir William Nicholson as chief of the imperial general staff. But there are insurmountable obstacles in the way. In the first place, why should Sir William Nicholson resign this position, seeing that, unless he is made a field marshal he is within sight of retirement on the ground of age? Nor is this the only difficulty. Lord Kitchener has his own convictions as to what is an imperial general staff, and they are not those either of the war office or the government. As this journal has explained more than once, an imperial general staff must be the hub of the wheel of which the spokes are the general war office staffs of the United Kingdom and the dominions. At present one of these spokes—that of Whitehall—is trying to take the place of the hub of the wheel, and the coach is in danger of coming to grief.

"Lord Kitchener is not likely to take charge of a coach of this kind. He knows that its structure does not please either the dominions of the army in India. If he is to be chief it must be of a general staff that is imperial in more than name—something more than a Whitehall staff arrayed in imperial purple. This is the real difficulty. Lord Kitchener is neither a placeman nor a politician, and he must become one or the other if he tried to conduct the business of an imperial general staff under existing conditions."

TREE DISTRIBUTION

The Demand for Government Trees Continues to Increase.

The work of free tree distribution to homesteaders on the prairies inaugurated in 1901 by the forestry branch of the department of the interior, has made steady growth, and by the 1909 report of the superintendent of forestry (included in the annual report of the department of the interior, lately issued) is shown to be still on the increase.

For some years past the number of trees distributed each spring has been in the neighborhood of two and a half millions. The nursery station at Indian Head (Sask.) has reached almost its capacity, and if the distribution is to be enlarged the nursery capacity must be correspondingly increased.

In the spring of 1909, 2,570,000 trees were sent to 2,010 applicants. In the spring of 1910 about the same number of trees was sent to 3,173 applicants.

The increase in the number of applicants is also strikingly shown by the fact that in 1908 the average number sent to each applicant was 1,400 while in 1910 the number had had to be reduced to 800. The number of trees distributed remains practically the same. The number who received trees, however, increased from 1,424 in 1908 to 3,173 in 1910. In 1909, too, the number of new applications for trees was 2,235, in 1910 this number had increased to 3,822.

Farmers are urged to grow their own maple and ash trees from seed. Caution must, however, be exercised as to where this seed comes from, and, if possible, native seed procured. In the summer of 1908 many Manitoba maples were found to have been killed back, either wholly or partially, during the preceding winter. These had been raised with seed obtained from Minnesota and from eastern Canada. Failure of the local supply of seed, however, occasionally makes it necessary to resort to imported seed.

Further interesting particulars regarding this work are given in the report above mentioned, which is to be had free on application to R. H. Campbell, superintendent of forestry, Ottawa.

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