

The Evening Times and Star

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LOOKING TO FIELDING.

The rumor in the press that Hon. W. S. Fielding might desire a position less arduous than that of minister of finance leads the Toronto Globe to remark: "It is reported that Mr. Fielding may decline to accept the ministry of finance—If it is offered to him by Mr. King—on account of advancing years, and suggest a portfolio with less strenuous duties. Business men in Ontario are hoping that Mr. Fielding will at least pilot through the coming tariff revision. There is great confidence in his judgment."

The Ottawa correspondent of the Globe also discusses Mr. Fielding, as follows:

"Both the business world, including manufacturers, and the Progressive party, representing the rural world, have implicit confidence in Hon. W. S. Fielding, who pointed out clearly last session just what would result from the frank legislation then proposed, and brought in once again his resolution advocating reciprocity in natural products with the United States. He proved during fifteen years his ability to revise the tariff progressively to suit the needs of the country. His appointment would be a big step toward a friendly co-operation between the Liberal and Progressive groups on economic policies. Extreme free traders might not like it; but the more reasonable Progressives would support his budget, and even some protectionists, who would favor it as against more extreme policies. He would be glad himself to resign the portfolio to another, but strong persuasion will be exerted to get him to accept it."

The Winnipeg correspondent of the Globe, expressing the view that the Progressives will give an independent support to the Liberal government, says: "Two factors are believed to be influencing the decision of Hon. W. S. Fielding remaining office as minister of finance, and the Progressive determination to stand behind the policy of giving public ownership of railways a fair trial, to which both Premier-elect King and Mr. Fielding have given approval. The West has not forgotten the work of Mr. Fielding in relation to the reciprocity agreement of 1911, and his acceptance of the portfolio of finance and the appointment of a minister of railways who is prepared to devote his energies to building up and developing the National Railways system will probably result in a decision by the Progressives to give the new government a very general support."

So far as the maritime provinces are concerned, the acceptance by Mr. Fielding of the office of finance minister would give the greatest satisfaction. No other man in public life today is so well qualified. Moreover, he realizes to the full the difficult position in which the country is placed at the present time, and the urgent need of a policy of retrenchment. Speaking in Halifax last week he referred to the gravity of the situation, but added that "he preached no gospel of despair, but rather one of faith in the people, and he expected, in time, and not a long time, that the country would recover the prosperity it had enjoyed under the Laurier regime."

The country hopes that Mr. Fielding will lend his great ability and rare judgment to the restoration of the prosperity of the old regime.

GETTING OFF EASY

When a radical agitator shouts that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor, he is apt to be described as a Bolshevik or some other type of enemy of law and order; but in Toronto to the other day the chief of police said: "There is one law for the poor and another for the rich. A poor man serves his term because he lacks money and friends, while the rich man gets out as soon as he goes in."

The reason for this outburst on the part of the guardian of the law and rights of the people was the release, by order of the minister of justice at Ottawa, of a wealthy young man who had been sentenced to a year in prison for manslaughter as a result of speeding his motor car in the public streets. The sentence was a very light one, but he had served only twenty-three days when the minister of justice gave him his liberty. It is not surprising that the chief of police resents such action. Of what use can it be to arrest and prosecute those who recklessly violate the speed laws, if a convenient official at Ottawa or elsewhere stands ready to render the work of the police of no avail? And how, under such conditions, can the streets be made safe?

Upon the decision of the parliaments in session in London and Dublin today depends the question whether the Irish Free State is to become a reality in the British sisterhood of commonwealths, or whether the treaty agreed upon by representatives of Great Britain and southern Ireland is to come to naught. Throughout the Empire the hope is entertained that wise councils will prevail and that the coming Christmas season may be marked by rejoicings over the beginning of a new era for Ireland and the Empire.

THE FOUR-POWER TREATY.

The four-power treaty agreed to in the Washington Conference will be opposed in the United States senate by some members of the group which opposed the League of Nations. Senator La Follette declares he will resist its passage and Senators Borah and Johnson are expected to do the same. The New York Times says: "Senator Borah will perceive, of course, that this little treaty is an offshoot of the League of Nations; that it is drawn up in the spirit of the league; that without the league it would never have been heard of. Nevertheless, we advise him to refrain firmly from unhooking any ancient vials of wrath. It is not worth while, for this treaty is only a detail. Moreover, the treaty is sound, commendable and has been concluded for good purposes. The senate should ratify the four-power treaty without any hesitation at all."

It is believed the senate, despite the opposition of the Borah-Johnson-La Follette group, will ratify the treaty and that it will also ratify a treaty regarding the integrity of China. What President Harding and Secretary Hughes have already accomplished would seem to be a reasonable guarantee that the wishes of the administration will prevail. Avoidance of foreign "entanglements" did not keep the United States out of the last war, nor would it make that country safe in the event of another.

THE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME.

Harold Phelps Stokes, writing from Washington to the New York Evening Post, says the conference programme should work out somewhat as follows:

(1) A five-power treaty between the great powers—the United States, Great Britain, Japan, France, and Italy—embodying the naval holiday scheme and the other Hughes proposals for the limitation of naval armaments. To this may be attached whatever agreement is reached for the limitation of land fortifications on the islands of the Pacific.

(2) A four-power treaty between the United States, Great Britain, France and Japan, as the principal Pacific powers, to keep the peace in the Pacific. This is the proposal which has figured so prominently in the despatches recently, and which, it is confirmed today from British sources, has been formally approved in principle by the Japanese diplomatic council. It provides for "breathing spells" along the lines of the Bryan peace treaties and the similar clause in the League of Nations, and it is designed to replace the Anglo-Japanese alliance. By its terms each of the signatory powers will pledge itself to respect the rights of the other signatories in the islands of the Pacific, much as under the Root principles they will pledge themselves, in the agreement with regard to China, to respect her territorial integrity.

(3) A nine-power treaty between all the powers participating in the present conference—the United States, Great Britain, Japan, France, Italy, China, The Netherlands, Belgium and Portugal—covering the neutral island of Asia, with special reference to China. This treaty will embody the Root principles recently adopted by the conference, and the subsequent resolutions of the committee on Far Eastern questions in application of those principles.

(4) A treaty covering the disposition of the island of Yap.

(5) A treaty between Japan and China covering Shantung.

Peter McArthur contributes to the Toronto Globe this verse on the "Passing of Arthur":

With their vengeance the people were prompt on his death; they certainly stomped on him!

Then listened with patience To all his orations, Then they tumbled him over and romped on him.

A Washington despatch says that great interest is manifested in political circles there over the victory of the Liberals in Canada, and there is considerable speculation as to the possibility of a mutual lower tariff agreement between the two countries instead of a threatened war of tariffs.

The Ottawa despatches indicate that Hon. Mackenzie King is making some progress in cabinet-making, and also that he is determined to surround himself with men who will command the confidence of the country.

The arrest of boys on charges of gambling and stealing should stimulate progress in the National in work for the good of the boys of the city, and especially those who are in an environment which tends to their degradation and downfall.

WHERE MAN FIRST LIVED.

The Kohn Desert is reckoned to be the most elevated region on the globe and it is reasoned that the race of mankind must have started here, for this would naturally be the point which would first emerge from the ocean of water once covering the earth. It is at this point that the great rivers of Asia have their origin and flow in different directions to the sea.

THE MAN WITHOUT A JOB.

The dawn creeps up, and 'twixt that and the hour When busy men all rise and hasten to their work, There drags an endless stretch; some unseen power Seems in the shadows of the room to lurk.

No catching of that restful nap that one Who has work steals when he has 'waked too soon; No planning o'er the tasks that must be done Before the noisy midday break of noon.

He rises from his bed when swift the stir Has reached its fullest tide; he knows the sound; Faintly he hears the factory whistles— knows the whirr Of belted wheels now have begun their round.

He counts his pence; they'll meet that one day's need; He shrinks within his soul at thought again He must that vortex face where grasp and greed Make man scarce brother to his fellow-men.

What of the morrow, should the day not bring Some work? Must then his ancient pride Lie like the dust, and must he feel the sting Of poverty that can no longer hide?

For such as these, dear God, we humbly pray; Let none their souls of Hope's blest radiance rob; Help them to face the anxious, workless day; Dear God, remember him without a Modeste Hannis Jordan in New York Times.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Just So. During a discussion with his wife touching things domestic, Groncheigh delivered himself of the following: "Marie, I have observed that she who makes a good pudding in silence is of greater value than she who makes a tart rattle."

Important Question. "Father," said six-year-old Joan, "I want to ask you a very important question."

"What is it, dear?" queried her father.

"Well," continued the small girl, "it's my birthday tomorrow and I'd like to know what you think I'd like to have for a present?"

League of Nations. "But are you a British-born subject?" angrily demanded the official at the passport office.

"My mother was British," began the applicant.

"But she married a Frenchman—"

"Yes."

"In Italy."

"Yes, but where were you born?"

"I was born on a ship flying the Danish colors while she was lying at anchor in Honolulu harbor, but my parents died in Brazil when I was only four years old, and I was adopted by a Chinese, who brought me up in Russia."

"Well," he began another official.

"He's a blooming league of nations!" exploded the official who had first spoken.

IRISH PEACE TASK.

A COLOSSAL ONE

Genius of Premier Lloyd George Eulogized.

Rev. Dr. Henderson, Speaking in Montreal, Hopes the Light That Glows in Ireland's Sky Will Prove Another Bethlehem Star.

(Montreal Gazette.)

Cognizance of the Irish settlement was taken by the Rev. Dr. James Henderson, in preaching at St. James' Methodist church yesterday morning. The statement which he made followed a sermon on "A Storm at Sea," and while the collection was being taken, the organist, Rupert Brees, played the strains of "The Hero that Once Through Halls."

"Never did more welcome news fall upon the eye and ear of an astounded world than that which reached us Tuesday forenoon announcing that the Anglo-Irish delegates had at last discovered the ground of an all-round agreement, and that the British cabinet had unanimously approved the newly-signed compact of peace, which is likely to form the constitutional basis of what in future will be known as the Irish Free State. Three o'clock that morning will ever be regarded as one of the most important hours in the history of nations."

"No wonder that Lloyd George and his colleagues should be showered with compliments and congratulations on the successful consummation of such a complicated and colossal task. No wonder that King George should express himself as overjoyed at the tidings and that he should graciously attribute this signal victory, for the most part, to the personal genius, tireless patience and conciliatory spirit of the first and foremost statesman of our day. No wonder that the Vatican there should come similar expressions of satisfaction and joy from the hand of the ancient pontiff of Rome. No wonder that distant Australia should be thrown into transports of joy and that the members of its House of Representatives on hearing the news should leap to their feet and sing the National Anthem. No wonder that their prime minister should be represented as extending over land and sea the right hand of fellowship to Ireland and welcome that new-born nation into the sisterhood of the British Dominions."

"Certainly it is one of the most brilliant feats of statecraft ever achieved. For long centuries Ireland has been in a state of political unrest. Here had been a record of tumult and tears, and especially for the last year or so, she has been the storm-centre of the British Empire. The vexed Irish question has long and ominously loomed up before the eyes of all nations as a dark cloud on the Irish horizon."

"And what subject of His Majesty the King has not felt the shame and the strain caused by those shocking scenes of tragedy and bloodshed lately enacted on that beautiful Isle of the sea."

Beastly Relief. "Surely the whole Empire, nay, the whole world, breathed a sigh of relief last Tuesday at the announcement that Britain and Ireland had signed a covenant of peace and that by a few strokes of that historic pen the animosities of nearly 100 years were, let us hope, about to be buried in oblivion."

"Surely in this case it was the darkest hour that preceded the morning. On Monday night last London went to bed with little or no hope of an Irish agreement, but during the night the little Welsh 'Napoleon,' as he is now called, realizing that the supreme moment had come, with his colleagues, wrestled for hours with one of the greatest problems of time, and would not surrender until a satisfactory solution had been reached. And next morning the world's metropolis awoke to find that in a double sense it was morning, morning for a distracted Ireland; morning for an anxious Empire and morning for a watching and waiting world."

"Lloyd George on the eve of another Christmas has planted one more star of peace in our sky, whose lustre may blend with that brighter star which 2,000 years ago heralded the advent of Him who is the Prince of Peace. Let us hope that the light that glows in the Irish sky today will prove another Bethlehem Star heralding peace to the distracted nations and today all good people the world over may take heart of hope and mingle their voices with that of the angelic choir as once more by faith we hear it sing 'Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will towards men.'"

CHANGE IN MEDICAL TEACHING URGED.

Doctors Should be Taught What to Do for the Almost Well, Says Dr. Emerson—Disease Prevention.

New York, Dec. 13.—If you're feeling pretty well but believe even more perfect health can be attained, can you expect a recently graduated physician to offer suggestions which will make you happily perfect? Dr. Hiram Emerson, former Health Commissioner of New York, believes that you should expect nothing less. He asserts that they are not taught the care of the almost-well in the medical schools.

Not only that, but Dr. Emerson contends that the students are not learning anything about preventing disease. In fact, he believes the lay public knows a great deal more about this subject than a fourth-year medical college student. In an address made before the Section on Pediatrics of the New York Academy of Medicine he urged that this condition of affairs be remedied.

Public health nurses and social workers who have the interest of the community at heart are better acquainted with the prevention of sickness, he said, than are the physicians themselves, and are therefore better able to answer questions about this matter than medical men.

"How can the students learn prevention of disease?" asked Dr. Emerson. He told of various methods, including his advice to the regular curriculum; its election by the students who wish to make it their specialty, and its becoming a post-graduate undertaking. These he disregarded, however, and declared that the better method would be teaching prevention together with cure.

When the instructor is telling the students the cure for diabetes, for example, he should at the same time explain how this disease can be prevented. They should be given statistics on the death rate from the disease and should learn at least as much about it as statisticians of insurance companies. No special course is required. This information can be given in a few minutes he said.

"A few weeks ago Cancer Week was observed," he went on. "During it the public was informed through the newspapers of the prevention of the disease, and so on. This was a commendable thing, but it is a pity that the laymen learned more about its prevention than is taught the students in the cancer surgery class."

Neither the average doctor nor nurse, he said, has acquired such valuable information as to the prevention of disease as the medical profession learn that. He suggested that chapters of communities print this information on their letterheads instead of the tax rate in the town. A high birth rate and a low mortality is a bigger boost to the place than a low tax rate, Dr. Emerson declared.

An attempt has been made in New York to provide clinics for those who are feeling all right, but who want to see and have their bodies examined. "They are persons who are not complaining of any sickness nor have they any particular disability."

"The doctors in the main are non-plussed meeting with this kind of a problem. They don't know what to say to this kind of patient, and have no idea of what kind of advice to give. They become nervous and hesitating, and I guess you're pretty well—that's all."

"They are not accustomed to think of the difference between relative health and perfect health. They are trained to recognize the difference between being up and about and being required to go to bed, but they know almost nothing about a high and low standard of health. It is most necessary that our medical schools be changed so as to include the teaching of this distinction as well as to include the instruction of the prevention of sickness."

A GOOD BIT OF STORY WRITING BY GRADE 6 BOY.

The development of English composition in the city schools has been marked during recent years and it is not unusual frequently to discover some budding author amongst the children in the lower grades.

In one of the Grade VI classes recently the scholars were shown a picture and a brief outline of what it represented was given to them with instructions to write the story. Many excellent pieces of work were handed in, including the following which was written by a thirteen-year-old boy.

THE RESCUE OF MARY COLLINS.

In the little village of Ashfield there lived an old farmer named Tom Collins. He had a little daughter Mary, his only

child. Mary was eight years old, slim, with dark eyes and brown hair. It was the summer holidays and Mary, free from study, devoted most of her time to seashore with her best friend, Cap, a big St. Bernard dog.

It was Wednesday, dark, cold and dreary. Mary having gotten permission from her father who had gone to the city on business, called Cap and together they set off for the wharf. As they walked along Cap espied a squirrel and began to chase it. The squirrel, however, climbed a tree and Cap, folled, turned away and followed his little mistress.

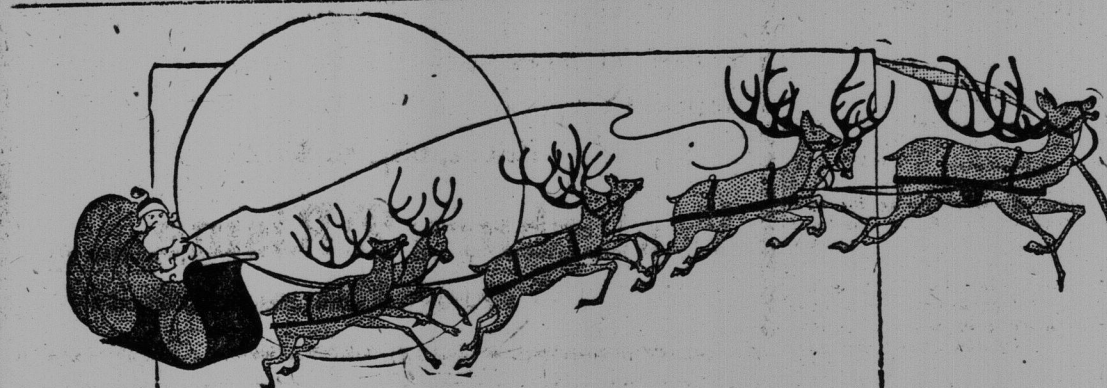
As he reached the wharf there was a piercing scream, a loud splash and then silence. Cap, with the instinct of his race, bounded towards the water. He then learned the story, from Mary, of Cap's brave rescue. You may rest assured that Cap was treated very nicely afterwards.

Mrs. Collins, thinking it was time for Mary to be home, went to the door and began to call her and, getting no answer, started for the shore. When at length she arrived at the beach it was to see Mary lying unconscious upon the sand beside her faithful friend Cap. Mrs. Collins at once carried her up to the cottage and with much care restored her little daughter to consciousness. She

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