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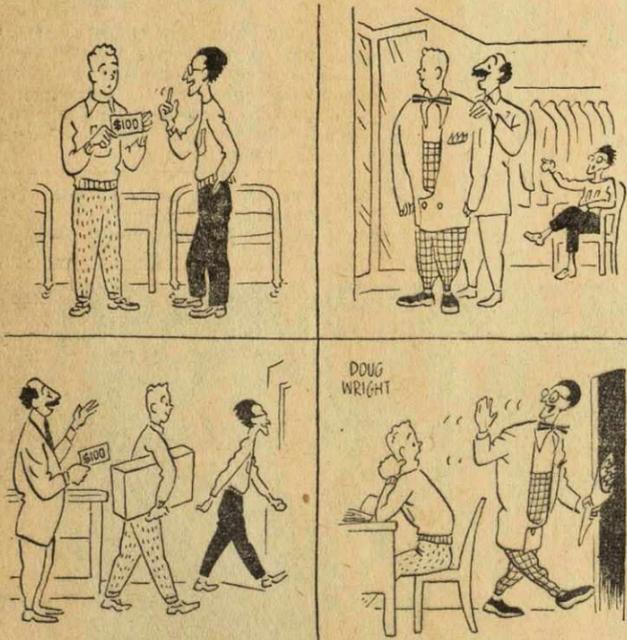
English Courses

University heads have bent an accusing eye more and more in recent months on the inability of college students to use the English language fluently. This has been found to be particularly the case in the Freshman class, where the proportion of students who cannot spell, punctuate or put sentences together correctly, increases every year.

One does not have to be clairvoyant to realize that the main blame for this fault falls back on the system of teaching English grammar in the public and high schools today. There is, of course, the tendency to allow the students more latitude in their choice of subjects than formerly, with correspondingly less emphasis on the three r's of the little red school house. In Nova Scotia and Ontario, where the situation, if it is not worse than in other provinces is more fully realized, instruction in English grammar ends in Grade X and in the second year of the five year high school course in the two provinces respectively. This would, under ordinary circumstances, seem to be sufficient but it obviously cannot be. Whether the gap can be attributed to a falling in the standard of English in the home or to a fall in the thoroughness of the school system is difficult to say, but a good guess might be the latter. It would be safe to estimate that students learn more of the composition of their native language and of such mundane things as subjects, objects and predicates in their study of Latin than in the course of English grammar as it is taught today.

The day does not seem far off, if we are to avoid producing an illiterate generation, that a course in remedial English, teaching the basic elements of English grammar will be a compulsory course on university curriculums.

Wilbur and Gus and the B of M



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WORKING WITH CANADIANS IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE SINCE 1817

Of The Hope And The Glory

Last week the English and non-English world was shocked by the news that the King of England had died. He was a link in the endless chain or monarchy that for centuries have watched over England in her youth, maturity and age. But of all the links since the time-dimmed days of King Canute, no Crown had achieved such popularity and respect and the acclaim the world gave him which was demonstrated by the conquest by the British Monarchy of many an anti-monarchist element, for from the streets of Rangoon to the drug stores in Minnesota, a quiet sorrow was felt and a sympathy that was both heartening and enlightening.

In a world that races itself to death and can't see beyond the nearest neon sign, what place has the staid, old and venerable pageantry whose awful dignity is so imperious in its silence? Perhaps its inspires by its very antiquity. Perhaps it demands attention because it has withstood so successfully the ravages of centuries of time. What ever it is, when the parade of armoured knights, banners and plumes begins in some state procession, the temporal eye of the watcher pauses and as if time stood still, the echoes of past centuries seems to come upon him as he realized suddenly that there has been other days, and will be more, and that he was not and won't be around to see them. But the watcher knows that the traditions that are embodied in the ceremony before him were in existence before his most remote ancestor was born, and will be watched by his grand children and their children, unarrested and unchanged.

England has a history like no other country. This in itself is indicative of troubled eras. Under the long chain of succeeding Kings the Englishman only once knew what it was like to be conquered—and this bitter experience under a Norman called William, has never been forgotten. There was the Reformation struggle; the civil wars of the Roses; the struggle with France; the humbling of Spain; the winning of Canada; the defeat of the Boers; the conquest of India and Burma and the taking of a hundred mandates and concessions of territorial protectorates. Over all this, through all the friction between Crown and Statesman, aided by the Clives, Rhodes, Wellingtons and Drakes, the Kings and Queens of little England won its wars and evolved at the top of an Empire that covered the earth and subjected teeming millions. But those were the days when wars could be won beneficially for the victor—days when the Royal Exchange and the Bank of England virtually controlled the world's finance and wealth.

In Memoriam

Nor battles won, nor mighty deeds,
Nor pomp nor glitter of monarchical train,
Against the pageant show of Age's royal peers
Adorned alone by merits noble palm
He reigned in hearts of Celtic blood,
The Teuton, Norman and the Dane
The Hindustan and Burma's millions dark
The Redmen of the vast Canadian plain.

Or mother Egypt's dusky race
Or Congo and Rhodesia's southern clime
Or Gallian plains of Judah's infant king;
And in a thousand isles that float amain
Or east, or west, or north, or south.
In hearts of men where Freedom's glories reign
Claimed twice ten million loyal honoured thrones
God's servant and the "people's" king.

Though pages from his princely pen,
Gild not the annals of the centuries to come.
The wisdom of earth's noblest Volumes fill
The simple message from his regal throne.
In substance thus: "Seek not a light,
God holds the key that lets the future in
Place thou thy hand in His and through the years
Dark will grow light and safer ways unknown."
—F. C.

The proud monarchy which symbolized this greatness was destined to outlive the actual greatness. In 1914, when all the seas and many of their shores lay under the lion's paw, the decline set in. In the next thirty years her might was to be crippled by two world wars out of which grew new nations at the expense of the Empire and two new unions of strength, the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. With a new war of ideologies in the offing a trembling England tried to hold its head aloft and watched its Empire disintegrate.

The new Queen was 25 and also named Elizabeth. By compulsion of dire times Britons remembered the last Elizabeth. Recalled how under her Drake and Frobisher scorned Philip's Spanish Galleons, defeated the Armada and saw the advent of Shakespeare. It was a time when England was swiftly

rising to the top in all fields of human endeavour. An era that was good to remember. Now a new Elizabethan era has begun and as the beautiful Queen prepared for her new duties Britons everywhere asked: was this a portent of things to come? None thought the power and glory could be regained but many saw in it a hope that some of it would be restored and the prestige that England once knew as a world power and leader would be reborn. Whatever happened, this was certain: that the fabulous monarchy would live as long as England did itself, and in its pageantry at least the name of Britannia would not be easily forgotten.

After Classes Meet the Gang at Joe's and Tom's

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