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ST. JOHN, N. B. MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1921.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY.

Both Australia and New Zealand want the renewal of the Anglo-Japanese treaty. Canadian opinion is indeterminate, with the leaning against any interlocking by treaty engagements between the English-speaking and Oriental worlds.

The position of Australia and New Zealand with regard to the assumption of Japanese immigrants is exactly the same as our own, only much more exigent for them than it is for us. If they are satisfied upon this point, we have no great reason for feeling insecure.

We in Canada, says the Winnipeg Tribune, have some difficulty in understanding the attitude of premier Hughes and Massey, which, in this matter, unquestionably reflects the opinion of their respective countries. But it is a real difficulty in understanding not any want of sympathy, if we could really understand.

Perhaps they feel that in the absence of a treaty they would be compelled to assume a greater burden as independent powers in the Pacific than their present resources and population could very well bear, and that the real effect of the treaty is to inhibit Japan from exerting independent pressure upon them, while permitting the Empire to take the advantage of Japan's good will.

Exposed to a tension such as exists between the United States and Japan at the present moment, the position of Australia and New Zealand would be dreadful. They may reasonably consider that the treaty prevents such tension arising by limiting the possibilities of Japanese interference in their affairs.

Whatever the people of Australia and New Zealand feel about the matter they may rest assured of this, that with the questions of international politics which are disturbing the relations between the United States and Japan, Canada has no concern and desires none.

What they are quarrelling over is the trade of China and Siberia. They both claim to be supporters of the "open door" policy. Japan worships the principle with its mouth, but Japan's heart is far from it, said, as for the United States, its actions with regard to its own mahogany, are by no means convincing. They are probably quarrelling because neither of them is sincere, and they both know it. The Empire can afford to isolate itself from such a dispute. Canada cannot afford to do anything else.

THE BEST PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM

There is a present-day tendency to sneer at parliament and legislators. The British Parliamentary system is not perfect; it has been a gradual development of a thousand years, but it is the best method of democratic rule which has yet been devised. Those who would upset it, who would throw it in the discard, have yet to substitute any reasonable system in its place. Advocates of group government propose in place of the present Cabinet representing the majority in Parliament, a Cabinet in which all parties will be represented. A resolution to this effect was actually moved in the Manitoba Legislature last session. Such a system would be either a government by compromise or else would result in a deadlock in the Cabinet whenever an issue of the slightest importance upon which parties differ arose.

Mr. Hon. James Lowther, ex-Speaker of the British House, speaking before the Canadian Club at Ottawa, came to a timely defense of the greatest of all British institutions. He said: "I venture to say that it is impossible to find a better system of government than we have and which has been adopted by all the governments in the British Empire. We have the example of the autonomy of Russia, and the other extreme, Soviet Government. The paradise of the Bolsheviks is not a paradise, but a hell. There is the United States, which is a democracy, but we have seen how it has failed. The system of government by groups in France we think is not quite as successful as our own form of government. I do claim that constitutional government as demonstrated by the system adopted and worked out by the British House of Commons, and accepted, adopted, and I dare say, improved by the other parliaments in the British Commonwealth, holds the field as the best system for a country to govern itself by. I don't claim that the system is perfect, but new times demand new measures and new men. The world moves on, and if in due course outgrows the times that in our forefathers' day were the best, after we are gone a better scheme will be devised by better men than we. In the meantime, I am justified in claiming for the old House of Commons, with all its traditions and fine spirit, that it holds the field. It has

WHAT OTHERS SAY

The Good Luck of Sergeant Heyne.

Sergeant Heyne, of the German army, has been sentenced to ten months' imprisonment for ill-treating prisoners of war. He is the first German to be convicted and punished for war crimes. He was shown at his trial to have exceeded the requirements of his position as guard in 23 cases, and the prosecutor asked that he be sentenced to two years. He German judges, probably feeling that all this happened long ago, and that by-gones should be bygones, let their fellow-countryman off with ten months; the sentence apparently is one of simple detention, so that after idling for a few months, the brave sergeant will get his liberty again; he will have suffered practically nothing, and the "incident" of his participation in the war will be forgotten. There are some fine samples of humanity on the list awaiting trial for participation in the war. But this ten-month sentence must have reassured them that there is no real cause for alarm. After maltreating helpless prisoners, after often sick and wounded men, after sinking hospital ships and drowning women and children and torturing seamen, this first sentence suggests that the German judiciary looks upon such incidents with a rather casual eye. Ten months' detention for Sergeant Heyne; the German law, indeed, has been kind to the sergeant.—Winnipeg Free Press.

Confiscate Everything.

There is some talk of a bill to be introduced at the next session of the legislature authorizing confiscation of private stocks of liquor, with compensation. John O'Neill, Liberal member for Southwest Toronto, admits that he has been "talking that way a lot." He is worrying over the unfairness of conditions which permit the rich man to have a cellar full of liquor to enable him to endure the drought, while the poor man must go dry.

There is a good deal of seeming unfairness in the world. It seems unfair that the rich man should be able to ride around in his comfortable automobile while the poor man must walk. Why not confiscate the automobile. Or to get at the root of the matter at once, why not confiscate the rich man's money? If we are going in for Bolshevism or Communism or something like that, let us make a thorough job of it. Why should one man be richer than another? Why should one man have more coal in his cellar than another?—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

A BIT OF VERSE

THE COMMONS' FAREWELL TO THE SPEAKER.

Striking scenes were enacted in the British House of Commons when the members bade farewell to the Right Hon. J. W. Lowther, the retiring Speaker, and the occasion was seized upon by "Punch" to publish the following:—

Spring comes, and little nests will soon be furnished
 With little eggs to hatch;
 The turn of a hint, I hear, is newly "burnished."

And those who look may catch
 (The while he weeps to bid Good-bye)
 "A livelier lilt" in the Speaker's eye.

For now, the long day's heavy task
 Completed, the best,
 His tact, confirmed, his wit still undefeated.

He goes to take his rest;
 Now may he slough his formal rig
 And joyously demolish his wig.

No more shall he adjust our party
 When statesmen bark and bite;
 No more interpret Parliamentary morals
 And put our manners right;
 No more rebuke without a bias
 The man who calls another "Ananiah."

Even as pullets of an orphaned brood'll do,
 Robbed of their mother's care,
 When, like a pecked cockle, with his head
 Kenworthy rises the air,
 And daps his wings and runs amok,
 How we shall miss the old parnasian cluck!

Farewell the gentle strength that never smote us
 On a too tender spot!
 Lapped in a downy bed of well-earned lotus

Elysian be his lot,
 When summer wows a wine-red sea,
 Or in some glade of Lowther Arcady!

But sometimes, if we're good, he may revisit
 Our human vale of tears,
 And, couched on purple plush (or velvet, is it?)
 Slumber among his Peers,
 Looking, I hope, extremely well,
 And in his hair a sprig of asphodel.

—O. S.

THE LAUGH LINE

Easy Explanation.

"I say, Stalker," he said, "you remember you told me you had hunted tigers in West Africa? Well, Captain Smith tells me there are no tigers there."

"Quite right, quite right," said Stalker, blandly. "I killed them all."

Cheering Thought.

The Artist—"Dobbin, the art critic, has stated my pictures unmercifully. My friend—"Oh, don't take any notice of that fellow; he has no ideas of his own or any guests like a parrot what everybody else is saying."

Benny's Note Book

BY LEE PAPE

Yesterday I had 4 cents, saying to pop, Pop, I got 4 cents, and I got a good mind to start saving up, do you think that would be a good idea, pop?

I do, indeed, said pop, if you spend every cent as fast as you got it like a drunken sailor how do you ever expect to have a bank account? How do you ever expect to look a bank teller in the eye without blushing?

Well if I put these 4 cents in the bank, pop, would I start to get interest on them right away? I said.

Not unless the banks have changed their methods a lot during the past week or so, said pop.

Well if I save up till I had a hundred dollars in the bank would I get any interest on that, pop? I said.

Interest on a hundred dollars at 4 per cent would be 4 dollars a year, said pop.

Well suppose I saved up till I had 600 dollars, how much interest would I get on 600 dollars at 5 and a half per cent, pop?

Wats the idee making it so hard? said pop, lets see, 600 at 5 and a half per cent, lets see, that would make, lets see, 600 at 5 would be 30 dollars and one half would be 3 dollars, 8 dollars a year, thats the answer, and now let me read my paper a little.

Wich he kept on doing, and pritty soon I said, Well pop, suppose I saved up 996 dollars, how much interest would I get on that at 13 and 5 eights per cent?

Hay, for the love of mud lay off, there is no such per cent among civilized people in the first place and in the 2nd place how am I ever going to read this paper? said pop.

Me thinking, Aw heck, I aint going to start saving up if no body aint going to give me any information. And I bawt 4 cents worth of jelly beans, all flavors including lickorish.

Proving people need a lot of incuragement to save and even then a lot of them often dont.

Radio Wins Next War, Says Marconi

Manless Fleets to Fight Decisive Battles in Mid-ocean, Prediction of Italian.

London, June 1.—The country with the most efficient directional wireless is bound to win the next war. The rapidity with which experiments are succeeding in America and England in this phase of wireless control will surely result in a revolution in modern ideas of naval warfare.

"I have in mind a gigantic clash between two monster manless navies in mid-ocean, directed by unseen hands on the land or in the air. The most efficiently directed navy is bound to drive the weaker navy from the seas and then the seaboard and naval bases of the latter will be entirely at the mercy of the stronger."

Thus Senator Guglielmo Marconi, who has just returned from a two months' cruise in the Mediterranean on his yacht "Electra," summed up the possibilities of this newest arm of the marvellous wireless telegraph.

England Experimenting.

"The possibilities along this line are still in the air, even I am afraid to say too much. No one knows their limits. Already scientists stand aghast at what the future may bring. Experiments in England in directing wireless are already successful in the embryonic stages and are being so improved and becoming so much more efficient that daily there are new surprises."

"I understand that America is so impressed that the greater part of the navy's summer maneuvers will be devoted to furthering knowledge by using obsolete dreadnoughts directed by wireless as targets for attacks from the air."

"It can readily be seen that if one ship can be controlled in this manner, the future manless navies are simply a matter of time and development."

If a war comes when this is perfected, it will be more terrible than ever."

His War Monsters.

Senator Marconi visualized monster manless battleships patrolling seas controlled by master admirals speeding through space 4,000 or 5,000 feet in the air. His description of what would happen if two of these navies

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chants Bank of Canada will this

attract special attention. This

first annual statement of any

larger banks to make its appear

since the period of drastic ch

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There will be reason for sa

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While, as was expected, they

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figures.

The general statement of asse

liabilities also reflects the ch

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a very satisfactory feature to

that savings deposits which rep

Profits

Premiums on new stock

Previous balance

Loss:—

Dividends, etc.

Circulation Tax

Bank prem.

Reserve Fund

Total debt

Balance brought forward

The bank's liabilities to share

ers amount to \$20,356,564 agai

138,160 the preceding year, an

liabilities to the public amount