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thing. Through this mist I watched her black hair in the dust and the red rocks, and winged shapes sitting upon the rocks. Then they grew dim and there was silver sand and blackness and stars spinning in it. When the rocks reddened again, I saw Bob's face looking amazedly through the mist, and ran to him.

"I tried to say 'Bob, old fellow, I didn't make a mess because the sand was red,' and then I slid to his great shoulder as she had slid to mine, and thought I was dying too—yes.

"After that long blackness and fever there was the mine again and the beautiful, dry, horrible world around. And then there was the siding and the tank, and Bob and the man from Candelaria putting me gently on the cars, and a conductor who said 'She's bin too stiff for him, hey?' jerking his chin towards the desert. After a time there was my old life, my old little tidy round in the office, the accounts that generally balance. Do you think that other account was balanced by that splinter

of obsidian? I was six cents out last week."

Channing looked up from his red blanket, staring past me with his pale, old-man's eyes. "I can't get things clear in my mind. It's dreadful when you don't get things clear in twenty years. Sometimes I think they'd get more clear—about that other account—if I went back and saw the whole thing again,—the dry, dead splendour where a little waste water is like the touch and the word of God, saying 'Let there be life,' the golden hills in the distance, the throbbing red rocks near, the sand and the sun, the wheeling stars of their different colours and the dawns made visible each like the first dawn above a half-finished world,—the whole, strange, terrible place that took me and cast me aside.

"I wouldn't find Bob now, nor the man from Candelaria. But the other things I'd find, for they don't change. "Sometime,—why, yes, sometime,—I guess I'll go back, go back and find out—"

What Canadian Editors Think

BOGEY OF INDIA.
(St. John Telegraph.)

WITH John Morley at one end of the line and Kitchener at the other, the British should be well equipped for the prevention of trouble in India if reasonable measures will prevent, or for the suppression of trouble should the iron hand be necessary. Moreover, the present British Government is not one that hesitates to concede a measure of self-government where conditions justify it, and if recognition of the aims of the progressive native party in India is possible and best for the country, the government will go as far as it safely can in that direction.

* * *

THE COMMON SPARROW.
(Ottawa Journal.)

THERE is a sentiment for the sparrow in winter just because he is game enough to stay with us throughout the season. And when he is not too busy in summer with his foraging and quarrelling in the street, and his shamelessly consistent devotion to the three brood standard of offspring, he may help reputable birds in the fight upon the insects. But the ornithologists give the sparrow a bad name. This English immigrant has driven many of the indigenous insectivorous birds away from the haunts of men and up to the remote recesses of the woods. Now he is accused by New York State experts of being an active agent in the dissemination of foot-and-mouth disease among cattle. He is at any rate an uncleanly little bird, and the crumbs that are coming to him must be by way of sympathy for his gameness alone. And at that he is little gamer than the house fly, as to whose lack of right to live most of us are agreed.

* * *

SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT.
(Bruce Herald.)

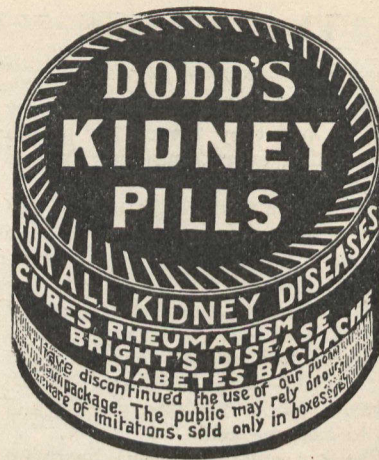
IT is interesting to reflect on the progress of different nations in the development of their systems of government. France has always led the world in art, science, literature, and theories of government. But it always falls down in the practical application of its theories to the necessary business of conducting public affairs. It has no idea of leaving people to themselves. They always

have to be managed. And the man in office has to do the bossing. The French official, either in church or state, is always fussy, meddlesome and tyrannical. Common sense is no part of his outfit. If he had any of that useful article, he would leave the people of Miquelon to suit themselves in the management of their own schools. Observe the absurdity of a European country three thousand miles away, wanting to impose its idea of school education on a democratic community away in the western ocean, and within the sphere of American influence, and possibly of American assistance. How different John Bull deals with public affairs. He never worries himself about theories of government, but always endeavours to attain the practical. In effect his practice in dealing with the business of government is to leave people alone as much as possible, consistently with public safety. It is a simple principle and works remarkably well.

* * *

SILVER IN CANADA.
(Mail and Empire.)

FOR this province the consequence of the decline in the price of silver will not be so serious as for other silver-producing countries. If the market values were to go much farther downward than it is likely to go, it would still return a handsome profit on the cost of the metal taken from the principal Cobalt mines. In no other of the world's argent fields is the ore generally so rich or the expense of mining it so low as in the wonderful mineral areas on the shore of Lake Temiskaming and on Montreal River. At the present time as the price declines the consumptive demand of silversmiths increases. In the last five years the quantity of silverware manufactured across the line has doubled, and in other countries the increase has been in almost equal proportion. Should the price decline to a point that would negative the operation of mines in other countries the consumption would increase and the benefit of the enlarged demand would come to the Cobalt mines, which can continue to pay at prices much below those now ruling. The Canadian people spend much more on silverware and silver ornaments than they did at the beginning of the decade and the manufacture of such articles has become an important Canadian industry.



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Accommodation for 450 Guests.

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