

ENGLAND GOVERNED BY SPORTSMEN

Golf and Cricket Nearly as Important in the Eyes of the Cabinet as a Constitutional Crisis and Parliament Dare not Sit After Grouse Shooting Begins—Premier Playing Golf Abroad When King Edward Died and Only Tore Himself Away for the Necessary Formalities in Connection with the New Reign—Foreign Secretary a Fisherman and President of the Board of Trade An All Around Athlete.

(Copyright in the United States and Great Britain by Curtis Brown. All rights strictly reserved.) London, Aug. 29.—President Roosevelt had his tennis cabinet and President Taft his golf cabinet, but they are transitory phases of executive activity and pass out of existence with the men. In England Liberal cabinets come and go, Tories rise and fall, Labor gives both big parties a bad scare, and the Irish Nationalists have their innings; but the Sporting Government goes on forever. Sport may not be the most important factor in English public life, but it is certainly one of the most prominent.

event fraught with many possible consequences to all concerned, yet what do we find? The Right Hon. Arthur James Balfour, nephew of the late Lord Salisbury and former prime minister, leader of the opposition, who because of his influence with the house of lords, has often been called the real ruler of Great Britain, is not in his place and will not be for several days. We have not far to search for the daily papers to find out the parliamentary golf tournament is on. Ultimately Balfour wins for the third time, an honor which I do not doubt for a moment he would rather possess than be prime minister again.

The present session of the house of commons is one of the most important in its history, despite the fact that it has been robbed of its epoch-making possibilities by the conference of the two important parties on the house of lords question. Naturally one would expect to find the newspapers filled with the question of whether or not the house would be able to get through the immense amount of business on hand. It is typical of sporting England, however, that the question which has intruded itself is whether or not the house would rise in time for the beginning of grouse shooting on August 12.

King Edward's death found the prime minister on the continent playing golf. Asquith hurried to London, but as soon as his official duty was done he hurried back to his sport. The death of the king forced a truce between the several warring parties in the house of commons, which had been at death grips over the question of the authority of the house of lords. It was one of the most important questions which had arisen in England for many generations, and the papers would have had us believe that the people were on the verge of revolution. The reassembling of the house would seem to be an

At one time Chaplin was possessed of more money than he could ever spend, apparently; but at the present time, it is said, he has to think more than once before giving the lavish entertainments for which he is justly famous. And this shrinking of the family purse is said to be due to his passion for horse racing. It is to that sport that the really serious part of his life has been devoted. His name is forever linked with the turf by his ownership of the great Hereford, which, as an unknown, won the Derby of 1867 and about \$700,000 for its owner. But, although he has won heavily, he has spent even more heavily, on the principle of "easy come, easy go."

with the British character. A pause at a moment of peril or at the top of a crisis, during which one engages in something quite irrelevant, is a splendid way of giving that air of nonchalance for which the Briton is justly renowned. It may be quite natural with men like Balfour and Asquith, but it smells of studied affectation the less. It is told of the former that in the Boer war he attended a conference of England's great men at which the destiny of the British empire was practically in the balance. Yet he went from that nerve-racking occasion to an exhibition to chat on art with some kindred soul. It is like pausing to light a cigarette in a decisive cavalry charge.

On the front benches of the present House of Commons sits as choice a collection of sportsmen as one could wish to see. Besides the Prime Minister and Mr. Balfour, who swear by, but not at, golf, there is the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, who, appropriately enough, rules the King's nave. For the Right Hon. Reginald was how in the Cambridge University eight of 1887, and won both the Grand and Stewards' cups at far-famed Henley. He still pulls a strong oar, as any one who watches his early morning practice

speaks with a seriousness and a pomposity that make his speeches welcome as a diversion and an amusement. The Right Hon. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, may not have many inches, but he is every inch a sportsman. For look at his list of activities in that field. He is a cricketer, an oarsman, a skater and a boxer. Indeed, he is the only representative for cricket, skating and boxing in the present cabinet, so far as I know. As to his ability in these several fields I cannot speak at first hand, but I once heard a story which seriously impugned his ability, or rather his willingness, to put on the gloves. Of course John Burns has engaged in many battles in which his hard fists were his only weapons, but I tell this story for what it is worth. It seems that Burns had made a speech referring slightly to the ability of the members of the National Sporting Club, England's premier prize fighting organization, declaring that the members delighted to look on, but that he, Burns, although a small man, could lick the best of them. Burns was handing a live wire when he made such a sweeping challenge. Immediately Sir Claude Champion de Crespigny, a famous sporting baronet, and father of the Captain de Crespigny who once visited the United States with an English polo team, took up the challenge. Sir Claude weighed ten pounds less than the redoubtable John and was ten years older at a time of life when years count against a man. But Burns refused to be cowed, and into the ring with the fire-eater he had uncovered and nothing more was heard from him.

The ponderous figure of the Right Hon. Richard Burdon Haldane, Secretary of State for War, sitting further along on the same bench, hardly suggests the athlete. His face is almost continually wreathed in smiles and gives you the impression of being made up of so many balls of varying size—one for the nose, one for each cheek, an enormous one for the forehead, and a tiny one for the chin. Haldane's sport is long-distance walking and he has been known to cover sixty or even seventy miles of hard country road a day time and again. Only one who has attempted such a feat knows what that means. Yet Haldane is 54 years old and weighs well above 200 pounds.

on the Thames can tell. McKenna's many contests in his school days made him pugnacious, and he would wish to attempt in the government to display his talents admirably in that direction. The Admiralty has been a target for big guns for the last two years, but McKenna is still on deck, smilingly evading dangerous looking shots.

A little further along on the same benches sits Sir Edward Grey, Secretary for Foreign Affairs. Sir Edward's word, it is a well known, carries more weight in the House of Commons than that of any other man, and it is said even the present King fears him. Yet he spends his spare time figuring out the subtleties of fly fishing. He is writing books on the subject. He is still a dangerous opponent, even for the best and youngest of tennis players, and in the days of his youth captured the M. C. C. and Queen's Club tennis championships, the two highest honors in the sport.

But the Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, Me might have not been a peer these many years had he twice refused the professional honor. The Right Hon. Henry is typical of many things English. In form and feature he is an exact counterpart of the John Bull of contemporary cartoons. His portly form, his full, red face and white mutton chop whiskers, might have served as models for the artist who originally conceived the figure, which so often appears in political publications. In mental characteristics, so far as one can judge from externals, he is the Englishman of our imagination. And in his love for the "sport of kings" he is indeed a true Briton.

The projector of the Pall Mall Gazette, a London newspaper, which, by the way, is owned by the erstwhile American citizen William Waldorf Astor, in drawing up the prospectus said that it would be "written by gentlemen for gentlemen." To paraphrase the saying, which has now become historic, I might say that England is "governed by sportsmen for sportsmen." For in their passion for sports the members of the house only reflect the tendency of the mass in the street.

At one time Chaplin was possessed of more money than he could ever spend, apparently; but at the present time, it is said, he has to think more than once before giving the lavish entertainments for which he is justly famous. And this shrinking of the family purse is said to be due to his passion for horse racing. It is to that sport that the really serious part of his life has been devoted. His name is forever linked with the turf by his ownership of the great Hereford, which, as an unknown, won the Derby of 1867 and about \$700,000 for its owner.

Chaplin's passion for horse racing must, indeed, be great, when it can drag him from his duties in the House of Commons. He is a member of the old regime, one who believes the England of today is rapidly hurrying to the bow-wows. And he is continually attempting to stay the mad rush. He takes his legislative duties almost as seriously as his horse racing, and although his words carry little weight, he

make no claim to any such distance record as his colleague. Thirty miles is as much as he would wish to attempt in the short span of time between sunrise and sunset. What is true of the members of the cabinet and front bench of the opposition holds true as well of the entire House of Commons. The member who does not acknowledge the dominion of some sport in his everyday life is a comparative rarity. It would be interesting to re-visit the membership of the house by sports, as golf, 212; automobile, 119; rowing, 18; shooting, 75, and so on, through the entire list. So well are the particular weaknesses of the members known that those who are in the front row can construct the day's calendar of sporting fixtures from a list of the absentees from the chamber at Westminster.

The Englishman's passion for sport is curbed now and then by the party "whip," an official whose duty it is to see that the members are in their places when necessary. He sends out circulars to the members which read: "A motion is expected, when your vote is earnestly desired." Or that the member may know just how much danger threatens him if he disregards the notice and goes horse racing or shooting or fishing, a system of red marks has been perfected by the "whips."

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E. L. SCOTT. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(The opinions of correspondents are not necessarily those of The Telegraph. No letters are published unless accompanied by a return address. Editors will be pleased to accept of letters for publication. Stamps should be enclosed if requested. The name and address of the contributor should be given. The editorial board assumes no responsibility for the return of letters. The name and address of the contributor should be given. The editorial board assumes no responsibility for the return of letters.)

CREDIT TO WHOM CREDIT IS DUE To the Editor of The Telegraph: Sir—I think the public should be made more fully to realize that the admirable cattle sheds in connection with the successful dominion exhibition which closed here were planned and brought to completion by W. E. Burditt, chairman of the building committee. Burditt for many months took a keen interest in this matter and studied similar work in many other places, with the result that from what he had observed, and because of his own great knowledge of what was needed, he had the sheds built at a cost of 150,000. Cattle sheds probably never seen at any exhibition in Canada. Mr. Burditt is a modest and retiring citizen, and as his service was of such value in connection with the exhibition I feel that The Telegraph should place these facts before the public as evidence of good faith.—Ed. Telegraph.

THE COPPER RESOURCES OF N. B. To the Editor of The Telegraph: Sir—In The Telegraph of the 19th inst. appears some opinions of one Dr. Wilson who, it seems, is an employe of the geological survey department at Ottawa. He also further appears that Dr. Wilson has been engaged during the summers of 1899 and the present year investigating the copper properties of Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick with a view of publishing a tabulated report on the copper resources of the dominion.

Pending the publication of this report Dr. Wilson has been giving opinions as to the copper possibilities of New Brunswick, giving as his opinion judging from what he had seen "that copper does not occur in New Brunswick in such quantities or richness as would make the exploitation of it a commercial success." The chances are that Dr. Wilson has either not seen much of the copper areas of New Brunswick or has not enough knowledge of such matters as to make him what would be considered a sound authority, and is giving utterances to views which are both absolutely incorrect and absurd. It would have been in much better taste had he refrained giving publicly to a statement that any one at all versed in the copper resources of this province knows to be untrue, incorrect and misleading, until his report was fully tabulated and published.

ROYAL PRINCES WHO WILL VISIT CANADA NEXT YEAR Photograph of their majesties, King George and Queen Mary, also the two princes who will tour Canada and the other British dominions in the autumn of 1911. The Prince of Wales is on the right. The other lad is Prince Albert.

shade himself conversant with the whole resources, and facts in the copper line in New Brunswick before he so glibly made a statement that is absolutely untrue. Did Dr. Wilson visit, and does he know of the Lunenburg copper mine in Albert county on which considerable money has been spent, and which shows a vein matter of 20 to 24 feet in width of first class commercially valuable ore, carrying from 4 to 7 per cent copper and gold and silver in combination of good values?

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UNITED STATES WONDER TOWN How an Oklahoma City Has Lifted Itself by Its Bootstraps. The city of Oklahoma is only twenty-one years old. In 1889 it was an open field. Now it has 60,000 people, well paved streets, steel skyscrapers and a thriving business with all the bustle and prosperity of a growing city.

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MULTI-MILLIONAIRE WHO MARRIED AT 92. New York, Sept. 23.—John S. Lyle, ninety-two years old and worth \$4,000,000 and with a palatial residence at Tarrytown (N. Y.), has taken as a bride Miss Julia G. Hannon, thirty years old, a nurse, who has attended him for nearly two years. The millionaire is reputed to be the richest man in New York.

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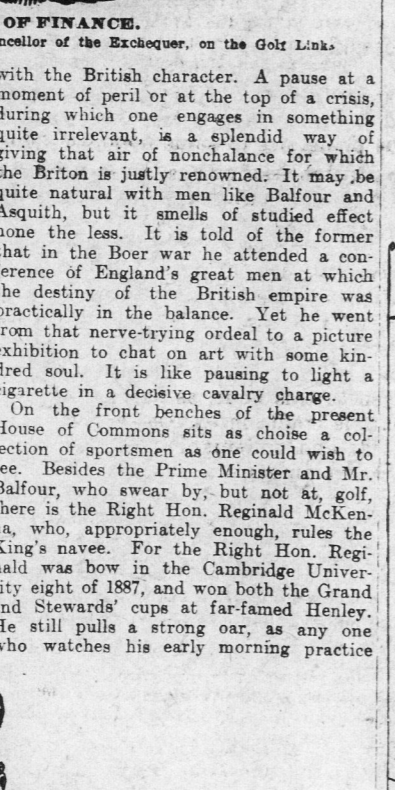
NOT THINKING OF FINANCE. A Snapshot of Lord George, the English Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the Golf Links.



A SPORTING STATESMAN. Arthur J. Balfour, for Many Years Prime Minister of England and now a Member of Parliament, is a sportsman.



GOLF BEFORE POLITICS. Dr. T. J. Macnamara, Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, thinks at Least as Much of the "Royal and Athletic" Game as of the "King's Navies."



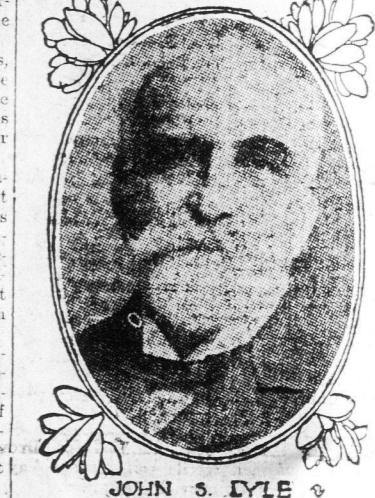
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JOHN S. LYLE. Miss Hannon blushing admitted that the wedding had taken place and both she and Mr. Lyle were happy.

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