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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1913.

THE SITUATION AT OTTAWA.

The Naval Aid Bill will pass the House of Commons at tomorrow's sitting and will then be ready for the Senate. The country will be relieved that this important stage has been reached and at the same time regret that the fair name of Canada, as a daughter of the Empire, has been stained by the unworthy tactics of the Opposition. The Liberal party missed the great opportunity of its political life in not agreeing to Mr. Borden's naval proposals at the very beginning. When the Prime Minister made his speech, which will become historic in the annals of Canada, on December 5th last, the Leader of the Opposition could have wiped out the mistakes of the past and, throwing to one side the game of party politics, could have accepted as his creed the proposals of the Conservative party. He declined to take this course. He preferred to plunge the Commons into one of the most acrimonious debates that has ever been witnessed in the Canadian House, or, indeed, in any House of Commons. The result has not redounded to the credit of either the Liberal party or its Leader, who will take rank as having failed at an important stage in the history of Canada.

Too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the moral effect which would have been produced if there had been unanimity upon Mr. Borden's naval proposals. The world would have had a common British citizenship instead of the spectacle of a house divided against itself. The tactics of the Liberals at Ottawa recall the action of a Liberal Opposition in the British House of Commons in 1869, when, petulantly, to gain a party advantage, an attempt was made to prevent Disraeli from buying the Suez Canal shares, although they knew it was adding enormously to the power of Great Britain. The Liberal Opposition of that day gained the title of "Little Englanders."

Premier Borden's naval proposals were adding enormously to the power of England as a world-power and to Canada as a partner in Empire union. Sir Wilfrid Laurier opposed those proposals and he and his party will be branded in the future as "Little Englanders" and "Little Canadians." The Dominion of Canada cannot afford to have statesmen puny in thought or narrow in conception. They must take risks in statesmanship and in policy, though in the Government's naval proposals Canadians fully realize that no risks were taken. Mr. Borden and his colleagues were simply carrying out the desires of the British Admiralty.

There have been many reputations lost and won since the Naval Debate began. Men who were simple back bench members have rapidly come to the front, and others, who had reputations, have been eclipsed. Premier Borden has come out of the trying ordeals of the past five months with added lustre. A Prime Minister for the first time, pitted against the old and astute Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the crafty Mr. Pugsley and others of the same class, Mr. Borden finds himself with a united party, devoted to him and willing to follow where he leads.

A great part of the brunt of the debate fell to the lot of Hon. J. D. Hazen, who had Mr. Carvell and Mr. Pugsley ever on his flank. What has been the result? The country knows. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries has gained a reputation as a fair fighter, able to give and to take blows, and, without, possessed of a good humor and urbanity, which always stood him in good stead in moments harassing and exciting. Since he was in England last summer, Mr. Hazen, as a Minister of the Crown, has had to devote careful and daily attention to his department with the shadow of a great and important debate all the time hanging over him. He has come out of the ordeal with an unblemished reputation and with the good will of his opponents.

On the Opposition side there can be no gainsaying the fact that reputations have been lost. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has lost nothing of his power as a debater but has suffered in as much as he has made many lose faith in his boasts of devotion to the British flag. Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Carvell have added to their reputations as the master obstructionists. They always were certain to step in where everybody else was afraid to tread. They talked and talked just for the sake of talking, but worse than all they have been the cause of scenes unparalleled in the Parliament of Canada.

From the tone of many of the important newspapers of Canada it is a mystery why these two members ever were elected. They have hindered and retarded all public business. But by sheer strength of purpose, backed up by the moral assist-

ance of the majority of the Canadian people, Mr. Borden has succeeded in having his naval proposals pass the House of Commons. He has the admiration and the respect of all good Canadians.

INCOME TAXES.

Discussion on the income tax has been revived by the proposals of President Woodrow Wilson. Looking broadly over legislation in other parts of the world, the New York World finds that the separate German states levy income taxes. Some German cities do also; and the Imperial German government is about to take an especial contribution from large incomes, presumably paid in five instalments; so that for five years, and perhaps longer, some Germans may have triple income taxes to pay.

In Great Britain the estate taxes, levied as death duties bring in a revenue of \$125,000,000 a year. They are graduated, rising to 8 and 10 per cent. on large estates; on those of over \$15,000,000 the first \$5,000,000 pays 10 per cent. and the remainder 15 per cent. The exemption under the British income tax has varied from \$500 to \$800, and is now the latter figure. The rate has varied from less than 1 per cent. upward. During the Boer war it rose to 14d. in the pound, or nearly 6 per cent. It was not then graduated. A super-tax is now levied, and the principles of graduation and discrimination have been further introduced, though to a less extent than on the continent. An earned income of \$15,000 pays 3d in the pound on \$9,200, and 14d. on \$5,000, \$800 being exempt. An unearned income pays 14d. in general, the lowest rate is 9d. or about 3.75 per cent. The highest is 14d., with a super-tax of 6d on incomes of over \$25,000; or in all a little above 8 per cent.

Austria divides the income tax into minute gradations. The exemption is \$250, but above that limit the entire income is taxed. The lowest rate is 6 per cent.; strictly speaking, there is no "highest." The rate continues to rise as the income increases. At \$42,500 the tax paid is \$1,937.50, or 4.5 per cent. An income of \$500,000 would pay close to 5 per cent. There are various exemptions.

The German income-tax laws vary with the state. In Prussia the exemption is \$225. An income of \$250 pays \$1.50. The rate averages 3 per cent. but large incomes pay 5 per cent. upon the greater part. Earned incomes are taxed less than unearned ones, and there are numerous exemptions. Saxony has 115 gradations and taxes an income of \$100 24 cents. There is an abatement for children. Large incomes pay a much higher rate than moderate ones. Bavaria taxes earned income up to 3 per cent. unearned income up to 4 per cent. In thirty-seven countries of the world the income tax is estimated to yield one-half of all the returns from direct taxation.

CURRENT COMMENT

A Peace Memorial Bridge.

The plan for a memorial bridge over the Niagara River to commemorate the one hundred years of peace that has received favorable consideration from the American and Canadian delegates. It is a proposition that is of the greatest interest to Buffalo and to the entire Niagara frontier. When nations abandon forts and build highways to facilitate communication across their frontiers, that is practical evidence of the spirit of peace and friendship and a guarantee of its permanence. Such a bridge would stand for centuries as an example to the world.

A Definition Needed.

Really some method should be found for inducing the Supreme Court of the United States to give the final authoritative definition of "white person." All Hawaiians are white, of whatever blood they come. One district judge naturalized a Parsee as "white," and another has just admitted a "high caste Hindu" to citizenship. Incidentally the latter judge conceded the force of the Hindu's argument that he was of the Aryan race, from which, by the way, the Japanese claim to have sprung.

Value of Good Roads.

A wise man has said "increased traffic on any road means increased value of farm lands." One of the main objects of good public highways is to permit the countryman and the city man to clasp hands together, and this is done by making roads first-class and cities and towns more accessible to the farmer. It is an established fact that farm lands nearest to first-class highways are the most valuable lands.

A Hearty Welcome.

Word has been received in Vancouver that it is Mr. Borden's intention to pay a visit to the western provinces during the coming summer. This is good news. He kept in close touch with the west during the years preceding his accession to power, visiting it previous to each of the last two general elections, and it is not surprising that he should desire to come this way now. He may rest assured of a most hearty welcome.

DIARY OF EVENTS

FIRST THINGS

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE.

The first convention of the Epworth League was held in Cleveland twenty-four years ago today, when the league was formed by the union of five societies affiliated with the Methodist church. These several societies held under the jurisdiction of that church, with a membership of 80,000. The league now has over 30,000 chapters and a membership of nearly a million and a half. Besides societies all over the United States and Canada, the league has branches in Mexico, India, South America, Norway, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, China and Japan.

At the first meeting the league adopted as its motto, "Look up, lift up," and declared its purpose to be "to promote intelligent and loyal piety in the young members and friends of the church to aid them in the attainment of purity of heart and constant growth in grace, and to train them in works of mercy and help."

THE PASSING DAY

MISS FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

England has erected and planned several memorials in honor of Florence Nightingale, "the angel of mercy," who was born in Florence, Italy, nine years ago today. The city of London's memorial, which occupies a place in the lobby of the Guildhall, is in the form of a statue, three feet in height. Miss Nightingale is pictured as setting out on one of her heroic errands of mercy. The "Lady of the Lamp" is shown bareheaded, in the simple gown of the Victorian period, standing with a candle in her left hand, while with her right hand she is shielding her eyes from its light.

It was at Scutari, recently the scene of military disaster, that Miss Nightingale had her first experience of the horrors of war. It was during the Crimean war, when the hospitals on the Bosphorus were crowded with sick and wounded, that Miss Nightingale, who had early manifested a keen interest in the alleviation of suffering, volunteered to go out and organize a nursing force at Scutari. Lord Herbert accepted her services and she immediately departed with thirty-four nurses. She arrived at Constantinople on the eve of Inkermann, in time to receive the wounded into wards already crowded with 2,500 patients, and a few months after her arrival in the Near East she had 10,000 sick and wounded men under her care.

In 1855, while in the Crimea, she was herself prostrated, but refused to leave her post to go home, and on her recovery remained at Scutari until Turkey was evacuated by the British. After the war was over a fund of a quarter million dollars was raised to enable Miss Nightingale to establish an institution for the training of nurses. Full of years and honors, the "angel of mercy" died in 1910.

FAMOUS EUROPEAN FAIRS.

One of the most famous of the annual fairs of Europe is that of San Isidro, in Spain, which will be revived today. For centuries the hermitage of San Isidro, near Madrid, has been the scene of a great fair on each fifteenth of May, when the grand pilgrimage and festival of San Isidro draws the crowds of the population. The commercial side of this, as of other European fairs, has gradually dwindled, as modern methods of exchange of commodities have made such gatherings for purposes of trade wholly unnecessary.

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

BIRTHDAY OF SCIENTISTS.

May the fifteenth is a favorite birthday of persons of scientific attainments and many eminent savants, doctors and educators will be the recipients of congratulatory greetings today. Heading the list are Sir Edwin Ray Lankester, the distinguished English biologist and evolutionist, and Dr. Max Muller, of the University of Pennsylvania, world-famous as an Egyptologist. Sir Ray Lankester, who has carried on the investigations in the domain of natural history inaugurated by Darwin and Huxley, passes his sixtieth milestone, while Dr. Muller was born in Germany fifty-one years ago, May 15, 1862.

Among other famous scientists born on the fifteenth of May may be mentioned William Brewster, the distinguished woman astronomer of Harvard University, who, during her connection with that institution, discovered nine new stars. Mrs. Fleming was born in Dundee, Scotland, May 15, 1857. Dr. Charles W. Stiles, discoverer of the new star, Mrs. Fleming, first saw the light at Spring Valley, N. Y., forty-six years ago today. Dr. Edwin A. Alderman, president of the University of Virginia, and an authority on the science of pedagogy, was born May 15, 1861, at Wilmington, N. C.

Sir Ray Lankester, at sixty-six, is still actively engaged in scientific investigations, and in his latest work, "From Ape to Man," sheds much new light on evolutionary processes. The so-called "missing link" does not bother Sir Ray. He claims to have discovered that there is no absolute gap in regard to the size of brains between the higher races of man and the apes, and argues that the difference is bridged over by the savage lower races of man and exceptional individual apes. Another interesting speculation indulged in by Sir Ray is as to the origin and use of the human chin. He has discovered that the most primitive types of humanity were chinless.

Dr. Muller, the great Orientalist of the University of Pennsylvania, has been a resident of the United States for a quarter of a century, save during his absence in Egypt, where he has been engaged in archaeological work for the Carnegie Institute and other organizations. In a recent address on the history of Egypt Dr. Muller said that Queen Taisa of Egypt, who reigned fourteen centuries before the beginning of the present era, had been a working girl before she became the bride of the Egyptian king, and that the first queen ever chosen from the ranks of commoners.

OPHELIA'S SLATE



IN LIGHTER VEIN

Post-Impression.

George Luks, whose paintings of children and old people made a recent sensation in a Fifth Avenue gallery, was talking about the post-impressionists.

"But, Luks," said a magazine editor, "what is a post-impressionist?" "A post-impressionist, my dear fellow, is an artist who aims to give you the post-impression that he has orders for more pictures than he can paint."

Up and Down.

She saved no bite nor sup for him. She knew the flowing cup for him. Was making bright. The hours of night. While she sat up for him! He came. She cast a frown on him. Crushed was his top-hat's crown on him. And oh, he would. That he'd been good. When she sat down on him. —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

No Place for a Madero.

Two of the Madero boys are in this country, one at St. John's Military Academy, Delafield, Wis., and the other at Cornell. They are reported to be thinking seriously of remaining in the United States. If we were a member of the Madero family we shouldn't return to Mexico, even if we had money buried there. —Chicago Record-Herald.

So Disinterested.

Mrs. Gableigh—We have such dear neighbors, and they are so fond of us. Why, just think! When I told them we wanted to move but couldn't afford to, they offered to pay all our moving expenses. —Boston Transcript.

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OFFERS

No Trick or Solving

Note Carefully t

THE PRO

The problem is to count the circles complete and intersects or touches on. There are no parts of circles or shams sort in the puzzle. In the event that no number the prizes will be awarded for solutions. Accuracy and patience are for arriving at the correct or nearest who display these qualifications to the solve the puzzle best.

How to E

This contest is restricted to people inces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. A payment on subscription to The from \$1.00 to \$5.00 entitles the contestant of the puzzle. The amount of the subscription price for the paper according to the rate for city delivery.

AS MANY DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS AS THE CONTESTANT DESIRES. ADDITIONAL PAYMENT WITH EACH THAN \$5.00 CAN BE PAID WITH ANY.

It is not necessary to pay the solution if more than one be submitted. As the main prizes have an added what is paid in on subscription with contestants should familiarize themselves E.M.D. schedule before sending in their solutions.

Remit by check, money order, registered 2-cent stamps.

What ever is paid, whether on one solutions, will apply on a continuous subscription. Solutions unaccompanied by cash be registered. This contest is open to subscribers within the territory designated.

SPECIAL ATTENTI

While the winning of the prizes depends upon the time the solution is given counting at once an send in your you have finished. There is no limit to solutions you may send in.

All those entering the contest will the ruling of the Contest Manager. questions arising the Contest Manager can appoint a committee to assist him those who enter the contest do so with that such decision will be final.

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