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ADVERTISERS, NOTE.

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London, Ontario, Friday, May 20, 1921.

A BURIED VIRTUE.

A trenchant attack on Meighen misrule has been made by Duncan Ross of West Middlesex, in the course of which he very appropriately asks: "Can there be harmony in a cabinet so constituted as the present cabinet is?" In such a heterogeneous combination as the present Government at Ottawa, harmony is the last thing that one would expect. Perhaps Mr. Meighen, acting on the principle that variety is the spice of good government, has concluded that consistency is not to be looked for among his Ministers; but the day when his administration will have to face the music of public opinion cannot much longer be delayed, although there are rumors that the opinion of the country will not be asked until next year. The putting off of the evil day will not save the situation, however, so far as the Meighenites are concerned; it will only render their extinction more complete.

As the member for West Middlesex so aptly says, Mr. Meighen has frequently mistaken vituperation for argument and declamation for logic, and in the course of one of these outbursts he accuses his opponents of inconsistency. The celebrated Mr. Pecksniff, in delivering one of his precious homilies on morality, could not have beaten this. If Mr. Meighen only take the trouble to pause for a moment and examine the record of some of the members of his cabinet, he will find that many moons ago they buried the virtue over whose demise he now pretends to mourn, and his sanctimonious attitude on this matter will deceive no one, not even his own followers.

G. M. Gordon, West Peterboro, has also made a telling contribution to the budget debate by calling attention to the effect that the sales tax would have in increasing the cost of living. "We are back to the days of the corn laws in England," is how Mr. Gordon sums up the taxation of small packages of milled products such as are most frequently used in the homes of the laboring men of the country. Is it any wonder that there is unrest in the country when a government blindly pursues a policy such as this?

ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

For the fourth successive year since 1918, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture will make next June their annual enumeration throughout Canada of the areas sown to field crops and of farm live stock. This enumeration will be effected, as before, by cardboard schedules distributed to individual farmers. When filled up and returned, the cards will be transmitted to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa for compilation into totals by adding machinery, except in Ontario and British Columbia, where the compilation will be undertaken by the provincial departments.

The collection of these statistics represents a national agricultural stock-taking, which is as important in the interests of farmers as are the conditions of other industries to those whose livelihood depends upon them. The trustworthiness and value of the statistics depend upon the co-operation of farmers in filling up and returning the simple schedule issued to them, because the greater the number of returns, the surer will be the estimates based thereon. It is the aim of the Dominion and provincial statistical authorities to secure ultimately an annual return from every individual farmer in the Dominion.

In filling up the forms, farmers are not only advancing their own individual interests, but also those of the greatest national industry in Canada. From a national and provincial standpoint, food merchants, transport companies, bankers, and all business men are keenly interested in obtaining the earliest possible information as to the quantity and value of the products of the soil. Agricultural operations depend largely upon credit, and credit cannot be given without security. The principal security of bankers in financing agricultural clients is the produce of the soil, early and accurate information as to which is essential.

Some farmers fail to return the schedules from a mistaken fear that their taxes will in consequence be increased. The fact is, however, that the collection of these statistics has no direct connection with taxation at all. The schedules are received and dealt with under the seal of absolute secrecy, and only the estimates of totals based upon the replies received are published. If the agricultural statistics, as published, may be considered as affording any guide to statesmen in proposing fiscal legislation, the interests of farmers are just as likely to suffer as not through statistical inaccuracy. They are as liable to be overtaxed as under-taxed if the country's agricultural production be not accurately estimated. No honest farmer desires to escape his fair share of liability for the national upkeep, and it is in his true interests that the annual statistics of agriculture should be as accurate and trustworthy as it is possible to make them.

ON COMMON GROUND.

"The invasion of Silesia by German troops would not be tolerated by France," says M. Briand. This attitude on the part of Britain's ally must not be construed as being unfriendly to Britain. Both M. Briand and Mr. Lloyd George are taking their stand by the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, and where there is such unanimity there should be little discord. Unfortunately it is the interpretation placed on the terms of any treaty which usually forms the bone of contention in international politics, and M. Briand says there is nothing in the treaty which stipulates that all the rich mining districts in Silesia must go to the Germans, while the Poles will get what is left.

It is a matter open to serious question whether a declaration such as this will help to remedy the present embroglio. As Mr. Lloyd George points out, the Poles must not be permitted to "smash crockery" in a manner calculated to disturb the peace of Europe. The preservation of peace is at present the principal aim of the allied nations, and the adjustment of affairs in Upper Silesia will doubtless be amicably settled. In this matter the French and British prime ministers are on common ground, and this, after all, is the best indication that a satisfactory solution of the difficulty will soon be reached.

NEW BUYING WILL END DEPRESSION.

"New buying will soon end the current business depression," declares Paul Clay, economist, in Forbes Magazine (N. Y.), discussing the depression in the United States. Says this authority, in a review of the present situation: "We are piling up our supply of goods ready for consumption. The former are accumulating while the latter are vanishing."

"Raw material prices are still going down at this writing, because the manufacturers do not dare to buy crude materials in large quantities; wholesale and retail dealers are ordering sparingly and slowly—paying still more slowly. Dealers are timid because the public has reduced its buying a few per cent, and money is tied up in some high-priced goods that do not sell readily. Public buying is no longer regardless of price, as it was a year ago."

"Before long the dealers' stocks, of staple goods at least, will be as low as to require additional buying; manufacturers, when they get the orders, will both purchase raw materials and reemploy labor; and both wage earners and sellers of raw materials will themselves begin buying more freely."

"There is nothing more contagious than buying, and when once it begins it will spread from industry to industry, and from section to section, until everybody is buying."

"We are bound to have a buying movement and to have it pretty soon."

"Surplus stocks of crude materials are irrelevant. The point is that the dearth of finished goods ready for consumption is becoming more and more pronounced. This is not contradicting the law of supply and demand, for one should remember that this law in its actual application to business is more complicated than the income tax."

"The buying movement, when it comes, will not start from the homes, because the homes never stopped buying. It will start in the stores and spread to the manufacturing companies and everywhere else. Poverty can't stop it, because poverty, if there is any, is in the homes. It is stores and manufacturing plants that will do the buying, and they can now get funds—if they need them—from the banks."

WELLS'S NEXT?

Not long ago it was suggested in these columns that some kind of school Bible might be drawn up by a committee representing all sorts of religious opinion. A correspondent wrote that the old Bible was good enough. But the point was that some canon of spiritual writings acceptable to all would be an advantage in these days.

There are more than one "old Bible," the "authorized," Douay, the "Revised," etc. And none of these goes nowadays without challenge. There is so much challenge in the air that the "old Bible" has apparently lost some of its quantum power over the minds of the young. This may be regrettable, but instead of merely moaning over it, educational leaders might just as well face facts and try to steer through them.

H. G. Wells, it seems, is putting up a plea for a new Bible. It may be a good guess that he contemplates making it or editing it himself! He suggests, for one thing, that for a passage in Leviticus dealing with leprosy there might reasonably be substituted a chapter on venereal disease. If public health was not thought beneath the dignity of the old Scripture, it may be accorded a place in the new. One is reminded of Wells's book on the west front during the war. He remarked that spurs were everywhere, an anachronism in a war without cavalry. When they dropped the spurs and took up with Wells's idea of tanks, the British won the war. The chapter on leprosy is as anachronistic in our religion as the spurs on the west front, and it is a symbol or supreme sample of much more of the same kind. There is some mumbo jumbo to be cut out.

Perhaps the spirit of humor might be judiciously admitted with some advantage. Primitive worship was of course solemn. It was thought no laughing matter to be "in the hands of thy Maker." He was not a Father with whom you could feel easy and play. The fear of the Lord was the beginning of wisdom. But this is not a sentiment that abounds, though it may occur as a vestige or echo, in the more modern New Testament. In many respects, in fact, the New Testament is rather ultra-modern, not yet quite caught up with even by steam and electricity, a "most unsettling book" as Robert Louis Stevenson called it.

Mr. Wells, like the kaiser in wartime, has a way of giving out hints of what he is going to do next. He talked of the value of history, the need of world history, in "The Undying Fire," and next came forth his own textbook of the subject. Now that he throws out suggestions for biblical reconstruction, we may imagine him forging the new sword of spiritual life in his prolific laboratory. A new bible would not presume to supersede the old, but have nevertheless its own use for the age.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"I am a rebel!" shrieks Armand Lavergne. All right, Armand. Nobody cares.

Is the short circuit which has overtaken the posties' bonus a forecast of the fate of the Federal Government?

The cut made by Jack Frost in the fruit crop must not be confused with those "cheaper cuts" we are hearing about.

Farmers' wives say that butter is not worth making at present prices, but the hens have not yet adopted a resolution on the low price of eggs.

The Russian Soviet Government has barred a party of Canadian Russians from Russia, because they did not have passports "issued by an agent of the Soviet Government." This is simply another move of the wily Lenin in his ceaseless efforts to have his administration recognized by other nations. He has failed to secure this privilege from Great Britain. Now he tries to secure it from Canada.

Poetry and Jest

THE CALL O' THE ROAD.

[Jean Knox.]

I ken a road, a bonnie road,
An' the like o' it's noo few—
Where the fairies dance to the Pipes
O' Pan.

An' sport in the mornin' dew;
Where the violet raises her modest head
In the lush-green grasses, as by I tread,
Ah! 'Twas built for me an' you.

I ken a path, a winding path,
Through the forest green and gay
Where "Jack-in-the-Pulpit" all in a
row

May preach for you like a day;
There are emerald mosses, and lichens
fine,
Feathery ferns an' columbine;

Ah! It's grand in the month o' May.

I ken a path, a bonnie path,
Through a wavin' field o' grain,
Turning from green to mellow gold,
Washed sweet by the summer's rain;

With scarcely at all a weed in sight,
It fills the soul with a keen delight,
And a grateful heart's refrain.

I ken a road, a bonnie road,
Awa' o' the ocean wide,
That stretches along by the heathery
hills

An' the lea where gowans hide;
Where the laverocks soar, and sweetly
sing,
An' the gay-hued foxgloves and blue-

bells ring
A message, "Come over wi' the tide."

I ken a path, a narrow path,
An' it leads to the Hills o' Home,
Sometimes it is smooth, an' sometimes
rough,

Yet we'll reach there just the same;
For the beacon light shines bright and
clear
As we journey on frae year to year—

Ah! to hear the "Welcome Home."

MARITAL RECIPROCITY.

Professor's Wife—I suppose you have forgotten that this is the anniversary of your wedding day?

Absent-Minded Husband (abstracting himself from the comic sections)—Eh! What? Dear me! Is it really? And when is yours, my dear?

SWEET SAPPHIRE BIRD.

[Rev. Laurence Tyler, Watertown, N. Y.]

(These lines were breathed in, as it were, from the lips of an American charm, equal to that of Thoreau, which fills the books of Burroughs. The author values the last kindly wish received from him, and offers this bit to the green woodland memory of John Burroughs, as a small elegiac of spring.)

Pause, in thy flight, sweet sapphire bird!
Drop me one darting blue feather:
Armor of blue, thy body dost gird,
Forged for Cereusian weather.

Artless as arrow, through azure sky,
Thou deep-tinted symbol of hope;
Sing to me, bird, just once ere I die!
Already the sun seems to stop.

Fan with thy lyre, my strong desire,
Yon indigo peak to attain.
Peak, like a spire, faint flaming with fire,
Proud piercing slate cloud through the rain.

There was an Oak in the forest of men,
Though it's felled by the Woodman's
blue blade,
Babbling bird in this golden glen

Drank deep from a brook 'neath its shade.

Bubbling brook of cold, cobalt blue,
Flowing free from a mystical pond,
Waters of Walden, surging anew,
Bound the bird to the tree by a bond.

Tender trilling of turquoise throat,
Told his love, to forget-me-not blue,
From old oak bough, flutes one limpid note—
He "Accepted the Universe," too.

Blue-burgoned by honor of Yale,
Lies dead Burroughs, the stalwart of men,
"The strong sons of the sword shall fall,
Sore smitten by stroke of his pen."

THE SAVAGE MOTOR.

Redd—See that automobile standing across the street?

Greene—Yes, I see it.

Redd—Notice how it sort of jumps?

Greene—Sure, it's restless. It probably sees some people crossing the street, and it wants to get to 'em.

THE DAWN.

[Henry W. Longfellow.]

A wind came up out of the sea,
And said: "O mists, make room for me."

It hailed the ships and cried, "Still on,
Ye mariners, the night is gone."

And hurried landward far away,
Crying, "Awake, it is the day."

It said unto the forest, "Shout,
Hang all your leafy banners out."

It touched the wood-bird's folded wing,
And said, "O bird, awake and sing."

And o'er the farms, "O chanticler,
Your clarion blow; the day is near."

It whispered to the fields of corn,
"Bow down, and hail the coming morn."

It shouted through the beffy tower,
"Awake, O bell, proclaim the hour."

It crossed the churchyard with a sigh,
And said, "Not yet, in quiet lie."

VISITORS.

Caller—Visitors, don't you think, always provide pleasure?

Hostess (brightening)—Yes—if not when they come, at least when they go.

LET ME BE REMEMBERED.

[J. C. Miller in Contemporary Verse.]

Let me be remembered, as a child's unfettered laughter.

Heard, beside a cottage when the robin wove its nest;

Or as words of lovers, on a night in summer.

When the scarlet moon goes to rest.

Let me be remembered, as an apple-blossom blowing.

Brimmed with earth's wild fragrance for a dreamer's thirsty brain;

Or as strong-thewed oaks that toss their towering arms at sunset.

While a thrush spills music with a rainbow after rain.

As a soft word spoken, let me be remembered!

On a blue-roofed morning when the hills are girt with gold;

As a mother's kiss, when her loyal arms grow weaker.

Let me be remembered as her babes that have grown old.

As a bell at twilight, tolling in a valley.

Listened to by old men there with beated breath;

Let me be remembered as a lad that oft made merry—

Nothing else shall matter after death.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CANADA?

ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S QUESTIONS.

1-J. B. Reynolds is president of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

2-The headquarters of the Boy Scouts Association in Canada is Ottawa.

3-Prince Edward Island has four House of Commons members.

4-The Micmacs named Halifax harbor "Chebucto," meaning great.

5-The Douglas fir is the most valuable tree growing at the Pacific coast. It sometimes towers to 300 feet, and with a base circumference of 40 feet.

6-"Fusang" was the name given to North America by ancient Chinese explorers.

7-The first Europeans to see Niagara Falls were probably La Motte de Lussiers, and Father Louis Hennepin, November, 1678.

8-The first Canadian national apple show was held in Vancouver eleven years ago.

9-In British Columbia the western red cedar grows to an average height of 125 feet, with a diameter of 8 feet. The wood is practically impervious to decay, and is largely used for shipbuilding and telegraph poles.

10-Children may travel free on railways until five years of age.

TODAY'S QUESTIONS.

1-Who is principal of Prince of Wales College and Normal School, P. E. I.?

2-What is the meaning of the title O. B. E.?

3-What was the amount of new life insurance policies effected in Canada in 1919?

4-How many New Brunswick members has the Senate?

5-What was the cause of the English colonies in America uniting in bitter hatred to fight against New France?

6-Who was Christian Frederic Post?

7-What was the area of Saskatchewan?

8-How old in Halifax?

9-Who was Brebeuf?

10-How many miles of railway in the United States are Canadian owned?

LETTERS

CORRECTS MR. HOWARD.

To the Editor of The Advertiser: My attention has been called to an article which appeared in Monday night's issue (May 16), respecting immigration. Mr. L. F. Howard, superintendent of employment service, department of labor, through Mr. Doherty, that advertisements have appeared in two English newspapers for emigrants as farm hands for Canada, namely, The Daily News, and the Scotch papers of Essex County papers, North of England and religious papers, the Christian Herald and others. Thanking you, Mr. Editor, yours truly,

ARTHUR NICHOLS.

PRESBYTERIANS AND CHURCH UNION.

To the Editor of The Advertiser: The Presbyterian Witness, the official weekly organ of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, in its issue of May 13 makes an editorial reference to "the situation regarding union," which is so incomplete as to be misleading. Any adequate statement of the position that confronts the assembly should next include at least the following facts.

The assembly (St. John) of 1904, at the request of the Methodist Church, appointed a committee on union.

The assembly (Kingston) of 1915, adopting the report of the union committee, gave forth to the church, as a condition of union, that it "must carry the consent of the entire membership."

The assembly (Ottawa) of 1917 asked a vote of the people. This vote gave 113,000 for union, and more than 50,000 against union, in a total membership of practically 300,000.

The assembly (Edmonton) of 1912, "in view of the extent of the minority," halted the movement, but expressed the hope of "practically unanimous action within a reasonable time."

The assembly (Kingston) of 1915, after a pause of three years, asked the people for a second vote. This vote gave approximately 113,000 for union, and 73,000 against union, in a total membership of 338,000. In the three years' membership has increased by about 40,000, the votes against union had increased 23,000, the votes for union only 600!

The assembly (Winnipeg) of 1916, ignoring the increased opposition of the people, and disregarding the repeated assurances by the General Assembly as to necessary unanimity, resolved to proceed to union.

The assembly (Montreal) of 1917, on account of the opposition, unanimously resolved: "That the assembly express its sincere sympathy with the desire conveyed in many of the overtures to avoid disunion among the membership of our churches."

That inasmuch as the resolution of last assembly sets forth that further action will not be taken until the second assembly after the close of the war, to secure peace in the meantime, the assembly urges the controversy on the matter of organic union be dropped by all parties; that no attempt be made at the present time to set forth in detail the action appropriate to a future period, but that the church patiently await the new light which it may receive by divine guidance through the growing experience of the people and the lessons of the war."

The assembly (Hamilton) of 1919, resolving upon a forward movement, set before the church two financial objectives: (1) The doubling of the church's budget for maintenance in the next five years; and (2) A special peace thank offering as an equipment and extension fund.

Comment on this narrative is unnecessary. Yours sincerely, DANIEL J. FRASER.

Montreal, May 17, 1921.

Backache

tells of kidney trouble. The most prompt relief is obtained by using Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, the well-known home treatment. One pill a dose. 25c. a box, all dealers.

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills

LONDON'S CENTRAL SHOPPING PLACE Values of Special Interest For Friday and Saturday

HOSIERY

250 pairs of Ladies' Dropstitch and Plain Silk Hose, in brown, taupe, champagne and grey, high spliced heel and toe, double sole, seamless; regular \$2.00 quality. 98c

LISLE HOSE, THREE PAIRS FOR \$1.00. 500 pairs of Lisle Hose, in black, brown and navy, double sole, spliced heel and toe, seamless; (substandard) 3 pairs for \$1

Children's Colored Stockings

Special for summer wear, in pale blue, pink and white, all sizes; regular 30c. For 50c. 4 pairs for \$1

SCHOOL HOSE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. 1-1 rib, in black and brown, recommended for wear, double sole, heel and toe. To be sold at 4 pairs for \$1

GLOVES

Ladies' Pure Kayser Silk Gloves, two dones, in black, white, navy, pongee and brown, double tipped. Per pair \$1.19

Ladies' Long Pure Silk Gloves, 16-button, in all shades, double tipped. \$2.00

Special, per pair

VEIL SPECIALS

Plain Sport Veils, in black only, fine mesh; regular 15c each. On sale 4 for 25c

Elastic Slip-On Veil, in brown, black and navy, with dainty chenille border. Very special value, at each 15c

BEAD SPECIALS

Dainty strings of Beads for the little girls, in amber, green, pale blue, royal blue and black. Per string 15c

Line of Beads for the ladies. Regular 50c, for 25c

MILLINERY

See Windows.

Traveler's lot of samples, in all shapes, including a lot of matrons' hats. To be sold \$1.98

White Milan Hats, in rolling and straight sailor, also large shapes. \$5.95 up

Girls' and Misses' Milan Straws, in white, black and colored, prettily trimmed; regular to \$3. For \$1.98

Ready-to-Wear Silk Dresses, \$15.00.

See Windows.

Taffeta and Satin Dresses, in blue, green, grey and black, sizes 16 to 40, every one a distinct style in itself. Get a finished dress at less than cost of materials \$15.00

Voile Dresses, the newest styles and patterns, with organdy collars and cuffs and trimmings, sizes 16 to 42, designed with the stylish overskirt. \$11.00

Special

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO.

FASCINATING STUDY IS LONDON'S RIVER

Relation to Vaster World Perceived When Viewed From Woolwich Hilltop.

LONDON, May 19.—To the poets the river becomes flat and songless where it reaches the sea's remote influence just moves it; and there they leave it. The Thames goes down then to a wide grey vacancy, a featureless monotony where men but toil, where life becomes silent in effort, and goes out through fog to nowhere in particular. But there is a hilltop at Woolwich from which, better