

The Evening Times and Star

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CENTRALIZATION

The Montreal Star continues to assert that the Borden naval policy is a policy of centralization and to uphold that policy. Referring to the recent statement of Sir Richard McBride that the whole subject of Canada's naval course might be referred to the Admiralty, the Star says that this is precisely the Borden policy, but that it is not necessary to refer the question to the Admiralty since the Admiralty has already expressed its views. Declaring that there is no reason to believe that the Admiralty has since changed its mind, the Star says:

"This policy, given to Mr. Borden last summer, is the same policy which was offered first to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the summer of 1909. Sir Wilfrid was then told in the clearest language that 'if the problem of Imperial Naval defence were considered merely as a problem of naval strategy, it would be found that the greatest output of strength for a given expenditure is obtained by the maintenance of a single navy.' That was the Admiralty policy in 1909—it was the Admiralty policy in 1912—it is still the Admiralty policy, as was shown just the other day by Mr. Churchill's elaborate arrangement of accelerated battleships for enabling Canada to act upon it, in spite of the Senate."

The Star is not stating the case fairly when it declares that this policy was offered by the Admiralty to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1909. The Admiralty memorandum of that year said distinctly that other considerations than those of strategy must be taken into account, and it said further—

"Looking to the difficulties involved, it is not to be expected that the discussion with the several defence ministers will result in a complete and final scheme of naval defence, but it is hoped that it will be found possible to formulate the broad principles upon which the growth of colonial naval forces should be fostered. While laying the foundation of future dominion navies, to be maintained in different parts of the Empire, these forces would contribute immediately and materially to the requirements of Imperial defence."

This was the Admiralty policy in 1909, and the Montreal Star is perfectly well aware of the fact. Why does it contend that the Admiralty favored a policy of centralization, and how can it maintain such an assertion in the face of the above quotation from the Admiralty memorandum?

UNITED STATES CROPS

The Continental and Commercial National Bank of Chicago, in its annual crop report for the United States, says that though the crops are less prodigious on the whole than last year, they are above the average, ample for domestic use, with an abundance of breadstuffs for export. It gives the following as its estimate:

Wheat (bushels)	783,700,000
Corn (bushels)	2,800,000,000
Oats (bushels)	1,008,200,000
Rye (bushels)	80,854,000
Barley (bushels)	200,827,000
Hay (tons)	66,610,000
Cotton (bales)	14,702,000

The report says that the enormous yield of the previous year has left an unusually large surplus of crops consumed on the farm, so that the total amount available is not far from that of a year ago. It notes also that the rise in the yield per acre continues from year to year, and is an evidence of better farming methods. The possibility of raising the total yield of wheat in the United States to a billion bushels is not regarded as remote. With regard to oats, while the crop is smaller than that of last year, it is expected to yield as large a money value as last year's crop. The corn crop will not be a record one, but a good deal was carried over from last year. The report is very optimistic, and, if it is proved to be well founded, the harvest should go a long way toward improving the financial situation throughout the country.

The like is true with regard to the crops of Canada and their effect upon the financial situation on this side of the border.

Gratifying reports about the harvest come from the western provinces, and a Winnipeg banker predicts an average crop or better, and good fall business throughout the west.

Since the management of the Intercolonial Railway has shown a disposition to discuss matters with the representatives of the railway men, the outlook for a peaceful solution of the trouble appears to have improved.

The good steamer St. George of the C. P. R. bay service is welcome to St. John. She is a fine looking vessel and will play an important part in shortening the journey by this route between Montreal and Halifax.

More St. John teachers are going west, because the west offers greater inducements than are offered by the school boards in this province. It is contended by some that our teachers are well enough paid. The answer to that is found in the resignation of members of

the teaching staff to go where they will be better paid. We are facing a condition, and not an academic discussion on the subject of salaries.

The announcement that the Mormons intend to enlarge the number of their settlements in Alberta indicates that the western province is likely to have troubles of its own in harmonizing the various races and creeds within its borders.

A Woodstock despatch says that letters received there from the west advise young men not to join the harvest excursions. They certainly should not join them unless satisfactory arrangements can be made for their return to the east when the harvest is over.

It is announced that Hon. George E. Foster will return to Canada about the last of September. Mr. Foster has been earnestly studying trade conditions in Australia and China. If he has had a pleasant holiday, that is all that could be expected.

The Standard quotes with approval an article in the Charlottetown Guardian praising Mr. Hazen for his attitude concerning shipbuilding in Canada. It was Mr. Hazen who handed back their deposit of \$100,000 to Cammell, Laird & Company, and thus deprived St. John of a shipbuilding plant.

The Standard declares with some heat that the merchants who made a wild appeal to Mr. Hazen for fair play in the use of the track on the Pettingill wharf have no grievance whatever. Of course they haven't. The con came down. But the telegram they sent is a part of the record.

There was a time when some worthy members of one of the churches in this city feared lest their religious aspirations would be injuriously affected by the preaching of the Rev. A. B. Cohoe. Reports in Montreal newspapers of sermons delivered by Mr. Cohoe in a Montreal church on Sunday remind us that Mr. Cohoe is now regarded as one of the leaders of thought in his denomination in the Dominion.

During the month of July there were seventeen deaths from tuberculosis in this city. Such a record must convince the citizens that this disease cannot be successfully coped with until the hospital for advanced cases has been provided. There are now so many homes which are sources of infection that the spread of the disease is not at all surprising. To delay the erection of the hospital is to endanger human lives.

There is a last century flavor about the news that comes from Venezuela. It is difficult for people who live in an orderly Anglo-Saxon community, where freedom and self-government prevail, to understand the situation in a country where a man like Castro, former dictator and recent exile from Venezuela, is able to land and rally thousands around him, throwing the country into all the troubles of a civil war. Of course some what similar conditions are observed in Mexico, but that country has more in common with the people farther south than with the people of the rest of this continent. In the British Empire at the present time there is nothing more threatening than the antics of Sir Edward Carson and some other persons, who are trying to convince the people of the United Kingdom that they are prepared to revel in all the horrors of civil war rather than permit the people to rule in Ireland. Ex-President Castro would have done the Empire a service if he had induced Sir Edward and the other swash-bucklers of the Unionist party to go with him to South America.

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

From Morden, Man., yesterday, the first spring wheat was brought to Winnipeg, thus establishing a record, as spring wheat cut on August 1, as this was, has not before been known in the west. Members of the grain exchange predict that the crop will be very plentiful and C. W. Howley, manager of the Bank of Commerce at Winnipeg, yesterday, said that this would have a great deal to do with lessening the financial strain. He expected conditions to brighten considerably after the harvesting of the crop.

An agreement has been made by Hon. George Perley, acting minister of trade and commerce, at Ottawa, whereby the United Fruit Co. of Berwick, N. S., will supply five British steamers with apples from the Annapolis valley for the English market. The first voyage will be made on October 30, and \$10,000 will be paid for each voyage. The steamers will call at Digby and Annapolis Royal.

DIFFERENT

"So," said the lady of uncertain age, "he said he knew me when I was a little girl?"

"He didn't say anything of the sort," contradicted the man.

"You said he did."

"I didn't."

"Why? Then what did you say?"

"I said he knew you when he was a little boy."

The Italian steamship Sicilia has arrived at New York with seventy bushels of garlic and 200 tons of garlic as part of its cargo.

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

This is the natal day of the veteran High Commissioner of Canada, Lord Strathcona, who is now ninety-three years of age and still wonderfully active. He was born at Forres, Morayshire, Scotland, and as a young man entered the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company. He rose step by step to be chief commissioner of the company. He had much to do with the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway and for some time sat in parliament. He became Canadian high commissioner in 1896.

John Joseph McGee, brother of the late D'Arcy McGee and long connected with the Dominion civil service, is sixty-eight years old today. He was appointed clerk of the privy council in 1889 but retired in 1907 on a pension.

William Gillies Ross, Montreal, director of many companies and for several years managing director of the Montreal Street Railway, celebrates his fiftieth birthday today.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

FAMILY REASON
"Why do you drink so hard all the time?"
"My wife won't speak to me when I'm drinking."—Towa Topics.

NO CHANGE
Parke—"Do you leave your servants in charge of your house during the summer?"
Lane—"Not any more so than the rest of the year."—Life.

"I UNDERSTAND HE SWEARS A GREAT DEAL"
"I wouldn't say that exactly. But I would say that in the heat of passion he finds it impossible to confine himself to 'Tut! tut!'"—Detroit Free Press.

SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF
Rankin—"What do you think of the styles in women's dresses these days?"
Fyle—"Oh, I rail at them—and admire them immensely, just as other men do, I suppose."—Chicago Tribune.

CORRECTED
Street Bandit to Professor—"If you move you are a dead man!"
"You're wrong, my man. If I move it will show that I am alive. You should be more careful in the use of your words."—Life.

ANGELIC
Customer—"But is he a good bird? I mean, I hope he doesn't use dreadful language?"
Dealer—"It's a saint, lady; sings ymms beautiful. I ad some parrots wot used to swear something awful, but, if you'll believe me, this here bird converted the lot."—London Standart.

Mrs. Wood B. Highbrow was outlining to her caller the programme of her literary club for the ensuing year. And will you study poetry also. Mrs. Highbrow inquired the caller. "Oh, no," responded Mrs. Highbrow, pompously, "I intend to keep right on with Shakespeare!"

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A book company in Rutland Vt. has just received a postcard which it sent out thirty years ago to advertise a book. A woman had kept it since then and has just decided to return it and to get full particulars about the book.

The treasurer of the Newburyport waterworks sent out his annual bills one year by mail. In the corner of the envelope was the customary request: "After five days return to Newburyport, Mass." What was his surprise to have a woman come into his office five days afterward and pass him an empty envelope with the remark: "Here is your envelope, but what you want of it is more than I can see."—Lippincott's.

County Judge Owens of Chicago has given an opinion that all women are eligible for appointment as election judges and ballot clerks in Illinois.

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