

Current Events

April 28.—The prolonged salary dispute between British teachers—primary, secondary and technical—and the educational authorities, has been settled by the arbitration court. The new scale is to remain in force for six years.

For the past six years teachers' salaries in England and Wales have been adjusted by a joint committee composed of representatives of local education authorities and of the teaching profession. Notwithstanding the fact that the agreement did not expire until March 31, 1925, the teachers in 1923 voluntarily accepted a 5 per cent. reduction in salary. In April, 1924, the authorities proposed a 15 per cent. reduction, which was later modified to ten per cent. Further negotiations between the two parties failed to effect a settlement and the dispute was referred to arbitration.

Under the terms of the award, some teachers receive a slight increase, while the others continue at the rate in effect March 31, 1925. On the other hand, however, the annual increment is reduced. In the case of teachers receiving salaries higher than that called for by the new scale, this means that there will be no increase until the new schedule catches them up.

One feature of the award which might well be adopted in this province is the recommendation that the government grant be adjusted so that a school paying less than the standard salary shall not benefit by so doing.

April 30.—The Joint Board of Engineers (consisting of three Americans and three Canadians) commences an exhaustive engineering survey of the St. Lawrence River project in order to formulate definite plans for developing the lakes-to-sea waterway connection. In addition to a study of the engineering problems involved in the project, the Board will investigate the effect on natural water levels of diversions of water from the Great Lakes or the River, made under license of either Government.

May 1.—In French Morocco, the Moors, under the Riffian leader Abd-el-Krim, are repulsed with heavy losses by French forces.

Comprising nearly 235,000 square miles, Morocco, nominally under the control of the Sultan of Morocco, is divided into two zones of influence—Spanish and French. It will be remembered that last year the Riffs staged a successful revolt against the Spanish forces. Although they have not given

up their claim to the protecting power, the Spaniards are unable to maintain order, thus leaving the Moroccan rebel in practical control of the Spanish zone. Encouraged by this success, Abd-el-Krim is now making raids into territory occupied by the French, with the evident intention of setting up a Moorish kingdom in Northern Africa.

May 4.—The House of Commons approves a treaty between Canada and the United States providing for "further demarkation of the international boundary line." The treaty provides for definition of a northwest angle of the Lake of the Woods, leaving the water in question in Canadian territory. It also provides for the straightening of a curved line of boundary in the Rocky Mountains which left 22 acres of land to the United States.

May 9.—Lieutenant-Governor Newlands dissolves the fifth Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly and sets the date for the provincial general elections on June 2.

May 11.—While sympathising with France, Great Britain will not interfere in the French Morocco situation, since the affair is purely a domestic concern of that country.

May 12.—Bills providing for the construction of the Turtleford branch of the C.N.R. to Meeting Lake, and the Bengough-Willow Bunch short line respectively, were approved by the House of Commons today, and now await the approval of the Senate which has the power to veto their construction.

Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, the former war-lord, was inaugurated president of Germany today.

May 14.—The Riffian tribesmen, who invaded the French zone of Morocco, under orders from Abd-el-Krim, were driven back along a wide front by French forces.

May 12.—France is asking Spain for authority to bombard or attack the Riffian forces concentrating in Spanish Morocco in preparation for an invasion of the French zone.

May 15.—Sir Francis Bell succeeds the late W. F. Massey as Prime Minister of New Zealand.

May 21.—Captain Roald Amundsen is reported as having hopped off from Spitzbergen in his attempt to reach the North Pole by air.

My Friend "Scott"

By THOMAS TIPLADY

ONCE, in the early days of the war, I was out with my dog in the country, and, while he played about in a field, I sat on a fence and wrote on the backs of envelopes my impressions of him. The Secretary of the National Canine Defence League (27 Regent Street, S.W.) liked the verses and published them on leaflets. Later on I was "on leave" from the Front. I entered a shop without "Scott" noticing where I had gone. He hurriedly ran home to find me and was killed at the level crossing. He was one of the best friends I ever had, and my only dog friend. I am telling the story of him here in the hope that dog lovers will send me a gift for my children, for those who love dogs will love children. Dogs have begged for charities before today. Poets and literary critics should now avert their gaze, and look only at the address to which they have to send their donations.

I HAVE a friend as black as coal,
And like a coal he has no soul;
At least, the wise inform me so,
And of a truth they ought to know.

He cannot go with me to heaven
Because no soul to him was given;
At least, the wise inform me so,
And of a truth they ought to know.

When Sabbath bells begin to ring,
I own, no joy to him they bring,
For I must leave him when I pray,
And at the chapel say him nay.

And yet he never told a lie,
Nor into my affairs did pry;
He never said a naughty word,
Nor told of evil gossip heard.

He never stung me with a taunt;
Nor gave me looks that hurt and haunt;
Nor hinted what he dare not say;
To send me wounded on my way.

When irritated with the strife
We call the daily round of life,
He never told me what he'd heard
Of criticism from a third.

When sullen with some fancied slight,
He never tried to put me right,
But waited till my common-sense
Came shining through suspicion dense.

When worn with labour or ill-health,
Beside my bed he comes with stealth,

And looks the sympathy he feels—
A sympathy that helps and heals.

He sits beside me when I eat,
And never tries to steal or cheat;
But trusts in me as I in God,
And watches every look and nod.

When night has wrapped me in its fold
And all my limbs are wet and cold,
He marks my footsteps drawing near,
And shouts a welcome to my ear.

He licks my hand, and shows delight
To be again within my sight,
And in his eyes the truth doth glow
That love is life, all else a show.

For me he'd shed his precious blood,
Yet never ask if I were good;
But like the sunshine from above,
All undeserved, I get his love.

And yet to heaven he may not go,
For knowing men have told me so;
But when I reach the Pearly Gate
I'll have a word about his fate.

I never lift the garden latch
But he is there, consent to catch;
And when I stand at heaven's door
I fancy Scott will run before.

Could there be heaven where he is not,
My friend, my chum, my little Scott?
Or could a love so faithful, pure,
Just die, and nevermore endure?

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The Rev. Thomas Tiplady is doing a magnificent work for man and God, in face of enormous difficulties, at Lambeth, London.

Let dog-lovers slip him a dollar bill, addressed Rev. Thomas Tiplady, Superintendent Lambeth Mission, Lambeth Road, London, S.E., England.

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