

The Evening Times-Star

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ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 11, 1924

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The very illuminating address on the League of Nations given by Mr. Frederick Whelan in Pythian Hall last evening was a most effective answer to any critics who assert that the League has not done anything to justify its existence. Undoubtedly it could do more if the United States were a member, and if several other nations not yet members would join. Of these, it is expected Turkey and Germany will shortly join, and even Russia has shown some sympathy with the work of the League. There are now fifty-four nations, representing three-quarters of the population of the world, represented in the League. Mr. Whelan points out that it has done much to stamp out disease and to care for starving and homeless victims of the war, and in many other ways has performed international services of the highest value, which could not have been done without such an organization. Mr. Whelan very forcibly asked what it shall profit that nine million men died in the World War if there is not to be an effective league to prevent war. The law of force, he says, must be replaced by the force of law, which means that there must be such an international organization as will prevent the outbreak of strife between nations. Such an organization is the League of Nations, and that it is needed is shown by the fact that there are more men under arms in Europe today than before the Great War. If it is asked why Europe should be interested in this matter, the reply is obvious. Whatever affects the prosperity of Europe affects the trade of Canada, and whatever affects any part of the British Empire is also a matter of concern in the Dominion. A peaceful and prosperous Europe will help to make Canada greater and more prosperous. The Dominion is a member of the League of Nations. As a vigorous young country with enormous possibilities its example will have a good influence. There is, therefore, every reason for a vigorous branch of the League of Nations Society in Canada.

PREJUDICE AND JUSTICE

The extent to which religious prejudice may affect the course of justice in the United States at the present time is illustrated by a case in New York. In a pistol battle between alleged bootleggers and prohibition agents at Eastport, Long Island, last May, Ferdinand Downs of that place was shot, and Patrick Ryan, a former New York policeman, was indicted on the charge of killing him. Ryan was a Roman Catholic and Downs was a member of the Ku Klux Klan. The defence asked for a change in venue from Suffolk County to Brooklyn, on the ground that Ryan would not get a fair and impartial trial in that county. Justice Benedict in the Supreme Court granted the application. The applicants submitted thirty-eight affidavits of residents of Suffolk County and of persons who had conversed with residents of that county, all of whom deposed that great hostility towards Roman Catholics existed, and men openly declared the defendant was guilty of murder and they would see to it that he was found guilty and sent to the electric chair. Mr. Justice Benedict, after reviewing the case, said that "innocent men have sometimes been convicted under such conditions as are said to exist in Suffolk County," and that "even men of good character and moral lives are not free from the dangerous and insidious influence of partisan or religious prejudice." In his opinion, therefore, justice would best be served by bringing Ryan to trial in another county. In other words, in the opinion of this judge, there is a county in New York State where justice is not assured the citizen who may be put on trial for his life. From Chicago comes word that the trial of Leopold and Loeb for the murder of the boy Robert Franks may be postponed because of a "dangerous public opinion." In Chicago also there appears to be a doubt regarding the possibility of a just verdict in the courts. Surely this is an unhappy condition of affairs, wherever the blame may lie. We in Canada, however, cannot afford to point the finger of shame at our neighbors, since failures of justice are as too obvious from time to time, with the result that the jury system has been made the subject of attack; and only the other day the Premier of Quebec uttered a warning that unless greater success was achieved in convicting criminals in that province a very dangerous situation would arise.

A CHANGE IN SENTIMENT

Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, a graduate of the University of British Columbia, who is now lecturer in history at the University of Syracuse, N. Y., is visiting his native province, and in an interview made some interesting observations regarding the attitude of Americans towards the League of Nations. He says the opinion of many is un-

doubtedly changing for economic reasons. Inability to market cotton, wheat and manufactured goods in Central Europe, to the extent American producers would like, is partly responsible for business depression in the United States; and there is an increasing tendency to look to the League of Nations as the only force that gives promise of stabilizing European conditions. Dr. Keenleyside says that not only the farmers of the south and west, but the manufacturing interests of the country are beginning to realize the situation; and he adds that American liberals, the majority of whom have hitherto opposed the League, are impressed by the enthusiasm of the British Labor Government; while the admission of Ireland to the League and the immittance of Germany's entrance have had a strong influence upon other elements of the population hitherto in opposition. This observer is of opinion that the strongest factor for American isolation is the Senate, and expressed a view that the United States would not enter the League without very strong reservations, and that entrance under any conditions will probably be deferred for several years. Nevertheless, he believes the general attitude of the people is changing, and the better informed citizens believe that sooner or later the hard logic of economic facts will overcome the influence of the irresponsibilities in the Senate. This appears to be a reasonable view of the situation. The Senate may be anxious to save its face, and there are undoubtedly people who are opposed to having anything to do with the League of Nations, believing that the interests of the United States will best be served by having nothing to do with the political affairs of Europe. Those who entertain such views are not the most enlightened citizens, but they are encouraged in their attitude by politicians who believe it to be good policy in their own interests and those of their party to advocate a purely American policy, divorced entirely from European affairs. Just how long their views will prevail none may foresee, but that there is a gradual change of feeling is noted by many observers, and the adoption of a broader international policy may come sooner than is anticipated.

A report comes out of Russia that a train on which many prominent Soviet dignitaries were passengers has been bombed and a number of the officials killed. If the story be true, it is simply an illustration of the fact that more than one party may deal in wholesale murder. It would also suggest that fear of the Bolsheviks has somewhat subsided, and if that were true anything might happen in Russia. No outsider, however, can form a correct opinion regarding the forces at work in Russia and the possible results. There appears to have been in recent months a greater degree of severity in enforcing the views of the rulers upon the people, and reports of very harsh treatment of any who might question the policy or the authority of the Soviet Government have been published. There does not seem to be any reason to look for anything approaching a revolution in Russia at the present time, but much will depend upon the policy of the Government. If the Bolshevik element is permitted to pursue a murderous policy in relation to all who differ from its views of government, there will be reprisals, growing unrest and ultimate strife. Everywhere the present government of Russia is regarded with suspicion.

The session of Parliament is drawing to an end. Morning sessions will begin on Monday, and it is hoped pro-rogation will be reached next Wednesday or Thursday. Obviously it is not the intention of the Government to submit any contentious measures. The members will be very glad to be relieved from the pressure of recent weeks during the hottest season of the year. How much sooner they might have got away if a larger number of them had been willing to refrain from loading up Hansard with unnecessarily long speeches it is perhaps not easy to determine, but very few people read Hansard, and the country would survive if brevity became the ruling passion with many of our statesmen.

A motor cyclist in Manchester, England, in order to avoid a collision, ran into a party of young women. A judgment was secured against him which he was unable to satisfy and he was forced into bankruptcy. The judge declared that people who motor should be compelled to insure, and if they could not afford insurance to cover the third party liability they could not afford to use a motor. He further declared that the insurance should be as compulsory as the license.

The Ku Klux Klan is very strong in the State of Maine. At Brownville Junction on Wednesday the hooded Klansmen appeared in full regalia to attend a funeral. Presumably they

will play a considerable part in politics in the Pine Tree State.

By visiting various parts of the province, Lieutenant-Governor Todd shows that he believes there is something more attached to the office of Governor than being a mere official to preside over meetings of the Legislature, and to give formal assent to bills passed by the Legislature. By going about and meeting the people, and delivering addresses breathing the spirit of faith and confidence in New Brunswick, he is doing a good work. There is really little that a Governor can do in his official capacity so far as legislative matters are concerned, but he may be a leader of the people, inspiring them with faith in the province and its possibilities.

JAPAN'S REPLY TO MR. HUGHES

Although the official text of Japan's reply to the letter of Secretary Hughes, answering that Power's protest against the so-called exclusion clause in the new immigration law will not be given out until the Democratic convention has come to an end, says the Boston Transcript, its substance is known. As was to be expected, the note will be expressed in the most courteous and friendly language. It is also written with an intelligent understanding of American political conditions. But for the United States Government and people, the marrow of the note will be found in these words found in a cabled resume: "The note will say that the Japanese Government considers that the new immigration law remains an open question between the two Governments and reserves the right to take it up again." This is in strict accordance with good diplomatic practice, to which the United States can take no exception, nor can the Japanese be criticised for taking their own view of the matter. But it gives notice that the Americans have still to defend the composition of their own population and the regulation of their own affairs. The Japanese Government has behaved admirably in the unhappy affair of the deaths of two Japanese in California; it has declined to be moved by rumor and faction, and has taken a wise and dignified course. Whoever the perpetrators of this wicked homicide, we hope they will be punished and pray that it will some day penetrate the intelligence of certain realists that persecution and violence are crimes against the State. It will be observed, however, by one who reads between the lines that the Japanese Government virtually admits that a change in domestic politics in the United States may mean a change in American police touching foreign matters. In this case, such a reckoning is wholly mistaken. If anything was shown in the votes for the immigration bill, it was that parties played little part in them. It was also shown finally and definitely that immigration is a domestic question for the United States.

Leaving these considerations aside, there remains the formal Japanese reminder that this question will be attacked again when the time is deemed right. Americans had best make up their minds to this later development. They will never get any help from the Old World with their immigration problems. In doing this work for themselves, they will be much aided in cultivating rather more retentive memories and in disciplining a genial but costly propensity to disregard what for the moment may not seem pleasant. One advance has been made; a specific and very important precedent has been created that immigration legislation shall not be taken away from Congress and given to the State Department. But this does not mean that foreign Powers will respect that precedent any longer than they must. A continuance of such respect can only be ensured by a constant firmness on the part of the United States.

THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE.

"It is not strange that as a man grows older he should come to one of two conclusions—either that the Bible is preposterous, or that it must be judged by some process foreign to the human mind in any other of its functions, writes Basil King in Harper's Magazine for July. He may even halt between these opinions. Not venturing to reject it wholly, he may live and die as the victim of an infantile tradition, never hallowed by any church, or taught by competent authority. The trail of the nursery and the Sunday school may be said to lie over all English-speaking Christendom. The Bible is learned 'at mother's knee,' rarely rising above the level of Jack the Giant-killer, is probably the source of most of the spiritual bewilderments of later life. The so-called 'Bible Stories' invariably raise in a child's mind, questions which none but a gifted mother—a great rarity—is competent to answer. Of the answers usually given there is seldom a child who does not see through the insincerity and insufficiency. I am willing to hazard the guess that in nine out of every ten cases of those who in after life become agnostics or indifferentists, the seed of skepticism was sown by nurses, mothers, and Sunday-school teachers who tried to impart what they never understood. After not a little experience, I venture to think that the Bible is not a book for children but for men and women. I will even go so far as to say that it should be opened by men and women only after some preparation as to its main purpose. That purpose must be to help us to know God."

BRITISH OUT TRAVEL EXCEEDS INWARD

21,079 More Leave Country Than Enter During Three Months.

The number of persons of British nationality who left the United Kingdom as passengers for places outside of Europe and not within the Mediterranean Sea during the three months ended March, 1924, exceeded the number who arrived as passengers from such countries by 21,079. In the corresponding period of 1923 an outward balance of 37,786 was recorded. As reported to the Bankers' Trust Co. of New York by its English information service, the movement of British subjects during the first quarter of 1924 shows a balance outward of 10,618 passengers to the British North America, 5,137 to Australia, 1,817 to New Zealand, and 21,842 passengers, in all, to various parts of the British dominion and colonies. These figures approximate closely the figures for 1923 when the net outward movement to the British dominions and colonies amounted to 21,962.

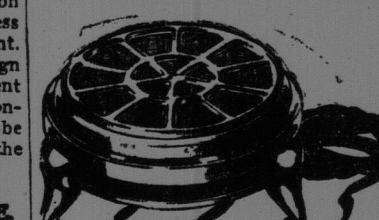
In the first quarter of 1924 there was an inward balance of 1,100 passengers of British nationality from the United States as compared with an outward balance of 15,169 in the first quarter of 1923. This difference is due in great measure to the fact that the official quota of British immigrants to be admitted into the United States during the year ended June 30, 1924, was completed in the autumn of 1923.

DOUBLE PERIL TO THREATEN BOOTLEGGERS

Philadelphia, July 11.—(United Press).—Bootleggers now have great difficulty in dodging prohibition agents and police but they were due for still greater troubles for they may soon be prosecuted under the Pure Food and Drug Act. If the various wares they peddle don't conform to the law. The Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association has announced that whiskey and brandy will appear in the next Pharmacopoeia, which is colloquially known as the "bible of the drug trade." "The legal standard bearer of medicines."

EARTHQUAKES EVERY DAY

There are five volcanoes around the republic of Guatemala. Santa Maria is at present the only active one. There are two beautiful lakes—the Amatitlan and the Atitlan. Both measure about an mile across. They are filled with many kinds of fish, and the various currents each have their different degrees of temperature. Both these lakes occupy the crater of extinct volcanoes. Earthquakes can be felt every day, for which reason the houses are all of adobe and never more than one story in height.

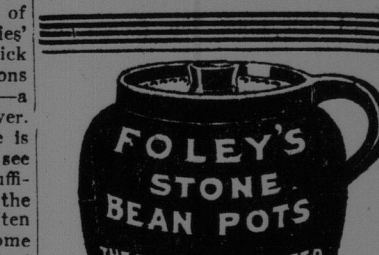


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Give me always a goal to try for: Let me fight till my breath be spent; Give me a dream to live and die for And I shall be content.

Keep for others your alien leisure, Drowsy days in the shade or sun; I was never a one to treasure Rest till my work was done.

No, for sloth is the worst of sinning; Give me the joy and zest of the fray, Finding my true reward in the winning. Not in the prize or pay.

And, if victory be denied me, I shall not shrink from another test, Nor care at all if the fools deride me, Knowing I did my best.

Somewhere still there are roads uncharted; Somewhere still is an unfound Grail; Let me go forward, valiant hearted, To the end of the last, long trail.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

French Without a Struggle Add to your Easy French Lessons this sign in a Los Angeles secondhand auto shop: "If you want to know what class is, Take a look at this here chassis."

Help for the Holder-up. Atlas was bearing the world on his shoulders.

"Thank goodness the graduates who soon relieve me," he murmured as he mopped his beaded brow.

Subtle Finance. "Did you know that man who showed you so much attention is a fortune hunter?"

"He was well aware of the fact," replied Miss Cayenne. "So I encourage

him as much as possible. I thought his evident impression as to my financial prospects might improve father's credit."—Washington Star.

How Eccentric. "Public spirited, isn't he?" "Oh, very—and so eccentric too! Why, he never dogs after and pesters people to contribute to any cause he espouses, but actually gives his own money."

Literally True. Maude—"What a beautiful new gown Helen is wearing. She says it's imported, doesn't she?" Marie—"Not exactly. It's her last season's dress. The dressmaker has turned it inside out, and now she says it's from the other side."

A Big Catch. A party of Americans on a visit to Wembley, having 'done' the exhibition, were being shown the sights of London. One of the party drove past a magnificent residence.

"That," said the guide, "is the town house of Lord—"

A bright little American lady gazed at the mansion eagerly. "The owner of that place," continued

the guide, "is one of our largest landed proprietors."

The lady's interest became keener. "Who landed him?" she asked.

BUSINESS MEDDLING. Since the war a lot of oratory has been spilled on the subject of "Government Business," says Good Hardware. A few days ago Herbert Hoover addressed the Chamber of Commerce on this subject. He gave a very sane summary of the situation. Mr. Hoover's remarks can be summarized bluntly: Let business conduct itself properly and with due regard to the public good and the Government won't want to meddle with business; let business organize and eradicate its trade evils and there will be no need for Government in business. In other words, it's up to business. As a business man, how do you feel about it?

MULTIPLICITY OF LAW. (Southern Lumberman.) There are two million laws in force in the United States. If a man could familiarize himself with 10 of them each day he would be qualified to act as a law-abiding citizen in the short space of six thousand years.

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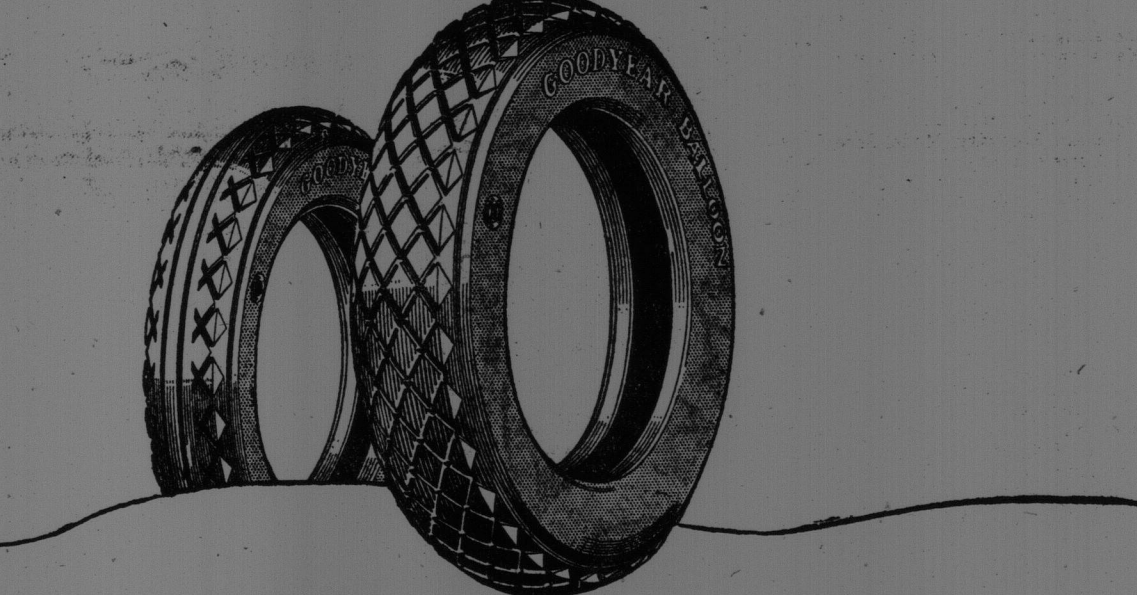
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