

HEAVY COST OF GOVERNMENT

A suggestion of Mr. Ferguson, Premier of Ontario, that at the next session of the Legislature the salaries of members of the Government be increased has led to various comments. Some favor the idea as being calculated to secure able men. The Ottawa Journal, not unfavorable to the party which Mr. Ferguson leads, has this to say: Canada pays more per capita of population for politicians than any other English speaking country. It is probably true that she pays more than any democratic country. Here is her bill in the Dominion field alone.

18 Cabinet ministers, one at \$15,000 and 17 at \$10,000 plus seasonal indemnity of \$4,000.....	\$ 229,000
9 Lieutenant Governors, salaries ranging from nine to seven thousand dollars.....	81,000
Solicitor General.....	9,000
235 M.P.'s at \$4,000.....	940,000
96 Senators at \$4,000.....	384,000
Annual total.....	\$1,644,000

In addition to this tidy sum, the provinces pay as follows:

Ontario.....	\$218,000
Quebec.....	286,000
Nova Scotia.....	121,000
New Brunswick.....	66,000
Manitoba.....	127,000
British Columbia.....	135,000
P. E. Island.....	23,000
Alberta.....	160,000
Saskatchewan.....	142,000

The combined total cost for the whole, in a single year is \$2,922,900—practically \$3,000,000 for politicians alone.

SHE SAID HE WAS "INCORRIGIBLE"

(M. Bradford, Social Service Council of Canada.)

A woman brought her son into one of our Canadian Juvenile Courts a short time ago because as she termed it, the boy was incorrigible. He would not stay in school and was getting his parents into continual difficulty. When the boy gave his side of the story to the judge he said that school the boy on being examined by the court doctor was discovered to be totally blind in one eye with the sight of the other already seriously impaired. And

this poor ignorant mother thought he was "incorrigible". The boy was immediately given treatment which saved and even improved the sight of his eye. If the condition had been known in time the sight of his other eye might also have been saved.

Of 24,000,000 school children in the United States, 6,000,000 are retarded in their studies. And of those 6,000,000 retarded children, 2,000,000 are retarded because of defective eyesight. It is estimated that defective eyesight among school children costs American taxpayers \$130,000,000 a year.

Similar figures for Canada are not available but they are estimated to be relatively the same. That is more than 8% of our Canadian school children are suffering under a mental handicap because of defective eyesight. I wonder how many of these children have been adjudged stupid or "incorrigible"?

AEROPLANES

Efforts to fly by means of heavier than air craft antedate all other experiments in aerial navigation. The first authentic instance was in A.D. 67. An early student of aviation was Leonardo da Vinci, whose extant sketches show great technical knowledge of the mechanical problems involved. The first aeroplane to fly by mechanical propulsion was invented by an Englishman named Henson in 1843, a 20 horse power



ROYALTY GREET'S PLUCKY CANADIAN CANOEIST

Lieut. Smith paddled from Canada to New York, then took ship to London and paddled to Rome where he received a stirring welcome from rowing clubs, canoe enthusiasts and swimmers, to say nothing of the greeting by the Royal Family as he finished his record breaking trip on the "yellow Tiber" in Rome.

engine being used. In 1888 Sir Hiram Maxim built a machine which was practically successful, and Ader flew in Paris in 1900. Langley, who began experimenting with gliders in 1883, flew over the Potomac, in the United States, in 1896. Lilienthal made remarkable

glides between 1879 and 1891. Following along these lines, the Wright brothers made their initial flights under motor power in 1903. From 1908, the year in which the Bleriot, Antoinette and Voisin bi-planes regularly flew in France, immense strides have been made. Early

in 1908, Farman, on a Voisin bi-plane, flew 12 miles; in September of the same year Wilbur Wright remained in the air for one and a half hours and covered 60 miles. Exhibition meetings began in 1909, and progress thereafter was astonishingly rapid.

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