Lossiemouth Is Proud of Premier

Scene of Meeting With Dawes Figures in Shakespeare Play

Glasgow.—No, matter what other politicians may say about the dangers of a Socialist Government, there is one thing they can't say. They can't allege that the Labor Prime Minister was slow in getting a move on once he got into his job. Last Sunday (the better the day the better the deed, as we say in Scotland) before he was in office a week had the new American Ambassador away up at Forres and was talking with him about how Britain and the United States might set about keeping the world in peace and quietness. That was hustle enough to satisfy the most hustling of Americans, and Mr. Hoover, who is also new to his job, should be pleased. What with all the new brooms on both sides of the Atlantic there should be some sweeping up done, and in the process Scotland should have a big share. For the Prime Minister is Scottish, he is a Ramsay and a MacDonald (both good old Scottish names) his home is in the little fishing village of Lossiemouth, away up on the Moray Firth; some of the best men in his Cabinet are Scots, and it was in Scotland—in that friend's house near Forres—that he met the American Ambassador, and began "conversations" which may mean an enormous lot to the future of the world.

It was not the first time that an important, informal meeting of national importance has been held at some little place in the north. There was one in Inverness, and there was one in the Far West of Rossshire, both when Mr. Lloyd George was Prime Minister, but they had to do only with affairs peculiar to the United Kingdom. Last Sunday America and Great Britain met in a country house near Forres, very near the "blasted heath" where Shakespeare's Macbeth met the witches; and where, in the same play, King Duncan was murdered.

SABBATH PROTEST.

And all on a Sabbath afternoon too, after the Prime Minister had been to a forenoon service in his own little church at Lossiemouth. No wonder there were some protests against the breaking of the Sabbath Day and the wonder is that there were not a great many more. That there were very few, and these feeble and apologetic, shows that even the people of the Highlands are moving towards broader views of things, are becoming more tolerant, and are realizing that if work is good the doing of it on the Sunday does not make that day any less the Sabbath. The really secular parts of the Prime Minister's week's sojourn at his old home, in the interval between his acceptance of office and the full beginning of his work in London, were carried out on week days, when the people of Lossiemouth welcomed him to the place in crowds, with processions and pipers and huge bonfires, when the women of the village in their working garb, hauled his motor car from the railway station to his house, when the children held high holiday; and when everyone, without distinction of politics, united with everyone else to make days greater than any that Lossie and its loons had ever known in the past.

It was a great change from the time when he was an unknown labor leader, fighting obscurely for a seat in Parliament, and called, by many who did know him, a dangerous revolutionary. It was also a great change from the time, during the war, when he was expelled from the membership of Moray Golf Club because he was not an enthusiast for the war. That expulsion still holds good, although those who engineered it would gladly have wiped it out and welcomed him back. The story is that he wouldn't come back even if they asked him, and even if they apologized, and that is likely why they don't ask him.

EXILES FROM LEWIS.

The exiles from Lewis are home, and are spreading themselves all over their native islands. The Canadian Pacific liner Minnedosa brought over a hundred of them from Montreal to Stornway last week-end, among them being, as the chief personage, Mr. T. B. Macaulay, president of the Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada, who has given about £50,000 for Lewis schemes within the past two years, including £12,000 for a library in Stornoway, £17,000 for a hospital, £5,000 to help in building a town hall to take the place of one which was destroyed by fire, and other sums for other purposes. It was arranged that the new town hall, municipal offices and library should all be opened when Mr. Macaulay and the other exiles were in the place, and so Stornoway and the Lewis have had a remarkable week.

The Provost and magistrates went out in a tender to meet the Minnedosa and give those on board an official welcome, there was a big bonfire on an island in the bay, the streets of the town were decorated, the liner was surrounded by all kinds of small craft, rockets were fired from the shore and the liner shrieked in reply—in fact, Stornoway could not have done more if it had been like Lossiemouth—welcoming a native as Prime Minister. And, all the time, many of the 100 were not really natives. Some of them were descendants to the third, and even fourth, generation of people who had gone from the Lewis to Canada. Even Mr. Macaulay himself had never before set foot on the island. But they all claimed it as their homeland, they were all enthusiastic, and Mr. Lacaulay actually believes that he will be able to convert the peat bogs of the Lewis into good farm land, so that more natives may not have to emigrate. He is evidently a man of great faith.

NEW SUGGESTION.

So is His Grace the Duke of Montrose. He has been making two important suggestions since the Labor Government came into office. The first was that as taxes especially death duties, were such a heavy burden on landowners, the Government should arrange to take land instead of money. He himself would have been glad, when he succeeded to his title and estates, to have made a bargain of this kind, instead of having to pay big sums. He thought Mr. Ramsay MacDonald might think of this idea when he was sunning himself at Lossiemouth. Mr. MacDonald may think oft it, but it is not at all likely that any government, least of all a Labor Government, will lighten the burdens of landlordism in this particular way—or in any way. It would be a beautiful arrangement for the landlords, but would leave the government with the land on their hands. The Duke's other suggestion was that some people might buy the islands in Loch Lomond, which happen to be, in a legal sort of way, his property. It is doubtful if Socialists will admit that they are his property at all. At any rate, the Government won't rise to this bait. Some people thought the Corporation of Glasgow would, and they raised the question at a Town Council meeting. But the Council turned it down at once, without discussion.

They have quite enough of unprofitable Highland estates, given to them for nothing, and costing more than they are worth; and they are not having any more. Least of all the Duke of Montrose, whose forebears took great big sums from Glasgow as compensation. When the level of Loch Katrine was raised for the city waterworks, and at every subsequent time when more land was required up that way for the same purpose. If the Duke had given the Corporation all the islands in Loch Lomond as a free gift it would not have been much. But even then the Corporation might not have taken any off his hands.

QUIET RETREAT.

But if any private person wishes a quiet retreat, where he and his family would not be disturbed by the screeching of railway trains, the hooting of motor cars, the jostling of crowds, letters two or three times a day and papers every other hour, he might do worse than take over one of the Loch Lomond islands. With a good house, a big garden, and an island large enough for strolling in and keeping a reasonable number of beasts and fowls, and with a motorboat for going to Balloch, or Luss, or Balmaha when he felt so disposed, it would be an ideal life for one who liked that kind of life; always assuming of course, that the presons concerned did not require to work for a living. But someone should suggest that another island—St. Kilda, to wit—should be taken into consideration. There is a proposal that all the 38 inhabitants of that most lovely of Scottish islands—away out in the West Atlantic—should be taken off and settled down as a little township somewhere on the mainland and otherwise, there will soon be none of them left, they are decreasing so rapidly. Not long ago there were about 100. Now of the 38, only 13 are grown men, and of these only four or five are strong enough for hard work. But it will not be easy to convince them that they should settle down on the mainland. They are islanders first, last and all the time, and would probably pine away still faster if the sea was not all around them. The best plan would be to raise a fund for buying the islands of Loch Lomond and settle them on these. They would have all the solitude of islands—if tripers in motor boats could be kept away—and they would also be in touch with civilization all the year round. Some one should speak to the Duke of Montrose about it.

Burma Suffers Serious Floods

Damage Estimated at $1,000,000 — Whole Villages Washed Away

Akyab, Burma, India—Total damage estimated at nearly $1,000,00 has been done by floods resulting from summary yesterday said there had been disasterous effects in the township of Kyauktem and Mychaung, one of the most thickly populated and prosperous areas in this district, and in the Arakan hill district.

The flooded area covers 10,000 acres and between 10,000 and 15,000 families have lost everything, including all food and seed grain. The flood reached Paletwa in Northern Arakan and only a few government buildings in the highest part escaped.

In the village of Mahammi, northeast Kyauktam, only four of 120 houses were left standing. Loss of human life was fortunately small. The whole Kaladan Valley from Parstwa to Mychsung was affected only a width of 60 miles. The government is taking relief measures.

The chances seem good for Lloyd George's holding the balance of power in the new House of Commons. And how that man can balance!—New York Times.

A "Colorful" Scene in Old London

TROOPING THE COLORS ON KING'S BIRTHDAY

Duke of Connaught, Prince of Wales, Duke of York and Lord Lascelles inspecting troops at color-trooping.

Plan to Make Australia Wet

Rain Makers Propose To Get Moisture by Driving Long Canal in Australia

Adelaide, S. Aus.—The "rain makers," who hope to irrigate a vast area in South Australia from the sky, have just joined forces here and ended the prospect of duplication of their field expeditions. At the same time it became known that the scope of the research is to be widely extended.

Two expeditions have been expected to penetrate into the region of Lake Eyre, the great stretch of salt water in central Australia which, though discovered 90 years ago, is "still surrounded with mud and mystery."

Into this region where the mirage sets up a "wall of glass" through which it is impossible to see, engineers would drive a long canal, to connect the lake with the sea. This project, they declare, would give an annual rainfall of about one inch to an arid region which for successive years has little or no precipitation.

TWO EXPEDITIONS JOIN.

One expedition has been organized by Samuel Upton, a fellow of the Royal Empire Society. The other expedition was to be sponsored by the South Australian branch of the council of the Royal Geographic Society. On the eve of the departure of the Upton expedition, it was announced that the geographic society would defer its plan and lend its official support to Mr. Upton's efforts.

One reason for the action of the geographic society was that the leader of its proposed expedition was Cecil Madigan, acting professor of geology at Adelaide University. Professor Madigan may now accompany Sir Douglas Mawson upon his projected expedition to the Antarctic this year, although definite plans await Sir Douglas' return to Adelaide where he holds the chair of geology at the university.

The Upton expedition will seek to end the "thousand miles of ignorance" of the Lake Eyre region, which includes Torrens Lake, Frome Lake and Lake Gairdner. These lakes have a combined surface nearly double the area of Wales. The expedition, it now is learned, will study the feasibility of concentrating the fresh-water floods of the Diamentine, Cooper and more easterly creeks into one of the lakes which is above sea-level as a means of conserving bood waters now uncontrolled.

WILL STUDY MINERALS.

Extensive study of the mineral wealth of the region will also be undertaken. The natural or artificial use of the drained areas of some of the lakes for growing such crops as rice and millet will be investigated.

The possibility of utilizing this section of South and Central Australia brings up the problem of transportation and Mr. Upton's expedition will consider the use of the canal for this purpose, affording an outlet from the lakes to Spencer's Gulf.

Mr. Upton points out that Lake Eyre is unique among the lakes of the world, for man has not yet succeeded in reaching the main body of its waters, or in sounding its depths. The waters of the Great Artesian Basin are believed to flow naturally into the lake, and from time to time, enormous floods reach it, yet rarely are its waters seen from the shore.

Winnipeg, Man.—The search for oil in the western provinces is extending into Manitoba, and announcement is made of the formation of a syndicate of eastern capitalists to drill in the Ochre River field. The new organization, which is called the Carter Oil Syndicate, has taken over the holdings of 1,300 acres south of Ochre River.

Full Rehearsal of King's Drive Through London Carried Out

London.—With clockwork precision a full rehearsal of matters connected with the King's drive through London on his return from Windsor Castle was carried out by troops and personnel of the Royal stables. The state landau with full equippeage travelled from the Royal stables in Kensington where they were met by a squadron of life guards. At the point selected for the King and Queen to change from the motor car to the carriage the troops formed aline.

Then a motor car stopped at the curb and at a sharp word of command from the office commanding the cavalry the men saluted with down swords. The door of the car was opened and then shut, and the car drove away. Close behind the car came the Royal landap and the motion of opening the door and the handing in of the King and Queen, following which the drive to Buckingham Palace was started. The change from one vehicle to the other took less than three minutes. Then the cavalry divided into escort and cavalcade and centered to Hyde Park, through Queen's gate and the procedure was gone through again and again until every movement was carried out with exactitude.

Menace to Fishery Is Turned to Profit

Joseph Lizotte of Riviere Ouelle caught 190 porpoise from May 21 to 25. His process is to skin the fat off and then to skin the hide and cook the fat in vats. It is then re-cooked and the oil is put into barrels and the balance which is dry meat is used as feed for farm animals. The oil is barrelled and sold in the United States and Montreal and fetches from 45 to 55 cents a gallon. He expects to obtain an income or at least a profit on this season's work of approximately $6,000. He employs about 20 men in this operation during the season which lasts some six weeks with intermittant intervals.

The porpoise come in shoals, the process of catching them is in a large weir built into a bay comprising 72 acres. When the tide comes in and any porpoise come into the weir they cannot get out and on the tide receding the porpoise is left stranded on the shore.

The skins are cured with salt and sell for 14 cents a pound for leather in Montreal and Quebec. The average weight of the white whales runs about 1,500 pounds.

Lady (instructing new maid): "When a visitor comes, you must announce him to me first." Maid (the same evening): "Please, ma'am, my sweetheart has come."

Green Flash Crashes On Attempted Take-Off

AMERICAN TRANSATLANTIC PLANES CRACKS UP

Green Flash, transatlantic aeroplane of Capt. Yancey and Roger Williams, being dragged ashore after it crashed taking off from Old Orchard, Me., recently. Neither pilots were hurt.

Lord Balfour Retires to His Scottish Home

Withdrawing From Active Life Which He Began 55 Years Ago

It is a dramatic thing when a man leaves the house he has lived in nearly 60 years, and when it is one of the greatest men in a nation it is pathetic, too.

The news that the Earl of Balfour now in his eighty-first year, is selling his London house and retiring to his Scottish home, and thus withdrawing from the active life which he began 55 years ago, when he entered Parliament, has been received by every well-informed British citizen with deep regret, for Britain has no finer statesman so rich in experience as he.

TRUST AND ADMIRATION.

Many years have passed since Arthur Balfour lived amid the petty bitterness of keen party strife, and when he did they left him unscathed. He has long had the trust and admiration of men of all shades of politics. In whatever great office he has represented his country all his countrymen have known that they would be served by him with a dignity, and ability, a personal charm and an intellectual power that would add lustre to our statesmanship.

He has at command vast experience, breadth of judgment, the gift of fine speech, and he is a great gentleman. His withdrawal from the political arena, even at the age of eighty, is a national loss only modified by th fact that he may still serve History with his pen.

Lord Balfour was born into statesmanship—his mother was a Cecil. The only thing said against him as a young man in parliament was that he took life in a leisurely way and was a philosopher rather than a man of action. He became a Minister of the Crown when he was 37; next year he was in the Cabinet, and the following year he was Chief Secretary for Ireland. After that no one said any more that he was not a man of action. In that most difficult of offices he won his spurs. He won in Ireland the hearts of many who were his sternest opponents, and he came back to the Conservative Leader in the House of Commons.

When he was 54 he became Prime Minister and found the leadership of his party the most difficult of all his life's tasks, involving more than usual ingratitude. The war brought him back into office (after an interregnum of eleven years) as First Lord of the Admiralty and later of Foreign Minister in succession to Sir Edward Grey.

MISSIONS TO U.S.A.

Under Conservative Governments more recently he has held the dignified position of Lord President of the Council. Among the most successful of his tasks have been two Missions to the United States, one during the war and one since, marked by the most enthusiastic appreciation of his personal and intellectual qualities.

These political services, continued for 55 years, have been abundantly supplemented by high distinction as a philosophical writer, and lecturer, and a varied essayist. The Order of Merit, the Fellowship of the Royal Society, the Chancellorships of Cambridge and Edinburgh Universities, and honorary degrees conferred by sixteen British, American, and foreign universities show how this great statesman is regarded by the world at large.

Too often men who serve their generation in the highest positions die before the world's appreciation has been adequately expressed. In the retirement of the Earl of Balfour from th public work in which he has virtually spent al his life till now, and whil yet he can make us his debtors through his still active pen, it is a fitting opportunity to recall how faithful and how vast have been the labors of this servant of his country, a man whom all admire for the loftiness of his characted, the sincerity of his aims, the wealth of his mental powers, and the grace of his personality.

Floods in India Worst in History

Thirty Thousand Homeless—Hundreds Believed to Have Perished

London.—The floods in India were the worst in the country's history, according to an exchange telegraph dispatch from Calcultta quoting officials in the affected territories.

The commissioner of Assam Valley estimated that 30,000 persons were driven from their homes in his district alone, while the flood in the Surma Valley inundated a region of 1,900 square miles.

The entire town of Salcher was under water.

No accurate death figures were reported, but it was believed hundreds had perished, and starvation and suffering were widespread. The supply of rice was said to be low, and relief operations were hampered.

Seaside Lothario—"What is there I can do to prove I love you?" Hero Worshipper—"How about swimming the Atlantic?"