

# The Action Free Press

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## EDITORIAL

Three of the four vacant seats in the House of Commons will be filled through by-elections on Wednesday, April 7 next. They are for the constituencies of Temiskaming, Ont., Kamouraska, Que., and the St. James Division of Montreal.

Despite the fact that by the exercise of rigid economy most of the Government departments kept well within their estimates last year, Sir Henry Drayton, Minister of Finance, urges further sparing of this year's estimates with a view to effecting further saving.

France's loyalty to Canada is being shown in many practical ways. It has been decided by the city council of Paris to float a municipal loan of \$20,000,000 in Canada. The proceeds are to be used for the purchase of foodstuffs and other essentials in the Canadian market.

The shortage of qualified teachers in Ontario, estimated at 2,000, is attributed to inadequate salaries. Large numbers of qualified teachers have turned aside to other lines of better paid work. The Boards in many localities have made substantial increases in teachers' salaries and averted the loss of teachers.

Another slogan has been added to those of "Made-in-Canada" and "Buy-in-Canada," and it is "Holiday-in-Canada." The Canadian Manufacturers' Association is preparing to launch a Dominion-wide campaign to induce Canadians to spend their vacations and do their motoring tours within the Dominion this year.

Canada is the foremost of the family of the British Empire, and, being nearest, the greatest responsibility rests upon her, not alone to aid and succor in battle, but to lead the van in all forms of industrial life, to seize every opportunity to forward the grandeur and stability both of herself and of the Empire.—The Agricultural Gazette.

Hon. W. E. Raney, Attorney-General, was elected by acclamation at the nomination in East Wellington on Monday. This completes the Government and their administration is now in power with a mandate from the country to carry out the policy promulgated. The country, as well as Hon. Mr. Raney, are to be congratulated upon this election without the turmoil of a contest.

Bolshevism is rampant in many parts of Europe. It may be deduced from the success of the Bolsheviks in Russia that their appeal to the people is greater than that of their opponents. They have progressed steadily in the conquest of the country, and the capture of Archangel after the successes in the south warrants the assumption that Europe must be prepared to face Bolshevik domination in Russia.

There is a lot of general election talk in the air about the capital at Ottawa. Reports to Liberal organization headquarters there indicate that the organization of Liberal associations in several of the provinces is being pursued vigorously in preparation for any election which may loom up. It will be a difficult matter, however, to ever again form up the party lines as definitely as before the war. People have gotten away from pre-war predictions.

Hon. H. R. Grant, Ontario Minister of Education, reports that since November 100 applications have been made for Consolidated Schools. That would probably mean the closing up of approximately 500 ordinary rural public schools. It will be wise on the part of the Education Department to go cautiously on this matter of consolidated schools. Demonstrations of their value in a few localities for a period of years will be desirable before there is any wholesale closing of the country schools.

### Encouraging Thrift in Our Young People

The spirit of thrift has been growing in Canada and it should be encouraged among the children and young people. The Thrift Stamps have been to some extent effective, but the administration of the stamps, owing to the volume of detail necessary, has made that scheme more costly than is warranted. It is encouraging, however, to know that the children of Canada have purchased nearly three million dollars worth of stamps.

**The Provincial Highway Through Acton**—Now that we have intimations from Premier Drury and Hon. Mr. Biggs that there are splendid prospects of provincial highways receiving encouragement and financial assistance from the government, the Council and Board of Trade ought to feel encouraged to again take up the project of the Toronto-Sarnia straight-line highway, which will pass through Georgetown. It would seem that the prospects are probably better than ever for securing the construction of a good provincial road from the Queen City to the border. The arguments in favor of it from a rural standpoint are vastly more in keeping with the U.P.O.'s programme than that which appeared to meet favor from the late government, largely substantiated as it was from the tourists' standpoint. Keeping everlastingly at it is the only way to obtain results, anyhow, and as the Dominion grant for good roads must be expended on main roads there is substantial reason for expecting results, if a united stand is taken in favor of the straight road.—Herald.

### Canada to be Represented at Washington.

It is confidently announced that legislation will be introduced at the coming session of Parliament to define the status of the proposed Canadian representative at Washington. Since the early days of the war there has been a Canadian mission at Washington, but its functions have been confined to matters of trade. The functions of the Canadian representative will be of a wider character, and it is stated, semi-diplomatic. The main aim will be to cut out the present circuitous route via the Colonial Office. On matters particularly affecting Canada and the United States, the Canadian Government would deal directly through its own representative at Washington. On matters of Imperial concern, the Canadian representative would work in co-operation with the British ambassador. A satisfactory basis is about completed.

### Canada Protects its Wild Life

There is abroad in Canada an impression that the Dominion Government concern itself little, if at all, with the actual protection of wild life. While the Dominion Government has left to the provinces the protection of the game, fur-bearing animals, and other wild life within their respective territories, it is nevertheless responsible for the protection of the wild life over an enormous portion of Canada, namely the Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, and in the Dominion parks. To carry out our national obligation with respect to the treaty with the United States for the protection of migratory birds, it has also assumed the guardianship of our migratory birds; this is being undertaken with the practical cooperation of the Provincial governments. The legislation governing these matters is administered by the Minister of the Interior.

### Prohibition to Stay in United States

One of the most widely circulated recently weeks of the United States, speaking of the prohibition constitutional amendment last week said: "The eighteenth amendment of the constitution has been ratified by forty-five of the forty-eight states. It is now as sure as anything human can be that the amendment will live as long as the constitution itself remains the supreme law of the land. Objectors to the new law will never be any more numerous than they are now, and since they are now a helpless minority, no movement to repeal the amendment is likely ever to win the support of two thirds of congress and three-fourths of the states. The attempts to nullify the law by ingenious legislation, or through the ruling of the courts are equally valid. The new generation will not know the taste of liquor. How can it be musterered to the support of something that neither wants nor knows?"

### Turkey's Atrocities Must Cease

The Council of Premiers is faced with three great problems and one of the most critical periods since its organization. First comes the completion, if possible, of the Turkish Treaty of peace. The second is a definition of a policy toward Russia. The third is what shall be done in the Adriatic issue if President Wilson insists on the withdrawal of the United States unless the agreement of December is adhered to. Well-informed opinion inclines to the belief that the growing anger here at the reinstatement of the Turkish Government in Constantinople will, if nothing else, result in far-reaching and drastic good-behaviour clauses being inserted in the Turkish treaty, which will make a continuance of Turkish rule in Constantinople dependent upon the Turks' good behaviour. The Turkish Government must be given to understand that the murderous prosecution of the Armenians and other minor peoples in the east must now and forever cease.

### Canada Entitled to Higher Rating

Financial matters in both Canada and Great Britain are receiving a very considerable degree of attention from writers in American financial and commercial newspapers. On the whole the sentiment of these is favorable and should go far towards encouraging trade between the Dominion and the United Kingdom on the one hand and the United States on the other. In a special pamphlet, "Canada as a Customer," Mr. John Moody, whose writings are known to a wide section of the financial world says: "The Dominion of Canada is in a sound condition, commercially and financially. She is one of our best trade customers and is bound to remain so by the nature of her industries. The Government, provincial and municipal bonds, which she is floating here are attractive; she is entitled to higher graded rating than any other nation to whom we are lending except Great Britain, and it would give to give more attention to developing our trade and investment business with her." In another article in which he deals with the position of sterling exchange, Mr. Moody expressed the opinion that the stamp in sterling was somewhere near an end. He pointed out that it is near the time of year when imports of agricultural products sharply diminish.

### Canada's Fire Loss Not Lower

Fire losses in 1919, \$23,500,000. With the war over, with no munition plant fires, with industry under normal conditions, and with many interests advertising fire prevention, Canada in 1919 reached the above enormous total of fire waste—a waste equal to \$2.00 per capita of her population. Of the larger losses, there were 288 of \$10,000 and over. These larger losses are mostly of business properties or manufacturing plants. With the destruction of the factory, employment is discontinued and the workmen suffer; business is interfered with and the employer suffers. The keen competition of to-day very often absorbs the market for a product before a business can be re-established, and the owners, realizing this condition, decide not to rebuild. Many of the small municipalities have, as their chief support, one large industry. If fire should destroy this industry the community must almost cease to exist, or alternatively, secure another, often by burdening itself to pay a bonus. Employers and workmen are almost universally responsible for fires in factories. Through carelessness or negligence they allow conditions to exist which sooner or later create fire dangers. The greater number of our fires are in the homes, where little care taken with matches, ashes, lighting cigarettes and cigars, etc. The careless man at home is careless at work, and this carelessness is the root of our fire loss problem. To reduce our fire-waste radical measures are necessary. Legislation or rules are of no avail unless enforced. Personal care and responsibility by both employer and employee are essential to conservation.

### A CHINESE TEA PARTY?

"When a Chinese in China invites his friends to visit him, and partakes of the drink of which they are so fond, the whole affair is very formal. This tea is made in a teapot, but a few drops of water are put in each cup, and boiling water poured over them. Then four drinking the tea, the guests take their cups in their hands and, no doubt, say 'Ho' to each other in the quiet. If during these ceremonies tea is split, it is considered very bad. To be very polite, all the guests should say 'Ho' to each other, and pour down their cups at the same time. Then the tea is served up, and is very important, but no one makes any remarks about it. After the tea-drinking, the host takes off his cap to the tea, and, if the mother, how much the better, it is not considered polite to leave, until she gives permission, and it, by chance, one person has forgotten to do so, the host takes off his cap to the tea, and says 'Ho' to each other, and a travelling bag, charging them to her. When the mother disappears it is then that the husband takes off his cap to the tea, and says 'Ho' to each other, and the husband should be the last to leave."

### TRADE REGULATIONS IN JAPAN

Here's a new method of trade speed-up: According to reports from the Oriental empire the traffic regulation prevalent in Beiping now of movement and stops have been taken in the direction of traffic control. But there have been no real way of handling the situation.

On roads between 12 and 15 feet wide, drivers may run eight miles an hour between 30 feet, 12 miles an hour; above 35 feet, 15 miles an hour.

### LADIES' DEEP IMMEDIATE FASHIONS

The immaturity or dress on the part of our young (17) women women in foreign lands is a serious problem. The Port Hope Times: "When the young of the day are so utterly wild, it is important, indeed, it is a matter of survival to teach them some nice manners, try to harden them to follow this. If we could cultivate more individuality and not like a lot of sheep, follow the lead of some society leaders, I am sure we could have a great deal more individuality, in quiet, sensible garments and defy the fashion."

### DISCIPLINE NOT PUNISHMENT

Carrying punishment to the contrary discipline leads to the contrary. If you are still laboring under the delusion that to be a good disciplinarian you must make out-of-the-way efforts to reach all offenders, just take a look at the following: "If your mind straight in the matter. The first question should not be, 'What punishment will best mete the situation?' but, 'What punishment will best meet the child that he has done wrong and create in him his determination not to do again?' Then if you decide that the punishment must be严厉, try to make it a suitable and a logical growth of the wrong committed.

Now, into the 12 year old son of a disciplinarian who has been making out-of-the-way efforts to reach all offenders, just take a look at the following: "If your mind straight in the matter. The first question should not be, 'What punishment will best mete the situation?' but, 'What punishment will best meet the child that he has done wrong and create in him his determination not to do again?' Then if you decide that the punishment must be严厉, try to make it a suitable and a logical growth of the wrong committed.

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