



Taking Stock on Canada's Fifty-Third Birthday

Anniversaries, in general, are useful occasions on which to review the past, take stock of the present and to form resolutions for the future in the light of experience. On this, the 53rd anniversary of Confederation, let us take an observation of our position, write our log-book up to date and shape our course to avoid the dangers ahead, that the good ship "Canada" may have as smooth and prosperous a voyage as human foresight can assure her.

We have weathered an awful tempest. We have been somewhat battered and the watchers on the bridge have had many anxious moments but, on the whole, we have emerged safely and well. The storm has not entirely subsided, but the clouds are breaking and we can see blue sky ahead. We have every reason to congratulate ourselves on the manner in which our staunch little frigate has weathered the hurricanes in which several "grander vessels, and particularly the "Germania" foundered and sank.

The war over, are we buckling down as we should to the problems of peace? It is to be feared that we are not doing our utmost to put things again to rights. We are all more or less fatigued, no doubt, with our efforts; our nerves are somewhat on edge and we are too much disposed to wrangle over the job. But it is high time that we were getting over this phase and settling down once more into our regular routine.

The greatest problem of the day is undoubtedly the scarcity of most commodities, with resultant high prices and dear living. The salient fact to recognize in this connection is that this condition is only partially a legacy of the war. It did not have its origin in the war, for the cost of living had been rising steadily since the last years of the 19th century right up to the outbreak of the conflict. The conclusion is that the war merely intensified and accelerated a tendency already existing.

Cause of Present Scarcity.
Undoubtedly, one contributing cause of the present scarcity is extravagance. By this term, we mean not merely individual thriftlessness and ostentation which, to be sure, in its accumulative effect, is very important—but also waste on a large scale. North America has handled its resources in an especially reckless manner. Canada, for instance, has the

biggest per capita fire loss of any country in the world. That is to say, we are using up our plant and equipment faster than any other people, and a greater proportion of our new construction is mere replacement and not the creation of fresh wealth. Not only have our manufactured products been thus dissipated but, what is even more serious, the natural resources on which our industries depend have been seriously depleted. Canada started on her career in 1867 with a magnificent dower of unexploited natural wealth. It was so vast that the dangerous word "inexhaustible" was often applied to it. In those days they could not get the trees out of the way fast enough; now it is a question where to find trees to keep the lumber mills busy. Then, the waters teemed with fish; to-day, the Fraser River sockeye, the Great Lakes whitefish, the Atlantic shad, to mention only a few examples, are threatened with absolute extinction. No less serious is the exhaustion of soil fertility. On the western plains, the "soil-mining" methods of the pioneer are showing their baneful results to-day in decreased yields and weedy fields. Thus, the economic problems of the older lands have overtaken this country in half a century.

The remedy for this state of affairs is CONSERVATION. We cannot look up our resources, but it is not necessary that they should become progressively smaller and less valuable year by year. It is quite possible—except in the case of minerals—to exploit our natural wealth that it shall never diminish, but shall even increase. We can cut down trees without destroying the forest; we can grow crops and leave the soil as fertile as ever; we can gather a rich harvest from the finny tribes and from the furred and feathered world without depleting the parental stock.

As regards minerals, though, of course, once used they can never be replaced, we can, with care, indefinitely postpone the evil day of scarcity and exhaustion. Let us consider in a little greater detail how these desirable ends may be attained.

Forestry Practice.
As regards the forest, our own mental attitude towards it is largely to blame. We have inherited from pioneer days a disposition to regard it as something to be cut down to make room for settlement. We must

assimilate the idea that the forest is a crop and is to be cultivated as such. Perhaps it will not be necessary for us to prepare the ground and plant trees; if natural reproduction is sufficient, so much the better. But we must give natural reproduction a chance to act. In the first place, it is quite in order to tackle the virgin forest and cut down the bigger trees. Conservation does not mean mere preservation. A virgin forest has attained its maximum growth; it is a ripe crop and needs harvesting. By taking out the larger trees, we give the younger ones a chance to develop. After such selective cutting, the growth will more than balance the decay and we are distinctly the gainers by the process.

It should not be assumed, however, that proper selection can be attained by the simple rule-of-thumb method of imposing a diameter limit, below which trees cannot be cut. Every tree in the forest competes with its fellows for light, air, moisture and soil food. It follows that all unsound trees should be removed, whether mature or not. Further, the spacing of the trees that are left must be considered. Each must have room to grow. Hence, what is needed is intelligent selection directed by trained men.

A further consideration which enters into this problem is that the whole character of a forest can be changed by removing certain species and leaving others. This process is actually going on in the pulpwood areas of Eastern Canada. The coniferous trees, especially spruce and balsam, are being cut down, while less valuable hardwoods are being left because it does not pay to remove them. Consequently, these hardwoods now dominate the cut-over areas and retard or prevent the growth of a second crop of pulpwood. The best solution of this problem would be the development of some economic use for these hardwood trees.

Intelligently to cultivate the forest, it is necessary to know how long the crop takes to mature. This is not accurately known at present but growth studies, now being undertaken by the Commission of Conservation, are expected to answer the question. It will take three or four years, however, before the results can be determined.

The practice of forestry is useless without proper fire protection. Since Confederation, it is safe to say that more merchantable timber has been burned than cut. The principal damage to-day, however, is to the young growth, for the fires are mostly in cut-over areas. An efficient fire-patrolling force must be provided. But, as an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, proper slash disposal is most important. All the debris left after lumbering should be piled up and burnt under proper supervision. There would then be far less chance for a fire to start and to spread.

(Concluded next week.)

Remarkable Year of Progress Shown by the Merchants Bank

Growth of Assets During 1919-1920 Was Almost as Large in Proportion as In- crease in Capital Stock. Shareholders Had a Very Satisfactory Year. Balance Sheet Exhibits Bank in Strong Position.

The Merchants Bank of Canada enjoyed a very remarkable year of progress during the twelve months ended April 30th. The paid-up capital of the Bank was enlarged during that period by \$1,400,000, representing an increase of 20%. Not only did the new capital immediately justify itself, so far as earnings were concerned, but it was accompanied by a growth in the total volume of business which was sufficient to keep the ratio of capital to assets unchanged for the year. The assets of the Bank are 18.40% greater than they were at the beginning of the year, having increased from \$165,725,404.95 to \$197,387,855.14. Of this growth \$24,900,000 is accounted for by the remarkable expansion in deposits which largely represent the savings of the clients of the Bank and which are now over \$163,000,000.

The Bank was able to maintain a strong liquid position throughout the year. Quick assets at the end of April were over \$72,697,546.36, and were at a ratio of 40.81% to the total public liabilities, amounting to \$179,988,920.94. The Bank's share in the task of financing the commercial and industrial business of the Dominion was well attended to, the sum of \$113,198,913 being devoted to current loans and discounts in Canada. The sum of \$3,587,491.69 was loaned to Canadian cities, towns, municipalities and school districts, and \$1,117,265.51 loaned otherwise than in Canada.

The shareholders benefited largely by the prosperity of the institution. The annual distribution of profits was increased by the addition of 1% bonus to the 12% dividend regularly in force, while the shareholders also enjoyed the privilege of acquiring a large issue of new stock at much less than its market value.

The distribution of profits was, however, moderate in comparison with the earnings, which were at the rate of 20.48% on capital stock, or 10.64% on the actual investment of the shareholders, when the Rest Fund is taken into consideration. Of the remaining profits \$100,000 was written off the Premises Account, and \$700,000 added to the Rest Fund, but a portion of the latter amount was derived from the profits of previous years, as the profits carried forward now stand at \$260,774.

Both the shareholders and the general public are indebted to the management of this old and conservative, yet enterprising institution, for the constantly increasing services which it is rendering to Canadian business. Its progress during the past year must be highly gratifying, not only to the shareholders, but to Sir H. Montagu Allan, President, Mr. D. C. Macarow, General Manager, and to the members of the Board of Directors.

Canada has 78 railways.

Canada has the largest and most beautiful Mountain National Parks in the world, thousands of square miles in extent, aptly termed "Sixty Switzerlands in One," exceeding in natural grandeur all other parks in the world. Among them, Canada's Rocky Mountains Park has an area of 1,800 square miles; Yoho Park, an area of 560 square miles; Glacier Park, area of 468 square miles; Revelstoke Park, 95 square miles.

Our First Postage Stamp

April 23rd last was the sixty-ninth anniversary of Canada's first postage stamp, the three-penny red. That stamp, designed by Sir Sanford Fleming and bearing the picture of the beaver, was first put on sale for the benefit of Canadian letter writers on April 23rd, 1851. The first issue of Canadian stamps were this three-penny, a sixpenny with the Prince Consort's picture on it, and a twelve-penny bearing a portrait of Queen Victoria. The sixpenny was put on sale in May, 1851, and the twelve-penny in June of the same year. Only 1,500 copies of the latter stamp were ever put on sale at post-offices, though the Government received over fifty thousand copies from the printers. Where the rest went to no one seems to know. The twelve-penny is Canada's scarcest stamp, good copies of it now selling at from four to five hundred dollars.

How Canada Got Her Name

The following account of the origin of the term "Dominion," as applied to Canada, is given in a letter written on June 28th, 1917, by Leonard P. D. Tilley, M.P.P., St. John, N.B., to G. S. Holmstead, K.C., Senior Registrar, High Court Division, Toronto. Mr. Tilley is a son of Sir Leonard Tilley, one of the Fathers of Confederation: "I have your letter of recent date asking me if I can give you any information in regard to the question as to who suggested the name 'Dominion' for the Dominion of Canada at the time of the drawing up of the British North America Act. You state that you have heard and read that my father, the late Sir S. L. Tilley, was the one who suggested this name. You are correct in this statement so far as my knowledge goes. I have heard my father state how he came to suggest it at the B.N.A. conference. When the Fathers of Confederation were assembled, discussing the terms

and conditions of the Confederation, and the drafting of the British North America Act (this is the story as I have personally heard him tell it), there had been considerable discussion the day before, and many suggestions as to what the new United Canada should be called, and no conclusion had been reached. The discussion on the name stood over until the next day. The next morning, as was Sir Leonard's custom, he read a chapter from the Bible, and that particular morning he read Psalm 72, verse 8, "He shall have dominion also from sea to sea." When reading verse 8 of the said psalm the thought occurred to him, "What a splendid name to give Canada, the word 'Dominion' of Canada. When he went back to the sitting of the convention that morning he suggested the word 'Dominion,' which was agreed to, and Canada was called the 'Dominion of Canada.' This is the version of the matter as I understand it."

Canada, My Country

O Canada, my country and my love,
O Canada, with cloudless skies above,
Where'er I roam, where'er my home,
My heart goes back to thee.
Thy lakes and streams, thy boundless dreams,
Thy rivers running free.
O Canada, O Canada,
God pour His blessings on thee from above,
O Canada, my country and my love.
—Canon and Lt.-Col. F. G. Scott.
(First sung in a Y.M.C.A. tent in Belgium.)

Our Emblem

By OWEN STAPLES.
As early as 1700 the maple was looked upon as a fit emblem for Canada. In 1857 the British and Canadians, when fighting in the woods, concealed their scarlet uniforms by cutting slits in the breasts of their tunics and inserting leaves of maple. Miss Carnahan notes that the Royal Canadian Society at Grimsby designed a banner and painted on it were large autumn maple leaves, which was carried in procession October 13, 1853. In 1859 the maple leaf was placed on the regimental colors of the 100th Regiment. As the floral emblem of Canada the maple leaf dates from 1800, when Edward VII, then Prince of Wales, visited this country. Sir Daniel Wilson, late president of the Toronto University, relates a most interesting Indian legend.

Power produced on Canadian side of Niagara Falls, 400,000 horsepower; of \$42 per head, and emerged with a 125,000 is exported to United States. debt of about \$250 per head.

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The Chippawa believed the mother of their tribe was a great Manitou made out of a tree. She had three sons at a birth. The first became a beaver, who built his lodge by the river; the second, a fish, who swam swiftly down the river and was lost in the great lake, and the third became the father of the Chippawa. One day while out hunting, the third son was met by the Great Spirit, who told him to shoot the first living thing he saw, and he would never want for food thereafter. He hunted several days, but saw nothing, and returned home to his lodge. His mother came to meet him, quickly told him he had not obeyed the Great Spirit, and then fled. Suddenly remembering she was the first living thing he had seen, he raised his bow and shot her. Immediately she turned into a sugar maple tree. When the Indian withdrew his arrow from the tree trunk the sap flowed out and he quenched his thirst and gave of it to his brother the Beaver.

The Coat of Arms of Quebec granted by Royal Warrant, May, 1868, shows a sprig of three green Maple leaves on a gold background comprising the lower third of the entire shield.

Barlow Cumberland (History of the Union Jack), says "The Maple is heraldically recognized as the emblem of Canada, but has no definite place on the coat of arms of the Dominion. It merely appears on two of the four provincial shields."

The Government, sanctioned in 1870 a green garland of Maple leaves on the Dominion arms. Ordinary civil usage has given our emblem a larger freedom—on our coins, postage stamps, Northwest and Canada service medals and in our poetry and song.

There is an English superstition respecting the Maple—that long life will be conferred upon the children who are passed through its branches. Its beauty and strength have not escaped the poet's eye. Such men as Roberts, Ascher, Campbell, McColl and Kirby, Sangster, Lovell, Emerson and Muir have not failed to grasp its true emblematic meaning. And what could be more significant to-day than the words of the poet Johnson? "And when its leaves all crimson Drop silently and fall, Like drops of life blood welling From a warrior brave and tall; It tells how fast and freely Would her children's blood be shed, E'er the soil of our faith and freedom Should echo a foeman's tread."

The White-Throat

Shy bird of the silver arrows of song,
That cleave our northern air so clear,
Thy notes prolong, prolong,
I listen, I hear—
"I—love—dear—Canada,
Canada, Canada."
O plumes of the pointed dusky fir
Screen of a swelling patriot heart,
The copse is all astir
And echoes thy part!
Now willow reeds tune their silver flutes
As the noise of the day dies down;
And silence strings her lutes.
The White-throat to crown,
O bird of the silver arrows of song,
Shy poet of Canada clear,
Thy notes prolong, prolong,
We listen, we hear—
"I—love—dear—Canada,
Canada, Canada."
—Theodore H. Rand.

Canada is the world's chief producer of nickel, asbestos and molybdenite. Canadian Corps Pigeon Service employed 1,000 pigeons during the war. Canada's field crops record, 1919, totalled over a billion bushels of grain and over 20,000,000 tons of hay and corn. Canada's field crops record, 1919, both in value of crops and acreage, was highest on record. Value exceeded 1918 by \$75,217,500, or 5 p.c., and 1917 by \$308,517,517, or 21 p.c. The total number of Canadians captured as prisoners of war on western front, 236 officers and 3,511 other ranks. Of these, 28 officers and 278 other ranks died in captivity; 1 officer and 99 other ranks escaped.

The Sunday School

Review—June 27. I Sam. 12: 1-5, 13-25.

It is difficult to compare great men of different lands and times so as to do them full justice. Each is the man for his own time and place and serves his own age. Each has his own distinctive work to do. But in each and every case the criterion of true greatness is service. No man is great who does not serve. Christ is our model and our example. In Him we see greatness in service and greatness through service. "I am among you," He said, "as one who serves."

Judging by this criterion Samuel is entitled to be called great. He served the people of his time through-out a long life unselfishly and well. As servant in Eli's house, in training for the priesthood; as priest, and prophet, and judge of Israel; as unifier of the divided nation; in all these capacities he proved himself an honorable and fearless man and a true servant of the people. The boy who answered so readily in the night to what he supposed to be the voice of his aged master, Eli, as a man answered just as readily to the call of the nation, in which he learned to hear the voice of God.

Let us consider some of his notable deeds. While still a boy, and much against his will, he declared the judgment of God upon the house of the old priest Eli, who had allowed his sons to commit gross abuses and crimes at the Sanctuary, and to bring the worship of the Sanctuary into contempt (I Sam. 3). In later years he endeavored to unite all the people of the widely scattered independent tribes of Israel in the pure worship of Jehovah, to the exclusion of all false gods and of all idolatry. For this purpose he called to Mizpeh, and again to Ramah, a first, second, and possibly a third assembly of representative men of the tribes for counsel and for prayer. He believed that a unity of spirit, and especially the unity of a common worship, would be more effective and permanent than a military or political organization. His own commanding personality, and the great influence of his name and of his blameless character, were strong forces making for union. Then came the startling and disquieting demand that he find a king to lead Israel's armies. He had thought they needed no king but Jehovah only (chaps. 7-8).

When the king was chosen and the attempt was made to begin kingly rule, Samuel did two very important things. He chose and set apart the

paper caps also serves little has been