

Danger Lights From Little Europe

Garden-Wall Quarrel That Might Involve Millions of English Lives

By James Maynard

The Soviet's Note to Poland with respect to Lithuania's aspirations lends interest to this article by Mr. James Maynard, who is one of our foremost authorities on Lithuania.

Once upon a time there was a Lithuania which extended from the Baltic to the Black Sea. Chaucer, in his "Canterbury Tales," sends a brave English knight to visit it, and its rulers are said to have signed a commercial treaty with England in the fourteenth century.

Later, when Russia rose, Lithuania fell into decadence, and was removed, like Poland, and at the same time as Poland, from the map. The partition of Poland was also a partition of Lithuania. Most of it went to Russia; a small fraction to Prussia; but neither Russia nor Prussia absorbed its portion.

The war, of course, a much diminished Lithuania. The extension of its boundaries towards the Black Sea never had any ethical warrant. Its proper place is in the North, with an outlet to the sea at Memel. According to the Russo-Lithuanian Peace Treaty, signed on July 12, 1920, it had an area of 32,999 square miles and a population of 4,399,999.

The war, as a glance at the map will show, found the Lithuanians between the hammer-and-anvil, and engaged them in a conflict in which they would much have preferred to remain neutral.

During their retreat the Russians destroyed everything which they were unable to remove. Villages and farms were given to the flames; machinery and implements were carried off, and unspeakable miseries began for the inhabitants of these desolated areas.

"When in accordance with the inhuman Russian policy, thousands of Lithuanian adults had to be broken up, the entire families were broken up. The peasants first sought refuge in the towns, but were moved on farther by the Russian soldiery.

The latter were active from the first. As early as October, 1914, the Lithuanians in the United States called a national congress, which met at Chicago and declared itself in favor of the reorganization of the Lithuanian State in conformity with the principle of self-determination.

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—such are the demands of the Lithuanians of all parties.

They were not destined to obtain what they regarded as "the entire national territory"; but they did obtain their independence during the war, and have since kept it. In the midst of the War—towards the end of 1917—they elected a National Council. This National Council proclaimed the independence of Lithuania. The Germans, who were beginning to want friends badly, announced themselves as "liberators," and gave them de jure recognition.

Even so, however, it has not enjoyed the happy state of a country which has no history. Its relations with both Poland and Russia have been stormy. It has been engaged in hostilities with both countries. It is still nominally at war with Poland, though years have passed since there was any fighting.

Still, in spite of these troubles, passed lightly over here because they belong to current controversial politics, Lithuania has done, and is doing, well, and may reasonably hope to do better.

Her staple crops are rye, wheat, barley, oats, peas, potatoes and flax. After agriculture, her most important source of national wealth is timber, of which the principal species are pine, oak, fir, birch, maple and lime.

Her amber industry is also important, for the Baltic coast is the only area in the world where the collecting and manufacture of amber is carried on on a sufficiently large scale to be spoken of as an industry.

Nor are the arts ignored. Some of the artists have a European reputation.—T. P.'s Weekly.

Experts have been busy showing us how much money we waste in a year. Starting with cigarettes, they tell us that out of a population of forty millions, at least ten million men and women smoke on an average ten cigarettes a day, and waste not less than one-fifth of each cigarette.

The habit of putting salt on the side of the plate instead of sprinkling it on food means that one spoonful in two is wasted. As practically all the inhabitants of the British Isles use table salt there is a yearly loss of 50,000 tons, worth £3,000,000.

Waste in matches is amazing. Quite three-quarters of the wood used in the manufacture remains unburnt. Assuming that no more than ten million people each use two boxes a week, approximately 1,000 tons are scrapped every year.

Amateur photographers throw away used hypo containing silver. One picture-making firm saves £375 a week on waste hypo. What must be the amount wasted in hundreds of dark rooms in Britain every year?



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Strange Custom in Rumania



FUNERAL CORTEGE OF LATE PREMIER BORATIENU Buried on his own estate, the casket was drawn on a cart by six oxen led by old retainers.

BRIDE OF 63 CONFESSES

I Asked Him to Marry Me! For I Fell in Love With My Boy Husband—Sister of the Ex-Kaiser, Who Recently Married a Russian Many Years Her Junior, Gave this Exclusive Article at a Special Interview in the Palace at Bonn to London Tit-Bits

Should sixty marry twenty-six? Should ninety marry nineteen? Can parties of such widely different ages really love each other? Are such marriages immoral? All these questions have been put to me since it was announced to the world that I, a woman of sixty-one, was engaged to marry a young man many years younger than myself.

But I contend that love is no respecter of age and that the fire of true love can burn as clearly and as purely in the heart of a woman—or a man—at the age of eighty or eighty-eight!

He would be unhappy without me. Children may be a blessing to marital happiness, but they are not essential, and because the two contracting parties do not—or cannot—increase the human race is no reason why they should not marry.

There can be no wrong present where true love rides paramount, and I submit that if I had refused to marry the man I love because I am so much older than he, then I should not have been doing him a kindness, but a wrong—for I know that his love for me is such that the rest of his life would be barren and unhappy without me by his side.

Love Knows No Locksmiths. In conclusion, I would exhort all those who are denying themselves happiness because of the age bar to marriage to take courage into both hands and stand before an altar and not to have happiness stolen from them by public opinion.

Old Age is No Bar. I am quite in agreement that youth should marry youth—that it is, perhaps, better—but I am not prepared to admit that old age is a bar to marriage or real love.

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The Art of Keeping a Diary

All the Mental Faculties Depend on it

Memory is the faculty possessed by the mind of preserving what has once been present in consciousness so that it may again be recalled. Thus it consists of both retention and recollection, retention representing the power of storing up for future use, and recollection the power of bringing back into consciousness.

Often impressions are received by the various senses, sight, hearing, smell and taste, without our being conscious of them; for this reason ideas are sometimes believed to be original when they are not really so, and on this basis may be explained some cases of involuntary plagiarism.

No idea that has ever been in the mind can be entirely forgotten. In abnormal states, such as fever and delirium, memories are revived which have not risen into actual consciousness for many years.

Progress Without Memory. Of all the faculties possessed by man memory is the most vital to improvement and progress. The way of experience is the one way through life; without experience there can be no progress, and without memory experience is of no use.

All the mental faculties depend upon memory. Neither sensation nor voluntary movement could exist without the guidance of former recollections; we cannot voluntarily perform any action unless we know beforehand what we are going to do, and the knowledge comes only from remembering that we have done it before.

150,000 Words by Memory. The Brahmins of India do not depend upon the written word for imparting their sacred teachings. They learn prodigious quantities by heart; some of them can repeat as many as 150,000 words without hesitation.

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The "Visual" and the "Auditory."

But it is best of all to cultivate the third and highest form of memory, the "imaginative," or "representative." The fortunate individuals who have naturally a large share of this useful faculty of recalling vividly past events, belong to the world of poets, painters, and all creative artists.

Those who find that they remember a page of a book by seeing mentally the shape of the letters should try to hear in their minds the sound of the syllables, while the "auditory" (who are usually good linguists) should try to visualize the printed words.

But, above all, a good memory can be formed by the habit of concentration. Clearness of recollection depends entirely upon clearness of retention, and unless an impression enters the mind firmly and lucidly it will be remembered vaguely and confusedly.

The Will as an Adjunct. It is natural for the mind to fly off at a tangent when it tries to fix itself upon some particular idea, and lack of attention is a habit which grows apace unless corrected. From this point of view the will can be made a valuable adjunct to a good memory.

Repetition is a great aid in memorizing. The more often a thing is repeated the more deeply is it impressed upon the mind, and each repetition means easier execution, greater speed and dexterity. Even when a thing once learnt seems to have been forgotten, it is found that on a second attempt it is mastered much more easily and quickly.

Trusting the memory serves to strengthen it. It is not always a good plan to depend entirely upon voluminous notes, for just as a limb that is never used will waste and become weak and undependable from lack of development.

"If anyone ask me what is the only and great art of memory, I shall say that it is exercise and labor. To learn much by heart, to meditate much and if possible daily, is the most efficacious of all methods."—Ethel Browning.

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The magnitude of the ends you see and serve is the measure of your personality.

Jones, to the tradesman: "How is it if you haven't requested me to pay your account?" Tradesman: "Oh, I never ask a gentleman for money!"

"Indeed, then how do you get on if he does not pay?" "Why, after a certain time I conclude he's not a gentleman, and then I ask him!"

Denicotinized Tobacco

Various methods for eliminating the nicotine from tobacco smoke and from the juice which is apt to form in pipes are described in a lecture by Dr. W. E. Dixon of the Cambridge (Eng.) Pharmacological Laboratory, reported in The British Medical Journal (London). A porous substance, he says, may be put into the stem of the pipe; the space for cooling and condensation may be increased, or some substance which facilitates oxidation may be placed in the bowl of the pipe. These last pipes are called catalytic, and the bowls are lined with some metallic oxide, like that of platinum, in a fine state of division. By passing tobacco smoke over it the nicotine and pyridin derivatives are decomposed. These pipes have not, however, found favor, he reports. He goes on:

"Another method of improving tobacco consists in removing some of its nicotine by means of solvents. These so-called denicotinized tobaccos have 50 per cent. or more of their nicotine removed, and have been regarded, therefore, by physicians as relatively harmless, at all events as far as their nicotine is concerned. Unfortunately this is not the case, because it has been shown that these denicotinized cigars yield in their smoke as much nicotine as was present in the same class of cigar before denicotinization.

"Improved methods of removing the nicotine are, however, now being experimented with abroad. Boxes of cigars and tobaccos in various forms are treated with superheated steam; by this means practically the whole of the nicotine is said to be removed, and the tobacco is left nicotine-free; the nicotine has a ready sale for agricultural purposes. I have had no opportunity, however, of experimenting with these products.

"Tobacco is a substance foreign to the body, and its alkaloid is poisonous. I am not suggesting that tobacco should be guaranteed to contain not more than a specified amount of nicotine, in the same way as spirits are standardized for alcohol; but as tobacco is similar to alcoholic beverages, in that excess of both leads to serious results, the public should have some sort of guidance or protection. It is almost certain, for example, that it is the moistness of the tobacco which is indirectly responsible for many of its most serious effects; that the pyridin derivatives are largely responsible for morning cough, which leads later to chronic bronchitis and cardiac failure. These are conditions which at least are capable of improvement. The Ministry of Health, which has already done much for providing pure foods of a certain standard, will, I hope, before long see in tobacco an important factor in the public health."

Practical Knowledge. The Rt. Hon. T. J. Macnamara, who was at one time a teacher in an elementary school, tells an amusing story of a city-bred young woman who was put in charge of a country school. The class in arithmetic was before her. She said:

"Now, children, if there are ten sheep on one side of a fence and one jumps over, how many sheep will be left?"

"No sheep, teacher," answered a little lass of ten summers.

"Oh, no," cried the city young woman reproachfully. "You are not so stupid as that! Think again. If there were ten sheep on one side of the fence and one sheep jump over, nine sheep would be left. Don't you see that?"

"No! No! No!" persisted the child, "if one sheep jumped over all the others would jump after it. My father keeps sheep."

Convenient—For Wife. Behind the scenes at the London Hippodrome recently a discussion arose as to the relative generosity in money matters of American and English husbands.

Miss Alice Morley, who sings the "Hallelujah" number in Hit the Deck, and who is an American born of English parents, remarked that the average British husband was at least as generous as the average American.

"Of interjected somebody, with an interrogative lift of the eyebrows. Whereupon Miss Morley narrated the following incident in support of her contention.

A lady friend of hers, a matron of some years' standing, was paying her first visit to a young bride.

"My dear," she said, during the course of tea, "what financial arrangements have you made with Charlie? Does he make you a regular allowance, or do you just ask him for money when you require it?"

"Oh—er—both," replied the other naively.

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THE WORST THING ABOUT HER

"What is the worst thing about her?" "That insignificant little Percy Salpp who is always at her side."

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