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should be a "rest" room. Often it's quite the reverse. Memory recalls the old fashioned room reserved for stay-over visitors, which was anything but restful. Cold, draughty, musty-smelling and cheerless, it was usually effective in putting a damper on the visitor's enjoyment. Nowadays in homes heated with a

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PRECAUTION IS NEEDED

WHY MINISTERS HAVE TO BE RE-ELECTED TO HOUSE.

The Present Scurry of Cabinet Members Back to Their Ridings to Have Their Elections Re-affirmed by Their Constituents is an Observance Demanded by Law in Order to Preserve the Independence of Parliament.

Like himself, the majority of Mr. Borden's colleagues in the Cabinet were elected to the House of Commons and now, having taken office, they have been forced to go back to their constituencies and be again elected to the House. Without giving the matter much thought, and especially in this case, when the proclamations announcing the late elections have not yet been pulled from walls and fences to which they were affixed, and when the new Government have so large a majority of the members of the House, it might seem unnecessary and almost frivolous to compel the new Ministers to go back to their constituencies and ask for a renewal of the public confidence so unequivocally expressed so recently.

However, such is the law, and it must be obeyed. And it is a rule, too, that is based on reason, is in the interest of popular government and of the independence of Parliament, was established long ago, and has been approved by the experience of more than two centuries of British Parliamentary history.

A member of the House of Commons is elected for one purpose—to represent the inhabitants of a certain district, known as his constituency, and, usually in Canada a county, or part of a county. He is elected, and foremost, and always the people's man—at least that is what he should be and that is what he is in the eyes of the law. If he is not that he betrays the trust confided to him, but of which he has proved unworthy. He is to go to Parliament and sit in judgment upon the Ministers of the crown; to inquire into their doings, and to censure or approve as he sees fit. He is to reject or sanction measures of taxation, to decide in what manner the funds raised by taxation are to be spent, and to assist in making laws for the good government of the country.

But how can the member be the people's man first and always if he is not absolutely independent of the Government, upon which he is to sit in judgment? If he is in the pay of the Government, if he holds an office under them, or if he is doing work for them or supplying them with goods—for a consideration—his independence is destroyed, his seat is forfeited, and he has also incurred the liability of a heavy pecuniary penalty. He has violated the independence of Parliament.

However, the crown must have Ministers, and under our system of responsible government these Ministers must not only be supported by a majority of the members of the elective branch of Parliament, which, of course, is the House of Commons—possess the confidence of Parliament, it is called—but the Ministers must also hold seats in Parliament, and most of them in the House of Commons. As members of the House they represent the people, but as members of the Government they are both Ministers of the crown and servants of the people; but for their service they are paid salaries out of the public treasury, and they cannot be wholly the people's men when they are serving the crown.

And so an exception had to be made to the rules respecting the independence of Parliament in favor of members of Parliament and who also become members of the Government. The members of Parliament called to the Government, but these members only, are allowed to sit in the House and at the same time fill positions "of emolument under the crown"—the positions being those of the responsible heads of the Departments of the public service.

A member of the House of Commons having become a Minister, has ceased to be entirely the people's man and he must return to his constituency and by means of an election give the people, whom he was chosen to represent, an opportunity of saying whether they are willing or not that he should continue to represent them while, at the same time, he is a Minister of the crown. And so a member of the House of Commons, upon becoming a Cabinet Minister, must be re-elected to the House.

In the old Legislatures of Canada there was no such thing as "the independence of Parliament" in the modern acceptance of the term. For many years judges and other public officers were allowed to sit in both Houses. In referring to the large number of placemen in the old House of Assembly of Lower Canada, the historian, Garnier, says that "the elections of 1830 returned as members of the Assembly ten Government placemen (one-fifth of the entire membership), namely four executive councillors, three judges, and three other state officials."

However, some steps towards reform were taken, and judges were prevented from sitting in the legislative Assemblies of Upper and Lower Canada, but all attempts to prevent them sitting in the Legislative Councils ended in failure. Legislation was also passed providing for a member of the House of Assembly vacating his seat in case of his acceptance of certain offices, but such appointment was not a bar to his re-election. "Here," says Bourinot in his Parliamentary Procedure, "we see the first step taken to require members of the Executive Council (the Cabinet), to vacate their seats and seek re-election at the hands of the people."

Compliance with the law, which is a copy of the much earlier law of Great Britain, compels Mr. Borden and such of his Ministers as have been returned to the House of Commons, to seek re-election.

There is little trouble in the household where equal rights prevail. The trouble with strenuous people is that they nearly always make good. The average man is a good judge of human nature—except in his own case.

EARL GREY AND RACING.

Last Governor-General Was a Great Patron of the T. F.

His Royal Highness and His Excellency the Duke of Connaught is known to be one of the most popular of Governor-Generals Canada has ever had, but uncle to the King as he is, he will yet have a hard time getting ahead of his predecessor in the hearts of the people of Canada. Prior to coming to this country, Earl Grey was not especially known as an admirer of horse-racing, but once installed in Rideau Hall he lost little time in letting it be known that properly conducted the sport had his sympathies. He cheerfully accepted the invitation to come to the country, Earl Grey, to attend the spring meeting in his first year, when he also attended and formally opened the horse show. Except when he has been afar off he has attended not only every race-meeting in Toronto, but he has also several times attended the Blue Bird meet at the Montreal Jockey Club.

Nor did His ex-Excellency stop at lending his presence, both in state and in private; he interested himself in securing cups for the promotion of the sport. It was through the kind and personal interest of Earl Grey that the O. J. C. secured both the beautiful and massive Durham Cup and the exceedingly pretty Rothschild Cup, raced for the first time this year at the fall meeting and won by W. Walker's five-year-old Michael Angelo. It was also through his lordship that the Montreal Jockey Club obtained the Derby Cup. His late Excellency was dining with Earl Grey in London when he mentioned his interest in Canadian horse-racing and suggested that perhaps the best of the stately family might like to present a cup to be raced for. Going to the stable board, Earl Grey took up an ornate gold cup won a hundred years ago by his great-grandfather and saying, "How would this do," gave it to Earl Grey. Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, on a suggestion from Earl Grey, said he would like to send some horses to Canada to race, but unfortunately sickness had possession of his stable and he had nothing fit to make the voyage. In lieu thereof he presented the cup that bears his name and that is a particularly handsome trophy of his own period.

These three cups are what is known as challenge cups. So, too, is the Hendrie Memorial Cup, which Col. William bought at Christie, Mauston's in England and gave to the O. J. C. in honor of his father, for years president of the O. J. C., and one of the noblest sportsmen any country has ever known. What with the Stanley Barracks, the Seagram, the Queen's Hotel, which has been won out and renewed, the O. J. C., the Liverpool, originally given by Mr. Thompson of Liverpool, but won out and renewed by the club, the King Edward Hotel, also won out and renewed by the hotel, and the trophies previously referred to, the O. J. C. is becoming particularly rich in plate. The O. J. C. Cup is renewed yearly, while the Toronto Cup, the most valuable race of the spring meeting, is only a name. Replicas in silver are given to each winner of the challenge cups and in addition a piece of plate goes with the King's Plate. So that local silver and goldsmiths make something out of racing like a great many other of their fellow-citizens—Pop, in Toronto Sunday World.

Reindeer Carriers.

A rather peculiar cargo arrived in Edmonton the other day when the Canadian Northern train arrived in from the east. This was a shipment of forty-three Newfoundland reindeer. Let no unopinionated easterner think that this shipment was the nucleus of a zoological museum for Edmonton. The reindeer were not in the north for educational or ornamental purposes, nor to be shot by gamblers in the city which has made fur fly.

The Government is bringing them to the great Mackenzie land as substitutes for northern dogs, which have hitherto been used as carriers in the north. In the trail, the trail man and his husky dogs, these all northern writers, passing from our frontier life? The trapper behind the fleet limbs of a reindeer speeding through the wilderness would indeed be picturesque. It would be romantic, too, for are not the steeds of Santa Claus, the only fairy prince left to us moderns, reindeer?

The Government purposes stocking the north country with these reindeer because it is felt that they are better adapted to northern conditions than dogs.

An Experiment in St. John.

The Board of Trade in St. John, N.B., believes in Lady Nicotine as a method of stimulating the interest of members in the board's business. There are four hundred men who comprise the St. John Board of Trade. That is a large assembly to get together at the regular meetings.

Because many members are absent at roll call, it is thought that a new scheme of turning the monthly meetings into smokers with a prominent feature being the smoking Board on some live or commercial subject, will be effective in increasing the working capacity of the Board.

A Big Fish.

Something unusual was experienced at Thorold, Ont., recently, when William Rockwell and other employees of the Dev. Fish Mill caught a strange fish weighing 118 pounds. He had to get a fellow-employee to help pull the fish to shore. The fish measured six feet nine inches and put up a wonderful fight before being finally subdued. It is supposed the sturgeon was taken from the eastern shore of Lake Erie, entering the raceway at its mouth, a short distance above the mill.

Gold Production of Yukon.

Gold production of the Yukon district in 1910 was about \$4,000,000 or about \$250,000 in excess of the output in 1910, according to E. E. Stockton of the Auditor-General's Department at Ottawa, who has returned from Dawson. Mr. Stockton looks for a slow but steady increase of gold production in the Yukon.

BALKING THE SPY.

Lord Haldane Frames a Law For Britain's Protection.

Lord Haldane of Cloan is a man of many activities, and his latest work is that of spy-taker. In other words his lordship has drafted a bill designed to enable us more effectively to put salt on the spy's tail than has hitherto been possible.

It is called the "Official Secrets Bill," and its subtitle is "an Act to re-enact the Official Secrets Act, 1889, with Amendments."

It is under the old 1889 Act that the alleged German Spies is now awaiting trial.

Perhaps the most important provision in the bill is that which declares that it is necessary in order to obtain a conviction to prove any actual act of spying against an accused person.

The general principle of English law is that to be found guilty a specific act or offence must be alleged against the accused and he must be proved guilty of this particular act or offence. Hitherto spies may have been known to the authorities as such, but the difficulty has been the necessity of proving in actual act of espionage against them. Lord Haldane proposes to alter this.

Section 2, clause 1, of the bill reads as follows: "On a prosecution under this section it shall not be necessary to show that the accused person was guilty of any particular act tending to show a purpose prejudicial to the safety or interests of the state, and notwithstanding that no such act is proved against him, he may be convicted if, from the circumstances of the case, or his conduct, it appears that his purpose was prejudicial to the safety or interests of the state."

The same clause further provides that if an unauthorized person obtains possession of an official secret it is not necessary to prove that he intended to use it against the state. It is assumed that his purpose was evil. An alleged spy, therefore, may be convicted on suspicion, and if convicted he is liable to from three to seven years' penal servitude.

A person knowingly receiving an official secret is liable to two years' imprisonment with or without hard labor and with or without the addition of a fine.

What is an "official secret"? Roughly it is information relating to a "prohibited place" or the contents of a "prohibited place," the definition of which fills nearly a page of the bill.

Works of a naval or military nature are obviously "prohibited places," but the term also includes railways, gas, water and electricity works.

General offices, telegraph stations, factories, roads, and channels are "prohibited places." In fact, about the only things not mentioned in the definition are aeroplanes and aeroplane sheds. But then it is well known that the War Office does not greatly believe in the practicability or possibility of aviation.

A clause in the bill which will make the spy "sit up" is that which dispenses with the necessity for a search warrant when it is proposed to enter a suspected spy's house.

The bill authorizes a superintendent of police in urgent cases to arm any constable with a written order, which gives him the same powers as if he had the warrant of a justice.

Hitherto a foreign spy detailed for duty in England has heaved a sigh of relief and congratulated himself on a soft job.

This for two reasons—first, the slack way in which English official secrets were guarded; and next, the difficulty under the existing law of laying him by the heels.

Now assuming that Lord Haldane's bill becomes law, the foreign spy may not feel so cheerful when ordered to Britain's shores.

Provided, that is, that the authorities take steps to guard our secrets much more efficiently than has hitherto been the case.

Love-Making at 5 A.M.

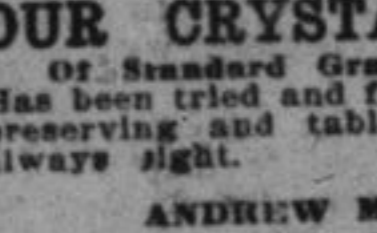
A remarkable charge was brought at a London Police Court by Miss Ethel Merriman, of Cowley road, Wansted, against Henry William Hinder, aged 45, an engineer living at Brian road, South Bermondsey.



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Beaver Flour. makes more bread to the barrel than any other flour on the market—bread that takes up water readily, "stands up" well in the oven, looks well, tastes well and is light and nutritious. Being a carefully prepared blend of Manitoba Spring wheat and Ontario Fall wheat, Beaver Flour is also an ideal pastry flour, making the most delicious cakes, pies and biscuits. Keeping two flours—one for bread and one for pastry—involves unnecessary expense and bother. Beaver Flour is best for both. Ask your grocer for it. DEALERS—Write for prices on all Flours, Coarse Grains and Cereals. 116 THE T. B. TAYLOR CO., LIMITED, CHATRAM, Ont.

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