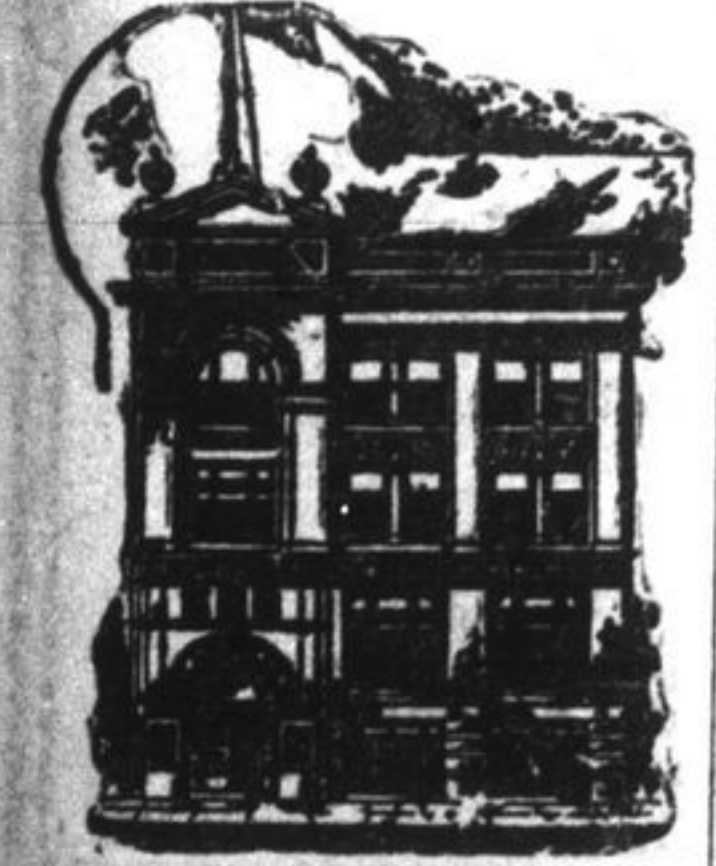


THE BRITISH WHIG 62ND YEAR.



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Another thing that is against the law is the public.

A pessimist is an optimist who thought too much.

You can't get on your feet by keeping them on the desk.

Some stenographers can't spell much better than their bosses.

Our guess is that one of the first words Eve learned was "mine."

A cynic is just a sentimental optimist who expected too much.

Christianity is easy to understand unless theology is offered in explanation.

Words mean little. Very little of the plumbing you see actually is plumb.

It might be worse. Fluctuations in food prices never seem to affect hot dogs.

Crime doubtless seems horrible even to the criminal after his liquor dies out.

Driving in a great city is dangerous. Some steel worker may dent your top.

Fable: Once there was a man whose cheque stubs agreed with the bank balance.

The communists are losing ground in Bulgaria. They are seven assassinations behind.

Another of our troubles is inability to stay excited until the spell of virtue gets results.

The astonishing thing is that France should have so much cabinet material available.

It is estimated that it costs about \$5,000 to educate a boy, not counting the lawyers' fees.

The trouble is that men do not try to save civilization for one another but from one another.

Well, the government merchant marine is typically Canadian. It is living beyond its income.

They say that Sweden has no snappers. That isn't so bad. She has other beautiful scenery.

Man in Europe claims he is 151 years old. We claim that his clock is about sixty years fast.

A nice thing about getting married in June is the blissful ignorance concerning the price of coal.

It is estimated that there is enough oil in the earth yet to corrupt 5,875 public officials.

Correct this sentence: "Let's not picnic here," said he, "until we ask permission up at that house."

We can't help wondering whether the dead civilizations got their war debts paid up before cashing in.

BIBLE THOUGHT: KINGDOM IS WITHIN. Neither shall they say, Lo here! or there! for, behold the kingdom of God is within you. Luke 17:21.

GOVERNMENT IN SOUND POSITION.

Looked at from any point of view, the government is in a sound position. They have shown such manifest superiority to the Opposition that the Meighen cohorts never showed to less advantage in the house.

The attack on the administration in the matter of the making up of the public accounts, for instance, was a disastrous farce. The Prime Minister showed by a certificate from a firm of accountants that the balance sheet conformed to those of previous years, and an unparliamentary blow, suggesting dishonesty in separating the railway accounts from the rest of the public finances, was quickly and effectively countered.

While on this matter of the national railways it may be asked who was responsible for having the Grand Trunk Railway system being made a charge upon this country? Who brought into being the National Railway system? The Conservative government determined that it should not be allowed to go into liquidation and the present administration is responsible for carrying on control.

Five eminent historians have been asked, and have answered, the question as to whether or not our civilization will survive. It seems to have been assumed that a historian, with his intimate knowledge of the past, would be able to answer such a question better than anybody else; but the point is debatable, although it is not proposed to debate it here.

The discussion seems to have had its start with the publication of a book by a German named Oswald Spengler, who took rather a gloomy view of the outlook. He maintains it is possible to draw a chart of history and to fix upon this chart, through a study of correspondences or "analogies," the exact place of our own age. Western culture he believes to have been born out of the Dark Ages, around the year 1,000 A.D.; to have reached its zenith about the end of the seventeenth century, with Descartes, Newton, Bach, Leibnitz and the state system of Louis XIV; to have entered Indian Summer in the eighteenth century and to have begun the ultimate downward arc of its eclipse at the beginning of the nineteenth century, when, he says, it lost its productive, regenerative power and petrified into mere "civilization" — the external shell of an inwardly dying culture.

Like most German writers, Spengler is both presumptuous and dogmatic. As the result of his speculations, a number of European scholars were asked to answer the following three questions: 1. Is it possible to forecast the future by analogies drawn from the past? 2. Is the destruction of European civilization conceivable? 3. Will the development of science promote or avert such destruction?

This questionnaire was submitted to five of the most prominent historians of Great Britain. They are Dr. Ernest Barker, Principal of King's College, London, and author of numerous books on Greek civilization, English constitutional history and historical philosophy; Sir W. M. Flinders Petrie, Professor in University College, London, a leading Egyptologist; Professor J. Holland Rose of Cambridge, the great historian of Napoleonic times; G. M. Trevelyan, of Oxford, celebrated historiographer of the Italian risorgimento and author of works on nineteenth century English history, and Professor Alfred E. Zimmern, author of "The Greek Commonwealth" and of a series of books on contemporary history, well known in America as a lecturer. The latter was

NATURE LORE

at a time on the Faculty of Cornell University. It would perhaps be interesting if the replies of these questions could be given; but that would mean much more space than is available. It must suffice to say that they are all qualified and non-committal. The "if" looms large in them. They are unanimous as to but one thing, namely, that the greatest danger menacing our civilization is the abuse of the achievements of science. Mastery of the forces of nature has endowed men of the twentieth century with

Some of the more striking observations by these critics must be reserved for another occasion. It might be said, however, that they identify the growing materialism of our time as a serious factor in the problem. As men wielding large influences in national life have lost the spiritual vision, civilizations of the past have tottered and fallen. Whether or not such a condition could develop in our time, sufficient in force to threaten the social structure, is a matter as to which there is room for two opinions. Since, however, all ancient civilizations rested on a foundation much narrower than ours, it is doubtful if analogy is apt. At the moment, judged by the test of human service, we are advancing rather than receding in all that makes for social strength and survival; but there are undoubtedly other and very baffling factors in the equation.

THE WORLD'S JEWELS. South Africa has produced diamonds to the amount of 90,000,000 carats since the discovery of the gem there in 1867. All other mines have yielded 23,810,000 carats, so far as expert knowledge goes, and Brazil has accounted for 15,000,000. The diamonds of the world are estimated to be worth \$5,000,000,000, which must be measured against a store of gold valued at \$8,000,000,000. We thus see the place of jewels of that class in the sum total of wealth.

The glove of jewels carries us back into the shadows of antiquity. Gems of various kinds have been found in the oldest tombs. Babylon had its gem market in 4000 B.C., and there were mines in Upper Egypt as far back as records go. The centres of the trade have at various periods been in Babylon, Alexandria, Athens, Constantinople, Augsburg, London, Paris and New York. All countries and all peoples have had their jewels and jewel markets. It would almost seem that men and women have always had rubies, emeralds, sapphires, pearls, opals, diamonds and other gems.

It was Cecil Rhodes, that great Englishman and dreamer of empire, who organized the vast diamond industry of South Africa and placed it on its present sound basis. The De Beers Company has paid, since its inception thirty-three years ago, dividends of \$254,320,163 on its capital stock of \$21,899,260. Nevertheless, it is said by competent judges that gem mining is more precarious and generally less profitable than metal mining.

We have borrowed our use of gems from the Orientals, and there is certain incongruity in our efforts to adapt ourselves to the eastern habit in that regard. They do not fit to our notions of dress as they do to theirs. Thus it was that for centuries the potatoes of India held the largest store of jewels known to exist in the world. But we have taken to diamonds and other brilliant stones as a means of expressing our wealth and advancement in civilization. To-day the United States consumes 50 per cent. more diamonds than all the rest of the world. In 1923 the sales in that country reached the high total of \$460,002,751.

PUBLIC DEBT REDUCED.

It is curious to note what the Opposition offers the country in substitution for the government's method of financing. Sir Henry Drayton, ex-Minister of Finance, urged that they should reduce the sales tax and other levies. Another Conservative member suggested that the income tax should be reduced, while the leader says: "Protection, protection, more protection." His former Finance Minister argued that to the extent of \$700,000,000 goods which are coming in, and which yield a revenue, should be kept out. In the opinion of the Opposition the government should lower the sales tax, the income tax, give up customs duties and still carry on the business of the country, two-thirds of which is in the nature of uncontrollable expenditure; two-thirds of which is in the nature of money which has to be collected by the government, acting more or less as a collecting agency to pay the interest on the public debt. Penalties, bondholders, subsidies to the provinces, and to meet different items over which the government has no control whatever. Let us see what the critics did in their term of office. In two years, 1920-21 and 1921-22 the administration of which Hon. Arthur Meighen was head added \$174,000,000 to the

public debt, but in three years the present government reduced it by \$3,000,000. This is what the ex-Minister of Finance calls "an alarming increase in the public debt." This showing was made in spite of the enormous burden that was left by the government's predecessors in office.

Many obligations were left unfulfilled by them which should not have been incurred, but which, like a founding, were on the doorstep when the Mackenzie King government assumed power to the intense satisfaction of the great majority of the people of the Dominion.

NATURE LORE BY Wallace Havelock Robb

The migration of birds is a bit of a mystery. We used to know practically nothing about it. All we knew was the fact that the birds went south in the winter. But every Spring, when the birds came back, folks would get to talking and being curious and—well, they just have to be answered, that's all, for curiosity never lets go.

Take the swallows, for instance; they arrive from nowhere, at a sudden. Yesterday, we'll say, there was no sign of them, and here they are in the old place. I had an example of this the other day, about the first week in May. I was walking down the main street in Belleville and the Martins had just arrived. They were not there the day before, because I had wondered what was keeping them. Well, there they were, going in and out of the old holes in a store roof edge and all the world like ourselves, when we arrive home after long absence.

The Martins are a branch of the swallow family and are our biggest swallow. They are lovely dark blue birds and are called Purple Martins, but the male bird is a blue black gun metal color, the female a little lighter. They live in groups and are very sociable, going in and out and gurgling, maybe about what a dirty housekeeper Mrs. Sparrow is. Martins know their friends. A very poor man in Montreal struck up a small colony bird house on a wobbly pole and just to show how hard pressed these birds are, for suitable colony houses, they surprised him by taking the house. He did not know there was such a bird in the world and some bird lovers, to whom he had appealed, gave him a real Martin house with spare rooms galore, and the birds took possession at once.

(To be continued daily on this page.)



By James W. Barton, M.D.

Someone has said that as variety is the spice of life, warm weather means nothing in the life of that individual who wears light underwear in the winter time. However the majority of people make the change, and it seems sensible enough when we remember that heat is the factor

In the cool weather we want the heat, and in the warm weather we do not want it. Therefore it is getting your own heat supply regulated that is important. And where does all your heat come from? From only one source, that is your food. Now what I had in mind was that just as we have of heavy underwear, and put on light underwear, to resume the heavy again with the advent of cool weather, thus adjusting yourself to the heat, so it would seem to be just common sense to go into the matter of the actual heat production in your body.

Thus in the cool weather you turn naturally to oatmeal, butter, fats, pork, puddings, and other heat producing foods. If however you continue these into the warm weather, you are going to feel the heat more keenly, and be subject, perhaps to some irritating skin conditions. And so you turn naturally to other cereals than oatmeal, to fruits, and the various vegetables. And about meat? It all depends upon your work. In general it is wise to cut down on the meat in the warm weather, because the majority of people are even less active in warm weather than when it is cool.

However, if you really do get outdoors and play or work in the summer, you can eat meat in safety. In fact, meat, eggs, peas or beans are almost essential when there has been some real use of the body by work or play. And a good general rule would be to cut down your entire food supply ten or fifteen per cent., because the real use of food to most

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Announcement. Our catalogue for 1925-26 is ready for distribution. It gives complete information concerning our courses, tuition, rates, dormitory accommodations, employment for students who are obliged to earn part of their expenses, and opportunities for our graduates. This is the largest professional school of college grade in the world devoted exclusively to training men for the duties of office manager, cost accountant, auditor, comptroller, treasurer, credit man, and public accountant. It requires two years to complete our courses and be ready for a good position with a promising future. Men who have completed the classical, general, technical, or commercial course in a high school are admitted without entrance examinations. The demand in business is for specialists, for men qualified to do some one thing particularly well. Our graduates are in demand because they are equipped with a training which, coupled with business experience, qualifies them ultimately as specialists in the great field of accounting and finance. If you aspire to a successful career in business, fit yourself for something more than a mere clerical position; otherwise, your chances to become an executive are much less favorable. To be Bentley-trained carries prestige in business. Through our placement bureau we have filled more than 600 positions during the past two years. Send for catalogue. The Bentley School of Accounting and Finance 921 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass.

Canada's Story Day by Day. June 1st. Many times at the beginning of the war of 1812 single British ships met in fight by American vessels, had to strike their flags to the latter which were better equipped and better manned. It is not surprising therefore that there was wild rejoicing amongst the British over the victory on this day, June 1st, one hundred and twelve years ago, of the Shannon in its duel with the Chesapeake. The English commander, Broke, sighting the Chesapeake in Boston Harbor, challenged its captain, Lawrence, to come out and fight. He put out to meet his adversary and there was a short, terrible battle, six leagues east of Boston light. The loss of life on both sides was very heavy. Mortally wounded, Captain Lawrence was carried below, crying, "Don't give up the ship." Broke was wounded also and his first Lieutenant was killed, thus it fell to his very youthful second officer, Provo Wallis, to take the Shannon and her prize to Halifax. Owing to fog, the voyage lasted six days and the anxious Lieutenant was almost incessantly on duty. Wallis lived to be a great age and became Admiral of the Fleet.

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