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SEVENTH YEAR



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Gay life, 1890: A sweetie in every port; 1925, port in every sweetie.

The first man who really lived was the one who invented fried chicken.

You can tell when you are on the wrong road. You miss the smell of hot dogs.

Canadianism: Starting across a railway track; winding up across Jordan.

They won't find anything at the North Pole, except, possibly, a new cause belli.

The Irish question isn't as big as it was. It no longer sticks out beyond Ireland.

Vacation: A period during which people go away from home to wear sport clothes.

It might help some if nations would be frank enough to publish their peace aims.

Correct this sentence: "I'll fight anybody," said the champion. "winner take all."

All of us have mortal feelings. They say that Nural is running behind expenses.

Dear old Gannaque! Where else can you see a wad of gum on a fiver's instrument board?

Another aid to longevity is the possession of relatives who are waiting eagerly to inherit.

Everybody should cultivate individualism, but never at an intersection of busy streets.

A man named Smith might succeed as a composer if he would change it to Smithowsky.

Learn to concentrate and then your work won't suffer even when the home team is losing.

Moderatists are not trying to forsake all of the old things. They use the same old collection plate.

There is a bright side. We hear too much about prohibition, but we hear less about sweet Adeline.

Eventually booze ships will be cleaned out, and then home shiners will have no competition.

Fable: "I am poor and friendless," said the man. "I am sorry," said the judge. "case dismissed."

A village is a place where people debate whether he really loves her as well as he did his first wife.

Justice isn't cheated. The rich killer keeps his case dragging in court, but meanwhile old age gets him.

"I'll be his pal," said the wife. "Goah, I wish she wouldn't stick around all the time," said the husband.

And so the great man didn't impress you much. Well, does a twin-str extend itself to keep pace with a one-horse wagon?

BIBLE THOUGHT
I SHALL NOT WANT:
The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.—Psalm 23:1, 6.

THE SASKATCHEWAN SWEET.

The result of the Saskatchewan elections on Tuesday shows that the Liberals control the Middle West and that the high protection policy of the Conservatives finds no favor with the farmers of the prairie. Out of a total of 53 ridings the Liberals were successful in 51, and will no doubt win the two deferred elections, giving them 53 seats in all. All the candidates the Conservatives could elect numbered the Tory leader and two followers. The Progressives will have five members in the new legislature. It would appear that the tendency in the west is to get back to Liberalism, for it is only by Liberal policies that the farmers of Canada have prospered. The Conservative party never helped the farmer. Canadian history since Confederation shows that, and the vote in the House of Commons on Tuesday night when the Meighen resolution advocating a high protection policy was defeated by the overwhelming majority of 110 was conclusive evidence. As Premier King says, the result of the Saskatchewan elections may well be regarded as prophetic of what will happen when that province later on pronounces on federal issues. Its pronouncement will surely be emphatic in favor of the Liberal rather than the Conservative policies.

STABILITY IN TRADE.

The Financial Post is authority for the view that we have reached a state of relative stability in the matter of prices. If that judgment is sustained by the course of events, it will be a happy ending to rather a long period of uncertainty; and uncertainty is always an exceedingly adverse factor in the trade situation. It is perhaps unreasonable to look for the persistence of \$2 wheat, or even \$1.90 wheat; but all competent authorities on the subject are agreed that low levels are improvable for an indefinite period. That will mean much to Canadian commerce in general; for our agricultural interests are basic.

There is a more or less general expectation that fair prices for farm products will have a favorable effect on all branches of trade; and that is a sound view to take. The improved purchasing power of the farmers is fundamental, and back of that is the psychological influence of comparative prosperity. Since 1920 the rural communities have been depressed, both financially and mentally. That state of discouragement was reflected in practically all channels of commerce. It spread to the political field, and led to ugly, even if silly and meaningless, talk about secession. It would therefore be a very happy thing indeed if the betterment in market values which has taken place, and which seems likely to endure, should be the one thing useful to restore universal confidence and cheerfulness.

The Post evidently takes an optimistic view as to the outlook. Summing up a review of all the factors in the trade situation it says:

"Retail and wholesale business has not changed materially although the volume of sales is reported to be very satisfactory in certain trades. The increase in grain and livestock prices is having a beneficial effect on Western business, and collections there continue to improve. Sales programmes are being pushed with greater than ordinary effort through instalment sales and other methods. For the most part, the crop outlook in the West is excellent. Moisture is abundant in most sections, and the outlook for a large fruit crop is favorable."

Of course, the foreign situation comes in as a strong qualifying force. Our foreign trade is very important. But, happily, prospects in Europe are steadily growing brighter. They were very dark until Germany accepted the Dawes plan; and there are still grounds for anxiety in certain directions—France for one. On the whole, however, steady and real progress toward the strengthening of fundamentals is taking place. Great Britain's return to the gold standard is pivotal. It is bound to have a steady effect on all Europe. Therefore, while we should all be immensely heartened by the betterments which have occurred in the domestic realm, we must not take our eyes off the situation abroad.

STRONGLY UNITED PARTY.

Apart from the pleasing nature of the function at which Premier King was banqueted by the Liberal members of the House of Commons last week, the occasion served to emphasize the remarkable unanimity existing in the party, its perfect cohesion and its unique contribution to national unity. The administration has the interests of the country warmly at heart, and while it would be unfair and ungenerous to arrogate to it possession of all the political virtues, yet, composed as it is of men of essential good will, of vision and of zeal for the public service, a great deal has been done in drawing together all sections of the Dominion in a common effort to promote the prosperity of the country. The spirit of concord and modera-

tion shown since the accession of the Liberal party to power has made a great impression throughout the land. A negligible majority has grown to one of useful proportions, as shown in divisions of importance, while victory after victory in by-elections tells an eloquent story of confidence in the principles of Liberalism as expounded by the present government. Problems inseparable from a country of vast area, magnificent natural resources and diversity of interests, have been faced with courage and dealt with skillfully and honestly, apart from sectionalism and favoritism.

The Premier and his colleagues have a much greater task before them than any previous Liberal administration, but some of the material achievements to their credit are reduction in the public debt; improvement in the country's credit abroad; increase in foreign trade, together with a constructive economic policy that has made for industrial and agricultural progress and development.

A STORY OF RASHNESS.

The discovery of a very extensive body of fine coal on lands owned by the Pacific Great Eastern Railway is a matter of vital importance to the Province of British Columbia. Some years ago this railway was constructed, largely on guarantees given by the province. The amount of liability assumed in that way was \$20,140,000. The railway from the start has, however, been a white elephant, and British Columbia was compelled to take it over. It was built in the belief that it would be used by either the Canadian Northern or the Grand Trunk Pacific as the cheapest and easiest way of reaching Vancouver; but neither of these things happened. It is now expected that the discovery of this large and rich body of coal will enable the province to find a purchaser for the railway. If that should be the case, British Columbia will be singularly fortunate, since it will relieve her from the continued payment of heavy interest charges on account of her guarantees.

The case of British Columbia stands out rather conspicuously as an example of rash optimism in the matter of helping railway construction in the West by means of guarantees. She committed herself in that way to the Canadian Northern to the amount of \$40,157,523 and, as has just been said, to \$20,140,000 on account of the Pacific Great Eastern, or \$60,317,523 in all. This was all done with a light heart, and in the confident conviction that it was a harmless performance; but it might have turned out to be an exceedingly grave matter. The other western provinces put themselves in the same box. Here is the complete list of guarantees for which they made themselves liable:

- British Columbia .. \$60,317,523
- Alberta .. 39,633,658
- Saskatchewan .. 38,567,724
- Manitoba .. 26,012,553

When \$7,866,000 is added to the foregoing, on account of the Province of Ontario, we have a total of \$142,531,458. All these roads for which guarantees were given became insolvent, and, if the western provinces had been called upon to make good their obligations, it would have either crippled them very seriously or have ruined them. Certainly British Columbia would have found herself in a trying situation. Alberta and Saskatchewan would probably have been compelled to resort to direct taxation, while Manitoba would have been seriously hampered.

Fortune saved them from the consequences of their folly. The Dominion Government took over the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific in 1916, and has ever since paid all interest charges on account of provincial guarantees; and now British Columbia is cheered by the prospect of finding a way of escape from her commitments with respect to the bankrupt Pacific Great Eastern.

In looking backward on that period of railway expansion, extending from 1897 to 1916, it would seem that men had temporarily parted with their wits. Bonds were unhesitatingly endorsed without any prudent looking ahead as to the possibility of being called upon to pay either interest or principal. To have suggested such a thing during that long wave of blind optimism would have been regarded as unpatriotic. Canada was bound to go ahead in strides, the West was certain to fill up rapidly, and back of all were Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, who were proclaimed as "heaven-born financiers." The retrospect is now a thing of gloom and reproach.

Out of such conditions our present exceedingly grave railway problem was born. To-day it challenges both our sagacity and our capacity to endure. If we were blind then, our eyes are now wide open to the peril which our folly has brought upon us. In the end, as was almost inevitable from the beginning, the Dominion has had to step in and take the burden of the provinces off their shoulders. The boys did the endorsing and "the old man" has to pay. We may well wonder if the boys appreciate this act of parental assistance. At times it scarcely looks as if they did.

NATURE LORE
BY
Wallace Havelock Robb

Did you ever start a barrel rolling down hill? You never can tell just where it will land.

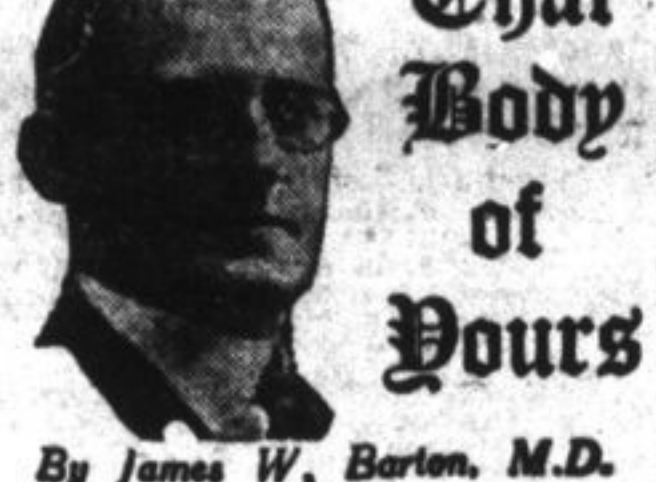
I remember hearing, once, when I was a little lad about a boy who got inside a barrel and rolled down hill, but he made a mistake in adding his own weight, for the barrel only went a little way when empty, but with him in it the thing went crashing across the field and through a woodshed door and knocked over a churn full of buttermilk, and the old woman working the butter was so upset that she made the boy and herself a mess of butter and milk and dirt before he got out of there. Well, birds are about as endless as that.

One woman read in Nature Lore about feeding birds in winter, so she tried some on her own account. She did not think to ask what to put out, but stuck out a lot of peanut butter. Birds don't like experiments, but some of them will try anything once, and an old bird found out what a soft snap it was to winter on peanut butter, so he stayed all winter and let the woman take care of him. Sometimes she would get up in the morning and wonder if he survived the cold and stormy night, but it was all in the game for him. He was all in the game for him. He was all in the game for him. He was all in the game for him.

Then the unexpected storm came. The woman wondered if it had been worth while to feed that bird all winter and he must surely be dead in the storm, for he had departed. But, like the barrel, the story goes on for her. In five minutes he was eating peanut butter. He therefore had the choice of drinking nothing but milk and other liquids, or eating ordinary diet and suffering for it. The other way out was to get a new passage made from the stomach to the intestine. As he was a young man, with many years apparently ahead of him, he allowed the surgeons to make this new passage. Six days after the operation he ate a poached egg on toast, and thenceforth ate regular diet without any distress whatever. You can readily see therefore that any physician would have spent a great deal of time on this case without giving any relief to the patient.

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(To be continued daily on this page)



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Yours

The X-Ray. Perhaps you wonder why your physician asks you to go to the expense of having X-ray pictures taken of a barium meal, as it passes through your body. A picture is taken immediately after taking the meal, five minutes afterwards, then six hours, again in twenty-four, forty-eight, seventy-two hours afterwards, and so forth. Now this costs Twenty to Thirty Dollars or even more, but if your doctor recommends it, you can readily see that he wants to clear up some point that has arisen.

These cases are usually chronic, or long drawn out, and instead of treating you month after month with medicines, he can often get a better knowledge of what is wrong, in just the few days it takes to have the pictures taken.

I spoke once before of a chap who thought he had an ulcer of the stomach. Some of the symptoms pointed that way and others were at a vari-

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ance with the usual symptoms of ulcer. He was drinking a great deal of milk, and had lost no weight. The pictures showed no ulcer as present, but that an ulcer that had healed some time previously, had almost completely closed the opening from the stomach to intestine, and so only milk or very liquid substances could pass through. Ordinary food gave him very severe pain. He therefore had the choice of drinking nothing but milk and other liquids, or eating ordinary diet and suffering for it. The other way out was to get a new passage made from the stomach to the intestine. As he was a young man, with many years apparently ahead of him, he allowed the surgeons to make this new passage. Six days after the operation he ate a poached egg on toast, and thenceforth ate regular diet without any distress whatever. You can readily see therefore that any physician would have spent a great deal of time on this case without giving any relief to the patient.

June 4th.
For many a long year June 4th, the birthday of King George III., whose luckless obstinacy resulted in the loss to the Empire of the Thirteen Colonies, was kept as a holiday by his loyal Canadian subjects. At little Newark in 1793, "His Excellency" the Lieutenant Governor, Simcoe, officially celebrated the occasion by holding "a levee at Navy Hall, under the direction of the Royal artillery, and the guns at the garrison fired a royal salute. In the evening his Excellency gave a ball and elegant supper in the Council Chamber, which was most numerously attended." Amongst the guests were three American Commissioners on their way to a great council to be held with the Western Indians at the Miami River, and one of these, General Lincoln, in his private diary gives this glimpse of the festivity. At the ball were "about twenty well-dressed and handsome ladies and about three times that number of gentlemen. They danced from seven o'clock till eleven when supper was announced and served in very pretty taste. The music and dancing was good, and everything was conducted with propriety."

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