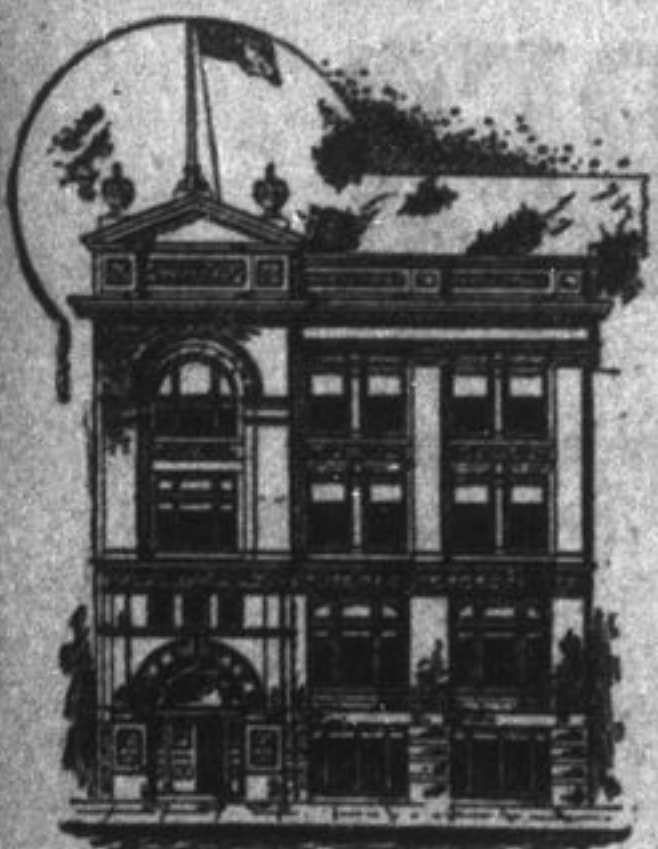


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SHORT-CUT METHOD.

The federal parliament had fire-works at its first session over a resolution, of Hon. Mr. Lapointe, the Liberal House leader, to determine whether the present government enjoyed the confidence of the majority of the members. The Opposition leader set up a great cry, using all the language he could command to denounce the introduction of the resolution. The Governor-General having approved the position of his advisers in deciding to meet parliament, it was the right—the bourned right we should say—thing to bring in the resolution and test the house rather than prolong the debate on the Speech from the Throne and then reach the same conclusion. The short-cut method will surely appeal to the public as a wise move. How the Liberal Government stands with the legislators is the paramount question upon which the people want decision without delay. What the country now needs most—what its business and industrial interests demand—is stable and assured government.

A NATIONAL COAL POLICY.

Canada requires a national coal policy—one capable of producing results, and one which would relieve this country of its servile dependence upon foreign supplies. This truth, which has been urged by far-seeing citizens year after year, is at last beginning to force itself upon the householders and the taxpayers at large, remarks the Montreal Star. The channel of communication is by way of the cheque book and the purse, upon which increasing demands are made. Anthracite coal, expensive at \$15.50 and \$16.50 a ton, will probably cost at least \$20 a ton before spring.

The situation is not without its bright side. There is always the hope that if the people suffer sufficiently from lack of reasonably priced coal supplies they will force an adequate national handling of the problem. Canada possesses ample coal fields in her own right, and in Great Britain has within the Empire an incomparable anthracite coal source.

The demand for a national coal policy is not a new thing. Successive members of parliament have made impressive and patriotic speeches on the subject for years. Occasionally one government or another announces its firm determination to solve the problem, and subsequently, while the people applaud, seemingly forgets all about its promise. This attitude is strongly reminiscent of Mr. Kipling's tale of the monkey folk who were so eager to try new things that they forgot to finish the old.

In the meantime the Canadian people need coal—at a reasonable price. Instead of meeting the need the country has been left largely at the mercy of the American coal operators, and their strikers. It is a situation bordering on the intolerable, and constitutes a disgrace to the Dominion.

COMPULSORY GRADING NEEDED.

Mr. G. E. McIntosh, the Dominion Fruit Commissioner, issued a grave warning to a body of the leading men in the fruit trade of Eastern

BIBLE THOUGHT

I KEEP UNDER MY BODY, and bring it into subjection; lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.—I Cor. 9:27.

Canada when he declared that unless compulsory grading of apples for export is adopted Canada will lose her overseas trade. Canada, with apples that are at least the equal in taste, appearance and flavor of those of any country in the world, is losing trade through her own foolishness in not having compulsory grading. In the United States the packers grade, pack in fine shape and by little methods win out over Canadian exporters.

NEWSPAPER MEN NECESSARY.

The Chicago Daily News has been sold to a newspaper man. The late owner, Mr. Victor Lawson, willed that a trust company run it; it was tried for a few months when it was again demonstrated that a financial institution has no business trying to run a newspaper. The impression is general that so conducted the paper is not free to give expression to untrammelled opinion. Its expressions are almost invariably biased. It would be as unsatisfactory for a newspaper organization to try and run a financial institution.

INDIVIDUAL ACTION.

Washington correspondents say one of the amazing things at the Capitol is the great growth of organizations of the type known as "uplifters." They fill office space and shout loudly of their plans for the salvation of the country. The groups are of various kind, some small and weak, others large and powerful. But all are very helpful to the printers for they issue reams of statements and put up a din that in the aggregate, has a volume like Niagara—only shriller. True they are honest in their purposes, but they can never legislate people into goodness; there must be individual influence, the fee man, the motor man, the salesman, grocer, banker, minister and all the rest must feel the need and practice the virtues of tolerance, kindness, unselfishness. If there is need for more vision, more poetry, more sweet home life, begin developing these virtues individually at home. Little by little the leaven will spread. The people of any nation cannot be transformed from one state into another in quick order. Each person must realize his own feelings and try to overcome them. That is his task, and it is enough. Freedom, truth, beauty, life all lie along this path. Uplifters who seek to do everything by legislation are on the wrong track.

HEALTH HABITS IN 1926.

That eminent and able British M. D., Sir William Arbuthnot Lane, C.B., is president of the New Health Society, recently organized in London for the purpose of making better and happier citizens of the British Isles.

The New Health Society is out to turn the national mind toward physical hygiene, making gradually easy, and even pleasant, the ways of living that are now considered hardships. Dieting is an awful nuisance at first; we feel like martyrs on the rack when we stop eating and drinking the old favorites, love for which is bred in the bone. But persistence brings fine feeling, clear thinking, better living; we enjoy restful sleep which makes hard work a pleasure. In the end we discover that habit is the whole thing.

On the threshold of a brand New Year, this is a splendid thought for Canadians as well as Britons.

TO DEVELOP COPPER.

Valuable deposits of copper have been located in Manitoba. Americans are to control and will develop it. It is stated that there will be an investment of \$24,000,000. It is claimed that within three years' time there will be a city of ten thousand people in the neighborhood of Flin Flon. The development of a great mining industry to the north of the prairie country would mean much not only to the cities, but to the farmers of the west.

AMBASSADOR ON JOURNALISM.

Sir Esme Howard, British Ambassador to the United States, is a firm believer in the power of the press. He was down in Missouri presenting a stone from the Cathedral of St. Paul, London, to be included in a new building of the School of Journalism and in his address said that the power of the press is probably greater today than any power that has ever been. A great writer in the press, whom men follow, can make and unmake governments, can turn the thoughts of man to peace or war, can alter the whole course of policy, and when it is a question of the policy of a nation such as ours, this may well mean the history of the world. There were defects, an inclination to extensive partisan spirit and a lack of impartiality and objectiveness. Too much is made of the twin brothers, pep and punch. "A little pep is a very good thing, like a taste of mustard on a slice of beefsteak, but if you habitually eat your beefsteak covered with mustard you ruin your digestion."

Sid Esme also told the

journalists at the school that there are also two great twin sisters in newspaper life—gush and sloop. These must be avoided. Sympathy with misfortune and pity were good but not misplaced and misguided sympathy. The moral of his sermon, Sir Esme pointed out, was "restrain your natural inclinations to attack those who disagree with you until you are sure that you have studied their point of view and that you understand something of it." A judicial, calm, serene and impartial spirit is necessary if we are not to make gross and often irretrievable blunders. Such a spirit is necessary for that good will which alone can bring real peace on earth. I am inclined to think that over and over again serious crimes would have been averted if such a spirit had prevailed in international dealings."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

In this climate people must work or freeze. This is why the northern lands flourish.

The outlook for 1926 in Canada is decidedly hopeful. Most people are agreed and are acting accordingly.

"Let him whistle for it." used to be a popular colloquialism. Radio fans have revised it to: "Hear him whistle for it."

The Orillia Packet says there are some folks who can't grow a smile without a wart on it. In other words it is quite horry!

Ald C. E. Taylor, city mayor of Shoreditch, Eng. Twenty years ago he was a night scavenger. He had the go in him.

A newspaper in the western states recently suspended publication because the last of its subscribers had quit! Good enough reason.

It cost Brockville \$3,000 for a Provincial audit of the municipality's books, which revealed everything in good order. The doubt was settled but at high cost.

Parliament opened in a blaze of color. The ladies wore their richest and most highly colored gowns, men wore their Christmas ties.

If hard work could only be classified as sport, and competitions arranged thereon, the Guelph Mercury figures, prosperity would be in evidence everywhere.

In the raw instructions for the conduct of libraries in Russia it is provided that "the section on religion must contain solely anti-religious literature."

Dr. Henry F. Vaughan, health commissioner of Detroit, says: "In all our experience we have yet to find a case of smallpox in a person who has been vaccinated within five years."

Tilsonburg tax collector gathered in 99.8 per cent of the taxes on the roll last year and is going to make it 100 per cent in 1926. He should pass the secret on to other municipalities.

Princess Mary recently christened the largest battleship. But the Brantford Examiner suggests that the Prince of Wales still remains the world's most noted cruiser.

The Atchison Globe safely remarks that the road to happiness runs through the home place of tenor than any place, even though you have to bridge for a mortgage.

Field Marshal, Sir William Robertson, England, says his greatest thrill was when he was promoted to corporal from the ranks. This is the experience of many other great soldiers.

Brazil has rubber trees and cheap labor and only needs \$10,000,000 to make it a great rubber industry. The predictions are that the world can absorb all the rubber that can be developed.

Now they're telling a story about an economical Aberdeen man who sent out cards inscribed: "Merry Christmas, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, and Happy New Year the same."

Her majesty the Queen and the Prince of Wales having each accepted a box of Canadian apples, the line may now be revised, says the Hamilton Spectator, to read: "An apple a day keeps the court physician away."

Ottawa is to celebrate its centenary in 1927. Here's that she may have a real good time. In 1820 Nicholas Sparks owned the site of Ottawa and farmed it. In 1926 the people there are still farming, but not on the soil.

The United States in its attempt to mediate the Tacna-Arica row between Chile and Peru, finds itself in a jam that is apt to end with both Peru and Chile hating it ardently and whole-heartedly. The matter may be dropped entirely.

The Regina Leader says Canada wants action, not political speeches,

and if the Liberals will introduce policies along Liberal lines satisfactory to the west the Progressives will support them, for nobody wants another general election just when the country is well started on the road to prosperity.

Le Soliel, Quebec, disputes the statement that the Conservatives in the late election led the Liberal by 200,000 votes. The error made was in crediting Mr. Meighen with the 250,000 votes cast for Mr. Patenaude who appeared in Quebec as an independent. The Liberals, with this error restored, had the majority of votes polled.

The minister of customs squelches an absurd story that the Canadian income tax costs 42 1/2 per cent. to collect. The actual cost is between 2 1/2 and 3 per cent. But apart altogether from the cost of collection, the public is looking for a reduction in this form of taxation, which is duplicated in some provinces by provincial or municipal income taxes.

With an increase of but one bushel per acre on the area planted to wheat last year many millions of dollars of additional revenue would be secured by the growers. Last season nearly twenty-two million acres of wheat were sown. One extra bushel per acre at the present price of around \$1.50 would mean \$33,000,000 more to Canada. Hustle for the increase!

Engineers are still talking of bridging or tunnelling the British channel. The scheme is fascinating to engineers but it will not be practical until war is outside the pale of possibility. A bridge could be destroyed and submarines could put divers on the bed of the channel and a hole soon blown through the wall of the tunnel, the floods rendering it useless.

News and Views.

In A Short Skirt.

Detroit Free Press: The tallest woman in the world, says a dispatch, is Mme. Lendy, of Paris, who is seven feet six inches, in height, and who weighs 300 pounds and who must look like a sight in a short skirt.

"Please."

Ottawa Citizen: Ottawa and Toronto newspapers are debating the matter of politeness to telephone girls. He phoned best who breath best. Rebuts both great and small; In hours of trial call Central blest And she'll complete your call.

A Popular Minister.

Vancouver Province: If Mr. Graham retires, as it is suggested he may, Canada will miss his services and the House of Commons will miss his pleasant and cheery countenance. He has been in the public eye almost constantly since he joined the Laurier ministry in 1907, and for ten years before that, he was a figure in Ontario politics. As a minister, he has shown both capacity and versatility. He has conducted his own department with ability, and, as the handy man of the cabinet, has usually had charge of some other department as well during the absence or illness of its own head. He has been consistently popular both with the members of his own party and with those of the opposite side of the House, and, if he sees fit to withdraw from the government, will carry with him into retirement the good wishes of Liberals, Conservatives and Progressives for a long and happy old age.

Wit and Humor

I Wonder.

Walter: Seems to me common sense would prevent most of our divorces.

Winnie: Maybe. How about the marriages?—Answers.

Scratch.

Tom: Gladys is a perfect picture of health.

Cat: Yes. I think she should be eligible to the Royal Academy as an artist.—Answers.

She Knew Him.

An architect remarked to a lady, known more for beauty than wit, that he had been to see the nave of the new church.

"Don't mention any names," she replied. "I know just whom you mean.—Answers.

To Err—

"Mary," remarked the magistrate, "it appear that you already have been convicted thirty-five times of stealing."

"That's right, your honor. I guess no woman can be perfect."—Tit-Bits.

Through Smiling.

The social worker was visiting a hospital with flowers and cheer. A young man, heavily bandaged, attracted her attention.

"It's too bad," she said. "Just keep on smiling, though, you'll be all right soon."

"I'll never smile again," he declared.

"Nonsense." "I mean it. It's through smiling at another fellow's girl that I got here."—Answers.

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The Quebec Viewpoint. Le Canada contends that the Progressives should at least give their first votes to Premier King. "If all the Progressives vote in the House for the King Government, it will have a majority of ten. In our opinion this is what will happen at the opening, on the vote upon the Address." "The first vote will be one of confidence between Liberals and Conservatives. It would be only logical for the Progressives to align themselves with the former; they are too few in number to form an independent group and they have nothing in common with the Conservatives."

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