

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

BY W. L. GORDON

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Say "he sat silent" if you mean that he was silent, the adjective having reference to the subject. "He sat quietly" (adverb) if reference to the verb.

Rolling at speed

After a week on O

No speed record of wholesome enjoyment outdoors—in friendly alluring woodlands and towns.

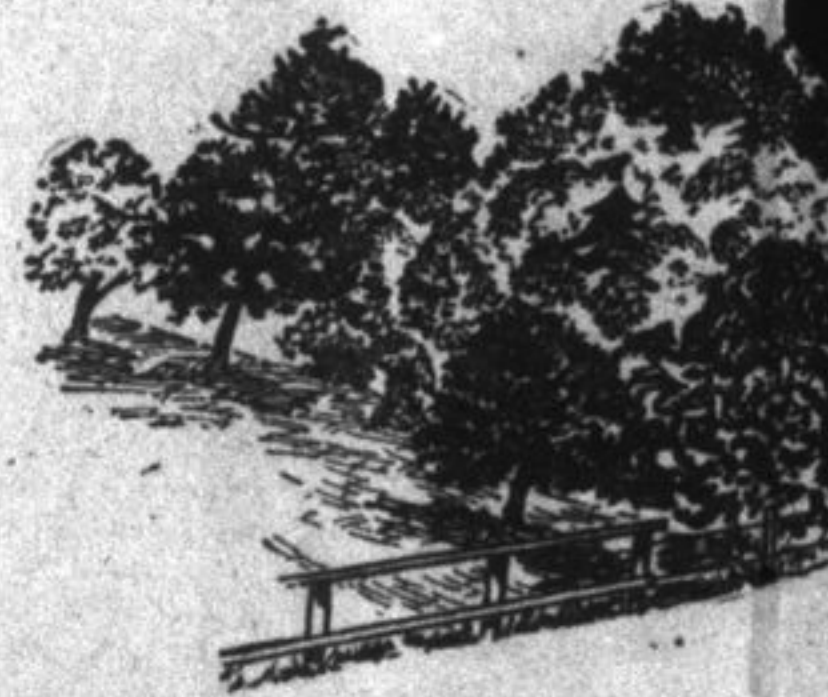
The trip will be not by the speed of the car. With moderate driving, it is enjoyed; every part of the trip is enjoyed.

There is good moderate driving because it enables you to go along. Good business is dangerous and destruction of road maintenance cost of road maintenance is a heavy burden on motorists, you are movement to preserve.

Those who persist will find a numerous traffic whose duty it is to right.

THE HON. GEO. S. HENRY, Minister of Highways

Issued by the Ontario Department to secure the co-operation in abating the abuse of the road.



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EDITORIAL NOTES.

Most of the heat this summer has been at Ottawa.

Let us all smile—and prepare for the next scene.

What a great time we are having; joy and sorrow has been quite mixed.

If we must have an election, how would October do? The people want some holidays.

Friday is sure a day of ill-luck. Premier King got it last Friday; Premier Meighen got his this Friday.

Mr. DeWitt Foster will no doubt claim that Mr. Mackenzie King is at the moment "horse-de-combat."

"What a jolly bunch of boys these Progressives are," exclaims Premier Meighen and his associates. "We never really knew them until this week!"

If there is to be a general election soon, watch our Conservative friends fight shy of the budget, slyly suggests the Toronto Globe.

Custer's force was massacred by Indians fifty years ago last week, in Montana. To-day, where Custer scouted and Sitting Bull planned massacre, fertile farms stretch from horizon to horizon, with here and there a thriving town.

The movement to erect a memorial to Tecumseh is one that should receive the hearty support of every Canadian. Tecumseh was a loyal ally of Britain and it is surprising that a monument to his memory has not been erected long before this.

The Winnipeg Free Press holds that Baron Byng has departed from precedents set by the King in England, and that on this account, the issue raised is likely to go deep into Canada's constitutional development before a final settlement is reached. Baron Byng, the Free Press points out, has done what Governors of colonies have frequently done in the past. But Canada, it holds, is a different position from that of a colony.

News and Views.

Glib Tongues. St. Thomas Times-Journal: Funny how so many women fall for a glib talker. Their natural armor seems to fall from them when a stranger begins spouting grandiloquently. They do not stop to probe beneath the surface. A motto which should leap to the mind of every woman confronted by men of this type is: "Empty vessels make the most noise." Just sound 'em and find out how hollow they are.

Prisoners and Collegians. New York World: Algernon Tassin, Columbia professor of English, says that there is greater eagerness for study in prison than among the college students he has observed. What is there funny about that? Prisoners do not have to take part in or follow the crew, football, baseball, handball, dramatic, debating and other activities of their groups, or get themselves killed in early morning motor accidents in the wider world. Students would be just as much interested in study as prisoners if they had the time for it.

QUEER QUIRKS OF NATURE

Cowbird Parasite Preys on Chippies' Nest. By Arthur N. Pack. This represents a tragedy which occurs all too frequently in the lives of many of our smaller birds. One day when this chipping sparrow mother was absent from her nest, probably before she had laid all her eggs, a brownish-gray cowbird much larger than the chippy laid her white, brown-speckled egg in the new-built home. Doubtless the mother chippy noticed this strange looking egg, and was puzzled, but being good-natured, concluded to make no fuss about it, so the egg was brooded and in due time hatched along with chippy's own. But the youngster from the stranger egg was greedy and grasping and got more than its share of the food that the mother chippy and her mate brought to the brood. And so, being larger and stronger, and wishing all the nest and the food for himself, the young cowbird boosted the sparrow babies out of the nest, one by one. With the rightful family out of the way, the greedy youngster now received all the food which the two small sparrows were able to find for it. Soon it will be fatted and a wing, and still, as long as the deluded parents will consent, it will live by their labors until finally it is turned loose to shift for itself. The season will be late and perhaps the chippies will think it too late for another nesting. Perhaps they will try again with similar result. In some localities cowbirds are so common that nearly every nest of our smaller species will have its cowbird foster child. Think what a host of beautiful and useful songsters are thus destroyed by this feathered pest, too indolent even to raise its own young.

"Such refusal," he said, "is a prerogative of the king that is almost as obsolete as the power to veto an act of parliament. Canada, it is recognized, has a position where the governor-general has no more authority than the king. The positions, in fact, are parallel."

As a reference Mr. Ewart quoted the statement of Sir Robert Borden, in his Canadian constitutional studies, delivered as the Mayfest Lectures, at the University of Toronto in 1921. Sir Robert Borden, speaking of the governor-general's position, said: "In Canada this relation is the same in all essential respects as that of the king in Great Britain. The administration of public affairs is conducted by ministers responsible to parliament and the governor-general acts by their advice."

It is regrettable that just as he is about to leave Canada Lord Byng has allowed himself to be placed in any position where his actions can be criticized. A governor-general should hold himself quite aloof from party strife, and refrain from taking any sides on Canadian questions.

THE COURSE OF LIBERALISM.

There is nothing in the present situation to bring discouragement to Liberal hearts. All honest Liberals will, we feel sure, regret that officials have brought discredit on an important government department, but that is something that might happen to any government. Mr. King made it abundantly clear that as soon as the matter was brought to his attention the government gave the Preventive Association every assistance. For the time being a Liberal Government is out of office, but indication, already assure us that it will not be for long. Thoughtful Canadians know what the government of Mr. Mackenzie King has accomplished since it came into power. They know the chaotic condition that affairs were in in Canada when the King Government took office. They have followed events since that time and they have watched the gradual curtailment of expenditures to the point where Budget deficits became a thing of the past, and surpluses the order of the day. They have seen the Canadian National Railways put on a sound business basis with a capable railway man at the head, and they have seen the taxation burden of the people lightened to a remarkable degree.

The Liberal party of Canada has no reason to feel downhearted. It should feel proud of the accomplishments of five short years, and face the future with heads held high and courage. It will not be long until the electors will again demand a people's government.

POLITICAL HUMBUNG.

There has been an awful lot of humbug written during the last few days. One wonders whether some of these Tory editors can really be serious, or are they so overjoyed with the prospects of getting "back to the cream," to quote one of the faithful of Toronto, that they have allowed their zealotism to run away with their judgment.

We have read a lot about "the worst government in years," about "a government of barter and sale," "the will of the people prevailing," etc. We have read hearty condemnation of the King Government, and we have read of the wonderful Mr. Meighen and the band of honest, upright, altruistic supermen that surrounded him, but we are not impressed.

Who are these men, by whom the Augean stables are to be cleansed? Who are these giants that are going to save the country? Is not the wonderful Mr. Meighen, the same Arthur Meighen that in 1922 was shouting "Ready, aye ready," and in 1925, made the famous "Bid to Bagot," that threw consternation into the ranks of his Toronto followers? Is not this great consistent, and honest and brilliant man who is heralded as "the master of his soul," under whom there will be no compromise, or bargaining the same Mr. Meighen who sat quietly in his seat on Tuesday, January 12th, and allowed Mr. Guthrie to tell the Progressives that if they would vote to put the Conservatives in power they could rest assured that they would occupy the same dominant position in the councils of the House as they did that day? Is this not the same Mr. Meighen who tried to carry on the Union Government as a Conservative Government, long after common decency demanded that an appeal should have been made to the country? Is he not the same Mr. Meighen who was practically ordered to keep out of Quebec by his own lieutenants in the recent general election campaign. Master of his fate, forthwith! Captain of his soul, indeed! Ask Lord Atholstay about that.

And who is Hugh Guthrie? Why, bless your heart, he's the same old Hugh, who went into the Union Government as a Liberal and came out a Tory and who last January was official bidder for Progressive support.

And then there is Sir Henry Drayton, sometimes called Harry for short. Isn't he the same Drayton who journeyed across Canada as head of a Tariff Commission from which great things were expected, but nothing materialized?

And Hon. Robert Rogers, the same old "Bob." The same old "two-and-sixpence," who was familiarly known in the old days as "Minister of Elections. How Bob must chuckle when he reads these Tory editorials about "Master of His Soul" and "No Compromise."

Then there's Hon. R. B. Bennett, another superman, who once referred to his chief as "the megaphone of Mackenzie and Mann." What a happy party! What choice recollections!

And Harry Stevens, too. "Handsome Harry the Hero." The kind of chap one would trust with anything after some of the disclosures regarding the Customs Probe. And then R. S. White, the daredevil, who poured the whiskey down the sewer.

But why go on. Why continue to parade these great statesmen before the public gaze. Still we must mention the noblest Roman of them all, De Witt Foster. How his righteous soul must have revolted at the revelations during the Customs Probe. What an experienced helper he will be to Mr. Meighen in cleaning out the Augean stables. He should really be made Master of the Horse. What great men they all are. What honest, upright, supermen, yearning to save and serve their country, some papers would have us believe them to be. But alas some curious soul, some doubting Thomas, has swept aside their togas, and we are saddened by the discovery that like most of us, they all appear to have feet of clay.

THE RESIGNATION OF MR. FORKE.

The resignation of Mr. Forke leaves the Progressive party at Ottawa without a head. Mr. Forke was appointed chairman of the executive committee and house leader of the Progressives on Nov. 11th, 1922. He succeeded Hon. T. A. Crerar, who it is now rumored will again succeed Mr. Forke.

Robert Forke was born in Berwickshire, Scotland, in 1860 and came to Canada in 1882. Before entering Parliament he was prominent in municipal life, for ten years occupying the position of secretary of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities, of which organization he is now Honorary President.

Mr. Forke's resignation was the result of the refusal of a number of his followers to follow his leadership. The situation became an impossible one for any self-respecting leader. What effect the present situation will have on the future of the Progressive party remains to be seen.

Frank J. D. Barnum has resigned his seat in the Nova Scotia Legislature because he was unable to carry out a pre-election promise. Perhaps Frank will have a little more sympathy with others in the same position after this.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ATTITUDE.

There is a good deal of criticism of Lord Byng being voiced, because of his refusal to grant dissolution to Mr. Mackenzie King. There is no denying the fact that in refusing to accept the advice of his constitutional adviser the Governor-General assumed a very serious responsibility.

Dealing editorially with the matter The Toronto Star says:

The governor-general is not a referee between rival political parties in Canada. He is supposed to have no opinions on Canadian affairs except those supplied him by his constitutional advisers for the time being, the administration at Ottawa. He can accept no advice other than that. The assumption then is that he rejected the advice of his ministers acting on his own interpretation of the will of parliament and the state of the political situation. In doing so he went beyond the bounds of his constitutional function.

The prime minister advised a dissolution of this parliament so that a new one could be elected. The governor-general rejects the advice select a new prime minister, who proceeds to give the same advice. What then? Is it conceivable that a governor-general can upon one occasion accept the advice of one minister and create another, reject the advice of one prime minister and create another to give him the same advice which he then accepts?

It is not to be believed that we are to see anything of the sort. If Mr. Meighen can't do better than ask for the dissolution that Mr. King asked for, it will be evident that the advice tendered by Mr. King was sound and should have been acted upon.

The Star's attitude seems to be backed up by Mr. J. S. Ewart, of Ottawa, internationally accepted as a constitutional authority. Mr. Ewart in the course of an interview expresses himself as surprised at the governor-general's refusal, and expresses doubt as to whether the governor-general "fully appreciated or wholly grasped the constitutional aspects of the situation."

"There is only this point," explained Mr. Ewart, "if the political situation does not require a general election the governor-general might be justified in refusing dissolution. By that I mean that if the governor-general felt assured, definitely assured, that Mr. Meighen can form a government and carry on without defeat in parliament he might be justified in refusing the advice of his minister, Mr. King. But the governor-general would need to feel confident beyond any measure of reasonable doubt and he is assuming a great responsibility, an awful responsibility. Such circumstances of assurance would be his only justification."

Mr. Ewart points out that if Mr. Meighen asks for dissolution, and the governor-general grants it after refusing it to Mr. King, it would be a flagrant violation of constitutional principles.

Mr. Ewart refers to a similar crisis in Tasmania. In the Tasmania crisis, the prime minister, who was dissatisfied with the decision of the governor, presented in parliament a resolution of protest with a clause providing that it be forwarded to the secretary of state for the colonies. The resolution was passed by parliament and forwarded to the secretary, who in a later statement disagreed with the governor's position.

Referring again to the constitution...

BIBLE THOUGHT AS FOR ME, I will behold Thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied when I awake, with Thy likeness.—Psalms 17:15.

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