

THE OTTAWA EVENING CITIZEN

THE EVENING CITIZEN

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RUSSIA AND JAPAN

Soviet Russia has no desire to get into conflict with Imperial Japan at the present time. The Soviet foreign office has rather been endeavoring to promote a mutual treaty of non-aggression. The Russian ambassador to Japan recently visited the Japanese prime minister to see whether the government would consider the desirability of negotiating this proposed treaty. So far, there has been no definite refusal from Japan, although it is understood that Premier Inukai expressed doubt about the necessity for such an agreement.

According to the cable report in the Christian Science Monitor from Tokyo, the prime minister replied that Japan has no intention of making any aggressive move against Russia. The Russian ambassador thought nevertheless that it might calm apprehension about possible rivalries, especially in north Manchuria where Russian troops regard the Chinese Eastern Railway as a vital link in their communications.

Perhaps a definite answer may be given to Soviet Russia at an early date by Japan. In the meanwhile, however, the Japanese military authorities have seen no reason for delay in expressing an opinion. The War Office in Tokyo gave a statement to the press last Saturday pointing out that Moscow would naturally suggest such an agreement since it has made similar accords with numerous other powers. However, in the opinion of the Japanese minister of war, such agreements are useless unless they cover economic and diplomatic affairs and propaganda.

The Japanese general staff feels that Soviet Russia certainly is not in a position to attack Japan, says the Monitor's report from Tokyo, at least until the Soviet industrial plan has been completed. Japan has no reason to invade Soviet territory. Hence a pact is unnecessary. However, in the event that the Soviet wants to discuss a wider agreement, Japan must center its negotiations on propaganda and on economic matters, preventing Communistic propaganda in the Orient, and also the dumping of Russian goods. Military authorities recall Soviet economic and diplomatic aggression in Mongolia, resulting in the virtual annexation of a large part of the Mongol regions, and wonder if Moscow is ready to surrender the Soviet position there.

This delightfully frank statement of the War Office point of view while the government is considering what answer to give to Russia, may help observers to understand the League Council's difficulty in dealing with the situation in the Manchurian provinces. The army in most Western countries is mainly an instrument for the enforcement of policy. In Japan the army has much to say in the determining of policy.

At the present time, the army's policy is leading Japan into an arena of conflict with Soviet Russia. Particularly in the province of Kirin, where the Chinese Eastern Railway runs from Harbin eastward to the Siberian border near Vladivostok, seeds of war are being sown.

It is probably true that Soviet Russia is so concerned with the national task of completing the Five-Year Plan, there is no likelihood of Russian military resistance to Japan's northward advance into territory served by the Chinese Eastern Railway—which is part of the Russian railway system in the Far East.

In later years, when Russian factories have an output capacity to supply the Red Army with munitions, a treaty of non-aggression may appear to be more desirable to Japan. Particularly may this proposed treaty be remembered when the significance of Soviet Russia's interest in the provinces of Western China is more fully appreciated. Russia's next advance into China is far more likely to come from the south through Turkestan, across Sinkiang, along the caravan routes that have been traversed since before the beginning of recorded history.

ON MALNUTRITION

The statement made recently by Ottawa's Public school medical officer that one-third of the children so far examined by him suffer from malnutrition has been noted by the Toronto Star. It says:

Certainly no such percentage of under-nourished children has been found in Toronto schools, and it is questionable whether Ottawa's are very different. In Toronto, in 1927, 22,848 school children were examined and 4.2 per cent of them were found to be handicapped by malnutrition. The ratio has since increased somewhat, and out of 19,634 children examined in the first ten months of 1931, the percentage of undernourished was 5.3.

It will be observed that the Star questions whether Ottawa's children are very different from Toronto's with respect to malnutrition. There are grounds for this doubt.

Why should Ottawa appear to show so alarming a difference in the number of children handicapped by this new "canker," as it has been called. There are no social conditions here that compare unfavorably with conditions in Toronto. The Ottawa public is not less enlightened than the Toronto public, and Ottawa parents are not less concerned with the physical welfare of their children than are Toronto parents.

Yet we are told that 33 out of every hundred Public school children in Ottawa suffer from malnutrition, while in Toronto the number is only 5.

GEN. HUGHES' RETIREMENT

General W. St. Pierre Hughes, whose impending retirement as superintendent of penitentiaries is officially announced, has earned the thanks of Canadians for his fine service as head of the federal prison system. He was the right man in the right place.

It is nearly forty years since General Hughes first entered the country's service as a penitentiaries official. For the last eleven years he has been superintendent of penitentiaries. In that position he demonstrated his aptitude for prison supervision.

The system always followed by General Hughes in his treatment of prison inmates was a humane one which did not overlook the basic importance of discipline. So long as any man in his care behaved himself he was sure of just treatment. He liked to see his men healthy, hopeful and occupied. To ensure health he had most of his penitentiaries remodelled on the best lines. Kingston was internally transformed under his guidance, in order that healthful conditions should be the inmates' lot. He always encouraged his men to learn a trade or otherwise improve themselves against the day of liberation. And he has fought for years, sometimes against odds, for the full employment and payment of prisoners. His reports are successive pleas for reforms that would keep his men gainfully occupied.

He also believed in the segregation of young prisoners. No young prisoner ever asked to see him and was refused. And none ever left an interview with the superintendent without feeling better able to face the future. He took an inordinate interest in the education of his charges, too, and he was never more delighted than when one or more of them passed outside examinations with high marks.

General Hughes has served well in his chosen vocation. He has seen his "population" grow in late years, and sometimes his accommodation has been overtaxed. But a singular fact is that there has been no outbreak of protest in any of the penitentiaries in recent years. There are two reasons for this. One is that discipline was always maintained. The other that the men were never driven to organized demonstrations against conditions. That is a fine tribute to the man who was in supreme command of the prisons.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT INDIA

An opportunity of learning more about conditions in India is being arranged by the Ottawa committee of the National Council of Education. Lectures are to be given during the present winter by representative Indian speakers, as stated in an item on this subject in another column.

Canadian interest in India has been greatly increased since Lord Willingdon went from Canada to be viceroy. There is a genuine desire to see Lord Willingdon succeed. At the same time, the effort to bring India along the path of self-government as far as Canada has advanced should tend to quicken Indian interest in this country.

The National Council of Education is an excellent medium to carry on this movement of education among adults. The Ottawa committee, under the guidance of Arthur Beauchesne, as president, is making a valuable contribution to public enlightenment. The public will doubtless respond to the opportunity of hearing Yusuf Ali, one of India's gifted Mohammedan scholars, when he comes to Ottawa next week.

PLUMBERS

An interesting disclosure in connection with the recount of Board of Control votes now being conducted before Judge Daly is the huge number of plumbers who exist. So far it has been shown that nearly two thousand voters plumped in the last Board of Control election, marking their ballots for one candidate when they were entitled to vote for 4 out of 9. A curious thing is that the vast majority of the plumbers plumped for the newcomers—Sims, Charpentier and McCann.

Plumbers, of course, are voters who mark their ballots for one candidate only when they can vote for two or more. The theory behind plumping, presumably, is that one vote for other candidates is equal to one more for their own favorite. It works that way, too, but it is a poor practice in a democratic community. It seems to reveal an eagerness to get a favored man into office rather than an intelligent approach to the problems of government.

The present system of voting aids the designs of the plumbers. But if the Board of Control was elected according to the rules of proportional representation, the plumper's efforts would be largely wasted. He would simply be divesting himself of part of his power as a voter, because plumping under P. R. means making one choice only when the voter is entitled to as many choices as there are candidates to be selected.

COMMENT

An expert says if women wore woolen hose it would end the depression. Yes, but a woman would rather be depressed than dowdy.

Perhaps if the politicians took to nice thick woolen socks, it might end the attack of cold feet which some of them seem to suffer from.

U.S. senator says that "brains not brown" are necessary for successful farming today. If the Farm Board's efforts represented "brains," then the farmers will vote for brown.

Motorists should show consideration of pedestrians, urges a traffic expert in Montreal. But pedestrians will never show consideration for motorists so long as nine out of every ten horn tools seem to say "Get out of my way!"

Press Paragraphs

EATING IN SHOPS
I am amazed to see that almost every shop in America has a place to eat.—Countess Margit Bethlen.

DAYS, OR DAZE?
The stock market has days of optimism.—H. L. Mencken.

FLAW IN FINANCIAL STRUCTURE
Evening Standard (London)
The financial structure of the world has cracked across and is in such a condition that, were it a house, it would be condemned as unsafe. The expansion of modern business transactions has put on gold an unbearable strain. If there had arrived at this position less catastrophically, with time to adjust ourselves to it. As it is, those business transactions have proved too great to be borne.

The comforting fact is that we need only common sense to extricate ourselves. The war has left the world impoverished only of money. In raw materials, in machinery, in labor, all the elements of production, we are even richer than we were in 1914. Perhaps the new international conference will approach the matter from this point of view.

WAR AND TOBACCO
Any great war has always been followed by an increase in the tobacco habit.—Count Corti.

NINE-POWER TREATY
I am only surprised that the United States did not call the attention of Japan to the Nine-Power Treaty at the commencement of the affair.—Professor Gilbert Murray.

FRENCH ART IN LONDON
Art News (New York)

While New York may be the acknowledged art center of the world when it comes to buying and selling, London's claims to supremacy in exhibiting the world's masterpieces will have to go undisputed so long as shows like the present collection of French art, now on view at Burlington House, keep multiplying. In sequence with the magnificent displays of Dutch, Italian, Byzantine, Persian and Flemish master works that have graced Piccadilly's principal art depot these past few years, this current loan collection of French art is perhaps the year's banner bit of international amity through the agency of art. There is nothing so satisfying, calming and reassuring as a gesture of this sort, especially in the face of the parous times that are spread so copiously over this strange planet of ours.

THE PROBLEM
Either Germany shall be allowed to export, and then she can pay, or if exports are prevented the payment of political debts becomes impossible.—Chancellor Brüning.

MAHOMET AND WINE
London Times

Why did Mahomet forbid his followers the use of wine? One very persuasive reply is given by M. Raymond Brunet in a recently issued guide to "Les Grands Vins de Bordeaux." It says M. Brunet, if in the Koran Mahomet forbade the use of wine, he did it on the advice of a Christian monk, who knew that a religion which forbade wine would have little chance of spreading. History has not proved the monk to be as farsighted as he was ingenious; but after studying this guide, published by the Societe de l' "Annuaire de la Gironde" of Bordeaux, it becomes very easy to wonder whether the followers of the Prophet miss as much as good wine drinkers pity them for missing.

ON NATIONAL CONCEIT

It was impressed upon me that, wherever I went in the world, I always felt that my own country was absolutely "it," and that, in every other country I visited, they all had precisely the same idea. Everyone thinks his country is "it," and every other country is genuinely shocked at the conceit of other people who think so.—Maude Royden.

EUROPE'S PROBLEMS

Europe has her problems, but they are not of the kind to justify any panicky feeling.—Ivar Kreuger.

FROM The Times OF 1832.

January 20, 1832. Price 7d.
We thought we had so fully explained the increase of the Peersage which is to take place, that the most perverse captiousness could unravel no thread of our statement to hang a hope upon. The King then, we will again publish in the most explicit terms, is most anxious to make, and will most undoubtedly make, a sufficient number of new Peers to ensure the success of the Reform Bill in the Upper House. If this fact can be made known in any clearer expressions than those which we have used, we will thank the enemies of the measure to impart them to us, and in those expressions we will repeat our assertion. Why, then, it is asked, are the Peers made? Why should they be made (we reply) before the time? We see many reasons why they should not be prematurely made, but none why they should.

Little Benny's Notebook

After supper pop started to life a cigar and ma said, How about going to a movie tonight, Willyum?
With pleasure, pop said, and ma said, My goodness is the world coming to a millenium? I never knew you to agree to go to a movie with such alacrity.
Maybe Im getting weak minded, pop said.
Him not liking the movies much, and ma said, Well now lets see where well go. Lovely Darling is at the Mawsoleum and Valencia Vallence is at the Narcissus.

It seems like a choice of 2 evils, I mean its 6 of one and half a dozen of the other, pop said, and ma said, The seats at the Mawsoleum are more comfortable and theres more room for your legs, but then the decorations at the Narcissus are so beautiful.

We mite try sitting on the decorations for a change, pop said, and ma said, Lovely Darling is supported by Ronnell Ronnell, that sounds promising, although I hear they hate each other in real life, but they say theres a wonderful part for Baby Dumping in this Valencia Vallence picture, they say its her best part since Mammas Baby Gerl, what do you think, Willyum?

Sure, pop said, and ma said, If I want theyd keep Lovely Darling on for another week I believe thats what Id do, Baby Dumping is so adorable with her little lip. O my lands I just happened to remember, were sippose to go over to the Heawas and play bridge tonite, Id completely forgotten all about it, she said.

I hadent, pop said, and ma said, Well Willyum Potts I mite of known there was something deep dyed about your seeming willingness to go to the movies, well of all things.

Pop liking bridge the least of anything, and ma made him hurry up and get reddy and they went.

Epitaph For a Small Dog

(Pierrot)
Here rests a little dog
Whose feet ran never faster
Than when they took the path
Leading to his master.
—Le Baron Cooke, in New York American.

Letters To the Editor

"ALL THE FACTS" PRESUMABLY

Editor, Citizen: In regard to your editorial of the 18th, entitled "Russian Timber Trade," in which reference is made to a report that Premier Bennett is in communication with the Canadian High Commissioner in London, asking him to ascertain the facts regarding certain British proposals to order timber supplies in Russia. You were evidently not in possession of all of the facts surrounding the enquiry under way in connection with the proposal to import Russian lumber and timber to the United Kingdom or you would not have made the references to the matter which appeared in your editorial. The facts are as follows:

On or about January 13 it was brought to the attention of the Canadian Lumber Industry by its representatives in the Old Country that certain interests, presumably the same people who formed what is known as the Central Softwood Buying Association in the United Kingdom, were negotiating for 1932 supplies of Russian lumber on conditions and terms which would be disastrous to the Canadian Lumber trade with the United Kingdom and further, that these interests in the Old Country were seeking protection from the Imperial government for such purchases. In other words, our information is that these parties in the Old Country who are desirous of bringing in large quantities of Russian lumber, were seeking some form of preferential treatment by the Imperial government.

The Canadian Lumber Industry naturally brought the matter to the attention of the Prime Minister and stated that if the British government had anything to give in the way of a preference on lumber and timber, it should be given on Empire-grown lumber and timber.

Is it a crime to endeavor to protect one's own interests? The importation of Russian lumber as well as lumber from Finland, Sweden and other Baltic countries, has eaten into the Canadian portion of the lumber markets in the United Kingdom to such an extent that our markets in the Old Country today are almost negligible in comparison with what they were a few years ago.

One might imagine that a newspaper published in the city of Ottawa and having a considerable circulation in the Ottawa Valley, the home of the White Pine industry of Canada, might use a little more care in ascertaining facts before publishing such matter as was contained in your editorial. A great many of the people employed in the lumber industry in and around the city of Ottawa, and including the Ottawa Valley generally, are probably subscribers to and readers of The Citizen, spend their money in Ottawa and the surrounding country, and the merchants of these towns, or any rate the merchants of the city of Ottawa advertise quite extensively in The Citizen. While it is a fact that the number of men employed in the lumbering operations in Eastern Canada this year is considerably less than it has been for some time, is this not another reason for putting forth every effort to stimulate the consumption of Canadian lumber in the markets of the United Kingdom and thereby enable us to give more employment to our own people? — R. L. SARGANT, Secretary, Canadian Lumbermen's Association, Ottawa, Jan. 18, 1932.

[The Citizen nowhere remotely implied that it is a crime for anyone "to protect one's own interests." The editorial recorded that Canada is endeavoring to obtain facts, and gave facts about working conditions in Russia as reported by E. P. Tetsall, past-president of the Timber Federation of the United Kingdom, and by a British delegation of prominent men in the timber business. Nothing in the above letter controverts the facts so given. Our critic's contribution about "certain interests, presumably" etc., can hardly be "all the facts."—Editor.]

"THE DREYFUS CASE"

Editor, Citizen: I think you did well to make mention in your editorial columns of the picture called "The Dreyfus Case." I suppose general principles necessitated your being conservative about it. I didn't feel conservative, however, on seeing the show. I consider it a triumph for English talking pictures, and I don't remember when last I saw a picture as good as "Dreyfus." Although in a few places the actual photography did not appear to be quite up to the stage of perfection reached by American productions, the great strength of the cast simply makes up for this small matter. It is a happy discovery to find that the British can actually excel their old-established rivals in this important industry, and it is to be hoped that they will make the most of it and keep us well supplied with memorable films, with pictures that are really good. — H. LOGAN, Ottawa, Jan. 18, 1932.

A Bible Message For Today

(From the Authorized Version)
Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. (Josh. 24:14.)

Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. (Josh. 24:14.)

Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God; but he that doeth evil hath not seen God. Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself; yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true. (III John 1:11, 12.)

Popular Education Service

The National Council of Education, of which the honorary president is His Excellency the Governor General, has thought it wise that its lectureship program for 1931-32 should be largely devoted to the study of India, a country which has increased its population in the last ten years by approximately sixty millions. The problems now engaging the attention of Lord Willingdon and the India Office are full of dire possibilities and every effort towards their solution should receive the support and sympathy of every British subject. Distinguished authorities on India are to visit Canada as the Council's guests this winter.

On the 30th of this month, it will receive Mr. Yusuf Ali, C.B.E., a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, formerly principal of the Islamia College of Lahore, and now regarded as one of the greatest Mohammedan scholars of the present day.

In February, the Council will welcome Sir Henry Lawrence, a grandson of one of the Lawrences of the India of 1857, who is highly qualified to represent the point of view of the Anglo-Indian official and administrator.

The Hindus will be represented here by Sir Atul Chatterjee who recently vacated the post of High Commissioner for India in London, and who will be accompanied by his wife, Lady Chatterjee, an English woman and the first inspector sent by the British government to organize social services in the great Indian factories. She will speak on the position of women in India.

The Ottawa Committee of the Council held its annual meeting recently and elected the following officers for the year 1932:

President, Dr. Arthur Beauchesne, President of the Canadian Club; Clerk of the House of Commons; Vice-President, Mr. R. H. Coats, Dominion Statistician; Vice-President, Dr. B. R. MacKay, Queen's Alumni; Treasurer, Mr. H. N. Feaver, Department of External Affairs; Mr. Robert Westwater, secretary Teachers' Association; Dr. J. H. Putnam, Ottawa Public School Board; Mr. A. Buteau, Hull Normal School; Rev. Mr. Hepburn, rector All Saints' Church; Rev. Father Henri St. Denis, Ottawa University; Lt.-Col. H. Willis O'Connor, A.D.C. to His Excellency; Mr. Graham Spry, national secretary Association of Canadian Clubs; Mr. J. A. McIsaac, The Canadian Legion; Mr. Tom Moore, Trades and Labor Congress of Canada; Mr. Fulgence Charpentier, City Council; Archives Dept.; Mr. Oulmet, Alliance Francaise; Mr. M. Beaulieu, Institut Canadien Francais; Dr. Helen MacMurchy, Department of Pensions and National Health; Miss Charlotte Whitton, I.O.D.E., etc.; Mrs. J. A. Wilson, president Women's Canadian Club, Red Cross, etc.; Mr. Bryant White, The Journal; Mr. James Kenney, The Rotary Club; Mr. G. C. Montour, Professional Institute of the Civil Service; Dr. D. C. Scott, Drama League; Mr. Lawrence Burpee, Geographical Society, etc.; Mr. John Hamilton, secretary to the Prime Minister; Dr. Marius Barbeau, Mines Department.

Public meetings are being organized at which the above distinguished speakers will deliver addresses. It is expected that Mr. Yusuf Ali will be heard at the Collegiate Hall on Saturday the 30th of January.

An Unusual Picture

A picture of unusual interest has just been hung in the National Gallery. It is on loan from its London owner, and is entitled "A Midsummer Afternoon with a Methodist Preacher." It is the work of James Philip de Louthembourg (1740-1812). This artist was of Polish birth and came to London in 1771. Previously, he had held high office in Paris as member of the Academy and court painter to the French monarch of the time.

"A Midsummer Afternoon with a Methodist Preacher," which was one of the outstanding pictures of the Royal Academy exhibition in 1777, depicts a pastor preaching to a rural congregation on a hill overlooking a wide English landscape. The picture is extraordinarily impressive and interesting from every aspect. The landscape design, the grouping and the characterization of the figures are one and all masterly; while the color is gay and vivacious and the actual handling of the paint brilliant in the extreme.

De Louthembourg obviously drew upon the mastery and manner of Hogarth, who had died just before he came to England and whose great pictures of English life must have been the inspiration of all subsequent artists interested in the customs and events of the day. It is no less obvious how de Louthembourg's work itself was drawn upon by Thomas Rowlandson and Gillray in their many drawings and caricatures of English life a generation later.

The picture is undoubtedly the artist's masterpiece and has been greatly admired since it was first exhibited in 1777, when the "General Advertiser" of that date says that "It is but doing common justice to this ingenious foreigner to assert that he has carried the diversity of English character in this piece to as great a height as it was ever carried, even by the great Hogarth himself in the first of his productions; nay farther, as he expresses all his humor in a correcter style of proportion."

It has naturally been exhibited many times since and on one occasion, that of The Burlington Club Winter Exhibition 1927, the catalogue states interestingly that "When purchased some years ago, the preacher had been painted over with a 'polichinello.' On its removal the features of the preacher were approximated to those of John Wesley. Scenes such as these were common in 1765-75, and were parodied in a much-read work "The Spiritual Quixote" by Richard Graves in 1772."—E. B.

THE LATE WM. MULLISS

Toronto Globe
Like many other newspaper editors, Mr. Mulliss was personally unknown to the vast majority of the readers of the paper with which he was associated. Possibly few of them would have recognized him on the street. Yet his ideals of improved newspaper service had an important bearing on the family life of Hamilton.

In the old days fierce partisans in Hamilton used to boast that they would "vote for a yellow dog if the 'Spec' said so." Mr. Mulliss, with the consent and cooperation of the proprietors, changed all that. In recent years the Spectator had as much disdain for yellow dogs as for yellow journalism.

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Would Abolish Air Mail

(Canadian Press)
EDMONTON, Alta., Jan. 19.—Elimination of air-mail services in Western Canada, where they are not necessary and not self-sustaining, is urged in a resolution passed by the United Farmers of Alberta at their annual convention here today. The resolution declared no unnecessary public services should be carried on at the present time.