

## The Daily Mail

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FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1926.

### A PROHIBITION PLEBISCITE.

It would appear that the first test of public opinion in the United States on the movement to nullify or weaken the law to give effect to the Prohibition amendment to the Constitution, will be held in New York.

Alcoholic beverages (it is stated) are to be bought in every city—if not in every village—when men desire them and have the money to pay for what they want. There is no evidence of any outraged public sentiment over the situation. The average citizen is indifferent; he recognizes that the law is offensively violated, but does not concern himself over the matter. He regards enforcement as the duty of the officers of the law.

A measure of the Legislature now under discussion provides for the submission to a popular vote at the time of the Fall elections of a question, said to have been framed by Elihu Root, as follows:

"Should the Congress of the United States modify the Federal Act to enforce the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States so that the same shall not prohibit the manufacture, sale, transportation, importation, importation or exportation of beverages which are not in fact intoxicating, as determined in accordance with the laws of the respective States?"

The Volstead law forbids the general sale of any beverage, the alcoholic content of which exceeds one-half of one per cent, and it is general in its scope. The amendment, if it should be adopted, would give each State the power to fix any strength it chose for beverages for general sale. Ontario's famous 4.4 per cent. beer or Quebec's 10 per cent. wine might be by law declared unintoxicating and be dealt in, without even the restriction implied by licensing. Indeed, if a legislature was reckless enough, it might put whiskey, gin, brandy or dominica rum on the free list. The adoption by the State of New York of the amendment will not mean the change of the law. It will only be an expression of opinion, but it will be from the largest State in the union, and it may affect others. It may not be carried by the New York voters, though the prospect seems to favor the wets. The dries are strong in many parts of the State, and cities where wets are seemingly in the minority do not always control the State.

It will probably not surprise the average husband to hear the news from Atlantic City, where the Millinery Association of America is in annual convention, that women in the United States spent about \$450,000,000 last year for hats, and that this expenditure represents an increase of from 10 to 15 per cent. over the previous year. But that same average husband will scarcely approve the further declaration of the millinery men that this is not enough. "Women do not use enough good taste in the buying of hats," one of these experts tells us, and we may let that pass. But when he goes on to complain that "society women often put on a \$5 hat when the remainder of the costume costs from \$500 to \$1,000," most of the harassed husbands will be inclined to rise up and demand in chorus: "What of it?"

Here is a story from Baltimore which some may look upon as an example of the irony of life and others as a gentle gesture of fate to cheer the last moments of a man of genius. Howard Van Doren Shaw, of Chicago, architect and designer of the Flanders Field Chapel and Brest (France) naval monument for the United States Government, died in a private hospital in Baltimore on Friday last. It was his fifty-seventh birthday, and only a few hours before his death he had received the American Institute of Architects' gold medal for architectural achievements. Mr. Shaw was a descendant of Davil Shaw, an English Quaker, who came to the new world with William Penn.

A committee has been named at Ottawa to devise some plan by which the debates of the House can be shortened. This committee has a chance to render good service to the country. As the matter stands now after the first three or four speeches in a major debate little remains to be said and members simply chew the rag in order to talk to their constituents

through the medium of Hansard and at the country's expense. Members on both sides should unite in an effort to eliminate unnecessary talk so that the business of the House should be speeded up.

The Legislature of Alberta has been dissolved and the election date has been fixed for Monday June 28th with nominations ten days earlier. A Farmer government led by Premier Brownlee is now in control of affairs in Alberta, having been returned to power four years ago. Alberta was created a separate province in 1905 and a Liberal administration remained in power until 1921. Capt. J. T. Shaw of Calgary a former member of the House of Commons, will lead the Liberal forces at the coming election.

The determined stand taken by Premier Baldwin during the recent industrial crisis in Great Britain has undoubtedly greatly strengthened him with the people. There was no camouflaging in his case but he stood four square for law and order. His advice to the people at the beginning of the strike to "keep study" was generally acted upon. Premier Baldwin has proved himself to be a real statesman.

However, presuming for the sake of argument that scientist is right when he says that in a thousand years the world will be so densely populated there won't be any standing room, just why should we get excited about it? It seems fairly certain we won't be among those who are inconvenienced.

"When the three deer found their way blocked by a motor car, they charged it."

The same practice, that of charging it, has also been adopted by another species of deer.

Statement of that scientist to the effect that fish can't hear has led us to wonder whether we have been wasting the springs of our victrola trying to keep our glass bowl pets amused and contented.

Thug who used a turnip to knock out a man because he "couldn't afford to buy a blackjack, has furnished us with our first information that there is anything cheap in the vegetable line.

That there is an occasional example of poetic justice seems to be instanced by the fact that while the general strike in England is over, Saklatvala, the fire-breathing communist, is still in jail.

The small boy who gets caught in a piece of devilry these days almost invariably alibis himself by putting it up to the movies and letting his elders wrestle with the problem.

"Vanderbilt needs money," says an editorial and headline in the Clifton Forge Review. That makes him a regular newspaperman, all right.

Still, it isn't at all strange that large numbers of citizens would enthusiastically rally to the name of Pilsudski.

Perhaps Henry Ford is buying up old places in order to take them apart and prove his earlier contention that history is largely bunk.

It can at least be said for the proposed British tax on betting that there is an easy way to escape having to pay it.

Scientist says we retain the same brain cells we had in infancy. That explains a good deal.

It's a wonderful age in which we live, or at least it would be, were it not for jazz.

Some theological interpretations of the life beyond make immortality a horrible thought.

"an will always walk," says the scientist. He certainly will if the babies have anything to say about it.

Generally speaking, it takes the chap who buys a car a long time to own it.

**Shriners' Convention.**  
Globe: Three official delegates from Luxor Temple, to the 42nd Imperial Council session of the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, will leave on Friday for Philadelphia. They are Rev. R. G. Fulton and Norman Shaw, Saint John and Herbert R. Gunter, Fredericton. Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Jordan and son and Mr. and Mrs. Glendon H. Allen will attend as visitors. Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Porter will also go to Philadelphia and Mr. Porter has been asked to act as the delegate of King's College at the Sesquicentennial celebrations which will begin on June 1st.

## THE ALBERTA LEGISLATURE DISSOLVED

Edmonton, Alta., May 27—General election date in Alberta will be Monday, June 28, with nominations on Friday, June 18.

The writs have been issued for those dates.

The Government that is about to try conclusions at the polls in Alberta came into office in July, 1921, when a ticket nominated by the United Farmers won in a landslide majority over the former Liberal Government. A cabinet of Farmer members was struck, with Herbert Greenfield for Premier, and one lawyer member for Attorney General in the person of John E. Brownlee. After a few years of the Greenfield administration some dissatisfaction arose within the Government ranks and last fall a change was made at the instigation of the United Farmers' Association members, as a result of which Mr. Brownlee became Premier in place of Mr. Greenfield.

A policy of co-operation with Labor has obtained from the first, and four of the members elected were Labor nominees, including one of the ministers.

### PERSONAL MENTION

Hon. D. A. Stewart, Minister of Public Works, is at the Queen.

Col. A. B. Snow of Saint John is registered at the Windsor.

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Hartley are registered at the Queen.

W. W. Titus of Saint John is a guest at the Queen.

W. K. Walsh of Montreal is registered at the Windsor.

G. B. Watson of Saint John is in the city.

## DECLARES THAT WOMEN DON'T WANT STRIKES

London, May 28—Had a secret ballot been taken among the miners' wives, says Emmeline Pankhurst, writing in the Sunday Express, the miners would never have been called.

This bears out statements made by miners' wives who are members of the British Women's Guild of the Empire in South Wales mining towns. These women say that fear keeps the miners and particularly their wives from expressing their views.

At Abertrider, from which place forty miners' wives came to London to participate in a women's anti-strike demonstration on the eve of the general strike, a secret ballot, the members of the Women's Guild assert, would disclose a majority against the strike. The Abertrider participants in the London demonstration say they have been threatened by strikers, and many of them are afraid to move abroad, fearing violence.

L. A. Grant of Woodstock is in the city today.

**A Hopeful View.**  
A gradual betterment in general conditions throughout the Province within the next three years, with plenty of work and a free interchange of money was the prediction made, this afternoon by Hon. A. J. Leger, Provincial Secretary Treasurer. Hon. Mr. Leger forecasted an early start on work leading to the establishment of paper mills in the North by the Frasers and the International, and he referred to the plans for the Grand Falls and Nepisiguit developments which, he said would be carried out. Hon. Mr. Leger was optimistic about the outlook.

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### THROUGH OUR SIEVE

Constantinople has administered a blow to matrimony by abolishing wedding presents.

It's probably either idle gossip or wild rumor. Irving Berlin has not written a lullaby yet.

So many people are forever preaching work, work. Rest would offer more opportunities for eloquence.

More women than men get their pictures in the papers. If women ever get control of the papers there will be a radical change.

A man is as old as he looks to himself when he looks into a mirror that was a wedding present to his wife.

Amundsen says the temperature was ten degrees above zero near the North Pole. Late spring up there, too.

Lima Beane says the fellow who wants something that isn't good for him heads the procession of passionate yearners.

Next to divorcing his wife to marry his mother-in-law the most incongruous thing a man can do is to wear a straw hat and an overcoat.

## Dr. Gerrard

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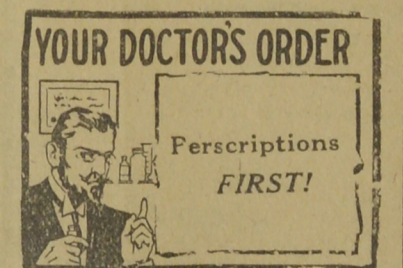
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CHAPTER 4 -- PLAY BALL

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