

The Daily Mail

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CHINA AND THE BELGIAN TREATIES.

If China had a stable Government, or any immediate prospect of having one, the notification from Pekin that all the Belgian commercial treaties and extraterritorial rights would be abrogated on October 29 would be of profound importance. But even if similar notifications to other Powers were to follow, they would be practically null in the circumstances. China has no present means of either signing or denouncing treaties. There is no authority in Pekin which has any control beyond the province of Chihli or much within it. The international commission appointed to consider the demands of China in these respects is still sitting, though, so far as the record shows, it has as yet accomplished nothing. Perhaps the long delay accounts for the sudden action against Belgium—a ballon l'essai, it is suggested, before addressing the greater Powers.

The news from that vast domain has been so intermittent that precise facts are difficult to determine. The two great northern military leaders, Chang Eso-lin and Wu Pei-fu, have combined their forces and driven Feng Yushiang from the capital. At last accounts they were moving west to seize the stores which the Soviet Government had furnished to Feng. It would hardly be to their advantage just now one would think, to get into difficulties with the European Powers, the United States and Japan; this would be playing the Bolshevik game, and so far as we know, Soviet Russia is still supporting Feng. Moreover, Chang, the Manchurian war lord, is credited with friendship for Japan. If he has had a hand in the notification to Belgium, does it mean that Japan is prepared to play her game in China off her own bat?

Wu might more reasonably be suspected of trying to bring the question of tariffs and extraterritorial rights to a head. Many believe that he is more sincerely patriotic than any Chinese since Yuan Shi-kai. If so, he may conceivably be hostile to any form of foreign influence or domination. But has he established his authority sufficiently to carry out a policy of his sort? Nor is it certain that, if he can, China would benefit. A wholesale denunciation of the treaties would free the hands of any Power or Powers that wished to close the open door, seize territory or dismember the empire. For that reason it may be the duty of the United States and Great Britain, in particular, to stand behind Belgium in a protest against this invasion of her treaty rights.

MUSSOLINI'S WAY.

Mussolini's way of getting a good, practical government is to abolish democracy. He will do all the ruling himself. Let the common people have a voice and they won't agree on anything, he thinks. He is right about this being the short route to better government. But to wipe out democracy and turn government over to one or a half dozen strong men is to admit that after six thousand years of effort men cannot yet govern themselves.

Democracy is a bit sick. But we don't want a major operation. We want treatment. What democracy needs is a cure for indifference, and some intelligent interest on the part of the rank and file in what is going on in national affairs.

Hon. W. F. Nickle, Attorney General of Ontario, is not far from right when he says that the abolition of titles by the Imperial authorities to Canadians is one of the best things that the Parliament of Canada ever did. He was constrained to make this statement because of a resolution favoring the restoration of titles having been presented to the Canadian Bar Association meeting at Saint John this week. It will be recalled that it was Hon. Mr. Nickle himself when a member of Parliament some years ago moved a resolution which politely requested that His Majesty be graciously pleased to confer no more titles on Canadians. The resolution was adopted and there has not been a title come over the fence into Canada since that time.

The Temperance Bulletin of this city contains a copy of a letter sent out by Mr. Donald Fraser, president of the N. B. Temperance Alliance to candidates in the Federal election en-

quiring as to their attitude on the question of prohibition. All were urged to submit their replies promptly in order that the same may appear in the September Bulletin. As the September Bulletin is now out and contains no replies it is to be presumed that the various candidates do not regard prohibition as an issue in this election.

By abolishing municipal elections, at which women are allowed to vote, Mussolini has practically disfranchised a whole sex. This is a bold challenge to fate, though not his boldest. He ran a greater risk when he decreed that Italian women should not follow the Paris fashions, but adopt a uniform national dress. If he can get away with that he can get away with anything.

What is this thing we call Christianity? The answer is made simple and easy by M. B. Fuller, Cleveland preacher. He defines Christianity. He says: "It is a way of living." "Creeds are cruel," says Fuller. "Men may act like the very devil and believe in creeds." Good definition: Christianity is a way of living.

Reports from the west state that the bootlegging and rum running vote, is lined up solidly against Hon. H. H. Stevens, Minister of Customs who is running in Vancouver Centre. It was Hon. Mr. Stevens who instituted the charges which resulted in the customs probe.

According to the Department of Commerce statistics, American women spent \$141,483,000 last year to prove that beauty is not even skin deep.

English scientist says baldness is an aid to man's mental development. Maybe it is. When a man loses his hair he doesn't have to bother about much else except improving his mind.

There's no place like home, and that's lucky. The vacationist has to have some place where he can make people listen to the story of his travels.

Singing in one's bath may be the result of various inspirations, but in the case of a cold "tub," it can be compared only with the whistle that keeps the courage up.

Personally, we don't understand why Senry Ford should start a hemp farm. Usually it's the other fellow that needs the tow-rope.

Well, the mother of two children ought to be good at the overhand stroke.

"Blondes are more common," says someone. Still, there are many uncommon blondes, too.

After shaking the moths out of the same, an overcoat often makes a rather nice landing net.

* THROUGH OUR SIEVE *

Hope springs eternal in the human breast. Dope is intermittent.

One word brings on another. There's your endless chain.

Debts don't worry the family that never buys more than it can pay for.

Here are three words that have much in common: Complexion, detection and deception.

London-to-Paris airplanes are installing sleepers. There is little hope of getting anything but an upper berth.

Lightning, statistics show, seldom strikes New York. Maybe it is just because you can't shock them down there!

Among fur-bearing animals perhaps the little skunk is oftenest misunderstood. He refused to answer to the name of "Kittie."

Ford predicts air flivvers will be common. Which means, probably, instead of a fellow's best girl giving him the mitten she will just say, "take the air."

Girls over in Cardina, wherever that is, have taken up the habit of boxing the ears of professors when examinations are severe. Probably that's a part of the home-making course.

The airplane and the radio are contesting for possession of the air. No one needs to give that issue much concern at present but a little regulation of hot air would have a cooling effect.

THE PREMIER IS WELCOMED IN OLD QUEBEC

Enormous Crowd Greeted the Premier in the Ancient Capital.

Quebec, Sept. 2.—In the heart of old Quebec, Premier Meighen tonight faced such an open-air crowd as is rarely given to a public man in Canada to face. It jammed the Market square to St. Pierre.

It jammed a butting street as far as the eye could see. It jammed every corner and alley opposite the platform. On the other side of the Market square a gallery had been constructed for ladies. That, too, was packed. The crowd was such a one as has rarely been seen even in old Quebec. Estimates of it ranged as high as 20,000. So early were they on the scene that before Mr. Meighen arrived the square was packed to its uttermost corners.

Everywhere on all sides scarcely anything could be seen but rows and rows of heads and faces. Over the platform from which Mr. Meighen spoke a blue and white placard bade welcome to "L'Amie des Canadiens-Francais"—the friend of French-Canadians—and so densely packed was the Market square that city police had to force a way through the crowd to enable him to reach the platform at all.

Before the meeting began, it was common talk that Hon. E. L. Patenaude, Minister of Justice, would not be permitted to speak. Mr. Patenaude first took the stand. He had scarcely begun when there was hooting from the far end of the crowd.

"That is the only argument of our opponents," Mr. Patenaude shot back when the noise died down.

Mr. Patenaude finished his speech without further difficulty.

Address of Welcome.

Before Mr. Meighen rose, Mayor Martin of Quebec presented an address of welcome in which were outlined the needs of Quebec in harbor development and in other directions. George Marois followed with a request that the federal government should use its influence in the settlement of the existing dispute between shoe manufacturers and workers in Quebec.

C. J. Lockwell came next with a speech in which he accepted the Conservative candidature in Quebec West. It was nearly 10 o'clock when Mr. Meighen rose.

For some moments he was unable to proceed. Different songs broke out at the same time. "Oh Canada!" rivalled "Il a Gagne ses Epauillettes."

Reception Cordial.

Obviously many in the crowd were not Conservatives. But Mr. Meighen's reception was most cordial. He opened with apologies for his French.

"You do very well," came from the crowd. And there was applause of encouragement.

He expressed the hope that in the next Parliament Quebec would have a representation worthy of her position in the Dominion.

"This is an inspiring hour," Mr. Meighen continued in English as he glanced over the huge crowd. "I frankly say that never in my life have I faced anything quite so wonderful, quite so encouraging or anything that makes one quite so proud that he is a Canadian."

"I thank you from the bottom of my heart, for the welcome you have given us in Quebec this afternoon and tonight and I assure that it has made of us better citizens and better Canadians."

Mr. Meighen recalled that five years ago he had faced a large but hostile audience in the city of Quebec. On that occasion, Mr. Meighen added, although the meeting was hostile, he got the most courteous treatment any public man had a right to expect.

"You gave me a square deal," Mr. Meighen declared. "I have never forgotten it and I never shall."

Signs Being Changed.

On account of the change in designation all signs bearing the name Dominion Express are being altered to Canadian Pacific Express. The scarlet painted carts had the change made some time ago and the large sign on the window of the office of the express company is now being changed. The change went into effect September 1st. Money orders, express forms, and other printed documents will be changed in the course of time.

Convicted and Fined.

On the complaint of a blacksmith doing business in King street a local man appeared in the police court Thursday afternoon and acknowledged an offence against the public welfare. He was convicted and fined eight dollars by Sitting Magistrate E. Allison MacKay.

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A FREAK PUP.

Toronto, Sept. 2.—Two bodies, seven legs, two tails and one head—all are possessed by one freak puppy which was born here today at the home of C. T. Sumner, Fairbank. The animal is still living and the mother is caring for it with the rest of the litter.

Dr. Gerrard

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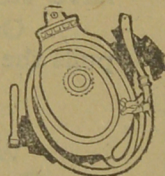
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