

"OBSERVER" DISCUSSES ASSASSINATIONS

Believe That Greater Precautions Will Now Be Taken to Guard Our Sovereign—Some History

The recent alleged attempt made in London to assassinate King Edward gives rise to a few reflections. A scrutiny of present day affairs as well as even a cursory reading of history shows us that assassination is, and always has been utilized as a method of getting rid of officials in the state.

The motives behind assassination are varied. It may arise from a sincere but misguided effort to rid the state from tyranny. The most celebrated example of this was the assassination of Julius Caesar by Brutus and his compatriots. In this case we get mixed motives, as Cassius was inspired by envy, which is in itself often a cause for assassination. Back in the days of the Greek city-states we find a period during which so-called "tyrants" seized power in almost all of them, and it was a favorite custom among the Greeks to rid the state of these tyrants by assassination. This often in spite of the fact that these rulers were not really tyrants at all in our meaning of the word. The Greek was inspired by a sense of freedom, and his motive was almost always based on patriotism. So it came to be regarded as an act of merit to remove a tyrant in this manner.

In earlier days history does not record as many assassinations as in later times. The early oriental monarchs were regarded as being semi-divine, in many cases they were thought to be descended from the gods. This partly accounts for the rise of the divine right of kings theory of later days, and explains why the early monarchs were in less danger of a sudden death at the hands of their subjects. It was regarded as the gravest kind of sacrilege to lift a hand against a sovereign.

Although the Roman Caesars were thought to be semi-divine, cases of assassination are on record. But with the fall of the Roman Empire, and the rise of the feudal period the idea of the divinity of kings was lost sight of for a while. The king became a person of very little actual power, less powerful than many of his barons. For this reason there was little incentive to assassination, but if there should be an incentive there would be little hesitation in carrying it out on the score of the king's divinity. With the close of the feudal period, when the kings began to consolidate the power of the barons in their own hands, the record of assassinations mounts quite high. Here the predominant motive is, of course, jealousy on the part of the once powerful nobles.

Now, as the kings became more powerful they found it necessary to hedge this newly acquired power with some safeguard that was more than physical; and to this end they revived the old idea of the divine right of kings. Hence the kings became surrounded with an aura of sacredness once more, and it became sacrilege to adopt violence toward them or even to question their acts. The Christian Church lent its support to this idea, except for the occasions when the interests of Church and

State conflicted, as they quite often did. Most monarchs, however, were careful not to incur the displeasure of the Church, or if they did, they usually submitted before the Church restored to extreme methods. For in the last analysis, the condemnation of the Church was sufficient to release a king's subjects from allegiance to him, and to leave the way open for deposition or even assassination.

As republican governments began to arise we find the principle of assassination transferred from the king to the president, or whatever the presiding official might be called. And with much more frequency, since no idea of divine right could possibly pertain to the elected head of a state. Anyway, the divine right idea had been pretty well discredited by the English Civil War and the French Revolution. In both cases the supposedly divine right king and been done to death, not by actual assassination, but by a pretense of legality in the shape of a trial and a sentence to death. Henceforward no head of a state, whether he be called king or president; whether he rule by right of birth or by the will of the people, or both; could regard himself as free from the danger of assassination. During more recent years, at least up to the outbreak of the World War, the growing principle of democracy and the loss of actual power by sovereigns, made assassination comparatively rare except in certain countries. Russia was such a country, owing to the oppression of the people. Still, we can say that on the whole the hereditary ruler was personally safer than the elected head. This can be accounted for by the force of traditions which still surrounded the office of king. Such assassinations as did occur anywhere were mostly carried out by fanatics; or so they were regarded from the demonstrable fact that the ruler possessed very little actual power anyway, and his death could not change the system. If oppression did exist, it was generally not the ruler who was directly responsible; and his assassination could only bring about increased repression.

In English history since the Norman Conquest there is no record of the actual assassinations of a reigning sovereign, although there have been attempts. One deposed sovereign died in the Tower under the suspicion of poison, and another heir to the throne was murdered that his uncle might have the throne. The comparative freedom of English history from the record of assassination may be explained, I think, as follows. The English have from the earliest times had an ingrained respect for law and order, and a belief in the validity of legal procedures over unconstitutional methods. They would much rather get rid of an undesirable ruler by constitutional methods, which do not exist, than by violence, should the occasion arise. Again, the British sovereigns began to lose their actual power at an early date, and although the office of king remains, the ruling power has been transferred to parliament. Therefore, there could not be any credible reason for the assassination of a British sovereign today.

OBSERVER.

(To be Continued)

MATURING AGE PLACED AT 19½

CHICAGO, July 24—The age of maturing, Prof. Frank E. Freeman of the University of Chicago said yesterday, has been shown in recent studies to be 19½ years or older, "not 13, 16 or 18 as some educators have believed." He explained to the Conference of Administrative Officers of Public and Private Schools that the age of maturing is "the age at which there is no further advancement in learning capacity."

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Miss Helen Hughes is spending a week's vacation at Savoy Beach.

Miss Jean Swift is visiting her grandfather, Mr. Daniel Riordan at Woodstock.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Theriault and son of Chatham are occupying H. C. Kelly's cottage at Savoy Beach for a few weeks.

Mrs. Jane Hoben of Fredericton, and her daughter, Miss Alice Hoben of Scarsdale, N. Y., are visitors in Saint John.

Mrs. B. C. Foster, Miss Helen Neill, Miss Mary Neill and Miss Hope Hanson are leaving for England early in August. They expect to be away for six weeks.

The members of the Gyro Club and their wives held an enjoyable dinner last evening at D-Coy Inn in honor of Alfred Williams, Dominion vice-president, and Mrs. Williams. Covers were laid for thirty guests.

The marriage of Miss Annie Elizabeth Clark to Dr. Lawrence Robert Richardson of Montreal, is taking place tomorrow at five o'clock at the home of the bride's parents.

The marriage of Miss Nellie Blair to Rev. E. R. McCordick of McAdam Junction, has been arranged to take place the eleventh of August at St. Mary's Church, Devon, with the pastor, Rev. LeRoy Moores officiating.

Mrs. W. E. Farrell has recently returned from an enjoyable motor-trip through Nova Scotia. At Halifax, Mrs. Farrell visited her son Ernest (Buzzer) Farrell who holds a responsible position with a large mercantile establishment.

Mrs. J. G. Frost Jr. of Montreal, has arrived in the city to be a guest tomorrow at the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Clark to Dr. Lawrence R. Richardson. Other out-of-town guests will include Miss Nella Calder of St. Andrews.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Ritcey and Mrs. Fred Kinnear of Moncton who were guests of Major and Mrs. R. H. Rowe at Lincoln have returned home.

The Misses Geraldine, Dorothy and Eleanor Henneberry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Henneberry, of Saint John are guests of their aunt Mrs. Harry Crotty and Mrs. Crotty.

Mrs. Graham McLeod, who has been the guest of Mrs. Walter Gilbert, has returned home. Mrs. McLeod is the wife of the business manager of the Halifax Chronicle.

McNamara Construction Company

The McNamara Construction Company, which has the contract for the construction of 75,000 yards of roadway across the Oromocto flats, is getting its gravel in this city. The company has 60 men working at the Rankine property on Forest Hill, giving out gravel. It is expected that over \$2,000 worth of gravel will be hauled from this spot. It is understood that a roadway will be constructed across an old highway and over the Fraser property in order to make a short cut out to the river road.

It is said that some of this gravel has been taken off property owned by the city.

Mrs. Chas. Chisholm with her son J. P. G. Chisholm of Moncton, is the guest of Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Crockett at "Dunrobin" on Waterloo Row.

Mrs. T. H. Lane of Bedford, N. S., is returning to her home today after visiting Mrs. Walter Gilbert in this city.

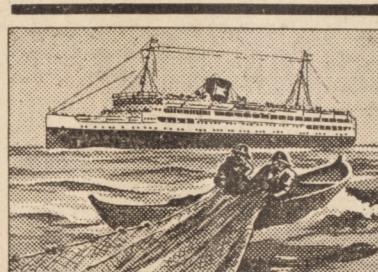
At the conclusion of the A. and B. regatta last evening, Miss Marjorie Cowan was crowned Queen of the Regatta by Premier A. A. Dystart. The presentation of the Queen's trophy was done in an artistic manner, by the premier, who afterwards led off the dance with the newly-crowned Queen. Miss Cowan is a cousin of Mrs. A. P. Crockett and a niece of Mrs. Doris McConnell of this city. She is a graduate of Mount Allison University.

AWARDED MEDAL

ANTIGONISH, N. S., July 24—An announcement was made here today that Dr. M. M. Coady, director of St. Francis Xavier University Extension Department and Rev. Dr. J. J. Tompkins, of Reserve, N. S. have been awarded medals by the Carnegie Corporation in recognition of their work in adult education. Both are leaders in the co-operative movement in eastern Nova Scotia.

WISHES HE HAD "DONE JOB RIGHT"

George Andrew McMahon, on trial, charged with attempt to do bodily harm to the King, stated today that he had intended to shoot himself in the presence of the King. The prisoner said he wished he had "done the job right."



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EASTERN STEAMSHIP LINES

Welcome First Train



The cowcatcher of old Engine 371 makes a fitting platform for these costumes of the 80's adorning belles of 1886 who took part in the pageant at Port Moody, July 3, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the first C. P. R. train from Montreal to the Pacific. The old engine, driven by the original engineer, hauled into Port Moody a string of six old-style wooden cars handled by the original conductor of the first train in a colorful re-enactment of the event. More than 6000 visitors, including scores of rail veterans in service in '86, flocked to Port Moody for the celebration.

BOY SCOUT CAMP FOR '36 SUCCESSFUL

The annual outing of Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs at Crockett's Point held from July 1 to 8, had a total enrollment of 46. F. H. Wetmore was Camp Chief and was assisted by Fred Blair. The Quartermaster was Venerable Archdeacon A. F. Bate, and the headquarters staff included Scouts Mills, Ketch, F. Feeney, G. Feeney, Hill, Cuming, and Charters. Mrs. Sloat acted as cook. The Cub instructors were Caldwell, Scammell, Langmaid and O'Leary.

On Sunday Rev. Mr. MacQueen held service at the camp at eleven o'clock. On the same day it was necessary to have Gerald Langmaid, one of the Cub instructors, taken to the hospital in Fredericton and treated for appendicitis. Outside of this the health of the boys was good.

The day's activities included swimming, campcraft, group games, instruction for badges and the day always ended with the camp fire and lights out.

Many of the boys passed the requirements for badges. Following is a list of the winners:

First Star Test—Lloyd Woods, David Murdock, Richard Day, Glendon Tedford, Lloyd Villiers, Jack Kenny, Neil Sculley, Gerald Waddell, Allan Woodworth.

First Aider, proficiency—Douglas Brooks, David Murdock, Allan Woodworth, Alex. Boyd, Gordon Salt, Neil Sculley, Jack Kenny.

Swimmer's Badge—Jack Kenny. Athlete's Badge, Class "A"—Dick Day, Lloyd Woods, David Murdock, Glendon Tedford, Robert Myles.

Athletes Badge, Class "B"—Alex. Boyd, Jack Kenny, Gordon Salt, Neil Sculley, Douglas Brooks, Leonard Bird, Allan Woodworth, Lloyd Villiers.

Observers Badge—Allan Woodworth, Gordon Salt, Leonard Bird.

Forester's Badge—R. Gaynor, Delaney, I. Gaynor, Baltus.

Scout Pace—Hanlon, Delaney, I. Gaynor, Baltus, Pridham, Page, Lewis Saunders.

Second Class Firelighting and Cooking—Beveridge, Saunders, Fisher, Morrison, Bate, Hales.

Kim's Game—Saunders, Beveridge, Lewis, Baltus.

Scout Pace—Beveridge.

Overnight Hike and Report—Fisher, Clayton, Hanlon, Morrison.

Swimmer's Badge—Hanlon, Morrison, Fisher.

Member Fourth Estate

(Continued from Page Eight) thistle." He visited among other points the land of Evangeline, which he considered beautiful but found wanting in the "murmuring pines and the hemlocks" of Longfellow.

The interesting member of the fourth estate was reminiscent of days gone by when his old friend C. H. Smith then residing at Ashcroft and whom he had not seen for eighteen years, had charge of the trains which carried mail and passengers from Yale to Cariboo up to the famous Cariboo Route. Old times here are familiar with the gold rush of 1861. Mr. Smith lived at Ashcroft, noted for its high grade potatoes, the gateway of the Cariboo.

It is worthy of note that the B.C. editor during his trip overseas, is being relieved at the editorial desk by his two sons, who both have adopted their father's vocation.

H. E. Verner, of Montreal, is staying at the Queen hotel.

Classified Ads.

RATE: 25 words 25 cents per insertion. Each additional word 1/4 cent.

FOR SALE—1928 Pontiac car in good condition. Bargain for quick sale. Apply at Daily Mail.

FOR SALE—1934 Ford coupe, \$450.00; 1935 Ford tudor \$600.00; 1930 DeSoto coach, \$200.00; 1929 Buick Sedan, \$225.00; 1932 Plymouth Sedan \$335.00; 1925 Buick sedan \$110.00; several small cars, real bargains. Universal Sales, Ltd.

FOR SALE—1935 Ford 2-T truck, \$850.00; 1934 Ford 2-T, \$600.00; 1929 Ford 1 1/2-T, \$140.00; 1931 Ford 1/2 ton, \$225.00; 1932 Chev. 1/2 ton \$300.00; 1931 Ford 1/2 ton Duals \$250.00. Universal Sales Ltd.

FOR SALE—Battery radios and parts. Apply Radio, care of Daily Mail.

WANTED—Housemaid. References required. Apply Daily Mail.

FOR SALE—Enterprise furnace with jacket heater, in use only 3 mos. Apply Daily Mail.

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