

THE KING'S ENGLISH IN POLITICS

(By Wellington Potter)

I have always been interested in words and terms, which, although in general use, have a derivation, and therefore a true meaning, not generally understood.

Recently, the opportunity to help three children in their school work crystallized this interest, and necessitated further research and classification. Only last month a newly-made voter in our family compelled us all to brush up on the subject.

This daughter wondered why the right to vote was called *suffrage*. She was surprised when I explained that the word *suffrage* was originally used to indicate the lower part of the foreleg of a horse, between the fetlock and the coffin-joint.

It is now called the *pastern*. It bends under, and not over, like the knee-joint. These pasterns, or ankle joints, are used when the horse gets up and they support him.

Thus, in politics, voters are the *pastern* joints or supporters of a candidate. Likewise, in ecclesiastical circles a *suffragan* is an assistant or supporter of a bishop.

Prior to election, the newspapers always contained pictures and promises of the candidates. In early Roman days the term *candidate* meant "clothed in white." Those seeking the office of Consul went among the Roman people clad in long, loose white robes, and thus were able to display their scars of battle. These scars, adorned with robes of white signifying humility and fidelity, were considered qualifications for office.

A political candidate, you know, is supposed to have *ambition*. Again we look to the Latin for the original meaning. *Ambitio* meant to "go about canvassing" for votes. Perhaps Julius Caesar was too successful as a vote-getter to please all his friends; Mark Anthony, who was one of them, said: "Caesar was an honorable man; but Caesar was *ambitious*."

The party slogan is the natural descendant of early Scottish war cries. The Gaelic *slaugh* (army) plus *gairm* (yell) formed the word. Anglo-Saxon had the same root in its word *slog*, meaning to fight.

No election seems complete without the old-time firelight parade, when each marcher carries a lighted torch. This word comes from the French term *torche*, meaning a torch of twisted rags, and in turn derived from the same Latin root that gives us our other word *torsion*, a state of twisting.

Who has not thrilled as a youngster at the sight of an election bonfire? Little did we dream or care that bonfire was originally a "fire of bones."

Going to be *polled* or counted is not a new custom, as Moses caused a poll to be made of Israel in the Wilderness. A poll then referred to the head of a man or beast; in numbering them, the head was that part visible in a crowd.

The intricate machinery which registers our ballot at the polls today shows marked progress since the days when ballot, from the Italian *balotti*, meant a little ball to be dropped in a box to indicate one's choice.

After the President is elected, the next important ceremony is his *inauguration*. This word is traceable to Roman history. Literally, its root means to be lead by *Angurs*—Roman religious officials whose duty it was to fortell the future events by interpreting omens and signs. The Roman *Angurs* had the duty of meeting and conducting to the altar all high officials who were about to take office.

The more we study words, the more we find they are like people. Some grow up, put on long trousers, and become stalwart citizens of the choicest vocabularies. Some grow old and useless, die, and are consigned to the obsolete file; their places are taken by younger ones better adapted to the language of today. Some fall into bad company and lose their original value.

Take the word *mugwump*, for example.

It had a perfectly good American parentage. Among the Algonquin tribe of North American Indians, it signified one who thought and acted independently. If it meant the same thing now, we might wish to have a whole band of *mugwumps* swoop into our political and social lives. Unfortunately, however, *mugwump* became a truant and went to live in political tents. Today all turncoats and political Pharisees, whose party vote cannot be depended upon, are called *mugwumps*.

MARKET FOR SHINGLES IN SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa, especially the coast cities, offers an ever-increasing market for Canadian exporters of cedar shingles, writes Mr. G. R. Heasman, Canadian Trade Commissioner in Cape Town, in the forthcoming issue of the Commercial Intelligence Journal. Statistics for 1935 are not yet available; imports for 1934 had a total value of \$4,309 as compared with \$971 in the preceding year. Canada and the United States are the only countries listed as suppliers, their respective shares in 1934 being £2,267 and £2,042 against £565 and £406 respectively in 1933.

Johannesburg is experiencing a building boom, but owing to the heavy freight rate from the coast, the cost of shingles in that city is rendered almost prohibitive. However, this activity is spreading to the coast cities, where during 1936 there will probably be more building than ever before.

VEGETABLES FOR THE HOME GARDEN AS THEY COME

It is now time to think about the seed required for the vegetable garden. Many varieties are offered in seed catalogues, practically all of which are good for certain purposes. The object at this time is to give a short list of the kinds likely under varying conditions to be as satisfactory as any.

Beans, Dwarf: Round Pod Kidney Wax, Refugee Wax, Stringless Green Pod, and Refugee Green Pod. Poles: Kentucky Wonder Wax and Green Pod. Beets: Detroit Dark Red, globe and Detroit Half-long. Carrots: Chantenay and Danvers Half-long. Cabbage: Golden Acre, early; Glory of Enkhuizen, medium, and Danish Roundhead for late keeping; Danish Stonehead, purple, for pickling. Cauliflower: Snowball and Early Erfurt. Celery: Golden Self-blanching. Corn: Golden Sunshine, Golden Bantam and Country Gentleman, a late white sort. Cucumbers: White Spine and Snows Pickling. Lettuce: Grand Rapids, open head, and New York, cabbage head. Muck Melon: Lake Champlain and Hackensack. Water Melons: Phinney's Early, Preserving Melon: Colorado. Onions: Extra Early Flat Red; Globe Danvers, and for transplanting Cranston Excelsior, for pickling, Barletta. Peas: Alaska, very early; Gradus or Prosperity and Thomas Laxton, medium, and Stratagem and Tele phone, late. Parsnips: Hollow Crown. Peppers: Harris' Earliest. Parsley: Champion, Pumpkin, Small Sugar and Yellow Field. Radish: French Breakfast and Icicle. Squash: Boston Marrow and Golden and Green Hubbards. Vegetable Marrow: both bush and trailing. Spinach: King of Denmark. Tomato: Bonny Best and Alacritty. Turnip: Golden Ball. Egg Plant: Black Beauty. Herbs: Summer Savory, Sage, Sweet Marjoram and Mint.

Crops such as peas, lettuce, onions, all root crops and herbs, start at a low temperature and may be planted to the open ground as soon as it is dry enough to work. Cabbage, cauliflower and celery may be started at the same time in the open for later transplanting. Tomatoes, peppers and egg plants should be started in a hotbed eight weeks before transplanting to the open when danger from frost is past. Beans, corn, pumpkin, squash and cucumbers are planted late in May when the ground is warm.

Further information is contained in bulletin No. 166 "The Vegetable Garden," to be obtained on request from the Publicity and Extension Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Little Albert: Do your folks ever have prayers before breakfast? Little John: No. We aren't afraid in the day time.

ITALIANS MAKE LOVE IN SHADOW OF A CHAPERON

Rome Abhors Hollywood Version of Romance as 'Not Serious.'

ROME.—In Austria when a young chap wants to go out with a girl for a Sunday excursion he puts a want ad in one of the many local newspapers. He is generally careful enough to mention that she shall pay her share of the outing. In Italy matters are different.

When a young Italian wants to take a girl out he either asks papa and mamma to come along, or else they provide a chaperon. Failing these, he goes out alone. You won't often find a boy and a girl holding hands in a movie. The reason being you won't often find a boy and a girl at the movies sitting in adjacent seats. As for a girl taking fathers car out and coming home at 3 o'clock in the morning, that, in Italy, is impossible. Should it by chance happen once it won't be repeated.

Says a Roman in explaining these things: "I am glad your wife is not here to hear me say this, but no Italian has any respect for a girl who goes out alone. Should we see such a girl, then we say her family is not serious." This, of course, is an expression of extreme contempt.

Don't Like U. S. Movies

But there the fact is, and there it is likely to remain. Asked what influence, if any, American movies are having in breaking down this rigid, but probably extremely necessary, family doctrine for the protection of youthful morality the Roman replies: "We don't like American movies. They are not serious."

In Japan American gangster films, in so far as they show revolvers, daggers and cut-throats used against the minions of the law, are censored. In Italy these films are not censored, for the Italians feel that they are less influential in shaping youthful morals than the films of the debauchees of the younger American generation. Yet these too are little censored. Parents do their own censoring by keeping their children away from such spectacles.

Keep Children Home

In Italy, as in France, marriages seem to be "arranged," but with less disastrous consequences than are the arranged marriages of the Orient. There they start arranging shortly after birth, if not before.

Do pretty brunette shop assistants "go wild?" Not particularly. When you pay shop assistants anywhere from \$5 to \$12 a month without "keep" they don't have much chance to live their own life. They live with their parents, uncles, aunts and cousins. But they cannot afford to live in rooming houses or to rent their own apartment.

Hold Hands Along Tiber

Along the banks of the historic Tiber—called in Rome the Tevere—and in the picturesque Pincio Park and in the Villa Borghese Park each evening you will find young men ranging in years up to their 50s and their girls, also ranging in years up to their 50s. They lean against the stone embankment of the Tiber or even find seats and benches in the parks. Here they whisper and hold hands. They look like frozen effigies, are quite moral, and almost silent. It seems as if the Latin when he does get heady over the sight of a pretty girl, reaches for her hand and hangs on. Police may hang about in the shadows, but they seldom show themselves.

About the only out and out crimes in Italy are those called "sentimental crimes." The Italian, as the Frenchman, finds it easier to understand a person who murders for love than one who murders for filthy lucre. Likewise he also finds it easier to condone.

When a Roman wants to be particularly bad he will probably open his lungs wide and sing at the top of his voice. Failing this, he will lapse into a brooding, melancholy silence. Then you know something awful is happening to him.

BALDWIN FAVORS WOMEN FOR SECRETS

LONDON, April 9.—Prime Minister Baldwin has suggested that one of "the best ways to keep a secret was to entrust it to a woman. Said the statesman:

"Many women in the civil service are able, in the course of their daily work, to amass secret information. I have never known a leakage of information due to a woman, but I have known leakages through men who should have known a great deal better."

Baldwin was commenting on a plan to enlarge the famous Newnham College for Women at Cambridge.

IMPROVED TOMATO VARIETIES

There Continues to Be a Demand for New Early Maturing Varieties of Tomatoes.

There continues to be a demand for new Early maturing varieties of tomatoes suitable to the special conditions in Canada. Better early ripening sorts are being sought after each year, and the plant improvement programme undertaken by the Dominion Experimental Farms System has made some very interesting and noteworthy contributions.

The Earliana variety and strains have formed the basis of the early crop production until very recent years. Plant breeding and selection were responsible for the development of the varieties like Alacritty and Herald and these two varieties have been exceptionally satisfactory under conditions in Western Canada where earliness is important, and in south western Ontario where early tomatoes are grown. These varieties have also been useful in the northern sections of Quebec and in the Maritime Provinces.

The more recent contributions that have been made available to the growers of Canada include Abel and Bestal.

In the very short and dry season sections of Canada. Abel has been found to do exceptionally well. The vines do not grow extensively, since the nodes or joints of the small vines are very close together. Fruit trusses are numerous and the tomatoes set very freely in quite large clusters. The fruits are medium in size, red both outside and inside, mild in flavour and possess excellent quality. On account of the small size of the vines, the plants can be placed much closer together. More plants will be required per acre, but since the fruiting habit tends towards maturing a large crop in the fore part of the season, it is evident that satisfactory early returns can be obtained. It requires only 93 to 105 days from seed-sowing to market, thus being the earliest tomato known.

The Abel tomato is known outside Canada, and one grower in the State of Michigan is planning to grow forty thousand plants during the coming season. Reports from North Dakota and Montana indicate that the Abel tomato has proved quite valuable.

The Bestal tomato has also proved to be of value to the growers in Western Canada, as well as in the specialized tomato growing sections in Ontario. This variety is also reported as very valuable in the Maritime provinces. The plants of the Bestal are medium to strong growing and consequently are very desirable for staking. The trusses of bloom develop quite early and the first flowers lack the roughness of many of the very early varieties. The Bestal is the smoothest round fruited, early maturing tomato developed to date. In shape the fruits resemble Bonny Best but are slightly smaller in size, and are red in skin colour, with firm, thick, red, meaty walls. In tests conducted throughout Canada at various centres this tomato was found to mature in advance of Bonny Best. Some co-operators reported that it was just as early as Earliana. Under Ottawa conditions it required 108 days from seed sowing to ready for use. This was several days in advance of Bonny Best, and challenged the early maturity of Earliana.

Bestal is also recognized by the growers outside Canada. This is evidenced by the fact that the Rhode Is-

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BAKERS: Royal Bakery.
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DRY GOODS: R. L. Black, Wilby's, Fred Barnes
COAL & FEEDS: A. H. VanWart & Son
ELECTRICAL WORK: Clarence Mills, Harry C. Moore.
FARM MACHINERY: J. Clark & Son.
GROCERS: Harold Yerxa, York Street, A. E. Eardley, A. T. Sweed, M. M. A., J. F. Timmins.
HABERDASHERS: J. H. Fleming, Royal Stores.
HARDWARE: J. S. Neill & Sons, Ltd., E. M. Young, Lawlor & Cain.
HOUSE FURNISHINGS: Colwell & Jennings, Ltd.
HARNESS MAKERS: H. A. Burr.
HOTELS: Waverly, Queen.
INSURANCE: H. H. Blair.

INVESTMENTS: Consolidated Investments, Ltd., Irving, Brennan & Co., Ltd.
JEWELLERS: Shute & Co., Mavor Bros.
PLUMBING: Karl Gough, Arthur F. Betts, D. J. Shea.
PHOTOGRAPHS: Harvey Studio.
RESTAURANTS: Lannan's, Joe's Lunch, Nu Palms.
STATIONERY and BOOKS: C. W. Hall, McMurray Book and Stationery Co., Ltd.
TAILORS: T. M. Boyd, Karl Walker.
UNDERTAKERS: Chapel Funeral Home
WOODWORK: J. C. Risteen Co., Ltd., Devon Lumber Co.

Magnate: The man who marries my daughter will want a lot of money. Suitor (hopefully): Well, sir, nobody wants it more than I do.

Hayfoot: Hey, your shoes are mixed you've got the left shoe on the right foot. Strawfoot: And here for twenty years I thought I was club-footed.

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