

# The Daily Mail

A Daily Paper For Every Home

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## PILGRIMAGE AND INSTRUCTION

Workers in the Secretariat of the League of Nations have long become accustomed to seeing, at periodic intervals during the day, little bands of men, women and, sometimes, quite young people, in the charge of qualified guides, visiting the building in which the League makes its headquarters.

During the sessions of the Council and the Assembly visitors are not permitted to look over these buildings, but, at other times, a regular system for showing interested visitors round has long been in existence. Visitors come from all parts of the world and include men and women of all nationalities. Some come, as it were, to make a pilgrimage to a shrine which stands at any rate to testify to the strength of a world ideal, however faltering may have been that world in giving it full support. Others come—and perhaps they are by far the greater number—to learn something of what the League really means, and the guides are well equipped to give them the appropriate information.

Not only is emphasis laid on the excellence of the architecture and the artistic achievements embodied in the new buildings, but by careful explanation of the functions of the various departments, some idea is given of the work the League does in furthering social and humanitarian service for the benefit of international progress.

Visitors for instance are asked to remember how the League has set up machinery for developing knowledge of the obstacles to international trade, for facilitating the campaign against epidemics and diseases, and for coping with the worldwide evils of the drug traffic. These are just a few of the subjects which may be mentioned in the course of the journey round the premises, beautifully designed and charmingly set on a slight eminence above the Lake of Geneva, with the Jura mountains in the distance.

Perhaps no more appropriate setting could have been chosen—on one side are the famous mountains of Caesar's commentaries, on the other, the lake so rich in memories of European culture through the centuries.

That there is no falling off in the interest taken in the League's work can be deduced from the fact that over 140,000 visitors have taken advantage of the League's guide service during the past year.

## MENTAL DEFICIENCY

The alarming prevalence of mental abnormalities of all kinds, either actually existing or impending, among Canadian children has just been disclosed to a Toronto audience by Dr. Clarence Hincks, general director of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. According to Dr. Hincks, under present conditions four per cent of the child population of this country are destined to enter an institution for the treatment of mental deficiency or abnormality at some period of their lives.

It is not to be taken from this that all these cases are or necessarily will become what may be bluntly termed insane. The estimate of the director of the Committee for Mental Hygiene is based upon mental abnormalities which may never develop into insanity in the accepted meaning of the word. Taking ten cases of these so-called problem children, two will be found to be mentally deficient, one or two will be actually delinquent, getting into real trouble, sooner or later, and the rest of the group will be found to be afflicted with some mental defect or distortion which will have its effect, whether through nervous collapse or the development of a twisted personality, later in life. Dr. Hincks finds that much of the mental abnormality that is being

discovered and studied under modern methods is due to home environment. When this can be improved, the child's condition improves. Quite naturally, the chief contributory factor to unfavourable home environment is poverty. Malnutrition, overcrowding, dirt, lack of privacy—in a word, all the conditions that develop when the standard of living drops below a certain level—all have their effects on a child at its most impressionable age. Unhappy, much of the evil consequences of life under conditions of poverty are permanent in character and, on a nation-wide scale, such as Dr. Hincks depicts, constitute a national problem which it is too soon yet to appreciate in its full seriousness. For mentally abnormal adult, often with the worst symptoms of his affliction emphasized. In other words, we shall in a few years be spending great sums of money either to cure or try to cure these cases or else to provide for their care and maintenance for the rest of their lives in institutions maintained at the public charge.

The gravely disturbing conditions made public by Dr. Hincks surely call for national effort. In the very great majority of such cases mental "twists" can be straightened out if the young victim is taken care of in time. That is largely what the Committee on Mental Hygiene is trying to do through agencies and organizations throughout Canada. The imperative need of such work, but on a far greater scale than has hitherto been possible, is revealed by the prevalence of such cases, as disclosed by Dr. Hincks' speech.

## BRITISH MIGHT

The scale of British armament at present is probably pretty well understood in Germany; but perhaps not so well understood by Canadians, although items about it have appeared from time to time. The statement has been freely made that Britain no longer contemplated a military force on the continent of Europe. On the contrary, observes an exchange, Mr. Hore-Belisha, the British Minister of War, stated recently that Britain had in readiness a force which if thought well, of nineteen divisions—190,000 men. The expeditionary force of 1914 was of nine divisions, less than 100,000 strong in fact it was only about 80,000, poorly supplied with artillery or shells. The present British army is as well equipped as any in the world, probably better than any other. In addition, Mr. Hore-Belisha stated, there would be 370,000 more trained men available in the territorial and reserve forces.

As regards air force, the War Minister stated that it was now, or would almost immediately be, up to 1,750 first-line fighting machines. That has been said before; but he added what has not been publicly specified previously, that there are 550 first-line air fighting machines stationed elsewhere in the Empire. Then he contributed the further rather surprising information that outside these first-line machines, there were 2,700 defensive aircraft in the metropolitan divisions of London. One begins to wonder if German bombers would have such a nice time over London. Air bombing machines have been doing ghastly work in China and Spain and Abyssinia—but in these operations little danger to the bombers existed; they had it all their own way. So far, there has been little test of what bombing machines can do when they encounter real opposition.

If in the London district alone there are 2,700 second-line aircraft, there are probably a large number elsewhere in England.

As regards the navy, the statement has been bluntly made by the British admiral that the navy is already a match for any possible combination of other powers, and growing stronger. Mr. Shakespeare in introducing the navy estimates in the House of Commons on March 16 said there were some 200 ships now being built, including nine battleships, six aircraft carriers, 25 cruisers, 43 destroyers, 19 submarines, and many small vessels. Regarding enemy submarines, Mr. Shakespeare made the interesting statement that "our methods of detecting, hunting and killing the submarine are more advanced than those by certain developed methods it would be possible to fix the location of any submerged submarine when it was known to be in the neighborhood."

All this means an enormous expense—but, as the contemporary aptly notes, John Bull has never counted the cost when there seemed reason for it.

## COMMENT

(Ottawa Journal)

Rudy Vallee must be afraid to look at a newspaper these days. Every time he turns a page, he finds he has a new girl friend.

## Just in Jest

### Old Trick

A scientist claims to have invented a machine that enables him to see through a man. Most married women will wonder why he bothered.

### It Does

The codfish lays a million eggs. The little hen but one; But the codfish doesn't cackle When her little stunt is done. And so we praise the artful hen, The codfish we despise; Which makes it plain to thoughtful men It pays to advertise.

### Doing His Bit

It was Sunday afternoon; she was knitting on the sofa, he was reading and dozing in the armchair.

"John, have you thought of the canary?"

"Yes."

"Have you fed him?"

"No."

"Have you given him water?"

"No."

"Then what have you done?"

"Thought of him."

### Who, Indeed!

The whole of the theatre audience was clapping with the exception of Smith.

Mrs. Smith: "Why are you not clapping?"

Smith: "Well, who claps when I do a spot of work?"

### Terrors!

Of all the terrors known to man

The greatest, I assert,

Is to wear a fifteen collar

Upon a sixteen shirt.

### On The Carpet

In a new office building the furniture is chromium, glass and leather, and the floors are marble. When it is necessary to admonish a member of the staff, a strip of carpet is brought in to have him on.

### Speaking From Experience

The boy had been spending the afternoon getting into all kinds of trouble until finally a neighbor collared him and asked him why he did not go straight home after school, with the other children.

Boy (in surly tone): "I'm locked out."

Neighbor: "Why locked out? And where's your mother?"

Boy: "Down at the Mothers' Club meeting, telling them how to raise children."

### Too Much

Busy on a new map of Europe, one map-maker, on hearing of another change in central Europe, went out behind the factory and shot himself.

## Jewett's Mills

JEWETT'S MILLS, April 12.—The farmers of different communities are hauling logs to E. E. Jewett's mill for custom sawing.

The maple sugar season is somewhat later this year with no important runs yet.

Mrs. Leigh Dunphy and children, of Kingsclear, who have been visiting her mother, Mrs. Reginald Staples for a few weeks, have returned home.

Miss Hannah Jewett has gone to Fredericton to visit friends.

Mrs. Tyler Jewett and little daughter Freda spent Wednesday afternoon with her mother, Mrs. Geo. C. Hawkins of Douglas.

Mr. Arthur Haines who has been attending High School has returned to his home at Dorne Ridge to spend Easter.

## NOW A DANCE

The French peasant in Normandy have invented a new dance, called La Chamberlaine, in which an umbrella figures very prominently. One of the young men of the party stands alone while pairs start dancing. He has an umbrella in his hand, and armed with this he mingles with the dancers until he sees a girl with whom he would like to dance. Then he hooks her partner away with the handle of the umbrella and leaves him the umbrella in consolation for losing the girl. The erstwhile dancer then goes off with the umbrella to find himself a partner in the same way.

It is interesting that this English influence on the Apache dance should have its source in that matter-of-fact alleged realist, the British Prime Minister. If Mr. Chamberlain's career is the inspiration for the new dance, the time seems to be at hand when he must do his part in hooking up some partners in Europe.

## German Student Not To Visit Hart House

TORONTO, April 12.—Walter Krantzow, German exchange student at the University of Toronto, said that 17 German exchange students visiting Toronto "will not go to Hart House at all" following action of the Students' Administrative Council in refusing to entertain the visitors officially. Hart House is the athletic and social centre of the University. E. A. MacDonald, secretary of the students' council, said there would be "no objection" to Krantzow showing the visitors, on vacation from United States Universities, through Hart House.

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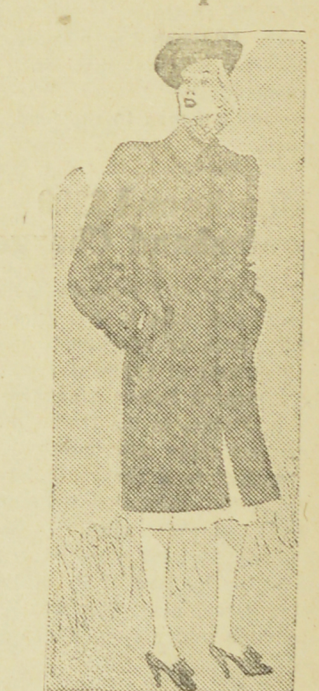
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