

The Daily Mail

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OLD COUNTRY OPINION

The people of the Mother Country are closely following the naval debate at Ottawa and judging by the outspoken opinions by some of the leading newspapers they are not favorably impressed with the effort being made by the Tories to apply the gag in the House of Commons. The Manchester Guardian, one of the most influential papers in Great Britain editorially urges the British government, if it has any influence with the Canadian government, to exert it to bring about an appeal to the electors on the navy bill. Hon. Winston Churchill, as judged by his public utterances, has seen the danger, and has been trying to avoid it.

The Guardian says that Premier Borden has not been discreet. In effect his attitude lays the whole of the responsibility for the measure on the admiralty.

The Guardian deprecates that the permanent result of the controversy will be the introduction of the closure. It recalls Churchill's own indiscretion in quoting the remarks of his father on the effects of Irish obstruction in the British parliament.

"Ever since then obstruction and closure have struggled against each other, in a warfare which has respected no neutral boundaries and recognized no public law. Scarcely any parliamentary custom or privilege has escaped their joint depredations. Every device or formality designed in the careful wisdom of former ages to safeguard the rights of the minority has been recklessly exploited by one faction and ruthlessly demolished by the other.

The Guardian concludes:—"The lesson is clear. We have seen how difficult Mr. Churchill's position must have been in advising on a Canadian party question without taking sides with one party against the other, but this is precisely the difficulty which the proposed plan of giving Canadian representation on the cabinet committee of defence would make a permanent and regular feature of the constitution. It will remove one keystone of imperial unity, and must at all costs be abandoned. Better far have no ships at all from Canada than have them with this dangerous condition attached."

SIR CHARLES' EMERGENCY

Party feeling so far as Sir Charles Tupper is concerned is pretty well forgotten in this country. The splendid service which the veteran statesman has rendered Canada is recognized by men of all shades of politics and all are willing to give him full credit for his achievements. It will be remembered that after the naval resolution of 1909 was unanimously adopted in the House of Commons, Sir Charles, in a spirit of exuberance, wrote a letter to Premier Borden in which he declared that a terrible responsibility would rest upon those who would disturb that compact. The old gentleman probably thought there was a possibility of the Grits going back on the compact, but as it has been broken by Mr. Borden and his Nationalist allies he has found it necessary to square himself with the public. While in Winnipeg recently, Sir Charles handed out some "reminiscences" to the press, among which we find the following, which is going the rounds of the Tory press:

"I heartily approved of the resolution unanimously passed by the Laurier government and supported by Mr. R. L. Borden on behalf of the opposition for the establishment of a Canadian navy. Also, when Mr. Borden visited England and found that a conflict with Germany was likely to occur at a comparatively early date and when he obtained the concession that Canada should be in a position to be consulted on mat-

ters of foreign policy, I heartily approved of the policy which was subsequently made to contribute three dreadnoughts of the highest class to meet any emergency which might arise."

Although now in his ninety-second year the veteran baronet gives evidence that he has not forgotten how to deal with any "emergency" which might arise. Sir Charles has been making his home at Bexley Heath, England, for many years and although he watches public affairs closely, it seems strange that he did not discover that "war with Germany was likely to occur at a comparatively short date" until after Mr. Borden's visit last summer. Having acquired this information Sir Charles now heartily approves of the policy to contribute three dreadnoughts to the Mother Country. Sir Charles, although an old man, is not too old to learn and he will probably be more guarded in his statements the next time he has occasion to address a letter to Premier Borden on domestic political affairs.

Premier Sifton, in a final message to the electors of Alberta, ventures the opinion that his government will carry at least forty seats. The campaign in the western province has been short but very lively. Mr. R. B. Bennett, acting as the agent of Hon. Bob Rogers, has directed the fight for the Tories. Mr. Bennett led the Alberta Tories in a previous contest and succeeded in winning two seats, his own not being included in the number.

It seems that Chief Commissioner Morrissey, when he arranged for the construction of a temporary span for the highway bridge, neglected to consult the local patronage dispensers but acted on the advice of his engineer. The result was that the job was handed out to a Liberal. Amateur bridge builders of the Tory faith feel the affront very keenly and are threatening all sorts of trouble.

The government if it wants to do something to help out the merchants of Fredericton will lose no time in establishing a means of crossing for foot passengers on the highway bridge.

MR. NEY ADDRESSES
THE NORMAL STUDENTS

Mr. Fred. J. Ney of the Education Department of Manitoba, who addressed the teachers and Daughters of the Empire in the Normal School last Thursday regarding the movement of "Hands Across the Seas," returned to Fredericton on Tuesday and spoke to 300 students of the Normal School. Mr. Ney had in the mean time visited Halifax and St. John where he met and conferred with the teachers on the worthy and promising movement which enlists so much of his British energy. His stopping over here for the day on his return trip to the west seems to have been for the purpose of interviewing Dr. Carter, Chief Superintendent of Education, and Hon. Mr. McLeod, Provincial Secretary, on certain phases of the movement, which has had for some time, the sanction and sympathy of the Government and the Department of Education. Mr. Ney's address to the Normal School students this morning dealt chiefly with "The Duty and Discipline Movement," a movement of British origin and of empire scope and of which the Earl of Meath is the leader. "Hands Across the Seas" and "Duty and Discipline" are so related that they seem to have adopted each other; and the Earl of Meath has offered to entertain the "Hands Across the Seas" party to Ireland this year if he may be permitted. Mr. Ney left in the evening by the C. P. R. for Montreal and Ottawa.

WILL NOT ENDORSE PROPOSAL.

The Transportation Committee of the Board of Trade at a meeting held yesterday afternoon, considered the proposal of Supt. Downie of the C. P. R., that the express for St. John leave at 6.10 a.m. instead of 6.20 a.m., as at present. The committee decided that it would not be advisable to endorse the proposed changes and instructed the secretary Mr. G. Y. Dibblee, to write to Mr. Downie to that effect. The trains on the Fredericton Branch of the C. P. R. are to be made passenger trains and other arrangements than those which have been in effect are to be made for handling of freight traffic.

BYLAWS GOING INTO EFFECT.

The city bylaws requiring fly-stables, bill-posters, junk-dealers and those following other occupations to take out licenses goes into effect on May 1. Notice to that effect will be given formally shortly.

A CITIZEN'S VIEWS
THE ON SCOTT CASE

To the Editor of The Daily Mail:—

Dear Sir:—Referring to the unfortunate case now pending before the police court on preliminary examination, it would appear to be a subject of regret that such prominence, by flaring headlines and detailed statement of its real or supposed features, have been given to it in the columns of one of the city papers. It is said, no doubt correctly, that the hearing of such cases is, under the law, held in secret, behind closed doors. The object of this would appear to be to prevent the publication of the evidence and circumstances of a case, the reporting of which might have a bad effect upon the youth and upon the general morality of the community. It may also be in the interest of the accused, that his defence shall not be unfairly prejudiced in the public mind. Under English law he is presumed to be innocent until proved guilty. Many of the statements made in the reports referred to are not calculated to advance either one or the other of these objects.

Several lawyers to whom I have spoken on the subject, have expressed the opinion that the publication of these comments, especially in so far as they have to do with the proceedings in the Court, is punishable as what is known as contempt of Court. Whether this is so or not, no good purpose appears to be served by the daily dishing up of uncalled for statements which do public harm and which are not in the interests of fair play.

The moderate report in the first instance given by The Mail and its subsequent avoidance of the case is, I think, to be commended.

CITIZEN.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

Following is an abstract from the several reports of the Church of the Disciples of Christ of the United States and Canada:

Membership	1,347,212
Churches	9,905
Ministers	6,160
Statement of receipts and gains for missions and benevolences for the year ending September 30th, 1912:	
State Missions, Home	
Department	\$ 122,251.88
Gain Over 1911	2,655.26
National Benevolence	81,188.15
Gain Over 1911	47,294.00
American Missions, Home	
Work	178,884.25
Gain Over 1911	55,507.38
Christian Woman's Board of Missions	336,475.77
Gain Over 1911	2,840.92
Foreign Missions	400,728.44
Gain Over 1911	646.41
Church Extension	136,402.08
Gain Over 1911	40,592.69
Ministerial Relief	25,980.99
Gain Over 1911	8,664.44
Total	\$1,281,908.58
Gain	203,096.13

SHOP-KEEPERS' WARNED.

Grocers and other shop-keepers are being warned by the police that they must discontinue the practice of placing refuse in catch-basins.

FORTY YEARS IN USE, 20 YEARS THE STANDARD, PRESCRIBED AND RECOMMENDED BY PHYSICIANS. FOR WOMAN'S AILMENTS, DR. MARTEL'S FEMALE PILLS, AT YOUR DRUGGIST.

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OILCLOTHS in 1/2, 3/4, 1 yard and 1 1/2 yards, 1 1/2 yards, 2 and 2 1/2 yards, in Floral Patterns, Block and Wood Patterns.

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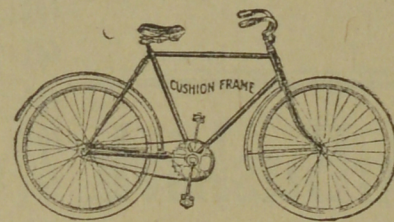
See our New Designs for Spring, 1913. Goods cheerfully shown and estimates given.

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