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Musings of a Modern Maid

Treat a man's love as you do his flowers; enjoy its sweetness as long as it lasts, and don't tear it to tatters trying to analyze it.

A dark brown past is no insurance against a black future, and it is a fatal feminine mistake to marry a man who has "seen life" on the theory that he won't keep right on looking for it.

There are times when a woman can say "Why, John!" so that it sounds just like a swear word.

A man can forgive a woman for not understanding him; in fact, he can forgive her for almost anything else on earth except thinking that she does understand him; for down in his heart of hearts, every man likes to think of himself as a deep dark, subtle mystery.



Gen. Joffre

RESOURCES COMMISSION SHOULD GET BUSY AT ONCE

Should Do Its Work and Bring in a Report Before the Public Loses Interest in the Subject.

(By H. F. Gadsby.)

Ottawa, Dec. 2—The opinion is freely expressed here that the Dominion Resources Commission, if it is to keep abreast of its responsibilities, should get busy at once. At present it looks as if the commission thinks that being appointed is as much hard work as it ought to do for a while and that examining the resources of Canada can be left over until there is a slack spell.

This tendency to hang fire in the matter of good works which has already led to a lot of bungling at Quebec and a lot of complaining from improperly discharged soldiers who were thus shortchanged of their back pay, should not be allowed to spread to the Dominion Resources Commission, whose task of enlightenment and regeneration is, like the statesman's frock coat, not for an age but for all time. The object of the Dominion Resources Commission is presumably to find and suggest resources which will keep the wolf from the door and the way to keep the wolf from the door is to head him off before he gets there, not to wait until he is eating the victrola in the front parlor.

SHOULD GET BUSY.

For this and many other reasons, good hoppers are strongly hoping that the Dominion Resources Commission will proceed to concentrate immediately on its important labors and that it will not follow the example of so many other government commissions, composed of prominent but tired business men, who consider that their duty is done when they give the public welfare the drags of their activity, hold a few meetings at conveniently long intervals and draw up a report in which a few conclusions of a general and obvious nature are suitably embalmed.

Much criticism has been passed on the habit of government commissions have of bringing in a report after the public has lost interest in the subject and letting it go at that. But judg-

ing from such reports as have seen print in the past, oblivion was the best that could happen to them. The poor things should never have been dragged into the light. The wisdom they displayed, the boiled owl kind of wisdom that says nothing that everybody doesn't know already, is entitled to a decent burial. Simply that and nothing more.

The other kind of wisdom, the wisdom that reveals truth, that exposes injustice, points out faults and indicates remedies—the wisdom in short, that gets down to cases, names names and calls spades spades, that kind of wisdom may get as far as a report, but it seldom gets as far as a blue book. The government treasures the information so much that it won't let anybody else have a look in. So it puts it in a vault and hoards it there.

REPORT PIGEONHOLED.

For example, the government has in hand right now, has in fact had in hand for a year back, a most valuable and interesting report on the High Cost of Living, drawn up by a bold and fearless investigator, Mr. R. W. Coates of the department of labor. Mr. Coates is probably the best informed statistician and economic investigator in Canada today, and any government is privileged which enjoys his services. Investigating the high cost of living is just the hard kind of a job that Mr. Coates likes to tackle and when, to satisfy a general clamor, the government put him to work a year and a half ago, he went to it like a terrier to a root.

That report was finished perhaps eight months ago and has been in the manuscript stage ever since. When Mr. Crothers was asked about it in the House of Commons last April words could hardly express his admiration for Mr. Coates' great work. It was, he said, one of the most thorough and satisfactory reports he had ever read, a master-

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piece of illumination and the only thing that kept it out of print at that time was a trifling disposition of Mr. Coates, who would soon, however, be well enough to read the proofs. After that the report would go forward rapidly, and would soon be in the hands of all who were anxious to learn the cause of the high cost of living and how to get around it. That was seven months ago. Mr. Coates is now completely restored to health but his world-shaking report on the high cost of living remains just where it was when Mr. Crothers praised it so highly, last April—in cold storage. Apparently Mr. Coates did his work well.

His report not only showed up causes but looked straight at, if it did not name, offenders who were tariff friends of the government. On second thoughts, Mr. Crothers probably decided that the naked facts ought not to go out to the public just now. One war at a time is enough.

SERIOUS HANDICAPS.

The Dominion Resources Commission may bring in a report too good to be true, or one too true to be printed but in either case it starts out under serious handicaps. One observes in the very middle of it a couple of gentlemen not unconnected with the high cost of living and it may not be their policy to give trade secrets away. If they have their will (Continued on page six)

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