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DAILY HERALD

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THE EMPIRE'S STRENGTH.

Many of those who discuss the subject of Imperial defence, putting a trust in Dreadnoughts and the immediate construction of giant fleets, forget that, other things being equal or nearly equal, the strength of a nation or an empire depends upon the size of its population. And it is just here that the British Empire is weak relatively speaking. The white people of the various countries under the British flag number some millions less than the inhabitants of Germany, but two thirds of the United States and but little over one third of those of Russia. The crying need of the overseas dominions is more people, and the energies expended on suzerain ships or upon vacant places in Canada and Australia are doing more to add to the Empire than the same energies if used up in bringing into existence costly armaments whose units may become obsolete within six months. Twenty-five millions of prosperous and wealthy people in Canada would mean more strength to the Empire than a fleet of Dreadnoughts; and any interruption in the progress of our national development means the putting off to a more distant time the day when a populous Canada will make that Empire invincible. We have "ample room and verge enough" for a nation of two hundred millions; and with only fifty millions we could become a guarantee for a peacefully disposed United States. It was the recognition of this fact that Canada, by adding to the number of her inhabitants and developing her resources, would rapidly tend to imperial invincibility, which formed the theme of Mr. Fielding's clever address at the recent Dominion Day banquet in London.

SUCCESSION DUTIES.

Premier Hazen made his boast in the legislature last session, and more recently on the hustings in St. John county, that he only charged a fee of 3 1/2 per cent for collecting the succession duty from the estate of the late Mr. Charles Fawcett of Sackville. Hon. C. W. Robinson, in a speech at St. Martin's on Saturday night, alluded to this matter in the following terms: "Mr. Hazen claims that he received only 3 1/2 per cent out of the Fawcett estate. He knows very well that the fees are regulated by the amount collected. In all other cases he received five per cent, and notwithstanding that he waived 1 1/2 per cent, I will venture to say he received more money from that one estate than any previous attorney general. The boast was openly made that the change of government saved the estate thousands of dollars because they were Mr. Hazen's political supporters." The late Mr. Fawcett passed away while the old government was in power, but for some reason there was a hitch in regard to the payment of the succession duties. The cause was not made public at the time, but it is well known that the executors were not satisfied with the terms proposed by the then government. The executors and heirs of the estate are strong Tories, and the promptness with which they were able to affect a settlement with Attorney General Hazen created considerable astonishment at the time. Hon. Mr. Robinson has advanced a reason for this, and it seems to be well founded. It does not look as if Mr. Hazen was well advised when he boasted of his work in connection with the Fawcett estate.

CHEAPER CABLE RATES.

Mr. Henniker-Heaton, the hero of penny-postage, has set himself heterodoxly to the task of bringing about a reduction in cable rates, which at the present time are so high as to be utterly prohibitive for ordinary uses. In a recent article in the London Daily News, he puts arguments with force and point. Referring to the matter of idle cables, he says: "There are twelve cables between the United Kingdom and America, with a carrying capacity of 300,000,000 words, and only 25,000,000 words are sent. Thought is cut short at Valletta. Here we have nearly 140,000,000 people, identical in speech, closely connected by blood, with a trade of over \$120,000,000; nearly a quarter of a million persons annually emigrate from the United Kingdom to America; tens of thousands more cross from one continent to another every year; and yet not one family in a hundred ever cables one word in a year. Compare this with the fact stated by the P.M.G. of the United States in 1889, that in continental countries 50 per cent. of the telegraphic messages are connected with social and family matters. After speaking of the importance of cheap cable connection as a bond of

imperial union, he deals with the old stock argument that dividends would disappear if reductions were brought about:

Something has been done to reduce cable charges. In 1902 the Indian rates were reduced from 4s. to 2s. 6d. per word; in the seven years between 1897 and 1904, West African charges were greatly cut down, in some cases by close on to 50 per cent. And yet the cable companies pay good dividends, cable shares are at a premium. From this I deduce two conclusions—that monopoly had retained unjustifiably high rates, or that greater traffic had compensated for reduced rates.

He cites in proof that reduction and dividends are not incompatible, the fact that when the submarine cables were purchased by the governments of France, Germany, Holland and Belgium, the rates were reduced from two and a half to two pence per word, yet the revenue increased by 47 per cent. Further he says: "The cable rates present even more striking anomalies than those to which I have referred in relation to postage. Telegraphic communication is profitably carried on between France and Algeria for 1d. a word, while we pay 2d. to telegraph to France. It costs us 2s. 6d. a word to cable to India, while we can telegraph to the head of the Persian Gulf for 6d. One can wire right across Australia for 1d. a word; it costs double to wire to Brussels."

Mr. Henniker-Heaton's conclusion is that the present cable monopoly must be destroyed either by the government buying the companies out or by creating competition.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Judge Lindsey, Denver: "I have been in the juvenile court nearly ten years, and in that time I have had to deal with thousands and thousands of boys who have disgraced themselves and their parents, and who have brought sorrow and misery into their lives; and I do not know of any one habit that is more responsible for the troubles of these boys than the vile cigarette habit."

The cases of the eight night-riders, six of whom were under death sentence charged with the murder of Captain Quentin Rankin at Walnut log, on Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee, Oct. 9 last, have been reversed by the Supreme court and remanded for new trials. Two principal reasons assigned—that the Grand Jury which found the indictments was not selected in a proper manner, and that the State did not allow the defendants a sufficient number of challenges.

At Philadelphia, Jacob Stern, a cigar dealer, sent his ten year old daughter to the bank with \$372 in cash and some checks. The child was accompanied by her three year old sister. On the way, in one of the busiest centres of the city, a strange man approached the girl, saying he had \$5 for her father. When she extended her hand for it, he seized her about the neck, tore the bankbook from her and fled. The little girl chased the thief for several blocks, followed by a crowd, but he managed to escape.

Transcript: An Ottawa despatch says that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is the only member of the government at the Federal capital, all the other ministers being away on various missions. The premier has had scarcely a rest from the exacting duties of public life for two years. The announcement that he is at his post of duty and acting head of all the departments is a significant answer to those newspapers which have been commenting on the "probability" of his "retirement soon on account of ill-health."

A correspondent sends a clipping from the Chicago Journal containing some malicious gossip regarding the Prince of Wales. The reliability of it may be gauged by Canadians from the following specimen extract: "The tour of the Prince and Princess of Wales in Canada, marked all along the line by caddish and insulting treatment of local dignitaries who greeted them, has done more to estrange Canada from Britain than anything else that ever happened." We had thought that even the appetite for such stuff as this had declined among our neighbors.

Mrs. James Hannay and her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Bright, arrived in the city from New York yesterday, accompanied by Dr. Hannay, who went to Fredericton. Dr. Hannay has made his home there for some time in connection with the publication of his new book, "The History of New Brunswick," which is now going through the press.—Telegraph.

W. S. Carter, chief superintendent of education, arrived in the city yesterday. He will leave for Kingston today to be present this evening at a meeting of the temporary board to discuss plans for the new Consolidated School.—Telegraph.

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Armed for Shooting Italian Flag.

New York, July 10.—"I don't care what flag it was, you had no right to shoot it down and I will fine you \$25 for doing it," said Judge Vileco of Rochester, N.Y., when Harold Conant, a patriotic grocer, was arraigned before him on a charge of shooting down an Italian flag.

The trouble was caused when Giuseppe Maduro put up an Italian flag in front of his home. Conant, who is the senior member of a grocery firm, demanded that the Stars and Stripes be run up on the top of the Italian flag, and when the Italian refused Conant went to his home, several blocks away and returned with a shotgun. He shot away the balyards supporting the flag.

Kingston Grocers Fined.

Kingston, July 10.—In the Police Court yesterday Messrs. Shuy and Perkins, who run corner groceries, pleaded guilty to selling adulterated coffee and were fined \$5 and costs each.

The analysis showed that the grocers were selling roasted grain for coffee. They had purchased the adulterated articles from wholesalers, who, like themselves, had been deceived.

Japan After Dreadnoughts.

Tokio, July 10.—It is reported that Japan will acquire the three Brazilian Dreadnoughts building in England.

JULY 12 1909

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Ladies' and Children's Undervests in Long, Short and without Sleeves in Cotton, Lisle and Silk. Also Nemo and N. B. Corsets. We have just received a new line of Handbags and Purses, also Twine Shopping Bags.

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Berry Sets, consisting of 12 fruit saucers and a round dish 8 or 10 inches in diameter, 75 and 80c Set.

We are showing these in two of our most popular stock patterns, The Ariel Blue Bexley and the Rococo White and Gold.

Berry Sets in our new Laurel stock pattern, \$1.10 per set. This is one of the prettiest patterns we have ever seen, the decoration consisting of blossoms and leaves, in delicate pinks and greens, with gold band.

Our two Limoges patterns are too well known to require description. Berry Sets, \$4.25 and \$5.15.

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A SIGN IN PASSING



just to remind you that we act as valet to gentlemen, in the sense of keeping the wardrobe at all times in perfect order so far as the Cleaning and Pressing of clothes is concerned. We can save you plenty of anxiety, and both time and money by our work, which is everywhere praised for its thoroughness and excellence. You will be pleased with our prices, too.

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