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REMEMBRANCE DAY

The mildly vexed question of how Remembrance Day shall properly be observed, (says St. John Telegraph Journal), does not seem to be settled by a ruling from Ottawa.

"On the contrary, the change in system that has been ordered in Ontario through the elimination of examinations, by giving the teacher a greater responsibility and more scope for personal initiative, is calculated to enhance the standard of school education.

A GREAT EXPLOIT

The exploit of Sergeant John Leopold of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in penetrating the organization of the Communist Party of Canada and carrying out the duties of secretary for a period of seven years, is, comments an exchange, another bar for the medal of accomplishment of one of the most distinguished bodies of police in the world.

OUR NATIONAL WEALTH

The national wealth of Canada in 1929 was, exclusive of undeveloped natural resources, approximately \$30,840,000,000, which is an increase of \$1,210,000,000 over 1928 estimate of \$29,630,000,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

BANS SCHOOL EXAMS

An innovation has been made in educational methods in Ontario which is not without interest to other Provinces. Premier Henry, in his capacity of Minister of Education, has announced that henceforth pupils in Ontario may pass through elementary and secondary schools without being subject to written examinations, but shall be promoted on teachers' recommendations.

Commenting favorably on the proposed change, the Montreal Gazette says:

"School examinations are formidable things, even to the best prepared pupils and the best regulated student minds. If they stir pupils to exertion and react on indolence, where indolence exists, educationists are coming to agree that these written tests are no real stimulus to the intellectual appetite.

ALL WILL BENEFIT

It is not only the West which will benefit by the upward movement in the wheat market. All Canada will benefit. This fact is emphasized by the Moncton Transcript when it says:

"The condition of the wheat market has been responsible more than anything else for the slowing down in business throughout the Dominion. When the West gets on its feet again the remainder of the country will have little cause for concern over the future. Manufacturing, merchandising and transportation all will feel an immediate stimulus.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Joseph Stalin says that the British mentality is inscrutable, and also, as a result of the elections he admits that reports from Communist in Great Britain were unreliable. In fact, it would appear that the only untoward feature of the voting was that it made Mr. Stalin uncomfortable.

Today we can supply the majority of our own needs in things that we have been in the habit of purchasing from foreign countries. What we cannot find at home, we can buy from other parts of the Empire, and we shall get a full return in the products those parts of the Empire will buy from us.

There is no reason one can see why Lloyd George should hesitate before the adventure of trying to carve out a new career for himself as a Labour chieftain. L. G. has always been a champion of the under dog, a fact to his credit.

It is clear, says a writer in the English Review that the internal condition of this country will prevent any administration from playing a prominent part upon the international stage for some time to come, but that is no reason why the National Government, and its (presumably) Conservative successor, should not formulate a definite policy which shall look a little further ahead than the meeting of the next conference, which was as far as Mr. Henderson and his colleagues could see.

What we want to know now is how the British Government is going to deal with the international situation which will face it. The problem still remains as an integral whole. War debts, reparations, tariffs, disarmament, are linked indissolubly together. There will have to be an international conference, which will deal with gold and the Young Plan as well as with guns and bombs and poison gas. And that conference, in our opinion, ought to be the first concern of the British Government, not merely on altruistic grounds, but in the interest of Great Britain.

An analysis of the Russian five-year plan, made by economists of note at the recent meeting of the British Association in England, proved that in spite of the extravagant claims made by Communist a decrease in the Soviet trade balance is a more likely result, eventually, than any real improvement of conditions there. Mr. Maurice Dobb, lecturer in economics at Cambridge university in the reports show, described the plan as an attempt by a "backward agrarian country of semi-



By James W. Barber, M.D.

HOT BATHS AS CLIMATIC TREATMENT IN RHEUMATISM

Some one has said that rheumatism is the oldest disease known to man, and yet rheumatism is as prevalent to-day as in any time in history.

It is true of course that there are now more drugs and other methods of treating rheumatism but that is not the best kind of advancement in medicine.

Now although we know that most cases of rheumatism are due to infection from teeth or tonsils, the majority of people do not think about the possibility of rheumatism attacking them, and naturally do not bother to have an X ray examination of the teeth or to have the throat examined. Thus it is only when the infection has gone along for years and they begin to have pain in the joints or muscles—rheumatism—that they get busy and have infected teeth and tonsils removed.

Of course climate enters into the causation of rheumatism also in some individuals sensitive to cold.

Dr. H. Fortescue Fox calls attention to the fact as climate enters into the matter, that an artificial climate be provided for these cases by means of hot baths.

The heat and moisture obtained by hot baths increase the circulation of the blood in rheumatic infections, break down the swelling formed in the joints, relieve the pain and by relieving the pain enable the patient to increase the movements of the joints, and improve the resistance to cold in these cases.

In prescribing such artificial climate (hot baths) a gradual advance should be made from day to day; and the bath should be repeated before the effect of the preceding treatment has been lost.

Dr. Fox says that if after the patient has taken the bath he tries to 'harden' himself by exposing himself to a cold dressing room or the open air, he interferes with the treatment; the patient should remain in a warm room for a few hours after the treatment.

The thought then about rheumatism is that in order to prevent it, of the teeth and tonsils should be examined and removed if infected. Once rheumatism begins to make itself felt—twinges in the joints or muscles—the hot bath treatment should be started at once instead of simply using medicines to ease the pain. We should try to remember what is called the "bath complex"—heat, moisture, and movement—which in skillful hands is perhaps the most powerful remedy in the prevention and treatment of rheumatism.

The Poet's Corner

HILLS

The hills I love are ordinary hills, With common lanes where common cattle pass; But sunlight like the April daffodils Lies on their slopes and glids the pasture grass.

The hills I love holds barns and sheds and houses, Old orchards with gnarled Seek-no-further trees, A stony field wherein a cross ram browses, Yet I am happier—happier far— with these Than any wealthier and wiser I Could be with mountains reaching to the sky.

—H. Moody.

Asiatic methods" to change over as rapidly as possible to "an economy based on up-to-date American technique." Thirty per cent. of the national income was devoted to capital investment in giant industrial schemes. He regarded the forced exports of certain commodities as being probably only a transitional phase, and he looked for a decrease rather than an increase in Russia's trade balance and her competition in world markets.

There Must Be Elephants

(Manitoba Free Press) On those rare occasions when a circus comes to town and you are able to satisfy your own lust for the show by saying that the children would be broken up if they missed it, you fall into place as an upholder of one of the oldest traditions in the world. Centuries and centuries ago Nero developed the lust for the circus in the people of Rome. It was not an invention of his own; but Nero was a showman, and he developed it. It was he who made the circus a family institution. At every other Roman spectacle the sexes were separated, but when they went to the circus, the whole family sat together.

It was a grim enough exhibition, for gladiators played their cruel part in it, and prisoners were often done to death by turning wild animals loose among them in the arena. Often the poor wretches were tied to crosses and stakes, and were slowly torn to pieces before the delighted family parties. But awful as such exhibitions seem to our anaemic tastes, Nero's circuses developed features which no modern circus, even today, feels that it can do without. The backbone of his show lay in the chariot races, carried out in the authentic Ben Hur fashion. And, if the chariot race of the circuses of today lack a little of that tang, the sight of galloping, excited horses tearing round the ring is still one that brings an audience to its feet. The old Roman shows always began with a grand parade, in which trained animals drew cars bearing images of the favorite Roman gods. Nero, himself a god, was often to be seen on feast days, sitting in state as he was slowly drawn around the sanded ring.

See how closely the line of showmanship is followed through the ages. When P. T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth was in its heyday, that prize character used to make his appearance shortly after the performance began. The show was stopped, and the owner was driven around the ring in state in an open carriage with liveried attendants on the box. At intervals he would have the carriage stop and, standing up, he would call out in his squeaky voice, "I suppose you came to see Barnum, didn't you? Wa-al, I'm Mr. Barnum." The show would then go on.

Phineas T. Barnum stands with hardly a rival among modern showmen. His success began with the exploitation of an aged negro. He named her Joice Heth, said she was the nurse of George Washington and had attained the age of 160 years. She was worth \$1,500 a week to the old negro. Soon he acquired a real, genuine mermaid and The Woolly Horse, Jo-Jo, the Dog-Faced Boy, was another Barnum discovery, a sad-eyed Carolina negro of low mentality who had been taught to bark. In the long and varied list of Barnum features, curiously enough, occurs the name of Jenny Lind, no fake this time, but one of the loveliest sopranos who ever lived. General Tom Thumb, whom Barnum took to visit Queen Victoria at Windsor, made a fortune from his tours in the show.

Mention of Tom Thumb recalls the much smaller dwarf, Great the Small, found in Europe by Bailey, Barnum's greatest rival. Besides all these, there were elephants, for elephants since the beginning of time have been the greatest drawing card in the world. Nero used them in huge numbers. No show anywhere in the world has been worth much without them, and the greatest competition that ever raged in the circus business was at the time when a baby elephant was born in Bailey's show. Barnum wired an offer of \$100,000 for it. Bailey refused, and reproduced the telegram on his billboards under the caption "What Barnum Thinks of the Baby Elephant." The baby, unfortunately, died, for elephants are difficult beasts to breed or rear in captivity.

Woman Reptile Expert Dies Miss Joan B. Proctor, Curator of Reptiles at the London Zoo and one of England's most distinguished zoologists, has died. Miss Proctor, who was 34, would handle the most dangerous reptiles with a fearlessness which astonished old-time menagerie people. Surgeons were amazed at the ease in which she would skillfully operate on the head of a cobra or a rattlesnake without displaying a sign of fear.

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