

## CURRENT COMMENT.

## Our Adverse Trade Balance

A great deal of alarm is exhibited in some quarters over the state of our balance of trade with the United States. As the balance of trade is made the excuse for regarding an American dollar as worth ten cents more than a Canadian dollar, it might be well to ask who benefits in the exchange? The trade figures show a "continuously growing adverse balance," according to a Toronto authority, which is "really alarming." The August figures, we are told, "are astonishing." In August our imports were \$43,940,000 more and our exports \$4,000,000 less. This means \$124,000,000 a month and a million and a half a year, and according to the authority, "reveals a pace of buying that cannot last." But suppose it isn't buying at all! We are a new country and nation. We are being settled up and exploited by all sorts of people, and our neighbors take a shrewd interest in us. Suppose they establish branches of their business here, and they send over goods, coal, iron ore, construction materials, machinery and equipment for this purpose, it is not we, but they, who pay for this material, and when it arrives here it becomes capital, which is not likely to be moved while profit can be made upon it. People, for example, do not send over and buy motor-cars across the border. The manufacturers there send them to their branch houses here for sale, and if they send more, it is out of the turnover of their original capital invested here that they pay, and before long they start to manufacture. If United States business men as a class are willing to trust Canada to the extent of a billion and a half a year, we may be sure they are warranted in their confidence, and we should worry. It looks more like a billion and a half of new capital invested in the country, paying wages and distributing profits all around. Good times are here.

## Investigating the Hydro Radials

At the start of the investigation of the Commission appointed to investigate the Hydro-Radial proposals, the Commission itself and Mr. Hellmuth, K.C., were careful to evince a proper neutrality and impartiality towards the Hydro officials, and particularly repudiated Premier Durney's statement that delay had been caused by the failure of the Hydro Commission to answer seventeen questions. It was stated that all the information asked for was either supplied or was being supplied as quickly as it could be furnished, and the Commission exonerated the Hydro officials entirely of having caused any delay. Mr. Robertson, who was obviously hostile to the Radial proposals, represented the non-Hydro municipalities, and apparently had been instructed that something had been concealed which it was his business to uncover. He described the Hydro counsel as having "skillfully stepped around" his questions, an allegation that was at once challenged by Col. McInnes, who appeared in the Radial interests. The presence in court of certain persons who have a unique faculty for getting in wrong on public questions was a indication to the judicials of the kind of opposition that had generated the demand for the enquiry. Various traction and allied interests are naturally opposed to the Hydro-Radial plan, but their opposition is not based on the public interest, but rests solely on their own. The idea that some critics have emphasized, that the whole scheme is in the interest of Toronto, should be seen to be fallacious from the fact that the strongest opposition comes from Toronto, and next to Toronto, from Hamilton and London. The Radial plans are, in fact, rural plans. The people most in favor of them in Toronto and other large towns are those who wish to leave these places and live in the country. There are near 600,000 people living in and near Toronto, and no city in America has less suburban service. The people have been herded together by a shortage of houses, which will not be overtaken in the next five years. Hundreds of people would move out to the country at once if assured of a regular and reliable radial service. Such a service would make and attract its own traffic. The latest estimates are more favorable to the project than earlier ones, and no one who knows anything of the conditions, and who has an open mind, would dispute for a moment the certain success of the Radial project in the areas selected. The rural municipalities were not influenced by the cities in the matter. The idea originated with them. They did not depend on the Radial Commission for their information, but procured their own data from independent sources, and they satisfied themselves with the soundness of the plans. It has suited some people to represent the rural municipalities as having swallowed proposals laid before them by interested parties, but this is an altogether erroneous view.

## All in the Way It Is Done

Very few people give attention to the importance of methods in applying principles which, admirable in themselves, may utterly fail in execution on account of some defect in getting them into action. Nearly all the objections one hears to the operation of democracy, of public ownership of utilities, and even of the corporation idea itself, are due to the wrong method adopted in putting the principles involved into practice. An illustration is supplied in the election that has been going on for some months, and will continue till November, of a President of the United States, who will, even when elected, not be sure of his seat till an electoral college declares it, and who even then will not be able to take his place till the following March. The United States people think this is a fine system, even when nobody in America wants either of the candidates that have been wished on the voters. In France, recently, they found it necessary to elect a new President, the one in office having resigned on account of poor health. It did not take the French as many days as it takes the United States months to get a new President, and they got a man in that time that was satisfactory to almost 100 per cent. of the people. It is all in the way things are done. The spirit of the old constitutions, and the curbs and checks embodied in the United States constitution belong to the eighteenth century, not to the twentieth. The designers of that constitution may have trusted the people, but only the people they trusted. There were a good many others, and they were afraid of them.

## The Game for the Sake of the Game

Probably nothing but the Presidential election itself, if even that, has stirred the great American nation like the news that the national game had been made the means of deluding millions of innocent victims, and that the wild thrills with which the world championship series of baseball games were followed last year were as unwarrantable as a hopeless love for a movie heroine. The games were sold, and the greed of the purchasers, who took pains to make it plain that there is no honor among thieves, led to the divulgence of the plot. The crooked ones had bargained for \$100,000, but only received ten cents on the dollar. The man who planned the conspiracy and named the price, and who was apparently the chief actor in "throwing" the game, has been the one to turn State's evidence, and while he wept and made outcry for his two little children, we can find nothing to attract our sympathies to this fallacious pathos. The whole evil arises out of a false view of sport, and this view itself probably suggests itself from our general competitive system of business, examinations, etc. As long as people are brought up to think that one's chief duty is to beat the other fellow, it is probable that the baser sort will resort to illicit means to beat him. Too frequently we have in our provincial contests evidence of the same ignorance of the real character of sport. At a recent lacrosse match in Ottawa, the home team, which should have understood the virtue of hospitality, even if it knew nothing of good sportsmanship, displayed its lack of knowledge of the game by attempting to cripple the other players instead of directing its energies to getting the ball into goal. When will our young athletes learn that it is in fine play, and not in mere winning, that credit can be gained. There would be no credit in a team of men beating a team of boys. And the boys would get no credit if, in order to win, they tried to kill some of the men. But this is the principle inspiring some of these teams that are out to win, merit or no merit. There is another reason, and that is the greed for money, fostered by gambling. We shall never have entirely clean sport while gambling is associated with it. It is this that brought about the downfall of the Chicago baseball players. The finest principle has been shown by the management of the team. The offending players were at once cashiered. The determination to maintain clean sport was asserted. But the players themselves must learn to play the game for the sake of the game, and not to win either trophies or bets.

## EUCLID IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

The following maxims have been prepared by A. P. Garland, the English novelist:

A line is the policy that may be adopted in respect to any public matter.

A straight line is the policy that will not be so adopted.

The wrangles in the basis on an international agreement extend to infinity.

All conferences are the same conference.

A budget is that in which the income and expenditure, though reduced ever so many times, will not meet.

A wrangle is the disinclination of two Ministers who meet at a golf club.

A circle consists of a number of points on the earth's surface, at which every month Germany is forced to keep the Peace Treaty.

A pole is the straight line connecting Germany and Bolshevism.

A superman is a Minister from whom all lines radiate at a small extra charge.

If in the same street and on the same side of it be two Government departments, each to each, and if the number of controllers, deputy-controllers, assistant controllers, and charwomen in the one be equal to the number of controllers, etc., in the other, then shall the annual public charges be equal, each to each. For, if not, let one be the greater, then the other will have shown a slight tendency to economy—which is absurd.

## Good Reading

Did you ever stop to think that the advertisements of the home merchants in this newspaper make it a BETTER newspaper?

Well, it does. Advertising teaches PROGRESS, ECONOMY—and CONFIDENCE.

It teaches progress in keeping you abreast of the times, of all that is new and desirable in foods, clothing, homes, supplies, and comforts of all kinds.

It teaches economy through informing you where the best prices may be had—because economy is not only in the mere saving of money but also in the intelligent spending of it.

It teaches confidence through the knowledge gained in knowing you live as other folks live; enjoy the things they enjoy—that you have the same advantages.

The text book of our worldly comforts is written in the terse lines of our merchandising advertisements—AND IT'S WELL WORTH READING.

If we read the advertisements we soon realize that they can work to our advantage just as much as to the merchant with something to sell.

Then the HOME-SPENT DOLLAR starts its peppy journey amongst we home folks—every one of whom has the development and growth of this community at heart.



## THE BRAIN BOX.

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## ON LOOKING AHEAD INSTEAD OF BACK.

"Don't watch the step behind you, it's the one in front that counts. The fellow at the bottom knows 'tis true. The winner in life's climbing keeps his head up as he mounts. He's the one who has the grit to dare and do."

How are you holding out nowadays? Are you keeping your head up?

There are troubles and rumors of troubles in some parts of the world, unrest and other inevitable happenings caused by the changing conditions of the past six years. Perhaps the air of these things has even reached into your own particular corner.

In your business, in your work, on your farm, at home, you feel the effect of the world changes and you begin to look back regretfully over other years that seemed more peaceful, more prosperous.

It is just as well to look back sometimes, but not continually. Looking backward will never help you to make more of today. It is today you have to face and to deal with. It is only the material of today that lies under your hand for you to work with. Yesterday's fabric has gone and whether you made good use of it or ill, there is no recalling it. No amount of longing or regret will bring it again, and if you stop to waste time upon past things—before you know it—today also will pass swiftly from you and your part of its work be incomplete.

Don't look back then. Don't look aside. Look ahead. See what is waiting to be done, the things that only you can do, the things which you fail to do them, may never be complete.

## THE MAGIC CARPET.

Visits to New Worlds.

## LIVONIA.

Livonia, the third of the Baltic provinces before the great war, is perhaps the most progressive of the group. It is bounded on the north by Estonia, on the west by the Gulf of Riga, on the south by Courland and the lower Dvina, and on the east by the Vitebsk and the Pskov governments. Linguistically the Livonians would extend still further west where a large portion of the people are Letts. Livonia covers an area of 18,169 square miles. The surface is broken up by three plateaus, the most westerly forming what is known as the Livonian Switzerland. A considerable portion of the coast is sandy soil. Forests cover about two-fifths of the entire area, and it is only recently that any attempts have been made to drain these portions. The Western Dvina is the most important river and does a large part of the Livonian trade. All the rivers of Livonia are navigable and are used for timber rafting. The Gulf of Riga has less ice than the Gulf of Finland. The Livs gave their name to Livonia; they are not a populous race. They are now hardly distinguishable from the Letts with whom they are classified for linguistic purposes. More than half the total population of the Baltic States is in Livonia. The history of Livonia is bound up with the history of the other two Baltic provinces until the Russian seizure. In Livonia there has been a strong feeling of antagonism between the Germans and the Russians and both have tried to develop the nationalism of the country. When the Baltic provinces were incorporated with Russia in 1721 the whole population belonged to the Lutheran Church. With the government of the

only you can do, the things which you fail to do them, may never be complete.

Do not be turned aside from your plan from doing your best, by envy of some one else.

There is always another fellow who has something better—a better position, greater reward, more riches, bigger opportunities.

So you think, as you look around, and the foolish and short sighted who fail to keep their heads "up" are led aside from giving their best to their work by envy, envy of the lot of another.

They so covet what he has that they neglect to appreciate the good things that are their own.

Never mind the other fellow's position any more than you mind the things of yesterday.

It is possible that if you knew everything about his position, you would find he had his own troubles. He may be envying you your freedom from worry.

This power to keep one's head up, to look ahead instead of back, to make the very best of the material you have to-day whatever it may be, will bring you more quickly to the goal of your ambition than any coveting of another's place.

Make your own place and never mind about the fortunes of others.

A humble position that one man makes by his own work and efforts is of far greater value to him in strength of will power and character than all the riches of one who has inherited his position from another.

Never mind about the yesterdays then, make a scaling ladder of your regrets, and cease to envy others. Make your own life and work, that you may be proud of it, for you are the kind of man Canada needs.

Czar came the rule of the Orthodox Russian Church. The cleavage became more marked with the passing of the years, and in 1886 mixed marriages between Lutherans and members of the Orthodox Church were prohibited. Rye is the chief farming crop of the country and there is some valuable fishing from the Gulf of Riga. Livonia contains the great industrial city of Riga, which before the war had a population of nearly 600,000 souls. Pernau, also in Livonia, contains 70 per cent. of the factory hands of the Baltic provinces.

## INSURANCE STATISTICS.

Figures from The Insurance Press, a New York publication, estimate life insurance distribution in Canada and the United States for 1919 at \$1,843,500,000. The largest amount of insurance on a single life paid during 1919 was that carried by the late Henry C. Frick of New York and Pittsburgh, worth \$400,000. The fourth largest policy was \$334,000, held by the late John Lennox, of Hamilton, Ont. Three other Canadian names appear in the list of largest insurances paid during the year, being as follows: James Alexander Carcross, \$100,168; William Hyslop, Toronto, \$65,000; and George Robinson, London, \$64,031.

First on the list of Canadian cities showing the greatest amount of insurance paid in 1919 is Montreal, with \$2,275,000. Toronto comes second with \$1,533,000, and Hamilton third with \$620,000. Other cities ranking high are: Vancouver, \$504,000; Winnipeg, \$482,000; Ottawa, \$313,000; Quebec, \$233,000; Halifax, \$230,000; St. John, \$109,000; Edmonton, \$169,000, and Calgary, \$167,000.

Devil fish weighing up to 200 pounds are sometimes caught by the Japanese.

More than 90 per cent. of the alcohol and alcoholic drinks made in the Philippines is derived from palm tree juices.

## Battered Old Diary Tells Story of Experiences in Red River Expedition.

Much battered and torn, its pages yellowed with age, and the pencilled story of adventures of 50 years ago almost obliterated by the hand of time, a little leather-covered diary, the property of Thomas Barr, Renfrew county, Ontario, was brought into the Winnipeg Free Press office recently. Mr. Barr's diary contains the record of his experiences while serving as a member of Wolseley's Red River expedition, which left Toronto May 5, 1870, with the purpose in view of carrying British law and order into the then almost unknown country of the West, now stands, but which was then ravaged by Louis Riel's rebel Metis bands.

Mr. Barr, who was but a boy of 22, when he set out to seek his fortune on that romantic quest into the western land, is now 72, but hale and hearty as ever. In fact, he still works his 400-acre farm in Renfrew county, the father of nine children, seven of them living in Renfrew, and two in Manitoba. His eldest son, David M. Barr, to whom he sent the little diary, lives at 221 Polson avenue, Winnipeg, and another son, Alex., resides in Ninga, Man.

## Tells Concise Story.

The little, torn, soiled diary is a remarkably concise and unemotional account of the journeyings of the Red River party. Mr. Barr had charge of the boats which were used in the expedition, and this task, to judge from the diary, was no light one. For instance, on Friday, May 20, just fifteen days out of Toronto, while sailing up Georgian Bay, the adventurers "met a boat stuck on a rock. Took till Saturday noon to get her off." The entries in Mr. Barr's book are quite devoid of any expressions of emotion, but his state of mind can be pretty well guessed by a little "reading between the lines."

There is a restless, dissatisfied air about his eloquently brief note a week after meeting the "boat stuck on a rock," when he writes, "Lay anchored at Dawson wharf all day, doing nothing." The now popular business of "doing nothing" did not in the least, appear to the young voyagers of the Red River expedition.

They didn't worry about street car fares in those days, and some of the "portaging" tramps were fairly good-natured walks. One day, they "walked 11 miles to Kaministiquia river, took dinner, then walked 5 miles further to the Mattawa river. Walked on 11 miles further to Sunshine Creek, and pitched our tents." The writer does not say what happened as soon as the tents were pitched, but after a walk of 26 miles, it is a pretty safe guess that nobody in that party needed rocking to sleep.

## Builds Roads and Bridges.

Building bridges and "bridging mud holes" formed the interesting occupation of several days after that.

Widening out and straightening roads also took considerable time and energy. While engaged in this work, one day it rained very heavily, with the result, considered by the terse chronicler as worthy of note, that "we did not work more than seven hours all day." Apparently, the unpardonable sin of working more than eight hours a day was not then included in the category of crime.

Then things began to get exciting, and the expedition, so far peaceful, began to assume a more military aspect. On Tuesday, June 21, "the two gangs separated, and soldiers arrived." Mr. Barr's party stayed around Oskandaga, building up the bridge, turning permanent camps and stables. More than a week was put in by him "loading boats on wagons at Oskandaga river." Then, on Saturday, July 23, "the last company of volunteers arrived here at Oskandaga. Four men arrived from Fort Garry."

Days of alternate sailing and portaging followed, the party portaging 16 times between Oskandaga and Fort Frances. On Thursday, Sept. 1, they arrived at the mouth of the Red river, and two days later, landed at Fort Garry. At this point, the recorder triumphantly makes note of the fact that they are "now 1,331 miles from Toronto." Here, too, the diary stops abruptly, nothing else being included in its pages excepting a few notes on the return journey, which was undertaken almost immediately on account of the fact that the rebels had disappeared upon the arrival of Wolseley's forces.

## Has Daily Record.

The diary is a plain, straight, record of each day's work. It makes no moan about the tremendous difficulties and dangers which must have been encountered upon the long, toilsome journey by a round-about route, from east of Toronto to Fort Garry. It mentions not the disagreeableness of the decidedly unenviable business of "travelling and portaging under heavy loads, spanning rivers, making roads passable, and encountering, in the hot summer, through the wilderness, the plague of mosquitoes and other insects," which is noted in R. G. MacBeth's "Story of Manitoba." It is worthy of note, that while travelling through a country which must have been infested with those little insect plagues which usually cause more grumbling among fighting men than the enemy's bullets, Mr. Barr never even mentions them. Although Riel and his gang of rebels disappeared immediately upon the arrival of Wolseley and his men, the heroism of the eastern boys who bravely undertook that long, long journey to save the little British settlement in the far West, which has grown to such mighty proportions since those days, should never be forgotten.

## ADVICE TO GIRLS

By Rosalind

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## Dear Girls:

"All the world loves a lover"—somebody said, and surely no lovers were ever more widely read and loved than Evangeline and Gabriel.

Longfellow immortalized Evangeline in verse, and now an Acadian sculptor has perpetuated her in bronze. On July 29 Lady Burnham, wife of Viscount Burnham, unveiled the statue of Evangeline at Grand Pre, Nova Scotia. The statue, which weighs two tons, stands in Evangeline Memorial Park, not far from a row of Acadian willows which are said to be more than 180 years old. The park covers the site of the Acadian village from which Evangeline's people were deported in 1755. Viscount Burnham is President of the Imperial Press Conference.

Before the unveiling Dr. George B. Cutten, President of Acadia University, referring to the expulsion of the Acadians, said:

"Some may ask if the poem 'Evangeline' accords with historical fact. Of course it does not. But poetry is always truer than history, and sculpture, in turn, biography. Poetry touches the unseen and eternal, history the seen and the temporal. Sculpture is the snapshot of a heart-beat, biography the distorted account of real events. Of course Evangeline is true! And as we look at the statue to-day the appeal to the heart is real and lasting."

"Did Evangeline live?" Evangeline did live and still lives. This statue represents the longing of a deported people for the old home, one last lingering look at the beloved scene before leaving it forever.

"Times have changed. To-day the gentle hand of an English lady will unveil the statue of a French peasant girl. No longer are the French our enemies, but in the late conflict our drumbeats and heartbeats kept time."

There was an Acadian girl, the prototype of Evangeline, but her real name is unknown. It was Longfellow who called her Evangeline and her lover Gabriel.

Fair was she and young, when in hope began the long journey; Faded was she and old, when in disappointment it ended.

The name "harmattan" has been given to a dry, hot wind which periodically blows from the interior of Africa toward the Atlantic during December, January, and February. Often within an hour after the harmattan begins to blow green grass in its course is dry enough to burn.

The story was brought to Nathaniel Hawthorne's attention in 1838 by a minister who heard it related by a Nova Scotia woman. When the story was retold to Longfellow, he said to Hawthorne: "If you really do not want the incident for a story, let me have it for a poem." Hawthorne consented, and nine years later, "Evangeline" was completed and published.

The Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia is one of the oldest settled sections in North America. In 1606, three years before Quebec was founded by Champlain, the Sieur de Monts and Champlain entered the Bay of Fundy and discovered Digby Gut, a great break in North Mountain, through which they entered Annapolis Basin, at the northern end of which de Monts founded Port Royal, now known as Annapolis Royal.

Port Royal shared honors with Quebec as the leading city of New France, and was besieged thirteen times by the British, hostile Indians, and French Canadians. When it was ceded to Great Britain in 1713, Indians and French repeatedly attacked the old fort, which to-day is a picturesque park under the protection of the Dominion Parks Commission. Acadia included all of Nova Scotia, part of New Brunswick, and the northern part of Maine. The Acadians of Annapolis Royal, Grand Pre and other towns repeatedly declined to take an unqualified oath of allegiance to Great Britain, and finally between six and seven thousand of them were forcibly deported by Massachusetts militia in 1755.

Evangeline Memorial Park at Grand Pre covers fourteen acres and is surrounded by a rustic fence of old Norman design. A Norman gateway gives entrance to the park, in which are the old Acadian willows, "Evangeline's well," and a large stone cross marking the site of the Acadian Cemetery.

The sculptured Evangeline from her pedestal gazes over the meadows of Grand Pre and Minas Basin, where her people were placed upon the ships that scattered them at various points along the Atlantic coast.

## ROSALIND.

One of de Monts's retainers was Louis Hebert, whose descendants lived and reclaimed the marsh lands of Minas Basin and shared in the Acadian tragedy. Philippe Hebert, a descendant of Louis, was a son of a habitation farmer of Quebec who studied art in Paris, became Canada's greatest sculptor and embodied his vision of Evangeline in a small model of burnt clay. He died before he could complete the bronze statue he contemplated, and his son, Henri Hebert, completed the statue.

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