

## THE NEW PRESIDENT HINDENBURG TAKES UP HIS WORK

Europe Seeking a Way of Peace

### THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY

Naturally, when the German people elected as President of the Republic the old Commander-in-Chief of the Kaiser's army, everybody was very anxious to know whether he would work for peace or war in Europe.

The German Chancellor (or, as we should say, Prime Minister) seems to have recognised this, for a very few days after the election he had a three hours' talk with the new President, and then made an important speech which there is no doubt the President had approved beforehand.

### Germany's Desire for Peace

Germany's policy, he says, is unchanged. She still seeks a Peace Pact with France, Belgium, and Britain, for a disarmed nation needs security at least as much as one that is armed; and she asks to be told what she must do that she has not done in the way of disarmament to secure that the Allied troops shall leave the Cologne district in accordance with the Treaty. She wants a settlement of outstanding disputes, so that she can develop her foreign trade and pay her debts.

It is said, too, that even the generals who supported Hindenburg's election want an understanding with France, for fear of aggression from the Bolsheviks, and that to secure it they are ready to give up all idea of ever getting back Alsace-Lorraine and to come to an agreement with Poland.

### What France Fears

The French Government is reported to be willing to go on with the consideration of an agreement with Germany, as Mr. Chamberlain has urged, in spite of Hindenburg's election. But it will have difficulties, because it seems to so many people in France that the German people must have wanted war when they voted for their leading general as President, and that they could not have done so just because they thought him a fine old man who stuck to his duty when others ran away. At any rate, they think, Hindenburg, as an old "War Lord," must want more war.

It is this French distrust, which is perfectly natural, that will make Mr. Chamberlain's work for an understanding so difficult. What is not realised in France, and perhaps not very well here, is that the German President, like the French President and the English King, can do nothing without the support of his Ministers, who are themselves dependent on Parliament—in Germany the Reichstag.

### Checks on Presidential Power

It is true that he is Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, that he can proclaim martial law and even dissolve the Reichstag; and all this seems to give him very great power. But every decree, without exception, must have a minister's signature as well as his own before it can come into force. And if the Reichstag disapproves what the Minister signs he must resign and another must take his place whom the Reichstag approves. If the Reichstag is against the President himself it can ask the people to say by vote whether he shall be deposed.

The German people elected Hindenburg, knowing all this, because they admired him. But they also elected the Reichstag which controls him, and a big majority in the Reichstag are against war and want only to live in peace.

### Pronunciations in This Paper

Caligula . . . . .	Kal-ig-u-lah
Nishapur . . . . .	Nish-ah-poor
Rubaiyat . . . . .	Ru-by-yaht
Sakhalin . . . . .	Sah-kahl-yin

## THE HOME OF AN IDOL

English Judges Decide a  
Strange Case

### JUSTICE FOR ALL WITHIN THE EMPIRE

Some weeks ago the C.N. described a case in which two Indian uncles and a nephew appealed to the law to decide the custody of a family idol about which they had been quarrelling.

The three had charge of the idol, according to an ancestral will, one after the other, a year at a time. One of them who lived away from the temple took the idol to a temple of his own for the year when he was in charge of it, and to this the others objected.

The case has now been decided in England on appeal, and the decision is that legally the idol has rights of its own as to where it shall be, and its guardians cannot settle the matter to suit their own convenience.

Instructions have been given to the High Court of Bengal to appoint "a disinterested person" to act as "next friend" to the idol, as would be done

### The Budget in a Nutshell

#### Taxation

Higher graduated death duties on fortunes between £12,500 and £1,000,000.

Lower super-tax.

Sixpence in the £ off all income-tax.

One-sixth instead of one-tenth deducted from earned incomes up to £1500 a year before income-tax is charged.

Taxpayers' incomes not exceeding £500 to be taxed at earned-income rate, if the taxpayer is 65 years old.

#### Allowances

Pensions at 65, for insured persons, at 10s. a week.

Pensions for widows at 10s. a week for life, or widowhood; children 5s. a week for oldest child, and 3s. for others.

Orphans' allowances 7s. 6d. for the eldest, and 6s. for others.

Removal of restrictions on old age pensions for insured thrifty persons.

#### State Insurance

Extension of State insurance for all insured persons, men to pay 4d. a week additional and employers 4d.; women to pay 2d. and employers 2d.

#### Restored Duties

Import duties to be restored, on July 1, on clocks, watches, films, motor-cycles, and motor-cars.

#### New Taxes

4s. a pound duty on all imported silk, natural or manufactured.

£4 per cwt. duty on imported hops.

#### Altered Duties

All duties on dried fruit removed. Preference restored on Empire sugar and increased preference on Empire wines and tobacco.

#### Imperial Preference

Granted as recommended by the Imperial Conference of 1923.

#### The Gold Standard

The gold standard restored, but without gold coinage. See page 4

in the case of a child. The next friend is to draw up a scheme by which all the members of the family, and not only the guardians, shall be enabled to carry on their worship. And the scheme, when approved by the Court, is to be given the force of law.

It is our boast that all religions are equally free under British rule, so long as their practice does not interfere with the liberty of those professing other creeds. But it gives us a new idea of the Empire's attitude to the religions of its people to see great Christian judges in England deciding what are the rights of a Hindu idol against the claims of its disputing owners.

## FIGHTING A WORLD FOE

GREAT EMPIRE CAMPAIGN  
AGAINST CANCER

Bringing Together the Results  
of Scientific Research

### A CALL FOR UNITED EFFORT

One of the most hopeful signs of the times is that, at last, it seems as if there would be a determined, united attack on the most fatal and painful of all diseases, the dreaded scourge of cancer.



Viscountess Cave, a leader in the fight against cancer

It appears possible that the scientific intelligence of the whole world may be concentrated, in all countries, under every condition of soil, climate, and human activity, on the investigation of

the causes of this terrible disease, its prevention, and its cure.

A strong committee, representing the most advanced knowledge on the subject, has been formed, under the chairmanship of the Lord Chancellor, Viscount Cave, to carry on a British Empire Campaign in this profoundly humane cause, and to be a means of collecting and comparing the results of research.

No other country has such a splendid opportunity of promoting unity in this vast inquiry, wide as the world in its range. Formed only two years ago, the British Empire Cancer Campaign organisation has already begun practical work with notable vigour. Nineteen centres of research are formed in different parts of the world, and in the homeland twenty branches are established.

### A Great Companionship

The objects of the Committee are to subsidise hospitals at which special research is being continually carried on, and also to support individual inquirers whose investigations have a fully approved value. It is only by bringing together into one great co-operative companionship all who are engaged in this universal investigation that a triumphant knowledge of this far-spread disease can be gained.

The services of those who supervise this great task are gratuitously given. But the costs of experiments are necessarily high, for almost every form of science has to be included in the range of this survey—medicine, surgery, human pathology, chemistry, physics, radiology, animal and plant pathology, hygiene, and vital statistics. Already in different parts of the world more than 900 posts of observations are storing up knowledge.

### The Need for Research

What really is needed to probe the life history of this disease, and provide knowledge of the means of prevention, and of curative skill where the enemy has secured a hold on its victims, is a fund that will make research continuous and permanent.

Happily, the call is being responded to over a wide range of society. A pleasing instance of response to that call is announced for May 20, when a ball on behalf of the campaign will take place at the Hyde Park Hotel under the most distinguished patronage. The Viscountess Cave is the Chairman of the Committee of Management, and the Duke and Duchess of York and the Prime Minister and Mrs. Baldwin are among the patrons.

The cause is one which may well meet with every form of support, from every section of mankind, rich and poor, and we commend it strongly to all readers of the C.N. The address of the Campaign organisation is 19, Berkeley Street, London, W. 1.

## THE PRINCE'S TRIUMPH

Winning the Heart of  
South Africa

### A SPEECH IN AFRIKAANS

The Prince of Wales seems to have won the heart of South Africa as swiftly and completely as he has won the hearts of people in every part of the Empire he has visited.

His crowning triumph came when, at the dinner given to him by the Cape Government, he supplemented a speech in English that had been enthusiastically received, and repeated in Afrikaans his delight at being present, and his appreciation of the welcome given him.

The Afrikaans, or Cape Dutch, language is as devotedly cherished in a large area of South Africa as Canadian French is preserved in the province of Quebec; and it is a feature of British thought that every part of the Empire shall retain whatever customs are interwoven into its history. It was a very happy thought that the Prince, following the practice adopted by his relative the present representative of the Crown in South Africa, should give full recognition to the Afrikaans language by using it himself.

General Smuts had expressed South African feeling about the Prince by saying they loved his simplicity, his sincerity, and his human ways, and they saw no "side" or "swank" in him.

The Prince's use of the speech their Dutch forefathers had evolved added so much to the warmth of their greetings that they disabled his left as well as his right hand by the strength of their admiring grips.

## THINGS SAID

By the strict observance of the Sabbath the Englishman has carried out a weekly rest cure which has contributed to the national health every whit as much as outdoor games.

*M. André Chevillon*

"We and the Americans have much in common, but what most English people who do not know America forget is that the essential thing for mutual understanding is to realise what we have not got in common." *The Prime Minister*

Peace is now a forlorn and forsaken figure in the byways of European politics. *Mr. C. G. Ammon, M.P.*

All the good that air-travel will do in civil life cannot balance the harm that may be done in war by it. It is an infinitely more harmful weapon of war than any other. *Sir Hugh Trenchard*

I never have and never will refuse to cooperate with opponents when I know I am dealing with honourable men.

*Mr. Ramsay MacDonald*

Education is a spiritual activity, the results of which can only be seen in the future. *Mr. C. T. Wing*

I have no doubt, taking force of character and intellectual power combined, that Gladstone was the greatest man in whose presence I have ever been.

*Lord Grey of Fallodon*

British live-stock is the best in the world. No society has ever said to the farmer, *You must not breed better stock.* The British workman is as highly prized abroad as British live-stock. But there are men in the United Kingdom who will let their trade union dictate to them what exercise they shall make of the ability God has given them.

*Lord Leverhulme*