

bold, and that the Department of Education should have accepted these compliments so readily. It makes every person concerned look either knavish or foolish. The Booksellers of Ontario should have been above indulging in what is apparently a good joke carried too far. However, it is pleasant to know that the Minister retained his composure, and refused to grant their request.

NEWFOUNDLAND

IF the Bond Government is returned to power or if the People's Party should eventually win out, it might be wise for the Dominion Government to send a representative to look over the situation. This is the first occasion in recent years when the people of the Island Colony have failed to vote for the people who used the old bug-bear, "Canada's tax-gatherers." Such being the case, Newfoundland may be nearer to discussing federation than we have supposed.

If negotiations should be entered upon, there must be nothing narrow in the Canadian view. We can afford to treat the Island generously and we should do so. Even giving generous terms in the broadest sense would be only fair treatment, since in the years to come, Newfoundland must be of great value and service to Canadian shipping interests. The Island lies in the pathway to Europe and every Canadian vessel passing in or out of the St. Lawrence must go within a few miles of its shores. As a haven of refuge for our ocean-going and coast-running trade vessels, it is of the utmost importance.

The sensibilities of the Newfoundlanders should be fully considered, and only skilled diplomats should be allowed to handle the negotiations so that whether federation is reached or not, no one amour propre shall be injured. Canadian statesmen should deal with Newfoundland as they would expect the authorities in London or Washington to deal with Canada.

POLITICS IN WEST HURON

MR. ROBERT HOLMES, ex-M.P., and unsuccessful Liberal candidate against Mr. Lewis in West Huron, thinks that the town of Goderich put its money on the wrong horse. He says that Goderich had the benefit of the military camp, which he secured for them, and how can it expect to have it next year, under the circumstances? According to Mr. Holmes, Goderich has said to the Government, "We do not want any favours," and therefore the Government would only be taking the citizens at their word if it took away the camp and gave it to some constituency represented by a Liberal.

Lest we may be accused of misjudging Mr. Holmes, we quote from an editorial in his paper, the *Clinton New Era*: "There was a chance of Goderich becoming the permanent camping-ground for Western Ontario. As it is there is not much likelihood of it. The Conservatives there, in their partisan zeal, have thrown away their opportunity in this respect at least, if not in others."

Perhaps Mr. Holmes wrote these sentences at a time when he was feeling somewhat discouraged over the result and perhaps he will not bring down the lightning which he threatens. Nevertheless he has done a most daring thing when he publicly states that the Militia Department gave the Western Ontario camp to Goderich in the hope of winning West Huron over to the Liberal column. He is even more daring when he ventures to suggest that, since the election resulted adversely, the Government will withdraw the camp. If the charge is true, then the public will have strong reason for believing that "bribery of constituencies" is a common practice of the ruling party at Ottawa. It would be unfortunate, if the people came to believe that; it would be more unfortunate, if the charge were true.

THE BRITISHER AND OURSELVES

MOST unfortunate, indeed, it would be if either the English or we ourselves got the impression that we are a superior people. We are certainly a pretty confident people. Making homes out of bushland, and creating a smiling half-continent out of a "few arpents of snow," have made us think fairly well of ourselves. Moreover, we have always been able to pay our debts and we usually have sense enough to keep out of international troubles. And greatest test of all—we have won the respect of Uncle Sam and his fellow-citizens, a unique distinction.

At the same time, we admire the Englishman—the educated, soft-toned, self-contained Englishman who forms the great majority of those who come over first or second-class. It is only the Englishman who comes over third-class who worries us, together with a few, a

very few of the monocled kind. The English workman is usually a good citizen at once; but occasionally he is shiftless, supercilious and extremely tantalising. He is inclined to grumble and raise a row. The beer does not suit him and the climate is worse. At most, this attitude does not last long—a year or two at the outside.

We need more English farmers and workmen, and the decent Englishman will never be without a welcoming smile and some encouragement. If he comes here poor and demands special treatment, high wages, short hours and an occasional round of charity, he will not get it. In this country every man must work and save. There are no old-age pensions here. This is a busy bee-hive.

The British business-man and the British capitalist have never complained that they were not welcomed. It is only the loafers and the shiftless who have complained, and their complaints are the best testimony to the standard of citizenship which Canada has raised.

GOVERNOR HUGHES, HAIL!

GOVERNOR HUGHES is a modern hero, for he does not give one picayune for the party workers and the party managers. He does what he thinks is right and leaves the rest with the people who mark the ballots. What a pity Canada had not a few of the type! Sir James Whitney comes nearest the style, but Sir James is getting so much praise that he is becoming rather autocratic like our good friend President Roosevelt. Governor Hughes defying the bold, domineering party manager is a picture which should be held before every Canadian publicist. Our statesmen need more starch in their back-bones. They need to learn that the man who threatens to read them out of the party, if they do not keep in line, is a man to be denounced and fought. Mr. Bourassa may be wrong or he may be right, he may or may not be a self-seeker, but he certainly has courage to do what he thinks is right. So had the late Hon. J. Israel Tarte. Others might be mentioned, but the list would not include many of the men who write "Honourable" before their names, nor even many who are entitled to use "M.P." as a suffix. The party whip cracks and most of them get behind the door; but then, in the words of a wise man, what is a door for?

In these sad circumstances, perhaps New York State will not be angry if we take Governor Hughes as a model hero for a short time, and if we regard his re-election as one which reflects great credit upon the good people who voted for him. It may revive the long-forgotten statement that in the end right and justice shall prevail.

COURTESY IN POLITICAL CIRCLES

THERE is a fair amount of courtesy shown toward each other by opposing politicians, yet no one remembers having noticed the publication of a telegram from Mr. Borden congratulating Sir Wilfrid Laurier on his victory. Perhaps Mr. Borden's secretary overlooked the sending of it. Not so with Mr. Bryan; he wired Mr. Taft and received a reply. Here are the messages:

"Hon. Wm. Taft, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"Please accept congratulations, and best wishes for the success of your administration.

"(Signed) W. J. Bryan."

"Mr. W. J. Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.

"I thank you sincerely for your cordial and courteous telegram of congratulations and good wishes.

"(Signed) W. H. Taft."

There are those who believe that the visit of British statesmen to Canada will do something towards improving the spirit and language in which our public men speak to one another and of one another. The speeches made by Lord Milner were models of propriety and carefulness, and perhaps an occasional member of the Canadian Parliament may have been impressed with the increased force which Lord Milner's utterances bore on that account. Yet we have had many such speeches from the scholars and public men of Great Britain during the past thirty years, and that without much appreciable effect upon the rough-and-tumble conduct and speech of our so-called representative men. Even in journalism, "smart-aleckism" is mistaken for wit, and brutal suggestions pass current as "strong writing."

Both political life and newspaper work would gain much by the general adoption of a more civil and respectful tone towards those who disagree with us. It is apparent from the foregoing telegrams that we may learn of courtesy even from the United States.