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For Eruptions and Sores

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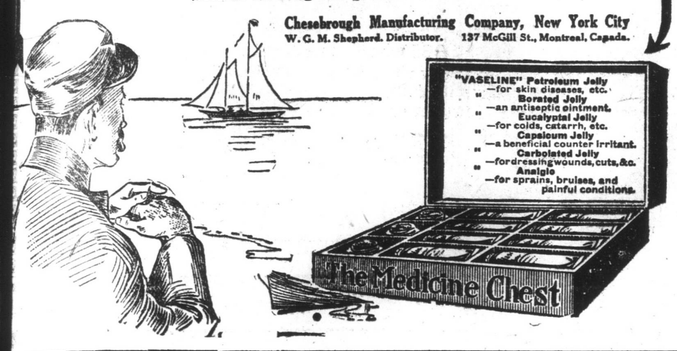

Discourse of Libels, Hockey and Other Things.

Evening Telegram

Sir,—Now that the Rev. —Judge Morris—George Ayre—Bond—Editor, Daily Star—The of the Gower Street Methodist —incident is to all intents and closed, with the possible ex- of a libel action by me against ard and the Daily News and Ad- papers; in the case of the Board sending me and publishing an as it should do, in the case of pers for not publishing in its en- the letter which, the Star, ed in full and which the Tele- published in part. (By the way the Advocate nor News pub- my letter about St. George's and the News did not publish which I sent it about the Star leaving out from one of my a couple of, what I considered, uments although I appealed Editor to do so in the spirit of ly and as a Britisher). I am watching the Advocate and the and when the time of my libel come, if they do come, I shall words of Sergeant Buzzfuzz ap- for "damages gentlemen, heavy es" and I believe from a St. y jury I shall get them; but com- back to my starting point, now the incident before referred to is l intents and purposes closed , as I said before, the possible ex- n of the libel actions, I should with your permission to talk on y, incidentally as I go along ing on matters of a somewhat al nature.

e Hockey League as at present sisted consists of the Feildians, Terra Nova's, the Saints and the n's. Four teams of six players ay four spare men each. That e roughly forty players actively ed in senior hockey. Out of a of say forty thousand people that t enough. Why is this? Because, y estimation the League is wrong- constituted. For three years, 1891, and 1893, I attended King William e, Castletown, Isle of Man. Isle of Man is famous as a health rt and as the birth place of Hall e the famous author who has en such delightful stories con- ing it. As I have been back for thing like twenty eight years and is the first time I have publicly en of it and have rarely referred in private I hardly think I can harged with much self-advertis- as far as that is concerned. I re- it now because it is pertinent to my subject namely the constitution of the Hockey League. The boys of the College who numbered between two and three hundred, for school purposes met each other in the class rooms, but for sport purposes they were divided into houses of which there were six or seven consisting of between thirty or forty boys. Each house had a house-master and under him was the Head of the house. The Head of each house was a prepositor and the seven prepositors ran the school out of school hours. They were allowed to sport a cane and they could corporally punish any boys who did not measure up to the standard laid down. The first year I was there I got my house colours for cricket. The second year I was prepositor and got my school colours for cricket, the third year I got my football colors (we played Rugby) and I was Vice-Captain of the school cricket (practically Captain, owing to the Captain going in for the Indian Civil Service Exam. and unable to attend to the duties of managing the school cricket). I say this because I want you to understand I have had some experience in managing boys and Leagues even if it was only a school boy League. Waterloo, you know, was won on the playing fields of Eton as my anonymous friend "An Admirer" quotes. I saw that the trouble here with cricket was that the Shamrock team drew to it all of the best players and those anxious to get medals. The result was that there was practically no one to successfully compete with them. That meant no cricket except for say the Shamrock and Terra Nova teams. I was a member of the Terra Nova team. I called a meeting of the teams which then comprised the cricket League and proposed that the Shamrock team disband for League purposes and enter teams from the B.I.S., Star, T.A. and let those institutions put teams in the League. The same with the Terra Novas. I am not sure now whether the Terra Nova team was in the League but it would apply also to it. You will thus have more teams, more players, you would force cricketers to become a member of one of these or similiar institutions such as the C.E.I., Feildians, Saints, etc., and so develop cricketers and also swell the membership of the Societies. We had a very spirited meeting and when the vote was taken it was a tie and the late Mr. John Slattery, who was the chairman and an enthusiastic Shamrock man, cast his vote against the proposal. You see that there is no senior cricket to-day in an English Colony although cricket is the great English sport. Baseball has to a certain extent here superseded cricket but while both sports develop nerves, pluck and generalship, Baseball does not engender the gentlemanly qualities that cricket does. One lets passion loose the other controls it. You see that is the different temperament of spectators. No Cricket spectator would think of calling a player a robber, a thief, etc., but that is one of the characteristicts of Baseball. Apply this principle to the Hockey League and what have we? We have forty players when we should have at least eighty. There are the C.E.I. the B.I.S., Star, T.A., Saints, old boys of the Feildians, St. Bon's and Methodist. There may be others but I cannot recall them off hand. They would mean at least eight teams. That would mean at least eighty active players. It would mean for an audience the members of these institutions. It might mean for a year or two Hockey not quite so good as at present, but eventually it would mean better Hopkey. After all it is the player that has to be considered and not Hockey. Not revenue but sport. If the sport is developed the revenue will come and be greater than at present. The League itself should have the revenue. The rink should be owned or hired by the League. The League would then get the benefit of its energies and not the rink owners as at present. A season ticket or a cup is a very small compensation for what the Hockey League does.

It is not to-day that I put these ideas before the public. I did so 20 years ago, but they were not acted upon. Only one person saw the benefit of them and that was Bishop Howley as he then was, Archbishop as he afterwads became. He was an outstanding man and that is why he became His Grace. He revolutionised the Clergy in Newfoundland. Previous to his time it was not thought of having a native as a Bishop. He was the first. Now we have Archbishop Roche, Bishops March and Renouf all natives. The Church of England has followed the same idea and the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland, Bishop White, is also a native. There ought to be more English Bishops if the denomination wishes to keep in the front rank in this country. By the way, although he may not know it, Bishop March is a connection of mine. I occupy offices in Bishop Renouf's building and Bishop White's brother, Dr. Arthur White, was a great political supporter of mine and helped me generally when I contested Trinity District and when I was defeated the first time by about twenty five votes out of about four thousand votes cast. Being so closely connected with these august personages makes me a little nervous, it is too close for comfort. Getting back to Hockey my suggestion is that the Terra Nova's team disband, that the institutions I have enumerated form up teams and enter the League, the League build a proper Hockey rink with accommodation for players and spectators, the Hockey League become a component part of The Newfoundland Amateur Athletic Association, with headquarters on the Parade Grounds, and you have one of the best Athletic Organizations in the world. It would be unique.

Yours sincerely,
GEO. W. B. AYRE.

Feb. 14, 1921.

SWEAR OFF TOBACCO

"No-To-Bac" has helped thousands to break the costly, nerve-shattering tobacco habit. Whenever you have a longing for a cigarette, cigar, pipe, or for a chew, just place a harmless No-To-Bac tablet in your mouth instead, to help relieve that awful desire. Shortly the habit may be completely broken, and you are better off mentally, physically, financially. It's s ceasy, so simple. Get a box of No-To-Bac and if it doesn't release you from all craving for tobacco in any form, your druggist will refund your money without question.

Origin of Word Tariff.

Southernmost in the Straits of Gibraltar, and commanding the entrance to the Mediterranean, stands a fortress upon a promontory called to-day as it was in the days of the Moors—Tarifa. It was the custom of the Moors to watch from this point all merchant ships and to issue from this stronghold and levy duties according to a fixed scale on all merchandise passing in or out of the straits; and this tribute to Tarifa was called by the maritime men a "tariff," and the word became current in England, whose vessels then as now formed a majority of those cleaving the seas.

MINARD'S LINIMENT FOR DIPHTHERIA.

The Proposed War Memorial.

DR. BLACKALL'S OPINION.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—Some time ago there appeared in the public press a communication from Father Nangle concerning the Memorial of the Sailors and Soldiers who gave their lives to the defence of the Empire in the great World War. I have not a copy of the communication by me and, therefore, in dealing with it I have to trust to my memory.

I am sorry that I cannot compliment the Padre upon the general tone and style that he thought it proper to adopt in writing upon the solemn subject of the Memorial. He has gone out of his way to offer gratuitous insults to the Superintendents of Education—of whom I am one—and for this reason I have hesitated to take any notice of his letter. It is my practice to treat with silent contempt gratuitous insults that may be permitted to apepar in the press, and I do not propose now to deal with the insulting portion of Father Nangle's communication. I can only hope that upon reflection he will conclude, that in spite of his holy office, he has shown to my colleagues and myself a most uncharitable mind, and that he will make the amende honourable.

I feel, however, that some one in a position to do so should say something about the Memorial. Father Nangle is irate that no memorial has yet been erected, and while he censures the Patriotic Association for considering some other form of memorial than the proposed figure of a caribou on a mound, he proceeds to offer some other form himself.

He seems to think that the Superintendents of Education are to blame for the delay that has taken place in the perfecting of plans for the erection of the Memorial. If he knew the truth, he would know that if the Committee had consisted of the Superintendents only, it is likely that a Memorial would now be in course of erection and possibly completed; but the Superintendents have, possibly fortunately, not been able to hasten the deliberations of the several committees of which they have been members.

While, however, I deprecate unnecessary delay in this matter, I think it better to go slowly and surely rather than fast and faultily. The desire presumably is to erect something that shall, for generations to come, move with hallowed feelings those who behold it. It is supremely important, therefore, that we consider well what we erect, for when once erected the memorial must stand—appropriate or inappropriate—a monument to command reverence and incite patriotism, or an object of no effect. **Festina lente** is probably a safe motto to follow. I do not think that as time passes we are likely to become less mindful of our debt to the men who fought and to the men who died for us; rather do I feel that each day that we reflect upon the great victory they won, and the great disaster from which they saved the world, we shall realize more fully how much we owe to them.

May I express a few thoughts on the form the monument should, in my opinion, take? Father Nangle, much moved as he witnessed the burial of the unknown warrior in Westminster Abbey, and viewed the scene at the Cenotaph near by, suggests that we shall organize here a kind of replica of the ceremony that stirred so deeply the multitude not only of England but of all parts of the Empire—for surely we have all, in heart and mind, taken part in the grand ceremony even as though we had been present. I have two thoughts in relation to this proposal; the first is that it would be a great mistake on our part to attempt anything of the kind. The unknown warrior buried in the Abbey stood for every soldier of the Empire who fell in action; indeed he may have been a Newfoundlander. To attempt anything of the kind here would be to duplicate in a sense what has already been done so grandly at the heart of the Empire. My second thought is that the Cenotaph in London is not of the nature of a National Memorial, and that a tomb or sepulchre in our midst would be entirely insufficient as a Memorial.

I have all through the war—and, I may say, all through my own great trial—felt that we err in thinking only of death in relation to the brave men who gave their lives in the war.

Would Father Nangle be blind to their victory—for every soldier won a victory? Would he keep out of the sight of the bereaved ones the glory of resurrection? Shall we have no thought of incense? It seems to me that w ehave had enough of tears; let us be encouraged to taste the joy of triumph. If the funeral march must be sounded, let us likewise have the Hallelujah Chorus.

I submit that our memorial should typify the victory as well as the sacrifice, the crown as well as the cross, the resurrection as well as the sepulchre. The note of hope must triumph over the sense of sorrow.

It is because I have held fast to this line of thought that I have fought in harmony with my colleagues and others to secure for the memorial such features as I have endeavored to express above, and I have yet to learn of anything that is so much calculated to suggest hope for the future as a place of learning—jeeringly spoken of by Father Nangle as a school house. It is perfectly true that a college will be erected here for the training of teachers, and it is highty probable that either in association with it, or independent of it, there will be erected, in the near future, a place of higher education and technical education, whether they form part of the memorial or not. But for one I shall feel intensely sorry if they are not erected as a part, or as parts of, a grand memorial. As a memorial, the college for the training of teachers, and for other educational work, higher than that for which provision has yet been made in our land would be hallowed. It would be a living reminder for future ages to all who might work within its walls of the sense of duty which compelled the men of these years to go forth to war, of the sacrifice they made, of the victory they won, of the crown they wear. And the inspiration would through them find its way to every child within our borders. The plan submitted in outline by Mr. Scott is grand, is inspiring and even if it were to cost quarter of a million, it would be none too much.

Over quarter of a million is spent yearly in Newfoundland on drink of various kinds; a similar amount on tobacco and no less a sum again on other luxuries. We shall surely cover ourselves with shame if we do not make a real sacrifice a self-denial, to erect as a memorial of the sailors and soldiers of our country a monument that is worthy of all they suffered and all they accomplished.

Yours very faithfully,
W. W. BLACKALL.

P.S.—This letter was written some three or four weeks ago, but I have not until now made up my mind to publish it. I make this note, lest any might think that I had been caused to write it by the comments of "Viator" on the subject of memorials that appeared in the Daily News a day or two ago.—W.W.B.

Feb. 14, 1921.

Bogus Russian Jewels Sold.

Europe's newest scheme for defrauding the unwary is that of selling supposed Russian crown jewels. Knowledge that some valuable Russian jewelry, confiscated by the Bolsheviki, has actually been sold in Holland recently has prompted a number of Dutchmen desiring to buy something cheap. The Hague police swooped down the other night on a group of men in a little cafe who, with their intended victim, were negotiating for the sale of thirty-four "pearl" necklaces and several packets of loose "pearls" which were whispered to have been surreptitiously sent to Holland from Moscow and, therefore, were for sale cheap. Only one of the necklaces was found to be genuine. All the others, and also the loose packets, were made up of imitation pearls. The real one, according to the police, was used as bait.

BABY COATES.

"Once Weak and Delicate."

63, Ellerslie Road,
Clapham Park, S.W.4.

Dear Sirs,—At three months old our baby was weak and delicate, causing us a great deal of anxiety. We were advised to try "Virol," and did so, with the result that now at 11 months of age he is as bonny a baby as any mother could wish to have; he weighs 22 lbs. 2 ozs., is firm and well proportioned. We feel confident that this is due to the regular use of Virol, and should advise all mothers to use it.

I am, yours truly,
E. COATES.

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Mr. Morine's Reply to "Aviator."

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Collishaw has not honored me or interested the public by replying over his own name to my letter to you, published on the 7th inst.; but has confided his case to an anonymous correspondent, apparently, for his close association with Mr. Coaker justifies me in holding him responsible for the seven columns of more or less scurrilous abuse which appeared in Coaker's Advocate on Saturday last, over the name "Aviator."

It is insinuated by "Aviator" that I wished to discredit Mr. Collishaw by pointing out that he was not, as he claimed, a member of the "Fish Export Board," but of the "Fish Exporters' Association," as a representative of the Union Trading Co., Ltd., appointed by Mr. Coaker. My reasons were two-fold, (1) It was important to fix Mr. Collishaw's standing accurately, so as to give his writings their proper weight, and (2) In weighing Mr. Collishaw's claims that credit be given to Mr. Coaker, it was proper that it should be known that he was Mr. Coaker's personal representative.

Commenting upon my remark that if it were not for the Regulations our fish would have gone to market, and been absorbed in the regular way, "Aviator" quite properly points out that the products of other countries have not recently found a ready market in European countries. It is, of course, a question of degree, how much of the depression in the price of fish abroad is due to general conditions in the purchaser countries, and how much to our Regulations, and I did not mean my words to imply that without the Regulations, all would have been rosy in our markets, but merely that they had made a bad matter worse. I have not read of any other country which under existing circumstances has attempted official price fixing of its exports to foreign markets. The untimeliness of our Regulations was one of their worse qualities.

The "Aviator" cannot see why the public should know all the facts about Coaker's "gigantic sale" in Portugal, or why the Exporters should publish the terms thereof, and what I meant by saying "the taxpayer has to pay the piper" for Mr. Coaker's dancing. I shall try to explain: (1) Mr. Collishaw complained that the newspapers had suppressed the facts, and had not given Mr. Coaker the credit due to him. Coming from Mr. Coaker's personal representative that justified my demand, "publish the facts yourself—all of them." (2) The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and a host of trade commissioners in public pay, are engaged in this matter, and their Masters—the people—are entitled to know what they are doing in return for their salaries. (3) A very large sum of public money was used last fall to buy fish, and the loss will fall on the taxpayers, who are, therefore entitled to know the truth of events as they occur.

The proposals made by Mr. Coaker, now being considered by the Fish Exporters, threaten this Colony with a great disaster, and therefore concern all citizens. Italian markets have been lost to us this year, perhaps permanently, by Coaker's warfare with the Consorzio. He has now entered upon a new war with the fish importers of Portugal. They threaten to combine against this Colony. If they do so, and create new ties with our competitors, great permanent harm, perhaps irremidiable harm, will be done to us. Coaker is running amuck with our customers. The fish catchers of this Colony are as vitally concerned in this matter as the fish exporters, and it is the personal business also of every intelligent citizen.

Of one thing I am convinced by Mr. Collishaw's sudden lapse into silence, and by "Aviator's" bluffing denial of the right of the public to knowledge of the facts, and it is this, that the claim that a **"gigantic sale" has been made in Portugal is absolutely untrue. There has been no such sale.** The proposal made through Mr. Coaker has not even purported to be a sale. It has merely been a scheme to obtain control of shipments, and it will not bear the light of day, and the searching criticism of those who are not willing to be hoodwinked. Not a "sale" but a "sell" has been attempted.

"Aviator" says that political control of exports does not exist here, because the Regulations are recommended by the Codfish Exportation Board. There are many answers. (1) A majority of the Board are Coakerites. (2) The administration of the Regulations is wholly in the hands of Coaker, practically. (3) Coaker himself is Chairman. (4) The inspectors at home, and trade commissioners abroad, are all Coaker appointments. (5) Coaker himself is now abroad bossing the whole show.

I understood Mr. Collishaw to mean that the Regulations were justified by the control they gave over shipments. I pointed out that to make control effective, knowledge of wind and weather would be necessary. Control of shipments would be of no value if it did not procure arrival of cargoes in our markets at the right time. To that end, weather conditions would have to be as calculated upon, for otherwise a bare market at one time, and a glut at another, would result. If the Regulations give power of effective control, why has the present glut in Portugal been caused or permitted?

Of course, I did not say that "exchange does not affect the price and the net result to the seller here," as "Aviator" asserts. The low value of the currency of our markets, measured by sterling, makes the price the consumer has to pay for fish very great to him, and that decreases consumption. But, nevertheless, the price the consumer has to pay, if he would eat, is the price fixed by competition in the markets. The price in Portugal has been fixed by such competition, and the Regulations, naming a higher price than our competitors were willing to take, have kept our fish cut of the market, and allowed our competitors in, really increasing the cost to the consumer, and the return to our competitors, but decreasing our sales. My point was and is, that not exchange but competition has governed prices in our markets; exchange has affected quantities sold by us rather than prices. Our sales, when made, have been below the rates fixed in our ridiculous Regulations.

I had feared that my great service to the West Coast herring fishers, in 1898, had been forgotten. Why in all the torrent of abuse that has been poured upon me has nobody recalled this creditable act. It may be that mention of some other good deed by me has been suppressed also. But "Aviator" has been good enough—without good intention, I regret to say—to remind the public that I was instrumental in having the price of winter herring on the West Coast fixed at $1.50 per barrel, whereas up to that time the net price realized had been about 50 cents per barrel. The incident admirably illustrates the principle I enunciated in my last letter, that if you control the supply, you can effectively fix the price. My work succeeded because the whole supply was under our control. Fixing codfish prices effectively has failed because we have no monopoly of the supply. "Children and fools should not play with edged tools." There is an obvious reason why I succeeded in 1898, and Coaker failed in 1920, using the same weapon, but under different circumstances.

To many abusive personal references to me made by "Aviator," I shall not deign to reply. I think I know who he is, and the public will easily guess, and, therefore, I disdain to bandy personalities with him. But one defamatory assertion and two insinuations seem to require comment. "Aviator" simply lied when he said that I had acted professionally for the Avalon Telegraph Co., Ltd. A telephone contract was negotiated between the Lloyd Government and the Hon. John Murphy, but not signed, and afterwards I, as Attorney General, inserted several public safeguards, and it became law in the session of the Legislature in 1920. I hope the Company, with local capital, will make a success of the enterprise, but I have no financial interest in the result.

My reason and motive for answering Mr. Collishaw's letter have been assailed. The incorrect assertions and unwarranted claims therein made constituted reason enough to justify making an answer. My motive was this: The public has been impudently humbugged by the Government. Men have been ruined by their obedience to illegal Regulations and autocratic orders. The whole Colony, and especially the South-West Coast, has been victimized by shameful ignorance or audacious assumption by some of the men in high places, and by the supineness or cowardice of others. I believe that only harm can come from further attempts to rule by fraudulent pretence. That which is resolved upon should be done voluntarily, with a clear recognition of the facts and the law, and not enforced by the assumption of authority and the exercise of illegal power. The men who use their high places to deceive the public, and who are knowingly fulminating illegal resolutions, should be impeached for misconduct in office. It is the privilege, and the duty also, of every intelligent citizen to lift up his voice against illegal autocracy in public affairs.

"Aviator" makes some ill-natured remarks about my frequent departures and returns from and to the Colony. Perhaps I shall have a reward like that of Dick Whittington, who thrice returned to London, and became Lord Mayor at last. I need only say now, that Mr. Coaker's desire that I should become Counsel for the F.P.U., and, apparently, help him to fight "that black rascal Squires," was one of the reasons that impelled me to return in 1912, and that I was somewhat influenced to come back again in 1918 by being shown a telegram signed "Star," which I was told came from Mr. Squires, invoking me to return to the Colony and take a foremost part in saving it from Coaker, then in the Government. How could I refuse to help save the country when urged by two such patriots?

Finally, "Aviator" insinuates that my opinion on legal points in this connection has been made public to advertise myself professionally. I do not need to. I am sufficiently advertised from time to time by my opponents and their blunders.

Yours truly,
ALFRED B. MORINE.

Feb. 14, 1921.

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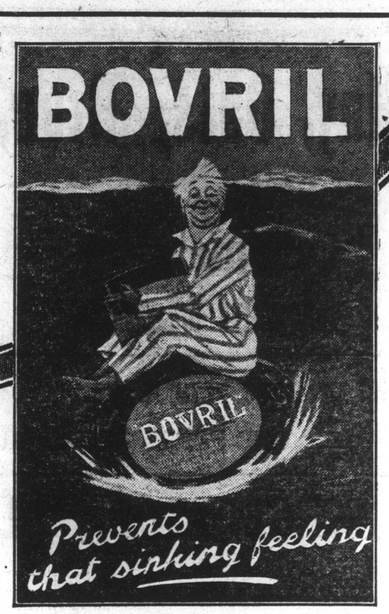

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