

THE ACADIAN

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Editorial

Our pulpits are our work clothes. Each of us live some kind of a sermon every day.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BECOMING UNPOPULAR

THERE CAN BE no question but that public opinion has undergone a very decided change in its attitude towards capital punishment in recent years. There have been so many cases in which juries have not been able to arrive at a verdict in trials for murder is due no doubt to the unwillingness on the part of the jurors to become partners in the imposition of the death penalty. The result has unquestionably been that in too many cases murderers have gone free who should be devoting their lives to repay the state for the loss sustained because of their crime. Capital punishment is the expression of a barbaric law based on revenge and hatred, and revenge and hatred should be no part of the make-up of enlightened and humane civilization. As a detriment to crime the death penalty has failed miserably according to the finding of those who have studied the question closely. As an instance it may be mentioned that in Italy, where the death penalty has been abolished since 1888, the homicide rate per 10,000 is 3.48 (1920), while in the United States, where capital punishment is the law of the land, it is 8.5 (1921). Not only that, but capital punishment is uncertain in its application. In Canada, the percentage of convictions for capital offenses is 80, while of acquittals it is 20. In Chicago the acquittals amount to 71 per cent., and the convictions to 29 per cent.

We have no wish to be understood as making a plea in behalf of those found guilty of the awful crime of murder; but is crude and degrading hanging the only answer of society to the pitiable creatures who kill their fellow man? Society must defend itself against the homicidal bandit if our civilization is to stand, but certainly a more humane and better justifiable means of doing this can be devised than that which now prevails.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF BOOSTING

IT DOES NOT require a very good memory to recall the time when men shied at the word psychology. Now it rolls off the tongue of the average after dinner orator without any apparent effort on the part of the speaker. Fifteen years ago it was regarded as something that should be discussed only by the very learned and as a fit subject for college and university study.

The dictionary says that psychology is the science of mind. Every day we hear of the psychology of this, that and the other thing, and the term has become one of common use.

Most of all, perhaps, in everyday use, psychology is connected with boosting and knocking. Reduced to its simplest terms, the psychology of knocking is the constant reiteration of the same complaint about any given subject that creates a state of mind among the people which leads them to accept it as "Gospel".

The same holds true with respect to boosting. Incessant and tireless boosting eventually causes optimistic views to prevail. Most anything within reason is possible through right thinking and right talking. We can produce the proper mental attitude with optimistic talk.

Wolfville possesses natural and inherent resources needed to build a thriving and prosperous community. In many respects it occupies a unique position and particularly as a residential centre has attractions which few places can offer. There is really nothing wrong with Wolfville except, perhaps, that the psychology that we hear so much about has been applied in the wrong direction.

When every resident of Wolfville begins to tell his neighbors and friends about the splendid attributes of his home community we shall begin to see results. There may be some who will want to indulge in this practice; whose mind has been working in the pulling backward groove so long that it will not function in any other direction. For this reason, the responsibility rests all the more heavily on those who want to go forward. Constant repetition of the possibilities of Wolfville and surroundings will eventually overcome those whose thinking has been in reverse and set their minds and hearts to the job before them.

THE COUNTRY DOCTOR

SOME DAY a master of words will appear to preserve in epic form the heroic figure of the country doctor. If life—real life—is built on service to one's fellow man, then St. Peter is going to find this human practitioner up near the head of the class when he opens the pearly gates on judgement day. Unheralded, unsung these faithful healers of human ills undergo more genuine hardship in a year than fall to the lot of most mortals in a lifetime. Rain, snow, sleet, storms, blizzards, zero weather—the country doctor merely takes them as all in the day's work. He never regards his hardships, his sufferings, his never ending labors for a mere pittance as heroic. It is just plain duty with him. Romance? Not a bit of it: It is only service, the fulfilment of the code of ethics he accepted when he dedicated his life to the alleviation of sickness and suffering.

The hardships of country medical practice have produced more uncrowned, unhonored heroes than the world can ever realize. Consider the lot of a country practitioner in winter. It is night, the thermometer is flirting with zero; a 30-mile gale is whipping the snow across the open space like buckshot, and into the sheltered nooks in huge drifts. The country doctor has just turned in after a long, hard day, covering perhaps fifty or sixty miles in attendance at the bedside of the ill. Praying for a few hours rest, he barely hits the bed when the telephone rings and he learns that John Smith's wife has developed pneumonia. Does the fact that John Smith lives 15 or 20 miles away, over the worst roads imaginable, decide the doctor to wait until morning? Should the physician make the attempt tonight? There is never any question about it. He drags himself from between the warm covers, dresses, goes out and hitches up the horse or cranks the flyver, and is away on his long journey, battling the elements, fighting sleep, mastering fatigue in order that Mrs. Smith may live and care for her home and children.

A hundred years of such work will not make the country doctor rich—that is, as the world views riches. But it will give him something ineffably higher, better, and more satisfactory—the knowledge that he has given a life-time of service to mankind, the feeling that he has returned health, and peace, and happiness to the humble homes around him. The country doctor is one of the greatest, one of the most noble of our institutions. We do not appreciate their worth, even though we may be their patients. The world can never repay them for their services they have given. These are a race of real men.

NEWSPAPER IS THE BEST "AD"; BILLBOARDS TO GO

NEW YORK.—Florenz Ziegfeld, Jr., world famous creator of the "Follies", has ordered destroyed 64 billboards facing highways and railroads near New York advertising his shows. "Because," says Ziegfeld—"The public doesn't want unsightly billboards. Newspaper advertising is far superior to any other form of attracting the attention of the public. Newspaper advertising can accomplish its purpose without defacing the landscape. The signboard is frequently not read. In contrast, the newspaper is authoritative."

SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR HEALTH

Hurrah! school has opened again! And what of the health of the boys and girls? "Keep a child robust and sound in body until he is eighteen" say medical experts, "and the chances are he will remain so throughout life". How important then that its health should be maintained. A word to Parents. Are your children free from frequent colds, enlarged tonsils, adenoids, decaying teeth? These are serious hindrances to their health. Are they free from eyestrain? Do they hear well? Are they sound in body and limb? If not, then in school they lose a golden opportunity. "Canada a Land of Opportunities!" we say, and yet in this land are we breeding a race that shows appalling signs of deterioration? Statistics show an average of one physical defect for each school child in the United States. Fully twenty-five per cent of the nation's children are below par. How is it with Canada? Are your children underweight? Being underweight does not necessarily mean being unlearned. Our schools aim at wholesome citizenship, and whether your boy goes into professional life or industrial life, sound health is essential to his success. What then can we do to make our boys and girls fit for the work of life?

Medical examination in the school is not a fad. It is based on medical research and confirmed by experience. When the war broke out, over twenty-five per cent of our boys were physically unfit. We must not repeat that neglect to the rising generation. Systematic medical supervision must be given to our children during the years they are at school. Careful medical examination should be given every child entering the school. And the mother should be present to hear what the doctor has to say, and in turn to ask questions for the benefit of the child. Especially so, in the case of non-Anglo-Saxon mothers. Thus they will come to understand that the school doctor is trying to help their child. And the mothers' intelligent co-operation is needed to attain the best results.

During school age there are adenoids and diseased tonsils to be watched. There are ear-aches and eye-strains to be relieved, and teeth to be treated. There are skin and scalp diseases, spinal curve and weak feet, all of which can be helped and corrected if treated in time. A delicate child is no longer looked upon with pride. In-so-far as we are endeavoring to be healthy, ashamed to be unhealthy, we are awake to the ideal of our generation.

What of the Child's teeth? If teeth are lost, food cannot be chewed, if they are defective, disease germs lodge in them, if teeth and gums are diseased, poison invades the system and undermines the health. The child suffers pain, and no one can be at his best mentally or physically while suffering.

What of your Child's Sight and Hearing? Eye-strain or defective vision may cause irritability, headaches, nausea, loss of appetite, loss of infrequency of blinching, and deafness, starting with adenoid, hardening wax or a cold, may become impossible to remedy, unless taken at the beginning. Is your child to be under a handicap? Eye and ear defects are in a large measure responsible for inattentiveness, bad discipline and failure to be promoted. It all comes to this. We consider our reputation lost if our schools illiterate, a poor reputation secure if they come from our schools with needless physical defects and handicaps. Let every boy and girl in Canada be given a chance to be physically strong.

HOMES THAT ARE NOT HOMES

Parents are so much on the go nowadays, the margin of time beyond their necessary work is so completely taken up with entertainment, sport, social activities and a thousand and one distractions that home ceases to be a home and becomes merely a stopping place. What happens. Well, the divorce courts tell part of the story. The juvenile and criminal courts tell more of it. The school authorities are aware of many facts, and now and then they give utterance to wise counsels for parental ears. Principal Alfred E. Stearns.

of Phillips Andover Academy is one of the latest to do this. In an address before the fifteenth annual convention of the Massachusetts Parent Teacher Association, Principal Stearns declared that "parents of today are not on their jobs, and as a result the children suffer." The home he characterized as "the background and foundation of American life". He deplored the tendency to exalt individualism and selfishness, the unwillingness of parents to talk over with their children such matters as automobiles, joy rides, movies and reading, the neglect of discipline, the absence of home atmosphere and the omission of religious training. Of course there are still a great many homes of the better sort. These are the bulwark and hope of the nation.

POWER BRAKES FOR AUTOMOBILES

Automobiles have self-starters; why don't they have self-stoppers? No doubt, many a car owner has asked this question and wondered about the feasibility of power brakes. Now comes the report from the automotive manufacturing centres that the question has been asked and turned over seriously in the minds of automotive engineers. Experimentation, in fact, has been under way for some time, looking toward the perfection of mechanical means of deceleration. It is also agreed among certain automotive engineers that the business of shifting gears should be a mechanical operation.

Power brakes have been successfully used for many years on steam trains and electric cars; but for some reason it seems not to have occurred to anybody until recently that a self-stopper, as well as a self-starter, should be part of the standard equipment of every car. Reports which have become current in automotive circles recently indicate that air-brakes may soon make their appearance on passenger automobiles. They have already been used on the big motor buses used in suburban and interurban highway service.

No motor car can be brought to a standstill while descending a hill without the use of a lot of energy on the part of the driver. The driver may not realize it, but he is called upon to exert a great amount of strength every time he pushes on the foot pedal or pulls the emergency brake lever. Certain engineers now declare that so crude a method of bringing a car to a standstill is no longer necessary. The manipulation of brakes by mechanical power will have nothing to do with the number of brakes used or their location, for the idea can be adapted with equal facility to two-wheel or four-wheel outfits. All that the power brake is expected to do is to eliminate the brake pedal.

Compressed air is considered the most practical medium of braking power, because it can be applied in a wide variety of ways. Compressed air can be generated by a pump operated by the propeller shaft. In this way the car's momentum can be used to effect the compression of the air. Electric power can also be used to supply compressed air. There are almost as many ways of generating compressed air as there are ways of applying it.

Another plan under consideration provides for a combination of compressed air and hydraulic pressure. To stop a car with the use of compressed air or with hydraulic pressure would render unnecessary the exertion of physical effort. With the self-stopper, the driver will be able to give all his attention to the clutch and the accelerator.

In The Supreme Court

1924 A. No. 4225.
Between: RAY E. COLDWELL Plaintiff
—And— RUPERT P. WHITMAN and BLANCHE A. WHITMAN Defendants.

TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION by FREDERICK J. PORTER, High Sheriff in and for the County of Kings or his Deputy at the Court House at Kentville, in the County of Kings, on TUESDAY THE 2ND DAY OF DECEMBER A. D. 1924

at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, pursuant of an order of Foreclosure and Sale made herein and dated the 29th day of October, A.D. 1924, unless before the time of sale the amount due to the Plaintiff herein and costs be paid to the Plaintiff or his Solicitor.

ALL the Estate, right, title, interest, property, claim, demand and equity of redemption of the above named Defendants, RUPERT P. WHITMAN and BLANCHE A. WHITMAN and of all persons claiming or entitled by, from or under them or either of them in and out of all and singular that certain lot, tract or parcel of land situate lying and being at Lockhartville in the County of Kings, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the South-east corner of lands formerly belonging to the Estate of Andrew Lockhart, deceased, and running by said lands to the Bluff road so called, thence by said Bluff road Easterly to lands formerly belonging to the Hugh McMonagle Estate; thence by the said lands formerly belonging to the Hugh McMonagle Estate to the old Mount Denison road; thence Westerly by the said old Mount Denison road to the point of beginning, containing sixty-five acres more or less.

TERMS OF SALE—Ten per cent. deposit at time of sale, remainder on delivery of Deed.

DATED AT KENTVILLE, Nova Scotia, this 29th day of October, A.D. 1924.

FREDERICK J. PORTER, High Sheriff in and for the County of Kings
WINFRED D. WITTHROW, Wolfville, N. S., Solicitor of Plaintiff

Since 1869 this Bank has been identified inseparably with the development and progress of the Dominion. A Canadian institution, energized and directed by Canadians, it serves every phase of our business and private life at home, and has played no small part in the steady expansion of Canadian trade in foreign markets.

From a small beginning it has grown through sound business principles to a place among the largest and strongest banks of the world.

You will find this Bank a sympathetic factor in your business and private banking.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes items like Table Raisins, Seedless Raisins, New Dates, Dried Peaches, Tokay Grapes, Choice Bananas, Oranges, Large Grape Fruit, Fresh Preserved Cherries, Crystallized Ginger, Full line choice Candies, New Shelled Walnuts, and Cocomanuts.