

The Evening Times and Star

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THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The Times a few days ago ventured to reply to some criticism of the daily press which had appeared in the Maritime Baptist, and to suggest that the religious press and religious teachers were not without responsibility for undesirable political conditions, and for what is objectionable in the tone and spirit of political discussion in a portion of the daily press.

The Maritime Baptist replies by gently suggesting that the editor of the Times may have suffered from a brain-stroke, or was touched on a sensitive spot; while a correspondent of that journal, who declined to sign his name to his letter, thinks that the conscience of the Times editor was pricked by what he read in the Maritime Baptist. In the course of its criticism of the article in the Times the religious journal says:— "But the editorial raises a serious question. Must the churches and the religious press be held responsible for these conditions? We believe that every reasonable man will agree with us in the conclusion that such responsibility is at the most only secondary and indirect. These conditions exist not because of, but in spite of, the activity of the churches. The men who are directly responsible are seldom found in their religious meetings and are not usually interested readers of the religious press. Yet if these unfounded charges against the religious activities of the past were all true we cannot see why the editor of the Times should object to our effort to better conditions. For, after all, we were but urging Christian men to use their influence to the best advantage in their Canadian political life."

The Times does not object to any effort made to better conditions. What it wants is a more practical and more sane effort. If it be true, as the Maritime Baptist asserts, that the churches and the religious press are only responsible at the most in a secondary and indirect way for undesirable political conditions, is it not obvious that there is very little responsibility anywhere? Religion is not something peculiar to the columns of a religious paper or to a prayer meeting. If it is vital it goes down into the political primaries and up into the provincial elections and the executive council chamber. Who but the churches and religious press have a larger responsibility in the effort to get it there? And if they are silent when grafters are exposed, and when men proved to be grafters or defenders of graft are trying to get another chance to loot the treasury—who cares what they say in general terms about the desirability of bettering political conditions?

There is now a political campaign in progress in New Brunswick. Since the last general election in the province a premier has been compelled to retire—not by his supporters, but by the revelations made before a royal commission. Another member of the legislature, one of that premier's supporters, was compelled to retire because of the revelations made before another royal commission. Facts revealed at various enquiries made it perfectly clear that neither the government nor its supporters should be any longer permitted to administer the affairs of the province. The government has been re-organized, but it is practically the same government, and it and its supporters want another lease of power. To give it to them would be to condone the political crimes of the past five years.

What does the Maritime Baptist say about it? What should be the attitude of the churches and the religious press toward the question of keeping in power a government and its supporters who have today as one of their leading champions the man who had to retire from the premiership because of the revelations made before a royal commission, and who was whitewashed by his supporters in the house, though condemned by every right thinking elector? Instead of keeping religion out of politics, should it not be taken into politics, and the men or men proved unworthy told that they do not deserve and should not get public support?

The anonymous correspondent of the Maritime Baptist suggests that in asking such a question the Times is trying to make a bit of political capital. The assumption is unwarranted. We are not considering the state of politics in China or Patagonia, but in New Brunswick, and to accomplish anything we must get down to cases. Several royal commissions have provided the cases, and there is no use in pussy-footing around them or pretending not to see them. Any journal, any teacher, who wants cleaner politics has now an opportunity not only to tell the people to vote against graft, bribery, and the degradation of public life, but to point to the men and the party in this province under whose administration graft and bribery have flourished for five years, and whose political conduct has shamed New Brunswick. If religious leaders are not to speak out, from what source is the inspiration of reform to come?

The St. John Globe projects itself into this discussion to remark:— "The Maritime Baptist editor's plea for a fairer and less partisan discussion of political questions, published a few days before the announcement of the local election, has attracted wide attention and elicited considerable newspaper comment. The need of the plea is made apparent by the suggestions in these comments that the editor become a partisan and endorse one side because certain Royal Commissions have made certain reports. These suggestions ignore entirely the findings of other commissions, facts of common knowledge and the nomination of men who in representative capacities either as ministers or members of former legislatures, were guilty of much the same things that their opponents are condemned for. A fairer and less partisan discussion of political questions is greatly to be desired, but does the nature of the comments on the plea of the Maritime Baptist afford ground for a hope that a change need be expected?"

If the Globe knows of any man who has been nominated by the opposition for a seat in the legislature and who has been shown by a royal commission to be unworthy of public confidence, it should name and denounce him, and call upon the religious press to do the same. If to uphold honesty in public life is to be partisan, then every journal should be partisan. That members of former legislatures may have been declared guilty of offenses does not, however, make these offenses virtues when committed by members of a later one. When did the truth cease to be a desirable feature of fair discussion?

PROFESSION AND PRACTICE

At Hampton yesterday Premier Murray said:— "I want to say to you, my fellow citizens of Kings County, and I want to say it with all the force that I can command that I stand before God and man clean in my public record in every respect. I repeat, I want to make that statement with all the force that I possess. There is no man on the face of the earth who can contradict that statement."

And in the same speech this high-minded gentleman gave utterance to the following statement, which is without even the shadow of foundation:— "I want to say with all the strength of my command, with all the sincerity of my disposal, that every temperance man in the province voting against the government votes to delay prohibition."

The people will measure Mr. Murray by his own yard-stick. Let him tell the prohibitionists why liquor dealers have been encouraged to ask for licenses, vendors, and whether his government proposes to grant those licenses. The opposition stands for absolute enforcement of the prohibitory law, and Mr. Murray repeats the truth when he says that the people of Kings County that vote against the government would delay prohibition.

Very fittingly, and with an universal sense of the grave responsibilities of the present time, the members of the Canadian house of commons yesterday forgot their differences to join in cheering the prime minister and to wish him a safe journey overseas. He goes as the spokesman of all Canada, to tell the Imperial government that Canadians are heart and soul with the rest of the Empire in this war. That thought was in the minds of his fellow-members of the commons yesterday, and they gave it fitting expression as he left the chamber.

The destruction without warning of the passenger steamer California interests Washington. There was an American on board. He was saved, but that does not lessen the responsibility for the attempt to kill him.

The British Admiralty expresses confidence in its ability to cope with the submarine, even as the Zeppelins were doped with when they threatened destruction to English cities.

The United States draws nearer to the verge of war. It can only be a question of time when American citizens will be made victims of German savagery on the high seas.

The British minister of labor says the Allies are determined to end the war by the end of next summer.

NO CHILDREN WANTED
Halifax, Feb. 7, 1917.
To the Editor of the Times:
Sir,—Inclosed find an ad which appears in one of our Halifax evening papers—a fine inducement for people to raise a family. Where are we men with children going to live if everybody who owns a house is going to bar children? The principle is entirely wrong and should not be encouraged by anyone. Note the nine rooms "but no children. What do they expect us to put in the nine rooms?"
I remain,
A Father With Many Children.
The advertisement in the Halifax paper says:— "TO LET—New flat (upper), 9 rooms and bath—two rooms on first floor, and 3 larger rooms on second floor. Hot water heating. Possession May 1st. No children. Can be seen between 2 and 8 p.m. any day."

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"Fruit-a-lives" Builds Up The Whole System
Those who take "Fruit-a-lives" for the first time, are often astonished at the way it builds them up and makes them feel better all over. They may be taking "Fruit-a-lives" for some specific disease, as Constipation, Indigestion, Chronic Headaches or Neuralgia, Kidney or Bladder Trouble, Rheumatism or Pain in the back. And they find when "Fruit-a-lives" has cured the disease, that they feel better and stronger in every way. This is due to the wonderful tonic properties of these famous tablets, made from Fruit Juices.

Lighter Vein
Eggs Is Eggs
Mr. Endman, in a restaurant, was speaking very confidentially to a friend. "You see that man leaving?" he said. "Well, he has just eaten over a hundred eggs. If you doubt me ask the waiter." His friend turned to the waiter. After slipping him a quarter, he said: "Would you mind telling me what that man's order was?" "He had had no, sir," was the reply.

Loss of Caste
Mistress and maid were engaged in a battle of tongues.
"How dare you talk to me that way?" the mistress demanded. "I never heard such impudence. You have a lot of nerve to call yourself a lady's maid."

Puzzled
Friend—I suppose deafness is a source of annoyance to you?
Deaf Man—Occasionally. Last night, for instance, I danced with a most charming young lady, and I would give a good deal to know whether she compared my dancing to a "zephyr" or a "heifer."

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St. John Milling Company

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Are you troubled with constipation and aching limbs? Do you have backache and aching limbs? Are you pale and thin? Are you subject to rheumatism or neuralgia? Do you suffer from indigestion or dizziness? Do you expect some trouble? Do you have a headache? Do you have a nervous headache? Do you have a nervous headache? Do you have a nervous headache?

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restores affected kidneys to normal. GinDills pills restore health in thousands upon thousands of cases.

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For Bargains in Reliable Footwear
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DISTRIBUTE HEAT EVENLY. LESS LIABLE TO BURN.

THIRTY PER CENT MORE TO LIVE
The Increase in Cost to People of New York as Determined by Investigators
Just how much has the cost of living increased to the average family in the last three years? This is the question which the Budget and Distribution Association says it is able to answer after much patient digging into statistics. The total increase for a family of eight persons is, according to George H. Stege, president of the association, \$242.40 a year, or nearly 80 per cent.

SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK
Cochrane's Crescent Fresh Ground Coffee, regular 50c lb. Special price for this week, 35c.
CHEYNE & CO.,
166 Union St.
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RAYMOND ROBINS HAS HAD REMARKABLE LIFE
Converted to Christianity by Providential Experience in the Klondyke, He Has Consecrated His Life to the Assistance of the Unfortunates
When Raymond Robins, of Chicago, appeared in Toronto before the University students of the Y. M. C. A., a year ago, he was comparatively unknown to the people of Canada. Those who heard him then will recall the pleasure he gave because of his strong personality and his brilliant address. He will address the Canadian Club on Wednesday.

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choice to live with the people to whom they had dedicated their lives, and today Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Robins live within the so-called slum district of Chicago.

Progressive in Politics
Mr. Robins was active in politics as a Progressive. He felt keenly the refusal of Col. Roosevelt to accept the Progressive nomination, but turned in and helped in the campaign of Mr. Hughes. Of Mr. Robins it can be said there is no neutrality about him. He believes thoroughly in the experiment of democracy, thinking it is God's method for the world; he thinks Germany and the German system is opposed to democracy. He believes in the rights of the weak, and has been using most of his energy in working for them; he thinks Germany does not respect these rights, especially his true in Belgium.

Offered His Services
When the Lusitania was sunk, Mr. Robins immediately wrote Colonel Roosevelt offering his services to the army, and in doing this said he thought the United States should join with the allies of Great Britain and that their blood should flow with the blood of the other Anglo-Saxon peoples in this struggle in behalf of liberty.

Mr. Robins thinks the United States should have joined in the conflict immediately Belgium's neutrality was violated, and he declares that the shores of Great Britain be seriously threatened by the German powers he will offer himself for service under the British flag, and if possible get others to join him to assist the motherland.

He is as much with in this great conflict as though he were a Canadian, for, as he says, only two generations back his people were in England, and now a sister of his there is giving her home to be used as a hospital.

No "Nerves" at the Front.
A soldier, writing to the Times, states that men do not suffer from nerves at the front; they are blessed with an absence of nerves so extraordinary as to be almost to seem uncanny, as, for instance, when a company commander, worried by returns and papers, said and meant, "Thank Heavens, we're going into the trenches tomorrow, and shall get a little peace!" Excluding some definite nervous mental strain caused by a warfare which is without beginning, cessation, or end, by days and weeks passed under what before this war would have been called heavy fire, is practically non-existent.

With a singular adaptability the citizen-soldier has taken on that habit of viewing life as a perfectly ordinary affair which had hitherto belonged in its richest bloom to the old regular soldier. Whatever he does, whatever he is asked to do, becomes unconsciously part of the day's work, and so he grumbles not in a philosophic strain (he is not aware of whimsicality or humor, but his remarks are rarely devoid of one or the other), but some one more awkward or uncomfortable than he is, and straightaway is perfectly at the best of his and deliberately making a fool of himself.

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This Ointment Possesses Power to Heal the Skin
Two Cases Which Prove the Extraordinary Healing Power of Dr. Chase's Ointment

The use of Dr. Chase's Ointment is wonderfully satisfactory because you can actually see the results accomplished. It is surprising what change can be brought about in a single night by this great healing ointment.

Mrs. W. W. Oliver, Port George, Annapolis Co., N. S., writes: "I am going to tell you my experience with Dr. Chase's Ointment. There was a spot on my face something like a mole, but it kept getting worse, and a medical doctor whom I consulted said it was skin cancer, and that it would have to be cut or burned out. I intended having this done, but changed my mind when my brother recommended Dr. Chase's Ointment. Before I had finished one box of the ointment the skin trouble had gone, and has not bothered me since. I cannot praise Dr. Chase's Ointment too much, and you are at liberty to publish this letter."

If you have never used Dr. Chase's Ointment send a two-cent stamp for a sample box, and mention this paper. Price sixty cents a box, all dealers, or Edman, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto.