

The Toronto World

NO. 18 TONGUE-STREET, TORONTO
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THE CALLAGHAN TRIAL.

We are accustomed to congratulate ourselves on the fact that in this country we have British justice—justice not tainted by politics—while in the United States justice is tainted by politics. This is all very well, so long as the facts are in our favor. Some things in the administration or denial of justice in the United States, such as the torture of accused persons, are hateful, and ought to be excluded from the minds of all men.

We must be careful, however, that we do not exclude the thing, not the name. We must be careful to preserve the real, substantial superiority of Canadian justice over United States administration of justice. We must be careful to ensure that the administration of justice in Canada is not a whitened sepulchre, fair without, but within full of dead men's bones and rottenness.

We are accustomed to say that our courts are not political, because our judges are appointed by "the Crown," while the United States courts are political, because the judges are elected by the people.

But our judges and officers of the court are not appointed by His Majesty King Edward VII. The Crown at Ottawa means the Laurier government. The Crown at Toronto means the Ross government. Callaghan was virtually sitting Judge was appointed by the Laurier government. The prosecuting counsel and all the officials of the court were appointed by the Ross government. The selection of the jury rested on the favor of the Ross government.

Callaghan was tried on the pretext of a charge of larceny, but really because he had offended the Ross government. We say nothing about the charge which was made the pretext for his arrest. All we say is that any person who happens to offend the Ross government, whether he be innocent or guilty, is liable to find himself in the dock to be pursued with partisan fury by a party official, to be faced by a judge appointed by a party government, and to have his fate decided by a jury picked with partisan skill.

The appointment of Judge Winchester was hailed by all parties as a good one. But his training is that of a lawyer, and a strict interpretation of the law might bind him to a decision that every citizen recognizes as important. Every citizen knows that the prosecution of Callaghan had its origin, not in the guilt of Callaghan, but in political spite. Every citizen knows that if Callaghan had committed the Ross government, all the ingenuity of the legal officials of the Ross government would have been exerted to protect him, not to send him to jail.

Therefore, whatever Judge Winchester may do, and whatever the Laurier government, who appointed him, may do, a broad issue is being raised in Ontario. It is that justice is tainted by politics as badly as in the worst city of the United States; that whenever a case arises that involves politics, the entire legal machinery of Ontario from the Attorney-General to the humblest official in the courts, is used to prevent justice, to suppress evidence that may hurt the dominant party, to protect the criminals of that party, and to turn the courts into an engine of government. A feeling is arising that no person who incurs the dislike of the Ross government is safe in the courts of Ontario. It is for judges and juries and those who appoint them to disabuse the public mind of that idea.

CHOOSING A CAPITAL.

In the trouble it is having over the selection of a capital, Australia is repeating the experience of Canada, except that our trouble took place before and theirs after federation. The parliament of Canada met for some time at Kingston, whence it was moved to Montreal. In Montreal occurred the disturbances caused by the Rebellion Losses Bill, including the mobbing of Lord Elgin and the burning of the Parliament Buildings. After that parliament paraded between Quebec and Toronto. This arrangement necessitated the continual removal from one place to the other not only of documents but of the household goods of civil servants. It is said that on one occasion a box of these effects was accidentally broken open while being unloaded on Yonge-street wharf, and was found to contain brewer's yeast, brought all the way from Quebec. An attempt to fix a permanent capital aroused so much local jealousy that it was finally decided to refer the matter to Queen Victoria, who chose the present site of the capital of Canada.

CHURCHES AND POLITICS.

Whether of various denominations in North Renfrew have been discussing the question of corruption and fraud in elections, and considering means of fighting these evils. Ministers have long been troubled and perplexed by the condition of Ontario politics, but they have not been able to hit upon

the remedy. This need not be a source of surprise. To attack political crookedness successfully requires a certain expert knowledge of politics which it is difficult for an outsider to acquire. But the ministers of Renfrew may take to heart the experience of one of their own order, who is now editor of The Toronto Globe. In this position he began to acquire a knowledge of the workings of the machine, and he gave his testimony. He declared that the canker of corruption had eaten deeply into the heart of politics, that the Ontario government was infected by bacteria and parasites, and that these must be removed by an iron hand.

That The Globe has since retracted these declarations does not destroy their value as testimony. They aroused the alarm and anger of the machine politicians, and The Globe was driven away from its attempt at independence. But the opinions that are forced upon The Globe by the machine cannot compare in value with solemn convictions, freely and spontaneously expressed. The Renfrew ministers must find food for reflection in the fact that the moment a minister begins to acquire an inside knowledge of the machine, he condemns it, and that the moment he condemns it the machine uses such extraordinary means to enforce silence.

PREFERENTIAL TRADE IN CANADA.

The question is asked: what degree of support Mr. Chamberlain's proposals have received in Canada.

It is claimed that Canada initiated the movement for preferential trade, and this claim seems to be sustained. The idea of reciprocity with the United States seems now to be abandoned; at least, Sir Wilfrid Laurier has declared that there will be no more visits to Washington for that purpose.

Premier Ross of Ontario has endorsed Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, and many Boards of Trade have passed resolutions giving their approval to his policy.

The Dominion parliament took no action of this kind, but Mr. Borden, leader of the opposition, said that he would have proposed or supported such a resolution if it could have been carried unanimously.

Sir Richard Cartwright declares himself in favor of the imposition of protective duties in Great Britain as a means of bringing pressure on the United States to give fair tariff treatment to Great Britain and Canada.

These things taken together show a considerable Canadian support for Mr. Chamberlain's proposals. We do not say that the support is complete, or that there are no difficulties in the way; our object is simply to state the facts.

QUESTION FOR HAGUE TRIBUNAL.

United States marines have landed on the Isthmus of Panama and are in collision with the Colombian troops, who are marching to suppress the revolutionists. Not unlikely there will be bloodshed on the very soil which the Monroe doctrine has declared to be sacred to the sovereignty of the weaker republics on this continent, and the aggressor in the contest will be the United States. This is a very serious step, one which the Washington government must contemplate with considerable reluctance. By virtue of the promulgation of the Monroe doctrine, Colombia is a ward of the United States. Like the other South American republics, Colombia has a right to look to the United States for protection. And is the great protector, the sworn guardian of the weak nations of the continent of America, to strike the first blow at the doctrine which has first laid down by European nations have been warned off the shores of Venezuela, even the display of force was for no other purpose than the collection of a debt which a court of arbitration declared to be legally due them. Now the defender of Venezuela is to become the assailant of a sister republic. The guardian is about to lay ruffianly hand on the ward. Surely the great heart of the American Republic must shrink from such a course.

Fortunately there is a peaceful way out of a situation that may any day plunge the United States into an ignominious war. President Roosevelt's last message to congress gives the due to the solution of the problem. Referring to the blockade of Venezuelan ports by the European nations, President Roosevelt says:

"powers suggested that the dispute should be referred to me for decision, but I was clearly of the opinion that a far wiser course would be to submit the question to the permanent court of arbitration at The Hague. It seemed to me to offer an admirable opportunity to advance the practice of the peaceful settlement of disputes between nations and to secure for The Hague tribunal a memorable increase of its practical importance."

There seems good ground for the belief that there has been a real growth among the civilized nations of a sentiment which will permit a gradual substitution of other methods than the method of war in the settlement of disputes.

President Roosevelt has only to turn to the situation on the Isthmus of Panama to realize that The Hague presents still another admirable opportunity to advance the peaceful settlement of disputes between nations, to advance the importance of the tribunal and to show the world that there has been a real growth among the civilized nations in favor of the abolition of the methods of war. The President will not forget that there have been some very ugly rumors in connection with the revolution in Panama, rumors that have been spread by the United States to show the world that there has been a real growth among the civilized nations in favor of the abolition of the methods of war. The President will not forget that there have been some very ugly rumors in connection with the revolution in Panama, rumors that have been spread by the United States to show the world that there has been a real growth among the civilized nations in favor of the abolition of the methods of war.

Can it find out whether the Panama revolution was instigated by the United States for unworthy objects or whether it was the natural and just uprising of an oppressed people. It can find out whether the people of Panama played the part of patriots or mercenary traitors. It can find out whether the United States played the part of the protector to Panama or the part of sneak thief to Colombia. All these doubts should be cleared away

and the plain facts revealed. In view of his recent message to Congress, President Roosevelt can hardly refuse to determine a dispute which endangers the peace of the American continent.

AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS.

On Friday there will be a general election in Australia for the new commonwealth parliament. The ministerial party is protectionist; the opposition is a labor party which seeks to hold the balance of power, and is fairly successful in some of its object to the dominance of the labor party, and propose that it shall be met and fought squarely. Protectionists are willing to leave the tariff alone, and Mr. Field, representing the tariff reformers, asks for only a modest revision, including a number of duties on agricultural implements. He promises also to abolish some of the legislation provided by the Barton ministry at the instance of the labor men, including the prohibition of the employment of black labor on mail steamers. There is a labor support or oppose candidates, according to their views on labor questions.

Preferential trade comes up for discussion. The Barton government would retain the present duties against Great Britain and would not the duties still further against foreign countries. The opposition would give a British preference, if at all, by reductions of duty. The ministerialists have given a general endorsement to the Chamberlain proposals, and for this they have been condemned by the opposition. The following resolution expresses the opposition view: "That an emphatic protest be made to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, leader of the opposition in the British House of Commons, against the unwarrantable conduct of Sir Edmund Barton and Sir John See in their representative capacity in sending messages to Joseph Chamberlain expressing approval of his fiscal policy. And this meeting declares its opinion that the result of the next general election will show that the Australian people desire without any bargaining or compromise a complete independence of the tariff wall which at present divides Australia from the mother country."

SALE OF LIVE STOCK.

The live stock trade is not conducted now as it was twenty-five or thirty years ago. It was customary in the old days for the farmers to drive their cattle to town on market day, generally held on a Monday. Frequently it was an early start from the farm to reach the market, then to stand out in the open space for hours before a sale could be effected. Sometimes the farmer had to return home with his stock un sold.

In these days, it is true, the farmer did not depend so much upon his live stock to bring in the cash. The raising of wheat and barley, together with the proceeds from timber, was his mainstay. Much forethought was displayed by the farmer and his family in the selection of his stock. He was careful to select a good specimen of his breed, and he was careful to select a specimen of his breed, and he was careful to select a specimen of his breed, and he was careful to select a specimen of his breed, and he was careful to select a specimen of his breed,