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FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1924.

No Half-Way Investigation.

Hon. G. S. Henry, minister of public works and highways, intimates that there will be disclosures in the highways that will give the public another scandal.

He states, although in a guarded way, that his department has dug holes in highways to see if they were thick enough, and investigated gravel and grading contracts to see if there has been any skimping.

This brings into the limelight the department that was administered by Hon. Frank C. Biggs, who has already made a statement defending the work over which he had charge.

If Hon. Mr. Henry has information that suggests wrongdoing, the people want to hear all about it.

That brings two departments under fire, that of the provincial treasurer under Hon. Peter Smith, and the highways under Hon. F. C. Biggs. The necessity for investigation of these two is the necessity for investigation of proceedings prior to the tenure of office of Mr. Smith.

There can be no justification, especially in a case where the evidence is so apparent, for saying that an investigation shall go the limit during the regime of Hon. Peter Smith, but it shall cease right there and not go into the previous administration.

In this same connection comes the denial of Attorney-General Nickle that there is any friction between his department and the provincial police. His statement creates the impression that there is perfect harmony between the government and the police force.

Now, if what Mr. Nickle says is true, that there is no friction, there is all the more reason to expect and positively demand some action that will produce Mr. Matthews, a man who surely could tell a great deal.

By all means prosecute in the case of Hon. Peter Smith, or in the case of Hon. F. C. Biggs, or any other man where the evidence warrants it, but do not expect the public to be satisfied when the prosecution singles out these two and deliberately leaves out others who have much to explain.

The Amendment to Church Union.

The difficulties of church union have never been more clearly demonstrated than in the amendment to the bill now under consideration. The amendment appears to be an honest attempt to find reasonable compromise between opposing demands which at times assume the proportions of an irresistible force meeting an immovable body.

Of the objections raised against the church union bill, apart from property considerations, two have been particularly emphasized.

The first has been that the bill required anti-unionists to become part of the new united church whether they so desired or not. After completion of union they would have opportunity of withdrawal, but they first must become unionists and would then be in the position of dissenters from the united church.

The second has been that the bill meant the end of the Presbyterian Church.

The amendment deals with the first of these objections by allowing nine months in which anti-unionists may vote to take no part in union. By this provision they are relieved from ever becoming a party to the united church.

The amendment attempts to deal with the second objection by giving anti-unionist Presbyterians the right to use the name "the Presbyterian Church of Canada." This is a distinction from "the Presbyterian Church in Canada," which will be absorbed by union.

Anti-unionists who have expressed dissatisfaction with the amendment repeat their demand that they shall remain the "Presbyterian Church in Canada" and that unionists shall be in the position of leaving the Presbyterian Church rather than taking it with them into the new united church. Anti-unionists would have the unionists become dissenters from the Presbyterian Church.

Unionists, on the other hand, stand firm on the same point. They argue that since they are an overwhelming majority they are the Presbyterian Church and they have the right to take that church into the united church. The anti-unionists, they claim, are the real dissenters and they must, if they wish, form a new Presbyterian Church.

There is logic and sincerity in both arguments. To an impartial outsider it would appear as though the problem resolves itself into whether or not the majority shall prevail, and it seems likely that the private bills committee will consider itself obliged to forward the amended bill for consideration by parliament.

A Ruler With a History.

Paris is agog over the visit of an Ethiopian monarch from Abyssinia. He has come from the dim east to thank the powers that sponsored the entrance of that country into the League of Nations. He at least has the virtue of kindly remembrance, and does not regard gratitude as the expectation of favors to come.

Where monarchs and presidents trace back the family tree or the national records by hundreds of years this Abyssinian regent counts his lineage by dynasties and centuries. He traces his line of succession back to the time of Solomon and David.

People are apt to regard Old Testament history as something apart from the accepted version of historians. Here is a ruler from that

land whose line runs back into those very times. It gives a sense of realism that is opportune and often necessary.

For there were political problems then as acute as we have them now. What would the present-day historians say of the division of the kingdom of Israel, following the reign of Solomon? Could they interpret the demands of the masses of the people for better conditions any better than is done by the Biblical writers? Could they depict in any more dramatic way the coming of the depositions to Solomon's son, Rehoboam, asking for better living conditions than had obtained in the extravagance of the court of Solomon? Could they give us a better record of the way in which the new king spurned the advice of the old men of the court to treat the people generously, and instead listened to the young men, the gay and reckless parasites of the court life of that day, who told him to pile on the burdens and increase the drudgery? And how like a chapter from the history of today was the answer of the people when the ten tribes turned to Jeroboam.

All these things linger in the ages through which this Abyssinian ruler now in Paris traces his ancestry.

He is more than a visitor, with colorful entourage from the east—he is a reminder of the past, and should be doubly welcome as such.

Cheering For the Senate.

The Free Press pauses to cheer the Senate on its way to cutting expenses of civil service at Ottawa.

"The Senate to the Rescue" is the way the situation is viewed.

"If the Senate can succeed in forcing economies at Ottawa the senators will squelch much of the criticism one now hears in regard to the extravagance of maintaining a second chamber. The senators may save their own jobs."

That's a bright thought. If the senators can smite enough civil servants they may not be smitten themselves.

And thus the whole 96 of them at \$4,000 per year can remain as they are, doing a work that one-third the number could do as well.

The Free Press had better guess again. The Senate will have to do something more than that to convince the people of Canada that they are an essential body performing a necessary service.

There Has Been No Change.

The ex-kaiser of Germany, living safely and comfortably at Doorn, sends words to the old militarists that no expense be spared to make a great showing of the parade at Potsdam, where the semi-militaristic element is to gather.

To this end he has made known his desire that the guests "be freely wine and dined, and that free lodging be provided for as many visitors as possible."

Ludendorff, Von Hindenburg and other officers will strut, and the son of the ex-kaiser will witness the parade.

It is nothing short of international impudence for the ex-kaiser to have anything to say about what takes place in Germany.

He was the victim of favorable and easy circumstances following the war. He was not tried before the court of the world as was pledged by the Allies. He found an exceedingly comfortable spot in Holland.

In all the suffering that the German people have passed through since the war he has not been a participant; he has felt nothing of the torture of women and children who have starved in Germany. He has made no protest at the way in which the workers have been exploited in order to build up private fortunes. He himself was not hungry; he was not being exploited. He spent his days and nights dreaming of what might have been, and dreaming still more of what might yet be.

His vanity remains. He passes over all the period of suffering and hardship; at the sound of the call to the troops to parade he has only one message, wine them and dine them.

He stands for a type of government that cannot return. It thinks and acts and plans in terms of self and selfishness. He has failed to see that monarchy exists in England because the king is never very far removed from his people. The British government changes; men from trades and the mines are given high office; the king knows them, they meet with him. There is not that great gulf that existed between the swank of German militarism and the life of the common people.

The ex-kaiser of Germany has not changed. He has had time for reflection, and for the learning of a great lesson, but he has not learned it. He simply nurses his grudge and hopes for a chance to turn a German republic back to a German monarchy.

Note and Comment.

Perhaps some day we may be wise enough to hold an investigation before the bank crashes.

When the assessor made his rounds one Londoner hid a pup in the oven. Let's see, what's that phrase—yes, hot dog!

Hon. F. C. Biggs says there was no skimping on the highways. The people who are paying the bills are inclined to agree with him.

Andy Gump is all set and ready to go out and hunt up Min. The men readers are willing to name Andy as a big piker if he caves in now, and the women are placing their bets that Min won't give in. Andy's in a tight box.

The editor of the Blenheim News-Tribune is honorable to a degree. He publishes this week a letter from a subscriber who refers to his paper as a rag, and tells him to stop it. The fact that the subscription is overdue may account for the choice of words.

The French Chamber of Deputies has a German member who cannot speak a word of French. So he will have to speak German in the French House, a sore touch to a high-spirited people who right now love neither Germans nor German. The political whirligig tosses up some odd situations, of which this is a real specimen.

Dr. Frank Crane

The Right Master Helps You Find Yourself.

THE most essential characteristic of a master is his power to inspire. He is to hand his disciple not a book, but a flame. It is this capacity in the highest degree we find in such great souls as Jesus, Buddha and Socrates. It was not what they said nor the knowledge they had, it was their tremendous spiritual and mental magnetism.

In every department of human interest you will find that certain superior spirits have gained mastery. Pitiless time has tried them, years have tried to bury them in forgetfulness, but they still flourish, ever green in their right to dominate.

It will pay everyone, and especially every young person, to seek out these leaders and get as near to them as possible. Not that you can "learn" more from them, but that it is they who have in the highest degree the faculty of bringing out what is greatest in you.

Whatever your calling, whether business or art, bricklaying or architecture, music, painting, literature or cooking or teaching, find the master, he will lead you to—Yourself.

YOUNG lady, pound away at the Beethoven sonata. If you do not like it at first, keep at it and you will. That is the beauty of it. The oftener you hear it the more beautiful it becomes. The masters grow upon you; they stay with you all your life. Do not give up your practice of Schubert and Mendelssohn. No matter if your friends do not enjoy it. You owe it to yourself to hold on to the best. And also it might be a good thing to hunt up some friends that do enjoy it. Go to every Wagner opera you can. Continue to go, and study and go again until you find yourself "sitting in heavenly places" among the favored and enlightened. Don't let anyone frighten you nor intimidate you. Go on to the kingdom.

So with painting. So with science. So with religion. So with everything that is good and fine. Avoid the fakirs and the mountebanks. Follow the masters. Because they alone give the soul freedom. The others find you; the masters help you to find yourself.

Ye Joyous Search

It used to be an easy thing for man to find where was his wife, it was a simple matter then, when plans were simple for this life.

He used to go unto his hut, and stick his head inside the door, if she weren't there he knew for sure she'd tackled then some barnyard chore.

At other times he'd look around and search the barnyard for his spouse, 'twas certain, if she weren't out there she'd be a-sittin' in the house.

As time went on and places grew, these humble habits fled their way, and there became more things to do, more places for to go each day.

There came the sewin' bee and such, a meetin' for this thing and that, enough to make a man keep books to find out where his wife was at.

In recent years the pace grows worse, and folks in joinin' sixteen things, a meetin' place for them what reads, another for the birds that sings.

So how in thunder is a man to keep a track of all that throng, and know for sure at any time just where his wife has went and gone.

He sighs for them old simple days, when there was just two spots to look, and he was bound to find her quick no matter which path she had took.

And, added to the maze of things to which the women skip and hop, there's added now the newest words, "Ma's over at the barber shop."—ARK.

If He Were An M.D.

William McDonald, writing in this week's Chesley Enterprise, pays tribute to a family doctor who has just passed away in Listowel.

Proceeding from that, the Chesley editor tells what would happen were he William McDonald, M.D., instead of William McDonald, ex-M.P.P.:

"We have often wished we could be one of the most skillful surgeons in the world so that we could take a real pleasure out of, in many cases, restoring to health and strength those who were supposed to be past medical skill. We would make our charges according to the purse of our patients. The rich would have to pay for the poor who would be treated free of charge. A lot of the right-thinking, whole-souled surgeons are following that practice today in their charges."

Press Comment

There Is That Possibility.

An intoxicated man, knocked down by an automobile, was not injured, and refused to give his name, says a news item. Maybe he didn't know it.—Hamilton Spectator.

Don't Bob—Shave 'Em.

Let's hope the bobbing craze keeps up. If it does it may reach the high prices. —Buffalo Commercial.

Twas The Advertiser Document.

Twenty-eight thousand people signed the petition presented to parliament on Thursday asking for action in the Alberta coal situation. That is but a small fraction of those interested in the matter.—Peterborough Examiner.

A Contest of Endurance.

It is quite evident that the foes of the Canadian National Railways are finding plenty of tools in the House of Commons to carry out their antagonism to the principle of government ownership and operation of railways. The greater success of the railways, the greater the opposition of this group.—Brantford Expositor.

Hold On To Your Hats.

Rain insurance is already being written to cover both political conventions. However, there's no insurance against windy sessions.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

They Still Take the Risk.

The common belief that it is difficult for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven prevents few men from trying to get rich.—Chicago News.

The Fun Shop

VERSES AND REVERSES.

By SAMUEL HOFFENSTEIN
Darling, if you'll marry me,
How contented I shall be!
From the heaven of our home
Nothing but my thoughts shall roam.

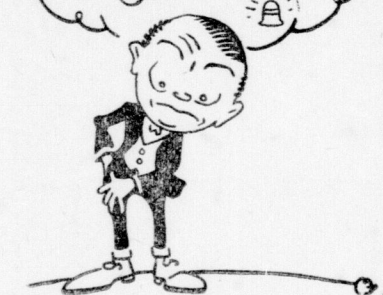
The girl I left behind me,
That's faded from my mind,
I hope she'll never find me,
And always stay behind:
She wasn't sweet or pretty,
Or bright or wise or gay;
That's why I'm in the city,
And she is in the hay.

I want to go down to the beach again
And watch the folks go swimmin'.
For that is the place where men are
men,
And the women sure are women.

A woman preaches another woman
by admiring her hat. She offends
her by getting one like it.

satires, and bright sayings of children, must be original and unpublished. Accepted material will be paid for. All manuscripts must be written on one side of the paper only, and should be addressed to The Fun Shop, The London Advertiser. No manuscripts can be returned. The rates are \$1 to \$10 for accepted material, and 25 cents to \$1 a line for poetry.

Readers are requested to contribute. All humor: Epigrams (or humorous mottoes), jokes, anecdotes, poetry, burlesques,



WHEN WE COME TO PAY THE FIDDLER
WE SOMETIMES FIND WE HAVE BEEN
DANCING TO THE STRAIN OF A WHOLE
ARMY.

A Successful Platform.
For years he had been a reform candidate. He had fought in every campaign for the good old-fashioned institutions. His speeches always got great applause, but he had never been elected.

The situation was desperate. He

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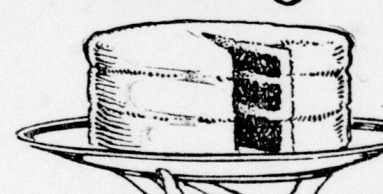
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NEXT DELORME TRIAL LISTED FOR SEPTEMBER

Quebec Judge Refers Matter of Bail to Assizes Court.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Montreal, May 15.—The trial of the Rev. A. J. Delorme, charged with the murder of his half-brother, Raoul,

will take place in the September term of the court of king's bench. Alban Germain, K.C., for the defence, made an application to Chief Justice Martin for bail. The presiding judge said that in due course the present assizes would consider as to the competency of the court to grant bail under the circumstances.

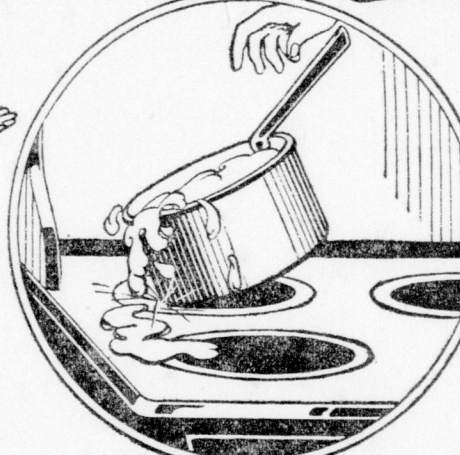
A SURPRISE PARTY.

Eagle, May 15.—A number of neighbors and friends from here surprised Mr. and Mrs. F. Branchflower who lately moved to West Lorne and presented them with an electric iron and an electric toaster.

EMBRO W. M. S.

Embrow, May 15.—The regular meeting of the W. M. S. of Knox Church was held on Tuesday afternoon at Mrs. Columbus Ross' home. The president, Mrs. Lane, was in charge. A splendid missionary paper was given by Mrs. James Kennedy. Miss Margaret Smith, delegate to the provincial missionary meetings at Hamilton, gave a complete report. Mrs. W. W. Murray and Mrs. Lane gave reports of two meetings. The secretary, Mrs. H. B. Atkinson, in her report showed several new members. The June meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. R. M. Ross.

Johnnie Hotpoint Says



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