

The Standard



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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1910.

THE SPEAKER'S MISTAKE.

The pulpits and the press of Canada have criticised, with justice, says the Winnipeg Tribune, the spectacle of the Speaker of the House of Commons appearing in a religious procession garbed in his robes of office. Roman Catholics, as well as Protestants, cannot do other than criticise the blunder of the Speaker. "The latter will be asked for due apology when parliament meets. The entanglement of party, sectional politics, and religion, is probably responsible for the actions of the Speaker and some others at the Eucharistic Congress, in the belief that the clergy has great influence with the Quebec voters, both sides and all sides, have been chasing hard to gain clerical favor.

A statement almost overlooked in the mass of statements and incidents, was made by Mr. Henri Bourassa, on Sept. 15, in Notre Dame Cathedral. Speaking in the presence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and other members of the Dominion government, and of the judiciary, he said:—

"For two days back, in these memorable meetings, apostles of the universal church have enunciated to you the truths of the faith, and preached the worship of the eucharist; the heads of the church in Canada have given evidence of the living faith of their people; foreign prelates have praised the magnificence of the Congress at Montreal; Canadian statesmen have assured the representative of the head of the Catholic Church that here (in Canada) the state bows before the supreme authority of the church."

Mr. Bourassa is the rival of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the leadership of the Quebec electorate. Mr. Bourassa is a man of unsullied personal record, reproachless in his private life as Sir Wilfrid is, but he is playing the political game in Quebec to the limit. On the remarks of Mr. Bourassa an influential journal says:—

"If the King of England had acted toward the Eucharistic Congress as Sir Wilfrid Laurier has acted, Great Britain would be aflame with indignation. The very security of the throne would be in peril. If such a thing could be possible that a politician should make such a statement in the presence of the king as Mr. Bourassa made in the presence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and have the assent of silence to his remarks a revolution would be imminent."

There is room in Canada, plenty of it, for men and women to worship God as they please, but there is no room for the idea that any church, Anglican, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist or Congregationalist, can even claim "supreme authority."

The state in Canada is supreme; or, at least, should be supreme. No church should have a preference. No church should even be allowed to entertain even the notion that it has "supreme authority." All citizens, all organizations, church or otherwise, must recognize the Bourassa, Marcellis and Lauriers, that they are equal in the eyes of authority and law. No church has "supreme authority" in Canada. No church will ever have "supreme authority" in Canada.

This is not a Protestant or a Roman Catholic question. The Tribune believes that the great majority of the laity of the Roman Catholic church, if not in Quebec, then through the rest of Canada, is just as opposed to the Bourassa extreme and the action of Speaker Marcellis and the judge who wore his official robes in a denominational procession, as are the Protestants of Canada. The desire of all denominations in this Dominion should be to live in honorable peace. We can only have honorable peace on a basis of equality, without consideration of race or religion.

THE POWER BUND.

Niagara Power is at the doors of the municipalities of Western Ontario, a ready servant. Its energies will be turning the wheels of industry, lighting the marts of commerce and illuminating the homes of a score and more of towns and cities within the electric zone before the snow flies. The Hydro-Electric Commission, a state board appointed by the Province of Ontario, in face of strenuous opposition, has woven a web of transmission lines from Niagara Falls to Toronto on the East and Windsor on the West, and Berlin on the North, at the behest of a group of thirty-five municipalities.

It was a vast work, undertaken by the people of the province. A unique piece of public ownership, which ensures to Ontario for all time to come—cheap power, cheap light and cheap heat. This power line carries the highest voltage of any line in existence, namely 110,000 volts, and its workings will be an object of interest to electrical engineers over the entire continent.

The official opening of this great public service is to be held at Berlin next Tuesday, and will be made the occasion of a three-day demonstration. The Ontario cabinet, the Hydro-Electric Commission, the members of the Provincial Legislature, the mayors and editors of Canadian and American cities will attend. Berlin was selected as the point at which this demonstration should be held because the movement to obtain Niagara power for the union of municipalities was launched there and it was the first municipality ready to receive it. Berlin owns all its public utilities—Water, gas, electric light and power and street railway systems. It has over seventy manufacturing plants and is one of the great industrial centres in Canada.

Cheap power is becoming more and more a factor in building up the commercial and industrial life of a city. Here in St. John we have not progressed beyond the stage of discussing its advantages. Within easy distance there are reported to be water powers which if harnessed for the benefit of the community, would effect a revolution in local conditions. On the Mispic, at Silver Falls, and at

Musquash power is waiting to be developed. A more practical investigation would well repay the initial expense.

ALCOHOLISM IS NOT HERITABLE.

Alcoholism as a hereditary influence has recently been made the subject of a pains-taking investigation by Prof. Karl Pearson and Miss Ethel Elderton, a Galton research scholar in the University of London. Some 3,600 children of working-class parentage in Edinburgh and Manchester were studied, with results quite subversive of prevalent opinions regarding the deleterious effect of alcoholism on the victim's offspring.

As a preliminary fact it is found that, as wage-earners, the alcoholic parents are only a trifling percentage behind the non-drinkers, and this, the investigators believe, would argue, if anything a slight superiority in physique and intelligence over the abstemious class, since the drinking habit in itself is apt to be penalized by a lower wage. Passing to the children, we learn that there is a higher death-rate among the children of alcoholic parents than among other children, but that this is probably due primarily to parental neglect, and only in a minor degree to inherited toxic degeneration. In height and weight the case stands even between the two classes.

The general health of the children of alcoholic parents appears on the whole slightly better than that of the children of sober parents. There are fewer delicate children among the first, and tuberculosis and epilepsy are markedly less frequent. This is partially explained on the hypothesis that the physically stronger parents in a community have the stronger craving for drink, and partly by the fact of the higher death rate among children of the alcoholic which eliminates the weaklings. Alcoholism reveals no connection with abnormal or defective eyesight, nor is it the source of mental defect in children.

"To sum up," says the report, "no marked relation has been found between the intelligence, physique, or disease of the offspring and parental alcoholism in any of the categories investigated."

DIFFERENT METHODS.

The Illinois Railway and Warehouse Commission, a state body having control of freight and express rates within that commonwealth, so far as commerce other than interstate is concerned, has just ordered a fifty per cent. reduction in express rates within the boundaries of Illinois. The order came as a result of a succession of hearings extending over a period of five months. As the right of a state to regulate rates within its boundaries is undeniable when those rates affect local traffic the order of the commission will be promptly obeyed.

In January and June of last year the Canadian Railway Commission having power to deal with the whole of the Dominion heard evidence regarding express rates in this country. The evidence was conclusive that the express companies had been collecting charges for carrying fruit equal to the amount received by the growers for producing it, and at the same time reaping profits of from 25 to 100 per cent. More than a year has passed since the last of the sittings of the commission in this express mulling probe. The Illinois commission reported promptly. The Canadian commission has yet to deliver its findings.

Sir Robert Baden-Powell, replying to a correspondent who asked his views on smoking among boys, wrote: "No boy has ever smoked because he liked it; it is horrid at first. A boy learns to smoke because he thinks it is a very 'swagger' thing to do; it makes him—so he thinks—look like a man, when in reality he only looks like a little ass. I think most fellows see that now, and very seldom see any but a regular 'slopper' smoking nowadays. Boys who want to run well and do well in games, as well as at their work, are not quite such fools as they used to be, and they know that smoking is poison, and can do a lot of harm to their heart and wind." This view of the case might be taken to heart with advantage by some of the immature youth of this city.

CURRENT COMMENT

(Winnipeg Tribune.)

It is said that the net profit of the electric car line (of Moscow, Russia), which is owned by the city, approximated \$1,000,000, in 1910, against \$300,000 in 1908—U. S. Daily Consular and Trade Reports, Sept. 10, 1910. The foregoing is only another fact showing the profitability of municipally owned street cars. The number of passengers carried in Moscow in 1909 was 141,102,456, at an average fare of two and a half cents. If the Moscow municipally owned tramway made a million dollars on its 2½-cent fare, how much is made in Canada at the higher fare? Moscow also has a big debt—almost \$50,000,000—but, says the consular report, "ninety per cent. is invested in productive municipal enterprises," such as gas and electric light works and abattoirs.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

It would not be a surprise if parliament were not to sit until after Christmas. The government plainly is not ready, and a November session under such circumstances is a waste of time. It is a question whether the opening in November is as good a move as it was expected to be. The Christmas holidays follow so swiftly upon the opening that there is a tendency to postpone the work until after the New Year. This, of course, leaves parliament in no better position than that it would occupy if it had not met until some time in January.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The Socialist party of Canada, which seems to have its headquarters at Toronto, has expelled Mr. James Simpson from its membership because he took a job as one of the Technical Education Commission from the capitalistic government at Ottawa. Some seven hundred members in various parts of Ontario, it is added, have also been cut off from the fellowship of the select for want of thoroughness in their agreement with the principles of the leaders. It would seem from this that the salvation of man from the thralldom of toil is to be won by a minority.

(Peterborough Review.)

A form moves, a rifle is raised, the trigger is pulled, bang! The dogs are giving tongue—"My God, I've shot Bill!" This incident took place last fall. This incident, yes an incident—no, a tragedy—took place last fall and they wired to the widow. She put on mourning and took boarders. It will be repeated this year. The season when the fool robs the host is over, and the season when the fool with the gun enters the woods has arrived.

(Montreal Gazette.)

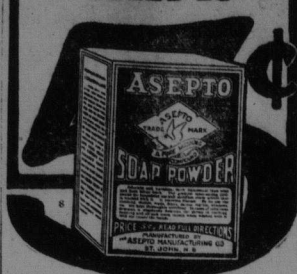
Some newspaper comment has been caused in the Niagara district by the case of a young man of local influence who has left the Liberal party and announced that he will henceforth give his support to the Dominion opposition party. He is described as a reader, a thinker, and a student of affairs, which, naturally, accounts for the course he has by his intelligence been led to take.

(Ottawa Journal.)

Some day Mr. Bourassa, who wants Quebec fenced off from the rest of Canada, and the editor of the Toronto Telegram who wants the rest of Canada fenced off from Quebec will meet, and it is to be hoped the Canadian expert on explosives will be there to conduct the inquest.

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SHORT SESSION OF KINGS COUNTY COURT

No Criminal Cases or Jury Rolls Called Before Judge Wedderburn—Mill Sold to Geo. McKean.

Hampton, Kings Co., Oct. 4.—The October sitting of the county court of Kings county opened at the court house at 11 o'clock this morning, before Mr. Justice Wedderburn. There was no criminal business to come before the court, neither were there any civil cases requiring the intervention of a jury, so Sheriff Freeze had exercised his discretion in the interests of economy, and saved the county the expense of summoning the grand and petit juries.

Four non-jury cases were entered on the docket as follows:—

Daniel W. Burlock vs. William Sweeney, an action to recover expenses incurred in connection with a horse. Fowler and Jona for plaintiff; J. M. McIntyre for defendant.

Sussex Manufacturing Company vs. Joseph C. Oullette, an action to recover damages for breach of contract. Fowler and Jona for plaintiff company; Howard Garland vs. Alonzo Wilson; an action to recover damages for use and occupation of premises. Fowler and Jona for plaintiff; C. A. Steeves for defendant.

E. Alexander Jamieson vs. James Payne, an action to recover the price of goods sold and delivered. W. D. Turner for plaintiff; Fowler and Jona for defendant.

The latter case was settled and did not come to trial.

The other three cases were, by consent, made remanets, and will come up for trial at the sitting of court in January, 1911.

In the Garland-Wilson case a commission was issued to take the testimony of witnesses during recess, and W. D. Turner was named commissioner.

The court adjourned sine die, after being in session less than three-quarters of an hour.

Auction Sale.

Yesterday afternoon H. J. Fowler sold at auction on the Court House steps all the right, title and interest of James Kennedy of St. John in a certain rotary saw mill, etc., now lying on the property of Jeremiah Donovan, at Jeffries' Corner, consisting of an engine, boilers and connections, shafting, rotary and attachments, edger, saws and bolting. The property was sold by virtue of a power of sale contained in a mortgage, wherein James Kennedy and George McKean were the parties for non-fulfilment of conditions.

The attendance at the sale was small, and after half a dozen bids the property, which is said to be worth about \$2,500, was knocked down at \$900 to W. E. Golding, acting on behalf of Mr. McKean.

High winds and cloudy skies prevail today, interfering considerably with the sports of the day. This season, which has been arranged for today by the Hampton Curling Club, its location is on the grounds back of the rink, where a great variety of field sports are to be held this afternoon, with refreshments served by the ladies in the rink, and a long programme of dances for the evening. Mrs. Leonard Fairweather, nee Miss Ella Seely, held a reception at her home in Central Norton, just across the river from Hampton Village, yesterday afternoon, and evening, and is again receiving her friends this afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Fairweather returned from their honeymoon trip last night.

Mrs. F. M. Anderson and her daughter Annie, who have been guests with Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Sproul since the Campbellton fire, went back to the Restigouche county town last Friday. Mr. Anderson having succeeded in renting a furnished house at Campbellton until his new house is built.

CLOSING COTTON LETTER.

By direct private wires to J. C. Mackintosh & Co.

New York, Oct. 6.—Early private reports of heavy rains and low temperatures over a wide territory of the southwest caused our market to disregard the lower cables this morning, and open from 12 to 20 points higher. Later in the day cables reported a definite settlement of the Manchester labor troubles, which augured a lifting of the maximum gains.

There is little doubt that the market would have made a more emphatic response to this bullish news, if its technical position had not already been impaired by the persistent advance and wider bull interest, during the previous days of the week. As it was, about a third of the maximum gains were retained in spite of general profit taking. Late despatches from the south report a continuance of the stormy weather, with temperatures standing lower. This has led to fears of frost. This prospect is likely to sustain prices and create a larger buying power on any reaction.

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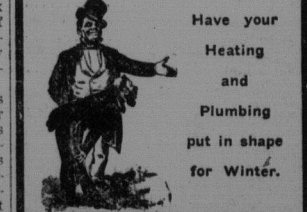
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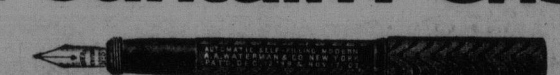
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