

POOR DOCUMENT M C 2 0 3 5

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1926

The Evening Times-Star

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THE FAIRVILLE INQUEST.

Without in any way commenting on a case that is still sub judice, it may be allowed to draw the attention of the public to the inquest into the death of three-year-old Velma McGilchey. The case draws to the fore once again the eternal conflict between the "fully qualified" medical practitioners and the man who has been trained along other lines of the healing art, which he, rightly or wrongly, holds to afford the right treatment for most, or many, human ailments.

For purposes of illustration, and perhaps to indicate the important character of the issue raised by this unfortunate incident, we are quoting here a few passages from the report of the proceedings at the inquest as published in The Telegraph-Journal:

"Repeated questions by C. F. Inches, K. C., who appeared for Dr. Baker (Chiropractor) as to who had instigated the investigation, were disallowed."

"The child was ill a week before her death. Dr. Comeau (a regular practitioner) was called in. The following Monday he was called again. Dr. Baker was later summoned and was given permission to treat the child."

"The nurse—a 'practical' nurse—testified as to treatments by the various doctors which disclosed the conventional medical practice on the one side and the manipulative method on the other. After the latter the state of the patient is described as 'coma' by this witness, whereas the father had called it 'sleep'."

"Both Dr. Comeau and the father asked witness not to mention Dr. Baker's visit. . . . She believed the child was doing well up to the time of Dr. Baker's treatment."

"Dr. Comeau 'believed that Dr. Baker's interference had taken away from the child her only chance of recovery.'"

"Dr. Davidson 'thought chiropractic treatment of pneumonia directly contrary to all scientific law.'"

"Dr. S. H. McDonald 'gave his opinion that chiropractic treatment in the case would have been harmful.'"

"Dr. Addy gave evidence similar to that of Dr. McDonald."

"Dr. Baker, after expounding the theory of chiropractics, 'was favorably impressed with Dr. Comeau's treatment. The nurse had not taken the temperature since being on the case and had no thermometer.'"

"The Times-Star is not brief for the medical profession, which needs no defence—or any branch of it, and it is not within its province as a newspaper to make capital against any of the other schools of medicine or of surgery. It is not a newspaper's duty or even privilege to give medical advice. Above all, it is improper for a newspaper to comment upon a case which is in process of trial, if its comment is in any manner likely to influence or prejudice the rights of any of the parties concerned, or the public interest, which is paramount, and because of which chiefly trials, laws, established rules as to the practice of medicine, and other legislation relative to human life and human affairs, are found necessary at our stage of civilization."

Public attention is deliberately directed to the case under review because, manifestly, the result of it will or certainly should throw much light upon the whole situation in this province regarding medical and surgical practice. The rights, or lack of rights, under existing laws of all practitioners, registered, recognized, regular, irregular, graduates of all kinds of institutions, which have, or purport to have, the power to arm a man or a woman, after a course of five years, or of three years, or perhaps of a few months, with a diploma, or certificate, or introduction, by means of which he or she is entitled, or asserts to be entitled, to stand between a patient and a patient's relatives and friends on the one hand, and the Angel of Death on the other, must be defined.

and that human life—the most sacred and priceless of all possessions—may be the better protected thereafter.

The rights of any individual practitioner—whatever the complexion of his diploma—must be duly respected and even guarded. Under our constitution that is beyond all question. What is needed is complete evidence, wholly unprejudiced, given by witnesses having due regard for the solemn oath they have taken. It may be that the verdict, or the character of the evidence, will relieve the Attorney General—the first law officer of the Crown—from any sense or measure of responsibility. It may be that the verdict, or the character of the evidence, will clearly place upon him a duty of much gravity which he would be the first to recognize.

More controversy between different schools of medicine or of surgery is of importance to the public only from one standpoint—that of increasing the measure of protection to those who are ill, who have suffered through accident, who deem it necessary to summon medical or surgical assistance or to have it summoned for them.

The highest court in this province is the Legislature. The highest court in the Dominion is Parliament. If it be necessary to invoke the authority of either of these bodies, or of both—and it may be wholly unnecessary to do so when we have seen the end of the present inquiry—then, without regard to whose toes are trodden upon, the issue must be followed through to its logical conclusion, without favor and without prejudice, but certainly without fear of what may be found at the end of the road. That way, and that way only, the public interest lies—and it must be served.

GIVE US OUR SHARE.

The Board of Grain Commissioners for the Dominion met at Montreal on Monday, discussed plans for the handling of the 1926 grain crop through the ports of Vancouver and Montreal. The chairman predicted another bumper crop, and said the Commission was going to see that "as much grain as possible is handled through Canadian ports."

Now, the second way of expressing it appears more strongly to us than the first.

We are all inclined to be short-sighted when personal interests are involved, but after all Saint John and Halifax are Canadian ports even if they have, hitherto, been regarded as "winter" ports. The Maritimes already have facilities for handling grain, and we intend to have these extended. There is no reason why Saint John and Halifax should not be all-the-year ports, and most emphatically we object to being crowded out of the picture or at the best, being relegated to a position in the dim background when the picture is being painted.

Somewhat we were under the impression that we had mentioned this before, and still further that the people of Montreal and other parts of the Central Provinces had taken cognizance of our demand for fair treatment. Insofar as the routing of grain by all-Canadian routes is concerned we are at one with the Board of Grain Commissioners, but we do wish to draw their attention to the fact that Montreal and Vancouver are not the only Canadian ports, that we in the East can handle grain—and anything else—both summer and winter, and are determined to do so.

Odds and Ends

I Would Take With Me

(Margaret E. Singster in New York Sun)

If I were called away from all the laughter, And all life's vividness and tender mirth, I would remember little things that cluster About the days that I have known on earth, I would take with me, even into heaven, The yellow shimmer of pale candle-light, And stars that touch with gentle silver fingers The loneliness that sweeps across the night!

I would take with me memories of faces That turned to me when all the way seemed sad; And I would take the touch of hands that loved me, And whispered words that made me strangely glad. I would take with me flowers, blue and yellow, And the faint fragrance of the April rain, And then I know that all the shining angels Would seem to murmur "Welcome home again!"

No Rush.
(New York Herald-Tribune.)
Mr. Dempsey has agreed to fight anybody Mr. Rickard may select. We do not believe Mr. Rickard will be swamped with applications.

Just Fun

EVEN in this day of funny hair cuts it is easy to pick out the men on the beach. They don't mind getting their bathing suits wet.

TEACHER: How many make a dozen?
Grocer's son: Twelve.
"How many make a million?"
"Very few."

ASKED if he believed in the dinosaur, the great scientist replied, "Obsoletely."

FEW failures are so complete as that of a bald man with a pug nose in his effort to be a sheik.

ABOUT all a correspondence school can do is to forbid smoking in the post office.

IN THE CHAIR

I felt his soft breath on my cheek; And the gentleness of his hand; His very presence near me Seemed a breeze on the desert sand. He deftly sought my lips My head he did unfold, Then he broke the silence with, "Shall the filling be silver or gold?"

"ISN'T it difficult to keep a budget straight?" asked Mrs. Buford.
"My dear, it's terrible," confided Mrs. Wisner. "This month I had to put in four mistakes to make mine balance."

THE average woman has a vocabulary of only 800 words. A small stock—but oh what a turnover!

AN OPEN mind is all right if you know when to close your mouth.

GLADYS: "Do you like to recite?"
Little Girl: "No, but mamma always asks me to because it makes visitors go home!"

THOMAS A. EDISON has many great inventions to his credit, but the country is still waiting for a waterproof straw hat that can be pulled down to keep the ears warm.

NONE of them who would make perfect husbands are married yet.

IT'S impossible to have flowers and chickens on the same lot, because flowers won't grow in chickens.

SHE: What are your views on kissing?
HE: I have none. Her hair always gets in my eyes.

"YES, sir, I have a wonderful wife," ejaculated the man. "Why, when I am out of work she supports me. Last winter I was fired and she took in floors to scrub."

TO THE BONE

CATHERINE: Do they have Indians in the Follies?
FINN: No.

CATHERINE: Well, who scalped all the men in the front row?—Notre Dame Juggler.

MUCH CHEAPER

BUYER: How much is this hat?
CLERK: Ten dollars cash.

BUYER: And how much by the check?
CLERK: It's \$15, ten down and one per week for five weeks—Humbert.

AND ON YOU

HE: Are you laughing with me or at me?
SHE: For you—Life.

CAN'T GET HIT

THERE are now more than 69,000 motor cars in the Dominion, and complain that motorists deliberately drive around them—London Opinion.

EVERY seat was occupied, when a group of women got in. The conductor noticed a man who he thought was asleep.

"Wake up," shouted the conductor. "I want to see your eyes closed for!"

"Not asleep! Then what did you have your eyes closed for?"

"It was because of the crowded condition of the car," explained the passenger. "I hate to see the women standing."

A KANSAS man wrote to his newspaper and asked: "What's the matter with my hens? Every morning when I go to feed them I find some of them have keeled over to rise no more."

To which the editor replied: "They're dead."

ONE city man called upon another and after a glance round the office inquired: "How's your new office getting along?"

"Fine!" was the reply. "He's got things so mixed up that I couldn't get along without him!"

A CLERGYMAN who had accepted an invitation to officiate at Sunday services in a neighboring town entrusted his new curate with the performance of his own duties. On returning home he asked his wife what she thought of the curate's sermon.

"It was the poorest one I ever heard," she replied promptly—"nothing in it at all!"

Later in the day the clergyman, meeting his curate, asked him how he had got on.

"Oh, very well," was the reply. "I didn't have time to prepare anything, so I preached one of your unused sermons."

"Marianne Hates Medicine"



"However low her financial vitality may be, Marianne refuses to take any of the cures suggested by her advisers. Will Dr. Briand succeed with his pill in the jam?"
—The Bulletin, Glasgow.

POEMS I LOVE

"The Last Leaf," by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

HERE is another American poet who has been sadly neglected. I wonder who reads him now, save a few of us who really care to keep alive the American tradition in letters. The pavement stones resound, and though he was a Calvinist, he tried, in everything he wrote, to prove what a rebel he was against inherited doctrines. His "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" made him famous on two continents. He knew how to mingle humor with pathos, and this, his favorite poem of mine, is a gorgeous example of how he could reach the heart.

I saw him once before, Ere he passed by the door, And he looked at all he meets Sad and wan, And he shakes his feeble head, That it seems as if he said, "They are gone."

My grandmother has said— Poor old lady, she is dead— Long ago— That he had a Roman nose, And his cheek was like a rose In the snow;

But now his nose is thin, And it rests upon his chin Like a staff, And a crook is in his back, And a melancholy crack And a miserably crack In his laugh.

I know it is a sin For me to sit and grin At him here; But the old three-cornered hat, And the breeches, and all that, Are so queer!

And if I should live to be punning on the tree In the spring, Let them smile, as I do now, At their own banter, Where I cling.

IT IS NEARLY 2,500 years since the Chinese teacher, Confucius, lived. It is interesting to read the teachings of this great Oriental philosopher and compare them with our own modern western thought and with the teachings of our great teacher, Jesus (also from the East), who lived 800 years later.

The Chinese civilization antedated the Jewish by a good many centuries, and we generally think of it as entirely different to our own, but its standard of morals seems to be much the same, according to the sayings preserved for us. Here is Confucius' definition of a true gentleman:

"The true gentleman is never contentions. If a spirit of rivalry is anywhere unavoidable, it is at a shooting-match. Yet even here he courteously salutes his opponents before taking up his position, and again, when having lost, he retires to drink the forfeit-cup. So that even when competing he remains a true gentleman."

"The princely man" and "the nobler sort of man" are the phrases Confucius uses to express, in our phraseology, a "prince," or a "desirable citizen."

"The princely man," he says, "never for a single instant quits the path of virtue in times of storm and stress he remains in it as fast as ever."

"The nobler sort of man in his progress through the world has neither narrow predilections nor obdurate antipathies. What he follows is the line of duty."

"The nobler sort of man is proficient in the knowledge of his duty; the inferior man is proficient only in money-making."

As the Wise Man Does. (Miltonilton Sun.)

The fool shooseth his neighbors from his back yard, but the wise man fixeth up a snug place for them to lay in.

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By Bill Buchanan

IDEAL SPOTS.

SAID Neighbor White to Neighbor Brown, "You shoulda been with me. I took my family drivin', just to see what we could see. We packed ourselves a picnic lunch, and talk about your treat—we found about the sweetest place I've ever seen, in cat."

"Right down along the water on a dandy piece of ground. A lot of spreadin' shady trees, and not a soul around. We built a roarin' camp fire, while the kids rolled in the sand. You oughta try it out some time. I'm tellin' ya, it's grand!"

Said Neighbor Brown to Neighbor White, "That's fine—but not so much. I found a place, just yesterday, that, say, you couldn't touch. It's way down in a valley. Towering rocks on every side. You'll think the place you found is best—until this spot, you've tried."

Yea, that's the life of touring, and, when Sunday comes around, each fellow thinks there's no place like his own place that he has found. For this and that and other things in nature's line we fall, and will not be satisfied until I've seen them all.

The frame work of the bed, and the mattress arrived safe and sound—but the most important part was missing. Then a wagon drove into the driveway and, after looking out the window, little Mary shouted, "Mother, spring has come!"

All are entitled to their own opinions—but they so seldom keep them.

A doctor is annoyed when he's out of patients.

The alarm clock started in to ring. Then suddenly upset. It fell into the bathtub, and The thing was ringing wet.

You can't expect sympathy if you're fired for making a mistake, if it's the mistake of thinking the place can't get along without you.

There's considerable difference between how hard a man works, when he's telling a friend about it, and when he's telling the boss.

FABLES IN FACT.

THIS IS THAT SAME OLD STORY ABOUT THE FELLOW WHO CAME HOME KINDA LATE ONE NIGHT COMMA AND TOLD HIS WIFE HE'D BEEN SITTING UP WITH A SICK FRIEND PERIOD THE ONLY DIFFERENCE

IS THAT FOR QUITE A TIME HE THOUGHT HE WAS GETTING AWAY WITH IT PERIOD THEN COMMA SUDDENLY HIS WIFE SAID COMMA QUOTATION MARK THAT MADE HIM SICK DASH DASH WHY HE LOSING QUESTION MARK QUOTATION MARK.

Other Views

This Year's Immigrants. (Montreal Gazette.)

It is the opinion of all who have seen settlers who have been sent out already that because of the improvement in the standard of their physique and their general handiness

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there is every reason to believe that they will justify the sympathetic and helpful co-operation in providing for them their present opportunity in the Dominion.

"Is Wiser to Be Politic." (London, Ont., Free Press.)

"Treating a delegation of Canadian voters as 'a rabble' is dangerous work at any time, more particularly at this time."

Both to Blame. (Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Barely 50 per cent of the voters went to the polls in the last presidential election across the line, and the fact is as much a commentary on the candidates as on the voters.

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