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WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 16.

One of the Women Questions.

Whatever may be said for titles in an old established social fabric there is nothing to be said for the newer organizations of human activity, in lands practically beyond the influence of tradition, where men are not valued for what they have done or on their past reputations, but on their present worth. The bestowal of a title is too frequently the capitalization of past values, which tempt many a man thus distinguished to sit down and rest from his labors, or cease from the efforts in the public interest which had first gained him distinction. This is, of course, more the case in other lands, than in the new nations overseas, where present service is the only claim that the public usually recognizes.

There is a great deal said on the other side as to the necessity of recognizing past merits, but real merit is never forgotten, and the nature that will work in the public interest of its own accord does not require the stimulus of a title to set it going.

If titles could be entirely dissociated from privilege they would be less open to attack, but it is indubitable that the man with a title is given an influence beyond his natural endowments. It may be well to enhance the influence of a good man, but it is certainly not well to enhance the influence of an inferior man. Here again, if the bestowal of titles was always discriminating and just, no objection could be raised, but this unfortunately is not the case.

It is believed that women are largely responsible for the perpetuation of titles. But men are quite as vain as women, and it is scarcely fair to class all women together in this particular. Women are now finding their way into politics, and will shortly be sitting in the parliaments and legislatures of the British peoples. When they do, they will naturally resent the distinction accorded to one woman because she happens to be the wife of a certain man, which gives her social precedence over much cleverer and more influential women. There is an inescapable logic about women in public life, and if titles are to be perpetuated they will insist, as they gain prominence, in being decorated with the same kind of honors now given to men. If a woman becomes an important minister of the crown or premier of a province, or renders a great public service, and titles are to continue, she is bound to be knighted or ladies or whatever the ceremony may be styled, and in that case her husband must have his courtesy title too. Some of the clever women have husbands just as distinguished as the mediocre wives of brilliant men. But the titles should logically and consistently be accorded in one case as well as the other. The brilliant light Mrs. Brown-Robinson Jones, when she becomes Lady Jones as minister of justice or premier, must have her husband on the same high social level, and Mr. Jones will strut around sublimely as Sir Brown-Robinson Jones, and flaunt his precedence in the face of all the plain esquires and misters who could buy and sell him in the mental market. Society would never stand for that. If titles don't go before, they will go then.

Mr. Pardee in West Lambton?

It is not at all an unlikely story that Mr. Fred Pardee will contest the vacancy in West Lambton for the provincial house. It is fairly well known that for many years there had been a saw-off between the late Hon. Mr. Hanna and Mr. Pardee, the latter taking the Dominion seat and the former the legislative. Both men were extremely popular, and practically unbeatable on personal grounds in their respective spheres. Should Mr. Pardee elect to run for the legislature there is scarcely any doubt of his success. It would be merely a question of the size of his majority.

The Liberal party in the legislature require leadership on new lines. They have never got out of the old Ross groove. Hence the formation of farmers' parties, labor parties, soldier parties, all sorts of reform movements, which are a generation ahead of what the old Ross rump still has in mind.

Whitney's success depended on his getting out of a rut. He did it in the convention of 1904. The program then adopted was a new high road on which the province and the party marched to progress. But any road will get rutty which is not repaired or renewed, or changed. The present government has fallen into almost as much of a rut as the Ross government had. They must adopt the Whitney remedy of a new platform and a fresh start. The provincial Liberals

are equally weak in the matter of a definite program. The only holding policy the government has today is the Hydro-Electric policy, and half the ministers are not too sure about it.

If Mr. Pardee was prepared with a big public ownership program, and with advanced social, taxation, revenue and development measures, he could set the present administration gathering sticks to build a fire to warm themselves at. But if he has only some ancient warmed-over relics of the Ross-Macdonald-Graham regime to offer he had better remain at Ottawa.

STUDHOLME CROSSES SWORDS WITH CODY

Claims Compulsory Attendance Bill is Neither New Nor Adequate.

The legislature yesterday witnessed a dramatic contest in oratory between Rev. Dr. Cody, minister of education, the schoolman, and Allan Studholme, workman, the born pleader. The theme was necessity for the compulsory school attendance of adolescents between fourteen and eighteen years of age. On the whole, Mr. Studholme had the best of the encounter, altho he carried no point he had fought for. The bill of the minister of education goes into the sessional total of legislative achievement.

Hon. Dr. Cody described the bill as one of the most complex before the people. He had given all possible consideration to its principle and details. Only ten per cent. of boys and girls go beyond our elementary schools. Boston alone has taken satisfactory advantage of a permissive adolescent educational law.

"This act, he it does not go as far as many members of the house could like, is in my opinion the best adolescent bill in the world. It is extremely difficult in Ontario to frame a province-wide bill. The bill will have to come into force by proclamation." He had discussed with Mr. Fisher when in England the choice of "two courses: Full time between 14 and 16 or part time between 14 and 18. The aim of the proposed bill is to combine the two plans as far as they are applicable to Ontario. Adolescents between 14 and 18 who are not at work must be in full time school attendance. The child is allowed to work only when there is necessity for it in the opinion of the educational authority, but those who are permitted to work are required to attend school at least 400 hours in the year in the urban centres of 5000 population and over, that is to say about two hours a day. Then the bill provides that every adolescent between 14 and 18 is required to attend instruction for 320 hours in the year.

Exemptions. Exemptions are admitted on the basis of a general education so that the general purpose of the bill is to give the 90 per cent. who would leave school at 14 the opportunity to continue with a general education. It is directed primarily to the assimilation of the children of the foreign population in urban centres. The compulsory provision affecting employees demands that the part time allowance for instruction must be taken from the daytime hours. The act provides for an attendance officer, who will issue or revoke permits for part time attendance. No matter whether or not the Dominion government comes to the assistance of the province, Ontario will tackle this problem itself. The bill finally would stamp upon education the honor and the dignity of work. (Applause.)

Allan Studholme provided an instant climax by prefacing his reply with the remark that there was absolutely nothing new in the story of Dr. Cody. He criticized the provision to bring the law into effect by proclamation, and its permissive feature and loopholes operating against the interests of the child. There is nothing radical in the bill, he said, there is merit in it. The time to put into operation is now.

Mr. Studholme said he had waited for seven years already for this legislation and felt that he would have to wait twice the time that Jacob waited for Rachel if this bill is only to come into operation, containing as it does the phrase "when the province is ready."

POLITICAL PATRONAGE BEHIND FOREST FIRES

That the political patronage system was one of the main causes for the present inadequate fire protection for the forests of Canada, was a statement of Dr. C. D. Howe, of the Faculty of Forestry, Toronto University, during the course of an address to the members of the board of trade at their meeting in the Royal Bank building, yesterday afternoon.

Dr. Howe declared that four-fifths of Canadian soil was better adapted to the growing of trees than for any other purpose, and that there was no reason why Canada should not supply the timber requirements of the world.

"The safety of the forests now is largely a matter of Providence," said the doctor, "until we burn the 'slash' in the northern districts at the time of lumbering we may as well become resigned to periodic fires."

Alkan Studholme got up in the floor of the legislature yesterday and asked if there was no one to utter a word of reprobation to cruelty to animals against Hon. Mr. Henry's bill regarding the branding of cattle.

Hon. Mr. Henry said the bill is designed to further ranching in certain portions of the province and this cannot be done without the adoption of the western branding system.

Alkan Studholme added something more on the subject, but the house speaker interrupted him. J. C. Elliott pointed to its necessity, but Mr. Studholme said he had as much respect for a cow as for a member of the legislature.

LLOYD G. CRUSOE DISCOVERS MENACING FOOTPRINTS



THE PROMOTER'S WIFE

By JANE PHELPS.

Lorraine Dashes Bab's Hopes of Social Success.

CHAPTER LX.

With an crush almost staggering, all my doubts which had so long lain quiescent came back to me. "Shady characters, undesirable acquaintances," Lorraine had called them. I could not very well refuse her when I, his wife, had refused to receive them. How ignorant I was of society is apparent in the fact that I had never thought that Nell's peculiar business methods might frustrate my social ambitions. He had money. That was all that was required of him, so I imagined. I would do the rest. And now this! "You must know if this is so, Bab, even if you do not know much of his affairs. Does he ever bring such men home with him?"

"No—not now." "Why—not now?" "Because I refused to receive them." "I see—then it is true—all of it. I am afraid." "For heaven's sake, Lorraine, say what you have to say and be done with it," I cried in desperation. I felt as if a hand had clutched my heart. Yet I would not believe it as bad as Lorraine had hinted. She was a natural gossip—she exaggerated. "Well, Bab, I will! It is the only way. I am more sorry for you than I can say, more than sorry that I encouraged you to think you could make a social success. I am sure, however, that it is of no use for you to go on. You have a lovely home, but the people you have planned to entertain will not visit you—I am afraid," she stopped. I waited in silence. Finally I could stand it no longer.

"Don't be afraid of hurting me, Lorraine. Go on, tell me all you have heard."

"I want you to know it will make no slightest difference in me, in our friendship. You do know that, don't you, Bab?" "I nodded. "But it is common rumor. A friend of my father's came to him about it because I have been with you so much. This man said that your husband's business methods are 'unsound'—that's father's word. This friend feared your husband would try to get my father interested in some of his schemes, and he came to warn him. Father is 'getting old'—he said apologetically, 'and is easily influenced. We haven't any money to spare, you know. Then he also told father that Mr. Forbes was constantly seen with men of no standing; and that Mr. Forbes himself was suspected of being well—not strictly honest; that no man could make money as fast as he made it. Live at the rate you lived, and do it honestly—without misrepresenting things, and promoting schemes which would not stand daylight.' She stopped a minute. Then: 'Most of what I have said, Bab, is quoted. You wanted to know, so I told you. The man who told father is Mr. Powers.' I almost groaned. Mrs. Powers had been the woman whom I most desired to know.

"There is one other thing I am going to tell you," she went on: "Perhaps I shouldn't—but I think you ought to know it. Mr. Forbes makes a rendezvous of Blanche Orton's home. He takes men there—perhaps the very ones you have refused to receive. They gamble and drink, and incidentally put over those big deals by which your husband makes so much money. Blanche has been so terribly snubbed because of it—altho she never told any socially. I liked her, and enjoyed her unconventionality. But since Orton died she has become almost too unconventional even for me."

"And you think it is no use to go on as we had planned?" I spoke now of an entertainment for charity with which we had decided to make a first plunge into society. It was to

A Line of Cheer Each Day of the Year

By John Kendrick Bangs.

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PICTURES.

I've never seen Old Tokyo, nor visited in Lhasa.

I've never looked on China, or the forests of Mongolia.

But I've no doubt that they exist, for I've seen pictures of 'em.

Full of the beauties rich and rare that make the nations love 'em.

And so it is with future things. Of Heaven I've a feeling

We've pictures of it everywhere, its beauties rich revealing.

In human love, and sympathy, and all the glorious things the Earth provides

Of lovely things the Earth provides to prove the truth of Heaven.

Tomorrow—Barbara is Distressed at What Lorraine Tells Her.

COMES TO TORONTO.

Brantford, April 15.—Announcement has been made of the removal of I. A. S. Towers, manager of the Bank of Toronto, for some years past in this city, to the branch of the Bank of Toronto at Church and Wellington streets, Toronto.

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THE DAY AT OTTAWA

By TOM KING

Ottawa, April 15.—Today has been largely devoted to a post-mortem on the occurrences of Monday night. There are a good many sore men in Ottawa, and they are to be found among the Unionist members of the house, who for the second time have had to swallow themselves on the question of titles. While Sir Thomas White did not publicly found himself resigning as did Sir Robert Borden a year ago, he quietly sent word to wavering supporters that the fate of the government depended upon the result of the division. Four well-known Ontario Conservatives were ready to vote against the motion that a special committee, when first one and then another message came from the acting premier for them to fall into line. They were told that the government would remain unless the sub-amendment moved by Sir Thomas White, was adopted. The ultimatum had the desired effect, and there were seven instead of a minority of one.

No doubt Sir Thomas White's personal popularity helped to win the same line as Dr. Manion, but after all he was only carrying out orders, and that to have his motion defeated would be, for the premier, a bitter humiliation. At the same time many felt that Sir Thomas should not have placed himself and his supporters in such an awkward situation. He seems, indeed, to have blundered into an ambush, and this is the more lamentable because he had the experience of last session before him.

But if the Unionist members are a little sore on the government, they are much more incensed against Messrs. Nickle and Richardson, who brought up the question so vehemently, caused many of their fellow-members to commit themselves so hopelessly and then want to the dispute when they would have blundered into an ambush, and this is the more lamentable because he had the experience of last session before him.

Major-General S. C. Mewburn, minister of militia and defense said the government would investigate any specific charge of misconduct made by any member of the house upon his responsibility as a member, but he could not start investigations upon soldiers' charges by returned soldiers, many of them, however, which happened, for some reason, another, to appear in the public press. He paid a heavy tribute to the magnificent work of our Canadian surgeons at the front, and said that a whole sale attack upon the army medical service made his blood boil. He had never heard or read of the Jenkins report, nor had he ever troubled himself to read the findings of the Bruce and Baple commissions. He had inherited a heavy legacy when he took over the militia department. He quoted a young man who, finding the large estate his father had left him more of a burden than a pleasure, exclaimed, "I am almost sorry father is dead." Then waving his hand toward Sir Sam Hughes, General Mewburn said "I am almost sorry father is dead."

Sir Sam Hughes: "I am not your predecessor but the name of the gentleman by the name of Kemp."

Colonel "Cy" Heck, V. C., hotly defended the Canadian surgeons at the front, and said he would not be hit and hear them attacked. But Captain Peter McGibbon of Muskoka, who rendered distinguished service himself as army surgeon in France, reminded the British Columbia warrior, that it was not the Canadian surgeons who had been fired by the overhead administration. The fact is that returned soldiers speak in praise of Argyle House.

When Sir Thomas White, who was in London when the Bruce-Baple controversy was raging, spoke at great length after dinner in a somewhat rambling and confused manner, the debate is still progressing as I write, and may run on indefinitely should the gallant Sir Sam Hughes shy his cannon into the ring. Viewed from the press gallery, it seems to be preparing for a spring.

Ida Re the Police Union

By IDA L. WEBSTER.

As the whole world knows, the royal commission which was sitting on the case of the policemen has adjourned for the last time, and it now remains for the chairman, Sir William Meredith, to announce the finding which he and his colleagues have arrived at.

During the firing of the last gun, both the men's representatives and Col. Denison got in some good shots. The only difference being, however, that what might be criticized in the worthy magistrate would be overlooked in Evans, who is the man who has handled the case so cleverly for the men.

When the colonel retorted to Sir William's remark that there was perhaps too much militarism on the force, by saying that there was not enough, he must have been merely arguing for the sake of it, because he cannot help knowing that as the police department is today, it is a much more military institution than the division now ruled so ably by Brigadier-General Gunn of the Canadian army.

If the men were soldiers they would not be allowed to think of forming a union, because it would be strictly against all rules and principles of the country. But they are not. They are workmen, and as such should be permitted to affiliate with other men who are working for an honest living.

As for the men having a representative on the board of police commissioners, it would not do at all, for Sir Thomas White's reason for the force for one would never be able to agree with him in any respect, while on the other hand, the poor mayor would be always between the devil and the deep sea.

Indeed, taking it all around, it would be an absolute failure. The board of police commissioners must be enlarged, but it must not take a man from the force for one of its members. One other thing which the men must remember at all times is that while they have the just cause for complaint the people will always be with them. Knowing this, the persons who may be elected to seats on the board of commissioners will have a great pleasure in seeing that the men are given a fair deal.

One taxpayer has written us a letter asking our opinion as to whether the policemen of Toronto earn their money. We will answer him in a few days, and all others who have any doubts on the subject.