

Ottawa should present and carry the measures necessary for the ending of this scandal and burlesque of justice, by removing cases from Parliament and placing them in the hands of the courts of the country. The Government should be able to deal with the necessary legislation. But if there is reason why the Government cannot agree to introduce and support the requisite measure, they should at least leave the way open for the action of independent measures. In two consecutive sessions legislation aiming at the needed reform has been strangled under circumstances that justify the belief that the Government were parties to the failure of the measures. Two years ago a bill introduced by Mr. Nickle, of Kingston, was carried through its critical second reading, but made no further progress. Last session the Senate, at the instance of Hon. W. B. Ross, chairman of the Divorce Committee, passed a bill of somewhat similar character and sent it down to the House of Commons, where the measure was allowed to be jockeyed into such a place on the order paper that nothing more was heard of it.

The objections which the Roman Catholic Church and a part of the Anglican Church have to divorce must command the sincere respect of all classes. If the attitude of these bodies towards divorce legislation could prevent divorces, it could be better understood. But it does not. What it does is to allow divorces to be granted under a system that is a scandal to the Dominion. Since divorces will be granted, why should anybody desire that system of trial to continue? Why should not measures be enacted to place the matter in the hands of the courts of justice? The better system, happily, prevails in a number of the Provinces. The sooner it is adopted in all, the better it will be for all concerned.

Suppression or Counteraction

The Association of Canadian Clubs appears to have shown wisdom in limiting its resolution concerning the circulation of the Hearst publications in Canada to an aspiration for more effective means of combating their influence. As originally proposed, the resolution would have called upon the Government to exclude altogether from the Dominion of Canada all periodicals controlled by Mr. Hearst, thereby conferring upon that individual a somewhat unique personal distinction as being the only foreign publisher capable of arousing a feeling of alarm in the breasts of Canadians.

It would have been difficult for the Government to accede to a request for the suppression of the Hearst publications in Canada without placing itself in a very illogical and indefensible attitude. It is doubtful whether even the worst of Mr. Hearst's electioneering utterances are more

critical of the proceedings of the British Government than one or two sheets which we still permit to be published here in the Dominion of Canada; and it is scarcely reasonable to demand that foreign publications shall not be permitted to communicate to Canadian readers ideas which are allowed to be disseminated from Canadian presses.

As amended, however, the resolution contains nothing which anybody in Canada can reasonably object to. It is most important that any expressions of opinion, whether propagandist or otherwise, which misrepresent the relations of the different parts of the Empire, one with another, or which cast unjustified aspersions upon the proceedings of any of the governing bodies of that Empire, should be combated as vigorously as possible, in the interests of truth and enlightenment. The proper way to deal with Mr. Hearst's publications, and with all the other publications which seek to disseminate ideas distasteful to the majority, is to devote an equivalent amount of energy and intelligence to the production and circulation of periodicals expressive of Canadian ideas and Canadian ideals. There are a number of ways in which that object can be attained. It is eminently desirable that both the Canadian Clubs and the Canadian Government should devote some attention to the study of this highly important problem. The nearer we approach to a solution of it, the less will be the necessity for censorship, suppressions and autocratic methods generally.

The Little Montrealers

His Worship Mayor Martin, of Montreal, is reported to have come to the front in the discussion concerning the necessity of a new bridge to the South Shore, with the assertion that he is opposed to any such structure because it will tend to take business from the city of which he is the chief magistrate. A certain amount of exclusiveness in a man's devotion to his own municipality is reasonable and desirable, but too much of it becomes absurd. There were doubtless individuals in New York City before the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge who opposed that project on the ground that property owners and others in Brooklyn would be thereby allowed to reap part of the profits rightfully belonging to the citizens of their own city. Had their opposition been successful, one thing is quite certain: it is that the business of the city of New York would never have been one half as great as it has become through the establishment of the various links of transportation which have enabled the population to spread over large areas on all sides of the original city. The growth of Montreal is retarded, not promoted, by the fact that a very sharp boundary exists pre-

venting, or rather circumscribing, the expansion of population on the South Shore. If the two sides of the river possessed a more adequate system of connectives, they would both expand much more rapidly, and doubtless in due course a situation would be brought about which would involve the organization of the whole urban area on both sides of the river, under one local authority much greater and more important than that of which Mayor Martin is now the distinguished head. Better connections will doubtless come about, probably within the lifetime of the Mayor and other Little Montrealers, although certain difficulties connected with the short supply and high price of capital are now somewhat serious. We have not the slightest doubt that when they do come about, they will have no effect upon Montreal except to increase its population, its business, its wealth and its prosperity.

Murder and its Makers

A hideous actuality like the Morgan Building explosion will do more than years of argumentation to effect a detachment of the "Parlor Radical" group of sentimentalists and philosophical anarchists from the dynamite revolutionaries to whom they lately adhered. A man must be very genuinely convinced of the truth of the revolutionary gospel, if he can look on unmoved and even gratified at the spectacle of scores of mangled bodies of men and women whose sole connection with "capitalism" is that they worked for very moderate wages in the district where the most important financial transactions incident to the capitalist organization of society are carried on. Last week's catastrophe served as a vivid exemplification of the sort of thing to which revolutionary talk and revolutionary feeling inevitably lead. To the true revolutionist such incidents are a small price to pay for the overthrow of the institutions against which his revolution is directed. But there are not many true revolutionists in America on either side of the U.S.-Canadian border—persons who conscientiously believe that existing conditions are so horrible that they must be bettered at the price of wholesale massacre and universal terrorism, and who have faith that they can be bettered by such means.

It will be well for all Americans, and all Canadians, to bear in mind that the Morgan outrage is precisely the kind of thing which Lenine has called for from his adherents in every country in the world. It is as much an act of the existing Russian Government as the blowing up of munition plants and ships and shipyards on this continent by spies was an act of the German Government during the war.