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POLITICAL CORRUPTION AND ITS CURE.

One of the difficulties in attaining a higher moral standard in political warfare is suggested by the hypocritical attitude of a number of Conservative papers, like the London Free Press. The Liberal journals of the country, without exception, have taken the view that the welfare of the Liberal party will be served by the exposure of corruption which may have been practiced in its supposed interests by partisans with more zeal than scruples. The weight of legal opinion is against the legality of the present inquiry at Toronto, but Liberals would prefer not to have this question raised so long as the prosecution can produce indubitable evidence of wrong-doing. What they have protested against is not the prosecution, but its methods. One phase of this is accurately described by the Winnipeg Free Press:

"The present case appears to have originated in the desire of the London Conservative Association to ascertain the irregularities of their adversaries at no risk to themselves. It is beginning to be apparent that the inspiration of the case is in London; and that it was begun at Toronto to hide this fact. It is stated that the London Conservative Association through certain of its officers rounds up the witnesses and puts them through a preliminary informal examination to determine whether it is desirable that they should be sent to Toronto. The character and nature of the examinations made by Mr. Du Vernet, the crown prosecutor, makes it as plain as daylight that he has no clear idea of what he is trying to prove, but is fishing for all he is worth in the hope of getting some."

"If these London election workers are guilty of the offenses charged against them, it is desirable that they should be punished; but when politics are mixed with a criminal prosecution the result is usually indecisive. When the crown prosecutor forgets his position and his oath of office, and becomes more the politician than the instrument of justice, it is not surprising that the jurymen should like to forget their obligations and give first consideration to the political side of the case. Prosecutions for political crimes should be entrusted to lawyers not identified with party politics, and should be carried out with the most scrupulous regard for the legal rights of the defendants; under such conditions justice would be done. The prevalent system, which is being followed in Ontario, usually determines nothing finally; and simply adds to the bitterness of politics."

The purely political nature of the proceedings is further shown by the gratuitous attempts to smirch the reputations of cabinet ministers and others high in the Liberal party. There is no evidence to connect these men with the present inquiry, but the purpose of the prosecution is served by parading their names before the country, and exhibiting them as objects of dark suspicion.

The Liberal press, despite all these provocations, has welcomed the present investigation in the hope that it will have a wholesome effect upon both parties. The Conservative papers, with very few exceptions, see in it only an opportunity to make party capital. They turn a blind eye to the shady dealings of Conservative members of the present Parliament, and the record of Conservative election inequity, and become the corruption of the Liberal party. The local Conservative organ even has the presumption to say that all the offenses against the purity of elections in this city smell to heaven from one side of the fence, a statement which insults the intelligence of its own readers. The Pecksniffs and Holy Willies of this stripe are among the worst enemies of reform, and will do much to neutralize any good results which might otherwise flow from the present inquiry at Toronto. Repentance must precede conversion and a change of life, and there will be no real or lasting improvement unless each party is willing to do its own housecleaning.

THE GROWTH OF THE MOTHER-LAND.

In a letter to the London Times, Mr. Sydney Webb exhaustively analyzes the extent and causes of the diminished birthrate in the British Isles. It is claimed that while the rate had been steadily increasing to its maximum period between 1871 and 1881, it has fallen during the last 20 years to an extent equivalent to 200,000 births per annum. Mr. Webb's researches confirm the conclusions others have reached, that this is not due to physical degeneracy, but to a volitional regulation of the marriage state, which is conspicuous not only in wealthy houses, but among thrifty artisans and in prosperous trades, notably in the textile districts. The fact remains, however, that the falling birthrate in Great Britain in recent years has made very little impression on the population.

It is found that by improved sanitary surroundings and better means and methods of combatting disease, many thousands of lives that under former conditions would have been annually sacrificed, are now saved to the community, so that though there are fewer births, those who are born have a much better chance to reach manhood and womanhood than was formerly the case. Counting out Ireland, the loss of population which is caused by emigration, the official returns of the population, as given in the past five censuses, do not show that the rate of increase has varied very much since 1861. We give the decennial rate of increase for the periods ending in 1861 and 1901, respectively:

	1861.	1901.
England	12.9	12.1
Wales	10.5	12.3
Scotland	6.0	11.1
Ireland (decrease) ..	11.8	5.2
The islands	0.2	1.9

In 1861, the total population of the United Kingdom was 23,321,238 and today the British census officials estimate it to be over 43,000,000. In the interval, the motherland has contributed millions of her sons and daughters to other lands, including Canada, and every year continues to give of the best of her population to aid in the building up of the Dominion and other nations. The cry of the practical Britisher, indeed, in modern times has been not that the mothers are not doing their duty, but how shall they find sustenance for the ever-increasing population of the country.

It is understood that one or two of the legal gentlemen engaged in the Collins case are seeking Government positions, as Collins did.

The British postoffice authorities have followed the example of the Canadian postoffice, and now issues penny stamps in book form—24 for two shillings. The Canadian booklet contains 25c worth. It is a very handy way to carry stamps for purposes of emergency.

Interviewed in Victoria, B. C., Sir John Long, the veteran British newspaperman, said that when he left Sir Wilfrid Laurier last fall the Canadian Prime Minister said: "You can't send us too many good Scotchmen." "As a result of Sir Wilfrid's suggestion," said Sir John, "I wrote a series of articles and, as a result, over 2,000 Scotchmen left Dundee, my home, this year bound for Canada." This little incident demonstrates how much can be done by a "booster." Sir John Long was virtually enlisted by the Canadian Prime Minister as an immigration agent for the Dominion. He owns newspapers in Scotland having a weekly circulation of over a million copies, and what he champions he champions with his whole soul. A typical Englishman transplanted to Scotland, he has led in every progressive movement for 50 years.

The Ottawa Free Press thus scores the methods of the prosecution in the London election inquiry:

"Not satisfied with supplanting the courts, these gentlemen would now pervert the machinery of justice to the furtherance of their political purposes, they will hale as witnesses a member of the Federal Government coming from a distant province and the premier of another distant province, one of whom addressed only one meeting in London, arriving in the city in the evening and leaving the following morning. That they do so, remarks the Edmonton Bulletin, the newspaper of Hon. Mr. Oliver, is apparently intended to convey the impression that they doubt both the integrity and the prudence of these public men, for whether or not corrupt practices took place in London to accuse Messrs. Oliver and Scott of having knowledge of such offenses is not less a reflection on their common sense than on their common honesty. Under these circumstances the hailing of Mr. Oliver and Mr. Scott to the witness box can have no reasonable purpose, save as an attempt to cast aspersions on them in the hope to offset the stigma which the insurance inquiry has cast upon Mr. Foster and his associates. It is in the hope of attaching odium to two prominent Liberals as an antidote for the public disgust at the doings of this coterie of Conservative politicians that the machinery of justice is now to be misused."

EXPANSION.

[Judge.]

He—They say travel broadens a person.

She—Surely. The moment a man enters a car he spreads out over half a dozen seats.

HEARST'S VOCABULARY OF VERMIN.

[New York World.]

Mr. Hearst calls Judge Parker "cockroach," Charles A. Towne, "a rat" and William T. Jerome "a croton-bug." If Mr. Hearst's vocabulary holds out perhaps he will tell us some day what he thinks of Murphy, Finney Connors, and Max Ihmsen.

WHAT MAN SHOULD EAT.

[The Lancet.]

A study of anatomy suggests a fruit diet as the most suitable; further confirmation is given by the obvious predilection of nearly all children for such food. The best fruits for food are apples, bananas, grapes, nuts, dates, raisins and figs.

Nuts are especially valuable owing to the large amount of fat they contain; the old-fashioned idea that they are indigestible is due partly to the error in taking them at the end of an already more than ample meal, and

partly to insufficient mastication. Chestnuts are the easiest to digest and make an excellent food. Many other fruits may be taken, always remembering that stone fruits sometimes disagree, and that acid fruits should be taken in moderation. Strawberries contain a considerable amount of purins and should be avoided by all with a gouty or rheumatic tendency. Among fruits we include those of the cereals, such as wheat and rice. White bread is free from purins, but brown contains a varying amount derived from the husk. The most wholesome form of bread is unleavened.

THE LAW OF AVERAGES.

[Philadelphia Bulletin.]

The average man is bald at 40. The average minister marries 1,000 couples. Glasses for old age are adopted on the average at 43. The average cat mother blesses the world with 100 kittens. The yearly sale of newspapers throughout the world averages 750,000 tons. The world's gold mines yield on an average \$500,000 or 28,000 ounces of gold a year.

IN OUR MIDST.

[New York Tribune.]

A country paper lays down this rule of etiquette: "When a lady and gentleman are walking in the street, the lady should walk inside of the gentleman."

INTELLIGENT EXPLANATION.

[Philadelphia Public Ledger.]

"This paper says, 'Beef makes brawn and fish makes brain.' I wonder how these authorities figure out that fish makes brain."

THE VEGETARIAN'S DOG.

[Boston Record.]

Brighton has been infested by tramps recently, and this sign is on a well-known residence: "We are vegetarians, but our dog is not."

HER EXPERIENCES.

[Cleveland Press.]

"All my old friends tell me the first year is the trying one for married folk," remarked the bride. "They say that if you get through the first year you're all right."

"Yes, that's true," said the woman who had celebrated her silver wedding. "You don't mind it much after the first year."

A GENTLEMAN UNAPPRECIATED.

[Puck.]

The young man had risen promptly and was bowing the old lady to his seat. But the old lady hesitated. "Do I look eccentric to you?" she asked severely. "Not at all," replied the young man. "Or worth \$75,000?" "Oh, no."

"Or as if I should go straight home and alter my will in your favor?" "I assure you such a thought never entered my head."

"Thank you," she said. "I'm right glad of a chance to sit down, but I don't want any misunderstanding about it."

As for the young man, he went out on the platform, lit a cigarette, and talked about chivalry with the conductor, and they both agreed that it had had its day.

DISTRESSINGLY HARD LUCK.

[Philadelphia Record.]

Blobbs—He's the most unlucky fellow I know. He has just had his watch stolen.

Stobbs—Oh, lots of fellows have had their watches stolen.

Blobbs—Yes, but not under such distressing circumstances. He was just going to pawn it.

NO, A GASOLINE CANCAN.

[Yonkers Statesman.]

Redd—I see they have a new dance, called the Automobile Dance.

Greene—Is it a breakdown?

COUNTRY HOUSE COSTS.

[The Tatler.]

It is extraordinary the number of charming people who refuse country-house visits because they cannot afford the host's bridge stakes or the servants' tips.

WOMANLY WOMAN.

[London Opinion.]

Women are more womanly today than ever they were. Their dress bills are twice as heavy, their vanity twice as insatiable, their personality twice as irresistible, their youth twice as elastic.

THE BANK NOTE.

[Toronto Mail and Empire.]

A Canadian bank note is practically indestructible. A bank may be so completely ruined that a second capital, wrung out of the shareholders under the double liability provision, may be swallowed up after the first, yet the notes of the annihilated institution will continue to circulate for their face value. The only situation in which the notes could lose their value would be that in which several important banks should be in trouble.

REVENGE.

[New York Sun.]

Stella—Did they throw rice over the bride?

Bella—Yes; that is why she invited them to her first biscuits.

MAY BE ANOTHER COBALT.

[Ottawa Free Press.]

Quebec Province may also have its cobalt mining camp. Prospectors who have returned after a season's operations in the Chibougamou district, nearly 200 miles north from the terminus of the Lake St. John Railway at Roberval, report having obtained rich specimens of cobalt in addition to making good finds of copper and gold as well as locating an immense deposit of asbestos.

CLAIMS OF LIFE'S DERELICTS.

[Toronto Globe.]

The suicide of an aged and respectable couple in Hamilton, because they were too old to work, is a pathetic revelation of the heartlessness of organized society. The arguments of the advocates of old age pensions are certainly strong, and those who have given the world the products of a life of useful industry have claims that cannot be disregarded.

LONDON'S WORRY IS TRANSPORTATION

Daily Grows More Difficult to City's 7,000,000 Souls.

OLD BUSES STILL IN FAVOR

Correspondent Says Only Notable Improvement Ever Made Was Due to C. T. Yerkes.

London, Oct. 1.—Like other cities, London has its transportation problems, and they are the more serious than elsewhere because of the enormous area and population involved. Greater London now has nearly 7,000,000 people within its limits and includes a solid mass of buildings thirty miles in one direction and nineteen miles in the other. There has been great improvement in the local transportation facilities, due chiefly to American enterprise. The late Charles T. Yerkes re-organized the underground system of railways and brought it up to date, but the increase in population and the demand for transportation seems to be greater and greater every year as if it never would be satisfied.

The dark, dismal, sooty tunnels filled with smoke and smells which Mr. Yerkes found when he came to London are now well ventilated, cheerful passages, with plenty of air and light and lined with tiles, while the cars are brilliantly illuminated. They are finished in rattan and light mahogany and the motive power is electricity, so that they run silently, swiftly and smoothly and are as comfortable as an underground car can be. Electric surface cars run by storage batteries and underground and overhead trolleys have been introduced in several directions and extend to all the suburbs. They are even laying a track on the Thames embankment, which is desirable because that should have been retained as a promenade and a driveway. The county council, which is the municipal government of London, is laying the tracks, however, so that nobody can object, and will operate the cars as a belt line between two great systems on the south and the north sides of the Thames.

There is a good deal of municipal ownership in London. The county council operates a fleet of passenger boats on the Thames, a line of "buses" and half a dozen or more street railways and makes a profit out of every one of them by enterprising and prudent management. The manager of the steamboat service is so enterprising that he got up half a dozen excursions and carried thousands of people up the Thames to see the boat race between Cambridge and Harvard last month. The fares were low, the advantages were great, there was no crowding, everything was well ordered, a whole-lunch was served on board for a low price and a large profit was made. The city treasury, which is the common council of Chicago running excursion steamers to see a boat race, or the district commissioners of Washington organizing holiday trips down the Potomac as a matter of profit to the city government. But over here such things can be done without criticism, even in competition with private enterprise.

Notwithstanding the bright, new "tuppenny tubes" with their swift and frequent electric trains, the favorite means of transportation in London is still the old-fashioned omnibus, or trolley. It is the most comfortable and I do not think it will ever be superseded. For a man who is not in a hurry, and especially for one who is fond of human nature and loves to observe the conduct of his fellow-men, it is a most agreeable mode of getting about a crowded city like London than in a seat on the deck of one of these buses. You have a continuous panorama of human affairs passing before you, and can witness it from an elevated platform; and, if you are so fortunate as to get a seat next to the driver, you can enjoy a continuous conversational monologue, and get a great deal of valuable information and philosophy. The London bus driver is a unique character. He is both an oracle and an encyclopedia; he knows every house along his route and all the history that has been enacted between the termini. He is also a philosopher; he is well posted as to current events, and his comments are only amusing but instructive. He is a wit and a bit of a cynic. He has his jokes and anecdotes and he repeats them daily, or perhaps several times a day, but 7,000 buses are on the streets of London, and you are not apt to get the same driver twice. I have never found one who was not willing or anxious to talk. I have never found one who was not entertaining, and all of them are particularly willing to furnish strangers with information as to the interesting localities during the ride. I have never found a more entertaining way of spending an afternoon than on the top of a London bus in the seat next to the driver.

There are, as I have said, more than 7,000 buses on the streets of London, running in every direction, to every part of the city, at an average fare of 1 cent per mile. There are five big companies and several smaller ones. The largest, the London General Omnibus Company, has 1,397 omnibuses on the road, and employs 3,500 men and 15,617 horses. In 1905 this company alone carried 215,000,000 passengers; during the first six months of 1906 it carried 108,341,520 and 15,652,150 miles. The receipts for 1905 were \$2,002,702, and for the first six months of the current year \$1,202,796, an average of \$11.56 per omnibus per day. The routes vary from six to ten miles. Each omnibus is expected to make five trips daily, and to cover a distance of 15 miles. Those who start out at 6 o'clock in the morning lay off at 6 at night; those who start out at 10 in the morning lay off at 10 at night, and so on.

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Men's Medium Heavy Natural Wool Socks, white heels and toes, ribbed tops. Just the kind for winter wear. A great snap at pair..... **15c**
Or 4 pairs for..... **50c**

J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128 1/2 Dundas St.**HYLAS WON \$9,000 STAKE BY A NOSE****Richest Event for Jumpers in the East—Roseben Did Not Go For Record.**

New York, Oct. 20.—The Belmont Park meeting closed today. Rain prevented the scheduled attempt by Roseben to lower Salvatore's long-standing record for a mile straightaway.

In a driving finish, Hylas won the \$9,000 Champion steeplechase, defeating Roseben by a nose in the final stride. This is the richest stake for jumpers offered in the east and is over a trying course of 3 1/2 miles. Hylas was always a 7 to 5 favorite, with Alfie and John M. P. the imported English jumper, second choice, at 7 to 2. Woolgatherer was backed down from 10 to 7 to 1, while the price on Coligny went up to 8. The race was run in a rainstorm, and the course was heavy. John M. P. went out to make the pace, but fencer, who led only for the first half mile, when he refused. Alfie then took the lead, but Stone finally sent John M. P. over the jump and again reached the level. He continued to show himself a winner, and the race was a close one, with Hylas and Coligny together, and in a terrific drive Hylas won by a nose. Coligny was twenty lengths ahead of Alfie.

Running Water, the 1 to 4 favorite, had to be ridden out to win the Belmont Park weight-for-age race 2 1/4 miles. Nealon made the pace for two miles, then Miller brought Running Water up and in a drive won by a neck. Nealon was second, 50 lengths in front of The Cricket, the only other starter.

Okenite, backed down from 5 to 2 to 9 to 5, won the White Plains Handicap for 2-year-olds. Four favorites won.

WRESTLING.

[DAN. McLEOD LIVES.]

Chicago, Oct. 20.—Fred Beil, of Marshall, Wis., defeated Dan McLeod, the Canadian wrestler, in two straight falls last night, catch-as-catch-can style.

BILLIARDS.

[HOPPE CHALLENGES SUTTON.]

New York, Oct. 20.—William F. Hoppe who retained the 18.1 billiard championship Wednesday night by defeating Jacob Schaeffer, the challenger for the title, is desirous of becoming champion at the 18.2 level of playing. He has challenged George Sutton, the Chicago billiardist, who was the 18.2 champion last night from George Slonson. Hoppe has posted a forfeit, which he has asked Sutton to cover. He has also asked Sutton to fix the time and place for the match.

THE TURP.

[JOCKEYS GO TO FATHER.]

Tommy Burns, the jockey, was yesterday dismissed from the guardianship

of his two minor brothers, Guy and Willie, who have been riding at the race tracks, says the New York Telegraph. They were turned over to their father, John Burns, of Chatham, Ont., by Surrogate Church, of Kings County, who scored Mrs. Burns for taking them away from home. He also ordered Tommy to give a strict accounting of the earnings of the boys since they had been under his care, and to turn what was due them over to their new guardian. The elder Burns and his wife have been separated for some time, and he accuses her of being "money mad." He says she apprenticed the boys at Sheepshead Bay for the money there was in it.

SATURDAY'S WINNERS.

At Belmont Park—Valle 4 to 5, Hylas 7 to 5, Okenite 9 to 5, Beauclair 5 to 1, Running Water 1 to 4, Miss Crawford 16 to 5.

At Longview—Solly M. 6 to 5, Harding 2 to 5, Meadow Breeze 3 to 1, Preston 2 to 1, Lightning Conductor 2 to 1, Auditor 3 to 1.

THE GUN.

[THAMESFORD WINS TROPHY.]

Thamesford, Oct. 20.—The shooting tournament between the five rifle associations at Nixon was very successful, the Thamesford Rifle Association winning the trophy, valued at \$100, and also the four cups put up by the Thamesford Rifle Association. The standing in the different classes was as follows: Thamesford—Class A, I. John Bradshaw; class A, II, H. F. Day; class B, I, George Oliver; class B, II, A. Service; class C, I, C. Vanatter; class C, II, F. Thomas. Nixon team was second, being only 21 points behind Thamesford.

FOOTBALL.

[BAD DEFEAT FOR WESTMOUNT.]

Montreal, Oct. 21.—Montreal defeated Westmount in the Quebec Rugby series on Saturday by the score of 40 to 0.

TWO GAMES AT KINGSTON.

Kingston, Oct. 21.—There were two intercollegiate Rugby matches at the Royal Military College campus this afternoon. The junior cadets defeated Queen's III. by 17 to 6, and the R. M. C. Intermediates won from Queen's II. by 37 to 2, so winning the round.

GOLF.

[YALE WINS AGAIN.]

Garden City, L. I., Oct. 20.—W. E. Clow, Jun., of Yale, a Chicago boy, who was president of the Intercollegiate Association last year, is the holder of the championship title in this year's contest between Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Cornell, winning the title in the final round today from Dwight Partridge, also of Yale, one up. Cornell dropped out of the match in the preliminary round for the individual cup, and then Yale had such a commanding lead that the New Haven men duplicated their double turn of last year.

THE RING.

[WILL FIGHT AGAIN.]

New York, Oct. 20.—Terry McGovern and Young Corbett are to meet again in the ring, this time the bout to be given before the Lincoln Athletic Club of Chelsea, Mass. A purse of \$10,000 has been offered and both of the fighters hurried to take it up. Neither fighter is satisfied with the result of

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