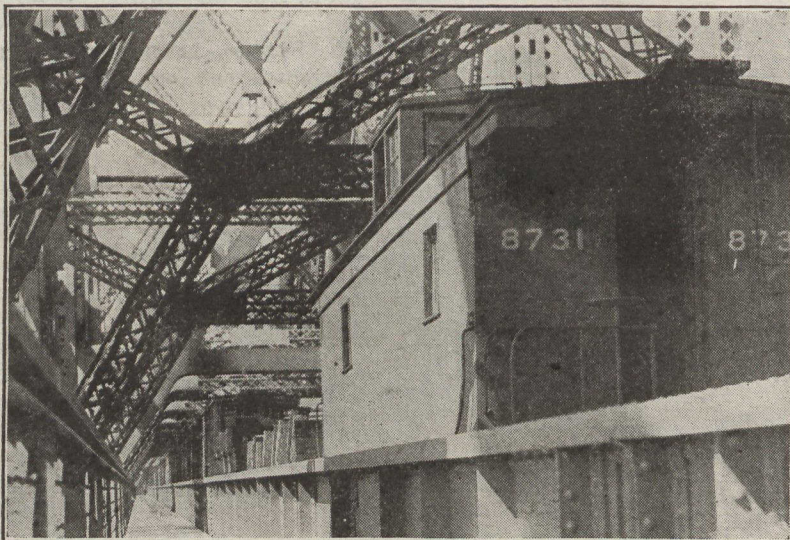


Demonstrates National Unity



THE only great bridge in the world completed since the war began has now passed its final test. A few days ago, to try the strength of the great centre span which collapsed two years ago and was replaced in 1917, a special train weighing 14 million pounds was run over the structure, and stopped dead weight on the centre span. The Quebec Bridge begun by a Liberal and completed by a Conservative Government demonstrates its Canadianism by absolute unity. Thanks to the British Navy, the Quebec Bridge, carrying the commerce of three great railway systems across the St. Lawrence has escaped the Hun. Such a photograph has not for a long while been taken in Europe where bridges have gone down by the hundred. After reading the Nova Scotia submarine story on page 12 of this issue one may easily imagine what the Quebec Bridge would look like now if the German navy had ever got a chance up the St. Lawrence. At present the Quebec Bridge traffic averages 1,000 cars a week.

A Little More Canada

(Continued from page 12.)

Canadian and British representations of deeds, and not be nauseated with foreign, highly imaginary piffle?

When the war is over, and our European allies have enough time on their hands for producing moving pictures, let us hope that that industry will take a rapid upward flight from its present degraded level.

In response to "Fed Up's" request, "If there is anyone who has heard The Maple Leaf or O, Canada lately, will he please stand up?" I regret being obliged to remain seated.

All the same, Mr. Editor, don't you think that "Fed up" is getting a trifle "fresh," wanting to see the Union Jack on the screen sometimes, and actually wishing us to bother with the First of July as against the Fourth? He forgets that this is only Canada!

D. CURRIE.

Not Suggestion

SOME time ago we began a minor controversy on medical matters.

In trying to adjust the disputes among seven various camps of healers we got a raft of letters, some of which we published along with opinions of our own as to the relative value of drugs, osteopathy, Christian Science, faith cure, chiropractics and drugless healing.

In our latest deliverance on this vexatious subject we referred to the undoubted value of the mental method in some cases, classing it with various forms of therapy more or less suggestive. In effect we alluded to Christian Science as a system of suggestion. This according to Christian Science doctrine is very wrong. The editor of the Christian Science Monitor, we are told, has written a book to prove that Christian Science is not suggestion. An enthusiastic Scientist informs the editor that his opinion of

the editor's intelligence went down very fast as a result of our confusing science with suggestion. This is regrettable. The intelligence of anybody depends upon making it obvious to other people, otherwise insane asylums would be a crime. We have not made ours obvious to some Christian Scientists because we confound the issue with suggestion.

Well, before reading the appended letter of Mr. George R. Lowe, head of the Christian Science Committee on Publicity for Ontario, observe that for all practical purposes outside the elect we still consider Christian Science as a system of suggestions. To the elect it is doctrine. To me, an outsider, it is suggestion. The average man wanting physical relief knows nothing of doctrine. He can't wait until he does or he may be either better or worse or dead. Therefore he must believe now that the agency put into operation now by the healer will be efficacious. We call that empirical form of belief suggestion. Perhaps some other word would suit it better. But at all events it is taking something for granted until one has time to become influenced by the doctrine which alone makes a Christian Scientist. The man who is cured of an ailment by Science is not ipso facto a Scientist. He may become one—when he had been permeated by the doctrine. Till then his mental attitude is practically that of the man who allows himself to react to a suggestion. Mr. Lowe's letter explicitly sets forth his side of the case, and is cheerfully published in the interests of as much of the truth as possible.

Ottawa, Aug. 24, 1918.

Editor, Canadian Courier:

In giving credit in your paper to various healing agencies—including "sunlight, fresh air, cheerful company, etc."—you expressed also your belief that Christian Science heals by

mental or spiritual suggestion, although you indicated that it may use "faith, prayer and knowledge." Permit me to say that Christian Science shows the radical distinction between suggestion and knowledge. A child is taught the multiplication table, not by suggestion but by demonstration, by having it made clear to its unfolding mathematical sense that twice two is four, etc. Christ Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." The truth referred to is spiritual, the truth that man is the offspring of spirit, is God-like, spiritual. The knowledge of this gives freedom, which includes good health. Spiritual knowledge is, therefore, the very opposite of suggestion. A false belief may be suggested, but only the truth can be known; and the truth is applied by being known, not suggested.

Furthermore, Christian Science is not merely mental negation, but spiritual affirmation. A negation is of value only if it is based logically on a spiritual affirmation. To negate sin, a man must affirm that goodness is natural, attractive and real. To negate disease, one must know that God made man in His own image; that it is natural for man reflecting God, to be sane, sound, and healthy. The affirmation of the power of good, sincerely lived, negates evil in its incipient suggestion and in its outward forms.

Your medical correspondent also speaks in half kindly tone of Christian Scientists; or is it that he "damns" us "with faint praise"? He offers no proof of his statement that a Christian Science family spread smallpox by evading quarantine. Mrs. Eddy's writings offer proof positive that Christian Scientists are advised to observe the health regulations. Mrs. Eddy says on page 219 of "The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany."

"Rather than quarrel over vaccination, I recommend, if the law demand, that an individual submit to this process, that he obey the law, and then appeal to the gospel to save him from bad physical results. Whatever changes come to this century or to any epoch, we may safely submit to the providence of God, to common justice, to the maintenance of individual rights, and to governmental usages. This statement should be so interpreted as to apply, on the basis of Christian Science, to the reporting of a contagious case to the proper authorities when the law so requires."

We have a good record in this.

The doctor argues that "some people need compulsion to be sensible," and would bring everyone under compulsion to treatment of the kind that he considers sensible. Yet he objects that "some wholesale druggists refuse to allow his own judgment in making prescriptions." Surely every well-behaved citizen should be allowed to use his own judgment as to what treatment he shall have for his own health. Our objections to a system of State physicians is that it would abrogate this right of individual judgment, and make medical treatment compulsory. Injustice is inherent in medical as in clerical domination of the individual, whether exercised over the spiritual or the physical well-being of the people.

On the same page as your article, "Doctors Continue to Differ," it is stated that Elihu Root, at the Convocation of Toronto University, strongly advocated the freedom of the individual from the tyranny of the State. This would certainly apply to freedom

(Continued on page 28.)

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