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CABINET MINISTERS AND THEIR DUTY.

The opposition has taken a good line when it says that a cabinet minister under salary ought to give his whole time to the duties of the position. We believe that cabinet ministers ought to be well paid. We would like to see the salaries of cabinet ministers fixed at \$10,000 per year, and we would not be averse to paying an attorney-general \$15,000, if that was necessary, whether for a federal or provincial government.

We do not believe in a cabinet minister having any other occupation than that of the public service. We do not believe that a cabinet minister, especially if he be a lawyer, should have clients or retainers outside of his office as a cabinet minister.

We can easily imagine the kind of a lawyer who, having retainers of this kind, could easily earn much more than his cabinet salary, and who, therefore, would have a very difficult task in distinguishing his duty to the state from his duty to his clients.

In the meantime, if a man cannot put up with the moderate salary that is given the cabinet ministers he ought to choose between the two, and either undertake to serve the people or to serve his corporation clients or any other clients he may have outside of his cabinet or his own business, whatever it may be, for that matter.

And more and more does it become incumbent on a cabinet minister to follow in the private life to a very large extent the rule of conduct generally followed by our judges. They must be careful of the company they keep; they must be careful of the associates with whom they dine and wine, if they must dine and wine outside of the circle of their immediate friends.

There are great financiers and other magnates who try to approach cabinet ministers and try to approach judges on the social side, and they make them their welcome guests. They think they can in that way get on the outside side of the cabinet minister or the judge. All of these officials, as we have said, ought to live a social life that is more or less of a retiring character, confined to their own immediate circle.

They must, even if they accept office at a comparatively low salary, have but one object in view, and that is to serve the state and to serve the people in the discharge of their official duty. When we say this we have not said all that should be said.

It does not look well for an every-day member of parliament to be in too close connection with the railway and other industrial magnates of this province. They, too, will best serve their constituents by living a simple and an unostentatious life as regards the social world.

STOP CHINESE GAMBLING.
Toronto has its Chinese gambling dens, the same kind that curse the large cities of the United States. Now that it is so difficult to get domestic servants, hundreds of households are employing the Chinaman. He is peculiar in nothing so much as the fact that the desire to gamble is born in him, and stays with him until he is gathered to his gods.

Chinese servants in Toronto spend their spare time in gambling. They neglect their work in order to steal a few more hours at play. They have jumped up their wages to waste them on fan-tan.

Toronto kitchens presided over by Chinamen are in disorder and the heads of households are in trouble owing to this gambling mania.

There are a few rich Chinamen who doubtless have made their wealth in gambling dens across the line. They control the gambling joints in this city, and they are wise in their nefarious business beyond the comprehension of the native Canadian. It is they who have incited the Chinese servants in this city to jump up their wages in order that the banker in the gambling den may get more toll.

That another successful raid has been made upon these gambling dens stands to the credit of the city police. Let other and continuous raids be made. Wherever there is a Chinese gambling den, let it be invaded by the officer of the law, and let the inmates be properly punished. Above all, let the boss gamblers be given the severest penalties, for it is only by rigorous action that the curse that has come into our midst to destroy the harmony of many households, can be eradicated.

Now, when the Chinese gambling den is comparatively in its infancy, let a crusade be made against it, in the hope that the latest effort to solve the servant problem may not be hindered.

EASTERN CANADA AND THE RAILROADS.

Canadian railways are having a fine time these days, and nobody least of all no public journal and no public man, desires to hamper them in their efforts to try and serve the public. The idea is, however, being forced into the minds of many of our people that our railways at the present time are trying to do too much, and more and more is the conviction spreading that they are either under-manned or are asking too much of their employees, and that this is due to the disquieting number of painful and shocking accidents which are being reported.

Our great railways have enormous undertakings in hand in connection with the great west. They have had a severe winter to contend against, and they have enormous expansive propositions now under way; with these also there has been an immense increase of traffic in the older portions of the Dominion, and it is just as we said above—the roads are trying to do too much with their present number of employees under their present trackage. They want more men and more trackage, and especially more double tracks, and this, with a shortening of the hours of labor, seems to be necessary to meet the pressure of the day, and better ensure the safety of the travelling public.

The question, therefore, comes to be whether the public interest does not require that the risk of accident on the older portions of the line be avoided or, at least, diminished, by putting on more men and laying down more double tracks, rather than that hundreds and hundreds of miles should be built through a comparatively new territory during this year. If all of the roads were to let up a little, by common agreement among themselves, in their almost necessarily rapid extensions to the west they could give more attention to the congestion existing in the east. We do not wish to discourage in any way the building up of the west and the settlement of the west, but the railway managers have a very practical and responsible duty to perform, and they must give their main attention and their main resources to the avoidance of accident, and to the discharging of their responsibilities on their lines nearer home.

Another great trouble is the low equipment, especially in the way of motive power. We are only now finding out that a great mistake was made years ago when our customs tariff was not altered so as to compel the erection in Canada of a great car-building and engine-building plant that would have made us independent of other countries. Our roads are to-day ready to buy more locomotives and more cars, but they cannot buy them abroad, and their own building resources, while extensive and growing, are not sufficient to large to meet their immediate requirements.

In a word, then, the railways must very seriously review the situation somewhat on the line above set out. Above all, they must devise a way of moderating to some degree the excessive pressure on men, on tracks, on motive power and on cars that now exist. Rapid expansion may be bought at too high a price.

This pressure has become so pronounced that, as one man expressed it the other day, "the train dispatcher, the track-walker and the men responsible for the running of trains are subject to brainstorm at any moment."

A BRITISH NATIONAL ARMY.

In connection with the scheme for the reorganization of the British army, prepared by Mr. R. B. Haldane, the secretary for war, and now under consideration by parliament, the National Service League has issued a letter appearing in part in another column. It is signed by Lord Roberts, the president, and by the Duke of Wellington, the Lords Meath, Milner and Reginald, the vice-presidents of the league, and from the national importance of the issues raised, it will command great and general attention. Rightly recognizing that the question of the reconstitution of the British offensive and defensive forces is a matter which should be kept free from controversial politics, the signatories discuss the present position of the problem in a fair and impartial manner, at the same time fully and freely recognizing the "great ability, earnestness and single-mindedness with

which the secretary for war has carried out his difficult task."

From the tenor of the debates in parliament, and of the extensive public criticism the scheme has evoked, it is evident that British opinion is much nearer a system of compulsory training for home defence than at one time appeared to be possible. Mr. Haldane, indeed, practically admitted that his proposals would in all probability be the last to be submitted on a voluntary basis. In addition to the reconstitution of the regular army, they aimed at the establishment of a national or territorial army, properly organized in the necessary military formations, with the due proportions between the various arms and services and with proper equipment. On this part of the scheme the National Service League is in entire agreement with Mr. Haldane. Where it parts company with the war secretary is over the wisdom of his proposal that the six months' training necessary to make his partially drilled volunteers effective, should take place after the risk of war has become imminent.

Mr. Haldane's prolonged and anxious consideration of the question led him to perceive and to declare that the problem before him was "the problem of a nation in arms, with all the forces of the country welded into one," which he said, was "the only safeguard for the public interests should war break out." Conceding for the present the objections to compulsory service, he assumes that the ranks can be filled by volunteers prepared to undergo the more stringent training he regards as imperative, and that employers of labor will co-operate by keeping their places open during their necessary absence.

Whether Mr. Haldane's anticipations will be justified is gravely doubted, but in any case the league contends that this portion of his army scheme cannot become a reality unless compulsory training for a sufficient period is made a national duty. Doubtless the war secretary's proposals will have a fair trial. If experience shows that a really efficient national defence force cannot thus be obtained, the only alternative appears to be the adoption of such a system as the National Service League suggests.

U.C. TRACT SOCIETY SERMON.

A Useful Year of Good Works to Denizens in Remote Districts.

Rev. John McNeill preached the annual sermon in connection with the Upper Canada Tract Society yesterday morning at Central Methodist Church. The subject of his discourse was taken from John, xii, 23, "And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come that the Son of Man should be glorified."

He spoke of the evangelical work that the Gospel itself carried into the hearts of mankind thru all parts of the world, which had its first inception of grace and Divine power for regeneration and redemption at the advent of Christianity to the Gentiles.

The secretary of the society read the annual report, which showed that a great and systematic work of dissemination of Gospel literature had been carried out in remote parts of Canada, and especially that claims cannot attend Divine worship. Sailors, mariners, lumbermen and many other toilers in various branches of industry and commerce had been reached by the society's colporteurs, and a satisfactory record of their work would be placed to its credit. There was never before a greater need for increased zeal in this necessary spiritual labor.

On Monday evening Dr. Milligan and two other missionaries will deliver addresses.

A DEAD GIVE-AWAY.

Three Men Arrested While Carrying Carcass of Sheep.

The strange sight of three men carrying a heavy bundle out of a stable in the City Cattle Market prompted Constables Moffat and Carnahan of No. 3 division to investigate. The bundle was found to contain a dead sheep, the men were arrested as they drove Bracken had reported to the police losing a sheep on Friday morning last.

The three men gave their names as Frederick Squibb, 223 Bellwoods-avenue; John Stirling, 130 Wellington-street; and James Gallagher, 18 Turner-avenue.

PEACE CONFERENCE.

Warring Central American Republics Will Try to Bury Hatchet.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The state department on Saturday received a despatch from U. S. Consul Brown, at La Union, Honduras, saying that a peace conference would be held at Amapala between President Zelaya of Nicaragua and President Fugeroa of Salvador immediately upon the surrender of Amapala which, at the time the despatch was filed, was expected momentarily.

The two presidents will meet in person and endeavor to reach a settlement of the difficulties which involved Nicaragua and Honduras in war, and caused San Salvador to become the ally of the latter.

GOT GODS, LEFT WIFE.

Galt, April 14.—James Gladator, a halfbreed from Brantford, followed his runaway wife here, but has tried in vain to induce her to return. The woman is young and pretty. The man seized the personal effects of his wife and went home.

The monthly meeting of the mission to lepers will be held in the Bible Training School, 110 College-street, to-day (Monday), at 3:30 p.m. Miss Jamieson will call of her work among lepers, and Dr. Justin Kirchoff of Palestine will also address the meeting.

Salt-life in every grain—delicate, piquant—perfect crystals—absolutely pure—WINDSOR SALT.

Good to Eat

and Healthful

Some food is good to eat but not healthful. Other food is healthful but not good to eat. Malta-Vita, the perfect malted whole-wheat food, is both healthful and good to eat. It contains every food element necessary to the sustenance and good health of the human body.

"For many years my husband suffered from indigestion and extreme nervousness. Recently I bought our first package of Malta-Vita. My husband is now in perfect health. He eats but little meat and pastry and says Malta-Vita takes the place of both."—Mrs. Valley C. Regan, Rockford, Ill.

Malta-Vita fills all the requirements of a food. Eat it with milk or cream.

All Grocers, Now 10c.

SALE OF UNCLAIMED GOODS.

NET POLICE ROUND SUM.

Hundreds of Articles Were Put Up at Auction, Realizing Fair Prices.

The annual sale of unclaimed articles collected by the police department during the year was held in the court building on Saturday afternoon. Inspector McLennan made an efficient auctioneer, and in all several hundred dollars was netted. The crowd was a fair-sized one, and the bidding was keen enough to indicate that the easier money conditions in Europe are being felt locally.

There were dozens of revolvers dangled invitingly before the eyes of prospective bidders, from the tiny derringer to the pug-nosed, stockily built weapon of the "bull dog" pattern. The public demand for these weapons seemed to have been exhausted from some historic battle ground of decades ago. Others showed the results of careful polishing, and glistened in the light, after the manner of the dime novel. Possibly the war of interest in the Shaw case had something to do with the demand for these weapons.

Some of the firearms were thickly coated with rust, and stock and barrel seemed ready to part company on small provocation. They might have been exhumed from some historic battle ground of decades ago. Others showed the results of careful polishing, and glistened in the light, after the manner of the dime novel. Possibly the war of interest in the Shaw case had something to do with the demand for these weapons.

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INDIVIDUAL MUST BE

HIS OWN JOY OR SORROW

Can't "End It All" by Suicide, Says A. J. Colville in "Evidences of Immortality."

Extraordinary originality in manner and in modes of thought distinguishes W. J. Colville, who lectured in St. George's Hall yesterday. The evening subject was "Evidences of Immortality," and he spoke for two hours.

Mr. Colville is of aristocratic English family and is well-known in Great Britain. He is a world-traveler, too, and is just back from Australia.

There are few of his sayings: "I place more value on the artless testimonies of children than on all the paid-for twenty-minute sittings of spiritualistic mediums. Such miserable commercial dailiness with the spirit world needs to be kicked down the back stairs."

"Way notes the new theology a chance and teach people that they are truly immortal."

"It is the most ridiculous doctrine of spiritualism to suppose that we are ever foisted on the world that we are our material bodies, and one contradictory to every particle of scientific evidence."

"A great deal of friendship on earth is very superficial. The devotion grows cold in a little while. Don't talk about living together for eternity. Allow that to be provided for in eternity."

"Nobody can skip across the border or evade the law by committing suicide. Suicides have to live by themselves, and they have rather a poor time. I don't like my own company and am not at peace with myself. I won't enjoy myself very much. The individual must be his own joy and his own sorrow."

"The testimony from the spirit world is not discrepant; it is various. People do not understand the difference. December 21 is the longest day in the year—in Australia. The unseen world is not all of a piece anymore than this is."

"Whoever hates his brother cannot love God. His prayer shall be turned into sin. Man cannot transfer his sins from himself to another. The spiritual merely by dying."

"Life on the psychic plane is no more permanent than life here. That is not believe in the immortality of the soul. There is a difference between living in the life immortal and being in the consciousness of mortal life."

"Some people speak of the Bible as the God had written 66 manuscripts and then retired from authorship. I don't believe in that. It is a chronological and geographical deity."

"I don't care if people pray to 365 millions of Gods as they do in India. God answers every sincere prayer made for the good of humanity. Man looks at the outside; God at the heart."

"Does the doctrine of immortality, reasonably stated, make for righteousness? It does."

"The doctrine, beginning to-morrow night, will lecture in St. George's Hall and at 162 Cowan-avenue in the afternoons until May 2."

FACTORY NOT SOLD.

Galt, April 14.—(Special).—J. C. Dietrich of Detroit denies rumor of the purchase of the bed factory by a combine. That no such sale has taken place, he says. Eastern parties have been negotiating to buy the plant and a price