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("To Every Man His Own.")

**The Mail and Advocate**

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., SEPT. 26, 1916.

**To-day's Vote**

It is apparent that very little interest is being taken in the plebiscite vote being cast to-day to decide whether the Municipal Council of St. John's shall be elected by wards or by the whole city. When this matter was discussed last April and May, quite an interest was taken and the Legislature was asked by the Citizens' Committee to hold a plebiscite to decide the issue. The Legislature complied to the Committee's wishes, but it is doubtful if sufficient reason existed for asking the Legislature to intervene, in view of the indifference manifested in relation to the matter, as shown by the attendance at the polls to-day and the absence of newspaper campaign. It became the duty of opponents of the present system to voice their opposition and educate public opinion; but the whole thing has fizzled out and it is pretty certain that to-day's vote will not cause any changes in the mode of electing City Councillors in the future.

**'Tis Due Them**

ACTING PREMIER BENNETT intimated a few days ago that a decision had been arrived at to do something definite in the way of providing for those of our soldier lads who have returned from the front.

Even though late as it comes we feel sure this action on the part of the authorities will meet with public approval. The manner in which our boys have been treated up to the present is to put it mildly, disgraceful.

The Mail and Advocate has continually drawn attention to this matter, and judging from the comments in the press of late our contemporaries have awakened to the needs of the hour and the joint protestations of "the fourth estate" have had the effect of waking the authorities up to a sense of their duty.

Nothing that the Government, Patriotic Association or the general public can do is too good for those who have risked their all in the great fight for freedom and justice. It is their right to expect just treatment and unless we misjudge public sentiment our public will insist on those soldier lads being treated as their heroic conduct deserves.

There are many lads who have returned and who are unable to resume their former avocations, and, certain it is the Government should see to it that they get the preference to positions in the civil service to those who have stayed at home.

There are many instances of where soldiers who returned from the front have been passed over in connection with newly made positions in our civil service; but now that the authorities have promised to deal honestly with our returned soldiers we cannot do better than throw the mantle of charity over past shortcomings in this respect and hope that the future will see those of our boys

**REVELLE**

BY CALCAR

IF those who insisted on the poaching theory and its consequent depletion of the fish in Little River, as the cause of the ill success of sportsmen the past summer had only been near the head waters of the same river last week after the heavy rains, they might have seen, and heard too, something to cure their silly belief.

Never were so many fish seen ascending to the upper spawning grounds as were there beheld. When the schools of big fish struck the shallow "riffles" the noise made by their rushing through the water might very aptly be likened to the roar of heavy rain or hail falling upon the forest leaves.

Seems like a story brought from afar by some traveller, but it is not, it is the relation of an actual fact locally witnessed. This may be an eye-opener to the Game and Inland Fisheries Board. How long might we have to wait to get an interesting bit of news like this from the reports of the Game Board. Nor is this all that might be interestingly told of salmon in our streams. There are a thousand and one facts to be observed that were we writing the natural history of the salmon or even a chapter for the Game Board's Report, we might narrate. But as we are not writing a natural history or a chapter for the Game Board's Report we will content ourselves with this much. Our idea is just to show the Game Board how very, very stupid they are.

We have however another eye-opener for the Board and also for "Mr. Dick," and this time it is a real head of King Charles, but the "head" did not show itself in Little River. The place it selected was the very place where it would be least likely to be seen, and more successful in the line of business adopted by those "heads."

While the wise ones were laying traps to ensnare the visionary poacher of Little River, very real poachers were operating without fear of being disturbed in another part of the Codroy Valley.

"Seven Mile" pool is a very sequestered spot on the North Branch of the Great Codroy. Seldom if ever does warden's foot tread the shores of that lonely pool, and rarely is it ever visited except by those who come by rail. It is an out-of-the-way sort of place and just for this reason is it most inviting to the law breaker who wants fish and does not care what means he employs in their capture.

Strange as it may seem this pool as well as those others adjacent inviting as they are to the poacher are not protected by a warden, while Little River whose every pool or almost, is overlooked by the home of some farmer has two guardians. Nominally there is a warden on the North Branch, but as he lives miles away on the South Branch and has also to guard that part of the river too, as well as from five miles below the "Forks" it will be seen that to avoid him is a very easy matter. "Seven Mile Pool" was swept clean of fish while wardens and Game Board were seeking the "Head of King Charles" in the well policed environs of Little River.

We may not convince "the Board" that they act very stupidly but we hope to convince the public that there is a body of men in charge of the Game resources of this country who are a bunch of numb-skulls, at any rate as far as their activities as custodians of the Game and Inland Fisheries go. What they are in other walks of life we have no particular care.

If the Game Resources of the Country were the private property of those gentlemen who comprise the Game Board this matter of their mismanagement would be no concern of ours any more than it is our concern to enquire into their methods of conducting their private business, but as this game business is the concern of the public we claim the right to expose the looseness with which it is being handled. We re-

gard it as our duty to speak out plainly. If we use harsh expressions we claim the provocation is sufficient warrant. It makes our blood boil to see on every side evidence of the most gross stupidity. The pity of it is that there seems to be no limit to the check with which such men assume direction of important public affairs, and there seems to be no ending to it.

Not until the people awake and demand retirement of incompetent persons can we expect any improvement. We therefore say to the people, awake! awake!

**THE HARVEST OF THE WAR**

These Articles Published Under the Above Heading Are Republished From the Round Table Review of Politics of the British Empire

**IV.—The Illusion of Ascendancy**

A MERE general desire, however, to substitute human for nationalist ends, as the guide-post of international policy, will not carry us far. It must be expressed in practical realities. Let us see, therefore, what it would lead to in bringing about a lasting settlement of the actual issues which have caused the war.

The active principle in the selfish nationalism of the day has been the passion for racial or national ascendancy and dominion. It seeks its ends by any means. It draws a sharp line of division between one race and others. One is superior, the rest inferior. Then it pleads that competition is the law of life and that states must ever struggle for existence with one another. Thus does it first estrange and then justify suppression of the liberties of other races. Next it demands the possession of colonies and dependencies because from them are derived strength in men and material for the great struggle for pre-dominance over other states.

Then it requires that these dependencies should be exploited in the interests of their rulers, and that colonies should be denied self-government, for overseas possessions are of value only so far as they are controlled by obedience to the parent state. And finally it insists on the military

**GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS**

SEPTEMBER 26

LUCKNOW relieved, 1857.

Peter Rogerson, founder of the firm of P. Rogerson & Son, and father of Hon. J. J. Rogerson, died, 1858.

Water-pipes first reached town, 1861.

President Garfield buried, H.M. S. Contest and Druid, at this port, flew American flags half-mast, and had yards manned; the Druid fired minute guns, 1881.

Patrick J. Scott named as Opposition candidate for St. John's East, 1890.

Sergeant James Quinn died suddenly in Central Fire Hall, 1899.

Courtney Kenny lectured in St. Andrew's Church, on John Pounds founder of the Ragged Schools in England, 1886.

Two brothers, Edward and Peter Fleming (of Torbay), who had been adrift in a dory twelve days, having been picked up and brought to Canada, 1838.

**The World's Big Shipping Ports**

While London, New York and Hamburg are on pretty even terms as the world's greatest ports, Great Britain and the Empire maintain their pre-eminence to a marked degree. In a list of thirty ports which lead in commerce, no less than six are in Great Britain, while seven others are in other parts of the Empire. Montreal is the eighteenth in the list, ranking next to New Orleans and just ahead of Boston. Four of the great ports are in the United States. Liverpool is fifth in the list, ranking after Hamburg and Antwerp, with Marseilles and Havre, the great French ports, sixth and seventh respectively. Calcutta and Bombay, in British India are ninth and tenth, while Sydney in Australia is fifteenth and Melbourne twenty-eighth. Petrograd, the only Russian port in the list, is last, the annual trade of that port, being some eighty million dollars less than that of Montreal. Buenos Aires, the only South American port in the list, is eleventh, ranking just below Calcutta and Bombay.

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regimentation of the people in an iron discipline at home, and on the abandonment of democratic control of policy, because these are necessary to the supreme purpose of this false ideal, triumph in war. Throughout, autocracy has been its ally and its goad. So does this nationalism, fostered by autocracy, work evil and suffering and servitude at every stage.

As soon as the problem is looked at from the point of view of humanity it is entirely changed. Colonies are then primarily new nations in the making, and what is important is that they should develop a vigorous national character and culture of their own and attain to the status of self-government in order that they may take their share of the world's burden. They cannot be drilled and disciplined into disobedience to the motherland, nor will they blindly support its policy whatever it may be.

Their primary duty is rather to bring wider views and a clear regard for right and justice to its counsels, and to prevent it from being governed by purely nationalist ideals. And their eventual destiny must be to complete the progress to full self-government, either by a formal declaration of independence, or by a federal union whereby the peoples of the mother country and the colonies share an equal responsibility for determining how they should discharge their common duty to humanity, and not as mere additions to the military power of the motherland, they cannot be an occasion for war.

Similarly with the question of the dependent Empire. If we look at it from the point of view of the whole world, the government of dependencies is obviously necessary in the present stage of human development. It is necessary primarily to put an end to the intolerable evils which result from unregulated contact between civilized traders and backward peoples. In some cases these evils are the fault of the white man, who, as in the cases of the Congo, the Putumayo, the New Hebrides, mercilessly corrupts and exploits a backward people for his own profit.

In other cases it is not the fault of the foreign trader, who is the unwilling agent through which a backward people gain access to liquor, firearms, and the less reputable forms of civilized knowledge, which demoralize their customs and destroy their system of government. As a result there follows scandalous oppression and misuse, as in the case of the Mahdi in the Sudan, or a prolonged condition of disorder and chaos, generally intensified by foreign money and adventurers,

from which, as in the case of India, there seems to be no hope of the people extricating themselves.

In all these cases the only course consistent with human progress is for a civilized government, strong enough to control the foreigner, to step in, restore law and order and justice, and set to work to lay the material and moral foundations on which the structure of civilized self-government may eventually be built. Opinions may differ as to when intervention is necessary, especially in the case of peoples in the intermediate stages of civilization; and also as to the best way of training a backward people in the paths of self-government, but there can be no controversy on the main fact that the present state of the human race is still a necessity in the present state of the human race. The only alternative, which would be to maintain a cordon of ships or police round backward territories so as to shut their inhabitants off from all contact with civilization, is neither practical politics nor could it hasten the progress of the world to attempt to apply it.

So long as empire is treated by the governing people as a source of strength to itself in its struggle against others, it cannot fail to be a source of international jealousy, suspicion and friction, as well as a curse to the dependent people themselves. As soon, however, as it is regarded as a responsibility exercised on behalf of civilization the question of who is to govern a dependency is never likely to lead to war. For as trustees the rulers have a double function. They have to maintain law, order and justice locally, and to foster in every way the development of knowledge and

character among the people, so that they may eventually be capable of conducting a civilized government for themselves. They have also to ensure that the rest of the world has equal opportunities with themselves to profit from trade and intercourse with their dependencies. So long as the principle of the open door and that of conducting the government of its inhabitants are scrupulously observed, empire will lead neither to revolution nor international war.

Similarly with the problem of nationalities within the civilized state. Directly the idea that one state or one race has to struggle perpetually with its neighbours is abandoned, the main argument for dragging subject nationalities vanishes. If the purpose of all states is not dominion and conquest, but the welfare of the human community, it is obviously everybody's advantage that all should have equal rights and opportunities. All sections within the state will then recognize that they have something to give and something to learn, but nothing to impose, and national life will be appraised not because of the notorious enforcement of a single type of ideas, but according to the diversity of its contributions to the common human cause.

The imposition upon the people of the strait-waistcoat of conscription will be unnecessary. Democracy, strengthened and disciplined by the free adoption of every citizen to give some active service to the state, will come by its own. Moreover, the liberal policy cuts the Gordian knot of the irredentist problem. For it

achieves by voluntary means that very enlargement of states which is the true solution of the nationalist question, but which nations strive in vain and at prodigious cost to effect by the tyrannical use of force. In no country in the world is there a clear geographical separation between different races. They are hopelessly intermingled, and modern facilities for migration tend to increase rather than diminish this condition. Any attempt to make the boundaries of states coincide with those of nationality must lead to the multiplication of small states each containing an irredentist minority separated from its brothers and confined in its relations with its neighbours to the fateful methods of diplomacy and war.

The only permanent cure is to combine them all in one state for the government and policy of which they are all responsible, which is able to consider the interests of all the races within it, but in which each race has as much local autonomy as is consistent with the welfare of the community as a whole. This solution which is so certain and so easy where freedom reigns, which is the road we must all travel towards the ultimate solution of all international problems, the world commonwealth, is impossible where nationalist ambition rules supreme.

Even this brief consideration makes it abundantly clear that the substitution of human for purely nationalist ideals, and the abandonment of militarism, imperialism, and the passion for ascendancy, difficult as it may be in detail, solves the actual controversies which immediately caused the war.

**Reid-Newfoundland Co.**

**Charlottetown Excursion**

Excursion Tickets will be sold to Charlottetown, P.E.I., for the Exhibition to be held September 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th. Tickets are good going on Sunday, September 24th, and Tuesday, September 26th. Return limit October 2nd.

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Red Top, Natural Grey Sole, a good First Grade Boot at a Medium Price. **Only \$4.50.**

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