

THE TRUE WITNESS
AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED AT
No. 761, Craig Street, Montreal, Canada.
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
Country, \$1.00
City, \$1.50
If not paid in advance, \$1.50 (Country) and \$2.00 (City) will be charged.
Subscribers, Newfoundland, \$1.50 a year in advance.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 23, 1891

TO OUR PATRONS.

A change in the proprietorship of a journal of the character and standing of THE TRUE WITNESS is an event which calls for a few words of explanation. For nearly half a century this paper has maintained the dignity of Catholic journalism in Canada, and throughout that long period it has, we may say without vanity, successfully contended for the rights of the Catholic people, and been a welcome visitor at the homes of many thousands who can bear testimony to its purity and usefulness. Therefore the new proprietor, in assuming its management on his own responsibility, feels that he undertakes something in the nature of a sacred trust, and it will be his constant endeavor, to not only maintain its past reputation, but also to make it, if possible still more worthy of the confidence and patronage of the Catholic community in all parts of the Dominion.

In future THE TRUE WITNESS will be owned and conducted under the direction of Mr. D. M. QUINN, who has been identified with Catholic journalism for a number of years.

In conducting a paper of this kind it is necessary to follow a course of strict impartiality by holding an even balance between parties. THE TRUE WITNESS will support all good measures from which ever side they may emanate, and will not hesitate to condemn, and, if necessary, oppose whatever is not in the true interests of the country or of those whose claims it is its special mission to faithfully and fearlessly represent.

In the discussion of political questions a religious journal is bound to act with the sole object of advancing the cause of truth. All mere exigencies of party must be put aside, and all measures and men judged by the unflinching standard of truth and justice. Human performances unhappily too often fall short of the intention, but the establishment of a high ideal in the pursuit of a duty always helps towards its accomplishment.

The task which devolves upon us is, while keeping ourselves free from all dependence upon party, and looking solely to the approval of our Catholic patrons as the result of our labours—to keep as vigilant an eye on the course of events as though we were the lively of party and had our task to perform of adulation on the one hand and vilification on the other; independence, as we understand it, is no matter of dealing a blow here and a compliment here and a blow there the next. We mean to be guided in the expression of our opinions entirely by facts, with all proper submission to the teaching of the Church.

The literary, news, special and commercial departments of the paper will be supplied from the best obtainable sources and from the pens of able and accomplished writers. Nothing will be neglected that can aid in raising THE TRUE WITNESS to the summit of perfection in the field it has occupied so long and with distinguished success. In return we ask from our subscribers and business patrons a continuance of their kind support and encouragement, for though our work is largely a labor of love, its successful prosecution depends as much upon those in whose behalf it is undertaken as it does upon the workers. Thus sustained and strengthened, THE TRUE WITNESS enters anew upon what we dare hope shall be a long period of continued and deserved prosperity and usefulness.

ALTHOUGH the landing of British sailors on the island of Mitylene has not been followed by a present occupation it can clearly be understood that the recent demonstration was designed, and meant to be, full of political significance. The story that the affair was merely a "picnic" is too absurd to hold water. It would be a very curious event if fifteen large ironclads under an Admiral well known for his acquaintance with Eastern diplomacy suddenly appeared near the mouth of the Dardanelles and held a "picnic" on what the press calls a desert island, with an armed force of officers, blue jackets and field guns. The lesson taught seems to be that England intends to continue to command

the Dardanelles, which she has hitherto done through Turkey. As the latter seems to be inclined to give very much to Russia in defence of treaties it would seem that henceforth England proposes to do it alone and for herself and her own interests. Mitylene appears to be in the opinion of naval strategists the best point for her to occupy and although not for the moment actually retained it would appear that in the near future the island will be the British naval station in the Aegean Sea. With Cyprus, 500 miles away covering the mouth of the Suez Canal, Mitylene blockading the Dardanelles and Gibraltar guarding the entrance the Mediterranean would be a British lake. And the tacit concurrence of the Dreilund seems to be in favor of her making it one for the present at least.

It is said that the New York State officials are organizing a naval force at Rochester for service on Lake Ontario. It is very much to be regretted that the Americans should show a disposition to go beyond the arrangements which have so long existed under the treaty of Ghent. If the United States commence establishing naval militia then Canada will probably follow suit and fresh militia expenditure become necessary. As to the armed vessels on the lakes the limitation is one that has worked well, and there is no reason whatever for its violation. Until the United States become offensively aggressive they need never fear a war with Great Britain which has much to endanger and nothing to gain by one.

THERE will be very few who will not feel much relieved when they know that the session of Parliament is at an end. It has not been one that Canadians will look back to either with pleasure or pride. It will be remembered as the session during which the old statesman who had done so much to advance the material prosperity of his country, and who held public office for nearly half a century, passed away. It will be remembered as the session in the course of which a degree of public dishonesty was revealed calculated to make every right-minded person blush for the honor of his country and countrymen. But it is to be hoped that a brighter and purer condition of affairs lies ahead, and the disgraceful transactions recently brought to light will be seen no more in Canada.

It is gratifying to learn that the alleged difficulty between the provincial premier and the Lieutenant-Governor is ended and that the affair of the Baie des Chaleurs railway will be duly investigated by a competent commission. It is a pity, however, that there should have ever been any points of contention raised in such a manner as to afford a handle for party controversy. No one will deny that Mr. Angers knows his duty as a constitutional lawyer in a thorough manner, and that he would go beyond it is not for a moment to be supposed. It is a pity he was ever opposed, if he really was. In the interests of the province it would have been better had the case been submitted to a commission without any dispute. Objections to so necessary a course almost imply a desire to stir up party, and this the Provincial Government certainly cannot afford to do.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

The past week has not been either a very active or eventful one in Parliament. The reports on the Tarte charges were presented and their consideration deferred, the members desiring time to study its provisions. Sir John Thompson's amendments to the Election Act, in the direction of making the law more strict in regard to elections, trials, and so forth, were also considered, and after some discussion the bill was read a third time with slight amendments.

Mr. McCarthy, when the bill to amend the Controverted Elections Act came up, obtained an amendment to the effect that jurisdiction in election petitions be confined to courts of first instance.

The report of the select committee, appointed to enquire into charges of abuse of office, as a member, made against Mr. Cochrane, M.P., was considered and debated at some length. The general tendency seemed to be in the direction of assuming that there was no evidence that Mr. Cochrane had "marketed" offices as charged, and an amendment, moved to the adoption of the report by Mr. Cameron, to a contrary effect, was rejected by a vote of 99 to 74, a majority of 25; and the main motion, which declared Mr. Cochrane innocent of the charges made, carried by 98 to 74. The discussion lasted the entire sitting on Thursday.

The Controverted Elections Act occupied a good portion of Friday's session. Many amendments were suggested, one making the amount of deposits to cover costs \$300, being adopted. A provision that petitioners shall in future solemnly declare that they believe that the allegations in the petition are true, met,

strangely enough, with opposition from Messrs. Barron, Cameron (Huron) and Fraser, though the sense of the House was evidently in favor of the suggestion. Mr. Mulock obtained an amendment to the effect that no greater sum than \$300 shall be taxed, or be taxable, against either party as costs in the case.

A bill to transfer certain public lands to the Provincial Governments was discussed, several members expressing the opinion that the assumption of shore-shores, harbors and rivers by the provinces might, if the provinces granted them to individuals, bring about difficulties in connection with navigation and cause many disputes. Sir John Thompson, however, quieted all apprehension by saying that the public rights in shipping, fishing and navigation could not be impaired by the bill and that the administration by the provinces would probably be advantageous.

The debate on the adoption of the report of the Privileges and Elections Committee, in the matter of the Tarte charges, opened on Monday afternoon. Mr. Girouard exhaustively reviewed the evidence and the legal aspects of the case, arguing that so far as Sir Hector Langevin was concerned he had done nothing which was not in accordance with the ordinary jurisdiction of the public departments of this country. The testimonial fund proved the contrary of the charge that it was designed to enable the subscribers to obtain undue payments. Speaking of election expenses he said that the system prevailing in England was the best one, the election agents alone handling the funds expended. In this country he argued that members ought to be particularly careful how they touched money for election purposes, and they should be doubly careful with any public moneys. He however hoped good would come out of the investigation and it would result in better engineers being employed in the departments and a rate of increased salaries instituted which would remove the temptation to steal. Mr. Tarte followed at some length stating that his charges against Mr. McGreevy had been sustained and that his action in the matter had been justified. He had no intention of blaming Sir Hector Langevin for any fraudulent act in connection with the matter, but held him responsible for grave errors in connection with the letting of contracts, in neglecting the opportunities afforded of obtaining the execution of works at lower rates than those of Larin & Co., and he held that the Hon. Thomas McGreevy did use his influence with the Minister of Public Works to obtain favors for his friends. Mr. Tarte reviewed at length the various items in the list of charges. The debate was continued by Messrs. Coatsworth, Davies and Dickey, and was not concluded when we went to press.

On Tuesday, Mr. Lister formulated a very grave charge against the Postmaster-General, Mr. Haggart, alleging that in connection with the famous contract for "Section B" of the C. P. R. between Port Arthur and Port Portage, he was "beneficially interested" in the contract on account of the share held by Peter McLaren, and that large sums were paid out of it for political purposes. As Mr. Haggart was unable, owing to the rules of the House, to reply to the charge at the moment, as it was only a notice of motion, the further developments of the case remain to be seen.

VERY DOUBTFUL.

MESSRS. CAMERON & Co. appear to have engaged the services of that not over satisfactory politician, social failure and ex-naturalized British subject, Mr. F. Wayland Glen, to re-echo their gloomy prognostications on the American side of the line. Papers of the Sun type seem gladly to receive and propagate his fantastic jeremiads and possibly many are misled by them. It is true that there is nothing in them that has not been preached ad nauseam for years by the anti-Canadian party, whose hunger for office seems to have destroyed every vestige of natural respect. But in one of Mr. Glen's latest efforts he has trodden upon new ground and made an assertion that calls for some explanation. He says, referring to the Hon. Edward Blake: "I am delighted to learn that he will soon announce himself as in favor of 'annexation direct, and declare that the time has gone by for an opiate, reciprocity.' He further undertakes to express the opinion that in this the people of Canada would support the ex-minister, who by the way has recently once again repeated the assertion of his complete withdrawal from active politics. The assertion of Mr. Glen is however either based on some foundation or it is not, and the public have a right to expect that some explanation should be forthcoming. The general public regard Mr. Blake as a man of sterling worth, and while, perhaps his somewhat erratic and variable political course has not been such as to impress the public with an idea of his stability as a statesman or the possessor of any fixity of purpose, still they have regarded him as a patriotic Canadian and will very reasonably expect

a contradiction of what in truth amounts to a libel on its face. But perhaps Mr. Blake expressed his uncertainty and political doubt when in his Aurora speech he wound up by summarizing his political creed in the following lines:—

You ask me why, tho' ill at ease,
Within this region I subsist,
Whose spirits falter in the mist
And languish for the purple seas.
It is the land which freemen till,
That sover suited freedom chose,
The land where girl with friends or foes
A man may speak the things he will.
A land of settled government,
A land of just and old renown,
Where freedom slowly broadens down
From precedent to precedent.

Where faction seldom gathers head,
But by degrees to fullness wrought,
The strength of some diffusive thought
Hath time and space to work and spread.

Should bandoned unto perestro
Opinion, and induce a time
When single thought is civil crime
And individual freedom mute;
Tho' power should make from land to land
The name of Britain trebly great,
And every channel in the state
Be almost clogged with golden sand.
Yet, wait me from the harbour-mouth
Wild wind! I seek a warmer sky,
And I will see before I die
The palms and temples of the south.

QUITE CORRECT.

THE New York Sun for once strikes the right chord with reference to the theories of those who, taking the result of the recent census as the subject for lamentation, assert that annexation to the United States is the only way to produce increase of population. This very absurd cry is sensibly met by the Sun with the assertion that no such result would follow the destruction and extinction of Canada and her absorption as a northern fringe into the numerous but not homogeneous band of states to the south of us. It says:—

"As to annexation, it is enough to say that if Vermont and New Hampshire and Maine and Northern New York do not increase in population, although they are within the United States, there is no reason why the neighboring regions of Canada should fare differently if annexed. The great crop in all those regions on both sides of the line is men, and men will migrate from places where they are superfluous to those where they are needed."

The Sun, however, is scarcely correct in talking of "superfluity." It is not that which has caused the flow of population south and west in the States. The causes are climate and geography. We know that so far as these two conditions are concerned nature has not made Canada as tempting as some other parts of the world, and the wonder, perhaps, is that she has progressed as marvelously as she has. The superior political institutions and the indomitable persistence of those who have occupied the country have made it what it is, and the population, if it does increase but slowly, is after all an example of the survival of the fittest, and the seeds of a great nation with a people free from the enervating influences of more relaxing and tempting climatic influences have taken deep root. Kingsley has sung

'Tis the hard-earned winter
Breeds hard Englishmen,
and the hard frosty winters of Canada are of a character to develop a grander race than have arisen under the wild sun-soaked "north-easters" which have made the men of the British Isles. We are told that in Australia the climate is destroying the vitality of those of European origin. The influences of weather under which the Australian lives is shaping the physique and character of those at the antipodes. A recent writer on the subject tells his readers that in another hundred years the average Australian will be a tall, coarse, strong-jawed, greedy, pushing, talented man, "excelling in swimming and horsemanship; his national politics will be a democracy tempered by the rate of exchange. His wife will be a thin, narrow, passionate woman, very fond of dress and idleness, and caring little for her children. In 500 years, according to the native prophet, the breed of Australians, unless recruited from foreign nations, will be wholly extinct." This is an ugly, but by no means overdrawn picture. The fate held up as that of Australia is one Canadians need never fear as long as our healthy atmosphere and less exacting conditions remain unchanged.

INGRATITUDE.

We regret to observe that a section of the U. S. press, claiming to be Irish and asserting itself to be Catholic, is just now affecting to regard Mr. Gladstone as a statesman only to be named in the past tense. One of these sheets is good enough to inform its readers that "his usefulness is gone." This is simply outrageous and does not reflect much credit on the papers referred to. It is true that Mr. Gladstone is both old and ill but whether he lives to accomplish his scheme concerning the establishment of Home Rule in Ireland or not every one bearing the name, and moved by the common instincts of an Irishman, should speak of him with respect and express gratitude for his past efforts in the interests of Ireland whether they are brought to perfection under his direction or not. Such criticisms as we refer to compel the fear that a great deal of the alleged interest in the "old sod" and the demonstrative waving of the green flag in the neighboring republic is

largely of the professional patriot type. It is true we have some of the type in Canada but they are happily few and far between and we are sure there is not one of them, unless he be much lower than the average of his fellows, who would say a word against William Ewart Gladstone. It is gratifying to learn by telegraph that Mr. Gladstone though cautioned by Sir Andrew Clarke to take care of himself feels quite vigorous and insists on making the trip he had planned to Glen Almond, Perthshire, for which point he starts on the 25th inst.

THE QUEEN'S BENCH.

Chief Justice Lacoste and Judge Wurtelo sit in the Court of Appeal.

There is at last a quorum of judges in the Court of Appeal, and the new Chief Justice, the Hon. Alexander Lacoste, as well as Judge Wurtelo, who has received commission of Assistant Judge for the Court of Queen's Bench, were both sworn in Thursday morning. The ceremony took place in the judges' room, and there were present Judges Cross, Baby and Bosse; Mr. L. W. Marchand, Q.C., clerk of the Court of Appeal; Mr. L. Oumet, deputy clerk Court of Appeal; Mr. J. L. Archambault, Q.C., Mr. J. Simard, N.E., and Mr. A. G. Lajoie, advocate, son-in-law of Chief Justice Lacoste. The two oaths of allegiance and office, were administered to both judges by Mr. L. W. Scotte, Judge Baby handing over the Bible. The short ceremony being over, there was general shaking of hands and congratulations, after which the five judges proceeded to the Court of Appeal room, where a large number of lawyers had gathered, the news of the arrival of the new Chief Justice having spread rapidly. The Court having been formally opened, the commissions of the new judges, both dated Sept. 14, were read, that of the Chief Justice by the Clerk of the Crown, Mr. Marshall, and that of Judge Wurtelo by the Deputy Clerk, Mr. Oumet. The Chief Justice having instructed the Clerk to duly enter the two commissions in the register of the court, as well as the death of the late Chief Justice Sir A. A. Dorion, which must form part of the annals of the tribunal, the regular proceedings of the Court commenced, the Chief Justice having, to excuse himself in several of the motions called on account of his previous connection with the cases.

Complimentary address was presented to His Lordship by the Bar on Friday to which he replied as follows:—

GENTLEMEN—I sincerely thank you for your kind and flattering address on the occasion of my elevation to the Chief Justiceship of the Court of Queen's Bench. I can assure you that the stamp of the Bar and the public ever since my name has been brought forward for this important position, have been a great encouragement for me to accept so heavy a burden. The industry and services of Sir Hippolyte Lafontaine, the brilliant talents of Chief Justice Dval, and the tact, integrity and ability of my immediate predecessor render their decision very correct, and on which I would have gladly accepted such a high honor, if possible. However, every citizen is bound to render to his country all his services within his power, and with this in view I have accepted the position, and I trust that Divine Providence will assist me that I may not fall below the requirements of the situation. I rely upon the powerful aid of my distinguished colleagues and the kind co-operation of the members of the Bar.

A SAD CASE.

An Insane Patient Escapes from the Verdun Asylum and Commits Suicide.

In March last a respectable woman named Christina Curruh was admitted to the Protestant Hospital for the Insane at Verdun. She was 24 years of age, and came from the vicinity of Richmond, Que. She was not violent, although despondent at times, and was put to work in the laundry. There she remained for the intervening six months, giving very little trouble to the management. On Tuesday morning, just after breakfast, she returned as usual to the laundry to perform her share of the day's labor. Carefully watching her opportunity she cautiously opened the door and escaped into the open air. Only a few yards from the building she was noticed and the alarm was at once given. Three guards gave chase, and it proved an exciting one. Insanity seemed to lend speed to her feet, for redoubled their efforts as oft as they might, the guards could not gain on the fugitive.

A corpse lay in the way into which the woman plunged and the guards lost sight of her and her dead body was found the following morning in the reservoir on the mountain. Coroner Jones held an inquest there in the evening. The jury, after viewing the body and hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of "Found drowned, without marks of violence."

Little Sisters of the Poor.

The benediction of the cornerstone of the new house which is to be built for the Little Sisters of the Poor, on Dorchester street, at the head of Seigneurs street, will take place on Sunday Oct. 4. His Grace the Archbishop will preside at the ceremony. There will be a sermon in English and French. The Sisters will themselves make a collection, and they trust to the generosity of the faithful to aid them in the construction of their hospice, designed as is well known for the reception of the old and infirm of all religions and nationalities. In the event of the weather being bad, the ceremony will not take place on that day.

Death of Ald. Malone.

We regret to have to announce the death of Ald. Moses Malone, of St. Annis Ward, which sad event occurred on Monday evening at his residence, 2022 Notre Dame Street. He had been ill for some weeks. The deceased was elected for the first time in 1887, and for three years he held the position of chairman of the Market Committee. His loss will be much deplored in his Ward, where he was very popular, and among his numerous friends.

A MODEL RAILWAY.

The Burlington Route, C. B. & Q. R., operates 7,000 miles of road with termini in Chicago, St. Louis, St. Paul, Omaha, Kansas City and Denver. For speed, safety, comfort, equipment, track, and efficient service it has no equal. The Burlington gains new patrons but loses none.

ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN

On the Subject of Reciprocal Trade Within the Empire.

OTTAWA, September 12.—Hon. Mr. Abbott gave notice to-day of the following important address to the Queen to be voted by both Houses:—

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate and House of Commons of Great Britain, assembled, humbly request that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to take into consideration the position of the Empire in relation to the trade of the Empire and with foreign nations. Your memorialists desire in the first place to draw attention to certain stipulations in the German Zollverein, ordinary tariff and with the most favored nation clauses, which are extended to other countries whose commercial treaties with Great Britain and Ireland are not of a higher rate of duty than is imposed on a similar article of British origin and is to be in 1895, it is stipulated that the duties on those articles shall not be subject to any higher or other duties than the produce of the United Kingdom or any other country of the like kind, and that the exports to those countries shall not be subject to any higher duties than exports to the United Kingdom.

Your memorialists consider that these provisions in the German Zollverein are in complete conformity with the principles of the Empire, and that the continuation in force of the provisions of the Zollverein in the Empire is a matter of great importance, and that the Empire is in a position to produce complications and embarrassments in its trade relations with the Empire, which are not of a higher rate of duty than is imposed on a similar article of British origin and is to be in 1895, it is stipulated that the duties on those articles shall not be subject to any higher or other duties than the produce of the United Kingdom or any other country of the like kind, and that the exports to those countries shall not be subject to any higher duties than exports to the United Kingdom.

Your memorialists further believe that in view of the foreign fiscal policy of the Zollverein, and the interests of the Empire, it is of great importance that the Empire should be in a position to produce complications and embarrassments in its trade relations with the Empire, which are not of a higher rate of duty than is imposed on a similar article of British origin and is to be in 1895, it is stipulated that the duties on those articles shall not be subject to any higher or other duties than the produce of the United Kingdom or any other country of the like kind, and that the exports to those countries shall not be subject to any higher duties than exports to the United Kingdom.

Your memorialists believe that among the countries which have a large share of the Empire's trade, the Zollverein is the most important, and that the Empire is in a position to produce complications and embarrassments in its trade relations with the Empire, which are not of a higher rate of duty than is imposed on a similar article of British origin and is to be in 1895, it is stipulated that the duties on those articles shall not be subject to any higher or other duties than the produce of the United Kingdom or any other country of the like kind, and that the exports to those countries shall not be subject to any higher duties than exports to the United Kingdom.

Your memorialists earnestly desire to see the Empire's trade relations with the Zollverein, and with other countries, brought into complete conformity with the principles of the Empire, and that the Empire should be in a position to produce complications and embarrassments in its trade relations with the Empire, which are not of a higher rate of duty than is imposed on a similar article of British origin and is to be in 1895, it is stipulated that the duties on those articles shall not be subject to any higher or other duties than the produce of the United Kingdom or any other country of the like kind, and that the exports to those countries shall not be subject to any higher duties than exports to the United Kingdom.

The Senate and House of Commons, therefore, humbly request Your Majesty to take such steps as may be necessary to secure the Empire's trade relations with the Zollverein, and with other countries, brought into complete conformity with the principles of the Empire, and that the Empire should be in a position to produce complications and embarrassments in its trade relations with the Empire, which are not of a higher rate of duty than is imposed on a similar article of British origin and is to be in 1895, it is stipulated that the duties on those articles shall not be subject to any higher or other duties than the produce of the United Kingdom or any other country of the like kind, and that the exports to those countries shall not be subject to any higher duties than exports to the United Kingdom.

The Session of Parliament.

OTTAWA, September 20.—The end of the memorable session is apparently very near. The home fitting has begun in earnest and already a good proportion of the members—undeterred by the fact that the most important decision of this important session has yet to be reached—have left for home determined not to return until after the New Year. These litters are not confined to either party, and many of them have some excuse in the fact that the opening of the fall business season or law term calls for their personal attendance at home. Some of those who have been compelled to depart are lawyers who have important cases coming up at the fall assizes; others are merchants, who can no longer stay away from their business; and others there are again who are not ashamed to confess that they are going home because there is no more money to be made by staying in Ottawa. There are signs of the winding-up of the session on all hands. The pages are kept busy filing up the records of the members; the officials of the post office have more than ever to occupy their time; the lean, unhappy-looking animal who pulls the parliamentary mail cart down the hill to the banks of the canal has heavier loads than ever; and the messengers are fully engaged in the various tasks of Parliamentary house cleaning. Prorogation may take place on Saturday next; it may go over until Monday; but unless something very unexpected happens it will certainly not be deferred longer than Thursday week. There is a general belief that the debate upon the McGreevy report will be short, not extending over more than two days, and that the division may be called on Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning. Beyond the consideration of this report, the business before the House is so light that two days of hard work could see the order paper cleared and all the business transacted. The Senators are awaiting legislation from the Commons, and being equally anxious to get home will not retard the passage of the two or three measures yet to be sent up from the Commons. As an indication how near the session is at an end it may be announced that Sir John Thompson and Hon. Wilfrid Laurier have held a conference and it is understood that no new matter is to be introduced and that old subjects are to be disposed of with the least possible delay.