

London Advertiser

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Is Efficiency Popular?

A correspondent of The Advertiser, living in the north end of Middlesex county, holds but little faith for any political government being thoroughly efficient from a business standpoint. He says in part:

"I do not believe it is possible for any political party to get down to a basis of running the business of the country as a private concern would conduct its affairs. There are too many things that work against such a desirable thing being possible. In the natural course of events those who support a political party are going to look for reward. In this way provincial and federal governments have always had more people on the payroll than would be required to do similar work under private auspices. We have had nothing better in Ontario under the present administration than we received from previous governments. It seems to be in the very nature of governments as we have them to have too many people around for the work in hand."

Where did this idea come from?

The answer is that that idea is the outcome of years of practice, particularly in the time when getting a government job was regarded as the finest thing under the sun. It was always supposed to carry with it two very desirable characteristics, (1) that the work would be steady and not too hard, and (2) that there was practically no danger whatever of getting fired for inefficiency or anything else. It is a fact that even today that opinion is widely held. The pay of the public servant as a rule is not large, and the chances for advancement are not bright, but if the word were passed today that two dozen positions were open there would be an avalanche of applications from people who already had work elsewhere.

It is a hard matter for a country to go through a long period of years, during which political service was rewarded by a government job, and not have the people in general grow up with the idea fairly well fixed in their minds that the government service was not based entirely upon efficiency.

There can be no doubt that the government that succeeds in the future in winning and holding the respect of the people will be the government that can demonstrate its ability to work away from the old order of things, and toward something better. It is not an easy task to perform. A government that sets its face sternly in that direction is going to be an unpopular administration to a certain extent, but there comes a time when its unpopularity with certain classes turns out to be its greatest asset.

A government with lots of money to spend is bound to be a popular government, and a government with plenty of jobs to hand out has its feet on the way to popularity.

But at what a price! Not so many months ago the militia department at Ottawa dispensed with the services of a number of employees, some 800. Not a popular thing to do, but the right thing to do. The trouble about any such move is that the public hears more about and from those who have been hurt than from those who have been relieved by the elimination of that section of the country's payroll.

Protest always shouts louder than gratitude.

The Motor Bus in London.

If all the facts and figures that can be collected mean anything at all, neither the street car company nor the bus drivers in London are making money now. The Advertiser has been given a number of facts from the standpoint of the bus drivers, the information being from a source in which we have every confidence.

The bus owners went into the business in the first place not knowing what they could make out of it. Some of them thought there would be a good thing in it, as it would be an all-cash business, and they estimated they should carry enough people to make it pay, but they did not know definitely. They have been at it for some months, and our informant claims that he has now three or four of the city busses on his list, ready to be traded in on commercial trucks, which are used for long-distance hauling. According to his statement, there is not a bus driver in the city who would not sell if he could get out on an even break.

The average cost of the bus such as is used in London is \$3,000 ready to be put on the street. Some firms sell them for one-third cash and the balance in one year; others spread the payments over a period of three years. Instructions have been received at one agency just this week to sell street busses for one-half cash and the balance in six months, owing to the fact that there has been difficulty in securing some of the payments on these vehicles. So the driver has an interest charge of \$180 per year. The police commission have placed the tax at \$5 per seat, which means an average outlay of \$85; it will be necessary in future to take out liability insurance. This

costs at least \$250, and if the bus carries more than the actual seating capacity the rate increases. In all it makes a charge of \$515 per year. This does not take into account daily running expenses and depreciation, which are very high. The average run per day in London is about 200 miles, the Richmond line from the Victoria Hospital to the bridge being the shortest, and on this the run is 180 miles per day per car. It is necessary to renew the entire tire equipment on an average every six weeks, as in that time the bus has traveled a distance greater than the average life of a tire on a car of this class. The tires are large, and the renewal charges are heavy.

Asked as to what the bus owners make out of their business, the reply was that there was not a man in the business in London who would average \$100 per month. It takes two men to operate, and the owner drives one shift himself, paying a man to take the other. There is not a depreciation account kept in connection with most of the busses. Some of them may do so, but it is not general practice. It is hard service for the truck all through, and depreciation is, or should be, fairly heavy as a result. So the drivers are eating up their investment as they go along.

A glance over the figures and the known results of bus operation for a period of some months in London would lead to the belief that it is not possible to operate at six tickets for a quarter and meet the demands that are generally placed on a business by the necessity of renewal, insurance, etc.

The Advertiser has placed these figures before the public simply that they might know the problem of operating the motor bus in London from the standpoint of the men engaged in the business.

Giving Charity or Jobs.

The Ottawa Journal believes that the giving of charity is not a desirable thing from the standpoint of the recipient. It says:

"To give money is to pauperize, even to the extent of helping a hungry man. It is infinitely better to put him in the way of earning his own dinner, and then he will be able to earn other dinners and find his self-respect conserved as well as his self-containment strengthened. To build up independence should be the aim of all sound philanthropy. Anything short of that almost invariably does more harm than good."

In theory, very excellent, but in practice how impossible.

If it could be worked out on the Journal's idea it would mean that we had practically eliminated unemployment, except for those who would not work, and they are not a very numerous lot.

Allow for those who would rather sprain a spine dodging work than blister a hand reaching out for, or performing it, there are men who want to work, and yet can find nothing to do. The experience of every community can be called on to prove this to be a fact.

What, then, for the man who would earn if he could, but can find no buyer for the one thing he has to sell, viz., his labor power? If he is hungry he doesn't want a theory, he wants something to eat.

There is not even room for an argument about working better than charity. That is admitted, acknowledged and all the rest of it.

The real problem comes here—what is going to supply the work?

That is the point that has not been cleared up.

The Police Commission.

The question of giving publicity to meetings of the police commissioners has been brought to the front in London. In the past the public have known very little of these sessions, except as some of the proceedings might be given out afterward or come to light in developments following the session.

On the ground that where a large amount of public money is being spent, the public are entitled to information, a fairly strong case could be built up for publicity being given to these sessions.

On the other hand, it is a fact that there are many matters dealt with at these sessions that are not suited to publicity and where full reports might have the effect of defeating the aim and the purpose of what was being sought by the commissioners.

In between these two points, viz., closed sessions and open sessions, there must be the middle course, and the one that would be fairest to the commissioners, the police force and the ratepayers.

The commissioners themselves would probably view the matter in this light. Telling the public what they were doing from time to time would be one of the best means they could secure for safeguarding their own interests, and for taking the thunder from any possible charge that they were handling public business entirely behind closed doors.

Russia has ruled out Santa Claus. Henceforth there is no such a person over there. Santa Claus is a greater person than the pudgy old chap who drives reindeers over the housetops and brings bass drums in through stovepipe holes. He is love, good cheer, kindness, sympathy and in fact everything worth while that cannot find expression in any other way. When Russia kills that force, she will no longer stalk over the great north, not even as the great bear, but as a thing of dry bones, unloving and unloved. God pity the children whose misfortune it is to be ushered into such an atmosphere.



Note and Comment.

A house of cards is all right as long as it stays up.

So far as we learned there were no whisker fires this Christmas.

Our turkey is down to soup, having passed the giblet pie stage yesterday.

Here's one expert who writes that Canada has enough coal for 50,000 years. Bah! How can we burn this expert knowledge?

A Massachusetts woman tore her skirt in a polling booth, and is suing for \$17.50 damages. Another reason why women shouldn't have votes.

From all parts of the country come stories of fires. It is hard to believe that natural contributory causes have conspired to set a new record.

An actress sued for \$20,000 because a dentist bungled a job on her teeth. Good lady, she could knock them all out, and get 37 new sets for that amount.

Vain world this. The Christmas tree a few days ago, decked with tinsel, toys and candy canes, now leans against the garbage can waiting for the rigs to call.

The man who invented the hip pocket did so long before the O. T. A. came along. Had he looked this far ahead no doubt he would have patented the idea and made a fortune.

A Michigan Central train made the run from Bridgeburg to Windsor, 224 miles, in 205 minutes, thus affording U. S. passengers an excellent chance to see western and southern Ontario.

Three men risked their lives in order to cross the Detroit River with a boatload of moonshine whiskey which they intended to smuggle into Canada. Several times it looked as though they had been lost in the floating ice. Such heroism is well worthy of a better cause.

We have parliaments all over the country, county, municipal, provincial and federal, all grinding out new laws and amendments to the old ones. And yet people go on just about the same as ever. This multiplicity of governing seems neither to hurt much nor harm greatly.

Reports today state that London bankers may compete with those of New York for the business of loaning money to Canada in 1933. This is nice news, but it would be nicer were we able to announce that they were out of the borrowing market for a spell.

Robbers in New York held up three men. From the first they took \$90 in cash, from the next \$50, and when they tackled the third it was found he had less than a dollar in change. He was told to hustle back and get to work at the newspaper where he was employed.

Things go not smoothly in China. Wu Pei-fu, a few months ago, was doing well, and it looked as though he would succeed in forming a government that would travel on all fours. Now Chang Shao-tseng has kicked his way to the top of the government like a 25-cent plate of chop-see.

There is danger in Germany securing a loan from United States. She would have to undertake repayment and give guarantees for interest charges. In so doing Germany would really be putting up her national credit as collateral, and that is heavily mortgaged to the allies now. A loan now from U. S. to Germany might create a fine muddle to clean up later on.

TO THE EDITOR

TARIFF AND TRADE.

Sir,—Will you allow me a few lines to put forward a question? In the first place, it is well for us all to remember that all trade is barter, and that no nation can be a seller only. A nation may be self-contained and only trade amongst its own people and still exist, providing always that the community produces just the same amount as the community consumes, no more or less. But no nation can expect to enter foreign trade as a seller only, but must be prepared to trade dollar for dollar. Under no other law can international trade exist for any length of time. A nation accepting cash for its exports is compelled to make some use of it, and this can only be done by importing goods to a like amount. This is the sole reason why nations adopting free trade instead of withdrawing up and doing as the champions of high tariffs always predict, take a new lease of life, and flourish as never before.

Take Great Britain for an example, previous to 1870, when the last of the protective tariffs were removed. She was practically the manufacturing center of the world. Since then, however, she has seen rival manufacturing nations arise; her commercial travelers have had to contend with the competition of the American, the efficient German, and the clever Jap. Yet in spite of this, she not only held her own, but doubled her exports, and sent another three or four million of her sons and daughters overseas, spent millions every year on old-age pensions, insurance act, and national health, and sanitation, thus reducing the death rate in her big cities to the lowest in the world. She has spent billions on the world war, and then after appearing to everybody to be down and out, with the pound sterling at a reduced value, and a population that we thought would not get back to work, Great Britain has just staged the most sensational comeback in all history, and all this from a little four-by-two island that you could put into a corner of Ontario and lose it. Not such a bad advertisement for free trade, is it?

The Canadian farmer will soon have to meet the competition of Russia in the European markets. The real Russian, the peasant, who is stuck by their country, and fought for her under three successive governments, or preferring the worst Russian government to the best foreign one, are gradually making themselves felt, and will shortly emerge as Europe's bread basket. If the Canadian farmer is to hold his own in the European market, which he can easily do, he must be prepared to give as well as take. No one would dream of absolute free trade for Canada, but the Canadian farmer does ask the privilege of exchanging his surplus products for the manufactured goods of other countries to the extent that he is able to trade with them, a privilege which no one has a right to deny him.

McKay avenue, Manor Park.

EXCHANGES

Enough Smells of Our Own. Brantford Expositor: There will be no "come-back" for Arbuckle's films in Ontario. In this part of civility, Mr. Will Hays has no jurisdiction.

Not a Canadian Idea. Brantford Expositor: Major T. J. Murphy, a London lawyer, suggests that the four Ontario universities be given seats in the Legislature. Such a proposal is quite in line with British precedent, but it is too suggestive of class representation to meet with favor in Canada.

Now the Fight's On. Kitchener Record: The Fat Stock Show at Guelph being over, that colic town now simas back into its normal condition of obscurity.

SEATS FOR UNIVERSITIES.

The proposal of a London, Ont., lawyer, Major T. J. Murphy, K.C., that four Ontario universities be given seats in the Legislature, is worth discussion. It is an innovation, of course, but upon the Canadian electoral system, a principle that is not new. In 1867, when the British House of Commons was a club for educated gentlemen, but that, in itself, is not an argument. The only basis upon which the proposal might be discussed is the simple one as to whether it would help in promoting things of consequence, and in raising the standard of education. In a word, would the cause and needs of higher education be promoted by the Legislature in a better way by university members than is possible under the present system? The objection, voiced already in some quarters, that university representation would create class distinctions hardly holds good. Universities are not for one class, but for all the people and in this country most of those who are graduated from universities spring from the people.

Your Health

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M.D., Commissioner of Health, New York City, U. S. Senator-Elect from New York State.

A PERFECTLY normal nose should have exactly the amount of secretion necessary for its lubrication and no more. To require the use of a handkerchief, or at least the frequent use of the handkerchief, is an evidence of abnormality. The amount of the nasal secretion should be like the salivary secretion—there should be just enough to fulfill its function. The necessity to expectorate frequently is proof of disease. No absolutely healthy person has any excess of secretion. Likewise, your nose should be free and clear at all times. Nasal breathing ought to be possible under all circumstances.

As a matter of fact, however, one side or the other of the average nose is stopped up a good deal of the time. It is a common experience for one to have, first on one side and then the other, more or less closure of the nasal passage.

This is due to thickening of the mucous membrane of the nose, enlargement of the blood vessels and the ready congestion and engorgement of these elastic tissues.

There are other cases where one or both sides of the nose may be completely blocked. On examination, it will be observed that the nasal passage is filled with a translucent, pearly, round and smooth mass. This indicates nasal polypus.

Sometimes, when the trouble occurs in early life, the contour of the face is changed, giving a peculiar flat or frog-faced appearance. Fortunately, nasal polypus rarely appears in children. It is more common in adults, and particularly in men who work in dust and dirt.

In many cases there are many growths. Instead of a single polypus, there may be a mass, varying in size from a kernel of corn to an English walnut. I have seen many a polypus the size of a small oyster, and not unlike an oyster in appearance.

It is not sufficient to snare off this surplus tissue. It is essential to treat the underlying difficulty. Otherwise the polypus quickly reforms, and in a few weeks after its removal there is found a mass as big as before.

The presence of nasal polypus indicates, in most instances, disease of one or more of the cavities opening into the nose and known as the nasal sinuses.

The condition is not serious, but it is disagreeable, and demands attention from a specialist in nose diseases.

I wish I could get every mother to realize how important it is to keep the nose of her child clean. The child must have his own fresh and clean handkerchief, and be taught how to use it.

By avoiding catarrhal conditions in the nose, the child will be avoided deafness, middle-ear disease and nasal polypus. This last trouble is secondary always to some original disease in the nose.

ANSWERS TO HEALTH QUESTIONS.

STEADY READER. Q.—Regularly, every two months, I suffer from itchy eyes. Will you kindly tell me how to cure this?

A.—Have your eyes examined, as you most likely need glasses.

A. W. Q. Q.—I have been suffering from a pain in the lower part of my back for about 12 years. When I stand, my legs and arms become very weak. Will you kindly tell me how to treat this condition?

A.—Have your back strapped with adhesive plaster. This will help the condition you complain of. Have your urine tested to discover the possible cause of the trouble. If you are a V. K. Q.—Will you please tell me what to do for yellow jaundice?

A.—If you have this trouble you should eliminate from your diet all fats, sugar and starches. A restricted diet is indicated. Milk, eggs, broths and lean meats can be safely taken. Drink plenty of lemonade and alkaline waters. The patient should be put to bed and kept quiet. Hot water compresses placed over the liver may promote comfort. For the itching of the skin, bathe the parts with a solution of hypophosphite of soda, a tablespoonful to one ounce of water. The attending physician will prescribe remedies with a view to restoring normal action of the bile ducts. A careful examination should be made to make sure that the trouble is really simple and not due to causes of a more serious nature. (Copyright, 1932, by Newspaper Feature Service, Inc.)

The Daily Story

PREPAREDNESS PAID.

By Corona Remington.

"I am absolutely convinced that there was a later will made, and if I could find it I feel certain my client would be better off by a good many thousand dollars."

"And if you could prove somehow that there was another will, and then find it or make the person holding it give it up, you'd make a whole lot more money, wouldn't you, George?"

"You mercenary little girl," laughed Caruthers. "But you're right. I, or rather we, would make a good bit more."

"It makes me feel all thrilled when you say 'we' like that," she told him. "It is we. The fact that we aren't quite married yet, Elsie, doesn't make any difference. We will be soon, and we will be sooner if I find old Thomas left another will."

"Who would be apt to have it if he did?"

"I'm chiefly afraid it's been destroyed, but if it ever really existed and if it has not been destroyed, Bill Thomas, my client's brother, probably has it. You see, it's this way: Five years ago old Thomas and his son Jim, my client, had a frightful row about a girl Jim wanted to marry and whom he would marry. The father first threatened to cut him off and even to kill him if he had anything more to do with her."

It made no difference, however, the young chap turned a deaf ear to his father's threats, and not only went everywhere with her openly, but married her a few months later. When he heard it, Thomas flew into a violent rage and had a slight stroke as a result of his wanting to kill Jim, but that very night, fearing he might die, he made a will cutting Jim off entirely, and leaving everything to Bill. Since then, however, time seems to have softened her attitude, and he not only grew very fond of Jim's wife, but lived in his house the last two years of his life, and the day he died he tried to say something to Jim about a will, but he was so weak he could not make himself understood. Now, since he had become reconciled, even attached, to the young wife, it seems natural that he would want to remember her in his will, that is, through Jim, of course, and he believes, and I do, too, that Bill knows something about another will. But as it is naturally against his interest to give it away, he's keeping it pretty close. Bill was always a good bit of a black sheep, although no one could convince his father that he could do wrong. It was impossible—Bill was Bill, therefore it was all right whatever he did."

"What do you think about it? Do you think he's honest?"

"Somehow there's something about him I don't like. Good gracious, here it is after 6 o'clock and he's not keeping you here all this time. Won't you let me walk home with you? I haven't my car, but I think it would be fun to walk. We could talk on the way."

"I'd love it, but I haven't told you yet I came to the office to tell you. Mamma says she won't make us wait till next year if we really make us happy to—marry sooner."

"She's a trump!" exclaimed Caruthers, sweeping the girl into his arms. "Now, I've simply got to find that will."

They looked the office and went out into the street. Daylight was nearly gone, and the street lamps blinked weakly out at them through the half light.

"See, that's Bill Thomas's office up there," said Caruthers, stopping in front of a tall building. "See that light on the sixth floor? Wonder what he's doing there? It's way after office hours."

"Do you know him, and does he know his brother has engaged a lawyer?"

"Yes, I've met him, but of course we're working in the dark. If our suspicions are correct and he got on to the fact that we're trying to catch him, he'd be sure to destroy the will, providing it exists. On the other hand, if he is not afraid of discovery and everything seems to be quiet, he'll probably hold on to it and hide it somewhere, because the penalty for destroying such papers is pretty steep. You see, we think it was written in California, when the old man was on that last trip two months before he died, and of course there are witnesses, but who were they? That's the one thing that makes me think the will is safe, because Bill would be afraid that some day, with proper investigations, those people could be found, and that would give him away."

"I'd love to see this man," said Elsie, greatly interested.

"I'd love to know what you think of him. I'll tell you, he's secretary of the Golf and Country Club. Suppose I run up and pay my dues now, then it would be easy enough to introduce him to you."

A moment later they landed on the sixth floor of the Burton Bank building and hurried into Thomas's private office. Caruthers walked to the door marked "Private" and rapped.

"Come in," a voice said from inside. Thomas sat at his desk reading some papers.

"You didn't empty my waste paper basket this morning, Noah," he said without looking up.

"Oh!" he gasped a second later. "I

thought you were the janitor."

In a flash Elsie stood petrified as she saw her fiancée pointing a revolver at Thomas's head.

"As chief city detective I demand that you give me that will of the late Ebenezer Thomas that you were reading when we came in."

Caruthers turned the lapel of his coat and showed his button, and Thomas, seeing that he was trapped, handed over the papers without a word.

"That evening as the two lovers sat in front of the fire and read the will Elsie was lost in admiration. "You're simply wonderful, George," she declared over and over again. "And to think that your client will get over \$150,000! But I didn't know that you were connected with the city police."

"Neither did I," laughed George. "Those pins cost fifty cents apiece—anyone can buy 'em. And they're very impressive sometimes. That revolver wasn't loaded, either."

"You wonderful fraud!" Your bark is certainly worse than your bite," laughed Elsie.

"But effective, you'll admit."

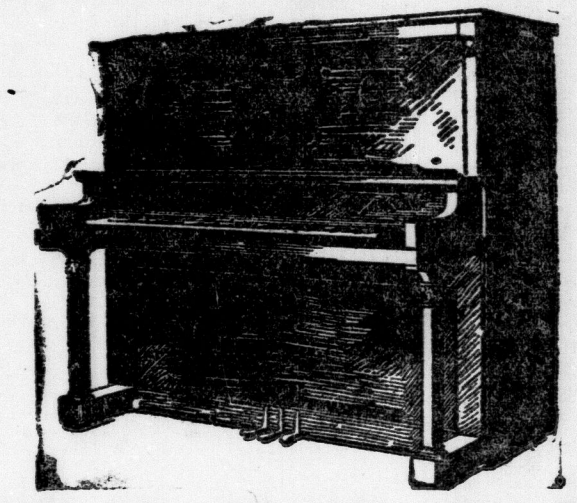
"Very!" declared the girl warmly, her eyes glistening with admiration.

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By S. "Hullo!" "Are you the phone sumo?" "Yes." "Who is it?" "The fire station." "I wish to see you." "This is the got." "Yes, I know, runs along the house. Only today new grass seed o the fireman." "I know." "I want to say that particular pr." "What's th." "Oh, well, tell you that the so, don't let your men." "But the fireman was go cago Herald."

Arrived at Last. "Dobson is always talking about his ship coming in some day." "Well, it's come—a receivership. Came this morning."

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