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"THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST." Peter.

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Editorial Outlook

THE "MARCONIGRAPH."

The London *Times*, the greatest newspaper in the world, at least in its foreign news service, evidently believes in the business practicability of the Marconi wireless telegraphy system. It has made a contract with the Marconi Company for the regular transmission of news from the United States. The *Times* urges on those having the management of national affairs the importance of carefully watching and anticipating "the bearing of the system on various strategical problems."

CRITICIZED.

English papers are criticizing Costigan's resolution about Irish home rule. They intimate that the Canadian House of Commons might better attend strictly to its own business. Probably the great majority of the members of the Commons would rather such resolution were not introduced, but having to vote they play to Ireland. Both the Premier and the leader of the Opposition fell into line, and helped Mr. Costigan think himself quite important because his resolution received a majority vote.

A LEPER COLONY.

In Surinam in the West Indies, there is a leper colony, established by the Dutch Government in 1897. It shelters one hundred and fifty lepers. There are thousands of other lepers in that country, but they keep themselves close at home lest they be arrested and confined in the leper asylum. Near to the Government asylum, another leper home has been established by a Moravian missionary, Rev. H. T. Weiss and his wife. They call it Bethesda. They care for lepers of the better class, who can pay something for their support.

POLITICAL NEWS.

The Ontario Legislature has adjourned till April 21st, at which time it is expected the report of the investigation into the charges against Provincial Secretary Stratton will be ready.

There is talk of an early general election in Ontario.

R. L. Richardson, of Winnipeg, formerly liberal member of the Dominion Parliament, has been nominated against Premier Greenway for the Manitoba Legislature.

The *Moniteur Acadian* says that

assurances were given before the general election in February that a second French inspector of schools would be appointed immediately after the election.

CIGARETTES.

By a vote of 103 to 48 the House of Commons has passed a resolution in favor of prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of cigarettes. Whether such a law will be enacted as the resolution calls for remains to be seen. The Premier opposed the resolution. The vote, however, was not on party lines. It is gratifying to find that there are some things which Parliament thinks should be prohibited because of their evil effects. The cigarette habit is certainly a serious evil, menacing the bodies and minds and morals of the boys and young men of the country. Now let Parliament declare itself with equal emphasis concerning the liquor traffic—the chief of all the destructive things in the country.

A FRENCH FLAG.

French-Canadians, it seems, want a special flag, for use on their many holidays, religious and other kinds. The adoption of such a flag would, certainly, have a very bad effect. If, says the *Canadian Baptist*, French-Canadians have a special flag, why should not the Irish, English, and Scotch Canadians also each have their own peculiar emblem? The idea which the people of this Dominion need to keep prominently and permanently before themselves is that of unity rather than divisions. The destiny of this country demands that its people shall no longer be known as "hyphenated Canadians," but that they shall be one consolidated body, no matter from what stock they may be descended. Let there be but one flag.

DUTY OF THE COLONIES.

In an address at a recent meeting of the British Empire League, Lord Avebury, speaking of Imperial defence, said no arrangement could be satisfactory or permanent whereby British tax-payers must bear the whole burden of Imperial defence. We agree with the *Guardian* that it does not seem fair, it really is not fair, that the whole task of defending the British Empire should be thrown on the inhabitants of the British Isles. It does seem as if Canada, as if Australia, as if the other colonies, proportionately, should bear some fair part of the burden — so far at least

as that arm of the service is concerned which is employed most in their protection and defence, namely, the navy. Lord Avebury also intimated in his speech that a well-considered plan for a council of colonial representatives to advise the Foreign Secretary on the foreign relations of the Empire would be welcomed. This council might ultimately assist in legislation of an imperial character.

SHEHAN'S APPOINTMENT.

As will be seen in our report of the proceedings of the Legislature, Premier Tweedie, answering a question by Mr. Glasier, said John Shehan, Fredericton Junction, had been appointed licensed vendor under the Canada Temperance Act on the recommendation of Messrs. Harrison and Peake. He also said the government had no knowledge of Shehan having been fined for violation of the Act. Our information is that no person in the parish of Gladstone was consulted by either Messrs. Harrison and Peake or the Government about the appointment. Shehan sought the appointment merely as a cover to his illicit rumselling, recent prosecution by Rev. J. B. Daggett and those co-operating with him having made Shehan's violations of the law more dangerous than previously. If Messrs. Harrison and Peake were unaware of the facts about Shehan's rumselling, they should ask the cancellation of the appointment the Premier says they recommended. Whether they ask for it or not, the Government, now that it has knowledge of Shehan's convictions for illicit rumselling, should promptly cancel the appointment.

A GIFT TO A CHURCH.

The Toronto City Council has presented to the Bishop of Toronto land on the Island for an Episcopal house of worship. As was stated when the matter was under discussion in the Council, it is equivalent to a gift to one denomination of \$1232 of what belongs to all the tax-payers of the city. Commenting on the transaction, the *Canadian Baptist* says:

"The amount of the gift matters little, it is the principle of Church and State involved. It is just as great a wrong in principle as though the gift had been a million dollars. We record our indignant protest against this action. One of our Baptist churches in Toronto has been chivalrously paying taxes on its property to the city treasury in order to

protest against the church and stateism involved in accepting release from taxation of church houses and lands. The majority of our city fathers, after accepting this for years, now compel the tax-paying members of this and all other churches of the city to help one of the wealthiest religious bodies of Toronto bear the expense of a new church property. Even though the principle of Church and State were not involved, we are sure all our churches are too self-respecting to attempt to get others to help pay their bills without their consent.

"At a meeting of the Baptist Ministerial Association a delegation was appointed to wait on the Council in the hope that the question may be reconsidered, and if not, to record the most emphatic protest at this injustice and violation of a recognized principle of Canadian legislation."

NOTES.

A plot against the life of the Czar of Russia was discovered recently.

Statistics on file at the capital of the state show that 130 towns in Maine are free of debt. This is the kind of "ruin" prohibition causes.

The Czar's progressive decree of which so much has been said, does not amount to anything. It does not mean one tangible step in advance. The religious liberty it professes to grant has been enjoyed for fifty years. It is still a penal offence for any one to convert a member of the Greek church to any other faith. Political liberty and the freedom of the press are not one whit extended.

There are still 800 Boer prisoners of war in India who have refused to take the oath of allegiance or sign the conditions of peace. Gen. Botha is to send a messenger to explain to them the desirability of submission.

A piece of land in New York, triangular in shape, six inches by thirteen by fourteen, is assessed as worth \$200.00.

President Roosevelt has just started on a tour which will occupy sixty-six days. He will be in twenty-two states, and will make stops and speeches at one hundred and thirty-four cities and towns.

JOURNALISTIC.—The St. John *Sun* has again been enlarged, a column being added to each page—a sign of both enterprise and prosperity.

There is talk of a new evening paper in St. John, in the interests of the Liberal party.