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PATHOS IN A COURT OF LAW

A Story That Can and Does Happen in a Million Police Stations — In Which is Concerned a Child's Absence From School and a Ragged Dress.

(By Frank Segee)

Much has been said and written about the benefits of education and the great understanding and psychological insight of the educated into the stolid mind of the illiterate. But, how many of our modern educators and welfare workers really understand the subtleties of feeling; the frustrated antagonism, the gnawing hostility of the forgotten being toward something which he feels is destroying him, crushing his stolid soul, and isolating him even from his own family, the last desperate fight of the lonely, unquipped, misdirected spirit for self preservation? How many of our soul-savers can understand this human as an individual endowed with blood and brains and nerves and living reactions? How many of us care to dig deeply into the illiterate's soul and try to judge his actions with some measure of justice? And how many of us carelessly consider his case by used forms of judgment, or set laws determined by and for a bourgeois culture?

The following story might happen in any city, in our modern times:

Two thwarted illiterates, whom we shall call Mr. and Mrs. Hooker, sit impassively in a dingy courtroom. At Mrs. Hooker's right sits a school superintendent, benign, but just a trifle disturbed. At the side of the courtroom sits a welfare woman, righteous and very likely kind hearted. Beside the welfare worker sits a rather pretty school teacher, demure, and with just that touch of righteousness needed in a builder of the pre-determined future. Across the courtroom sits a policeman in his routine position, doing his routine job, at a table in front of the illiterates sits an attorney, educated in the ways of the law and definite in his observance of the amenities.

The magistrate enters. The court occupants rise. The magistrate is seated, so why not, the court occupants sit. The case gets under way. The attorney presents a formidable document to Mrs. Hooker for perusal after more legal procedure the case is still under way. Mrs. Hooker is on the stand. It seems that Mrs. Hooker has a daughter who has not been to school for quite some time. The magistrate wants to know why, Mrs. Hooker says her daughter did not have clothes to wear. She is sure that is the only reason her daughter did not attend.

The attorney asks her a few questions. He does not seem to see why clothes that would be good enough for the girl to wear on the street would not be good enough to wear in school. The mother can't seem to explain. She knows, however, that as soon as the welfare worker brought her child a dress she went to school. The attorney is angry. He can't see why the girl didn't go to school in clothes good enough to wear on the street. The mother isn't angry, but something seething inside her urges her to tell her story. She starts in an uneducated way to explain why her daughter wouldn't wear clothes in school that she would wear on the street. The attorney reminds her she must answer his questions, yes or no. She still says her daughter didn't have clothes to wear.

The father is on the stand. He asserts his daughter wouldn't look

good in school in her underclothes. He has been on relief all winter. The welfare worker calls all his family liars when she visits his house. He is more bewildered.

The welfare worker takes the stand. The school teacher smiles. The superintendent of schools chuckles. The magistrate seems pleased. Everybody but the two illiterates are congenial again. Understanding would be easier now. The welfare worker controls her mild mirth long enough to righteously kiss the bible.

"Oh, yes, several bundles had been sent to the Hooker family," she knows the whole family. There has always been trouble with the family. The girl likes to go to school. The magistrate reminds the welfare worker that evidence is not something she has heard somebody else say, but only what she knows herself. He reminds her that she has been told this numerous times before. She smilingly agrees with him. All is congenial.

A difficult point comes up. The magistrate and the attorney agree that since the father is charged the same as the mother, and since the same evidence is to be used to convict him as well as her, there is no need to go through the evidence all over again. Everybody understands but the father. The magistrate is angry. The attorney would like to go home. The magistrate explains again. The father still doesn't seem to understand. Everybody laughs this time. The school teacher, being younger stops in the middle of her laughing to wonder if perhaps it isn't unkind. Everybody else enjoys it immensely.

It will take a week for the magistrate to make a decision. Court is adjourned. The two illiterates leave the court room hand in hand and the father helps his only companion up the stairs to the bright sunlight. He doesn't breathe in the bright, fresh air, they just walk off across the square. They have done their best to exist.

WARSHIPS GROWING, STATISTICS REVEAL

Warships seem to be like animals in at least one phase of their evolution. Time after time, the record of the rocks tells us, a race of animals has started out, modest in size, agile, competent to take care of themselves. Success has gone not to their heads but to their bodies; they have grown bigger and bigger until at last their sheer unwieldy bulk has been a prime factor in their downfall. Naval vessels seem to go through a somewhat similar cycle. A thoughtful British naval officer, Rear Admiral H. G. Thursfield, in a communication to the Engineer, points out this contrast evolution toward bigness in men-of-war of all classes—battleships, cruisers, torpedo craft.

Battleships, developing out of the Monitor pattern originated by Ericsson during the Civil war, had their displacement stabilized at about 10,000 tons during the 80's, and it was felt then that they were quite big enough. Nevertheless, they had more than doubled in tonnage by the time the World War broke out, and now the standard displacement is 35,000 tons.

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SUPPLEMENTARIES

TOTAL \$11,265,959

Additional Estimates
Cover Public Works,
Central Harbor Board.

OTTAWA, June 19—Finance Minister Dunning late tonight tabled supplementary estimates for the year ending March 31, 1937, totalling \$11,265,959, of which the largest single amounts were for public works, and loans and advances to the National Harbors Board and harbor commissioners. There was a substantial addition to the appropriations for national defence and aviation.

A total of \$2,835,700 additional is to be spent on public works, mainly for buildings in which all the provinces share except British Columbia. Under "loans and investments" the estimates provide \$2,062,000 for payment of sales tax on rail equipment purchased with government assistance as a relief measure, \$55,000; advances to Saint John, Chicoutimi and Three Rivers harbor boards amounting to \$1,995,762, and \$11,500 for capital expenditures by the Vancouver harbor commission.

For Militia, Air Service

Militia services get an additional \$1,052,426, and the air force, coupled with civil government air operations and civil aviation, \$1,088,115.

Agriculture will get an additional \$1,193,000 of which the largest item is \$750,000 for administration of the health of animals branch, administration of Contagious Diseases Act, and Canned Foods Act. For marketing of agricultural products an additional \$300,000 will be appropriated.

As compensation for animals slaughtered under the Health of Animals Act an additional \$678 will be divided among farmers in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. The Dominion lands and parks branch gets an additional \$96,000 for development of national parks and other expenses arising from international agreements and historic sites.

For Vets' Allowances

For purposes of the War Veterans' Allowance Act the department of pensions and national health will require an additional \$200,000, and \$37,000 additional is provided for salaries in that department.

Reference to the government's plans for enlarging trade agreements is noted in the appropriation of \$10,000 for "negotiation of treaties."

The Employment and Social Insurance Act, found invalid in today's judgments of the supreme court of Canada, will require a further amount of \$25,000, presumably for salaries of those who had been appointed under that act before the government changed.

Trade and commerce will require an additional \$872,548 of which \$778,548 is for the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and \$50,000 for additional grants to exhibitions and fairs.

Under the miscellaneous vote the National Harbors Board gets an additional \$523,000 for payments of deficits in administration of the ports of Halifax, Saint John, Quebec and Chicoutimi.

Public Works

The supplementary estimates contained provision for the following public works:

Nova Scotia: Berwick, public building, \$18,000; Lunenburg, public building, repairs and improvements, \$5,000; Oxford, public building, \$26,000.

New Brunswick: Moncton, old post office building, improvements and repairs, \$5,500.

Generally: Dominion public buildings, to provide for completion of payments in Winch building, Vancouver, and sundry military properties now under purchase by instalments, \$1,531,000; tractors, for postal purposes, \$2,500.

Harbor and river works for the Maritimes were as follows:

Nova Scotia: Bear River, protection work, \$3,200; Brooklyn, dredging, further amount required, \$2,500; Halifax, addition to north wing, R. C. N. Barracks, \$9,500; Hantsport, to purchase warehouse, \$12,500; Morden, wharf repairs, \$16,600; North Sydney, wharf, \$15,000; Pictou, dredging, \$29,500.

Prince Edward Island: Summerside, improvements to wharf and dredging, \$10,000.

New Brunswick, Grand Anse, dredging, \$11,000; Upper Pokemouche, wharf, \$3,500.

SOME GREAT MEN

WERE FAILURES
IN SCHOOL

Napoleon and Pasteur
Stood Low in Their
Class

The teacher of Linnaeus, the father of botany, would have made a cobbler of him.

Charles Darwin was considered by all his masters a very ordinary boy, rather below the common standard of intellect.

Napoleon Bonaparte graduated the forty-second in his class at the military academy.

Patrick Henry was a complete failure in school.

William R. Seward's teacher reported to his father that he was too stupid to learn.

Sir Isaac Newton was rated low.

Samuel Johnson wrote that if he had not been whipped very hard he would have done nothing at school.

William Wordsworth was a failure in school.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan was remarkable for his idleness.

Alexander von Humboldt wrote of himself that in his first years his tutors were doubtful whether even ordinary powers of intelligence would be developed in him.

Hegel was a failure in the lower schools. Sir Humphrey Davy and Huxley were school failures.

James Russell Lowell was suspended from college on account of his continued neglect of his college duties.

Oliver Goldsmith's teacher said of him that he was the dullest boy she ever tried to teach.

Goethe was unable to take a doctor's degree.

Emerson's classmates said he knew less of his textbooks than any of them. Pasteur was considered only an average pupil and amused himself by drawing pictures of his classmates.

THE MUNICIPAL YARDSTICK

Collingwood, to the amazement and envy of neighboring towns, recently gave its citizens the "benefit" of an eleven-mill reduction in the tax rate. The amazement and envy were dispelled, however, when the Enterprise Bulletin disapprovingly explained that the reduction was accomplished by an increase of \$700,000 in the local property assessment. Commenting on the policy of the Town Council, it said:

"In many cases values are increased fifty, sixty or even a hundred fold. Lands, especially vacant property, which taxpayers are so unfortunate as to possess are hit right and left, while homes are so raised in assessed value that the danger of abandonment is doubly increased."

The Orilla Packet and Times accepting the step as but further indication of the "need for municipal tax reform," is of the opinion that "tax reduction" of the kind is a "very doubtful advantage." The Emira Signet, in considering the policy, pauses to redirect attention to the fact that "according to statute real estate is supposed to be assessed at full value, no more or less."

The results of manipulations in assessment value are so numerous that some lessons should have been learned before this. At the same time it should be understood that a municipality is not heavily taxed because the assessment is high, or because the mill rate seems high. Municipal taxation as quoted in terms of either of these means precisely nothing. Municipal taxation is both in relation to each other, and because it is the only safe yardstick to be used in measuring a municipality's position is on the basis of the per capita tax in that particular community.

"Great Scot, old man, what happened to you?"

"Motor accident."

"Got run over, I suppose?"

"No; I just met a fellow I ran over once—and he recognized me."

BURDEN NOTES

BURDEN, June 16—The nice warm weather of the past two weeks has been a great benefit to the farmers who are now about done seeding. The Jewett Creek railroad bridge is receiving a coat of paint by the C.N.R. painting crews.

Rev. Mr. Killam of the United Baptist church preached in the Burden church on Sunday afternoon. He arrived from Nova Scotia with his family early last week and his furniture was brought by Halifax transfer van.

Kelly Bros. have been busy during the past week in putting more than two hundred cords of pulpwood in the river for the Port Royal Pulp & Paper Company.

A siding is being put in by the C.N.R. at the Evans farm to accommodate the Currier Construction Co.

R. B. Crowdon is putting a new shingle roof on his barn.

Harold Kitchen had the misfortune to hurt his leg quite badly last week. When he was getting out of the cab of a truck while it was moving he slipped off the running board and fell injuring his knee. He is improving slowly under Dr. McKenzie's skilful care.

Samuel Cassidy was a visitor to the city on Saturday.

Roy Tapley was on a business trip to Lake George on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jewett and children Bobby and Emily, and Mr. Tapley of Fredericton, spent the week end at their summer cottage here, returning to their home in the city on Sunday evening.

Benjamin Hoyt of Minto was calling on friends here on Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. David Burden visited Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McLean at Lake George on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cassidy of Kitchen Settlement were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Tapley.

Miss Mildred Moore and Miss Glena McQuarrie were calling on Miss Epey Moore on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Jewett and son Clare were Sunday evening visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Pollock of Smithfield.

Maxwell Cook of Edmonton, Alberta visited friends here on Sunday.

Heavy rains set in last night and the river is on the rise again.

NOTICE OF SALE

To the heirs-at-law and next-of-kin of Walter J. Moore, late of the Parish of Blissville, in the County of Sunbury and Province of New Brunswick; J. Clark & Son, Limited; and to all others whom it may concern:

Public Notice is hereby given that under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain indenture of Mortgage bearing date the fifth day of May, A.D. 1926, made between Walter J. Moore of the Parish of Blissville, in the County of Sunbury and Province of New Brunswick, Farmer, of the first part, and one Herman Hawkins of the Parish of Douglas, in the County of York and Province of Ontario, Farmer, of the second part, and duly recorded in Sunbury County Records in Book Z-2, pages 673 to 676, under official number 17581, which said indenture of Mortgage was duly assigned by the said Herman Hawkins to the undersigned by Indenture dated the twentieth day of June A.D. 1928, and duly recorded in Sunbury County Records in Book B-3, pages 365 to 368, under official number 18068, there will, for the purpose of obtaining payment of the moneys secured by the said Indenture of Mortgage, default having been made in payment, contrary to the provisions thereof, be sold at Public Auction in front of the Post Office in the City of Fredericton, in the County of York, on Saturday, the 27th day of June, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, the lands and premises mentioned and described in the said Indenture of Mortgage as follows:

"All that certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Parish of Blissville and County of Sunbury and bounded as follows: Beginning at a stake placed in the south western angle of Lot 'B' purchased by Joseph Hoyt on the eastern bank or shore of the South Branch of the Oromocto River; thence running by the magnet of the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight east fifty-three chains to a stake; thence south fifteen chains to another stake; thence west seventy chains to the eastern bank or shore of the above mentioned River at a poplar tree and thence following the various courses thereof up stream in a north-easterly direction to the place of beginning, containing one hundred acres more or less and being the same lands and premises conveyed to the said Walter J. Moore by his Father, William Moore, by deed dated the 6th day of March, A.D. 1908, duly registered in the Registry Office for the County of Sunbury, in Book L2, pages 326 and 327, under official number 12343 and being the homestead lot on which the said Walter J. Moore now resides."

Together with all and singular the buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances to the same belonging or in any manner appertaining. Dated this twenty-second day of May, A.D. 1936.

RICHARD B. HANSON (L.S.) Assignee and holder of Mortgage. Hanson, Dougherty & West. Solicitors for Assignee and Holder

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SCHOOLBOY SUES BOARD

SASKATOON, Sask., June 19—As a result of a rugby accident on the Nutana Collegiate campus on September 25, 1935, when David Lloyd Walsh, son of Robert Clark Walsh, sustained a broken ankle and other injuries, suit has been brought against the high school board to recover general and special damages in the neighborhood of \$800.

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