

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., Sept. 9, 1910

ROADS

Some one very cleverly said, not long since, that "while figures won't lie, the trouble seems to be that we don't all figure alike." The same statement might well be made regarding roads. Roads are roads, but—

Well, what ever they are they have been attracting considerable mixed eulogy and had language both in and out of print lately. Now most of us who hear the various reports from the country and are not too hideously affected with the dread disease "political astigmatism" (the man who invented that phrase certainly is clever) are willing to admit that the roads of this province are in various conditions ranging from fair, through indifferent to bad; yes and some atrocious.

It is to be hoped that all the fervid comment of our contemporaries is aimed at an improvement of the present conditions. May they meet all success.

Under the recorded statute governing the roads of the province their condition is not a political issue of larger than parish demotions, as the care of the roads and the expenditure of the road-money is now in the hands of the local parish boards, sufficient of whose members are chosen by the parish to insure the proper expenditure of funds and the proper care of the highways.

That the operation of these local boards has been unsatisfactory is quite generally admitted. They have failed to co-operate both as individuals and collectively. Even where they have kept the roads in passable condition they have been the source of unending contention, jealousy and petty party squabbling ever since their creation.

Here is where the responsibility of Mr. Hazen and his colleagues comes in. The existence of a statue on the books of the province under which the present state of affairs is possible is a menace to the well-fare of the people. The law which brought into being the present system of highway control was forged by the Hazen administration in fulfilment of anti-election promises. A sop to Cerberus, so to speak. An attempt to drug with wares from the vice counter those who have since seen the mistake of their transient change of opinion.

Now, far be it from us to lay the accusation of petty graft at the door of any—yet—grat—aside—the chances of a little easily-earned money from the provincial treasury looked good to some. For proof that this money has been extremely easily earned one need only consult the auditor's report.

It is the very foundation of the system that is at fault. The division of the responsibility for the roads is the great draw-back. It has long since been proven that no matter by what agencies the actual labor is done, such operations must have central control, and that the control thus exercised must be efficient and authoritative. No such central supervision or control is now in force and the results of its lack in the system are painfully evident.

A UNION STATION

The presence in the city yesterday of the I. C. R. Board of Management brought forth some talk of a Union Station for Fredericton. Both the railway companies which have trains running into the city admit that their passenger stations are unworthy of the place and their yard facilities insufficient to handle the increasing business. With the hope of a St. John Valley Railway still alive in our midst, the suggestion that a Union Station be erected is a timely one.

His Worship Mayor Thomas has put forth the idea that a part of Queen's Square be utilized as the site of the building. This would be a splendid location, but an expensive one, as \$10,000 is named as the lowest possible figure at which it could be obtained. The citizens would, in all probability, have to bear a large share in the expenditure. The addition of a large, modern railway station would be a great gain to the city and would be a good investment even if the taxpayers found themselves called upon to provide the site for the purpose. Queen's Square would be made of more use and value to the citizens by the location of a station on one part of it than it is at the present time. It might well become also one of the city's most beautiful and interesting localities. Every organization and civic body that is vitally interested in the beauty, welfare or progress of Fredericton should exert all possible pressure on the railways involved to keep the matter before their attention. If we do not agitate and express our willingness to bear a reasonable share of the expense we cannot hope to secure this much needed improvement.

PRESS COMMENT

Montreal Star:—The Governor-General and his party, we are told, took coffee on shipboard one fine morning attired in pajamas—and on deck, too. People who take breakfast in that light, airy and convenient costume are generally not able to be "on deck" and are not even ship shape. But in Hudson's Bay, at the latter end of August, bathed in sunshine and arrayed in "yum-yums" the viceregal expedition are pro patria and for the general good of Canada.

Henceforth in this "Mediterranean of Canada" hooded natives, yak—or it is harpoon—in hand, shall no more be conjured up at this time of year.

St. John Globe:—Sydney Brooks, an English writer who contributes to English and the United States magazines, writing lately to Harper's Weekly, suggests as within the region of possibility that Germany's great gavel preparations may have an unsuspected interest for Americans. There is good reason to think, he admits, that Germany has risen to be the second naval power in the world with a view to challenging Great Britain. But there is a chance that she may, after all, be thinking to some one else. "Were I an American," says the writer, "I should not ignore that chance."

Sydney Record:—Dr. Reid, of Halifax, is authority for the statement that over a million dollars a year is wasted on preventable diseases in this province, because people do not practice the virtue of cleanliness. In other words this money should go to the soap and broom manufacturers' instead of the doctors and druggists.

Toronto Globe:—The Brockville Times is one of the good old-fashioned Tory papers that never disappoints perusal. Laurier is always the wolf in its fairy tales, and Canada is Little Red Riding Hood. But surely the readers of The Times grow up occasionally, and to them fairy tales must become stale.

Sydney Record:—John D. Rockefeller proposes to indulge in numerous further charities. The question arises, can he give the money back to the people as fast as the Standard Oil Company can take it away from them?

Montreal Herald:—The shot which Gallagher aimed at Mayor Gaynor now threatens to land the latter in the governorship of New York; another effect entirely unintended by the man who fired it.

HOLMAN-HUNT

(Montreal Herald)
The death, at every advanced age, of William Holman-Hunt, painter of "The Light of the World" and brother-in-arms of Millais and Dante Gabriel Rossetti, closes the most wonderful chapter in the history of English art. It seems as if there had hardly been in any artistic movement in any country since the third quarter of the last century—save perhaps the literary movement of the Ibsen period in Norway and Germany—an apostolic fervor, a depth and passion of conviction such as those which marked a score of different movements in art in philosophy in social teachings, and even in politics in the early years of Queen Victoria's reign. Certainly there has been nothing in English painting comparable to the passionate fight for their ideals which was carried on by the little group of men who undertook to translate the artistic faith of the painter-monks of Siena and Florence into modern terms.
In those days preaching was not a thing to be ashamed of. Every man was conceived of as having his own particular message to the world, and

DR. ADAM SHORTT SPEAKS ON PROBLEMS OF EMPIRE RULE

"Democracy and Imperial Union" His Subject at Last Night's Canadian Club Luncheon—In His Opinion Imperial Conference is Form From Which System of Empire Government will be Evolved.

The members of the Canadian Club last evening heard an address by Dr. Adam Shortt, chairman of the Canadian Civil Service Commission, in which the problem of imperial government was most ably dealt with. Dr. Shortt's subject was "Democracy and Imperial Union," and in his remarks on the relations of the one to the other he cast doubts on the adaptability of the federal system as it is known in Canada to the government of the Empire. Dr. Shortt advised that haste be made slowly and that no cut and dried form of Imperial government be accepted. The Imperial Conference at which the heads of the great self-governing countries of the Empire exchange opinions, he designated as the extreme present development of Imperial government, and that from which future forms would evolve themselves.

The address was delivered in the Y. M. C. A. Hall after an excellent luncheon served by members of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. The attendance was not as large as that at the first meeting, at which Dr. Robertson of the Technical Education Commission, was the speaker. The chairman Mr. C. Fred Chestnut introduced the speaker of the evening and in so doing mentioned the fact that the Rt. Hon. and Rt. Rev. Bishop of London would address the club in that place on Tuesday, at 12.30 p. m.

THE ADDRESS

Dr. Shortt expressed his pleasure on account of the opportunity of meeting the members of the Fredericton Canadian Club. He had learned that the Bishop of London was to address the club. He could assure his hearers that they had a treat in store for them.

Coming to his subject, "Democracy and Imperial Union," the speaker said that the time had come when no serious minded Canadian could see any future before the Dominion, but that of an independent state within the British Empire. As far as relations with the United States were concerned he could say that within the past ten years he had never met an American who was of the opinion that it would be to the advantage even of the United States to have North America under one government. One great advantage America had over other countries was contained in the fact that various forms of government existed which were of value from the point of view of experiment. A union of the Dominion and the United States would greatly lessen that advantage.

AUTOCRATIC RULE

The development of empire under autocratic rule was obviously easy and rapid as under such a system great minds could impose their will on vast multitudes. Such rule had produced the legal system of the Roman Empire, a system which had outlived the empire itself.

DEMOCRATIC RULE

Our form of government however, was democratic and not autocratic and for that reason it behooved Canadians to look into the sources of weakness and strength in democracy particularly as they concerned Imperial union. It was of course impossible that every man should be able to think out problems of government for himself. Democracy invariably tended toward leadership, not to the leadership of the old autocratic type, but of the kind which depends upon the confidence of the people for the power.
Leaders were of two sorts, those

whose chief duty was to find the proper form of expression for it. The Pre-Raphaelite painters preached if anything more industriously than the newly inspired Tractarians of Pusey and Newman or the Fabian Socialists of Morris. Greatest among all their sermons in the universality of its appeal was the famous "Light of the World" the painter's replica of which exhibited in Montreal five years ago fifty years after its first appearance, awakened a more profound emotion than any other work of art ever exhibited here.

We have reacted somewhat violently against the preacher since the days of the Brotherhood; and today apostolic fervor is considered a sign of bad art. Muckraking has taken the place of prophecy and those of our artists and writers who give us any moral message at all deliver an anarchist's bomb instead of a gospel. The world is not such a hopeful place as it was in 1850. Why it should be so it is a little hard to tell. But there are signs of a better time to come. Religious

who really lead and those who really follow. Both types necessarily must know the follower for even a demagogue must understand the people.

ADVANTAGES IN AMERICA

"One of the advantages of democracy on this continent" said the speaker "is that we may know the worst. There is no submerged element such as exists in older countries, even Great Britain."

In Britain, said Dr. Shortt, changes had come about in political organization because in past years the element of leadership had been aristocratic. Labor and other organizations were producing other leaders.

In America many people of the very best kind kept aloof from politics. That result had not been entirely advantageous. Leaders from the lower element had been produced by the system of political representation, but still there was no great unknown political class.

DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY

Dr. Shortt dealt briefly with the development of democracy, from feudalism to nationalism, from nationalism to democracy. Feudalism had been nationalism on a narrow basis. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in England the basis had been made still broader than nationalism and aristocracy had its grip on government loosened. While this development was in progress a colonial empire had been established by development of trade and by discovery. The spirit of nationalism took the form of effort to impose conditions on the colonies which were solely to the advantage of the mother country. The unfortunate effect of such conditions were plainly visible in Ireland where they had been enforced. In the colonies it had been found impossible to perfectly enforce them. An effort to enforce the conditions lost the American colonies to the Empire. That loss had been followed by the development of the federal system which had been afterward employed in Canada, Australia, South Africa and elsewhere.

FEDERAL SYSTEM

The development of the federal system brought into existence that form of government known as divided sovereignty, a form which the Englishman of the present time has great difficulty in comprehending.

DANGEROUS TENDENCY

At the present day said Dr. Shortt the tendency, and it was a tendency accompanied by some danger, was to employ the federal system to govern a greater system. There had been a tendency to extend the national system into the federal, but it had failed. The federal system was the product of evolution and was not artificial. In the present day it should be remembered that the world is moving on. The question to face was, "Can the federal system be extended to apply to the Empire?"

It should be remembered that the different sections of the Dominion of Canada failed to understand one another and that there was much greater difficulty for one section of the Empire to understand another.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE

"We are moving in the right line however," said the speaker. "Cut and dried schemes for federal union are not what we want. The holding of Imperial conferences is the method we have taken of developing Imperial government. We send our premier to London to talk over matters, but not to legislate."

A STRIKE IN A PALACE

St. Petersburg, Sept. 8.—A dispatch from Teheran states that the servants of the Shah's palace gave gone on strike and are clamoring for the wages due them.

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THE PARTY SYSTEM

The speaker then dealt with the party system which he said was an absolutely necessary result of democracy. Party system had produced the demagogue who did not scruple to use any means to keep himself in power. In Imperial politics such a man should not have power as situations were frequently of a most delicate nature and were usually kept secret from all but the highest.

MAKE HASTE SLOWLY

Recently at the Anglican Congress said the speaker, he had heard the Bishop of Montreal make a magnificent statement of the value of conferences of the leaders of the church such as the leaders of the Empire hold. The essence of Imperial government was to make haste slowly. The greatest individual powers should be left to the great states of the Empire and only outstanding problems be touched upon by a central government.

At the conclusion of Dr. Shortt's address the chairman tendered to him the thanks of the Canadian Club.

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