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Fredericton, N. B., Nov. 14, 1910

A MANLY COURSE

The course which Hon. Mr. Murphy, the Secretary of State, has followed in reference to the affairs of the Federal Printing Bureau has been a most commendable one. He investigated the bureau and found that conditions in it were bad and he has boldly made public his findings realizing that as the true masters of all departmental matters in the Dominion the Canadian people were entitled to the fullest information.

Mr. Murphy is not a man who has been a great deal in the public eye. He is one of the ministers whose work has not been of the kind to win him much space in the newspapers nor has he been one of the orators whose eloquence has often called him to the front for the presentation of the government side of a case. Under the circumstances it is not surprising that he has been but little known, comparatively speaking, outside of Ontario, his home province. But his course in regard to the Printing Bureau will make him better known.

It came to Mr. Murphy's attention some time ago that there were irregularities in the bureau. He quietly began an investigation. He was not driven into it by any public protest, that an inquiry was desirable. He was not driven into it by any outcry from the Opposition. He saw reason for fearing that all was not right in the bureau and with a keen sense of his duty as a minister of the Crown, a servant of the people whose interests he must guard, he began a strict inquiry.

It was not long, unfortunately, before the inquiry brought to light evidences of graft on the part of one of the bureau's chief officials. This unfortunate man fled and ended his own life. Mr. Murphy called in the services of printing and stationery experts and skilled accountants to follow up the investigation. What these men found out was reported in full to the Secretary of State and Mr. Murphy has prepared a complete statement for submission to the Governor-in-Council and to parliament.

The reports of the experts shows that there has been laxity in the affairs of the bureau. The discipline has been bad. Abuses have crept in among the men. Unwise action has been taken in regard to the maintenance of the stationery stock, etc. The authority exercised over the bureau has been divided and confusion and other unsatisfactory results have followed inevitably. Happily, the experts found that there had been no graft on the part of any employee other than the one already referred to. The investigation has shown that the abuses mentioned have been due more to defects in the act which created the bureau than to any other cause. The act was a legacy inherited by the government from other days.

The report also suggests certain changes in the regulations governing the Printing Bureau. With such changes, Mr. Murphy says, abuses which have grown up will be no longer possible. Practical men will be placed in positions where practical measures are necessary, but have hitherto not always been placed. Steps will be taken which will protect the people from the possibility of further loss through wrong-doing or incompetency in the bureau. Every step possible will be taken to place this branch of the public service on a model basis.

Hon. Mr. Murphy has shown himself a 'big' man. He saw his duty and did it without any spurring from public opinion or from the attacks of political opponents. He was appointed to office as a servant of the people and he has sought to guard the interests of his masters even at

the risk of unpleasantness and at the risk of causing temporary injury to his party. No doubt Conservative speakers and Conservative papers will seek to make political capital out of the conditions which were found to be existing in the Printing Bureau. They will find, however, unless this paper is much mistaken, that the people will not lose sight of the fact that the Conservatives are themselves responsible for the legislation which made those conditions possible and the other fact that it is reasonable to suppose that similar conditions existed under the former government which had against its record more than one madodorous piece of business. Nor will the people forget that Mr. Murphy has handled the situation in man-fashion. His own party might suffer for a time but his country was losing money through improper administration of the bureau and he showed no hesitation in sitting himself about the task of protecting the people from further hurt as soon as he found that bad conditions were in existence.

In future Mr. Murphy will stand higher before the people of the Dominion regardless of their political beliefs. He has shown himself an honest man honestly desirous of giving the people good service while in their employ as a minister of the Crown entrusted with the management of their affairs and the handling of their money. Men of the Murphy stamp are a credit to the country, be they Liberals or Conservatives.

Our Mr. Croket has made the discovery that Mr. Bourassa is a wonderful man, and "the enemy of graft and dishonesty in public life." Only a few years ago the people of York were told by Mr. Croket and his colleagues that Mr. Bourassa was "a traitor," "a conspirator" and "an avowed enemy of British institutions." The explanation of this change of base is found in the fact that Mr. Bourassa has severed his connection with the Liberal party and is now working hand and glove with the Tories.

The Tory Club must be hard up for material when it has to include so many government office holders in its list of officers for the ensuing year. They might at least have spared the hard working secretary of the Hazen government's public utilities commission.

Mr. O. S. Croket says that the Liberals have been kept in power by a solid Quebec. The windy M. P. has evidently forgotten that at the last general election, New Brunswick returned eleven Liberals and two Conservatives.

Mr. O. S. Croket, who "dead-headed" his way to the Pacific Coast last summer, has made the startling discovery that Sir Wilfrid Laurier's western tour was a failure. Wonderful man, this Mr. Croket.

The Solicitor General, in his speech on Friday evening, had a whole lot to say about political conditions in Quebec, but maintained a discreet silence in regard to the St. John Valley Railway project and other matters in which the people of York have a lively interest.

Mr. A. D. Thomas, superintendent of school book vendors for the local government, was one of the speakers at the Tory pow wow on Friday evening. It is no more than right that Mr. Thomas should make some effort to earn the salary attached to the soft job which he is holding down.

DOMINION COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION

Montreal, Nov. 13.—A lively contest is on for the presidency of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association, which is solving itself into dispute between the older and younger elements. The younger are represented by Bevans Giles, the present vice-president, and the older by Charles Gurd, both of Montreal, and both handling aerated waters.

The contest is part of a movement on the part of the older members to re-organize the Association, which has of recent years become chiefly a benevolent and insurance affair, and it extends down to the directorate, there being fifteen candidates for the five vacancies on the directorate board.

The vice-presidency is contested between A. J. Brown and J. T. McBride, while Max Murdock, of Montreal, is unanimously re-elected treasurer. The election results will be announced Dec. 17th. It was also decided to hold the customary annual dinner here and a committee with President S. J. Mathewson at its head, was named to look after this.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH FOR LATE L. W. JOHNSTON

The morning service at St. Paul's Church yesterday was a memorial for the late Mr. L. W. Johnston, who for many years was closely identified with the congregation. Appropriate hymns were sung and the choir rendered as a voluntary, "There is a Land." The pastor selected as the text, Luke 20:38, "He is not a God of the dead, but of the living; for all live unto Him." In the course of the sermon he made the following reference to Mr. Johnston:

"On Friday evening last at Vancouver, Mr. Johnston passed away to his rest. The daily press has already made appreciative reference to the deceased and given the main facts in connection with his life. I need not repeat these. That which is in our thought this morning is rather his relation to this church and to those personal ties which have bound in one fellowship many associations. Our acquaintance began when I was in Summerside. His frequent visits to P. E. Island made it necessary for him to spend some Sabbaths in Summerside. He was always a regular worshipper and took a deep interest in our work. The fellowship was renewed when I came to this Church.

The occasion of his home-going brings to us a flood of memories. It is always an exceedingly difficult thing for mortal man to see clearly the real worth of his fellows. There are two things which interfere. One is our own peculiar temperament, which may prejudice us in favor of or against others. The other is their peculiar temperament, which may prejudice them either favorably or unfavorably toward others. Jesus cautions us against judging others because we cannot know them with that knowledge which is necessary to righteous judgment. He urges us to test life by its fruits. What were his ideals? What were the things he stood for? What were the things to which he gave his strength, money, time and heart devotion? Only by studying these things can we see the principles which determine life.

When we think of our departed brother in the light of many years spent in public life and close personal relations, there are some things which stand out clearly. One is that he believed profoundly in the value of spiritual reality. He was a deeply religious man, and pronounced in his religious views and faith. He was regularly at public worship, in the mid-week prayer meeting, in the Sunday School. His religious principles were a vital part of his life. In a letter to me dictated just one month ago, he said: 'After all is said and done, the work done for the Master is that which brings most comfort to review. None of us meet all our obligations in this respect. The layman with his business and family cares is hard pressed at times to choose between his duties to the Church and his other duties. But the Master is kind when he sees the heart is right and the intentions right.'

"Then, he loved this Church, and his worth was recognized and appreciated. For about twenty-five years he was an elder and took his full share of responsibility, representing the Church at Presbytery and Synod for years he was superintendent of the Sunday School. He was one of the building committee of the New Kirk and the beautiful memorial window is his gift. Of the building committee only two are now living here Mr. James Hodge, too infirm to be with us and Mr. James S. Neill. When I became pastor he was active, full of hope and courage. In the letter

already quoted, he said: 'While I have been lying here for all these weeks, my mind has naturally reverted to the past and I have been able to review all the years I spent in Fredericton. The ten years Dr. McWatt spent with us seemed to me to be the golden age of my life. There is no period that gives me so much comfort to think over.'

"He had a wide vision of the Kingdom of God, and shared in the work common to its coming. He was for years a member of the Foreign Mission Committee. He was deeply interested in the work of the Sunday School and was active in the Interdenominational Association. He was enthusiastic in the work of the Bible Society and gave freely of his time assisting the local committee in its work. He was a friend of temperance. Men may differ as to the wisdom of his methods, but all agree that he was a loyal advocate and friend of temperance and was willing to stand up for what he believed was right and sacrifice his own convenience on its behalf. If all the friends of temperance were as loyal as he he would have no unsolved problem in the city.

"A man to take his place in all these movements must have had a real grasp of public problems. He had travelled far beyond the range of the average man in his reading. His library had such works as The Religious Authority, by Sabatier and the History of the Warfare of Science with Theology, by White. One who can read with interest these volumes has attained a broad vision of intellectual culture. He had his own peculiarities as we all have, but when we pass behind these we find a personality of ability, courage, spiritual vision one who was kindly and brotherly in his sympathy, standing for what he saw was best in life, and rejoicing in the expectation of life beyond the grave. As a congregation we are reaping the fruits of his devoted service. We do well to hold in loving memory one whose zeal was so pronounced, whose fidelity was so constant and whose personal fellowship was so inspiring. Our sympathy goes out to his devoted wife and family, who shared with him the work and fellowship of the Church.

"These breaks in the circle of our fellowships bring up the question of the value of life. What is it? Here is a man who lived with us, put his thought, time and means into the work, stood for certain ideals and in a measure left his impress upon the life of others. What of it? Is it a mere passing experience soon to disappear from the world of reality? Will the influence he exerted fade away as the morning dew? Will the spirit that sought to fashion a better world disappear forever also? Have we seen the last of our departed brother and do we feel that the chapter has been sealed never to be reopened?

"There has always been a strong desire in man's life to continue to live. At times this has only faintly manifested itself, while at other times it has become first, a great hope, then a victory over death and a source of undying comfort. Only in the life of our Lord do we find the veil withdrawn and the music of heaven floating out upon the discord of this world's misery and sorrow. There are three things which meet our eager hearts. One is that the spirit survives the shock of death and abides a self-conscious personality, thinking, speaking, living. Moses appeared with our Lord centuries after he was translated from Neb's height. Jesus came back after death, glorified, the first fruits of those who die. Again, their heavenly experiences are a development of their earthly experiences, for life is a unit and our identity persists amid all change. They sing the song of Moses and the Lamb. Further, life beyond the grave has the social fellowships which abide because of the reunion of death divided friends. This is so pictured as to make the vision of death the one open door to life in its fullest range.

"Today we say our farewell as a church to one who long walked with us. But this only serves to remind us that soon others will say farewell to us until at last all shall have passed the way of death. Will this be an entrance into a larger life because of a purer love and a truer service? Are we living so that we are laying up treasures in heaven, that when the call comes we shall find a spirit ready to go because the best is yet to be?"

P. F. ISLAND WOMAN MEETS TRAGIC DEATH

Portland, Me., Nov. 13.—The woman whose dead body was found by the Boston & Maine tracks Saturday morning, with a twenty-months old baby boy by her side, has been identified as Mrs. Joseph Warren, of Rumford Falls.

Mrs. Warren had been visiting her old home in Campbellton, P. E. I., and was returning to her husband, when the accident happened.

Mr. Warren came to Portland today and will accompany the body

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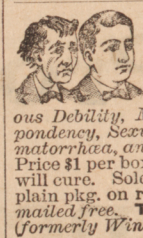
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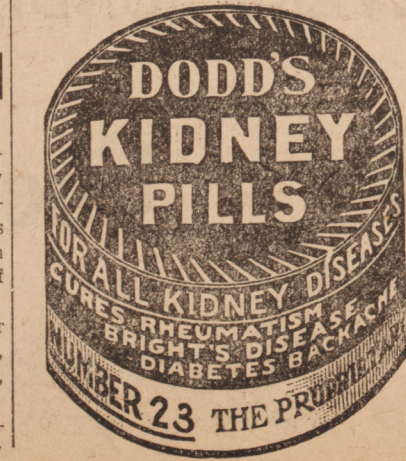
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back to Prince Edward Island.

It is not known how Mrs. Warren was killed, her body having been found by the track not far from the station at Deering Junction, an hour after the train on which she arrived had passed.

In Toronto splendid marching weather was realized on Sunday, and the sun shone sufficiently to make it ideal for the semi-annual church-parade of the Toronto garrison. A total of 2,043 men were on parade.

Mrs. Frank Flemming of Mouth of Keswick is visiting friends at Burt's Corner.



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