

The Daily Herald.

VOL. X.

FREDERICTON, N. B., THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1905

NO. 3

POLITICAL LYING CANADA'S VICE.

Prof. Wm. Osler Be- for the Canadian Club at Toronto.

IS WORSE THAN DRINKING.

Canada too Selfish in Im- perial Relations.

FRANK WORDS BY A DISTINGUISHED CANADIAN.

Some excellent advice for Canadians was tendered by Dr. William Osler, the distinguished former Torontonian now regius professor of medicine at Oxford, who addressed the Toronto Canadian Club at Monday's luncheon.

The reception to Prof. Osler by the four hundred members who were present was most enthusiastic, and the address with a fine blending of humor and wisdom and of political and national suggestions. In appearance Prof. Osler bears some resemblance to his brothers, Mr. E. B. Osler, M. P., and the late Mr. B. B. Osler, K. C., though he is less massive and less serious in his countenance. He has a pleasing manner of speech, and he did not for a moment drop from a high standard of dissertation and argument. His subject was "The Anglo-American Relations of Canada."

CANADA'S RELATIONSHIP

Prof. Osler, who was addressed as one who had become the first physician within the British Empire, was received with loud cheers. He addressed his hearers as "fellow-countrymen," and said it always gave him great satisfaction to return to his own town where he had received his early education, and where he had so many friends. Taking up the serious part of his subject, Dr. Osler said he would speak on the triple relationship which we Canadians held—first, to the great republic to the south; second, to the mother country, and, third, to our own land. It might be fortunate or unfortunate that we were so situated that we had to the south one of the largest and most powerful nations on the earth, but as British people we should feel proud of it, for was there ever a nation, ancient or modern, had such a child? (Hear, hear.) It had for Canadians an important influence, the influence of gravitation; of the large body upon the small, and the incessant dribbling over the border of young men. He was told there were nearly 1,000,000 Canadians in the United States. Throughout the length and breadth of that country Canadians occupied prominent positions in finance and in the professions, notably medicine and theology. There they had been successful by reason of two special qualities, industry and thoroughness, the only two qualities worth anything in the make-up of a good man. (Applause.) If it were only the young men who were leaving he would not mind it a bit, because there were plenty left to run the country, but the most serious loss was the young women. A young man in western Ontario had recently excused his bachelorhood by saying all his sweethearts had gone to the United States. Dr. Osler quoted the figures of the hospitals in the Atlantic coast cities to show that of the 651 women in the nursing departments 196 are Canadians. That was an enormous proportion. He felt that something should be done to stop that, and he would have a

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bill introduced at the next session of parliament to put a tax on bachelors. (Laughter.) Every man at 25 or 26 without a family should help support those who have, and he would put an export tax of \$100 on every Canadian girl who left this country for the United States. (Laughter.)

RESPECT FOR AMERICANS.

Dr. Osler commented on the extraordinary kindness of feeling with which Canadians were received in that country. The question never was asked, "Where do you come from?" but "What can you do?" (Applause.) "We can take a lesson from that," he added. "Far too often I have heard and have seen extracts in the newspapers showing a carping spirit on the part of Canadians towards Americans. Now, when a man comes across, being in mind that very nearly one million of your fellow countrymen live over there and are treated in a way which certainly should make you here at home remember that whatever feelings you may entertain towards the United States as a nation you should bear in mind that your fellow-countrymen over there are treated in such a way that it ill becomes you to speak in any way they could not live any better or be treated any better if we were at home. (Applause.)

Dr. Osler pointed out that the revolutionary war had resulted in giving to Canada the United Empire Loyalists, the picked blood of the American colonies. When we thought of the Fenian raid we should think also of the silent raid of Canadians on the United States; and when we thought of the Alabama claims, from which we got no returns, we should remember the thousands of Americans spending money at our watering places year by year. When we thought of the Alaskan boundary award we should remember the millions of acres between that and the boundary which were being taken up by the American citizens.

COLONIES TOO SELFISH.

"The British relationship of this country is a very delicate problem," Dr. Osler proceeded. "A great many miles separate the mother country from Canada, and the tie, when you come down to it, is only a tie of sentiment. We say only a tie of sentiment, but, after all, there is no stronger tie than that tie of sentiment. (Applause.) But there are difficulties and there are troubles, and it will require a great deal of care and a great deal of patience on the part of the politicians of the mother country and on the part of the Canadian politicians within the next 25 years to promote the proper feelings and perfect harmony that should exist if there is to be that proper organic unity between the colonies and the mother country. There can be only three events before this country: either independence, annexation, or some measure of Imperial federation. I do not see that the difficulties are in any way to be considered in opposition to the remarkable advantages the entire empire would gain. (Applause.) The chief difficulty on the part of the British beyond the seas is unquestionably that they want everything and are not willing to give enough. (Hear, hear.) Now, if as Canadians we are going to be an integral part of a great world-wide empire we have got to take our share in the responsibilities of empire. (Hear, hear.) You cannot ask the mother country constantly to be providing for her children. This country has now reached a stage that is approaching manhood, and it is high time that it was taken into partnership and allowed a voice in the affairs of the empire and bear its fair share of the expense, so far as they should be apportioned to a colony or separate portion of such an empire."

OUR OWN COUNTRY.

The last portion of Dr. Osler's address referred to our own country, and the ideals we should cherish therefore. Being a northern country we should have a race strong of body, excelling any other country on the continent. The commingling of the English, Irish and Scotch was

"NOT IF IT COST TEN DOLLARS

A bottle would I be without Polson's Nerviline, writes J. A. Ruth, a farmer living near Trenton, Ont. Nerviline is the best household liniment I know. We use it for stomach troubles, indigestion, headache, and summer complaints. I know of nothing better to take in hot water to break up a cold, or to rub on for rheumatism or neuralgia. Every farmer should keep a few bottles of Nerviline handy and have smaller doctor bills. Large bottles 25c. at druggists.

the best mixture the world had yet seen, and if Upper Canadian men would every fourth or fifth generation marry a French-Canadian girl the future of the race would be assured. (Laughter and cheers.) We should be strong mentally, and here Dr. Osler counselled the strongest possible elementary education, and the teaching of boys by male teachers. (Applause.) To secure that higher salaries would have to be paid. He had watched the growth of our universities, and he hoped that in time the Provincial University would get to the Provincial breast and not be bottle-fed, as it had been for so long. (Laughter.) There had been a great mental awakening in this country, as was shown by the development of Canadian literature, and our poetry at the present time was perhaps at a higher level than the poetry of the United States at present. That was an important matter in national development, and he asked business men if they found a clerk writing verses in their offices to raise his salary. (Laughter and applause.) Dr. Osler believed we were a moral people. Homicides were less frequent than in the United States, the craving for strong drink was less than in the old country, even with Scotchmen, thanks to environment; illegitimacy was exceedingly rare, and divorce was rare, too rare as some people thought. (Laughter.)

TOO MUCH POLITICAL LYING.

"There is only one point to which I would like to refer," Dr. Osler added, "in which this country is not in a good state morally. There is far too much evil-speaking, lying and slandering in connection with our political life. (Applause.) Now, that does seem to me to be an entirely unnecessary and superfluous thing, and it does not seem right that our young men should be brought up in this atmosphere, where there is constantly a feeling of hostility and a slandering attitude in the press towards political opponents. (Hear, hear.) It does no good, and it does a great deal of harm. Now, it is not a difficult matter to correct that. If the people would only set their hearts honestly against it and frown it down as a positive vice—I regard it as a much worse vice than drunkenness, infinitely worse, taking a man's character away, taking it away as it is done often in the newspapers, without any actual warrant, without any knowledge of the facts—it is worse than if the person was actually a drunkard."

"Now, there is only one way to mend that, and that is a very simple way indeed. That is, to deal with your political opponents in an ordinary, every-day Christian spirit. (Applause.) Now it is said you cannot bring Christianity into politics. In to a certain type of politics perhaps you cannot, but at any rate you need not call it Christianity. Call it the ordinary every-day behaviour, if not of St. Paul's noble Christian, of Aristotle's true gentleman, and stop this evil speaking, lying and abuse of each other in the public press. It does no good and it does infinite harm. The young men live in an atmosphere which teaches them to distrust their leaders and teachers, and it produces a feeling of hostility and distrust of things political; but where there is as much mud-slinging and talk as there is against a political opponent it very easily passes from the sphere of politics to other spheres, and you distrust your neighbor, and there is a general feeling of unrest, and lack of that harmony and sympathy and brotherhood that we should have one towards another as Canadians." (Loud cheers.)

Baby Sleeps in Snow.

Duluth, Jan. 4.—In response to inquiries as to why his 18 months' old baby was allowed to sleep in the snow, J. H. Whitley, a lawyer, said recently:

"Little Corrinne sleeps out of doors every day. One day when it was ten degrees below zero she slept for six hours in her basket out on the upper porch overlooking the lake. When the maid brought her in she was covered with about three inches of snow. The basket in which she was lying was completely covered with snow. She had a hot water bag at her feet and was well tucked in and perfectly happy. She seldom has a cold, and the strangest part of it is that she never takes cold except inside the house, and putting her outside will cure it immediately. She is a fine baby and is always well and strong."

A STUDY OF OLD AGE

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LETTER FROM JAPAN

A Missionary Who Takes a Hopeful View

OF THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE WAR.

Writing to a relative in this city under date of Yokohama, Japan, Nov. 28, Rev. Charles Harrington, a Baptist missionary, a native of Sydney, Nova Scotia, son of Mr. Clement Harrington of that town, says:—

"We are moving along pleasantly and quietly in our life in this verge-of-the-world land, in spite of the great conflict being waged just across the narrow seas. Girded by the inviolate sea as we are, there has never been any fear that there would be any fighting on Japanese soil. The Vladivostok fleet did make two or three raids on the Japanese coast waters, and did some damage to shipping, and even appeared off Tokio Bay, but there was no apprehension of a Russian invasion. All that we see of the war is the processions with flags and music conducting departing soldiers to the station, the carloads of invalid soldiers returning for treatment in the hospitals, and an occasional soldier's funeral going through the city. I wish you could have stood by me the other day in our high seminary grounds and looked down on the Japanese town and street just below when a particularly long and fine funeral procession passed along. For half an hour there was a continual stream of Buddhist priests, Shinto priests, nuns, funeral emblems, flowers, bands of music, and flags and banners innumerable. Japan has buried a great many of her brave soldier lads this year, and it looks as if many thousand more lives must be sacrificed before the cruel war is over. Since Saturday a great assault of Port Arthur has been in progress, and we are daily hoping to hear that that stronghold which has cost Japan so much, has at last fallen. It is estimated that up to a recent date the siege had cost Japan 30,000 in killed and wounded. Now that there seems to be some prospect that the Baltic fleet will manage to reach eastern waters, the Japanese are naturally anxious to wipe Port Arthur off the slate, and be ready to give the Russian ships a warm reception. But I need not fill my letter with the bruit of war and the stock of armies."

The present time, contrary to what you might expect, is proving to be one very favorable to Christian work. There have been a few scattering instances of opposition to Christianity on account of Russia being a nominally Christian nation, but in the main the alliance with England and the strong sympathy of America for Japan in the present struggle has disposed the people to regard all English and Americans with friendliness, and to include in that favor the work of missionaries from those countries. And the opportunities now being given for work among the soldiers both on the field and in the hospitals, are very great. The great impetus which the war is likely to give to the Christianizing of the nation is one of compensations of the war, so costly in life and suffering."

NEW MILITARY PLANS.

Dividing Canadian Troops Into Three Army Corps.

Ottawa Free Press:—A proposition looking to the establishment of army commands in the various provinces of the Dominion, in lieu of the present system of military districts, was before the military council Tuesday morning and while the project was fully discussed, nothing of a definite character was made public.

It is understood, however that the council has signified its approval of the scheme to divide Ontario into two commands, constitute Quebec into one, and group the maritime provinces into one, also, leaving the province of Manitoba and the far west intact. The scarcity of militia corps in the west is assigned as the reason for there being no command established in that portion of the Dominion, but as soon as a sufficient number of troops are called into force they will be grouped in army corps. In command of a brigadier general.

Ontario will be divided into two commands, eastern and western. The officers in command of the newly formed divisions, it is understood, will be designated as Brigadier Generals and will hold positions on the headquarter staff, and will have authority in keeping with their rank. While nothing is as yet definitely

settled as regards the personnel of the officers to command the new Ontario units, it is thought in certain quarters where the information should best be known, that Col. Otter, D. O. C., and Col. Buchan, D. O. C., are those upon whose shoulders the responsibilities will fall. Col. Otter will likely command the western division and Col. Buchan that in the east. It could not be learned who had been selected to fill the other two commands, though it is admitted the military council has officers in view. Lieut. Col. W. J. Gordon, D. O. C., Montreal, may be given command of the Quebec army corps.

It is understood that the troops hereafter, under the new scheme, will be constituted into army corps, thus giving Ontario—where troops are more numerous—two, Quebec one and the maritime provinces one, each army in command of a brigadier general, who will be directly responsible for the proper training of the troops of his command, and will be answerable direct to the military council.

Upon the conclusion of the meeting of the military council Tuesday, the members of the council repaired to Government House, where they were presented to His Excellency, Lord Grey.

CAMPAIGNING IN WYOMING.

Political Speaking Always Supplemented By a Dance in the Evening.

"Wyoming has the most joyous political campaigns of any State in the Union," said Mr. F. M. Brandon, of Cheyenne.

"The country people are never so happy as when the candidates for public office out our way are making their rounds of the counties for vote-getting purposes; it means a season of excitement and innocent pleasure to them, which forbids all thought of acrimony and ill-feeling, no matter how tightly partisan lines may be drawn. The chief factor in this pre-election gaiety is that whenever there is to be a speaking by the aspirants to office, it is always the custom to have a dance that same night. Hundreds of people turn out to hear the spellbinders, not because they love the oratory so much as that they are keenly bent on the terpsichorean festivities that come after the shades of night have fallen."

"And these dances; what glorious carnivals of fun they are! Young men ride from twenty to fifty miles to attend them, and there is not a girl in all the neighborhood missing. To cap the climax of their importance, all the candidates, from United States senators and governors, down to constables, are on hand, and every one of them, by the unwritten law of the land, must take his partner for the dance. Any politician, no matter how exalted his office, who flunked when the time came to trip it on the light fantastic toe, would be forever persona non grata with the electors of Wyoming."

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Leap year is over, and most of us are safe—or married.