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WELFARE WORK ESSENTIAL

At the Liberal-Conservative summer school last week Hon. Mr. Macaulay, Minister of Highways for Ontario, made the statement that continued extension of social and welfare services by governments is the only alternative to a socialist state.

The Ottawa Journal does not appear to agree with this view, and comments on the matter as follows:—"It is a beautiful theory, but unfortunately it does not stand up so well under cold facts. The extent of a government's financial ability is the extent of the tax-payers' financial ability."

The Advance believes that Hon. Mr. Macaulay has the right idea, and that The Ottawa Journal is missing the true purpose of government in a democratic country. The basic idea of government is, or should be, to advance the welfare of the people in general.

The Ottawa Journal also seems to fall into the common error of classing all money expended on welfare work and social service as just so much more taxation to be imposed, so much more money spent.

Governments, after all, are simply the representatives of the people themselves, established in the British viewpoint to allow the majority to make the most and the best of life. Laws are but the rules and regulations of the popular will, so far as it may be learned and put into effect with the idea of safeguarding and advancing the common good.

The suggestion of The Ottawa Journal that the extension of social services means a socialistic state and that if Canada is to become a socialistic state it might as well do so by one method as another is logic worthy of Agnes Macphail.

Hon. Mr. Macaulay was careful to limit the expenditures of governments "to the extent of their financial ability." With such a limit it is idle to ask that senseless question, "Where is the money to come from?"

especially on roads and forest conservation, reduce unemployment. The country benefits in double fashion. No one need fear a socialistic state. The road surveyed by the Minister of Highways for Ontario will lead to a truly British ideal of government where the advantage of the people in general will be the chief consideration.

CLEVER POLITICS

There have been good Liberal-party people who have felt that The Toronto Globe had ceased to be the mighty force for the party that it was once upon a time and that a certain or uncertain other Toronto newspaper had won the place as chief organ of the Liberal element in Canada.

On the other hand look at The Globe! In apparent sincerity it has persuaded itself, and a lot of other people, that the issue of the day is not the depression, or unemployment, or even the Beauharnois scandal, but rather the conditions in the Kingston penitentiaries.

No one questions the sincerity of The Globe. That is what makes its battle of to-day such good politics. The Globe has been misled in its opinion of penitentiary life by those with axes to grind or grudges to serve.

Were it not for the evil effects that may develop from this cry against penitentiary management—the tendency to pamper criminals at the expense of honest people, the danger of duplicating in Canada the menace of some foreign prisoners with their political evils and their lack of terror for the evil doers—were it not for these things most people would consider the political outcry against the penitentiaries as the cleverest political move of many a day.

CRIME AND ITS CAUSES

Everything used to be blamed on booze, from burglary to housemaid's knee. The burglar wouldn't have taken what didn't belong to him had it not been for the nasty liquor, the world was told, and the suspicion was raised that housemaids didn't get that way about the knees by kneeling on floors, but more probably through trying to hold a beer keg on their laps.

Fashions change in criticism, as in other things! Today it is the mode to charge economic and political conditions with causing every ill to which men may be heir, from the loss of religion to the occasional evidences of an excess of malicious egotism.

ingly crime has decreased, rather than increased. In this lies a hint for the true cause of crime, and the possible cure. The cause is chiefly poor sportsmanship, meanness, selfishness, disregard for others. The cure lies not in maudlin sympathy for the criminal, but in stern frowning on the crime, and the upholding of the general rights.

Several from Timmins and district who attended the World's Fair at Chicago freely acknowledge the excellence of the event, but hold the opinion that after all, the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto almost every year holds more of interest, of education and of attraction than the more violently ballyhooed event across the line.

Save Some Sympathy for Victims of Crime

Present Danger is a Sickly Sentimentality by Which the Decent and the Law-Abiding are Overlooked.

With all the maudlin sentimentality for murderers, thugs and rogues, it is refreshing to read the plea of an important Eastern newspaper for some consideration and thought for those who are innocent of offence. In a recent editorial article The Saint John, N.B., Telegraph-Journal says:—"Just recently Canadian readers of newspapers and magazines have been treated by two of the leading publications in their respective classes to a rather maudlin exposition of the experiences of two ex-convicts while serving terms in an Ontario penitentiary."

"No good purpose is served by giving to these former prisoners the full freedom of public press. Their views are almost certain to be biased against authority which inflicted the punishment, and which obliged them to go through the rigid discipline which must of necessity be one of the characteristics of such an institution."

"In opening their columns to the questionable recitals of former convicts, these two publications—whether, realize it or not—are rendering a distinct disservice to the administration of justice and the preservation of law and order in our land. They are descending to the level of the tabloids, the influence of which has never been considered as being helpful in the observance of law and order."

"It is always possible that a few Canadian men and women, innocent of any crime, may get into prison through a miscarriage of justice. But they are the exceptions. By and large those who tenant our penitentiaries are criminals, enemies of society, many of them preachers and perpetrators of violence, resulting in death or injury to law-abiding people or the destruction of valuable property."

"In the commission of their crimes against their fellow-men, they gave little heed to the suffering they were causing these fellow-men—or if the thought ever occurred to them, they pushed it from them as being of less importance than the objective of their criminal pursuits."

"Why, then, should there be such concern about the punishment which they so richly deserve? Why should the law-observing portion of the public be treated to such recitals as those spread upon the pages of some of our publications and coming from the minds and pens of former convicts?"

"It is about time that an end was put to this creation of false sympathy for those enemies of society who are meeting their just deserts at the hands of the authorities appointed for that purpose. If those who now waste their sympathies on convicted felons would give thought to the misery and suffering which the acts of those criminals have caused to many innocent people; if they would keep in mind that the fear of punishment is the greatest deterrent of crime, and that in those countries where all sorts of influences are used to defeat the forces of law and order, the criminal and the thug and the blackleg hold the whole population in constant terror, there would be less inclination to shed unearned tears over the fate of those who scoff at the sanctity of life and the sacredness of the property of others, and take the law into their own hands."

"The Canadian penitentiary system may not be perfect—there may be need of certain reforms—but it will not help matters to make heroes of convicts and ex-convicts, the great majority of whom are receiving, or have received, no more than their criminal acts deserve."

BRAVE WOMAN DIED LAST WEEK AT GRAND DESERT

Mrs. Henry Boulanger, aged 33 years, died at Grand Desert last week from burns suffered on Aug. 30th when she rushed into a blazing garage to rescue two children from a neighbouring family. The children had accidentally set the garage on fire and the two youngsters were enveloped in flames from burning gasoline when Mrs. Boulanger attempted their rescue.

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GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

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and the wife, Mr. Boulanger himself was rather badly burned. He will recover, however. Mrs. Boulanger was burned all over her body from head to feet and though she made a gallant fight, it was impossible to save her life. One of the children saved from the burning garage, the two-year-old son of Joseph Bolssonault, is in a critical condition in the hospital at Bonfield. The other lad, an 8-year-old boy of the Bolssonault family, while also badly burned, is making good progress to recovery. Mrs. Boulanger, who gave her life in saving the two children, was herself the mother of nine children. The bravery of Mrs. Boulanger and of her husband prove that the high qualities of courage and self-sacrifice that distinguished the pioneers of the newer parts of the North has not been altogether lost.

THE PRICE OF GAMBLING ON SAFETY

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heart-breaker to the Canadians with the inferiority complex who believe that nothing can be good unless it is foreign.

The story of a woman prospector going into the new Swayze gold field recalls the fact that Cobalt, Porcupine and Kirkland Lake all had their lady prospectors. The ladies were also sure of chivalrous and kindly treatment, and no one attempted to make their work more difficult.

It would be amusing were it not so tragic, that some people are exercised to-day over the danger that people may be killed or injured during the hunting season, while the reckless slaughter of human lives by motor traffic is a weekly occurrence that has ceased to rouse horror or alarm.

"Abandon Hope All Ye Who Enter Here" is the sign that one emotional visionary sees hanging on the front of the Portsmouth penitentiary. No doubt, he would replace it with the more common road sign, "Welcome! Call Again!"

KIRKLAND LAKE POLICEMAN'S CHARITY BALL NETS \$83.15

The Policemen's Charity Ball held recently at Kirkland Lake netted \$83.15, according to a statement last week by Chief Shane. This amount, however, is subject to the amusement tax, but Chief Shane is seeking to have the amusement tax rebated on the grounds that the net proceeds go to charity.

Sudbury Star:—"A pretty girl evangelist preaching on a Chicago beach, in stylish bathing attire, and thousands came to listen." Uh huh—to listen.