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THEIR NASAL TWANG

BISHOP FARTHING OF MONTREAL SPEAKS OUT.

He Laments the Way in Which the Children of Canada Speak—Need For Improvement.

Some months ago, while on a visit to Western Ontario, Earl Grey caused controversy by observing the thick accents of Canadian children. To back his assertion he gave several instances showing how children of the Dominion compared unfavorably in the matter of culture with their cousins in the old land.

The same charge was made more recently in Montreal at the Protestant Teachers' Convention, by a Canadian—Bishop Farthing. More than that, His Lordship made a strong indictment against the English used by Canadians, and urged the teachers to wage war against the nasal intonation so noticeable in the people across the border.

The statement attributed to the bishop is as follows: "Teach them to speak English, and to breathe through their noses and speak through their mouths, as God intended them to do, instead of reversing the order, for do not consider it desirable—even in the Eastern Townships, for speaking through the nose to be encouraged."

He considered it regrettable that Canadian children should lack culture and be unable to pronounce English, a condition which led many employers to prefer English boys to Canadian boys in their offices, and which might be overcome if Canadians would acquire a softer and more musical intonation in their voices.

He has been greatly impressed by the politeness of the French, even in the country villages. When they contrasted the boorishness of the bright-faced English children with the wonderful courtesy of the French children, much as he loved the English children, he thought the comparison was very disadvantageous to them—they were not nearly so polite.

The bishop, in an interview later, said that while he had used the words attributed to him, they lost their correct meaning when picked out and placed alone. He did not try to impress the teachers, he said, that the manners of the English-speaking Canadian were below those of the average English child, and also inferior to those of the French-Canada. He was struck, he stated, as he traveled around, with the politeness of French children, while the bright-eyed children of English-speaking people were lacking in this respect. He wished to impress on the Protestant teachers that the remedy lay with them.

His lordship was reminded that Earl Grey once spoke on this matter, while on a visit to Toronto. He replied that this was not the first time he had drawn attention to the defect; for years he had been noticing the lack of manners in Canadians, and had several times expressed his views in public. He referred to the average Canadian woman, who, on being granted a seat in a street car, in the majority of cases would neglect to say "Thank you." It was not a matter of forgetfulness; teaching was required.

His lordship explained that when speaking of children talking through their noses, he had used the expression "even in the Eastern Townships" popularly. He did not wish to pick out any particular class of Canadian. When addressing the teachers Bishop Farthing gave an instance of where a business man took two boys, one English, the other Canadian. They were taken into the office separately, and asked questions; their replies were noted, and the politeness of the English boy contrasted markedly with the manners of the other.

On the question of English, Bishop Farthing made the following statement: "The English spoken by the rank and file of the Canadian people is superior to the English spoken by the same rank in the old land. In England they have dialects which spoil the purity of their English. In Canada the general tone of the language is superior, yet there is a harshness of pronunciation and a poorness of enunciation. An effort should be made to improve the general standard. Recently I spoke of enunciation and said that the children should be taught to speak clearly and to give a soft vowel sound; they should not speak through their noses, and thus avoid a nasal intonation."

Example of Canadian Marchioness.
"Keep it down to a paragraph anyway."

So spoke Canadian girl in Vancouver the other day. The ubiquitous reporter was on her trail. The lady was the day's sensation in Vancouver. She had achieved notoriety in an unusual way for a Canadian girl. She possessed a title and she was traveling. A city editor saw a good thing; two columns, at least, of racy, slushy stuff about pretty Canadian girl who had married a British aristocrat, and was now touring the world.

But when the reporter went to interview the Marchioness of Donegal, the Miss Violet Twining, of Halifax, he found the Canadian titled lady cordial, but modest. There are not many Canadian girls with titles. Canadian mamas have not adopted the New York title-catching craze. It is interesting to note in a case of a Canadian girl of title that the glamor of her new position has not affected her dignity. "Keep it down to a paragraph anyway." What the Marchioness of Donegal said to The Vancouver World might well be taken to heart by American possessors who not infrequently allow themselves to be exploited with sign board headings in the United States "yellow press."

Pleasant Memories.
With the entrance of the new Vice-Royal regime at Ottawa, newspapermen and others are digging up all sorts of memories of the Duke of Connaught's previous visits to this country. House party pictures with the duke as guest, yellow with time, are fished out of drawers. An Ottawa minister, Rev. George S. Clefdenau, recently preached his Sunday morning sermon using a prayer book on the By-laws of which was the Duke of Connaught's signature, and the date, 1888. The congregation filed up after his service to inspect the book. This is national sentimentalism.

A MEDIAEVAL CEREMONY

Seigneurial Investiture Smack of Ancient Chivalry.

A most interesting ceremony took place on the banks of the Chateauguay River, a little over 40 miles from Montreal, on Sunday the 16th of July. It was the feudal investiture of the descendants of Louis Hebert, the first Seigneur of Canada (1699); of Couillard, Seigneur de L'Espinau, of Louis Joliet, Seigneur of Anticosti (who discovered the sources of the Mississippi, and of Godin, Seigneur de Beausjour de Belletontaine, with the Durbesque Descendants of the Empire and with the Lord Sash and Duke (octofoil) of rank in the Arman and Seigneurial Order of the Empire in America and College of Arms of Canada.

These descendants were accompanied by over 150 members of their respective families and guests from Montreal to participate with the Herald Marshal and the Commissioners of the College of Arms of Canada in the ceremonies.

In the temporary building, erected on an island of the Chateauguay, a throne was decorated with red and yellow colors of the Order with the black two-headed eagle displayed thereon. From a side entrance into the large hall the procession of those who took part entered to the music of The Imperial Hymn. At their first glimpse was the Imperial Hymn. It was sung in Latin by some little girl descendants of the above Seigneurs of New France, their clear, sweet and thrilling tones recalled the days of old Norman Chivalry.

There marched first in this procession the bearers of the Order of the Empire, he was followed by one carrying the Sceptre of Dominion, then came the Banner of the Order of the Empire carried high and emblazoned on its yellow field with the black two-headed eagle of the Emperor Charles V. Under a canopy, on a litter borne by four beautiful girls, reposed the Crown of Empire with the Scroll of Laws tied with the yellow, blue, red and green ribbons of the various degrees of the College of Arms.

They marched in, too, with their sashes, swords and octofails as marks of distinction, fifty members of the Seigneurial and banneret families. When they had all arrived at their places the Crown, Sceptre and Scroll were deposited in the great seat of the throne. The officers and commissioners of the College of Arms arranged themselves about it. The audience stood while "God Save the Empire" was sung in Latin. At this all drew their swords and gave the first, second and third movements of the Seigneurial Imperial Salute, and at the close of the hymn, by the fourth movement, the swords were returned to the scabbards. After further interesting and instructive historical ceremonies, those who were to receive the Sword, Sash, Octofail and Decoration of the Order of the Empire stood in line facing the throne. One of the Commissioners of the College of Arms put on the Sword and Sash, another pinned the Octofail while the Herald Marshal affixed the Decoration.

Among the officers of this Order, besides the Duke of Veragua, who has the first Seat of the Empire in America, is the Baron de Longueuil, Chancellor and President of the Seigneurial Council of Canada; the Viscount de Frasnac, Herald Marshal, the Hon. Thomas Scott Forsyth, Registrar-General; Sir John Calkin Gordon, Solicitor-General; Dr. Joseph Gaston Baillie Bulloch, Presbytery; William Armstrong Crozier, F.R.S., Deputy Commissioner; Rev. John Burke Pyle, M.A., 1st Commissioner; Henry Black Stuart, C.E., 2nd Commissioner; the Marquis de Puvigny, representative in London; Louis Desjardins, representative in France.

The estate at Huntingdon on the Chateauguay, where these ceremonies had taken place, was once the property of Laird Anderson of Scotland, and had been honored in 1860 by a visit from H. R. H. the Prince of Wales (late King Edward VII.) when he was in Canada, and one of the ladies present—Madam Bertram Pinel de L'Espinau, had visited the present King George V., by Royal Appointment in September, 1910.

Who's Fault?

What is the matter with Canadian Museum men? The American Museum of Natural History in New York has just stolen a march on them.

For two seasons, Prof. Henry T. Osborn, president of the New York institution, has led parties of distinguished geologists and ethnologists into the valley of the Red Deer River, Alberta.

These men have made big finds according to report. They have shipped an early world monster's remains—sixty feet in length—to their museum. It is rumored that they have got their hands on a dinosaur, one of the earliest and most valuable historically of the big animal life, which used to run loose before man made his bow to the world.

These Americans, who are taking specimens from Canada to place in the New York Museum, have the permission of the Canadian Government to carry on their work along the Red Deer.

Canadian scholars know of the existence of the prehistoric remains in the Alberta valley. Lawrence M. Lambe, the paleontologist of the Canadian Geological Survey, was up in the Red Deer country in 1897, 1898 and 1901. He told the Royal Society of Canada about the vertebrate remains in Alberta. He has published monographs on the subject. Yet New York Museum men are taking our museum objects.

Why? Here is a chance evidently for a Canadian with some spare cash to investigate the Red Deer country, set up an expedition to rival the American one, and see what dinosaurs, etc., there are up there for the museums of Canada.—Canadian Courier.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE

Duties of the Man Who Compiles "Votes and Proceedings."

The two most important officers of the House of Commons who are not members of that body, like the Speaker, but employes, or servants only, are the Clerk of the House and the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The former keeps the records of the House; the other keeps order, particularly in those extremely rare cases in which order can only be preserved by employing force. The Clerk's position is more peaceful but more onerous. He has to do a large amount of work, and of a kind that must be done well and with absolute correctness, or it would be practically useless.

The first essential qualification in a Clerk of the House is thorough knowledge of the rules of Parliamentary practice and procedure. That complex but exceedingly interesting subject he must know from A to Z. The rules governing every form of address, and every step of procedure must be known to him, so that should others falter or stray from the prescribed path—even the leader of the House, who is usually the Prime Minister, or the Speaker, the Clerk can assist them over the rough spot, or direct their feet into the way they should go.

For many a year that position in the Canadian House of Commons has been ably filled by men who not only know the rules of Parliamentary practice and procedure, but whose important and onerous duties, but who were also ornaments to the House and credits to our National Legislature. For many years the post was filled by that student and experienced Parliamentarian, the late Sir John Bourinot.

The Clerk is appointed, and in reality by the Cabinet, the position being one of the plans a Government have to distribute, provided, of course, a vacancy occurs during their tenure of office. The present Clerk was appointed during the earlier years of the Laurier regime, the vacancy having been created by the death of Sir John Bourinot.

Speaking technically, or theoretically, the Clerk is appointed by Commission under the great seal of Canada, and holds his office until he is virtually until his health or age no longer permit him to perform his duties.

He is the recording officer of the House. He takes notes of the proceedings, of the acts performed by the House, or the use of the words of an old English rule, he is "to make true entries, remembrances, and journals of the things done and passed in the House of Commons; but it is without warrant that he should make minutes of particular men's speeches."

The old English journals contained short reports of debates, but this ancient rule relieved the Clerk of this difficult task. To-day, both in the British and in the Canadian House, the reports of the debates, commonly known as "Hansard" are made by the most expert shorthand writers to be found anywhere.

The Clerk's minutes are made up every day in brief and convenient form, are then printed, and are known as the "Votes and Proceedings." They comprise a record of all the proceedings, but omit many of the parliamentary forms, which are given in full only in the journals, which are extended after the close of a session.

The Clerk has an assistant, who takes minutes of the proceedings in Committee of the Whole, and calls off the names of the members of a division, while the Clerk checks the names on the roll, and at the end of the division announces the number of yeas and nays. The Assistant Clerk also reads in English and French the titles of all bills.

The man who doesn't know how to do a thing is always willing to show you.

HOW A NURSE USED



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