

THE JARVIS RECORD

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The O.T.A. and Politics

The speech from the throne at the opening of the Ontario Legislative Assembly has aroused fear on the one hand and hope on the other that the people will soon be asked to express their wishes regarding liquor legislation.

If it is to be so, the people should not be kept in the dark. Hon. G. Ferguson denies that such a vote is the intention of the government at present. He says that the government is only preparing for the time that a demand for such a vote is in evidence. But the liquor question is not one with which to play politics. It is one in which the government should not be interested as a government. The whole question is for the people to settle. The only duty the government has in connection with it, is to carry out the wishes of the people by enacting any law that is dictated by the voters and then enforcing those laws to the letter. Enforcement is the only way to prove whether a law is good or bad. If it is bad, it should be repealed and a demand for a repeal will not be so faint that it will not be heard. On the other hand, if the law is good, enforcement should be continued.

The government has no right to use the question of liquor to increase political favor. It is no issue in any election except when the vote on it is being taken. An attempt was made to make it an issue at the provincial election, but the men who made that attempt are at their homes during the present session at Toronto.

If Mr. Ferguson, shrewd politician that he is, intends to bring liquor into politics or politics into liquor, he will find that it was not a return of loyalty to the Conservative party that gave him a place among the mighty, but a demand for a government free from waste and experiment and free from making the O.T.A. an instrument to be administered as bait to catch the votes of those so blindly in its favor that its weaknesses could not be seen.

The O.T.A. may not be perfect. It is almost impossible that it could be so. Many laws that have been on the statute books many more years and that have been amended time and time again in an effort to improve them, are still not perfect. But it is necessary that the people say what changes be made in the liquor laws. If a chance is to be given the people to exercise that privilege, there should be no beating about the bush but a frank, open avowal from the government. If that chance is not to be given, the less said about it the better. It is a question over which there is a keen, even bitter disagreement, and Ontario has no

need of having a spirited uttered up if there is to be no opportunity to settle it. In any event, it is a question in which any influence exerted by the government, will be deeply resented.

Facts and Fancies

Did Best She Could
Mrs. Flatbush—I'm surprised at that neighbor of ours.
Mr. Flatbush—What's wrong now?
"Why, I saw her hanging her husband over the head today with her umbrella."
"Oh, well, dear, I guess that's all right. Perhaps she didn't have a nut-cracker handy."

Different Now
"Do you think government wages should be larger?"
"I do," replied Senator Sorghum. "And it's a pretty unselfish attitude on my part. I can remember when folks used to stand in line asking my influence for government jobs till I hardly got a chance to attend to anything else."

One Enough
Church—They say that onions occur only in Numbers 11:5, as one of the good things of Egypt, of which the Israelites regretted the loss.
Gotham—Well, one onion is bad enough for me. I'm certainly not going to look for them in numbers.

Very Likely
"Young couple was just telling me that all their fortune some down the family line."
"I guess that's true. You know, before the old man struck oil, his mother took in washing to support the family."

Warn Out
Dinks—What was the matter with the wedding party? The bride tottered, the best man looked groggy, and one of the ushers collapsed at the door. What was the cause of it?
Winks—Too many rehearsals.

Our Complete Debt
Teacher—"We borrowed our numerals from the Arabs, our calendar from the Romans, and our banking from the Italians. Can any one think of any other examples?"
Willie Willis—"Our lawn mower from the Smiths, our snow shovel from the Jones, and our baby carriage from the Bumps."

Fast Going
"That boy of yours is very quick in his studies."
"Yes," replied the man with the slightly worried look. "He learns his lessons very rapidly. But he always forgets them before recitation time."

They Surely Would
Church—I see that every policeman in Berkeley, Cal., now has an automobile.
Gotham—It that happened in New York people would say: "Where did he get it?"

Not a Necessity
"Reggie is well provided with the necessities of life."
"Yes. It is fortunate for him that the necessities of life do not include brains."

Important
"He seems to consider himself very important here."
"Yep. Spends most of his time wondering how the rest of the world gets along without his help."

Named
Patience—Would you call a pronograph an ornament or a toy?
Patrice—Why, I'd call it a plaything.

Letters to the Editor

Editor of "The Record,"
Dear Sir:—In your issue of the 7th inst., Mr. "Fairplay" uses some very strong language in his challenge

lured at the vanity of my statement. Concerning said statement, he says, "That is as much as to say that unless a man is rich he cannot get medical service however badly it is needed." Now, Sir, I contend that such is "a deliberate misstatement of facts." I cannot say "utterly unworthy of a gentleman of Mr. 'Fairplay's' calling," for I know not who he is, as he takes the—to "say it with flowers"—very unencourageous advantage of hiding his identity behind a nom de plume, in a controversy.

He jumps in one bound from my positive to his personally suitable superlative. No fairminded, unprejudiced person can read into my statement what he has tried to do. I said "A doctor can—and often does." I made no such sweeping indictment as he charges me with. I did not say all doctors, neither in all cases of poor as he utterly wrongly charges.

Was my statement wrong?
My work during a ministry of 40 years has called me to reside in places from Sarnia to within 25 miles of Ottawa, in village, town and city, and I have seen a few things. I have known an estimable lady to suffer for many years from milk-leg developing a heinous sore of years duration, whom proper medical treatment doubtless could have cured but who was too poor to secure such.

A large family, mostly all suffering from sickness, needing extra medical care but whose poverty absolutely prevented such. An old man, a laborer, had his eye hurt, went to the hospital for three weeks, treated by specialist under whose care he went stone blind, paid the doctor \$300, came home and had not money to bury himself had not his daughter—also poor—helped, and during his several weeks of lingering at home I went and twice daily—at least—performed an exceedingly disagreeable service for him to save further medical expense, needless to say, gratis.

Another old man suffering excruciatingly for weeks because he could not afford a doctor's fees for relief. Another man, "whom unmerciful disaster followed fast and followed faster," until reduced to a physical and financial wreck, was compelled to engage expert medical help which he knew would cost so much that he could not possibly secure the recognized standard care while convalescing, and his forebodings re the doctor's charges proved more even than he expected.

And, Mr. Editor, I could multiply such cases, my wife and son and daughter also can testify to the truth of what I am writing, and we all know that there is a never-ending army in this world who, "Too proud to beg, Are marching bravely down Into the valley dark and deep."

Dear Mr. Editor, please believe me, we don't expect our doctors—God bless them—to run after all these, yet, "we speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen" in making that objectionable statement in my address.

And now, before Mr. "Fairplay" again hollers "deliberate misstatement of facts," or "slander," either from a "gentleman of Mr. Siple's calling" or any other calling, he had better "familiarise himself with facts."

"In conclusion," as the preacher says, while I take second place to none in my appreciation of and reverence for our medical fraternity, yet, inasmuch as the doctor only deals with the body which is a tent of a few days standing, and the gospel minister deals with the soul, which is immortal, that the work of the former as far transcends the work of the latter as eternity is longer than the span of human life here.

I remain, Sir, yours in the interests of fairplay.

M. E. Siple.



Favorite Hymns

(Continued from Page 1)

left his quiet western home to take his clerical degree at Cambridge. After a year or two spent in touring Iceland and the Continent, collecting much of the material which later he presented in stories which made an instantly popular appeal, the young priest took a curacy at Horbury, near Wakefield.

"Now the Day is Over," and "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow," were also composed at Horbury. Forty-five years ago he presented himself with the family living in Devonshire, where as squire, magistrate, and rector, he was one of the best known and most loved personalities in a wide district.

Author of more than one hundred books, including many novels, Rev. Baring-Gould has recently been engaged on an ecclesiastical history. Baring-Gould's name and work are held in honor wherever the English language is spoken, and wherever men worship according to the English rite, for his hymns are among the most popular in the language.

ROCKFORD

Sunday school will commence at 10 o'clock next Sunday morning on account of the Mission Band program. To be given after the regular session. Misses Enid Paskins and Grace Wride spent Sunday as the guests of Miss Ramona McLaren.

Mr. and Mrs. Avery Wheeler (nee Alice Gimson), of Vanessa, spent over Sunday with the latter's sister, Miss Charlotte Gimson and other friends. Miss Florence Smith has been quite ill with appendicitis. She is much improved.

The Four Square club was invited to Mt. Zion last Thursday evening and spent a pleasant time with the Mt. Zion All Welcome League.

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