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BISHOP OF LONDON'S FAITH CURE.

In our issue of Wednesday we published a telegram from London giving particulars of a case of faith cure, or spiritual healing, reported by the Bishop of London, Dr. Ingram. The learned bishop stated that in the course of a special mission he had been engaged in at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, he received a letter from a mother about her daughter of fifteen who was lying seriously ill with a nervous breakdown. The girl had heard the bishop preach before she became ill, and begged her mother to send her a petition for prayer. The bishop visited the sick room and found the girl in hysterics, entirely beyond the control of her mother, nurse and doctor. The bishop tells us he remembered the injunction of St. James that if the Church annoint the sick with oil and pray in faith the sick will be saved, so he proceeded to try the experiment. He offered up two prayers with the girl, who had recognized him, then anointed her on the forehead with oil, and concluded with his blessing. "At that moment," declares the bishop, "she sank into a deep sleep and slept for hours during the night, and, thank God, if it is His good pleasure, she is now on the high way to recovery."

There is no reason to doubt the genuineness of this account of "spiritual healing," nor need we seek an explanation of it in any miraculous agency. It is an instance of mind cure entirely consistent with medical science. Dr. Hack Tuke, in his book on the "Influence of the Mind upon the Body in Health and Disease," gives many well-authenticated cases of pains being assuaged and disease cured by mental influences. Dr. John Brown of Edinburgh tells a quaint story of his curing a bad case of colic by handing the prescription to the patient and saying "Take that." He found the patient had swallowed the paper and got instantaneous relief! It was faith that did it.

In a valuable contribution on "Mind Cures" in the current number of the "Quarterly Review," Sir T. S. Clouston, M.D., the most distinguished living authority on mental diseases, gives a rational and scientific explanation of all the so-called miraculous and faith cures of which we hear a good deal from time to time. Sir Thomas does not by any means disparage these cures but he gives the physiological explanation of how they are brought about.

Mental disease, he says, always implies disorder of both body and mind as a consequence of the brain being disturbed in its working. Its cure, therefore, must always take the body into account. The mental areas in the brain may, however, be diseased or disturbed without other demonstrable bodily disturbance. Electricity or heat may powerfully affect the matter through which they are generated. The heat that may be produced from coal may be turned on to burn still further its source. In this

sense mind may act on body and cure some of its diseases.

The effects of brain-mental stimuli or worry on the body is illustrated by the well known effect on the digestive organs. Who has not had his appetite or digestion suddenly stopped by anxiety or by hearing a piece of bad news? This is done through the brain cells of the digestive centres. The bad effects of worry on the general health and nutrition of the body are known to everyone. The brain cells then act less vigorously; the flow of blood to them through their capillaries—each cell has capillary vessels to supply it with nourishment—is lessened; the general feeling of well-being, of bien-être, is lost. All these bodily and mental effects are due to abnormal action in the mental centres of the brain.

The apparatus for the production of these and hundreds of other bodily effects, good and evil, exists in the brain. It is part of the normal bodily armamentarium. When, through this apparatus, certain diseases are cured during hypnosis or "faith healing," there is no more miracle or special mystery about the process than the perpetual miracle of the daily work of the human brain, or its exact parallelism with our varied mental conditions, or its general action in keeping the body in health.

Faith in the healer or in the means of cure and similar agencies have roused the higher levels of the brain to activity, and so have "cured" the disorder. A strong belief and a keen emotion necessarily alter the condition of the brain-cells and their blood supply. Dogmatism has the same effect, and whatever gives tone to the blood vessels and nerves, stimulates the heart, sets the muscles in action and distracts the attention from disease, will cure many complaints. All this the brain-cells that subserve mind have the power of doing.

Thus the "spiritual-healing" made so much of by the Bishop of London is not of the nature of a marvel, but merely an instance of an everyday occurrence in the history of medical men, especially those who specialize in mental disorders. The girl was highly-strung, unnerved, emotional, had great faith in the bishop whose mission she had been attending, and his very presence and touch had a soothing, restorative influence. In the treatment of all mental disease, in addition to medicines and hygienic agencies, some of the chief means of cure are found in just such a measure as the bishop applied, viz., mental and moral treatment, removal of worries, suitable suggestion, mental distractions, and the strengthening of will power. Prayer and faith are as good a means to this end as could possibly be found, and so to this extent the bishop is entitled to all credit for his successful adventure as a "spiritual healer."

THOUGH LAWFUL NOT EXPEDIENT

Paul tells us somewhere in his writings that what is lawful may not always be expedient. This, Mr. McWilliams, member for West Cape, in the House of Assembly had brought home to him yesterday. Mr. McWilliams while going over the public accounts came across an item of \$190 for the entertainment of the Hon. Mr. White, Finance Minister of the Dominion and the Hon. Dr. Reid, Minister of Customs, while on a visit here last summer. This, thought Mr. McWilliams, is something that requires investigation. What possibly could account for so vast an outlay when hon. members of the House like himself get only \$200 each? Here were two Dominion members costing the province only \$10 less than a provincial representative. He therefore tabled a motion calling upon the Government to submit for public inspection the details of the cost of the entertainment given its guests.

The Government was quite prepared to submit the information, but various members questioned the expediency of gratifying such inordinate curiosity, and two of them offered to defray the cost out of their own pockets rather than the fair name of the Island should be sullied in such a manner. Mr. McWilliams appreciated his position when shown to him in this light and readily agreed to withdraw his motion.

This is clearly an instance of a member allowing his zeal to outrun his discretion. Mr. McWilliams would be the last to discourage the visit of distinguished strangers, and especial-

important political personages to our Island, and were he asked as an individual we feel sure he would be foremost in insisting that all such visitors should be worthily received and appropriately entertained. It is as well, therefore, that his thirst for information was not gratified. It would have done him no good and would probably have done the Island a great deal of harm. No distinguished visitor would care to partake of our hospitality were he subsequently to be confronted with the detailed cost in the public press. It is easy to imagine the feelings of a Minister at Ottawa, or the Governor-General for that matter, who had graciously consented to accept of our hospitality and afterwards found himself held up to public ridicule by the price and brand of the cigars he smoked and the wine he drank being advertised broadcast for the gratification of his foes and the amusement of his friends.

If we are to boost our Island province that is not the way to do it. It is necessary we should abandon the pettiness and puerility which put mere party advantage before our common interest. We have before us samples of the bad advertisement this is for the Island, newspapers in the West containing criticisms which, to say the least, are not justified by facts, but simply due to local at-

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tempts to make party capital out of matters which should be above and outwith party.

Both Mr. McWilliams and Mr. Richards readily recognized that the question at stake was of little importance to the public, and was put on the principle that similar inquiries were made by members of the present government to its predecessors. The Premier indignantly denied this, and the disclaimer was accepted. Little good is likely to result from calling in questions the Island's hospitality, and we are sure every reasonable man will agree that Mr. McWilliams pursued the proper course in withdrawing his motion.

INSPECTION WANTED.

Sir:—We see by the papers that the public are asking for meat inspection. Well, we believe there is not much danger from meats as all meats are supposed to be cooked. The real danger is in milk and butter and the time is coming when every cow that produces milk will have to be tested for tuberculosis. But there is another article of food that we must get at, that is eggs. If we were to visit fifty to seventy-five per cent of the farm houses in the country, we would find no sanitary arrangements of any kind. We would find among them many hen houses in which the hens live under the filthiest conditions and are fed in a way which is not calculated to add to the healthfulness of their eggs. These eggs are retailed in the city market every week and often to poor invalids, whose food consists largely of raw eggs. According to the reports of tuberculosis hospitals eggs and milk are fed raw to patients. Think of feeding a patient with eggs that are produced under the most unsanitary and filthy conditions, and with milk from cows that as likely as not are tuberculous. These are things that should be looked into and we hope the press will comment strongly upon the subject.

I am, yours &c JOSHUA PIGEON, Rustico Road.

Provincial Legislature

(Continued from page 1) residents of Peters and Palmer Roads asking for a road to connect them and whether it was the intention to grant the prayer of the petition. HON. MR. McNEILL said the petition had been received and he had visited the road with the view of seeing what could be done. MR. GALLANT asked whether a similar petition for a new road from Rennie to Portage Road, and what was the Government's intention. MR. McNEILL made a similar reply to the former one.

A STORM OF INDIGNATION.

MR. McWILLIAMS moved that "the Leader of the Government lay on the table details of expenses in connection with the entertainment to Messrs. White and Reid appearing on page 34 of report of Public Accounts."

THE PREMIER said before acquiescing he should like to express his surprise that such a motion should come from any one occupying so responsible a position as a member of that house. Last summer the Province was so fortunate as to receive visits from no fewer than five members of the present Dominion Government. This was an honor and distinction they were proud of; and they, as a Government, found it especially advantageous when dealing with the question of subsidy, to have such important members of the ad-instratation with us in order that they (the Government) might obtain their information in receiving a visit from the Hon. Mr. White, the Minister of Finance, who had just entered upon his new work and on whom the duties of his new office naturally pressed very heavily. Until he came here last year, he had never seen the Island before, had no idea what it was like, and could not properly realize what we had suffered since entering Confederation. As the result of his visit, he had taken the matter up, become interested in our burden of engineering our claims for increased subsidy through the House of Commons. There was no man to whom we were more indebted than the Hon. Mr. White for furthering our interests and plotting our claims through parliament, or to whom the Island was more indebted for the practical interest in and sympathy for our claims.

A MATTER FOR SHAME

It was therefore with feelings of regret and shame that he found there was anyone in that house who would challenge the slight act of hospitality which this Island had shown him. He was the more surprised that the challenge should come from a gentleman who evinced so much interest in logs in that house; and that he should descend to an attempt to pry into the pantry and cupboard to find out in what particular manner the cost was incurred to entertain their guests. Why if they had paid five or ten times as much as they had done to show their hospitality to their guests and appreciation of the interest and support they were giving the Island it would have been money well spent. The government was exceedingly fortunate in the friendly relations that existed between it and the members in Ottawa. In previous

years when their predecessors were in office they also had had visits from Ministers whose good will they had, but it ended there; they did not convert their interest into action. The government's relations with the Federal government was much more satisfactory and helpful to the Island, and was worth all the money, and much more, that had been spent in entertaining their visitors. It meant for the Island the difference between retrogression and progress; and surely it was a poor, petty cavilling nature that would call in question the amount which the government had spent in hospitality, and try to seek details of the manner in which the money had been spent. (Applause) He hoped they would have a visit again this year from several of the Ministers, including the Hon. Mr. White, Minister of Finance, and they hoped to interest them still further in the claims of this province; but it would be with doubtful pleasure any of these hon. gentlemen would accept of our hospitality if they knew that it would be called in question in their entertainment. But the hon. member of the opposition would get his details, and when these were entered in the journals of the house it would be the measure of the questioner for all time. (Applause) When a time of unbounded wealth was opening out before the province; when prosperity was visiting us; when we were at length gaining the ear of the Federal government to the just claims of the province, surely that was not the time to question any hospitality we might show to Ministers who were taking an interest in us. He was surprised that a member of the opposition should come forward with such a motion. They would give the details asked for; but could not help remarking that the motion displayed public spirit and motives far beneath the standard any member of that house should be expected to maintain. (Applause.)

A LEGITIMATE QUESTION

MR. RICHARDS, Leader of the Opposition, said he considered the question quite legitimate though perhaps not of very much importance. He had not been aware that it was to be put until his attention had been called to it that morning. He thought the remarks of the Premier rather wide of the mark, especially his reference to "dogs" and the "pantry." That he thought was uncalled for, especially in view of the fact that similar questions had been put by the Premier while in Opposition. THE PREMIER: Federal Ministers visited here and were entertained by the Government while I was in Opposition and I deny ever having put a similar question or motion to the one put by the hon. member (Mr. McWilliams). I must ask the Hon. member to retract. MR. RICHARDS: There were so many questions put to the government by the Premier when he was in opposition that he (the speaker) had been unable to keep track of them; but he would accept his disclaimer. All the same he thought the present motion should be treated with the courtesy and consideration it deserved, and since the government had nothing to hide, they should supply the information asked for. Speaking for the Opposition he might say they were all very glad to have the Ministers of the Federal government come among us, and the officers they came the more pleased they would be to welcome them. The Finance Minister (Mr. White) was a very clever man, who desired to do the best he could for this and other provinces, and he would be very glad to have him again on the Island. All the same the question though not important, was quite legitimate.

HON. MR. WHITE'S APPRECIATION

HON. MR. ARSENAULT said the government had no objection to answer this or any other question referring to the public accounts and all details were open to the inspections of the House. But it was a very different thing to have it appearing on the records of the house that any member had asked details of the expenditure in entertaining members of the Federal government who visited the province. It was a challenge he thought any member should keep clear of; for we were very glad to get these Members here, and they might be assured if we did not have them here. He might say that Mr. White had stated that this Island was the fairest place he had ever visited. In all his travels there was no place had appealed to him so much. The air, the beauty of the scenery, the fine extent of sea coast, the warm reception he had received had so impressed their visitor that Prince Edward Island had gained a friend who had proved invaluable to us in pushing our claims at Ottawa. "I assure you," exclaimed Mr. Arsenault with considerable warmth, "rather than have any such motion as the hon. member has proposed appearing in the journal of this house, I am prepared to put my hand in my pocket and pay the expense myself." (Loud Applause in which the spectators joined.) Continuing he said he would far rather pay the expense himself than it should go abroad that

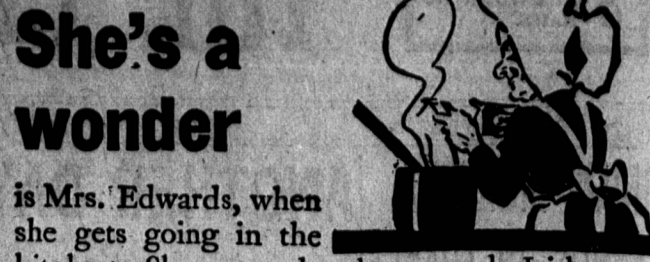
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nothing to hide he would rather, like his hon. friend (Mr. Arsenault) pay the bill out of his own pocket than have it recorded in the journals of the House. (Applause.)

NEITHER COURTEOUS NOR DIPLOMATIC

MR. JAMES KENNEDY said it was neither courteous nor diplomatic for any member of that House to question the cost of the reception given to a member of the Federal Government who had done more than any other for a number of years for the benefit of this province. He hoped the hon. member for West Cape for his own sake and for the reputation of the Island would withdraw his motion. (Applause.) MR. T. W. McDONALD thought perhaps the hon. member thought the

(Continued on page 3)

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