

# THE CANADIAN BAR REVIEW

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Vol. VI.

TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1928.

No. 8

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## LORD HALDANE—A PERSONAL NOTE.

There is little necessity for readers of this REVIEW to write anything of the great legal qualifications of the late Lord Haldane. His position as lawyer and jurist is secure with the ages—among the outstanding of the profession. There are, however, in this connexion some points which deserve record. As we survey his legal career we are at once struck with the width of his learning in many fields. His active and acute mind brought to the study of law an extraordinary familiarity with all the social sciences. For him law was not authority, not regulation arbitrary imposed, not force, but that reflection of order and decorum which are the highest products of civilization. If order is Heaven's first law it was for him earth's divinest possession. As a consequence he studied human relationships in their manifold activities. Talk to him of theoretical or applied economics and he moved with skilled familiarity on the mountains of theory or along the mundane valleys of finance, international trade, capital and labour. If a discussion arose on the nature of the state, on the problems of poverty, of unemployment, of public health, of education and so on, he brought to it a wisdom and a judgment nourished by accurate information and matured by sobriety of observation. We marvelled at the width of his horizons. This very width made him a great lawyer and a great member of the Judicial Committee. He galvanized into life and into human values the technicalities of law by his sweep of intellectual and social interests. He represents the *beau ideal* of legal education. In addition he possessed the finest literary culture. His appreciation of the creative in human life was as great as his appreciation of the noblest ideals of law. To know him intimately was a liberal education.

In addition there are some personal points which I should like to put on record after enjoying his intimate friendship for many years. His patience was phenomenal. He would spend hours in conversation or in writing in elucidating or discussing questions. And this not merely with older people but with young students. I have introduced to him many students and he has welcomed them to his home and talked with them with neither condescension nor patronage. His modest reserve and self-control were remarkable. His buoyancy of spirit was outstanding and his hospitality boundless. I have sent to him many young Canadians visiting England and he has received them with charming courtesy. Indeed almost the last private lunch which he gave at his London residence was for one of my students and that at a time when the tale of his years was almost told. With him he discussed legal education in Canada, the B.N.A. Act, and the *Tiny School* case. In points of finer feelings he was exacting. I had introduced to him this summer two of my colleagues and he was preparing to have them as guests when death struck him. From his death-bed he sent me a personal message assuring me of his disappointment and asking me to convey his regrets to them. A man who could think of such a small thing at that last moment is made of the stuff of which greatness clothes itself.

There was then in the make-up of Lord Haldane's personality all those qualities which make a great gentleman and a great friend. He would go out of his way to honour—as he would call it—friendship and I could, if necessary, illustrate this from my own experience. One example will suffice. In the course of our regular correspondence I made a perfectly casual reference to a small point in constitutional law which had no importance and was almost of historical interest only. I got back a long discussion of it which he had amplified by work in the libraries, and this at the very height of his career.

Finally, I may now tell something. I once ventured to discuss with him the powers of Governors in Canada to create companies under the prerogative. Of course, his loyalty to judicial etiquette did not fail. He pointed out that I knew that he could not "rehear" even for a friend an opinion of the Judicial Committee; but he said that he had gone into the whole matter with the colonial office and that he had satisfied his mind to the best of his ability on the matter. I now know that that "going into" represented hours and hours of personal research. *O si sic omnes!*

Of his public career, of his legal career, of his cultural career—others may and will write; and petty men will discuss his shortcomings, his faults and all that sort of thing. What matter! A genius for friendship, an extraordinary charity in word and deed, a high conception of duty, an old-world courtesy—these are the things which will live with those of us who knew him and will survive in the final estimate of his career above and beyond the ephemeral storms of passion.

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THE SOUL OF CANADA.—It was a very nice thing for the Right Honourable Mr. Ramsay MacDonald to discover on his recent cisatlantic visit that Canada is developing a soul. Such a discovery is more flattering to us than to discover, as Mr. Tom Johnson pretended to do, that Canada had nothing more than a bad temper towards people outside of her domain. We venture to think, however, with all deference to Mr. MacDonald that Canada has had a soul ever since she came into being as a body politic in 1867. Without a soul she would never have been able to translate into action and fact the 'will-to-unite' the several provinces of British North America which came together as dwellers in a single house in that year. Without a soul Canada would certainly not have done and suffered for an ideal as she did in the Great War. It is true that certain psychologists scoff at ascribing to any nation such a thing as a soul, and some of them deny that there is even a 'group mind' in any civil community of men. But it is the business of the small philosopher to deny everything and establish nothing. Nothing can be salvaged from his dump. However if it be correct, as Charles Sumner once said, that "the true greatness of nations is in those qualities which constitute the greatness of the individual," then it seems to us that the possibility of a nation possessing a soul cannot be denied.