

scorn of the press throughout Canada and the United States. But perhaps British law and Prince Edward Island reasoning "do not reconcile." "Certainly"—said the St John Globe of June 23, 1908,—“we cannot afford to make any reflection on justice in New York when the Doherty case is remembered;” nor, I might add, can you afford to make reflections on justice in the Province of Quebec

It is an old saying that “people living in glass houses should not throw stones” and I am not aware of any class in this country who can indulge in this pastime without some inconvenience to themselves. We have faults in Quebec as in any other part of Canada. French-Canadian juries may occasionally deliver a verdict founded rather on impulse than on evidence but in this respect they differ little from their Anglo-Canadian brothers. The people of Quebec have so often had the finger of derision pointed at them from the other Provinces of Canada that they are now to some extent used to it, but I feel that I can assure you Mr. Editor that British justice does not suffer most in the Province to which I belong, and as for British “fair play” we shall soon have a monopoly of it—

I thank you in advance for the space this letter will occupy in your valued paper.

L. D. Durand.

April 3rd, 1911.

(This letter has not yet appeared in the Guardian.)



Esperanto

The project of establishing an international language has passed the stage of discussion. Esperantists do not intend their language to displace those already in existence, but to supply a secondary means of communication for those who speak different tongues, and its commercial value is already beginning to appeal strongly to American firms.

All the large New York houses keep salesmen who speak Esperanto, and each week increases the number of wholesale exporters who utilize Esperanto in their foreign correspondence

It is a medium of communication of very great utility to scientists, educators and missionaries. Scientists who desire to know the latest experiments made throughout the world require a knowledge of diverse languages, but if scientific reports are written in Esperanto they experience very little difficulty.

All the large cities now have classes under various auspices. Text books hitherto have been published for private study only and they are not as a rule suitable for College work, but it is expected that in the course of this year such books will be published. The best universities of the United States have already established Esperanto courses.

Esperanto is of very great importance in the development of a fraternal spirit. Where all speak one language there are really no foreigners.

It is also very easy to recognize the Esperantist in every European city because he always wears a little green star. Dr. Yeamans tells us that when he went to Madrid he could hardly make himself understood by a Spanish policeman until that officer noticed the green star. He called a gentleman wearing a similar emblem and conversation was thus made easy.

In an Esperantist congress lately held in Paris the Rev. Father Decoene, a Redemptorist missionary, told of the great service Esperanto had afforded him in the Manitoba missions. "Sermons, catechism and confessions," said he, "are easily made in Esperanto all over those immense prairies where I have found Catholics of 53 different nationalities and where my knowledge of 17 languages is not enough." Father Decoene explains how in very short time he became able to instruct persons whose native language he did not know—he studied Esperanto—and now there are many missionaries who follow his example.

Paris is the international centre of Esperanto. It has a Library of 1500 volumes which are translations of the best work of all the languages. Among the books is a manual of baseball which gives the rules, history, etc. of the great American game although as sport it is practically unknown in Europe.

Do not imagine that the interest in Esperanto is confined to Europe and the United States. By no means: it is extended over the world and perhaps no country is more enthusiastic than Japan. There are two periodicals published in Japan in this language and the Minister of Education in that country is the President of the Esperanto Association and encourages its study in the national schools.

One of the principal features of this international language worthy of praise is that it is free from all dominant national influence. There is a permanent committee which each year considers changes and additions. Esperanto represents all languages and this cosmopolitanism is one of its chief advantages.

R. FINOL.