

THE DOMINION HOUSE.

SEVENTH PARLIAMENT—FOURTH SESSION AT OTTAWA.

STEAMBOAT INSPECTION.

Sir Charles H. Tupper introduced a bill to amend the Steamboat Inspection Act, which was substantially to remove doubts existing as to collection of dues for inspection of boilers and machinery.

MISSING WITNESSES.

The Sergeant-at-Arms informed the House that J. B. Prevost and O. E. Larose, of Quebec, witnesses summoned to appear at the Bar of the House this day, were not in attendance.

Sir John Thompson moved that the Speaker do issue his warrant for the apprehension of the persons named, that they be taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms and brought before the Bar of the House.

The motion was carried.

TORONTO POST OFFICE.

Sir Adolphe Caron, replying to Mr. Casy, said that F.D. Barwick, P.O. Inspector of Toronto district, had been dismissed for general neglect of duty and detention of certain sums of money which came into his possession.

FAST ATLANTIC SERVICE.

Sir John Thompson, replying to Mr. Langelier, said the Government was doing its best to secure a fast Atlantic service and hoped to make Quebec the terminal point.

CIVIL SERVICE FRAUDS.

Mr. Brodeur, moving for a select committee to enquire into the irregularities at the Civil Service examinations, said that there was a current rumor in Quebec, that in November last at least 50 of the candidates were personated.

Mr. Quimet asked the hon. gentleman if he intended to insinuate that he had been guilty of such a fraud.

Sir John Thompson did not desire to deny or extenuate the irregularities. He regretted the delay, but there were good reasons for it.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE.

Mr. Charlton moved the third reading of the bill to secure a better observance of the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday.

Mr. Taylor moved in amendment that the bill be referred back to the Committee of the Whole House to amend the same, so as to provide that religious publications and Sunday school publications may be distributed on the Lord's day.

The amendment was adopted. The House went into committee.

Mr. Taylor moved that the words "circulation" and "distribution" be struck out of the bill, making it an offence to sell only.

Mr. Charlton was willing to insert the word "secular" before "newspaper" which would define the class of papers not to be sold or distributed.

Sir John Thompson suggested that for the purpose of clearness the words "Church and Sunday school" be inserted in the bill, which would better define the class of papers that might be circulated.

Mr. Charlton moved that the following proviso be added to the clause:—"But nothing in this section shall prevent the gratuitous distribution of religious publications in churches, Sunday schools, or religious meetings."

The proviso was carried. The committee then rose and reported the bill.

Mr. Mara, on the motion for the third reading, moved that the bill be referred back with instructions to limit clause 1 to the sale of newspapers on the Lord's day.

After a debate, the House divided on the amendment, which was carried on a vote of 60 yeas and 52 nays. The House went into committee.

Mr. Mara moved that the words "prohibiting the distribution and circulation of newspapers on Sunday" be struck out. The amendment was carried.

Mr. Charlton moved the third reading of the bill. Mr. Langelier moved in amendment to the third reading that the present Act shall not apply to the province of Quebec.

The amendment was lost. The bill was read a third time on division.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Mr. Coatsworth moved the House into committee on the bill to make further provision as to the prevention of cruelty to animals, and to amend the Criminal Code, 1892.

The clause was dropped. Mr. Tisdale moved an amendment to permit trap shooting for pigeons as a test of marksmanship.

Sir John Thompson moved that the committee rise and report progress. The committee rose and reported progress.

THE FAST ATLANTIC SERVICE.

Sir John Thompson, in reply to Mr. Cameron, said that representations had been made to the Government in favor of Terminal City, Strait of Canso, Nova Scotia, as the Atlantic terminus, of the fast Atlantic service.

THE NEW FRANCHISE ACT.

Sir John Thompson introduced his bill to amend the Electoral Franchise Act and moved the first reading. The principal features of the bill were explained as follows:—"In relation to the revision of the present year, we bring into force for the purposes of the revision the distribution act of 1892; it will follow, therefore, that the revision of the present year will be made on the lines of the constituencies as re-arranged in 1892, notwithstanding that the redistribution act is not to come into force for electoral purposes until a dissolution of this Parliament.

At the same time it is our constitutional duty to see that the constituencies are always in such a position that, in case of an appeal, the electors will be ready with the lists revised and the constituency so arranged that the general elections may take place. While it is not only possible, but very probable, that the revision of this year will be followed by a revision next year prior to any dissolution, still, acting upon the principle which I have mentioned, we are bound to keep in view the facts that, whenever a dissolution shall take place the constituencies will be in a position to have a vote taken according to the distribution which will then be in force.

However, we propose to provide for the case of by-elections taking place in the meantime by taking care that the polling divisions will be made in such a manner that, in the event of a vacancy occurring, and a by-election being held before dissolution, a list for that purpose may be made up according to the constituencies as they exist at present, from the new lists.

Therefore, the two principles can be kept in view in the one revision, the principle of having the polling division, so arranged that the list of electors for the electoral district as it now stands can be formed at any moment out of the revised lists, likewise the principle that the electoral lists for the constituency, according to the redistribution act, may be accessible at any moment that an opportunity may arise.

A Lost Dog.

A man came into the office of a Maine paper the other day and thus addressed the young lady at the desk: "How you vas to-day, I hope? I vants for to advertize my leetle toge on der baper. He vas shet-black mit white spots all over him in places. His tail vas coot off close up to myself, and if anytoppy fits him, keep him, for I belong to him. How mooch vor two time?"—[Lewiston Journal.]

The American trotting horse is becoming popular in Italy. Of the 893 private stallions in that country which were approved by the official inspectors, seventeen were American.

Household.

Moths.

Benzine and carbolic acid, one gallon to one ounce, is sure death to moths. But it cannot be used in delicate fabrics, and from its inflammable character, must be used with great caution. A hand atomizer is the easiest way to apply it.

The fumes of burning camphor gum or sulphur will suffocate moth millers. It is a very disagreeable operation, but it is so effective that any room where they are known to be should be fumigated this month. To do this with entire success remove the contents of trunks and wardrobes, and hang on backs of chairs; close doors and windows; set a panful of water in the middle of room, at a safe distance from all hangings and furniture; in this place a small iron pot, half filled with ashes and the camphor; for a room 15x18 feet use a peice as large as a walnut; saturate with alcohol and set the camphor on fire. It will burn fiercely at first, but if proper precautions were observed there is no danger; leave the room as soon as you are satisfied that your furniture is in no danger of taking fire; allow the mass to burn itself out, which it will do in half an hour; open the windows and doors for an hour.

Moths prefer soiled to clean garments. The first step toward the safety of garments before putting them away is to turn pockets inside out, beat all dust, saturate and clean with benzine, if necessary. Allow the clothes to hang in the sunlight for several hours. Moths hate the light. They work in the dark.

Bags of various sizes made of seersucker and stitched with double seams, are safer receptacles of clothing than trunks and are fully equal to expensive cedar chests.

Another method of fighting moths is as follows: Get packing boxes, trunks and drawers ready. Lay in a supply of old newspapers and have ready some old sheets for wrapping around articles that are to be put away. If you do not send your furs to the furrier's for summer now hang them on the line, beating and brushing, and combing the fur with a fine comb, to remove the moth eggs, if by chance they may have found lodgment there. Be sure that the pockets of the garments are turned inside out and the seams and creases thoroughly brushed. Now saturate the articles with naphtha, fold in a sheet and lay in a box or drawer. All flannels that are to be stored should be treated in the same manner. White ones that have been washed, do not require the naphtha bath, needing only to be folded in sheets and put in a box that has had naphtha poured in all its seams. Wash all the blankets that can be spared and put them away in the same manner.

Naphtha should never be used in rooms where there is light or fire. Before applying it open the windows to prepare for clearing the room of gas.

The Kind of a Woman to Know.

The woman with a loving heart is sure to look upon the bright side of life, and by her example induce others to do so. She sees a good reason for all the unwelcome events which others call bad luck. She believes in silver linings, and likes to point them out to others. A week of rain or fog, an avalanche of unexpected guests, a dishonest servant, an unbecoming bonnet, or any other of the thousand minor inflictions of every-day life have no power to disturb the deep calm of her soul. The love-light is still in her eyes, whether the days be dark or bright.

It is she who conquers the grim old uncle, and the dyspeptic aunt. The cross-grained bony reaches out its arms to her and is comforted. Old people and strangers always ask the way of her in the crowded street. She has a good word to say for the man or woman who is under the world's ban of reproach. Gossip pains her, and she never voluntarily listens to it. Her gentle heart helps her to see the reason for every poor sinner's mistep, and she condones every fault. She might not serve with acceptance on the judge's bench, but she is a very agreeable person to know.

House Plants.

I prefer to keep house-plants in pots all summer, and to keep them on the veranda or under a shed made expressly for them, says a correspondent. One can be made cheaply by setting posts in the ground and roofing over with strips of lath, put close enough together to break the force of the sun, but not close enough to give full shade. Under such a shelter the plants get the benefit of light, free circulation of air, and moisture. Because one knows that attention in the way of watering must be given, she will be likely to do the work well, as it is but little more labor to do it as it ought to be than it is to half do it, and the importance of thoroughness will be apparent. Her plants will be likely to be under constant attention because of their being conveniently located, and they will be pretty sure to receive the care they ought to get at this season.

It is a mistake to think you can have good plants next winter if you neglect or half care for your plants in summer. The fact is, you lay the foundation for effective winter work at this season. You are looking ahead, or should be; and a little thought will convince you that it is foolishness to expect a plant to get along without care all summer, but develop all at once, into a satisfactory specimen, when you get it into the house. Care for your plants at this season and all seasons, with a view to their effectiveness later on.

A liberal interpretation of that sentence means that at no period of its formative existence should a plant be without the care that comes of intelligent oversight. It may not require much care, but it will require some; and such care as is needed should be given, and given at the time when it will do most good.

Some Nice Dishes.

Parsley Butter.—Beat three table-spoonfuls of butter to a cream; add one table-spoonful of lemon juice, one of chopped parsley, one-half a teaspoon of salt, one-eighth of a teaspoonful of pepper, and beat all together until perfectly smooth. Spread on fried, broiled or boiled fish, potato balls and like dishes. Another parsley "dish" is made as follows: Beat six eggs, add a scant teaspoonful of salt; a salt-spoonful of pepper; a teaspoonful of finely chopped parsley; pour in 1 1/2 coffee cups of milk and stir five minutes. Butter eight cups and divide the mixture into them; set cups in a pan of boiling water and bake until set. Turn out on a warm platter; pour some kind of a sauce over them and garnish with parsley.

Green Peas.—How that garden truck is in order some hints may be in order also. Don't throw away the young, tender pea pods, for if boiled a few minutes and then skinned out, and the peas cooked in the same water, it is an improvement to the peas. Or the water in which they have been boiled makes the basis for a delicious soup. Tender peas should not be cooked over twenty minutes, and they are better if gently stewed than if boiled hard. If possible cook in soft water, as hard water toughens them.

I want to give just one rather elaborated way of serving peas. It is in fact a sort of dressing for baked tongue or other fine meats. When the peas are put out to cook put in another saucepan a tablespoonful of butter and the same amount of flour; when these are bubbling all over stir in half a pint of cream, stir till thick and smooth. If cream is not to be had use rich milk with an extra teaspoonful of butter. Drain the peas and pour them into the sauce; bring all quickly to a boiling heat, and season to taste with salt and pepper. Place the meat on a platter, pour the peas over it and place water leaves of curly parsley all over the dish.

An Easy Spring Salad.—Mash yolks of three boiled eggs; add one table-spoonful of melted butter; season with salt and pepper; pour in half cup of vinegar, very slowly, and beat constantly until smooth, then pour over shredded lettuce, celery, or cress. To make a change in looks, slice the whites in rings and place on top of the salad.

The Income Tax in England.

An English writer gives some account of the operation of the income tax in England. English people have been paying this tax now for two generations and have ceased to question its justice or the propriety of the methods by which it is assessed. The charge that it is inquisitorial, says the writer, Mr. Edward Porritt, is regarded as purely sentimental and baseless. The taxpayers have absolute confidence in the good faith of the local commissioners for the income tax and in that of the assessors and collectors, and they know that the secrets of their offices are as well kept as those of the confessional. The rate of the English income tax has varied greatly from the time of its first establishment in 1842, when it was 7 pence in the pound. Its highest point was during the Crimean war, when it touched 1 shilling and 4 pence in the pound. To-day it is at the original figure of 7 pence, which is equivalent to about 3 per cent. Incomes aggregating about £600,000,000 are taxed, and the revenue produced amounts to about £14,000,000, or about \$70,000,000. The amount of friction in the collection of this huge sum is comparatively slight and cases are seldom taken into the courts. Summing up the writer says: "The income tax, as it is levied in England, is a comparatively easy one to collect. It requires exactly the same machinery to collect a three-penny tax as to collect a shilling one, and, as an additional penny in the pound now brings in an additional £2,500,000 to the treasury, the income tax is naturally one to which the chancellor of the exchequer is most readily disposed to turn when he is called upon to meet a deficit. The tax is one that is paid by the wealthy and the middle classes. The wage-earning working classes never come into contact with the income-tax collector.

Boys' Brigades.

It is a good sign that many of the churches are organizing boys' brigades. Under any circumstances it is a good thing to subject boys to military drill. Habits of prompt obedience, comradeship, proper pride in our flag, the sentiment of loyalty to our flag and government are qualities well worthy to be fostered. But it is a better thing when these qualities are fostered under religious influence. The men who have combined the attributes of saint and of hero are few, but they are the greatest few of history and of tradition. There are no legends like those of King David and of King Arthur.

It goes without saying that not many cadets of the many boys' brigades now formed or in formation will achieve renown, but it goes equally without saying that very many of them will be better fitted for citizenship by reason of their drill. The "word of honor" is a military phrase, and it is a magnificent phrase. The boy who gives his word of honor not to smoke cigarettes while enrolled in the brigade will make a heroic struggle to keep his word, and to a struggle is to strengthen the moral fiber. The lesson of helpfulness is learned best in military life. How feeble is one, how strong are many, and how the strength of all is the strength of many will move in obedience to the command of one. The lesson of equality before the law, concurrently with inequality of station, also is well taught by military discipline. Colonel and private alike are bound by law, alike are subject to punishment for its breach, but the colonel is colonel because he is the fittest. Military life is said to be aristocratic, but it is an aristocracy of the democratic kind. A man who is not fit to lead seldom is permitted to make more than one attempt toward leading. The incompetent has a poor chance in soldiering. All these are lessons that boys should learn, and the brigades will teach them.

DOES FARMING PAY?

No Honest Farmer Gets Acquainted With the Sheriff, or Ends His Days in a Poor House.

A correspondent of the Agricultural Epitomist has the following remarks on the question as to whether farming pays:—

If a merchant in the city is able to earn a competency of \$3,000 to \$5,000 a year he is considered wealthy by most people, yet this entire sum is often expended in providing the ordinary comforts of living, and at the end of the year he is in proportionate progress but little ahead in proportionate progress but little ahead of the well-to-do farmer who has not been compelled to pay a rent of several hundred dollars a year for his home, but, rather, has got his living from the homestead as he went along. Farm life is self-sustaining and preservative. A young man in the country working at \$1 per day and board is proportionately better off and more independent than a clerk in a city on \$700 a year, who has to expend \$500 for a living. One can save at the end of the year just as much as the other, and if there are chances in favor of either for obtaining a competency, they are in favor of the country boy. Any farmer who can support himself on a farm comfortably and make it pay a net income of 3 to 5 per cent on his cost, is far ahead in competence of a man who lives in a city on a magnificent salary and who has to spend it all for life and appearances. It is easy to figure that not one farm product is grown with profit. One may prove falsely that it is a losing business to live at all, and that no economical man can afford to rear a family.

When the interest on the cost of the farm, the time of the farmer, the value of the manure, the taxes on the house and woodland, and everything else, are all charged to the crops, the farmer ought to be bankrupt. Nevertheless he finds a little money in his pocket as a surpluss.

There is a story of a mathematical captain who defeated armies and gained victories by computation; and farmers are ruined by crazy arithmetic, for every crop grown is shown to be raised at a loss. And yet we live along, and no honest farmer gets acquainted with the sheriff, or ends his days in a poor house. But, on the other hand, the farmers are the bone and sinew of the country, upon whom all other classes of the people depend, and then they are the most independent class of people in the world. Very few clerks ever become wealthy, for to pass into steady employment and good salary your merchant requires you to pass in popular society, so as to draw custom. To do this you must be ready with a helping hand for every entertainment that comes around. You can't take a day now and then to rest up, to go hunting or fishing, as you can if you are a farmer.

I get all this from experience—nothing is guessed at. Farmers should give their boys an agricultural education, so that they will know more about business farming; then we would have more good farmers, and I know we would hear less about the farm not paying.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

Growth of Suicides—A Memorial Tower—Opium and Suicide—An Ancient Archway, etc., etc.

The growth of suicide among children under 15 years of age is provoking a great deal of comment in Great Britain.

The Baptist Union of Great Britain at its last meeting passed a resolution decrying the growth of lynching in the United States.

The Cape of Good Hope General Mission was founded in March 1889, and on August 15 of that year the first six missionaries and workers sailed for South Africa. Since then the progress of the mission has been remarkable. Over 100 missionaries are engaged now.

An English religious paper recently contained the following advertisement:—"Church preferment—a valuable living for sale in the suburbs of London; sale urgent; prospect of early possession; net income £900. Light work; the best society; practically no poor; beautiful modern church.

Under the Native Coinage Act the Bombay Mint has coined a sum of 4,100,000 rupees on account of the Maharajah of Bikanir. This sum has been declared legal tender in British India, and the Maharajah has undertaken during a term of thirty years to abstain from coining silver or copper in his own mint.

The Ameer of Afghanistan, Abdur Rahman Khan, manifests an enlightened interest in horse-breeding. His stud consists of 3,500 mares, 70 thoroughbreds, and 10 hackney stallions. To these he has recently added one thoroughbred and four hackney stallions, and a Spanish Jack. The mares are a mixed lot of several native breeds and imported Australian animals.

It is a prevalent belief in London that oranges make a remedy for the liquor habit that is as much better than the gold cure as it is cheaper. It is reported that, if eaten systematically, six of them a day, they destroy all desire for liquor. Apples and lemon-juice are added to the prescription if the case of inebriety is particularly bad.

More than three hundred species of fish hitherto unknown to naturalists are described by M. Leon Vaillant as inhabiting the lakes of Borneo. Many other fish are identical with species living in the waters of the Sunda Islands and of Indo-China. As these species never reach the sea, they furnish another argument in favor of the theory of a former connection of these countries.

A missionary who has spent a long time in China writes: "Since the introduction of opium into China the number of suicides, especially among women, has increased to an alarming degree. The Chinese know that the drug will ultimately destroy them; and there is a superstition that England is dragging them, and that when she has gotten them in complete subjection she will make China a British possession. I am seriously of the opinion that unless England ceases her importation of opium into China the missionary societies will find themselves in a difficult position."