The Motion That Was Withdrawn

BY W. M. MORRIS.

"As you are no doubt well informed on this matter, I want to ask your advice about a resolution our School Board has sent in with me to be endorsed by the Convention to-day. We had a meeting of the Board a few nights ago and one of the members brought up this Adolescent Act, and you know the farmers are pretty hard hit this year with low prices for what they have to sell and high prices for what they have to buy, so we just thought if this Act is going to add to our burdens, we can do without it for a while yet. Here is the motion the Board sent in, 'Resolved that the Adolescent School Attendance Act is not practicable in rural schools and will only add to the already heavy burden of taxation and should, therefore, be repealed.' Now I have not had much experience in putting motions and thought we might talk the matter over before the Convention opens." The above conversation took place in the sitting room of one of the hotels of a small Ontario town in May, 1922. Two men had driven eight miles that morning, through a drenching rain, to attend a Trustees' and Ratepayers' Convention for the county and had brought a resolution with them, and two other men had driven by auto some forty miles to speak at the same Convention. A rotunda or sitting room of a hotel is a most congenial place for men to get acquainted and men will express themselves frankly and freely in a small group when they hesitate to stand and address an audience. The whole question of the Adolescent School Attendance Act and rural education was threshed out by the four men and all agreed that the motion should be laid before the Convention. It was realized by all four that a meeting held under the auspices of the Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association, could not have a better subject to discuss than just such a resolution. They all believed in the motto, "Progress by Discussion," and based all discussion on the fundamental principle of confidence, faith and understanding.

It was time to go to the Convention and, walking down the street, through the rain, one of them recalled to his own mind the words of Amos, "Shall two walk together except they have agreed?" The bond of friendship established in the hotel grew stronger until there was a sincere willingness on all sides to arrive at the truth and a desire to discover the very best kind of education for rural children. The spirit of mutual goodwill pervaded the Convention; the Adolescent School Attendance Act was studied from every angle, the people all pulled together to devise the best ways and means of giving a square educational deal to the rural child and finally the resolution to abolish the Act was withdrawn and another urging School Boards to study the School Regulations, with a view to providing Secondary Education for the children, was carried unanimously.

Some two hundred such Conventions have been held in all parts of Ontario since last Easter and the above resolution was the nearest approach to the abolition or suspension of the Adolescent School Attendance Act. The attendance at these meetings has ranged all the way from twenty people to two hundred people; such subjects as School Attendance, Health Education, Continuation Schools, Consolidated Schools, the Curriculum of a Rural School, The Status and Qualifications of the Teacher have all been discussed and motions of various kinds proposed, but this was the only occasion where a resolution was proposed to repeal this Act and it was withdrawn. It stands to the credit of the rural people of Ontario that they have always been anxious to have their children educated. That the townships and counties have been in the van of moral progress is evident by the expulsion of the barroom from rural areas long before the large urban centres could be convinced of the evils of the liquor traffic. A very much larger percentage of the adolescents in the country are found in the regular church service than in the towns and cities. If country parents guard their adolescents morally and provide for them religiously, it is unreasonable to suppose they will neglect them educationally. Has it not always been the recruits from the country homes, graduating from our colleges and universities, coming to our great industrial centres with good consciences and high moral standards, who have preserved the life of great cities from decay?

Another Resolution.

There is another motion re the Adolescent School Attendance Act before the whole of Ontario just now. A Bill has been laid before the Legislature to suspend the Act until January, 1928. Every rural member of the Legislature would do well to oppose this retrograde measure. Democracy calls for a high standard of education for all the people. It would be a crime against the youth of Ontario to allow them to leave school at fourteen and face the keen competition of the world unprepared. The Act is working fairly smoothly and effectively with very little hardship to rural people, but stimulating us all to make provision for the proper education of adolescents. We need a different kind of school rather than the abolition of the Act and let us study how to provide it. May we hope for the withdrawal or defeat of this motion before the Legislature. The process of education has only well commenced at fourteen years of age. Adolescence is pre-eminently the criminal age when most first commitments occur and when most vicious careers are begun. It is the adolescent years rather than the first seven years that count.

We must keep fully abreast in educational standards with the people with whom we intermingle and trade. Now what are the educational standards of these people? Ontario is more immediately surrounded by the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan than any other territory. The people of Ontario will have to compete with the people of those states in all industrial, agricultural and commercial pursuits. In none of these states is the age of full-time or part-time compulsory education below sixteen years; in Michigan, New York and Illinois it is eighteen years and in Wisconsin seventeen years. We have as bright minds and as keen intellects in the youth of Ontario as are found anywhere. Let us give them a square deal.

The man who does what he pleases is seldom pleased with what he does.

For the purpose of encouraging immigrants of the farmer and domestic servant class, an Order-in-Council has been signed removing the continuous journey restrictions, whereby immigrants of the above classes who have resided for a time in some country other than their own can emigrate thence to Canada. A further Order-in-Council repeals the provision of a $5 fee for vise of the passport in the emigrant's own country. The passports of immigrants of other than British or United States origin are demanded with a view to having a record of their nationalities.

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WHERE CANADA'S COINS ARE MADE

There are only four branches of the Royal Mint in the Empire, three in Australia, at Sydney, Melbourne and Perth, and the fourth at Ottawa, the beautiful building shown in the picture. It is under the direction of a deputy mint master from London. Perhaps few Canadians realize that British gold sovereigns as well as Canadian coins are minted in Ottawa. Each coin has a small "C" on its reverse side. The Ottawa mint was opened in 1909, nearly nine hundred years after the first British mint was established by William the Conqueror in London. Coins were once issued by any private individuals who wanted to do so, but coining is now restricted to governments. South American countries have their money made in the mints of Europe.

CANADA CAN SUPPLY PROMISED CATTLE

Commissioner of Agriculture Says Shipping is Available for the Purpose.

A despatch from London says:—Scepticism is being expressed in some quarters in England whether Canada can fulfil her embargo campaign promise to ship 200,000 cattle annually to Britain, and the assertion is being made that sufficient steamship accommodation cannot be obtained to transport them during the season.

W. Weddell and Company, the well known London produce firm, in a review of the frozen meat trade said: "The maximum number of cattle the steamers could carry is about 1,000 head each, which means 200 shiploads, and as the trade is seasonal the vessels would have to arrive on an average of one every day, and the rates would have to cover the return voyage in ballast. The organization would call for considerable capital outlay, which is not likely to be forthcoming without definite assurance that the trade would be permanent.

"With the prospect of the American market again becoming available Canadian breeders are not in a position to give any such guarantee."

Hon. D. Marshall, Canadian Commissioner of Agriculture, dismissed this pessimistic prediction with the statement that the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, with its 60 ships, could alone take over almost the whole quota in three trips. But besides this the White Star, Donaldson and Canadian Pacific Companies also proposed to handle the trade. Canada had sent almost 100,000 cattle over before the embargo, and Canada and the United States last year sent together about 150,000.

Don't look for trouble unless you know what to do with it when you find it.

Heads Health Campaign.

Dr. Gordon Bates, who has just completed a tour of New Brunswick, which covered 2,000 miles, conducting an intensive public health campaign on behalf of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council.

Natural Resources Bulletin

The Natural Resources Intelligence Service of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa, says:

One of the fascinations of living in a new country is the constant revelation of previously unknown resources. It is but a comparatively few years since Northern Ontario was on the map merely as so much space. To-day from out of that area are coming minerals which make Ontario the largest mineral producing province in Canada, and from its timbered areas millions of cords of pulpwood are being cut. It is reported that flowing into James Bay are seventy-four rivers, each with its banks covered with pulpwood species. Ontario certainly has a proverbial "gold mine" in her northern areas.

CALL FOR DR. COUE!

—Detroit News

Canada From Coast to Coast

St. Johns, Nfld.—A despatch from the British Empire Steel Corporation headquarters, posted at Bell Island, announces that the iron mines there will re-open immediately in full swing, and that a full staff of two thousand men will be taken on. The news has given general satisfaction, especially around Conception Bay, from which section most of the miners came.

Charlottetown, P.E.I.—At a recent meeting of the Potato Growers' Association it was announced that 90,000 bushels of Green Mountain and 60,000 bushels of Irish Cobblers, of the past season Prince Edward Island potato crop, had been shipped to Long Island, N.Y., to the State of Virginia and other southern United States points. All were certified seed potatoes.

Halifax, N.S.—One of the largest apple crops in the history of Nova Scotia is now practically all marketed. Though actual figures are not available, it is estimated by government officials, that close to a million and a half barrels of good commercial fruit was produced last season. There have been slightly larger crops harvested in the Annapolis Valley, but taking quality into consideration the crop of 1922 leads.

Montreal, Que.—The Southern Canada Power Co., which operates on the St. Francis River, Quebec, is about to undertake the development of another 30,000 horse-power in order to meet the growing demand for power from manufacturing enterprises. This and other work in prospect will mean the increasing of the capital of the company from $6,000,000 to $20,000,000.

St. Catharines, Ont.—A signal honor has been won by A. Puccini, large manufacturer of macaroni, of this city. At the international exposition held in Rome, Italy, the Canadian was awarded the gold medal, gold cross and diploma sigsed by the Italian minister of foreign affairs, and the British consul at Rome, his exhibit of macaroni winning the grand prize.

Winnipeg, Man.—Last year 2,113 men and 553 boats were employed in the Manitoba fresh water fisheries, with an equipment valued at $695,414. Over 1,125,500 pounds of fish were caught under domestic license, while the commercial fisheries realized over sixteen and a half million pounds.

Saskatoon, Sask.—Fifty-nine creameries were operating in the Province of Saskatchewan in 1922, according to the report of the secretary of the Saskatchewan Dairy Association. They manufactured 8,901,105 pounds of butter, an increase of nearly 2,000,000 pounds over the previous year.

Lethbridge, Alta.—Two large irrigation undertakings in Southern Alberta will be "brought under the ditch" this year. The larger of these projects is the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District, comprising some 220,000 acres of land, of which 105,000 acres are irrigable. The smaller is known as the United Irrigation district and lies in the foothill country west of Cardston. This project is of 24,000 irrigable acres. The two projects will bring 130,000 acres of land under the ditch, or the equivalent of almost six townships.

Port Alberni, B.C.—Construction of a lumber plant, which will be the largest lumber producing mill on Vancouver Island, will be started here shortly by C. J. V. Spratt, prominent lumberman. He is also president of the Victoria Machinery Depot.

Newfoundland Seal Fishermen to Use Plane

A despatch from St. John's, Nfld., says:—The Newfoundland seal fishing season will open March 7, it was announced on Thursday. An aeroplane will be used to "spot" the seal herds on the ice.

The sealing fleet has now been reduced to eight vessels. Seven of these will operate on the Grand Banks and one in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

An aeroplane used by the Antarctic steamer Quest will be employed in connection with the Grand Banks contingent of vessels. It will be conveyed on a special platform built on the steamer Thetis.

More than 2,000,000 pounds of honey were produced in the Province of Manitoba in 1922, an average of 122 pounds per colony, according to L. T. Floyd, provincial apiarist. Membership in the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association increased by almost 400 per cent. during the past year. The Association began the year with 46 members, and now 190 are enrolled.

Gets Big Job.

S. J. Hungerford, who has been appointed Vice-President in charge of the operating and maintenance of the Canadian National Railways, in the reorganization, has assumed the biggest job of its kind in the world, having charge of 22,262 miles of railway. He is a native-born Canadian.

Weekly Market Report

Toronto.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1.25¾.
Manitoba oats—Nominal.
Manitoba barley—Tominal.
All the above, track, Bay ports.
American corn—No. 3 yellow, 91c; No. 2, 90c.
Barley—Malting, 59 to 61c, according to freights outside.
Buckwheat—No. 2, 78 to 80c.
Rye—No. 2, 84 to 86c.
Peas—No. 2, $1.45 to $1.50.
Millfeed—Del., Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, $26; shorts, per ton, $28; middlings, $28.50; good feed flour, $2.
Ontario wheat—No. 2 white, $1.14 to $1.16, according to freights outside.
Ontario No. 2 white oats—48 to 50c.
Ontario corn—Nominal.
Ontario flour—Ninety per cent. pat., in jute bags, Montreal, prompt shipment, $5.10 to $5.20; Toronto basis, $5.05 to $5.15; bulk, seaboard, $4.95 to $5.
Manitoba flour—1st pats., in cotton sacks, $7.10 per bbl.; 2nd pats., $6.60.
Hay—Extra No. 2 per ton, track, Toronto, $14; mixed, $11; clover, $8 to $12.
Straw—Car lots, per ton, track, Toronto, $9.50.
Smoked meats—Hams, med., 26 to 28c; cooked ham, 38 to 40c; smoked rolls, 26 to 28c; cottage rolls, 32 to 35c; breakfast bacon, 32 to 35c; special brand breakfast bacon, 38 to 40c; backs, boneless, 36 to 42c.
Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 50 to 70 lbs., $20; 70 to 90 lbs., $19; 90 lbs., and up, $18; lightweight rolls, in barrels, $38; heavyweight rolls, $35.
Heavy steers, choice, $7 to $7.75; butcher steers, choice, $6.50 to $6.75; do, good, $6 to $6.50; do, med., $5.50 to $6; do, com., $5 to $5.50; butcher heifers, choice, $6.25 to $6.50; do, med., $5.50 to $6; do, com., $5 to $5.50; butcher cows, choice, $4.50 to $5.25; do, med., $3 to $4; canners and cutters, $2 to $2.50; butcher bulls, good, $4 to $5; do, com., $3 to $4; feeder steers, good, $5.50 to $6.50; do, fair, $4 to $5; stockers, good, $4 to $4.50; do, fair, $2.50 to $3.50; calves, choice, $13 to $13.50 do, med., $9 to $11.50; do, com., $5 to $8; milch cows, choice, $70 to $90; springers, choice, $80 to $100; lambs, choice, $13 to $14; sheep, choice, $7 to $7.50; do, culls, $3 to $4; hogs, fed and watered, $10.75 to $11; do, f.o.b., $10 to $10.25; do, country points, $9.75 to $10.

Hogs quotations are based on the prices of thick, smooth hogs, sold on a graded basis, or selects sold on a flat rate. Bacon selects, sold on the graded basis, bring a premium of 10 per cent. over the price of thick, smooth hogs.

Montreal.

Corn—Am. No. 2 yellow, 94 to 95c. Oats—Can. western, No. 2, 64 to 65c; do, No. 3, 59 to 60c; extra No. 1 feed, 56 to 57c; No. 2 local white, 54 to 55c. Flour—Man. spring wheat pats., 1sts, $7.10; 2nds, $6.60; strong bakers', $6.10; winter pats., choice, $6.50. Rolled oats, bag 90 lbs., $3.15 to $3.25. Bran, $26 to $28. Shorts, $28 to $30. Middlings, $33 to $35. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, $14 to $15.

Cheese, finest easterns, 27½ to 28c. Butter, choicest creamery, 49 to 50c. Eggs, fresh, 48 to 50c. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, 95c to $1.

Com. quality cows, $3 to $4; do, bulls, $3 to $3.50; do, med. light steers, $5.50; canners, $1.50 to $2; good veals, $11 to $12; hogs, selects and good quality butchers, $11.25 to $11.50.

IN RABBITBORO