

The Acton Free Press

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H. F. MODUS, Editor and Publisher.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
Editorial and Business Office

There appears to be an unusual number of marriages of teachers the past few months. There is a shortage because of this in many parts of the province. As a result of the shortage of teachers in Kent County, the inspectors will recommend to the Minister of Education that he grant temporary certificates to a number of young ladies who have had Normal School training.

Criticism of three U. P. O. Cabinet Ministers in Ontario because they have held office a few weeks without having been elected are answered effectively by a former parliamentary candidate in this county, Mr. W. D. Gregory, on Friday, in a letter to The Globe. He reminds the public that Hon. John Dryden acted as Minister of Agriculture from March to November in 1898 without a seat, and that Hon. (now Sir) John Gibson, while Attorney-General had his constituency for about the same period. Liberals regarded their position as quite regular, though they were forced to be absent during a special session of the House.

A large creamery company in Winnipeg has thrown down the gauntlet to the Board of Commerce of Canada, and the Board of Commerce has promptly taken it up. With a view apparently toward testing the power of the Federal board to interfere with transactions originated and completed within a province the creamery company has refused, to comply with the order of the board fixing a just and reasonable price upon milk. The board made an order prohibiting the company from continuing to sell at a price in excess of fifteen cents per quart and eight cents per pint. If the company continues to sell in violation of the instructions given then proceedings will be commenced in the nature of injunctions in civil proceedings.

The Farmers' organizations are rushing to National-wide status. At a conference of representatives of the organized farmers of the prairie provinces at Winnipeg last week much time was spent in completing plans for action in Federal politics. This policy, as set out in the resolution adopted, appeals for support to all classes in the community who believe in the principles it lays down. The platform, which has been described as a new National Policy for Canada, is based upon the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number of people living in the Dominion, without regard to race, creed or occupation; and claims to be in no sense a demand for special legislation to benefit the few at the expense of the many.

The success of the farmers of Ontario in their first effort to secure parliamentary supremacy bearing fruit in nearly all the other provinces. Even Quebec is taking up the question. It is now proposed to formulate a Federal organization. Manitoba will officially endorse a Farmers' Federal party when the resolution is put before the Grain Growers' convention at a later session. The conviction that the Manitoba farmers will fall in line with the action taken by the Canadian Council of Agriculture at its meeting in Winnipeg a month ago to form a farmers' political party to contest Federal seats at next general election, grows stronger. To bring Manitoba into line with the other Provinces in favor of political action, the name of the association was changed from that of Grain Growers to the United Farmers of Manitoba. More than 1,000 voted for the change in name, and three voted against it.

It is very evident that capital and labor and the government of the country are coming closer together. Revision of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act is to receive early consideration. In past years the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada has opposed the Act and demanded its repeal. Latterly, there has been a shifting in the attitude of organized labor towards the Act. At an interview between representatives of the Government and of organized labor last week, complaints in regard to the Act were again submitted and the labor men offered to participate in a joint conference with a view to revision. In reply, the Government invited the labor men to submit concrete proposals of amendment for consideration.

Like all the preachers, moral reformers and others in town, the Free Press has been favored (?) with an invitation from Montreal to send orders to dealers in that headquarters city of the Dominion for "boozes." Lists of the various brands of jiquors at extravagant prices were enclosed. Cash with order is demanded and the suggestion made that the express charges be prepaid. It is evident that few people in Acton are desirous of stocking up during the interregnum so readily provided by the Dominion Government, judging from the meagre shipments that have come by the express companies, since the first of January, when the ban was lifted. Few—there are, except the veriest old timers or the weak-minded or morally degenerate who desire ever to see general traffic in intoxicating liquors in this Canada of ours again.

Some of the leading manufacturers of England have considerably increased the output of their factories by a new method of determining wages on what is known as the "Prifteman Scheme." The amount of output that a certain number of men can produce by ordinary effort is taken as the standard; but if the workmen increase their efforts, it is possible to exceed the standard, in which case every employee receives a bonus proportionate to the increase. Thus, if all the workmen increase the output of a factory by one-half—and in England in some places they have done it—the individual workmen whose wages are \$12.28 a week receives \$18.42. The plan avoids the friction that is sometimes caused by piece work and leads employees as well as employers to try to produce all they can.

The new provincial government evidently intends that the ordinary farmer on the township roads shall benefit from Government supervision and financial support, as well as those who live on, or contiguous to, the more travelled provincial highways and county good roads. A twenty per cent. contribution to the roads and bridges account of the townships of Ontario will probably be provided for in legislation to be submitted to the Legislature at the coming session. Hon. F. C. Biggs, Minister of Public Works and Highways, now has the matter under consideration, in connection with the general policy of aggressive highway construction this coming season. The definite amount to be given the townships has not been fixed, but it is stated that one-fifth of the expenditure made by the townships in the sum tentatively favored by the Minister. The legislation will provide that townships will be entitled to the Government grant upon all sums spent upon roads and bridges out of consolidated revenue. The Government's help will be given with the idea of encouraging the townships to go ahead with road construction upon a proper basis and with modern equipment.

THE PROFIT WITHOUT THE RISK

The insurance agent was driving back to town after a few weeks of travel and trying to interest him in a certain place of land. The agent had shown some maps and plans of property he had located and was beginning to think that he would never buy, no matter how tempting the offer might be.

"Finally, the agent exasperated, at last said, 'Look, sir, we're driving back to town after a few weeks without having been elected are answered effectively by a former parliamentary candidate in this county, Mr. W. D. Gregory, on Friday, in a letter to The Globe. He reminds the public that Hon. John Dryden acted as Minister of Agriculture from March to November in 1898 without a seat, and that Hon. (now Sir) John Gibson, while Attorney-General had his constituency for about the same period. Liberals regarded their position as quite regular, though they were forced to be absent during a special session of the House."

"What can I do for you?" inquired the merchant. "I would like to have a pair of shoes for a little girl."

"What number?"

"About twelve years old."

"What color, does she wear?"

"I don't know."

"How much did you buy her?"

"I don't know."

"You can tell me when you bought the last pair."

"I have never had a pair in her life."

You see, sir, her father used to drink when we had saloons, but now they are closed, he does not drink any more,"

"What do you do now?"

"I work in the mill."

"How much do you earn?"

"I don't know."

"How many hours a day?"

"I don't know."

"How many days a week?"

"I don't know."

"How many weeks a month?"

"I don't know."

"How many months a year?"

"I don't know."

"How many years?"

"I don't know."

"How many hours a day?"

"I don't know."

"How many days a week?"

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