RICHMOND HILL, Thursday, April 22, '97

THE PLEBISCITE BILL.

It is understood that the plebiscite bill will soon be introduced by the Hon. Mr. Fisher into the House. There are already certain vague rumors floating about as to the provisions contained in the measure. It is certain, however, that apart from enacting the necessary machinery for testing the sentiment of Canada upon the advisability of adopting a prohibitory liquor law, it will be complete in all its parts and will give, if carried at the polls, the means to attain the desired end of the abolition of the liquor traffic. Looking to the future in the possibility of prohibition becoming an accomplished fact, some provision must be embodied in the bill to make up the direct loss to the Dominion exchequer of about \$8,000,000 of revenue received yearly from liquor. It is no small problem to be solved. Indirect taxation has been pushed to its last limit, and some other means must be looked to for supplying the deficit that would arise by the adoption of a prohibitory liquor law. The poor man's necessaries of life will not suffer any greater exactions, and the rich man's luxuries already are burdened to an extent that smuggling is apparently on the increase. The plan of direct taxation, it is hinted, may have to be resorted to in the event of prohibition | Chicago. being an established fact, and in that case the direct tax would not fall far short of \$1.50 per capita, or about \$7.50 per family, annually, taking the average at five persons to a family. At present much of the current comment on the question is mere side speculation. Eventually the stern facts have got to be faced and thoroughly threshed out. It is to be hoped that, although the element of fanaticism will pervade the temperance ranks to a certain extent, the more level-headed, conservative temperance advocates will not permit, in the heat of battle, sentiment to outweigh good judgment in dealing with this politico-moral and financial problem.

## DR. TRUDEL DEFENDED.

The Catholic Register claims that Dr. Trudel, the Liberal candidate who was recently defeated in Champlain, is being shabbily treated by the Reform press, and insinuates that this paper exhibited a degree of spite in an article which appeared the previous week. We must resent the accusation. The paragraph was written before the day of election, so that had the Liberal candidate been victorious over his Conservative opponent we would have found the same fault with his campaign declaration.

The Register says that Dr. Trudel lost the election "through no fault of his own." We are not so sure of that. We believe that had the Dr. taken a firm stand and said that he was prepared to endorse the Greenway-Laurier settlement of the Manitoba school question because he believed it was just, or had he condemned the settlement because he envelope. The National, Star Building, considered it was unjust, the electors would have respected him, and in all probability he would have polled a larger vote. But what are the facts of the case? Dr. Tradel stated publicly that, as he thought, the Domin ion and Manitoba governments had made the best settlement of the school question it was possible to make he would support that settlement, if the bishops or the ablegate from Rome endorsed it. But if those church dignitaries condenmed it then he would condemn it also.

We admit that the defeated can-

didate may be an obedient Catholic. but if he prefers to place church before state, his champion, The Catholic Register, need not feel surprised that his courageous (?) stand was criticised by many Liberal journals throughout this province.

War has at last been officially declared between Turkey and Greece, the horrors of which it is difficult to realize. Sympathy naturally goes out for the smaller nation, but if left to themselves it is more than likely that Greece will be cut to pieces by their fierce and blood-thirsty opponents. Several ferocious engagements have already taken place, and it is uncertain what the end may yet be. If the great powers are not drawn into the war it may not be of long duration, but the danger is that the warfare will not be confined to Turkey and Greece.

The General Provincial elections which took place in Nova Scotia on Tuesday proved a complete triumph for the Liberal party. In a house of 38 only 4 Conservatives have been elected. The leader of the opposition and many of his ablest colleagues were defeated by large majorities. Premier Murray who succeeds ex-Premier Fielding is to be congratulated on his overwhelming victory. Sir Charles Tupper, it seems, has lost his grip on the Blue Noses of Nova Scotia.

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## Maple

On Sunday evening the annual services in connection with the Woman's Auxiliary were held in the Methodist Church. The sermon was preached by Rev. C. A. Campbell and special music was rendered by the choir.

Rev. Dr. Jas. Henderson, of Toronto, has promised to deliver a lecture here under the auspices of the Epworth League on Monday evening, May 3rd. On Monday, Mary, second daughter

of Mr. Michael Duffy, was married to Mr. Maguire of Toronto, Rev. A. Bed ford officiating. Mr. R. Duffy supported the groom and Miss Lizzie Gardner acted as bridesmaid. The happy couple will reside in Toronto.

Miss Nellie Franks, of Goderich, is spending the holidays at her home.

A number of new books have been added to the puplic library, and it is in tended to make a further addition to it very soon. Subscriptions are solicited.

Mrs. Geo. Smith of Elmvale was in the village on Tuesday afternoon, calling on old friends.

Easter meetings were held at both churches in this parish on Monday and were both well attended. The finances in both were yery encouraging, presenting a balance in hand in each case. At King nearly \$400 has been raised for church purposes during the past year and the different organizations of the church are flourishing, especially the Ladies' Aid inaugurated by the present rector, who proposed a vote of thanks to them for their great assistance, which was heartily passed by the vestry. The books show that 6,600 persons have attended Sunday service since last Easter, and the Thursday evening services total 1,400. The wardens for the ensuing year are Mr. Mark Giliham and Dr. Burns. At Maple the report shows that some \$300 was collected in various ways on the debt fund. This fund was considerably augmented by the Lenten self-denial offerings made at the Easter service. More than 4,000 people have attended service. and the communicants have increased to three times the number of last Easter. The wardens elected were Messrs. G. Watson and C. H. Keffer.

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ŷ,	Dressed Hogs, per cwt	5	52		30
9	Geese, per lb	0	08		09
í	Chickens, per pair		40		60
	Ducks, per pair		60		80
	Butter in pound rolls	0	12		20
J	Eggs fresh	0	09		-0
8	Potatoes per bee	0	18		28
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