

"FIGHTING AGNES" BEGS ADVICE OF HOLSTEIN CONSTITUENTS

Was a new Agnes Macphail born during the first session that a woman ever sat in the Canadian House of Parliament? asks a dispatch from Brampton. Has the soul of the old Agnes been caught up on the currents of the big things that she has seen and heard on Parliament Hill, and quickened to a larger and happier thought?

Rev. R. Segsworth, travelling secretary for the Ontario Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association heard Miss Macphail giving an account of her stewardship to the electors of South Grey at Holstein and he thought he saw the flickerings of another light as Canada's only woman representative talked to her constituents.

Mr. Segsworth thought he caught a wistful note in the tone that told of "always voting on the losing side." He caught a note here and there tingled with a minor tone of uncertainty. Miss Macphail asked advice and guidance from her constituents—she was not giving it.

This was not a campaign speech, and that element of satirical criticism, so outstanding a feature of Miss Macphail's addresses in former days, was almost entirely lacking. Satirical she was at times. "That," as Mr. Segsworth remarked, "one expects from Miss Macphail. But her satire was what one parliamentarian is permitted to use in speaking of another."

Miss Macphail, M.P., told of hearing the reply to the Speech from the Throne, "a piece of political stage-setting," she called it. On many other occasions her preconceived ideas of the conduct of the nation's business were set aside as she witnessed more of this setting of the political stage. Discussion on the budget was one of the special occasions of which she told the crowd. "I formed my own opinions," she said, "I may be prejudiced, indeed, may be wrong, but that is the way these debates and passing of amendments appeared to me."

Andrew McMaster whose motion that members of Parliament should not hold office as directors of large corporations was voted down by many Liberals, she described as a grand old Liberal and no politician.

Then she told how the Progressives were tempted and tried on the margarine question. She told how the Conservatives had courted the friendship of the Farmers. How they had tried to show that the bill to prevent margarine coming into Canada was an Act prompted by consideration for the rights of Canada's rural class. But she had seen through the wiles of the Conservative party, and what the Conservatives were really trying to do was to get the Progressives to vote for a measure of Protection. Once committed the Progressives left their platform, and they had fought and lost their Waterloo.

She was graphic in quite her old-time manner, as she described the feelings of those Liberals who believing the bill, voted against it, with the rest of the party.

Some time was given to telling why the Progressive party should not broaden out. Miss Macphail thinks that under the party system the central office has the power and that the units in the constituencies are but cogs in the machine and obliged to vote as they are told. She wants a system that reverses this order and makes the constituencies the power, who, in turn, make the member elected dance to their piping. Against the party fund system she would set a system that would make every man an independent member of the Government, free to carry on as he is directed by the electors who send them to Ottawa.

Immigration was touched on but lightly, but considerable time was spent on "the status of Canada." "What part does Canada play among the nations? Is she herself a nation? If England is at war, is Canada at war too?" were some of the questions she put to her audience as questions that they may be called upon to help settle.

"I believe it is the money interests that cause war. I believe that it was the gold mines and the diamond fields that caused the South African war," she said. "If there is a war with Turkey it will not be because the Turks are killing the Greeks. It will be over the oil fields."

"Now, if war comes," and she made a direct appeal to the audience, "I want to know how I am to vote. I want to hear from you what I am to do. And I want you to take the matter home and think it over, and write to me."

"Remember I say that I believe a war with Turkey would be a fight for the oil fields. Perhaps I am wrong. And that is why I want to hear what you think in the matter."

A Presbyterian minister in the audience rose to say that while a daughter ruled in her own house, she generally takes an interest in the affairs of her family. While cool

logic may be brought to bear on such questions it is usually the emotions that send a man to enlist and fight.

But the question as to whether the representative from South Grey shall vote for or against war between Canada and Turkey, if the question comes before the House in the fullness of time, was left with those who sent her to Ottawa to express their sentiments by voting.

The meeting was marked by a friendly spirit. Not a sign of the "fighting Agnes" appeared during the entire meeting. Any one in the audience looking over the shoulder of South Grey's member, into the corridors, the committee rooms and gazing at the shadowy ghosts of the happenings of the past session, may guess at the reason for this wistfulness. Miss Macphail found the Government of Canada something more than a one-man or a one-woman job. She discovered (or has she discovered it yet?) that legislation is a matter of compromise. She found that there are many earnest men at Ottawa with aims quite as high and noble as her own. But most disconcerting of all, she learned that this is not the age of Joan of Arc, atilt at the wrongs of the nation, and that as yet she has accomplished nothing that would send her riding home to South Grey triumphant on a white charger.

However, Ottawa is doing Miss Macphail good. A good Progressive member constituted himself her gallant knight last session and saw her safely to her home whenever the House sat at night. Thereby, he introduced Canada's one woman member to her own femininity. The mere male members of the House never forgot that she is a woman. A member, yes, certainly. But a woman, too. Is the wistfulness explained?

OLDEST GREAT WAR SOLDIER IS A RESIDENT OF GUELPH

Sergeant-Major W. J. Clements of Guelph possesses the distinction of being one of, and probably the oldest Canadian soldier who served in the Great War. Although he is now 86 years of age, when the recruiting campaign was at its height he managed to put one over the military service and signed up as "aged 45 years."

He not only enlisted, but went overseas with the 34th Battalion and was nine months at English military camps and recently he received a medal and ribbon to show his government's appreciation for his part in the big show. Sergeant-Major Clements' military career began at the close of the Crimean War and was kept up almost continuously until he enlisted at the age of 78 in the recent world's struggle. Surely, few, if any, military records could be found to equal this in the whole British army.

This remarkable old soldier was born in 1837 on the Island of St. Helena, and to use his own words, was born right into the 91st British Regiment, in which his father was a drum major and which was stationed there at the time of his birth. When he was two years old his father's regiment was ordered to South Africa and with his mother he remained in St. Helena until he was ten, when they moved to England where his father died. After serving seven years as apprentice in the carpentering trade, young Clements at the age of seventeen enlisted in the Royal Regiment of Artillery at Woolwich, a unit he was with for twelve years. He then served for ten years with the Territorials and in 1872 he came to Canada. He resumed military life in Hamilton for two years with the 13th Regiment and in 1874 came to Guelph, where he signed up with the 30th Wellington Rifles under the then Col. Clarke of Elora. For many years following he went annually with the unit to camps in various parts of the province and right up to 1914 he was active with the militia.

Then came the Great War, and the first thought that entered Sergeant-Major Clements' mind was how to get into it. He realized his advanced age would not permit his enlistment, but he also knew he looked a far younger man than he was. Finally in 1915 he worked his way into the 34th Battalion and his age slipped through as 45.

Into the 34th he went as private, and when that regiment went overseas none of its members looked in better fighting trim than did the aged soldier. It was in England, however, that he met with his first disappointment. He had his eyes ever towards France, but the powers that be would not hear of it and so for nine months he was stationed at Bramshot and other camps and was finally sent back to Canada.

As far as is known, Sergt.-Major Clements who, by the way, rose from the ranks to that title, is the oldest man who enlisted in the Great War.

The chap who says women may be expected to make greater strides in the future hasn't noticed the new skirts.

THE FARM WOOD LOT

(Experimental Farms Note.)

According to the 1910 census the value of forest products produced on the farms of the United States east of the Great Plains was close to \$200,000,000. In 1918 over 100,000,000 cords of wood were burned on American farms or sold off the farms to town and city dwellers. Throughout Eastern Canada the value of forest products sold on the average farm is probably greater than in the United States.

Except in the more thickly settled sections of the country lucrative employment is found for farm labor and teams during the winter months cutting and hauling logs, ties, pulpwood, pit timber and cordwood. Even in the thickly populated portions of the Eastern Townships of Quebec where the farms have been cultivated for well over 100 years, it is quite common for farmers to handle from one hundred to two hundred cords of firewood in a season. In many sections considerable revenue is derived from the sale of maple sugar products.

Forest areas conserve moisture for springs and wells, act as windbreaks, make the landscape more attractive and utilize land unfit for cultivation. Every farm should have at least enough home-grown timber to supply fuel, fence posts and lumber for repairs to farm buildings.

A little care given each year to fire protection, proper thinning and utilizing of the timber would nearly double the yield from the average wood lot. Instead of slashing half-grown trees of the useful marketable varieties, windfalls, and trees showing signs of insect damage and rot were used, the remaining trees would make more rapid growth.

Open spaces should be avoided as much as possible, because once a grass sod is formed the growth of the trees is checked. Tops should be lopped to ensure more rapid decay and to lessen the danger from fire. The main idea is to keep a blanket of leaves and wood on the forest floor to hold moisture and encourage the growth of the young trees.

It is bad practice to allow sheep or cattle to pasture in the wood lot, because they destroy the young growth which should come on as soon as the heavier timber is removed.

Of the hardwood trees the hard or sugar maple is the most valuable. Besides supplying sap for sugar making, the wood is valuable for fuel, the manufacture of agricultural implements, furniture, hardwood flooring and distilled products. Other valuable hardwoods are: birch, beech, brown and white ash, and elm. Basswood and poplar grow more quickly than other deciduous trees and are useful for reforestation. Among the conifers spruce is the most important wood, supplying the bulk of the timber and rough lumber for building purposes. Besides, it is useful for pulpwood and pit timber. Pine is not often found in farm wood lots, but is useful for manufactured lumber. Fir and hemlock are used mainly for building lumber and pulpwood. Cedar makes the best shingles and is also used for telephone and telegraph poles, cross-ties and fence posts. Tamarack, although not a common wood, is very durable and is valuable for fence posts, ties, mine and crib work timbers.

Wherever there is plenty of moisture a second growth usually springs up where the heavy timber has been removed. Because of their rapid growth the spruces, firs and poplars often supplant the original hardwood forests. Fully stocked with trees an acre of soft woods will grow at the rate of one or two cords per year, will supply posts or pulpwood in 15 to 25 years and sawlogs in 20 to 40 years. Hardwoods grow at the rate of one half to one cord per year, a cord being equal to about 500 board feet of raw lumber. By proper man-

agement rocky, waste and swampy land if allowed to grow up under forest may be made to yield a worth while income.

HONEY AND SOME OF ITS USES

(Experimental Farms Note.)

Honey is the nectar of flowers gathered and modified by several insects, especially by the honey bee. Chemically, honey consists of sugar, about 75 per cent., water 18 per cent., with small quantities of mineral matter and other substances such as protein, acid and volatile oils. Very little, about one to two per cent., of the sugar contained in honey is sucrose or cane sugar, the ordinary sugar of commerce; the rest of it is dextrose and levulose or invert sugars produced in the first stage of digestion of sucrose. The two invert sugars are present in about equal proportions, but may vary slightly according to the source of the honey. Sometimes the two sugars separate and we find the dextrose granulated in the bottom of the containers while the levulose remains liquid on top. Honey varies in color from the different sources; thus we have a waterwhite honey from the clovers and fireweed, amber honey from dandelion and fruit bloom; while from buckwheat it is very dark, almost black.

Honey is usually marketed in two forms: comb honey and extracted honey. Comb honey is a fancy product and appeals to many consumers because of its natural appearance. Sections filled with the white honeys are most desired. Extracted honey is produced more economically, as the honey is removed from the combs by centrifugal force and the combs are again used. Extracted honey is usually put up in half-pound and one-pound bottles, or two and one-half, five, ten, thirty and sixty pound tins. Practically all honey produced in Canada granulates soon after extracting but this does not affect its quality in the least, but makes it easier to handle. The idea that granulated honey is adulterated is erroneous. Granulated honey can be brought back to its liquid state by gently heating to 155 degrees Fahrenheit, a higher temperature than this is likely to darken the honey and affect its flavor. Honey should be stored in a dry

place as it readily absorbs moisture which in turn will cause fermentation.

Honey is a food which produces heat and energy. It is in concentrated form and ready for use at all times. There is no waste, as well ripened honey will keep in good condition for a reasonable length of time provided it is stored in a suitable place. Honey is an excellent food for children and adults and should find a place in the daily menu; it readily takes the place of jams or preserves or as an ordinary spread upon bread.

In cooking, honey can be used instead of sugar and has the advantage of keeping cakes, bread or biscuits fresh and moist for a longer time. Honey also gives satisfactory results when used in making cookies, candies, ice cream, etc., and for sweetening fruit drinks such as lemonade; it can also be used for preserving certain fruits. An excellent vinegar can be made from honey and it is also one of the chief constituents of cough medicines and other remedies.

PAISLEY HAD SENSATION

(Paisley Advocate.)

A coterie of young fellows who would not listen to parental or any other advice and who feel very much out-of-date unless they are allowed to do as they please, where they please, and how they please, reckoned without consideration of the law when they took to card-playing for stakes as a late evening pastime in a secret way and were most unceremoniously disturbed one evening last week as they sat in to a game in an up-town place to which one of the party had trustful access, but which trust was never expected to be betrayed for any such purpose. Constable Leitch has by some years of experience developed the sense of a real sleuth and was the detective in this case. He had noticed the youths making this place their rendezvous, rightly surmised their object of meeting and planned a raid that all but caught the bunch in the act of dealing and shuffling the cards

laying down and lifting the dollar bill stakes. They were observed at the game, but there was unavoidable delay in finding a way into the room as all doors were securely locked and when finally a key turned back the bolt all but one of the sports had vanished. They did not get away without a good scare, however, as the chief went around a back way to intercept their flight and fired his revolver in the air as the fleeing ones sped down the alley. Whether there will be any prosecution of the boys or not we have not heard, but if leniency is shown it is to be hoped the raid will have the effect of boiling down the overfresh ideas of the boys and bring them to a realization of where they have been drifting on the stream of vice by essaying to lead a sort of New York Bowery life in this quiet little burg.

Harder and Harder.

Long Island woman testified she couldn't remember just why she shot her husband. Maybe she didn't like his necktie or something. It is getting harder and harder to please the girls these days.—N. Y. Mail.

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