

The Motion That Was Withdrawn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is not practicable in rural schools and will only add to the already heavy burden of taxation and should, therefore, be repealed.'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 retunda 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 who hesitate to stand and address an audience. The whole question of the Adolescent School Attendance Act and rural education was thrashed 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 good-will 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 is a fact that it is reasonable to suppose they will neglect their children education. 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 children, it is not 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 begins 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 there to Canada. A further Order-in-Council repeals the provision of a \$5 fee for visa of the passport in the immigrant'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.



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, 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 of the White Star, Donaldson and Canadian Pacific Companies and 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.

CANADA CAN SUPPLY PROMISED CATTLE

Commissioner of Agriculture Says Shipping is Available for the Purpose.

A despatch from London says—Scepticism 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 shipments, 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 of the White Star, Donaldson and Canadian Pacific Companies and 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, commencing 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.

Canada From Coast to Coast

St. John's, 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 60,000 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 signed 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 2,112 men and 553 boats were employed in the Manitoba fresh water fisheries, with an equipment valued at \$693,414. 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 8,901,165 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 Dis-

trict 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 Plans

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 entomologist. 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 his kind in the world, having charge of 22,282 miles of railway. He is a native-born Canadian.

Weekly Market Report

Toronto.
Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$1.25 1/2.
Manitoba oats—Nominal.
Manitoba hay—Fennial.
All the above, track, Bay ports.
American corn—No. 3 yellow, 91c; No. 2, 90c.
Barley—Malting, 59c 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.
Milled—Del., Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, 23c; shorts, per ton, 28c; middlings, \$28.50; good feed flour, \$2.
Ontario wheat—No. 2 white, \$1.14 to \$1.16, according to freights outside; Ontario wheat—No. 2 white cats—48 to 50c; Ontario corn—Nominal.
Ontario flour—Ninety per cent. patent, 100 lbs., Montreal, prompt ship, \$5.05 to \$5.15; 100 lbs., seaboard, \$4.95 to \$5.
Manitoba flour—1st pats., in cotton sacks, \$7.10 per 100 lbs.; 2nd pats., \$6.50; Hay—Extra No. 2, per ton, track, \$10; No. 1, \$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, 38 to 42c.
Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 50 lbs., \$29.70 to 30 lbs., \$31; 30 lbs., and up, \$18; high-weight rolls, in barrels, \$28; heavy-weight rolls, \$25; heavy steers, choice, \$7 to \$7.75; \$5.50 to \$6.75; \$11 to \$12; hogs, select and good do., good, \$6 to \$6.50; do., med., \$5.50 quality butchers, \$11.25 to \$11.50.
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., 1st, \$7.10; 2nd, \$6.60; strong bakers', \$6.10; winter pats., choice, \$6.50; Rolled oats, bag 90 lbs., \$3.15 to \$3.25; Bran, \$20 to \$28; Shorts, \$28 to \$30; Middlings, \$33 to \$35; Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$14 to \$15.
Cheese, finest easterns, 27 1/2 to 28c; Butter, choicest creamery, 49 to 50c; Eggs, fresh, 48 to 50c. Potatoes, per 70 lbs., \$29.70 to 30 lbs., \$31; 30 lbs., and up, \$18; high-weight rolls, in barrels, \$28; heavy-weight rolls, \$25; heavy steers, choice, \$7 to \$7.75; \$5.50 to \$6.75; \$11 to \$12; hogs, select and good do., good, \$6 to \$6.50; do., med., \$5.50 quality butchers, \$11.25 to \$11.50.

WILL DIG FOR DAVID'S CITY IN JERUSALEM

Archaeologists to Search for Remains of Royal Palace at Ophel Hill.

A despatch from London says—An international group of archaeologists will begin excavations in the spring at Ophel Hill, Jerusalem, to search for the remains of the palace and the tomb of David. Inspired by the discovery of the Luxor undertakings, these men hope to demonstrate that Ophel Hill, in the southeastern part of the Holy City, was the real "City of David," the site of an old wall and the remains of the original sanctuary of the Jews, with their relics and inscriptions, throwing light upon pre-Hebrew and early Hebrew civilizations. As many scholars hold this hill, now given over to agriculture and thickly populated down from the time of the destruction of Jerusalem, may furnish information on the brilliant Maccabean period.

British and French archaeological societies will join in the work and the American Archaeological Society of Palestine has been invited. For the British, the Palestine Exploration Fund, of which Dr. H. R. Hall, director of Egyptology in the British Museum, is chairman, will finance the undertaking and have general supervision; but the actual excavations will be entrusted to Dr. R. A. Macalister, professor of Celtic archaeology in the University of Dublin. The French will be represented by Raymond Weil, who made an important excavation in the southern end of Ophel Hill for Baron Edmond de Rothschild of Paris, just before the outbreak of the war, and to Father Vincent of the Dominicans, who is familiar with the terrain.

It is believed this excavation will reveal all the tombs of the Kings of Judaea for 200 years after David, including those of Solomon and his wives, the site of an old wall and the remains of the original sanctuary of the Jews, with their relics and inscriptions, throwing light upon pre-Hebrew and early Hebrew civilizations. As many scholars hold this hill, now given over to agriculture and thickly populated down from the time of the destruction of Jerusalem, may furnish information on the brilliant Maccabean period.

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Isolation.

It is true that the soul, pent in the body, is condemned to be alone most of the time and most of the way through the world. The sentence of solitary confinement is not altogether unfortunate. A certain amount of solitude is a blessing and a necessity. Those who care most for each other are gainers and not losers by an occasional brief period of separation. They appreciate each other the more when the contact is renewed. It is a good thing for every human being to withdraw for a while from a busy, thronged-outgoing round of business or of pleasure that he may escape himself and commune with himself and inquire into the manner of man that he has become. He may rise from the seclusion greatly distressed with his own character—and that discontent is good for him, if it leads him to do better.

A willful and persistent separation from one's own kind—the voluntary, habitual aloofness of the misanthrope or the hermit is unnatural and altogether pernicious. We were meant to join forces with other lives for the common good. Man by his Maker's decree is a sociable being; for him to absent himself from company is to deny his nature. The common language of the street reflects that understanding. How often we hear it asked, as one friend meets another: "What has become of Bill? We never see him any more." The one for whom the inquiry is made has acquired the bad habit of flocking by himself. He avoids his old friends; he shuns the places where he used to be found. Sometimes those who recognize the lamentable change enter into a gentle conspiracy to overcome his growing disinclination to mix with the rest, as he did of old. They know that the isolation is not good for Bill. They find, moreover, that they miss him sorely at their gatherings, whose once he was a figure welcome and admired.

The anti-social being is always an undesirable phenomenon. Often it is he who declines into a sorry example of the race. He is hostile to mankind because he does not meet men, women and children in the given-and-taken-of pleasant acquaintance or professional friendship. "He sees the world in families," says the Bible. There was a reason for that, a reason fundamental to the social structure, to civilization, to all that makes the world habitable and life worth living. "It is not good that the man should be alone," says Genesis. The words are as true as when they were spoken. But they meant more than the family tie. They meant that a man must not cut himself off from the world he lives in. He must feel and express in his acts a concern for his neighbor. He must befriend good causes and do his part to uphold and maintain civilization. For the earth is not a desert island. It is a crowded arena, a theatre filled with action, a marketplace, a workshop. It teems with life and its people need help and sympathy. We cannot be selfish and remain aloof from the human scene and still keep peace with our own consciences. Excavations at Ophel were begun in 1870 and in recent years work has been done by Father Vincent and the Frenchman Weil that has achieved results which have led Prof. Garstang, Dr. Hall and other British archaeologists to the belief that Ophel may prove a treasure trove of relics of antiquity second only to Luxor.

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