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Daily Whig.

WISDOM IN THE WEST.

One must look to the west, and to the newer provinces, for evidence of broad-mindedness. Saskatchewan, last year, had a redistribution of seats. The rapid filling up of the country made it necessary that there should be an extension of the franchise before the second legislature was elected.

The government prepared its schedules, showing the boundaries of the new constituencies, and the number of electors in each. The opposition, under Mr. Haultain, prepared its schedules, and meant to suggest certain amendments when the government's measure came down. Hon. Mr. Scott suggested a swap of ideas, and with a view to the complete satisfaction of both sides of the house. There was, therefore, no gerrymander.

Alberta's legislature is now in session, and it is understood that at its close, and perhaps before the agricultural labour of the season has been begun, there shall be an election. In anticipation of it comes the proposal for a redistribution measure. There will be an addition of thirteen seats, and the total will be increased to thirty-eight. And mark this: "A committee, on which both sides will be represented, will be appointed by the house to finally draft the redistribution bill."

There will then be a repetition of the experience in Saskatchewan, and no gerrymander. The announcement comes as a pleasant surprise, and it conveys the assurance that in local affairs there will be a minimum of partisanship and a maximum of intense interest in all that pertains to the general welfare.

QUEEN'S AND THE CHURCH.

Rev. Dr. Campbell, a graduate of Queen's University, and for many years a member of the trustee board, has issued a pamphlet in which he gives his views of the movement for the secularization or independence of the institution. Recently the Whig quoted from Rev. Dr. Jordan's paper on the subject, and presenting the views of the teaching staff. It quotes from the arguments now of Dr. Campbell, in essence. At the outset Dr. Campbell combats seriously the idea that the conditions of the college have changed. The church has rallied to its support. In 1876 the endowment fund was \$130,000. In 1904 it was \$480,000. So that in the interim, under the inspiration of Dr. Grant, the friends and supporters of Queen's had contributed \$350,000. Since 1904 the attendance of the students had risen for 853 to 1,251, and of the \$312,179 obtained in the present movement \$116,000 came from the west of Toronto. From new sources and new friends the amount pledged was \$163,000. It is idle, in Dr. Campbell's opinion, to compare the revenues of Queen's with the revenues of the Toronto University—that is "bad morality and bad policy." Queen's has always pursued its own policy, and it has always commanded zealous and competent teachers though their salaries were lower than those of the provincial university. "There is," says Dr. Campbell, "much else besides the Holy Ghost that is not to be bought with money, and among the things for which Queen's has hitherto been proud is a charming esprit de corps, and an enthusiasm for learning and science nowise conditioned by questions of salary."

The Carnegie pension fund is not regarded as a strength to the colleges. The iron master has made the objects of his benefactions dependent generally upon equal generosity being shown by the beneficiaries. Dr. Campbell marvels that the same principle has not been applied to the scheme. It would be better for Queen's if this were the case, and the fund were open to the professors. But they entered the service of the university when there was no prospect of retiring allowances and they have therefore no grievance, on this score. The assembly has, however, expressed the desirability of a pension fund, and pensions for to small a community as the professors is not a burdensome undertaking to the church which is considering the annuity system and its application to fifteen hundred ministers.

The attitude of the Ontario government towards Queen's University is made the subject of an interesting chapter. Dr. Campbell does not balk upon the hope of the province supporting the college as it supports the university in Toronto. The government has assumed the responsibility of caring for one great seat of learning and caring for it well. It cannot be expected to do more, without inviting the question as to whether it can or

will become financially liable for the wants of other colleges now under religious or denominational control. Supposing that the government were inclined to provide for Queen's would the province sustain it? Would the church consent that its college should become "a factor in the political problems of the day?" Queen's was assisted, however, for many years from the provincial treasury, and when that assistance was discontinued the college protested, and claimed that it should be paid for its educational work according to results. Dr. Campbell thinks this claim can be pressed now, with more force than the appeal which the senate has sent out. Gratitude is expressed for the aid that has been given to Queen's College through the allied institutions, and their efficiency has been reached through the present constitution of the college, which fact is regarded as an argument against the charge of "disability."

Dr. Campbell hopes the conditions in Canada will never favour the displacement of culture, the characteristics of Queen's by commercial spirit which dominates the American colleges; he sees no reason to expect greater liberality from the graduates of the college under sectarian ownership, he cites the success of the past as a proof that the church can support Queen's; and he holds that if there is to be any change in the constitution, it should be one drawing the church and the college into closer connection, by having the church more interested in its teaching staff and in its business arrangements. The last thought is that the college should be deliberate in its action and judgment, and that above all it should not appear to be trifling with the general assembly. The Campbell pamphlet presents broadly the views of those who are opposed to the separation of the college from the Presbyterian church.

USURY AND STYLE.

The gossip from Ottawa is more or less distressing socially. The civil service is very much in the limelight, and one wonders what will be the outcome of the scrutiny that is now centred upon it. The charge or allegation of a commission (the Fyach) that there was a want of conscience in the public service, was followed by the admission of man after man, who appeared before Judge Cassels, that he had accepted favours which seriously compromised his character.

There was an illuminating paragraph in the judgment of the commissioner, and to the effect that officials with large responsibilities should be paid salaries in keeping with their positions. The fact that these salaries have not been paid may have led to some of the scandals at Ottawa. To the inadequacy of the revenue is certainly due the usury which the attorney-general's department has undertaken to suppress. Men in the public service and anxious to keep up appearances, have been forced to borrow money had pay any rate of interest for the accommodation.

According to one authority, an official who has been largely interested in the organization of the civil servants for mutual advantage, there are about half a dozen usurers in the capital. Their tariff has been all the way from 25 to 250 per cent. It has averaged 90 per cent. The profits of these are \$10,000 a month, or \$120,000 a year. This sounds like robbery, and the government is pursuing the proper course in suppressing it. One conviction has been secured, and it will be a warning, and perhaps an effective check. There will not be an end of it, however, until one of two things happens, (1) the salaries must either be raised to a point far beyond the expected, or (2) the civil servants must sacrifice diversions, society and style in the interest of economy.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

When is the education department going to do what it promised for the public schools? There is a threat that the public grant may be cut off if the high schools' expenses are not at once increased.

Haldimand defies the local government to make it provide a refuge for its poor. Easy, there. Dr. Bruce Smith does not pose as a dictator, but he is not a quitter. Some side will back down. Will it be Hanna's department?

Sir Richard Cartwright is out for retrenchment and economy. There will be no unnecessary or un-urgent expenditure this year. Ontario may as well drop its dream of making the dominion experiment in technical education.

Mr. Fripp, M.P.P., Ottawa, will, in the legislature, move an amendment to the assessment exempting the earnings of the people to a larger extent. Civil servants and labourers will regard him, if he succeeds, as their benefactor.

The Witness holds the benevolent societies of England liable for the immigration to Canada of so many "undesirables." Closer inspection at the landing and the immediate deportation of the physically and socially unfit is the only panacea.

Hear this, and do not forget it.

Judge Hinton, of London, is not prepared to rule that an account, ordered by telephone is collectable. To make the lessee of the 'phone legally liable the spoken order should be followed by an order in writing.

Raffles expects to see his finish this day. His arrest or capture will be a general relief. Many men of innocent looks and model ways appear to be in hiding, fearing that if they exhibit themselves publicly they may be suspected and pounced upon.

One of the high school inspectors evidently thinks the city should put on airs because the Collegiate Institute is "the practice school of the School of Pedagogy." Does the government recognize the importance of increasing its grant accordingly?

The Belleville Ontario draws such inspiration from the Whig's criticism of secondary education as warrants it in saying that the secondary schools must go. There must be connecting links between the public schools and the colleges, but they held not to be so all-fired expensive.

Tenders, say some parliamentarians and public prints, should be opened in the presence of the contractors. Oh, no. Too much information in advance of the awarding of contracts is not expedient. It would lead to what has been called "log-rolling," and it is not good for the public health.

One of the high school inspectors, speaking on the qualifications of the last entrance class, says the writing is poor. There is too much scribbling in the schools, too much indifferent work in note-taking or dictation. Some steps should be taken to guard against this.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS

One Good Result.

Toronto Star. Frank Law gets five years in the penitentiary. This will do more to open-penal prospectuses than all the admonitions of conscience.

Robbing It In.

Hamilton Times. Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison who were sentenced for contempt of court, are now required to pay the cost of the action, about \$1,500. Doesn't that look like robbing it in?

Travel Increasing Greatly.

Exchange. New York's subway, built to be good for fifty years, is already too small. They thought it might soon get half a million passengers a day, and already it has to handle three-quarters of a million.

How Anarchists Are Made.

Hamilton Spectator. Sidney C. Love, a Chicago young man, has made thirty-five millions in fifteen years and now retires at thirty-five years of age, marrying the most beautiful girl in the world. And it's reading such hard luck stories as this that makes anarchists of some people.

OPPOSE FLAT RATE.

The Outside Service Should Be Remembered. From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, Jan. 30.—In the House of Commons, yesterday afternoon, Hon.



HON. GEORGE GRAHAM. The minister of railways and canals, who admitted in the House of Commons that he had an hour for the purchase of the Intercolonial railway.

Sydney Fisher introduced a resolution declaring that the salaries of the employees of the inside civil service should be increased by \$150 per annum, the increase to date from September 1st, 1908.

Hon. George E. Foster declared that the resolution absolutely negated the recommendation of the civil service commission, which was opposed to a flat rate of increase. He argued that the increase should have been based upon merit, and put in a strong plea for the recognition of the outside civil service.

Opposition to the flat rate, and the absence of any announcement of an increase for the outside service, were the criticism of the subsequent conservative speakers.

Mr. Borden inquired as to the present status of the negotiations with the United States in respect to the waterways and fisheries treaties. The premier replied that the governor-general had asked the foreign office to send Canada a copy of the waterways treaty without delay.

Hon. R. L. Borden denied the Globe's statement, that months ago he knew of the tampering with his telegram in British Columbia. He only knew of it in December, and he had, without delay, instituted an enquiry, but up to the present time the mystery had not been satisfactorily solved.

Manipulating a snow shovel detracts from the picturesqueness of the winter landscape, and other people may have good taste, but, of course, yours is a shade better.

If some men were to lose their self-interest there wouldn't be much left.

PICTON'S MERCHANTS

OBJECT TO CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.

They're Trying to Balk It—School Board to Award Good Attendance Certificates to Pupils.

Pictou, Jan. 30.—The co-operative movement, as instituted in town two weeks ago by H. Macdonald, the Scotch secretary and erstwhile Torontonian, has created keen interest throughout the county and town, being perhaps of more active interest to the agriculturists of Prince Edward, who have signified a determination to develop the movement locally. The fact that the initial meeting was so well attended by the farmers, whom it is often very hard to get out, even to a political meeting, and that it was given out by John Sayers, who is managing the local end of the new idea, that one hundred had signified their intention of subscribing for at least one share, has rather set Pictou merchants on their metal. The idea is being fought now by the town merchants, who have been having secret little row-sows during the week. The result is that the retailers are sounding a warning to those anticipating subscribing to the movement, on the score that the alleged allowance of fifteen per cent. commission on all stock to the promoters; the "illegal appointment" of the board of directors, and the neglect of those in charge to present the by-laws and prospectus to the shareholders. The reported quotation of Hon. Mr. Hanna, "Had I known there was such a clause in a co-operative charter (the fifteen per cent. commission), that charter would not have gone out," is also made use of.

There are, of course, always two sides to a question. Mr. Sayers, principal of the Pictou Business College, is "running" the movement, locally. He smiled when speaking to the Whig reporter, and dismissed the disparaging report of the local merchants. "Well, so far as I know of the dominion co-operative movement, I feel that it is all right and I am prepared to stick by it. I do not blame the merchants for trying to 'buck' the idea, when the shoe pinches one usually squeals." The proposal is that Pictou shall be made a co-operative centre, and that a co-operative store shall be opened here. This latter, particularly, is what the local retailers do not want. This afternoon addresses will be given in the interests of the movement by Alexander Fraser, provincial archivist, Albert Chamberlain, and president, British Welcome League, Toronto.

F. L. Gleason, a representative of the Melara Trade Newspapers, has been in town for a couple of days, and it is understood he was looking up "local color" in anticipation of an article for his papers.

The public school board have decided to award certificates of honor, in June to pupils who have not been absent or late during the school year, and whose conduct and diligence have been uniformly satisfactory, but pupils whose absence has been occasioned by personal sickness or whose absence has been through contagious disease, shall not forfeit right to award. Bronze medals will be given for four certificates and silver for eight, or if a child completes the public school course within eight years.

Miss Helen Davison, the clever young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davison, is now an A.T.C.M. Word came, yesterday, that she had passed with first-class honors her final conservatory examinations at Toronto. She has a beautiful contralto voice, and is a member of the Mendelssohn choir.

Tenders For All Departments. Montreal Star. The marine department is now doing its buying through a purchasing agent "on the basis of public tender after a public advertisement." The department of public works, "where ever reasonably possible," is doing the same thing. But what about the other departments? These are only two out of fourteen. Yet some of the others do a lot of purchasing. What, for instance, is the department of railways and canals doing? Each minister should make a statement to parliament how he is carrying out effect the recommendations of the Cassels commission and the lessons which he might have learned from that enquiry. Where a minister is shy about forcing such a statement on the house, the opposition should help him out by putting a few leading questions. These first days of the session, when there seems to be so little to be done, might well be utilized in getting every minister on record as reporting the banishment of the costly "patronage" system from his department.

Judge Cassels' Report. Ottawa Free Press. The report is in many respects a justification of the policy of the liberal government since it came into power in 1896. It justifies the expenditure upon the St. Lawrence route. It justifies the existence and the work of the lighthouse board. It justifies the abolition of the patronage system by Mr. Brodeur, and it recommends the extension of the new system of purchase to the other departments of the government, indeed to the government as a whole.

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