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Daily Whig.

THE PROFESSIONAL TROUBLER.

Mr. Monk has had another diversion, at the expense of some members of the commons. His motion, in amendment to the motion concerning reciprocity, and in favor of an immediate construction of the Hudson's Bay railway, failed, being out of order, but not before he had occasioned considerable commotion.

The declaration which it contained—that it was necessary to give assurance that the transportation interests of the country would not suffer on account of reciprocity—was only a subterfuge, but it made both liberals and conservatives uncomfortable. The liberals suggested that the motion be changed, relieving it of the aspect of want of confidence, and they would support it. They could do this the more gracefully since the Hon. Mr. Giffham had announced that the canal in question was a commercial necessity and should be undertaken as soon as it could be safely financed.

But that was not Mr. Monk's game. He wanted to entangle the members, and he would have succeeded but for the diplomacy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He let the discussion go on apace, and during its progress Mr. Borden was asked where he stood, or whether in the event of his attaining to power he would undertake the immediate construction of the canal. He would not commit himself. Truth to tell, Mr. Monk had bottled him up on an attempt to gag or embarrass the government.

The premier ended the incident by asking for a ruling. The motion involved a large expenditure of money, and it devolved upon the administration to deal with it and make a recommendation. The speaker agreed, and Mr. Monk was suppressed. He is gradually developing into the troubler of the house.

WEALTH IN PULPWOOD.

Through the stimulation of Mr. Bourassa, or through his impatience, and exhibited in his request for information before the Minister of Crown Lands had occasion to declare the purposes of the government, Quebec has stated its position in pulp and pulpwood, and their exportation to the United States.

When reciprocity was under consideration, when the trades agreement was being formed, the federal ministers made it clear that there could not be free trade in pulpwood or pulp without the sanction and concurrence of the provinces. Both Ontario and Quebec had passed legislation which was exceedingly drastic. There is no hope of it being repealed. Ontario is hostile to the trade agreement and by it no concession can be looked for. The Quebec government is friendly enough to the reciprocity pact, save that its government is not disposed to modify its regulations respecting the crown lands.

Even the friends of reciprocity will be glad of this, because pulpwood is an article of prime value, and as Canada contains the raw material for which there is a strong demand, Canada should have all the benefit of capital investment. The United States uses up annually, on the present basis, the wood of 100,000 acres, valued at \$50,000,000. Canada exported last year pulp worth \$5,000,000 and paper worth \$1,200,000. Of the thirty-one paper mills in Canada fourteen are located in Quebec, with a total capital of \$19,000,000. They give employment to 4,300 men and earn \$1,200,000.

The government cannot, it is true, prevent the sale of pulpwood cut on private lands, but it can husband the crown's resources, and it can recover and control all the land which is now unused in the hands of private persons. Private owners, producing 1,000,000 cords of wood a year, may be satisfied with \$6 a cord, or \$6,000,000 a year, but if they reduced their wood to pulp in Canada they would earn \$18,000,000, and if reduced to paper \$400,000,000. The Quebec government is warranted, therefore, in seeking to turn the natural resources of the province to the very best account.

COMPETITION IN POWER.

Why should the Hydro-Electric commission be monopolistic in its tendencies? It is said that it desires a control of electric power in Ontario, and if the legislation which is now before the house passes, as it is expected to do, with some modifications, there will be little consideration for any scheme which does not have its approval.

The Ontario Railway and Municipal Board would have been a note in

partial tribunal before which to lay any differences between the municipalities and the commission. The provincial railway and municipal board is not tangled up with any municipal deal, and it could be expected the more satisfactorily to dispose of disputes and misunderstandings. But the Hydro-Electric Commission objected, and the government gave way before Mr. Beck's aggressive influence, as it had given way before. It remains to be seen with what result. The Hydro-Electric may be reasonable in its interpretation of agreements, if so, well. If not the municipalities will make the situation eventually untenable for both the government and the commission.

In the experience of the eastern municipalities the Hydro-Electric Commission is not acting in the nicest sort of way. It does not like the competition of the Seymour company, and the Seymour company proceeds with its negotiations without showing any evidence of distress. The Hydro-Electric is either in a position to quote figures for a supply, or it is not. So far it has not essayed to meet the competition of the Seymour company, and its failure to act can only be inferred.

The statement handed out in Toronto, that the Hydro was being knocked, is a misleading term. The commission, through its chairman, long since intimated that it would be able to give Kingston a cheap service. Its light would be nearly as cheap as that of candles. There has been no attempt to redeem that pledge, and only Mr. Beck can tell the reason why.

TIME FOR A CHANGE.

The official organ of the Canadian Medical Association has come out emphatically for a reorganization of the Ontario medical council, and there is no doubt that this organ reflects the mind of the medical profession in this province. The article in question traces the rise of the council, and its reasons to be. At the time of its inception there was a need of some supervising power, some institution which would protect the profession and the people, seeing, on the one hand, that the standing of those licensed by it was high enough, and, on the other hand, that only those so qualified and licensed could practice.

There was something like compromise among the members of the council, at the outset, for the consolidation of interests, homeopathics and eclectics and college professors, had to be given representation. The purposes of the council were many, but in recent years it seems to have done little beyond looking after the licensing of candidates, and in the less collected, the examinations set, and general details, the dissatisfaction has grown until now there is the demand for a change.

A crisis has been reached through the action of Toronto university, which demands the right, by legislature, to not only examine but license its graduates. If the legislature concedes this right to Toronto it must concede it also to Queen's, and if the medical council is relieved of the licensing of students, the testing of all applicants before they are allowed to practice, it will have little to do. The organ of the Canadian Medical Association suggests that it be composed of certain representative men of high standing in the profession that the college professors be cut out; that the work of the council be supervisory; and that it have nothing to do with education save to be consulted by the faculty of Toronto university, whose curriculum shall be the standard.

"The true function of the council shall be," says our contemporary, "to advance the true interests of the profession, and to see that proper standards are being maintained by the different universities." The fate of the council, as it is at present constituted and managed, is seemingly doomed.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Nashville Tennessean votes that the most beautiful sentence in the English language is: "Have another biscuit."

The Saskatchewan Phoenix says the conservative party has always made capital out of its superior loyalty, but in this case they are cheapening the commodity.

Warner, Grassy Lake, Macleod and other towns of Southern Alberta know

that reciprocity is a good thing and they do not let their politics interfere with their saying so.

The British naval policy is bound to be expensive so long as the idea of a two-power standard is maintained. Germany is setting the pace—without regard to the taxation of the people—and Britain and her colonies will not shirk their responsibility.

One of the arguments mostly relied upon in opposing reciprocity is a plea that it would be national folly and crime to divert inter-provincial traffic. That argument, if valid, would condemn the Hudson's Bay railway, the Georgian Bay canal, and the T. & N. O. railway!

The resolutions are, we concede, says the Toronto Weekly Sun, the voice of Toronto, "the city of philanthropists, patriots and unassimilated aliens, where Canadians are in the minority and where for more than seventy-five years the spirit of Canadianism has always starved and languished an unwelcome guest."

Prohibition is gaining in Quebec. Already sixty-nine per cent. of the communities, or electoral divisions, are dry and it may not be long until the whole province is under option law. But the people of Quebec are not handicapped, like the people of Ontario, with a "three-fifths" clause of the act.

A speaker in Toronto, at a recent ward meeting, offered the opinion that the fruit and vegetable men in Canada were influenced, in their opposition, to reciprocity, by the canners, who have a monopoly of the business. Here is one trust that can go, and the sooner the better. The trade agreement threatens its existence.

The Man On Watch.

It is not long ago since the Lampman heard a comedian on the Grand Opera House stage refer to aldermen as "false alarm statesmen." He would not like to say that this description fits any Kingston town councilmen, but it might be applied to those who pose as engineers and lawyers, and think they know more than the officials they engage to take charge of the municipal departments. Kingston would get along better, he thinks, if the town council, would meet about once every six months, and allow the officials to run the old town.

What do councilmen know about building bridge spans, he would like to know. The Lampman noticed some days ago that some of the councilmen were taken to task for accepting the statement that a span could be put in the Cataragui bridge for \$4,000. He wishes to say that those other councilmen who voted in favor of the bridge agreement were just as much luses and just as responsible as the few who shot the hot air into them.

The big playhouse managers hate Lent, the Lampman says, for the show attendances dwindle for a week or two at least, as a certain class of people have to make a pretence of being pious for a few weeks of the year. However, when an exceptionally good play comes round, piety is shelved for the time being. If Lent could be fixed to begin about May 20th, Branigan would be a happy man. During this Lenten period, Kingston has been getting a lot of big plays.

The druggists should advertise an easier method for ending one's career than the carbolic acid route. A carbolic suicide dies a death of agony. The Lampman would be pleased to give contemplating suicides some advice and would impress upon them the fact that they would likely be far happier here than in the place where they do not know they are going.

—THE TOWN WATCHMAN.

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Lennox and Addington county council has appropriated \$12,000 for county roads distributed thus: Napanee, \$501; Bath, \$94.60; Newburgh, \$100.53; Denbigh, A. & E., \$48.80; Kaldar, A. & E., \$65.20; Adolphustown, \$561.90; Amherst Island, \$591.35; Camden, \$2,844.30; Ernestown, \$2,730.75; North Fredericksburgh, \$1,035.97; South Fredericksburgh, \$1,048.60; Richmond, \$1,503.20; Sheffield, \$830.80.

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