

The British Whig SEVEN YEARS



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HER SUCCESS IS DESERVED

Dr. Helen MacMurchy, of Toronto, is in the city to-day and speaks in the old Convocation Hall this evening under the auspices of the Faculty of Education. One sees in the revelations of the day some of the results of the social conditions against which she has been preaching for many years.

At last, however, her view point was realized, and the government committed to her the larger responsibility of planning for the care and protection of the mentally defective. And what a surprise comes from the medical department of the Toronto schools, and to the effect that there are 1,500 weak-minded among the scholars, that, as the heading of a newspaper article puts it, "there are some of them in practically every school, and they should be separated, and educated, and cared for under special circumstances."

The conditions now becoming apparent, and conceded by the Education Department, have long been recognized as necessary by distinguished alienists. Many years ago writers of distinction advocated a segregation of the defectives, for many reasons, and principally because they cannot be taught with the rationally-minded and their presence in the school classes is a hindrance to others.

WHAT CANADA REALLY NEEDS

Farm life and farming as an occupation would speedily rise in the estimation of the people if Canada had a host of men of the Dr. Robertson stamp to move among the people and inspire them. The doctor's idea is to educate as many specialists as possible and place them at the disposal of all communities that really desire their instruction.

As one gets information and enthusiasm from the doctor, in usual conversation, so those of his temperament and zeal would become a power in the land if equipped mentally for the tasks of the hour, if given their freedom—more than the average teacher exercises—in the dissemination of their knowledge.

The dignity of labour on the farm would, also, be clearly established. It is a remarkable fact that the rural population in eight counties which were visited by the Technical Commission showed a falling away. In Denmark alone was the rural population maintained, and on investigation the facts became apparent. Farming among the Danes is an honourable profession. These people glory in it, and not without a cause.

Next to those in Britain, the farmers of Denmark rank in wealth, and while in the mother country it is held or controlled by a small proportion of the whole, in Denmark it is somewhat evenly distributed. Whether the farmer has his four acres, or forty, or four hundred, he honours his calling, and his pride is seen in his farm, his home, his toil.

That is the spirit one wants to see in Canada, the new country of boundless acres and immense possibilities. There is such a thing as having too much land. Less of it for the individual, but highly tilled and cultivated, is the need of the hour. How is that to be brought about? Dr. Robertson can tell, but he cannot be everywhere and cannot

A CRISIS AT OTTAWA

The free wheat issue is one that the government at Ottawa must deal with. "It has been a subject of newspaper discussion for months," says the Montreal Gazette, in reporting the debate which Dr. Neely, of Humboldt, precipitated. The government had been jollying the opposition along, in the debate on the address, and thought the coast was cleared when Sir Wilfrid Laurier's motion with regard to the cost of living was rejected. The shock came when the free wheat question came up by a regret being expressed that there was no reference to it in the address.

This address reflects, or contains, or is supposed to contain, the programme of the government for the session. The Neely motion was accepted as an expression of want of confidence. It was so proclaimed by the minister of public works, who, with his colleagues, realized that something had to be done—that was the demand of the western conservatives—and the only thing he could say was that the budget speech was being anticipated and that the amendment should be voted down.

Hon. Mr. Rogers talks of "childish twaddle." He betrays in his speech his annoyance and irritation. He knew that the government had no idea of dealing with "free wheat." The tariff represents the mind of the protectionists, (who are not farmers in the west), and the design has been to dodge the difficulty in the hope that something would turn up to save the situation. Mr. Rogers called upon the supporters to vote down the Neely resolution, and some of them did so very reluctantly. They had no assurance that with the presentation of the budget the tariff would be considered regarding wheat or anything else.

The bluff worked for the time being, but it won't work long. The west is suffering for the want of a market for the wheat that is not wanted for home consumption or shipment to England. The agriculturalists of the western provinces demand tariff revision and the legislatures of Saskatchewan and Alberta have endorsed the proposition in resolutions which were unanimously carried. The federal government may refuse this favour. Let it do so and take the consequences.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The parcel post is expected to lower the cost of living? In what way? It will enlarge the money-order business. What else will it do?

The marriage license issuer is the man who should be called to account if any mis-mated parties are married. He should enquire into all the facts, because he is the one who authorizes the union.

The militia department's estimates this year will be scrutinized closely. There will be no opening for a waste of another \$100,000 on the autumn manoeuvres in which the Canadian contingent did not participate.

Brockville, with its white way, its play grounds, and its free concerts, for the entertainment of the masses, is putting on airs. All the same it is showing a public spirit which, in some respects, is sadly missing in Kingston.

The defences of Canada, through the militia department, cost last year about nine millions and a half. The expenditure represented \$1.26 per capita. And the ambitions of the minister of militia are only beginning to show themselves.

The Ottawa Journal refers to the senate's majority as "a few back-number political partisans." This is a species of rough-house criticism which the facts do not justify. The liberals in the senate compare very favourably with the appointees of the present government.

The very latest—that millions of dollars are being misapplied in Toronto because of the defective method of the city in financing for its wants. Now if all this exposure leads to reforms there will be some satisfaction in it all. But if not—let us have a rest from the municipal reformers.

According to Hon. Frank Oliver and other western members the farmers of the western provinces are going south, not finding social conditions in Canada ideal, or nearly so. The Canadian Courier figures that out of 1,500,000 immigrants who entered Canada in the last ten years only 200,000 were found in the census year. The exodus must be heavy.

It is so that because the specifications for certain pavements were changed after the by-law had been passed and voted upon by the people there will be a difficulty in selling the debentures on which money is being raised for the payment of these improvements? If so our council will have learned a lesson. It will remember.

PUBLIC OPINION

Talking Sense. Prince Arthur Chronicle. Boost the Board of Trade and the Board of Trade will boost the city.

Sign of Insanity. Windsor Record. A Detroit man is suing for divorce because his wife threw butter at him. What an extravagant woman!

Two of a Kind. London Advertiser. L'Esperance, conservative member from Montmagny, Que., doesn't want any navy. Mr. Borden seems to be Barkus.

Will He Do It. Hamilton Herald. It is fitting that Finance Minister White, who has been advising the people to retrench in their expenditure, should set the example by reducing the natural expenditure this year.

Very Childish. Ottawa Journal. Because the British government will not enter in the big American International Exhibition at San Francisco the Yankees will have nothing to do with a similar show in London. Even two great nations can behave like children sometimes.

Hits the Highest. Toronto Telegram. Eggs are eggs in these days when hen fruit is exalted to the pinnacle of seventy-five cents per dozen. It is cheaper to hit unpopular orators with bricks and pay the fine than to let fresh eggs grow stale enough to serve as the ancient form of tribute to the leaders of forlorn hopes and lost causes.

CHAIRMAN ADAMSON

Who Proposes Absolute Toll Exemption on Panama Canal.

Representative William C. Adamson, of Carrollton, Ga., treading the high spots on the congressional highway, has flung down the gauntlet of toll exemption for the Panama canal, by a bill he has just introduced. He speaks by the card, too, for he is chairman of the committee that deals with the subject, primarily. Judge Adamson is a southerner of southerners. He used to be a judge of the city court of Carrollton and mayhap that teeming metropolis was the real goal of Hernando de Soto and the other early explorers. Adamson has a real Mulberry Sellers viewpoint of Georgia in general and Carrollton in particular. But Adamson, with a fund of fun as inexhaustible as the Alaskan coal fields and a "howdy boys" greeting that would put the Mexican embrace type of cordiality "way back yonder in the shade, does the serious things in congress. He has put into law a whole network of legislation on railroad rate regulation, pure food, federal quarantine, creation of a department of commerce and labor, now split in two, and other matters that loom large in the galaxy of achievement.

Shakespeare on Football. Admirers of the game of football will be pleased and interested to learn that the great poet whom the French enthusiast called "the divine William," entered keenly into the spirit of the game. The following passages are proofs:

"Down! Down!"—Henry VI. "Well placed!"—Henry V. "An excellent pass!"—The Tempest. "A touch, a touch, I do confess!"—Hamlet. "I do commend you to their backs!"—Macbeth. "Down with them!"—3 Henry VI. "Love's Labor Lost. "This shouldering of each other."—1 Henry VI. "Being down, I have the placing."—Cymbeline. "Let him not pass, but kill him rather!"—Othello. "Is sport to maul a runner."—Antony and Cleopatra. "I'll catch it ere it come to ground."—Macbeth. "We must have bloody noses and cracked crowns."—1 Henry IV. "Worthy sir, thou bleedest; thy exercise hath been too violent."—Coriolanus. "It is the first time that ever I heard breathing of ribs was sport."—As You Like It.

The only proof of the bluffer is in making good.

Kingston Events 25 YEARS AGO.

W. G. Craig was appointed chairman of the board of management of St. Andrew's church. T. Minnes was re-elected secretary.

Several prominent hotel keepers stated to-day, that if the licenses were reduced, they would retire from the business.

The 14th P.W.O.R. will make a trip to Niagara Falls on July 1st.

B. W. Robertson was elected a member of the executive of the provincial Y.M.C.A.

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Wise and : : Otherwise

Snow covers the earth like a mantle, and hides all deformities and scars. It is like the charity which hides a multitude of sins.

Even the deepest and coldest snowbanks will melt under the rays of the spring sun. So even the coldest heart may be touched and melted under the influence of the divine love.

When the sun melts it feeds the streams, and fills the wells, and supplies the fields, and contributes to the verdure of summer. So when hard, frozen hearts melt, they begin at once to live, not for self, but for others.

The snow crystals speak to us of obedience. They form their solid ranks like a well-drilled army, and not an atom gets out of place, because all are obedient to divine law. Man alone, in all God's creation, gets out of place. He is happy only when he obeys God's wise and holy laws.

Snow Thoughts. Someone has said: "Let your life be like a snowflake, which leaves a mark but not a stain."

Candid Ones. "You'd better not go to your friends for criticism on your literary work. They're likely to flatter you."

Singing. "Er—ah, beg pardon, miss, but haven't you lost something?" began the woman who first. "No, I haven't. But there goes a lady with a dog chain. It's probably her you're looking for."

Dodging. "Will you give me your name, please?" "Pardon me, miss, but this isn't leap year."

Worn Out. "Those are rather tough looking patent leather shoes you are wearing," suggested the critical friend. "Oh, they were all right originally," replied the wearer, "but the patent has expired on them."

Payment. "I sold that opera singer an overcoat and all he did was to sing high C!" "What on earth did he mean by that?" "Well, you see, I had offered to take his note for it."

She Knew. "Must hear the baby talk!" said May. "I wonder what he'd try to say." "A word I never heard before. Of twenty syllables or more." Ned answered: "Oh, I'm sure he'll be a great, wise man some day," said she. —From Judge.

A Surprise for the Lawyer. "I have an income of \$18,000 per year. What income tax ought I to pay?" "I can show you how to dodge your tax," said the alert attorney. "But I don't want to dodge it. I want to pay it."

"Some fresh bug comes in this office every day," remarked the legal light, reflectively, as the gavel went out.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Floored. A crabbed old misogynist said to Ethel Barrymore at a dinner in Bar Harbor: "Woman! Feminism! Suffrage! Bah! Why, there isn't a woman alive who wouldn't rather be a beautiful than intelligent!" "That's because," said Miss Barrymore, calmly, "so many men are stupid while so few are blind."—New York Tribune.

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