

The British Whig



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THE BARS ARE GOING

The Canada Temperance Act has scored a decided triumph in the west, in the three counties in which voting occurred last week, namely, Huron, Peel, and Welland, closing 104 bars. The overwhelming majority in Huron puts the question as to what the people want out of doubt. There may be recounts in the other counties, and until they have been made the result is in uncertainty. The majorities were small, and on the scrutiny of ballots may waste away or diminish. The fact remains that a great wave is passing over the province, and that it is closing the bars as fully and as tightly as if the slogan which Mr. Rowell raised in the house had been the only one heard in an election. The further fact has been demonstrated, namely, that a proper vote can only be secured on prohibition when it is the only issue before the electors. In the counties in which "abolish the bar" was raised, in provincial elections, there was a conflict of opinion. Temperance men did not vote temperance. That is clear. The reason is that they allowed themselves to be influenced by political appeals and considerations. The province can be put eventually nearly, if not entirely, under prohibition by the use of the Canada Temperance Act, and the politicians had better make a note of this and govern themselves accordingly.

Parcel post in Canada, to become popular, must be cheaper. The rates for a thirty-mile zone are higher in Canada than the American rate for the 150-mile zone. Parcel post, therefore, to be very much used, especially by the farmers, has to be made more reasonable in its cost. Mr. Pelletier has to revise his tariff.

TEACHERS GOING TOO FAR

The Teachers' Association, or the Principals' Association, of Toronto, blundered when they undertook to belittle and depreciate the report of Chief Inspector Cowley on class attendance. Mr. Cowley's scheme is to bring about a more equitable distribution of the attendance. The classes will, in the average, be larger, but there will be none too large or too small. That is a great consideration, and it will be attained at a saving of many thousands of dollars a year. The teachers and principals made a great mistake in swinging their organizations into line and for the purpose of bull-dozing the trustees. These latter decided to let Mr. Cowley and his associates carry out their plans. Teachers associations have their functions but it is not to coerce the trustees, or compel, if possible, a compliance with their views. The deputation that essayed to "indict" the chief inspector and to "lecture" the Toronto Committee of Management made a serious mistake. The changes contemplated are declared to be in harmony with the department's regulations.

An English paper justifies the use of the military in South Africa in putting down disorder. But for this anarchy, it says, would have prevailed. So it might. But what about the deportation of the labour leaders? There is no justification for this proceeding, and labour, the world over, and in Britain especially, resents the insult.

HAWKES AND THE LOSSES

Arthur Hawkes' paper, in the last financial year of the federal government, drew \$7,792 for advertising. But, it is explained, this was before he undertook to break into the House of Commons through the election in Lanark. It is assumed that the Brit-

ish News in Canada will not be on the list for advertising patronage now that he has had the temerity to express views that are not shared by the ministers, especially on the navy. Of the earlier acts of Mr. Hawkes, when he presumed to direct public opinion, in the name of the British-born, the Whig did not think very much. But of his later proceedings he has been displaying a courage and individuality that command attention. He lost his deposit in Lanark, not having received a sufficient number of votes to entitle him to a refund, and instead of crying about it, or of accepting the sympathy of those who regarded the election law as severe, he approves of its provisions. Practically he accepts the loss he has suffered as fit and proper under the circumstances.

The loss of many thousands in advertising does not worry him. He must have contemplated the possibilities of his candidature in Lanark, and probably expected abandonment to his fate by the ministers who crossed him in the bye-election. This indicates that he values his independence more than money and is prepared to make sacrifices rather than forfeit his right to speak and write as the spirit moves him. Mr. Hawkes is a bigger man because of his experience.

The redistribution bill is being worked out in Ottawa with the aid of the party hacks. The last bill introduced in parliament was the joint product of a special committee in which liberals and conservatives were represented. That was the correct procedure, but it is too much to expect from the present government.

CITY PLANNING AND HOUSING

The president of the Toronto Housing Commission read before the Conservation Commission a paper on city planning, and this paper is now printed for general circulation. It is a plea for the guidance of cities and towns in the designing and directing of water supply, transportation, and other public services. City planning is not a fad, though at one time it was so regarded. Today Great Britain, Germany and the United States are alive to the value of the subject and providing the machinery required to carry out this work.

The cities of England are being literally made over. In German civic development has reached its highest point. "Indeed," says Mr. Beer, "the welfare of the people of Canada might well begin with a thorough study of German methods and legislation." The United States has awakened to the significance of the movement, and local Planning Boards are being established in many of the cities. A special duty of them is to plan for the housing of the people.

The absence of this planning is seen in every city. The ratepayers have to remedy the results of early neglect, at a heavy cost. The effect is inevitable. "A few years later," says Mr. Beer, "they are found with the same problems in aggravated forms. The remedies are still more expensive and the money spent for half-remedies is found to have been largely wasted." Some organized head is needed to suggest legislation and give it directness, and Mr. Beer thinks this duty is the Conservation Commission's. It has been giving its time to the conservation of the fish, the forest, the water powers. Why not the conservation of the people's health?

In every community there is a need of a local body, which takes its inspiration from some central or national body, will go forward with the problems of the hour. In every community, too, there should be municipal night schools for the benefit of members of the council and perspective members. Men can never become active, alert, and useful legislators until they have been thoroughly schooled in municipal government, and to the lack of this schooling we may attribute the blundering and bungling in municipal affairs. If citizens need special instruction in their vocations, so do municipal agents and officials of every kind, and the future will see the want of the hour supplied.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In the west the farmers are united, and in Manitoba the politicians, in favour of free wheat. In Ontario a few farmers have been got together in the west, under the direction of an ex-minister, to declare against the proposition. The liberals everywhere are united. The conservatives are divided.

The Montreal Herald inspired the exposure of the Quebec corruptors and the Montreal Mail launched the scandal and made the most of it. Another evidence of the strange mix-up which has occurred in the Montreal press. McGibbon, of the Herald, was to pay expenses, but has not so far put up anything. Where did the bribery fund come from?

Sir Hugh Graham explains that he is only interested in the papers of Montreal to a limited extent, and in order to secure for all a supply of

paper at a minimum of cost. His influence was felt in editorial circles. The Herald ceased to be a liberal paper of the Penny brand when Graham's money reached its coffers.

Russia has become so drunken that Count Witte, who levied the spirit tax when he was in power, protests, declaring that the money from a great monopoly was being used for defence purposes, and not for education. Witte says his country is rushing to ruin, and that some of the revenues of the government should be used in fighting the vice of drunkenness.

Money is getting easier. It is had with less difficulty from the banks. In England the national banks dropped its rate one per cent. last week. In Canada municipal securities are selling at a lower rate of interest, and presently when the fifty-odd millions the banks have been guarding get into circulation, people will forget that there have been bad times.

PUBLIC OPINION

The Injustice of It London Advertiser. A man steals a few pounds of coal from a railway. He is sent to jail. The state keeps him warm, but lets his family perish of cold. What's the answer?

A New Industry Brantford Examiner. Dr. Bruce Smith thinks there ought to be one place in each province at which all the executions in the province would take place. Here's a chance for some city, Toronto perhaps, to catch a new industry.

Oh, We Recall Him Orillia Packet. In the enjoyment of the many rights secured for the people through the Dominion Board of Railway Commissioners, how many remember D'Alton McCarthy, the father of the reform in Canada? Very few, we fear.

Some Toney Ones Ottawa Journal. When a hundred men applied for help to the Hamilton civic authorities they were offered \$5 a week and board to help cut trees. Not one man accepted the job. Probably do them good to be allowed to do a little more grumbling.

Could Not Furze It Galt Reporter. When the explorers first gazed on Niagara Falls they little thought that in the future the mighty cataract would be the means of milking cows hundreds of miles away!

Increase of Insanity Ottawa Free Press. According to Rev. Dr. Dwight Hillis every person in America will be insane in four hundred years. These prophets put off time so long that no one can hope to live to see if they are false or true. After all, it is a comfort to know that if true we shall not be there to be included amongst the insane.

Homeless Men Woodstock Sentinel. A total of 2,010 sleeping on the cement floor of the Salvation Army megropole, and 23,940 accommodated there during the year, is convincing proof that Hamilton has many homeless men, transient and others, altogether out of proportion to its population.

Kingston Events 25 YEARS AGO.

The ice below the bridge is a foot thick. An Imperial Federation league will be formed here, circulars are being sent to various citizens asking them to join the league.

F. M. Carroll and W. Block, two convicts at the penitentiary, made a daring but unsuccessful attempt at escape today. They secreted themselves in a false bottom of a garbage sleigh coming out of the prison; but the guard at the north gate discovered them.

J. W. Stewart's Career. The fact that Mr. John William Stewart, the Vancouver millionaire, has purchased a great tract of land from the Duke of Sutherland recalls a remarkable romance of the islands. Mr. Stewart, who is a native of Sutherlandshire, is of crofter birth, and many years ago emigrated to Quebec, landed with 10s. in his pocket, and was engaged as a farm hand. Then he went to British Columbia, a firm which today carries out huge contracts in the West, and employs an army of men. Mr. Stewart, it might be mentioned, remains to the core a Highlander, and speaks Gaelic as his mother tongue.

Birthdays Note

MONDAY, FEBRUARY SECOND The Hon. Alexander Cameron Rutherford, former premier of Alberta and the first legislator to hold the position, reaches his fifty-sixth birthday today. He is a native of the Ottawa Valley and a graduate of McGill University. As a young man he took up the study of law and on being called to the bar, practised for ten years in Ottawa. He then moved to Strathcona, Alberta, where he at once became a prominent figure in political circles. He was elected to the Legislature of the North West Territories twelve years ago and acted as deputy speaker for three years. On the formation of the province of Alberta he was selected to lead the Liberal party in the subsequent provincial election and being successful was called on to form a government. He remained in office for five years during which time he acted as provincial treasurer and minister of education.

Sometimes men engage in argument to avoid work.

IS AN OLD TIMER.

A. D. Braithwaite Had a Vigorous Life in the Far West. Mr. Arthur Douglas Braithwaite, recently appointed assistant general manager of the Bank of Montreal, and who is widely known in fashionable circles of Eastern Canada as a society man and generous patron of art and wholesome sport, is widely and popularly known throughout Alberta as an "old timer." He was connected with the Bank of Montreal during the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and it was his lot to pass along from one frontier office to another, as the Bank of Montreal established branches behind the rail head. In this way he came to be at Regina when it was in its infancy, and he was manager of the important branch at Calgary during the crucial period when that place was developing from the canvas and shack frontier post into a well-built and substantial commercial centre. During the earlier days of the settlement of the prairie, Mr. Braithwaite was one of the leading and most popular citizens of Calgary. Of splendid physique, and being a good rider and athlete, he entered heartily into the sports of the country, and before he had been long in Alberta, he could ride bucking bronchos with the best cowboys in the country, and the pick of Texas, Wyoming and Montana found their way into Alberta in those days. At a time when influence of the most evil kind threatened to obtrude themselves into the sport of horse racing on the Canadian prairies, Mr. Braithwaite induced a number of his friends to associate themselves with him for the purpose of directing the development of that good sport according to the best traditions of the British turf, and shady practices on the pioneer racing tracks and rinks were put down with a strong hand. Mr. Braithwaite himself owned a famous racehorse, which was always fairly and squarely run to win, and old timers in Alberta still recall "Harkaway," not only as a wonderful performer on the track, but as the champion of true sportsmanship at a time when an example of that excellent quality was very much required.

Mr. Braithwaite was also one of the originators of the bachelor's ball at Calgary, an annual event, which did much towards setting, for all time, a high standard for social entertainments throughout Alberta. He was also a patron of the Calgary public library and the local hospital. As became a man born in an English rector, the institution, which perhaps attracted most of Mr. Braithwaite's attention, while a resident of Calgary, was the little English parish church, which has since developed into the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer. He sang in the choir, was sidesman and churchwarden, and occasionally took service as lay reader in outlying settlements, for clergymen were few and far between in Alberta in those days. Since removing to Toronto, Mr. Braithwaite has been churchwarden of St. James Cathedral and a member of the provincial synod. Wherever he has gone, he has shown the same public spirit as made him popular in the Far West. From Calgary he was removed to Hamilton, Ont., as manager of the bank's branch there. When he left Hamilton, the citizens presented him with a public testimonial. He then went to New York, to take charge of the bank's agency there, returning to Toronto, as manager, seven years ago. Mr. Braithwaite was then appointed general manager of the Ontario bank, which had just gone into liquidation, the act of winding up affairs being in the hands of the Bank of Montreal. For some time past he has been superintendent of Ontario branches of the Bank of Montreal, and for two years has been chairman of the Toronto Clearing House. He is greatly interested in musical affairs in Toronto, and he was president of the Elgar Choir at Hamilton. He was also treasurer of the South African Patriotic Fund in Toronto. Mrs. Braithwaite is a daughter of the late Mr. William Hendrie, the millionaire contractor of Hamilton, Ont.

Money for Fox Trapping. More than 200 live foxes, ranging from black throats to red crosses, and valued at \$320,000, have been shipped from Edmonton, Alta., to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and eastern points. The most valuable consignment, which consisted of ten pure black puppies, went to a firm in Brooklyn, who paid \$30,000 for them, it is said, and will send them to Pennsylvania for breeding purposes.

Manitoba's Profits. Manitoba telephones yielded the province a surplus of \$30,264.64 during the twelve months ending with November.

Print Paper Exports. Print paper exported by Canada to the United States in 10 months ending April 30, 1913, weighing 130,970,000 pounds.

The public benefactor, as a rule, also benefits personally by his benefactions.

The man with the perpetual sneer is not sought after by those seeking comfort.

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