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MINISTER MARKING TIME.

The minister of education, in his perverseness, refused to appoint a commission which would enquire into the condition of the agricultural and rural life in the province—the decrease in the production of food stuffs, decline in the rural school and church, and other features. But, driven to do something, and by its action admitting that the liberal demand for investigation is a correct one, the minister of education has moved.

He has appointed a director of elementary agricultural education, and under his six field agents, brisk, lively, young men, will confer with trustees and ratepayers, visit the schools, organize school fairs and field days, and lecture of agriculture in the model schools. Eighty school inspectors have been gathered up and shipped to the Agricultural College, says the Weekly Sun, to be taught farming, school gardening and nature collecting. The district representatives also lecture in the high schools.

"We do not go so far as to condemn all this expense and briskness, which for aught we know, may be productive of some good, besides contributing as it must, to the mirth of the people," says the Sun. "It must not be depended on, however, to alter the movements of the people, the cause of which it cannot touch."

Sooner or later the commission will be appointed, and do its work, but for the present Hon. "Jimmy" Duff is marking time. It is about the only thing he can do.

The government has practically repudiated the Gutelius-Staunton report, and ordered a million dollars to be spent in getting rid of some of the momentum grades in the National Transcontinental railway. The Gutelius-Staunton combination should refund the government the thousands their worthless report has cost.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

The Board of Education has taken an advanced step with regard to industrial training. A member of the board, absent from the city for a time on business, and a visitor to many places in the west, found on investigation of the schools that they were generally better equipped and in a position to do better work than the schools of Kingston.

He came home, as he says, with one dominating idea, namely, to preach better things, especially with regard to the domestic science and industrial classes. The matter has gone to a special committee, and it will probably deal promptly with the plans which lie before it.

It is proposed to re-establish industrial classes, in an improved form, in the institute, and to add household science, these being, in a sense, very closely related. The classes at the institute are mixed. Co-education has always, and must always, be carried on here. Hence when girls are engaged in any of the work peculiar to their department the boys can be engaged in wood or metal work, and in the institute one cannot be carried on without the other.

When the addition to the institute has been completed, about the beginning of January, the new department can be made, and it is one which gives promise of the greatest success. Kingston, an educational centre, must in these special classes forge ahead. It has been too long lagging behind.

In fighting temperance reform some of our political friends are experiencing what it means to kick against the pricks.

LAURIER'S POLICY REVIVED.

A surprising thing has happened at Ottawa, and in the closing days of the parliamentary session. It is the sharp turn which has been made by the government on the naval question. The Laurier government, it will be remembered, was violently opposed in Quebec because it proposed to establish a Canadian navy, because it bought two training ships, the Niobe and the Rainbow, and proposed to build other boats later and man them with Canadians. The hostility of the nationalists knew no bounds, and these men succeeded in inflaming the Quebec people to an extraordinary degree.

Several nationalists owe their seats in the commons to their participation in this wild and unpatriotic policy, and at least three members of the government owe their places to the apparent favour with which the premier viewed their policy. There was to be a sudden end to the Laurier naval scheme, and, in the event of the conservative party's success, there was to be a repeal of the Laurier Naval Act. There was to be an expression of Canada's interest in the mother country's aims, and sympathy with her extremity, as pictured by the word artist, Hon. Winston Churchill, in the way of a grant of \$35,000,000 to the imperial navy's need. Naval instruction became unpopular, for the time being, and many of those who had begun terms on the Niobe and Rainbow abandoned their ambitions. Some of the experienced British marines returned to England in disgust.

That was two years ago. Since then the government has become wiser. Gradually it has come to see how sane and sensible was the Laurier naval policy, and gradually but surely it has decided to revive it. At last the announcement comes that the Niobe and Rainbow are not to go to the scrap heap, but that they will be recommissioned as training ships and the Canadian youth will be encouraged to take up a profession or calling that is infinitely to their credit. For this cause a million dollars has been voted. Men without ships, says Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Yes, that is so. But the government that can change so rapidly on some points can be depended upon to change on others, and it will not be surprising if, ere long, the rest of the Laurier naval scheme is adopted.

The nationalists, in sackcloth and ashes, will accept the decree, but those in the commons and in the government will manage to suppress their feelings and retain their jobs. Only one of them had a conscience, or gave evidence of it, and stood by his professions, namely, the late Hon. F. Monk.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Hon. Adam Beck disgruntled. No wonder. He is, next to the premier, the brains of the government, and he is not getting the recognition which is his due.

The Toronto News' criticism of the Leonard proposal, in connection with Queen's University, is reprinted, in another column. It is not inspired, and it endorses, in brief, the sentiments of the Whig upon the subject.

If the demand of the London people, regarding the suffragettes, "Let them die," takes effect, Mrs. Sylvia Pankhurst's career is over. For about the tenth time she has gone on a hunger strike. It should be ten times and out.

A conservative candidate in Toronto, the choice of his party, is out in favour of abolishing the bar. Some of the irreconcilables talk of opposing him. They had better leave him alone. He is showing more judgment than the party.

The only thing the kickers against Rowell's policy can do is get into line and with those who favour it. The country is going temperance in the election, and by a sweeping majority. There is evidence of it on every hand.

The temperance plank is not the only one in the platform of the liberal party. But it is a big plank, and its size is being magnified by the conservative papers and politicians. It is the only one they are disposed to discuss.

Samey is again in the limelight. He is being opposed by a temperance candidate, Rev. Mr. Wilson, in Manitoulin, and the man who presided at the temperance convention formerly nominated Gamev. The redoubtable "Bob" refers to his clerical opponent as "a sneak, a skunk, and a liar."

Doughty, conservative candidate in Riverdale division of Toronto, challenges the party to call a second convention and suggest a change because he is a champion of prohibition. "If," says he, "there is a second convention I will still be the choice." His petty disturbers had better keep still.

Col. the Hon. S. Hughes is sound on the camp question. He has declared that he will not allow liquor in it, and the suspension of one officer, for an infringement of the regu-

lation, will have the desired effect. It is no more necessary to have beer in camp than beer in the business office. The minister of militia is to be congratulated upon his firmness.

"Because," says C. A. Brower, conservative candidate in East Elgin, "any man is opposed to Mr. Rowell's banish the bar policy it does not follow that he is opposed to the elimination of the bar." Well, if Mr. Brower can tell how the bar is to be eliminated and not abolished he will show himself to be a wonderful fellow.

PUBLIC OPINION

Plain Talk.

Montreal Star. If a life-boat drill is necessary for the crew, a life-boat drill is necessary for the passengers.

We Know That.

London Advertiser. In nine-tenths of Ontario municipalities there are no shop licenses. The other tenth can be put out of business in very short order, if public sentiment demands it.

Fact Clearly Noted.

St. Thomas Journal. Suspicion grows upon our dark, misanthropic mind that Sir Jim is allowing himself to be made a stool pigeon for party exigencies. A vote for Whitney is a vote for Hanna.

Running Elections.

Toronto Globe. The place of the Hon. Frank Cochrane just now is at Ottawa, not Queen's Park. Does the minister of railways intend to play the part of an absentee permanently?

Some Whitewash Left.

Windsor Record. Hon. W. J. Hanna and G. Howard Ferguson are understood to have a little more whitewash left, but don't delay in sending your application for what you need. The time is getting short.

Supporting the Fact.

Stratford Beacon. The opposition asked that the detailed expenditure for the T. & N. O. railway and the Hydro-Electric should be presented to the legislature in the public accounts each year, as is done in other departments, and in the federal house for the Intercolonial railway, but the government and its subservient majority voted it down.

Kingston Events

25 YEARS AGO.

Local talent presented "The Bells of Corneville" at the opera house, and made a great hit.

The Salvation Army has started a Sunday school. The number attending is steadily increasing.

The race track on Queen's campus has been completed. It is a quarter of a mile in length and ten feet wide.

CRITICISM OF QUEENS.

The Toronto News Doubts if Censure is Deserved.

The authorities of Queen's University are attacked because of failure to accept an offer of half a million dollars to establish residences for students in military training. It is doubtful if the censure is deserved. The principal and governors of the university were most anxious to make an arrangement under which Major Leonard's generous proposal could be accepted. Unfortunately Major Leonard insisted that control would be vested in a committee upon which the university should have a minority representation.

This a department of the university entering into and affecting its whole life could in case of difference of opinion defy the officers and governors of the university. Major Leonard was resolute, as he had a right to be, since it was his money the university was to receive. On the other hand the authorities were very clear that to introduce an independent element into the government of the university would lead ultimately only to confusion and friction. Upon both sides there was mutual sympathy and regard and while we pass no criticism upon Major Leonard it does seem honorable to the university that it was unwilling to accept half a million of money upon conditions which it could not approve.

FARMERS BANK BILL.

Members Ask Premier to Bring it up Again.

Ottawa, June 12.—"I have no announcement to make," stated the prime minister, when asked as to whether the Farmers' bank bill will be re-introduced next session.

In view of the disappointment created by the senators' action, there is a strong move on the part of Ontario conservative members to have the bill brought in again, and a delegation of them waited upon Mr. Borden. The interview was a private one, without any definite outcome. The question is one which probably will require consideration by the full cabinet.

What Portsmouth Has Received.

Reeve James Halliday states that in the past thirty years the village of Portsmouth has received \$500 in grants from the County Council, an average of about \$17 a year. The sum of \$200 of the above amount was secured by ex-Reeve Baldwin four years ago. Now the County Council has given Portsmouth another grant of \$300, and the people of Hatter's Bay want the flag raised over the village hall in honor of Reeve Halliday.

A quiet wedding was celebrated at Redsville, June 10th, when Jennie A., eldest daughter of Philip N. Kirkley, Ameliaburg township, became the wife of J. Edgar Redner, son of Fred. A. Redner, Redsville.

Franchise To Married Women

Proposed by the liberals in the legislature. Rejected by the government.

The Demand.

City of Toronto municipal elections, 1914, vote re granting municipal franchise to married women, otherwise qualified. For, 26,288; against, 12,575.

Requests for this legislation have also come from Ottawa, Hamilton, Port Arthur, Fort William, Etobicoke, Rosanquet, Arthur, Tisdale, Medone, Artemesia, Griffith and Matawatschan, Albenmarle, Harley, Charlotteville, Bruce, East Zorra, Pittsburg, Blenheim, Strathroy, Ayr, Watford, "Kincardine, Wainford, Matheson, Keswatin, Gosfield, Biddulph, Paisley, "St. Mary's, Onondaga, Galt, Chesley, Mitchell, Midland, Haileybury, Paris, Renfrew and Saice.

Mr. Rowell: "With the possible exception of tax reform we have not had in recent years a greater demand presented to this house in favor of any legislation than the demand in favor of this bill."

Where They Have It.

Great Britain and several European countries. Austria and New Zealand. United States—(nine) States (complete women's franchise).

Who is Opposed?

1st—The Ontario government, who voted it down.

2nd—The liquor interests. Why? If the vote is extended to married women in municipal elections it means the carrying of local option in many municipalities where, by reason of the three-fifths requirement, local option has been defeated by a few votes.

Mr. Rowell: "When the organized liquor interests of this province undertake to oppose, and apparently successfully oppose, the extension of the franchise to married women is it not time for every public-spirited citizen to arise and protest against such action, and against the government yielding to the pressure to defeat this bill?"

Corporations vs. Women.

At the session of 1913 the government, while denying to married women the right to vote in municipal elections on money bills, granted that right for the first time to corporations.

Other Liberal Proposals Rejected.

1. To extend the legislative franchise to those women qualified to vote in municipal elections.

2. The appointment of a select committee to consider the whole question of extending the provincial franchise to women and the municipal franchise to married women.



FRIDAY, JUNE TWELFTH.

The Hon. S. A. Fisher, former Minister of Agriculture, was born sixty-four years ago to-day in Montreal.

He is a graduate both of McGill and Cambridge Universities and has made a study of the scientific principles of agriculture. He went in for farming on a large scale in the county of Bromes and at an early age was returned to the House of Commons for that constituency. He continued to represent the county with but a single break for nearly thirty years and was Minister of Agriculture during the entire term of the Laurier Government. As Minister he introduced much progressive legislation and was generally regarded by both sides as a capable administrator. He was defeated in 1911.

Also born to-day—

G. A. Elliot, M.P. for North Middlesex, born Parkhill, 1875.

C. Jameson, M.P. for Digby, born Bedeque, 1872.

Hadn't Read It.

Some time ago Mrs. Smith summoned her colored maid to her room and asked her if the postman had left any mail. Belinda replied that there was nothing except a postal card.

"A postal card!" replied Mrs. Smith, wondering. "Who is it from?"

"Don't know, ma'am," was the innocent rejoinder of Belinda. "I didn't read it."

"Well, it's just this!" emphatically declared Mrs. Smith. "Anybody who sends me a message on a postal card is either very stupid or very thoughtless."

"Give me ma'am," quickly interrupted Belinda, with a hurt expression. "But do you think da's de right way to talk about you ma'ber?"

Business Boom is on Way.

New York, June 12.—Henry C. Frick, the millionaire steel magnate, on his return from Europe, declared himself an optimist on the outlook for general business and crops.

Mr. Frick said there was a marked improvement in trade conditions, in the principal European countries.

Advertisement for Bibbys suits. Includes text: "New Collars 2 for 25c.", "Bibbys Real Panama Hats", "DRESSY SUITS", "We are paying particular attention to suits at \$15.00 and \$18.00, and can safely say we are offering the best \$15 and \$18 suit values ever offered in Canada.", "Our Princeton Suits at \$15.00", "Our Oxford Suits \$18.00", "Boys' Blue Suits", "Men's Fine Shoes", "Bibbys Men's Fine Shoes".

Advertisement for Fresh Garden Seeds. Text: "Fresh Garden Seeds", "Onton Sets, Geranium bedding, Plants, etc., etc., Wedding Bouquets, Funeral Designs a Specialty.", "F. J. JOHNSON THE LEADING FLORIST 324 King St. Phone: Residence 1313 Store 235 Greenhouses, 235."

Advertisement for Ladies' Button & Laced Boots. Text: "Ladies' Button & Laced Boots", "In Dongola Kid", "Regular \$3 for \$2.49", "All spring goods on up-to-date lasts", "H. JENNINGS, King Street."

Advertisement for For Sale. Text: "For Sale", "Two general stores (with dwelling attached in each case) in thriving villages; one at \$4500; the other at \$2550. Let us give you particulars. A large list of farm and city properties for sale.", "Fire and Life Insurance Money to Loan", "T. J. LOCKHART, (Over Bank of Montreal) Clarence & King Sts., Kingston"

Advertisement for Crawfords Coal. Text: "READ THE WHIG WANT ADS", "USE CRAWFORDS COAL", "THERE'S HEAT IN EVERY LUMP", "Huerta's envoys surrender on the vital point. The deadlock is broken. The commons prorogued Friday at three o'clock."