

Reform in Elections Pushed in Canada

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 3.—The Canadian parliament adjourned before the holidays, and during the recess the government has promised to consider the flood of memorials and demands regarding the revisions of the tariff that have been pouring in for the last fortnight. The minister of finance intimated to the last deputation that under no circumstances would the government be prepared to make any radical changes this year in the tariff, as announced a few weeks ago.

When parliament reassembles the first measure to be taken up will be a bill for the reform of the dominion elections act. Among other things this bill which is a government measure, contains the radical provision that any qualified voter who neglects, without good excuse, to exercise the franchise at a parliamentary election, shall be disqualified from voting for six years thereafter. Legislation in this direction has been recommended by two special committees of the house in recent years.

The new measure will provide severe penalties for anyone who attempts to vote after being disqualified. In cases of illness, or for other sufficient cause, the voter saves his right by applying to the local judge and stating the circumstances which prevent his attendance at the polls.

It is believed that the new act will bring to Canadians a truer appreciation of the responsibilities of citizenship and meet the case of the man who hangs around the poll on voting day waiting for a \$5 bill before depositing his ballot.

Growing Democracy of Canada.
Anyone who has had occasion to study the course of legislation in the Canadian parliament the last few years must have been struck by the rapidity which once marked its deliberations is being cast aside in favor of democratic, and, what some people would describe as very radical measures. The whole point of view of parliament is in a state of evolution. Year by year the interests of the masses, as distinguished from the classes, come more prominently into view.

The extent to which the Canadian farmer has gained the ear of parliament has already been described. The same is equally true of the Canadian workingman. One of the signs of the times is the bill introduced this session by the minister of labor for compulsory inquiry in strikes and lockouts in mines, gas and electrical supply works, telegraphs, telephones, street railways and other public utilities. Time was when every measure of reform of this nature was met with the cry that it would interfere with "vested interests." Today it is recognized that the interests of the whole people must be kept paramount to vested and all other interests.

The same spirit is manifested in recent railway legislation, the proposed revision of the insurance laws, government control of trusts, and in many other directions. Through its organized representatives in parliament organized labor has made it clear that it is heartily in favor of the principle involved in such measures. Sir Wilfrid Laurier is still opposed to compulsory arbitration, but is convinced that compulsory investigation of disputes between capital and labor would exercise a moral force which in practice would be effective, and would have a distinct tendency to safeguard the interests of the public as against the interests of any particular section of the public.

Hudson Bay Looming Large.
One of the striking incidents of Canadian development is the growing faith in the possibilities of the Hudson Bay route as a commercial highway from western Canada to Europe. Only a few years ago the man who advocated this route was laughed at as an impracticable dreamer. Today the project has the support of many of the ablest and most competent men of the country. The scientists have pronounced the route theoretically practicable. Experienced business men are now convinced that it is commercially practicable.

At a recent banquet in Toronto Mr. Mackenzie of the Canadian Northern railway expressed his settled belief in the feasibility of the Hudson Bay route, and the determination of his company to push its road to the bay as speedily as possible. The first section, from Winnipeg to Erwood, east of Prince Albert, is already completed, and next year he expects to complete another section.

Probably in 1909 the Canadian Northern will be in a position to carry a portion of that year's crop by rail to Port Churchill, and transport it there to a line of steamers plying to Liverpool. The dream of yesterday will be the certainty of tomorrow.

Appropos of this matter, it is interesting to note that Professor Macoun of the Canadian geological survey, probably the greatest living authori-

ty on the grain-growing areas of Canada, expressed before the agricultural committee of parliament his settled opinion that no reason existed why wheat should not be grown within three miles of Hudson bay, so far as climatic conditions were concerned.

More than a quarter of a century ago Dr. Macoun predicted that western Canada would some day become one of the grandest wheat-growing areas in the world. He was then derided as little better than a lunatic. Today his prophecies are rapidly being fulfilled. Ten years hence the opinion he has just expressed as to the Hudson bay country may be also verified.

But even if this should not turn out to be the case, it is not difficult to picture thriving towns around the shores of Hudson Bay within the next quarter of a century. The bleak coasts of the bay are known to contain incalculable stores of minerals, including iron and copper deposits, and coal suitable for smelting purposes. With railway communication from the bay to Winnipeg and other western centers, and lines of steamers connecting the bay with Europe, there is no limit to the measure of industrial development that the next decade or two may have in store for this great northern region.

HUMOR FROM FRANCE.

Mile. Lideal (a poet)—What a marvelous and beautiful spectacle it is to see the heavy heads of wheat rising and falling at the caprice of the gentle zephyrs!

Mons. Rater (a speculator)—Not half so wonderful as to see them rising and falling at the corn exchange.—Pele Mele.

Enthusiastic Inventor—Colonel, my aeroplane would be invaluable in time of war; it would entirely take the place of the horse—

Colonel—Ah, but could we eat it in time of siege?—Bon Vivant.

"I am so annoyed. My servant has just been killed on the railway; only half his body has been found, and with the other half are my keys."—Bon Vivant.

Father (to his son, who has just finished the bills for his first term at college)—I shouldn't have thought that learning could have cost so much.

Son—O, yes, father, and I am the one who studies the least of any of us!—Nos Loisirs.

A provincial paper announced the sudden death of a celebrated person in the following terms: "The illustrious Prof. X. has done the office of this paper the extreme honor of dying within its walls."—Nos Loisirs.

Mother-in-Law—Well, how did you enjoy your tour in Egypt?
Son-in-Law—Oh, it was charming! And so interesting! Each time we saw a mummy I thought of you.—Vie pour aïre.

The duc de Mazarin, stepbrother of the famous cardinal, came one day to Louis XIV and told him that the angel Gabriel had appeared to him in the night, charging him to tell the king to send away Mlle. de la Valliere.
"Oh," said the king, "he also appeared to me last night and told me that you were quite mad."—Bon Vivant.

Daughter (in tears)—But, papa, what have you against Charles? I am sure he would make a good husband.
Irate Papa—He's an idiot and is only after your money.

Daughter—Oh, no, papa, I know he would marry me without a cent.
Irate Papa—Would he? Then he is a worse idiot than I thought.—Pele Mele.

Stranger (to star)—You won't refuse me a ticket to come and see you?
Star—You acted with me? In what piece?
Stranger—In "Hamlet."
Star—And what part did you take?
Stranger—The cock. I crowed three times each night.—Le Rire.

CHAMPION SOUND SLEEPER.
He Slumbered in Peace While Bedding Burned Around Him.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 3.—William Rumohr went to bed in a boarding house at 85 Eagle street, and because of the cold he pulled a gas heater close to the bed and lighted it and floated off to slumber.

Some hours later Sergeant Jordan pounding the cold flags on Eagle street in the bitter wind heard screams from the house, saw a window yanked open, and a flaming pillow flung far into the street. A figure in white rushed madly to the corner, gave a despairing look for a fire alarm and disappeared.

Through the smoke in the hall Ser-

geant Jordan saw more figures in white. He dashed up the stairs only to have Lena Palma fall in his arms gasping for the ambulance. Then she rushed into a room from which the smoke was curling and emerged presently with burning bed clothes which she tossed out of the window. The sergeant smelled gas and walked into the room and turned the stopcock.

Then an ambulance clanged up and a doctor rushed upstairs with his case. Sergeant Jordan found a man sleeping on the bed whence the burning bed clothes had been plucked.

"Are you dead?" demanded the doctor, shaking the fellow by the shoulder.

"Hub?" queried Mr. Rumohr.

"You aren't dead, then?"
"No, but someone else will be if you don't let me alone," growled the belligerent fellow as he roused himself. He looked around the room. He looked at the officer and at the frightened figures in the doorway.

"Say," he belted in his wrath, "where's the bed clothes and my stove?"

"Hub," remarked Sergeant Jordan, as he turned out into the cold, cheerless street.

TO BE HUNTED WITH HOUNDS

Game Warden of Michigan Plans Systematic Chase of Wolf Packs.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich., Jan. 3.—Charles H. Chapman, state game warden, has determined to hunt the wolves systematically with Siberian wolf hounds. He has taken the matter up with the Russian minister at Washington, with a view to importing dogs if they cannot be procured in this country. The campaign for the destruction of the wolves will be started as soon as possible.

Thousands of wolves are roaming the country south of Lake Superior and hundreds of sheep have been killed by them in a year. Deer are slaughtered by thousands annually by the pests, although bounties of \$25 to \$40 a head are freely offered.

According to an investigation just closed by the game warden's department, Chicago annually consumes thousands of tons of wild game killed and shipped from this state in direct violation of the law. Positive evidence has been secured by the department and detectives are watching the establishment of a South Water street wholesale dealer in poultry, veal and eggs to secure the names of persons supplying him with meats.

In the past two years half a dozen violators have been arrested and punished. But up to the present it has not been known who the dealers were who were buying the game. Now the secret has been learned.

HID LIFE'S SECRETS UNTIL NEAR DEATH.

NEGAUNEE, Mich., Jan. 3.—Not until convinced that he was on his deathbed could any inkling of the whereabouts of his family or his former place of residence be obtained from aged Duncan McFadden, despite that he had lived in this part of the state for over two decades.

Ill for some weeks, McFadden was brought into the city for hospital treatment, but only when the danger of his condition was made plain to him would he divulge the fact that his old home was in Bad Axe, Mich. Then a letter brought his son, who remained in attendance on his father the last two weeks of his illness, and who, when the old man died, took the remains back with him for burial.

McFadden was 76 years of age. He was a most interesting story teller, and had a fund of reminiscences to draw from, the result of a life of more than 40 years as a salt water sailor, in which capacity he visited distant lands in all the seas. His relatives had long ago lost all track of him.

MADE GRAVE TOO SMALL

Pennsylvania Sexton Makes Mistake When Working for Himself.

LEBANON, Pa., Jan. 3.—Although the late Benjamin Bleistein of this city dug an almost countless number of graves during the many years in which he followed the business here, he never made a more serious blunder than in preparing his own.

His body was interred recently in a grave made by his own hands, according to his own ideas, on the Bleistein plot in the Moravian cemetery, Hebron. Bleistein completed his grave some months ago.

He selected a narrow strip of ground between two other occupied graves on the plot and lined it out in cement. When the undertaker took measurements of the corpse and grave he was confronted with Bleistein's error. The measurements disclosed the grave to be scarcely large enough to permit of the body being lowered into it.

Therefore, the coffin had to be specially made and the customary rough box dispensed with. Bleistein had taken a true measurement of his own body in digging the grave, allowing nothing for coffin or rough box.

CARRIE NATION

certainly smashed a hole in the bar-rooms of Kansas, but Ballard's Horehound Syrup has smashed all records as a cure for coughs, Bronchitis, Influenza and all Pulmonary diseases. T. C. H., Horton, Kansas, writes: "I have never found a medicine that would cure a cough so quickly as Ballard's Horehound Syrup. I have used it for years."

PAINT ROCK WAS IRON ORE

Company Has Hundreds of Tons In Stock; Ignorant of Value

SUPPOSED RUBBISH REMUNERATIVE

CONCERN MAKES CONTRACT TO "DISPOSE OF STUFF" AND MAKES MILLIONS.

NEGAUNEE, Mich., Jan. 3.—Back in 1857, when the iron industry of the Lake Superior region was practically in its infancy, a young man by the name of Stephen R. Gay arrived at Marquette from Lime Rock, Mass., to superintend the erection of the Pioneer furnace at Negaunee for the old iron cliffs company. The fact that this plant was called the Pioneer has in later years caused it to be referred to as the first furnace in the region, when, as a matter of fact, it was not. Furnaces older than the Pioneer were located at Collinsville and Forestville, near Marquette, both settlements long ago in decay, and had been in operation for years before the foundation was laid for the Pioneer stack.

Gay had been in Negaunee nearly two weeks when an incident occurred which in effect completely revolutionized the iron industry of the upper country. Gay was a prodigious worker, and after his arrival at Negaunee he was not seen anywhere for a fortnight except at the furnace site. On Sunday, however, he walked over to the mine of the Jackson Iron company, which was located within a stone's throw of where he had his men at work, and struck up an acquaintance with Captain Henry Merry, mine superintendent and manager of the property, who died at Cleveland, Ohio, some months ago. The two men spent several hours inspecting the workings, and were engaged in conversation just outside the office prior to Gay taking his departure.

Very Much Mistaken.
"How much ore have you in your stock piles?" questioned Gay, looking toward several big heaps of yellowish-red material.

"Ore! That's not ore," replied Captain Merry. "That is what we call 'paint rock'; it's a sort of red clay, mixed with sand and rock, and it's so plentiful that we don't know where to dump the stuff after we get it out. I've built roads with it, filled in sink holes and ravines, but we don't seem to be able to get rid of it."

Gay did not continue the conversation and went away. The next day, however, he entered into a contract with the Jackson Iron company whereby he was to pay it at the rate of 50 cents per ton for all the iron extracted from the "paint rock" that then lay on the surface at the mine, after it had been shipped to the furnace. The contract allowed Gay's company 20 years in which to remove the so-called paint rock.

Iron in "Paint Rock."
The Jackson Iron company, none of its men, nor anybody in the district, for that matter—except Gay, of course—had any idea that there was iron in the "paint rock," and it was generally thought that Gay had forced his concern into a mighty poor deal. To make a long story short, the "paint rock" proved to be almost the richest ore ever mined on the Marquette range. It was not the richest, but it assayed on an average of from 60 to 65 per cent in metallic iron. The contract made with Gay cost the Jackson Iron company a great many thousands of dollars, but it also showed it the way of making additional thousands in soft ore mining.

At that time nothing but hard ore was being mined in the Lake Superior country, and nothing whatever was known of soft, or what is now called hematite ore. Explorations made in those days were wholly for hard ore, and Stephen R. Gay was the first man to develop the real wealth of the iron region. The amount of hematite that Gay bought for the Iron Cliffs company from the Jackson company at the rate of 50 cents a ton for the iron extracted is not known now. However, there were hundreds of thousands of tons of it, and the purchasing company made several fortunes on the deal.

Built Many Roads.
The so-called "paint rock" was so plentiful that the Jackson company built a great many roads in the vicinity of Negaunee and made fills with the ore as it came from the mine. At the time of Gay's visit the question of getting rid of the stuff was a serious problem with the company, and the contract was a welcome relief until it was discovered that Gay was doing with the ore and the result of the assays became known.

This is a story of the early days, as told by Peter White of Marquette—that illustrious pioneer of the Lake Superior iron region—during the course of a conversation in which he commented upon the remarkable growth of the iron industry during the last half century.

FOR BENEFIT CONCERT.

Music to be held in Olivet Chapel January 11.

A benefit concert is being arranged for Olivet chapel to take place at the chapel room in Whitman college Jan. 11. A good program of vocal and instrumental music is being arranged and a large attendance is expected. Among those who will take part are Professor Archibald C. Jackson. Several numbers will be given by a male quartette, composed of Messrs. Jackson, Schofield, Mitchell and Turner. Professor Schofield will render several organ numbers.

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SECURING RIGHTS OF WAY

E. W. Wagner, Columbia and Walla Walla Traction, Reports Progress

LAND GRANTS INFLUENCE ADVANCING

WITH COMPLETION OF ROAD THIS CITY WOULD HAVE CHEAP RATES TO THE SEA.

Right-of-way agent, E. W. Wagner, in the employ of the Columbia and Walla Walla Traction company, reports that the purchase of right-of-way for his company is progressing satisfactorily, notwithstanding the fact that some of the farmers feel indisposed to grant the necessary ground for the building of the line.

While the reorganizing of the electric company is in its infancy, Mr. Wagner says that the proposition can be financed when it is shown that the necessary right-of-way can be secured. The proposed route is through a section of country which is sparsely settled at present. Two steam roads already traverse the district and it might be several years before the road would be placed upon a paying business. The building of the line would greatly increase the population of the country through which it is proposed to build.

With the building of the Walla Walla and Columbia, Walla Walla would have cheap transportation to the sea in conjunction with the open river. The active campaign which is being carried on by Walla Wallans for the open river is having a tendency to urge the building of an electric line to the river.

Mr. Wagner, whose home is in Rosalia, Wash., was formerly in the employ of the Spokane and Inland Railway, and he was, in a great measure, responsible for the line being constructed through his home town. He says that the promoters of the Columbia and Walla Walla Traction company and the Spokane and Inland, which has already constructed its lines as far as Colfax and Palouse city in Whitman county, are friendly to each other and it is probable that the two line would have a connection at the terminal point of the Spokane line and the beginning of the Columbia and. Walla Walla Traction company, thus giving Spokane direct connection with the Columbia river and the sea as well as this city.

BOSS DINES HIS EMPLOYEES

M. C. McGrew, the Grocer, Gives Banquet at the Congregational Church Amid Toasts Galore.

At a banquet given in their honor at the Congregational church yesterday evening, M. C. McGrew, the grocer, feasted his employes and their families royally and toasted them felicitously. The affair was a jolly good time all through; relations of the employer and employe were forgotten and the spirit of equality ruled.

Everybody joshed his neighbor and many who were strangers to the art of Bryan became real Depewes under the stimulus of the plaudits of their fellow workers.

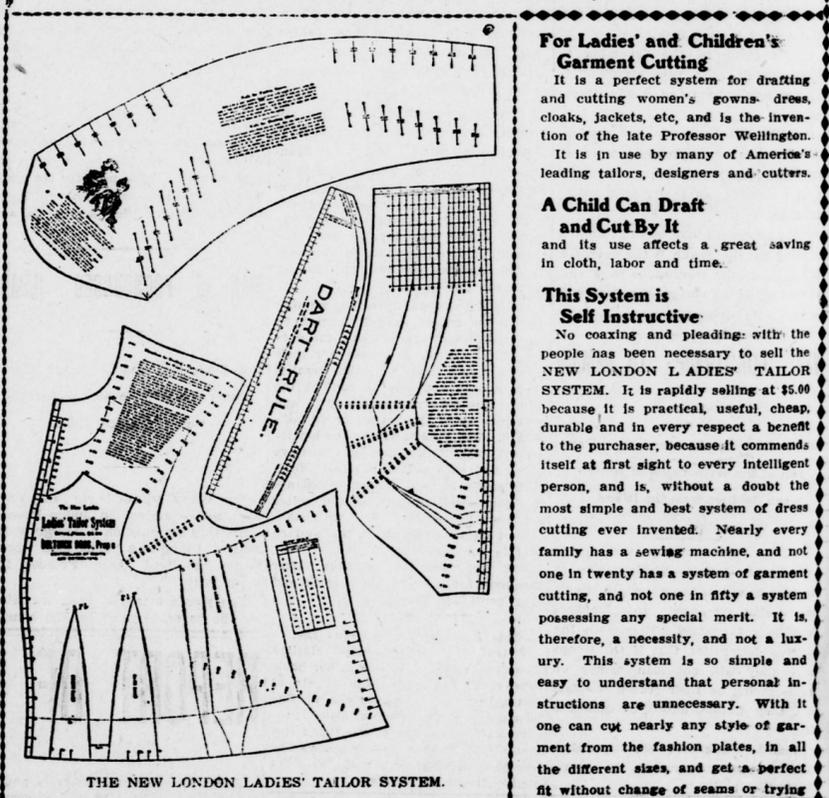
Mr. McGrew told his employes how he appreciated their loyalty and they responded in words of praise for their "boss."

Among those talking were Arthur Bishop, W. P. Hershey, Jewett Gardner and F. F. Baker.

The singing of "The Silvery Sea" by a quartette consisting of Misses Ella and Joy McGrew and Lindsay Chowder and Arthur Bishop was enthusiastically received.

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