

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., JULY 24, 1908

A gentleman who has made a special study of the condition of the roads throughout the province during the past ten years, and who is in an excellent position to know, informs THE ACADIAN that they have yearly been getting worse until they are now in a truly wretched state. This is certainly not a very encouraging report, and would indicate that there is need of reform in the manner in which our highways are constructed and maintained. In connection with this we may say that from what we can gather the new highway law is not likely to solve the difficulty, judging from what we hear concerning its workings. THE ACADIAN will make further comment on the new law later on.

At a recent meeting of the School Board it was decided to increase the fees to be paid by those attending the Wolfville public school from outside the section from \$5.00 to \$15.00 per year. This matter has been before the Board for several years and the proposed increase has from the first been opposed by THE ACADIAN. We see no reason for any change of opinion on the subject. Certainly one of the greatest attractions of a town is good schools, and the larger the attendance the greater the possibilities in this direction. Wolfville has long been an educational centre, and of our good public schools its citizens have been justly proud. That during past years quite a large number of outside students have taken advantage of the privilege of our school and paid the fee therefore, when they might have attended the county academy gratis, speaks well for the attractiveness of our town. It can hardly be expected, however, that with the increased fee this state of affairs will continue. The result of the new arrangement will therefore likely be a falling off in the number of pupils from outside sections who attend our high school, a corresponding decrease in efficiency and a lessening in the town's hold on the interest of parents and guardians of the young people who have been coming here to pursue their education. On the other hand we see no good reason for such a change. Citizens with whom we have discussed the matter regard this as a backward step and not at all in line with the policy they would like to see followed in the conduct of their schools.

For several years past there has been an agitation for some provision for the registering of vital statistics in this province. THE ACADIAN in common with other journals, has frequently urged the need of something definite being done along this line. At the recent session of the legislature an act to provide for the registration of births and deaths was passed and will go into operation on the first day of October of the present year. This act is a step in the right direction, but it is not to be fully understood by the public generally. It provides for the division of the province into districts for which a district registrar is to be appointed. The provincial secretary, for the time being, shall be registrar-general for the province and will have general supervision over the administration of the act. Every district registrar shall, on or before the 15th day of January, April, July, and October, in each year, forward to the registrar all returns of births and deaths received by him during the previous three months. Obligations are imposed upon parents, doctors, ministers, under-takers, etc., to carry out the provisions of the act, and severe penalties are provided for non-compliance. In the case of the registration of births notice must be given within thirty days after the date of birth, and all deaths must be registered before the burial of the body. Prosecutions for penalties imposed by this act must be commenced within one year after the offence or default. An unjust feature of the act seems to be that while the municipality, town or city must pay annually to the district registrar the compensation fixed, twenty-five cents for each complete registration of a birth or death returned under the provisions of the act, the appointment of the officer is in the hands of the government and all fees arising from searches or for certificates goes into the provincial treasury.

Important Scott Act Amendment.

The House of Commons on Saturday passed a bill to amend the Canada Temperance Act or the Scott Act, as it is more generally called. This bill had already passed the Senate and received the assent of the governor-general on Monday. The principal feature contained in the bill is the clause to prohibit the sending of liquor into any of the ten counties in Nova Scotia which are now under the act. The act as now amended will prevent express companies from sending liquor to Scott Act counties. C. O. D., as has been the case in the past. The amendment does not prevent liquor being brought in for sacramental or medicinal purposes. One of the objects is to prevent young men sending to a non-Scott Act County for a case of liquor, to be paid for on arrival and distribution. The bill also provides power to authorities to search any premises where it is suspected liquor is stored for sale and if found it may be seized.

Ruined His Feet.

Used a ten cent Cure Salve, and a quarter he would have cured his corns with Putnam's Painless Cure Eye Treatment. Use the best—Putnam's.

The Next Election.

When will the next Dominion elections be held? What is there to buttress the impression that Sir Wilfrid Laurier means to appeal to the people in November?

For one thing, dissolution was understood to be scheduled for this fall, until the commercial depression of last November upset all calculations thereon. The present is the tenth parliament of the Dominion, and only two parliaments have lasted the full five years—the first and the seventh. It is almost an unwritten law that parliament shall be dissolved a year ahead of the term allowed by the constitution. But the moment the country fell into the doldrums commercially, it was felt that the government could not afford to observe the usual practice, unless affairs took a turn for the better and universal cheerfulness returned. One of the penalties of political chicanery is that sometimes it works the wrong way. A year ago or so Sir Wilfrid Laurier almost exceeded Nebuchadnezzar in his boastfulness. All the prosperity of the country was due to the fiscal policy he had inaugurated—as though he had done anything of any account other than retain the essential features of the National Policy. "See this great Canada that I have builded," was his platform-vaunt. But when Wall Street trembled, and bankers tightened their purse strings, the clarion voice became mute. If prosperity was due to the government—and not to world-wide conditions, and to the natural development of Canada—why not adversity? To ask this question was much easier than to answer it, and he knew it would pursue him. He could fool part of the people part of the time, but not all the time.

The magnificent crop prospect in the west has come just at the right moment. In a month or two, in all probability, vast armies will be floating eastward. A month or two later, all the wheels of commerce and industry may be humming. The only reason for the postponement of the elections has vanished.

And so we see the usual harbingers of a coming campaign in the proceedings of parliament. Glittering mitrains are being held out here and there. Spendthrift outlays are provided for. Here are a few of the indications: Supplementary estimates amounting to millions, to be expended on wharves, breakwaters, post office buildings, etc., with a keen eye to political advantage and very little regard to the real needs of the communities. An appropriation for the Hudson Bay railway survey, with a definite promise that that railway, whether as a public or private work, will be proceeded with forth with. Promises by the minister of railways and canals of immense outlays on a new or enlarged Welland canal, and an improved St. Lawrence route. The shadowing forth of large extensions for Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. A big subvention of \$1,000,000 to the provinces. All Red route—long ridiculed by the premier, but now rolled as a sweet morsel under his tongue. One swallow does not make a summer, but here are many swallows. Let no one be taken unawares.

Arrange to Visit the Exhibition at Halifax.

The Exhibition Commission are arranging for a Show this year at Halifax that will be the equal of any of its predecessors, and in some respects will surpass them. The date of the opening is September 2nd, so that the weather will be warm and pleasant for open-air amusements, and the racing and vaudeville to be seen from the grand-stands should draw great crowds. A splendid field of fleet horses will race on seven days of the Exhibition for purses aggregating \$6,000.

The Exhibition dates include "Labor Day," this should draw to the grounds a great concourse of holiday-seekers, not alone from the city but from the various Industrial Centres of the Province.

The Departmental Buildings will have good displays. The applications for space in the Manufacturers Building already are sufficient to demand nearly all the available space.

The usual low rates of travel will prevail and everybody should begin to arrange for a pleasant holiday in Halifax during Exhibition week.

Very much a propos of the Quebec Tercentenary celebrations, The Graphic for this week, July 18, contains two magnificent portrait supplements of the Prince and Princess of Wales, drawn for our contemporary by Mr. Seymour Lucas, R. A., at sittings specially accorded by their Royal Highnesses, beautifully printed upon art paper. As a further instance of the enterprising methods of The Graphic and the keen interest which it is displaying in things Canadian, it may be mentioned that England's premier illustrated weekly has specially engaged Mr. Frank Craig, one of the best known draughtsmen in the United Kingdom, to depict in its pages the most striking aspects of the Quebec festivities. He is accompanying the Royal party to Canada for this purpose, and proposes afterwards to make a trip through the Dominion, the artistic results of which will be seen in the pages of The Graphic.

The Grand Division of Sons of Temperance will meet at Sydney on Wednesday, the 29th inst., at 10 a. m. The Grand Division celebrated its Diamond Jubilee Anniversary in April last, at Leckert, showing a net increase of membership for the year of about seven hundred. The net increase for past quarter will bring it up to next a thousand.

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Men's Lace Boots, good quality Stock, 1.50, 1.75, \$2.00.
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This week we are offering some very special low prices in Trunks, Grips and Suit Cases.

Remember The Store of Honest Values.

MITCHELL'S SHOE STORE.

WOLFVILLE, N. S.

California Letter.

AN INTERESTING EPITOME FROM AN OLD FRIEND OF THE ACADIAN.

DEAR FRIEND,—I have neglected writing to you for some time, but now I have repented and this shall be some fruit of repentance. It was my painful privilege to perform the last offices of affection for a fellow countryman recently, when we laid away Rev. W. B. Bradshaw, Ph. D., in the cemetery of the First Baptist Church, near Los Angeles. He had been a great sufferer for many months and his end was very peaceful. His son from Alberta and his brother Clarence from Victoria were present, as were also his wife and two daughters. It was a pleasure to again meet Clarence Bradshaw who was a Junior at Acadia when I was a Freshman, and rooming with his classmate, Absolom Powell. He is now a flourishing attorney and the same jovial fellow. He recalled to my mind the incident of our having sent invitations to the same young lady of the Seminary to attend a Junior Exhibition, and that he was turned down and I was favored. He has forgiven me. In March it was my joyful privilege to celebrate my ninth anniversary as pastor of the First Baptist church of San Bernardino, California. The church made much of this celebration by inviting two other pastors of Southern California and their wives to a reception and a banquet and a program. Rev. C. C. Pierce, of the Memorial Baptist church, Los Angeles, settled in his pastorate on the first Sunday of March, 1899. My pastorate began here the third Sunday of that month, and Rev. J. Herndon Garnett, D. D., began the pastorate of the First Baptist church at Santa Ana on the fourth Sunday of the same month. There is only one other Baptist minister in the whole of California who has had his present pastorate longer than this. Rev. J. George Gibson, an Englishman, has been pastor of Inmanuel church, San Francisco, twelve years. During these nine years I have baptised into the fellowship of this church 171 men, and four (two young men and their wives) are accepted for baptism, and the sacred rite will be performed next Sunday. I have performed the marriage ceremony in this city 215 times, and another couple will be married Saturday evening next.

During the month of May it was my great delight to visit Texas and to make chapel addresses at Simmons College, Abilene; at Baylor University, Waco; and at Central Texas College, Waco. The last is a college for colored students. Fourteen hundred students heard these addresses. During my visit at Waco it was an intense pleasure to spend a good deal of time with Dr. Calvin Goodspeed, to visit his classes and to have sweetest fellowship. He is greatly loved and revered by all who know him in Texas.

At the Northern Baptist Convention at Oklahoma City it was indeed a treat to meet Asten DeBella, Billy Wallace, Jud Keapton, A. H. C. and Howard Whitson, none of whom I had seen for eighteen years. They all have become wearers of notable titles and are filling prominent places in the world, but as they called me "Buddy" I felt that they could never be more to me than the fine college boys they used to be.

California is prospering as never before in its history. Never were such crops raised, never such development of mines, and other natural resources; never such an influx of population from the older States, and from all over the world. After a very cool spring we have been having some genuine summer weather. Yesterday was the sixteenth day of heat. The thermometer reached 97° at 10 a. m. The average for the sixteen days was a fraction over 100. To-day the thermometer registers below 90, and the spell is over. With all kind regards to all old friends,

Very sincerely yours,
MARK BAILEY SHAW,
San Bernardino, California,
July 10, 1908.

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One of the finest residential properties in WOLFVILLE. Formerly occupied by the late Amelia Higgins. The house alone will be rented on reasonable terms. The place contains about 60 acres of upland, besides dyke. There is a large orchard, and the house and barn are in excellent condition. The property could be divided into two farms if desired. A large part of the purchase money can remain on mortgage. Apply to, W. V. HIGGINS.



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In Balbriggan Under Clothing, Negligee Shirts, Belts and Suits we have a fine range and can with confidence submit it to you as being the best obtainable for the least money consistent with first class goods.

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New Neckties, latest designs and patterns, also Austrian collars, "King of Collars."

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For Result Advertise in The "Acadian."

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