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WHAT CANADIAN EDITORS THINK

KIDNAPPERS BEWARE!

(Hamilton Times.)

THE Pennsylvania court that tried the Whitla kidnaping case sentenced the principal in the crime to prison for life, and the woman who took so prominent a part in it to twenty-five years in prison, a \$5,000 fine and the costs of the process. We may probably with safety omit the fine and costs from the consideration, as being uncollectable. The State can afford to bear the costs of the case if the result of the trial is to discourage kidnaping as a short-cut to wealth. The crime is one of the most atrocious, and in the opinion of many merits a death sentence. Let it once be known, however, that all the energies of society will be bent to the capture and punishment of such criminals, and that such salutary sentences will not only be pronounced on the guilty, but will be carried into effect, and the results will be good.

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SWEARING BOYS.

(Aylmer Sun.)

IT is regrettable that profanity has become common among boys. It is not in the least out of the ordinary, where a group of boys of 10 to 15 years is together upon the streets or in any open space to play a game of ball, to hear them using oaths that might suit the tongues of the proverbial fishwife or costermonger, but which are shocking falling from the tongues of children of tender years. Of all stupid and silly vices, profanity is one of the worst and most abominable. A simple statement of fact is much stronger than any statement embellished with swear words, and no lie is made any the more believable by being framed in profanity. Profanity among men seems to be growing less and less, at least in public places and among those who may lay claim to decency and some education. But the habit seems to have firmly fixed itself upon a great many of the boys, who may imagine it mannish to use profanity and smoke cigarettes.

* * *

THE POOR PEDESTRIAN.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

THE rules of the road in Ottawa would stand for enforcement. Automobiles and delivery waggons run wild. The most expensive pavements and the most crowded thoroughfares are given over to the heaviest draft traffic. There is something wrong, negligence on the part of the police or simple bad manners on the part of the great majority of persons who drive carriages of various kinds about the streets. The well-meaning pedestrian in Ottawa has been very patient, but since he is affronted on all sides by an utter disregard of the principle of live-and-let-live, it seems to be up to him to take some action to protect his person and maintain his rights.

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PACIFIC SUBSIDY LAPSED.

(Victoria Colonist.)

WE commented a few days ago upon the prospect of a serious interruption of the steamship service between British Columbia and Australia, owing to the fact that the subsidy will lapse in June and there appears to be no reasonable prospect of its being renewed. It is not to be understood that the responsibility for this unfortunate condition of affairs rests with Canada alone. At present the subsidy is approximately half a

million dollars, of which Canada pays two-thirds and Australia one-third. The company asks for an increase of this subsidy by something under \$100,000, of which Canada would pay the same proportion as above. Australia has declined, and Canada has delayed action because the Commonwealth will not give the Dominion a part in its scheme of trade preference. This is a very unfortunate condition of things, but we are not very clear what can be done about it.

* * *

FEDERATION IDEA IS OLD.

(London Advertiser.)

FEDERATION was mooted many years before it became a practical question. It found advocates more than a century ago. Even the Colonial Office suggested it in instructions to Lord Durham in 1838. In the year following Lord Durham recommended a scheme for the union of Upper and Lower Canada, to which by mutual consent, the other provinces might be admitted, and proposed a commission to arrange the constituencies and representation on a basis of population and the establishment of local legislatures with exclusive domestic control. A bill drawn on these lines was introduced in the British House of Commons by Lord John Russell, but was withdrawn on account of the opposition it met with.

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JEWS IN MONTREAL.

(Victoria Colonist.)

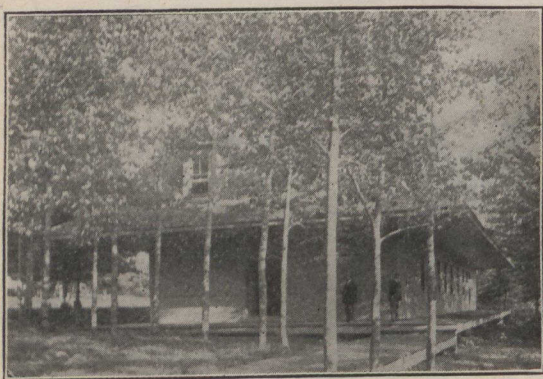
MONTREAL seems in danger of being confronted with a Jewish problem. During the last fifteen years there has been a large immigration into that city of Jews from Russia and Roumania, and as a rule they have been very prosperous. They are buying up real estate largely in the very centre of the most aristocratic French section of the city. Most of the Jewish families are large and relatively their school-going members are greatly in excess of those in Protestant families. The Jew will not send his children to the Roman Catholic schools, and place must therefore be made for them in the Protestant schools, or they must be excluded from the advantages of public education, while contributing in taxes to its support. The Protestant schools of Quebec teach at least the principles of Christianity. Will the Jews be content to have their children so taught? This seems to be likely to be a question of considerable difficulty.

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LET'S DEVELOP SANELY.

(St. John Sun.)

THERE are times when the home-keeping Canadian grows somewhat impatient with the ambitious persons who would hasten over-much Canadian development. We get along very well with the people who find us so uninteresting that they leave us alone, but with the people who have hope for us we sometimes have trouble. We have, for instance, been aware of the fact that we possessed no Canadian literature. In fact we have been contented that such should be the case. It seemed highly appropriate that we should not have produced masterpieces. We have utterly refused to sit up at night worrying over that matter. It is therefore somewhat disconcerting when certain ambitious brothers and sisters point the finger of scorn at such indifference. We should have been fostering with our dimes and dollars the efforts of the devoted few who were diligently seeking to save Canada from the shame of literary dearth.



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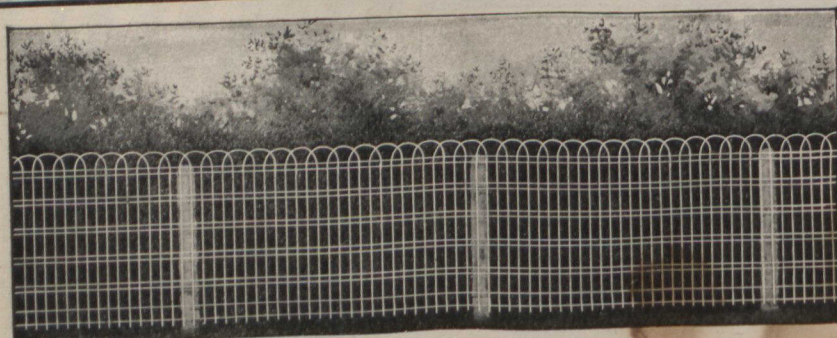
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