

What the World is Saying

The Needs of Manitoba University.

The patrons and friends of Manitoba University must deplore the inadequate equipment under which it labors. It is poor in buildings, books and scientific apparatus; yet with all its limitations, it is doing a work that is rich in quality. Its curriculum will bear comparison with the great universities of Montreal and Toronto, and, in fact, in some departments, the comparison would not be favorable to the older and richer universities. But Manitoba University is sadly hampered in its great work; and it is high time that the attention of our public spirited men, and our kings of commerce was directed to its claims and to the educational possibilities of the West. The wave of prosperity that has swept over the land has not touched our University. It should have done so. A country that is not rich in educational institutions, cannot long be rich in anything. The Free Press thinks a library is needed. So it is, and so is every thing else that will place it in a position to do its best work. Its need of a library is only a symptom of its state of general debility. The time has gone by for removing pimples, the blood must be purified. The staff of able professors must be conditioned to do their best work.

Wanted—Bank Clerks.

The action of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in sending to Scotland for clerks, which it claimed could not be found in Canada has evoked much moralizing. The requirements laid down by the bank were, that the young men should be trustworthy, of fair education, of good parents and without bad habits. Chas. F. Raymond, a literary free lance of Toronto, is inclined to take the attitude of the bank seriously; he says: "Great Caesar! what an admission! From the sounding Atlantic, up past the ancient capital, up past Montreal, the metropolis; Ottawa the gay; Toronto the good; and Winnipeg the wicked; on past Brandon and Calgary, up through the majesty of the Rockies to Vancouver and Victoria, there were not a sufficient number of these men available for one of the cleanest, smoothest, most exclusive and desirable professions of the day—banking. Were they hid, these men of good families? Not for a moment. These young gentlemen are to be seen at the shows, at the dances and euchre parties, at the poker tables, at the bars, at the shebangs. Available for hellery and frolic, but for work as juniors in a bank—never." He claims that they are importing these Scotsmen because they are not too big for their jobs, and will take orders gracefully and be content to wait. Young Canada wants to break in through the roof. He shuns long hours, the dull routine and small pay.

The Revival in Toronto.

Even Toronto "the good" can be made better. A series of great meetings are being held under the direction of the world famous evangelists, Torrey and Alexander, and the success which has followed their efforts is remarkable. Toronto has been profoundly stirred, and the wave of revival blessing has overflowed to the adjacent towns. Whole trainloads of people frequently come from these towns to attend the meetings. Of course there is criticism. It is said that Torrey is preaching an antiquated Gospel which does not square with modern thought. But the evangelist claims that the "Old Gospel" is the newest thought yet discovered, and the only truth that can reach the lives of men. For proof, he points to the success of the meetings. This success does not consist only in drawing crowds. In the realm of conscience it scores its mightiest victories. A former employee sent \$1.00 to an employer whom he had robbed of 25c. This is only one sample of many cases of

conscience money that came before the great gatherings continually. Perhaps in the face of facts like these, it would be the part of wisdom to say nothing of a critical character, for great, and it is to be hoped, lasting good, is being done by the renowned evangelists.

The Presbyterian Church on Temperance Legislation.

That was a notable discussion which the Presbytery of Winnipeg engaged in recently on intemperance statistics. Some of the things said should act as stings to the temperance conscience of the Manitoba Government, supposing it possesses such a conscience, a supposition which many do not grant. After stating that intemperance in Winnipeg is on the increase, the report continues: "We read with alarm the present policy of the board of license commissioners in the granting of so many licenses throughout the province, and that in defiance of the strongest protests from the majority of the people concerned. In the town of Carman, where there were already three licenses, a fourth has been added within the last few days and that against the wishes of an overwhelming majority of the people. We regret exceedingly the attitude of the Government to this whole question. Not only has comparatively little been done by them for temperance reform, but, on the contrary, the granting of licenses has been steadily and rapidly on the increase." The Presbyterian Church has done a signal service in coming out so strongly against the suicidal policy of the Roblin Government on the temperance question, a policy that seems to be peculiarly blind to the general moral tone that is abroad in the West.

More Play for School Children.

The educational idea is never allowed to stagnate. It is a favorite topic of discussion with all classes of people. So, by expert and inexpert criticism our system of training the children is never settled. Yet it grows towards perfection. Prof. Tyler before the 20th Century Club of Boston recently made a fresh contribution to our educational science. In brief it is this, that periods of mental labour should be followed by periods of physical exercise. That, all through the school day, there should be the alternation of work and play. To quote: "What we need is not to crush out play or its spirit, but somehow to get more of the spirit and enthusiasm of the play-ground into our work. But if play is the most valuable of all forms of exercise, place and time must be found for it, even if numbers and language have to wait. But those who have had to do with the half-time schools report that the children generally make about as much progress in half a day as in a whole one. The introduction of out-door work in our industrial and truant schools has not diminished the acquisition of knowledge. It has rather increased it." If this idea were put into practice a revolution in the conduct of our school system would follow; but, like most revolutions, it might give us a system of child-training far in advance of the present one.

"Free Food" and Western Wheat.

The British elections have given unmistakable proof that a preferential tariff with the Colonies is not popular. In the mind of the masses of English people there is a distrust of the Colonies as food suppliers for the Empire—hence the success of the "Free Food" and "Free Trade" policy in the last election. The fact is only too patent that England does not realise the immense wealth of all kinds stored in her colonies. In view of England's attitude see what an American says. Richard Lee Fearn, in the New York Tribune, writes: "Winnipeg as a matter of fact is now the chief centre of the

North American continent, and an official report from Washington sets out that, whereas only 2 per cent of the available wheat area tributary to Winnipeg is under cultivation, if the whole acreage were tilled, with the known unsurpassed fertility of the region and the climatic conditions favorable to the production of the best grades of wheat, it would annually yield a crop more than sufficient for the entire world's consumption from year to year." The total imports of wheat and flour into the British Isles is about 200,000,000 bushels of wheat. But were one-fourth of the wheat lands of the prairie provinces farmed annually they would yield 800,000,000 bushels, enough to supply a Canadian population and the British Isles three times over. Do English electors know this?

The British Medical Association Coming to Canada.

A tribute of honor has been done Canada in selecting it as the meeting place of the British Medical Association in August next. The Association will convene in Toronto. The personnel of this body comprises some of the most distinguished men in the British Empire. They are scientists, scholars and discoverers in the realm of medicine. The Toronto News says of the meeting: "The very meeting of such a body here with the resulting impetus to the profession in the city, the province and the Dominion, is not only an honor, but bound to be of sound practical benefit to the science of medicine generally and to the public health." We agree with the News, but would point out also that the Association might be used for advertising purposes. It means much for us that a distinguished body of educated men should come to our shores when the eyes of the world are upon us. The Association should tour Canada. The railway companies and the government might combine to give the distinguished visitors an opportunity of seeing our great country. We are sure large benefits would be the result.

President Hays on Transportation.

A notable utterance was made during the past month on the transportation question by Pres. Hays, of the G.T.P. It is seldom that railway magnates say anything in a public way on Canada's greatest question, and we are indebted to the Canadian Club of Toronto, whose guest Mr. Hays was, for the speech. Mr. Hays discussed transportation in general, but the part of his speech that interests the West is that which dealt with the winter route for grain. He declared that the Grand Trunk Ry. Co. favored a line to the north of Lake Superior as a carrying route for grain, which, he said, would be brought down in ever increasing quantities by rail during the winter months. Canals he discarded as ineffective aids in keeping pace with the growth of the West. Instead, he urged a joint development of railways and waterways, pointing out in particular that the Canadian ports of the Great Lakes should be equipped with facilities that make them the equals of the ports at American points. He urged, too, the nationalization of every Ocean Port, and the taking of time by the forelock in an immediate preparation for a development in the West that would otherwise be retarded for the very lack of these facilities.

The Manufactured Bride.

There is an up-to-date school in Philadelphia which is being largely patronized by women. The reason is it gives a course on the art of "Keeping one's husband, after having won him." That it is an art some women will acknowledge, but can it be taught? "Yes," says the Brides' University of Philadelphia. "The proper sort of bride may be manufactured." Its curriculum includes the training of brides, upon whom at graduation special degrees are conferred. The most proficient go into the world of men bearing proudly an "M.H." which being interpreted means Model Helpmate. To capture this degree, says the Canadian woman, she has been thoroughly grounded in a course which includes the following heads: "Be cheerful; practise repose; feed him substantially; spend money prudently; be ready always for the unexpected friend; be an entertaining companion; encourage your husband to spend at least one night at the club." Male readers will see at a glance that some of this advice is superfluous. For example, when did a man require encouragement to spend a night at his club! We are sure that when the school graduates its girls they will be nice little things, thoroughly domesticated and obedient, jejune and simpering. Save us from manufactured brides!