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OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, 1907

A number of subscribers have not yet remitted for last year. Kindly take a look at the address tab on your paper, and if you find yourself in arrears send on the money NOW.

The protest against deluging the columns of ordinarily decent newspapers with the vile Thaw murder case, which the "Dominion Presbyterian" was the first to make, seems to have been followed by a considerable abatement of the harmful nuisance.

An effort is being made to secure a library for a Sunday School recently started near Richard's Landing. Any schools which have used library books to dispose of can help a worthy cause by donating them to this school. Please communicate at once with Mr. Thomas Yellowlees, of the Ontario S. S. Association, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

Principal Gordon of Queen's is anxious to make the college museum an attraction to students and visitors, and has issued a circular to the sons and daughters of Queen's in all climes for contributions. He asks for any of the numerous and varied articles such as are found in our museums. The college professors have given excellent collections of geological, mineralogical, and botanical specimens, but the department of archaeology and ethnology need augmenting.

Dr. W. T. Grenfell, whose work in Labrador has attracted so much attention in recent years, has received from King Edward the decoration of St. Michael and St. George, an honor given only to those who distinguish themselves in the life of the British colonies. It is an honor well bestowed, and particularly notable in that it is ordinarily given for work of so different a character. Dr. Grenfell is announced to speak at several points in Canada, and Ottawa will also be visited.

## THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN.

### THE TURNING POINT.

There is something suggestive in this incident as told by a reliable relator: "I had a friend in New York, who had been a very active Christian worker. But something went wrong; he got discouraged, and deliberately made up his mind that he was going to throw overboard religion. He was in this state of mind when his firm ordered him West on a trip. As he had to leave Jersey City very early in the morning, he went down town the night before and took a room in a hotel convenient to the ferry. He rose next morning, and while he was dressing, he heard a man in the next room whistling, 'Stand up, stand up, for Jesus.' He left for his train without getting the slightest notion of the identity of his over-night neighbor. But that whistling brought back all his religious faith and sense of duty with an overpowering rush, and he turned back to God then and there. And he has been a steady, earnest working Christian ever since. One tune on unknown lips saved him.

The moral would seem to be, not alone the power of sacred song, but the fact that often the little thing leads to important results. Wherefore, let your light shine, even though you be but an influential unit of human society.

### T. H. PRESTON AND CHILD LABOR

Mr. T. H. Preston, M. P. P., deserves credit for bringing up in the Ontario Legislature the legislative prevention of child labor; and the Government is to be commended for its friendly attitude towards Mr. Preston's resolution. Surely matrons ought to be compelled to keep their hands off the young human life, so that the boy or girl under 14 years may have a chance to acquire sound thews and sinews before being thrust into the strain and stress of the battle. Every year cut off from opportunities of education is a wrong to the men and women of the future. Once child-labor becomes the rule, as we see in Europe and many parts of the United States, many interests combine to perpetuate the evil. The time to prevent its taking a hold in Ontario is now, and we trust Mr. Preston will not allow the subject to drop, but continue his able championship of the rights of the children.

### THE THREE-FIFTHS CLAUSE.

There seems to be general revolt against the law which says a municipality that desires to prevent liquor selling within its borders, cannot so decide by the usual democratic method of a simple majority, but is compelled to have a majority in the proportion of three to two. The men who made that law in the Ontario Legislature required only a simple majority for their own election; and it seems difficult to detect anything about the liquor traffic calling for protective treatment denied in other cases and other matters. The "Dominion Presbyterian" respectfully suggests to the Ontario Legislature that the three-fifths clause should be repealed this session.

### RESULTS OF LOCAL OPTION VOTING.

The returns of the recent Local Option voting now being completed, we can in some measure sum up the result and draw some conclusions therefrom.

Voting took place in 108 municipalities, and the aggregate vote cast was 54,638.

The vote was in nearly every case a large one, even for a municipal election. In many cases a new record was established.

The votes for bar-room abolition numbered 32,300, against 22,340, a majority of 9,960 for Local Option and against the bar-room. It will thus be seen that there was a tremendous preponderance of opinion in favor of further restriction of the liquor evil.

In the 51 municipalities where by-laws were carried or sustained, the vote stood 16,818 to 8,885. In the 57 places where by-laws were beaten or repealed the poll stood 15,491 to 13,464, a majority in favor of Local Option of 2,027. It will thus be seen, remarks The Pioneer, that even where we have to write down "defeat" we, as a matter of fact, polled a splendid majority.

### TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

The investigation going on at Toronto shows the telephone operators, mostly young women, are on the average subjected to a strain very injurious in its effects. The Legislature should see the future wives and mothers of the Province get fair play. Part of the strain, we learn from one of the operators giving evidence, arises from the bullying tones and remarks of inconsiderate customers. No doubt some operators are inattentive at times; but even so, there is such a thing as Christian consideration on the part of customers, not to speak of a Christian tone of voice. People can swear with the tone of the voice without using blasphemous words at all.

### UNITED STATES STATISTICS.

The people who figure up find for last year, in the United States, that there are 11,143,455 Catholics, of whom 10,879,930 are Roman Catholics. The rest are Russians, Greeks, Maronites, Syrians and Poles, with various minor Catholic sects. Several of these are very recent importations. The Protestants number over 21,000,000. The Protestants again may be divided into evangelical and unevangelical,—the latter aggregating less than 500,000, of whom 390,354 are credited to the Mormons. The unevangelical Christians bear about the same proportion to the evangelical Protestants that the non-Roman Catholics do to the Romanists. In round numbers we have then 10,000,000 Roman Catholics, 20,000,000 evangelical Protestants, and two bodies of 500,000 each behind the larger camps. As to percentage of growth, that of the Catholics was 1.16 per cent, while that of the Protestants was 2.72 per cent, and this notwithstanding the great inrush from Catholic lands. The Christian Scientists claim 9,083 members—which is not one-tenth of the popular claim frequently made in newspapers.