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SELF PRAISE IN FULL MEASURE.

It is plainly the duty of any administrative and elective body to administer all affairs coming under its jurisdiction while it holds office. It has the right to handle what is properly within its province up til thei time it ceases to exist as a board, council or government. To begin two or three months before an election to anticipate that some other body of men is coming into office at a later date is surely not a warrant for responsible men to lay down and fail to initiate or govern.

Why should the members of last year's Public School Board feel that they who were elected to look after all the affairs of the public schools up till the hour they passed out of office, were less capable of transacting business and framing policies than the men who were to be elected after them ?

Why should a member of the new Board tell the public that it was all right for th Board of last year to pay salaries, build schools, and study academic problems of all kinds, but the yshould not have adopted any new method of paying salaries because another Board was to take office in February of 1920? The inference is obvious.

To contend publicly that any change in the method of paying a staff should be left over for the wisdom of this year's representatives isa delightfully human thing for a conceited and self-satisfied person to argue, but it does not come with very good grace from one who is to take a seat on the new Board.

And yet this is what the citizens of St. Catharines were told last night in a long editorial, and it is the nasty reflection which is cast on theindustrious and intelligent men who comprised last year's Public School Board. Here is one of the paragraphs taken from the colmuns of our contemporary :

"It will, we think, appear to citizens generally that the Board of Education; elected less than a month ago should have been recobnized bu the Public School Board as the proper body to deal with so important a matter." and also "a Board which was ceasing to have any formal existance, as was the case here, should have hesitated before making chtnges so revolutionary and which are condemned by leading educationists of the province."

Further down in the same article the members of the Public School Board are told that they should have sought to have obtained the views of the members of the new Board, etc.

This is a lecturewhich is a pleasa pleasant reward for the men who spent their nights and days during the last year administering the affairs of the public schools to the best of theri ability. It is a reward which most men get from the newspaper which seeks to impose its own ideas upon everybody and everything and, failing, uses its columns to coat aspersions on those whom ti dislikes. There will be one consolation ,however, to those members, as there has been to many other men who have served the public faithfully and well, namely, they will understand that the citizens of St. Catharines have become accustomed to this kind of whipping and don't pay much attention to it.

It isto be hoped that the editor whohas done so much to prevent a new Collegiate from being built will bring a great deal of superior intelligence to the new educational body.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS AND THE MOTHER COUNTRY.

It is significent that in the first speech of his Paisley campaign, Mr. Asquith took occasion to deal with the dominant Imperial question of future relation of the Overseas Dominions to the Mother Country. The former British Premier evidently has set his face against the Empire "reorganizers," says the Toronto Globe in an interesting editorial. He, Mr. Asquith, sees no merit in centralization theories. He recognizes that any attempt to set up in London an Imperial Parliament in which the Dominions would have representation and commit to it great questions of Imperial policy might easily be attended by serious consequences. He urges freedom from "any red tape or parchment conventions." He advocates "a system in which the Empire shall periodically discuss vital questions of Imperial policy that affect the Empire as a whole, a system under which we shall all be free and co-equal partners in that gigantic institution, the British Empire."

The words of Mr. Asquith have weight. He speaks with the knowledge of an experienced statesman and the authority of a great constitutional lawyer. When he says of the scheme for the creation of an Imperial Parliament: "I do not believe it is possible or that the Dominions want it," he voices an opinion matured by years of intimate association with Imperial affairs, and close understanding of Imperial sentiment, supported by exceptional knowledge of constitutional procedure and of the fundamental principles of Parliamentary Government.

There can be no doubt that Mr. Asquith, is right when he says the self-governing Dominions do not want th cration of any cntralizd body to direct their participation in Imprial policy. Thy are jealous of their autonomy. They believe, with Mr. Asquith, that what needs to be done can be done best by consultation. They would be unwilling to delegate to their representatives in any Imperial Parliament at London authority to act for them in matters of Imperial policy. Particularly would this be the case when the despatch of troops or the expenditure of money was involved. All such matters would necessarily have to be referred back to the Parliaments of the Dominions for Executive action. It is difficult to imagine Canada, for instance, consenting for a moment to the control of her man-power or to the vesting of the levying and collection of taxes in any Parliament outside the Dominion.

The imperium idea of Empire is not the British ideal. The strength and solidarity of the British Empire is its freedom from rigidtl of system and from parchment conventions. It is because its outlying Dominions are "free and co-equal partners n the gigantic institution" that it commands the affection and the loyalty of their citizenhood. During the recent years of war and stress this spirit in every patch of red on the map found material manifestation in a manner that thrilled the Empire and confounded its adversaries. The free and co-equal partnership ideal has stood the test of stern trial. It is the ideal which has made the Empire great—and will maintain her greatness.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The January thaw seems to be a February frost.

Why did not the Public School Board have wit enough to remember that a new Board ofEducaton wais coming into office with W. B. Burgoyne on it ? All matters of real importance should have been left over for him to settle; teachers' salaries among other things.

There should be a great deal more contentment and peace of mind in the Standard office this year. A Mayor has been elected upon whom the dictator of Queen Street can smile and will smile so long as he does what he is told to do. This happy condition should save the editor and his staff a lot of worry from trumping up excuses to be abusive.

It seems rather strange and unusual acknowledgement that a man should make to the public that the intelligence of the Public School Board of last year was not of a high enough order to properly deal with the question of teachers' salaries and other matters of the kind, and yet this is what the editor of The Standard, with his usual igotism, would ask people to understand. Now that a new Board is coming into office, with himself as a member, all real business matters will be handled in a business-like way, of course.

THE DAILY MISERY OF ILL-HEALTH

Three Years of Suffering Quickly Relieved by "FRUIT-A-TIVES"

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GASPARD DUBORD.

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Tells How To Get Quick Relief from Head-Colds. It's Splendid!

In one minute your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more hawking, snuffling, blowing, headache, dryness. No struggling for breath at night; your cold or catarrh will be gone.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist now. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic, healing cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the the head, soothes the inflamed or swollen mucous membrane and relief comes instantly.

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Scene from the Laugh Festival, "Fair and Warmer," at the Grand Opera House, Thursday night, Feb. 5th.

Peace Incomes and War Prices

TEN years ago a Canadian clergyman was forced by illness to retire from active work. The largest salary he had received in the forty years of his ministry was $1000 and a furnished house. The average did not exceed $800.

On this sum he had maintained and educated his family. He and his wife were given to frequent hospitality. They supported every good cause, and even contributed to the maintenance charges of the Church they served.

A Minister's Budget

By good management and economy they were able to carry an endowment insurance policy, pay an assessment to their Church Superannuation Fund, and accumulate some small savings. When that clergyman was superannuated in 1909, he bought a house. His income during the first year of retirement was as follows:—

The retiring allowance from the Church (being $10 for each year of active work)	$400.00
Interest from investments	100.00
Wedding fees and sundries	75.00
Summer supply work	100.00

Against this total of $675 stood the charge for taxes, insurance and maintenance of the house; say, $75, leaving **a net annual income of $600.**

The Shrinkage in Values

Before the war, the rise in the cost of living had necessitated careful management of this income. Today, the pressure is too great to be borne. If the statisticians are correct, the dollar of 1913 is worth now in purchasing power about 47c.

Therefore, the real income available to maintain these people of refinement and culture is $282 a year.

Do you say that this is an exceptional case? On the contrary, scores of retired clergymen are not so well situated as this one. Some are tasting the bitterness of destitution, since in a few instances no retiring allowances are provided for.

Veterans of the Cross

These men gave a lifetime of unselfish service for their Church, their country, their neighbors; visiting the sick, burying the dead, comforting the bereaved, preaching Christ crucified, and doing their part in making Canada "God's country." In a time when the payment of pensions to old employes is accepted as a reasonable thing by industrial firms, these veterans deserve more consideration than they have been getting from the Christian people of this Dominion.

The Forward Movements

The Superannuation, Beneficiary or pension funds of the five Communions co-operating in the United National Campaign must be largely increased to yield a reasonable and an adequate income for these old heroes of the pulpit.

They ARE heroes. They make no complaint. They still are found doing all that their strength will permit for the great and noble Cause to which they devoted their lives. They still are enduring hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ.

National Peace Thank-Offering
Simultaneous Every-Person Canvass by Each Communion
February 9-14

What Are You Going To Do About It?

This is not a question of Charity. It is a question of justice, of chivalry, of common honesty.

Your Church is seeking, through the Forward Movement, to do its full duty to the retired clergymen.

Your interest and your subscription are needed.

Tell your Church leaders where you stand. Do it NOW.

The United National Campaign

Representing the Simultaneous but Independent Forward Movements of the Anglican, Baptist, Congregational, Methodist, and Presbyterian Communions in Canada

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THE STABLE IN WINTE

Keep Your Dairy Cows Comfo able and Clean.

Spray the Place With Whitewa Add Some Germ-killer — Fix All Broken Window Panes, Provide Other Ventilation of Plants In Winter.

(Contributed by Ontario Department Agriculture, Toronto)

THE period of long winter is here. Of nec our milking cows must special protection from cold, and at the same time must made as comfortable as possible.

The whole of the inside of stable should have a thorough cl ing. The dust and cobwebs sh be swept from the walls, ceiling windows; the windows should thoroughly cleaned, also the gers and stalls. Then spray wash all over the inside, except windows. To the whitewash add disinfectant such as a carbolic preparation, or a chlorine killer. This will kill diseases lurking in dark, damp places maintain the health of the able which is at the foundation able milk production.

The next step is to put in en window lights, *but* when owner thinks he cannot afford glass at the pugsent high pric piece of coarse cloth, such as sack, may be tacked over the dow space. This will provide ventilation in a stable not othe ventilated.

Cow stables need ventilat winter by having the foul air ed and fresh air introduced a draft directly on the cows. A ple way to do this is to hing windows at the bottom and them to open inward, so as to the air toward the ceiling. should be a V-shaped board at side or end of the window, to vent the side-draft. Foul air out should extend below the ceiling the stable, and preferably have inlets for foul air—one near the and one at the ceiling, as in this the foul air is removed without ing the stable too much, by closing the top outlet. No system cheap ventilation works automatically. They all require some atten

Other points in stable prepara are to have all ties secure so that cow may not get loose; repair mangers and gutters should be so that they may be kept clean sanitary without too much Litter and feed carriers are great ers of labor in looking after a of milkers during the winter.

In a word, make the cows fortable and lessen the labor stabling cows by having them tary and convenient, with as helps as possible in the form of chinery.—Prof. H. H. Dean, O. College, Guelph.

Care of Plants In Winter

Water growing pot plants when they need it, then water thoroughly. When the soil begi to get dry and powdery on the face, or when the pot is tapped the knuckles or a knife handle it emits a ringing sound, the requires water. Give sufficient so that it runs out through the tom of the pot. Water plants morning in cold weather, night. Use tepid rain water, or that has been exposed to air for a day or two, if possible. water should be lukewarm, about to 60 degrees F. in winter.

Humidity in the atmosphere one of the main requirements successful with plants indoors. pans or saucers of water on the ers or registers. A steaming or pot of water on the stove great help in this respect.

When the pots become full roots, or where the soil is poor, out or exhausted, liquid fertili can be given plants. The soil sho be moist, not dry, or very wet, the fertilizer is applied. There several good plant foods sold at stores. "Sterling Worth Plant T lets" or "Bonora" are both Half an ounce of nitrate of soda solved in a little warm water and cold water added to make gallon, also makes a fairly good tilizer for pot plants. Apply every week or ten days.

Spraying with water will help down insect pests. A fine spray oughly applied to all parts of plant is necessary to be eff Plants having very rough hairy age, should not be sprayed or ed, especially in winter, as plants having glossy, glabrous age. Insect pests increase and best in a dry, warm atmosphere. aphis or green lice, white fly, spider and thrip, "Sulpho-Tob Soap" is a good remedy. *Black* 40 is also a good remedy for insect pests on house plants. Soap water or a solution of whole oil and tobacco water are beneficial scale insects on plants.

Slake about one-half bushel fresh lime in a pail of water, it to settle. Give about a teacup of this solution once or twice to plant suffering from earth worms.

Put frozen plants in a dark place at once, temperature about 45 degrees F. Do not touch the leaves. Sprinkling with ice cold water beneficial.—W. Hunt, O. A. College, Guelph.

A Chat About Chickens.

In very cold weather to make the hen comfortable and to keep her good condition feed (a little at time, but often, in dry straw or other litter) some kind of mixed grain.

Milk to drink, or about a pound of meat or its equivalent in bone scrap each day, is required to supply material for the building of the white for twenty hens.

Choice cut flowers, potted plants and floral designs, at all times. Walker's Florist, 104 St. Paul Street Phone 763.

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