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Western Annapolis Sentinel.

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SOME PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENT

ADDRESS OF EDITOR OF MCLURE'S BEFORE CANADIAN CLUB IN NEW YORK FULL OF ADMIRABLE POINTS REGARDING THE PROBLEMS OF ALL NATIONS.—REGARDS THE BRITISH NAVY AS MOST IMPORTANT INSTITUTION FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE.

That the British Navy was the most important institution in the world today for human peace, justice and trade was one of the statements made at the Canadian club luncheon by Mr. S. S. McClure of New York, editor of McClure's Magazine. The luncheon was held in the Grand Union and there was an exceptionally large attendance of members who greatly enjoyed a most interesting address on "Some Problems of Government." Mr. Gerald H. Brown, president of the Club, introduced the guest of the day in an appropriate speech.

At the outset Mr. McClure touched on the lack of protection for life and property that characterized conditions in the United States for many years. In murders alone there were fifteen times as many to a million of population as in Canada. The total loss of the British forces in the Boer war was 22,000 and in the same time the homicides in the United States numbered 30,000. And the striking thing was that the murderers escaped being hanged until it was safer to kill a man than to kill a deer in the forest. The administration of criminal law in the United States, in the words of President Taft, was a disgrace. Typhoid fever was another disgrace of America there being six times as many cases as in Germany and four times as many as in England for the same ratio of population. Much of the loss of life from typhoid fever, measles and other diseases and from accidents in railway and other industries would be prevented by good government. He read a number of newspaper extracts showing deaths of violence, lynchings, etc.

These conditions, he said, were inseparable in the development of the country. When the United States founded men had the same ideas and the tyranny of government as they now have from the tyranny of trusts. The nations of the best statesmen, then there was the war and its civilization. Then came the phenomenal inventions of the nineteenth century, railways and other industries requiring legislation. In this connection Mr. McClure made a strong plea for government ownership of railways.

Then came "that most powerful and dangerous thing known as universal suffrage." People had been taken into the country for no other reason than their value as good citizens. These were given the ballot and made an evil influence as a formidable voting blackmailing power. Another class was composed of those who were exploiting the resources of the country. The combination was so powerful that vice was safeguarded.

After the flood in Galveston, government by commission was put in force there and ordinary common sense was applied. The result was admirable.

The Fur Business as Carried on in Annapolis County

An Outlook reporter chanced to be a fellow passenger on a train with Coun. W. E. Randolph of Williamston, and elicited from him the following information:—

Mr. FitzRandolph's leading business is dealing in furs. As a boy he hunted fur-bearing animals. Later he used occasionally to ship furs to Halifax. Still later he bought considerable quantities in the vicinity of his home and sold to Mr. Ernest Burrill, of Yarmouth, then a general dealer. Upon Mr. Burrill's death Mr. FitzRandolph began to do business more directly with the large fur dealers.

Ten years ago Mr. FitzRandolph formed a partnership with Mr. T. B. Chipman, of Tupperville, a level-headed, shrewd young man with a wide acquaintance with the people of Western Nova Scotia.

Messrs. FitzRandolph & Chipman made business connections with New York and Paris and also with London, the great fur headquarters of the world. They also began buying from local fur dealers in the Maritime provinces, Newfoundland, and to a limited extent in Quebec. The first year the new firm did business to the value of \$10,000 and last year they handled \$75,000 worth of furs.

It may be generally supposed that Nova Scotia has ceased to be a fur-producing province. But this is not the case. Mr. FitzRandolph estimates the annual value of the fur produced in this province at \$100,000 at least. Most of the fur-bearing animals of Canada, except wolves are found in Nova Scotia. They include otter, beaver, bear, wild cat, fox, mink, muskrat, racoon and skunk.

The martin is now practically gone. The otter is still quite numerous and a good skin sometimes brings as high as \$75.00. The finest mink skins in the world are from Nova Scotia. The muskrat is also numerous. At present Messrs. FitzRandolph & Chipman have on hand 15,000 muskrat skins, half of them from Nova Scotia.

Beautiful fox skins come from Newfoundland. Messrs. FitzRandolph paid \$800 for one skin, and \$600, \$400 and \$200 were common prices. Foxes are becoming very scarce in Nova Scotia. Mr. FitzRandolph would like to see the fox protected in Nova Scotia for several years as is now the beaver. Trapping foxes at least should be forbidden. There are several fox farms in P. E. Island and one in Cumberland Co., N. S., where the black and silver, the high priced foxes are raised.

TO HARNESS TIDES OF OCEAN.

The Springfield Republican says:—A new scheme to harness the tides of the ocean for power is soon to be tried near Bath, Me., on the Kennebec river. The plan calls for high and low water ponds, divided by a wall in which are turbine wheels. An automatic gate in the low-water pond is to be closed by the incoming tide and kept closed, the water rising until it reaches a floating gate in the high-water pond, which is filled by the tide. The turbine gates are then to be opened so that the water may rush through them for the six hours of the tide. At low tide the water which has gathered in the lower pond is supposed to force the gate open the other way and let the water back into the ocean. The next tide repeats the operation, if it works.

THE DOMINANT PARTNER

"When anyone lauds the West and says that it will be the dominant part of the Dominion in years to come, let them think of the fruit orchards of Nova Scotia or of New Brunswick or of Ontario, with their contented, comely women and their romping children. I consider that the East will always be the dominant partner in the concern."

These are the words of Prof. Robertson, lately the principal of MacDonald college, and were spoken before the Canadian club of Toronto. He was speaking on "The Call of the Land," and his words are true. Solidity is found in the East.

CORRESPONDENCE

Road Improvement

Editor Monitor-Sentinel:—

The improvement of our streets and highways is a subject well worthy of every Canadian citizen, because it is a problem, the solution of which, will revolutionize Canadian rural life. It was with great pleasure that I read your editorial in last week's Monitor calling attention to an opportunity of making a beginning along the line indicated by utilizing the waste material from the Torbrook Iron Mines. As you point out from Mr. Drummond's remarks to the Middleton corporation, there seems to be within our reach a simple and practical method of beginning a work, which, if carefully and thoroughly carried out, will set us wondering how it was possible to have lived so long under such intolerable conditions.

If we are to take our place among the other provinces and make a bid for some of the surplus population of the land across the sea, there is no investment of the people's money that will yield better and more lasting returns than that of making our highways fit for all kinds of traffic the year round. As it now is we are at the mercy of the railroads, but in lands where good hard roads exist a very large portion of the business among rural populations is done without the aid of the iron rail.

In the last two decades this great Dominion has forged to the front as the greatest dependency to the British Crown, yet we still dabble about in the two most important periods of agricultural activity through impassable swamps called roads.

Why not try the experiment of spending \$500 on that piece of Ingleswood road between the station and Granville St., by excavating a foot deep of the earth road bed having a nine inch deep layer of large stone and rounding up the crown with a layer of this iron-works slag and gravel well rolled in.

If the result proves to be a solid permanent, at all times serviceable road it will be the very best advertisement of the value of extending it. And after such an experiment has demonstrated what roads can and ought to be, there is little doubt the ratepayers at large would assent to some increase of taxation to pay the interest on a government loan to extend such a road throughout the Valley.

The advantages of such an early would mean enhanced value of land, increased activity and quicker distribution of all products both of farm, factory and store, more frequent intercourse among neighbours, more regular school and church attendance by the rural population, a far greater use of the bicycle and motor car. In a word, instead of the dull shut-in life of the autumn and spring months the whole community would maintain a healthy, continuous, regular and more natural existence.

Figure out the wear and tear, breakages, delay, accidents, small loads, injury to goods, chills, harness and vehicles, loss of business, consequent on our present road system, and no one will say that a little extra taxation is a heavy price to pay for the remedy.

Yours Truly,
One Who Looks On.

Judgment Given in Litigation Case Over a Cow

Judgment has just been entered in the case of T. Troupe Messenger vs. J. Forge Stephens, which was tried in the Supreme Court at Annapolis last October. The facts of the case are somewhat peculiar and no doubt will be interesting to our farmers.

T. Troupe Messenger had one cow which was pastured alone. He went to the pasture one day and found that the cow had been killed by a blow in the head with some pointed instrument penetrating the skull. Upon investigation Mr. Messenger concluded that a vicious cow, owned by Mr. Stephens, had committed the deed, and commenced this action to recover damages for his cow. The facts elicited were as follows:—

Mr. Stephens' cow had strayed from his pasture into a field of oats, breaking through several fences in order to get there. She was turned back from the oat field into the lane leading to the pasture in which was the cow that was killed. The vicious cow went down the lane through the fence into the field where Mr. Messenger's cow was being pastured, struggled with the Messenger cow and killed her, then went straight back into her own pasture, again going through the fence. She could not have been out of her pasture more than three hours, and when found by Mr. Messenger, she was lying down in her own pasture chewing her cud. The facts had to be proved by circumstantial evidence, which were sufficiently strong to convince Judge Graham that the Stephens cow had done the deed.

The principle of law involved was whether the owner of cattle trespassing upon another man's land and killing his cattle would make the party owning the trespassing cattle responsible for the damage done. It was held by Judge Graham in this case that the owner of the trespassing animal was responsible, and judgment was delivered for the Plaintiff for \$35.00 and costs.

Oliver S. Miller was the solicitor for the plaintiff, T. Troupe Messenger; J. J. Ritchie for the defendant, C. Forge Stephens.

A STARTLING STATEMENT.

It has been said by those who have investigated the matter carefully, although at the age of forty-five fully eighty-five per cent of men are established in whatever pursuit they follow and are in receipt of incomes in excess of their expenditure, at the age of sixty it has been found that ninety-five per cent are dependent upon their daily earnings, or upon their children for support. Many, no doubt, read the despatch from Detroit which recently appeared in the Canadian papers, and which described the condition of a man who but a little more than forty years ago was a "financial power" in that city, who had a "palatial home" as one of the most fashionable thoroughfares, entertained lavishly, and to whom every person, high and low, was prepared to pay homage. But the fates were against him. He suffered serious financial losses, and when he began to go down hill he found it was properly grieved for the occasion. His friends deserted him like rats from a sinking ship, and now a eighty years of age, after his day's labor, he wends his way to the city with the bent, broken down old man who have influence enough to have their names on the city's pay roll.

The moral is that out of your abundance something should be laid aside for declining years, and invested where these cannot reach it, and where one cannot be deprived of it in any possible way. This means is afforded you under the Canadian Government Annuities Act which the Parliament of Canada passed in the session 1908, and which received the unanimous support of both sides of the House.

You may get all information by applying at the Post Office, or by addressing the Superintendent of Annuities, Ottawa.

WOLFVILLE FORGES AHEAD

RATEPAYERS AUTHORIZE TOWN COUNCIL TO BORROW \$10,000 FOR STREET IMPROVEMENT, WORK TO BEGIN AT ONCE.—SUFFICIENT STONE TO BE SECURED DURING WINTER.—STONE CRUSHER AND STEAM ROLLER TO BE PURCHASED AT ONCE.

The public meeting of the citizens on Tuesday evening was largely attended and the greatest of unanimity prevailed. Mayor Harvey was in the chair and briefly stated the object of the meeting. At the public meeting held last March the citizens had voted the sum of ten thousand dollars for permanent streets, with the provision that before any expenditure should be made the matter should have the approval of the ratepayers. The necessary act had been passed by the legislature, and the Council now had a definite proposal to lay before the people. It was moved by Mr. L. W. Sleep, seconded by Mr. G. A. Pratt that the meeting approve of the provision of the act and authorize the Council to borrow an amount, not to exceed \$10,000, at six times as may be required. Couns. Hales, Chambers and Haycock laid before the citizens the proposal of the Council to purchase a steam-roller and stone-crusher, etc., at a cost of about four thousand dollars; to secure during the

A Yarmouth Industry

Many people will be surprised to learn that several hundred tons of celstrass are shipped annually from Yarmouth, N. S., to Boston and other points in the United States where it brings a price of from \$10 to \$12 a ton. Reports from Yarmouth state that last year's crop is now about cleaned up, but those engaged in gathering and curing in this district have been quite busy. The supply on hand is greatly larger than at some time for a like date for any previous year. Two or three gatherings of this grass, which appear to monopolize the export trade, buying up from the smaller gatherers whatever they cure, have erected mammoth sheds and are busy storing it away. They report that the market in the United States is well supplied at this time, and that, with the exception of a few small lots, there will be very little exported during the coming year, and not a great deal until 1912.

Boston is a very large buyer for this grass, where it is used in building, packing, cheap mattresses, and mixing with other fibres. Efforts have been made and are still being made to utilize the grass for rope, twine, rug, and other materials for which sisal and other grasses are used. It is stout, long, and of fine fiber and it is suggested that it might be used to advantage in paper-making.—Exchange.

No Place for Snobbery

Says Yarmouth Times:—The spirit of snobbery and class should not be encouraged in this country. A codfish aristocracy should be treated as an abomination and ostracized from society. A young mechanic in any of our work-shops is doing more towards nation building than the routine bank clerk who calculates the discount on a note. Both are essential, but one occupation is just as noble as the other. The mechanic is no more "common" than is the lawyer, the doctor, the banker or the broker.

There are some families in the possession of money; but ample means, while it may procure more comforts does not make their sons and daughters of any better clay than the masses of humanity around them. The money was generally made in a very "common" way. A search of the family record will probably show that the foundations of wealth were on marsh hay, lumber, inherited real estate, and in our shipping towns especially we might add rum, molasses and the exporting of codfish.

All these in their way and generation were legitimate pursuits and most of them are today, but they were "common," very "common" and do not give any license to the inheritors to regard themselves as any better than the rest of us. We should all be proud of our pioneer forefathers that came to this country to have our homes for themselves from the forest, who endured hardships, who suffered privation, who, by thrift and toil, laid the foundations of our young nation, and who have long since passed to their reward.

The plain, common people of any country are its best people, they possess the highest standard of morality, from their homes come the sons and daughters of worth and character that are the bulwark of a nation.

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MRS. EDDY LEFT NOTHING TO HER RELATIVES.

Her Estate, Valued at Two Millions, Will Likely go to Church and Charities.

Boston, December 7.—That Mrs. Mary Baker Glover Eddy left none of her estate, estimated at nearly \$2,000,000, to relatives, was gathered from a remark made last night by Judge Clifford P. Smith, first reader of Mother Church, who said:—"Mrs. Eddy's will is not to be read tomorrow, as it contains absolutely nothing which would be of interest to any of the members of her family." He made no statement as to that portion of the estate which may go to the church.