



Dominion and Provincial Affairs.

Our Brave Boys in Africa.

The whole Dominion has been aroused to a high pitch of enthusiasm by the great part played by the Canadian soldiers in Lord Roberts's successful campaign against the Boers. The Canadians were in the very front of the fighting line and it has been acknowledged by Lord Roberts himself that it was due to their hard fighting that Cronje was forced to surrender. The fighting qualities of the Canadians, many of whom had never been under fire before, has been a pleasant surprise and their praises are being sung all over the empire. This glory has not been won without cost. Nine more deaths have been reported, making 28 members of the contingent killed, while a large number have been seriously wounded. Sad as the loss is the Canadians laid down their lives for the empire and the Canadian contingent has been covered with glory.

Back Them Up.

The farmers' institute meetings being held throughout the country will soon be brought to a close. These meetings have not been attended as well as they should, for the speakers were mostly entertaining and their messages contained many things for the farmers' intellectual and material benefit. The wide-awake, progressive farmer has his eyes and ears open to the message of every hour, and makes the most of it in the betterment of his farm management and in his business and social relations. The slipshod farmer, if he goes to the meetings at all, goes for a change, to compare the institute speaker with the liar who occupies the soap box at the corner grocery.

On with the Good Work.

There is a movement toward good roads in Ontario, caused, mostly, by the energetic and able services of Provincial Road Commissioner A. W. Campbell. By his public addresses and by what he has awakened the people and made them see the folly and loss caused by the ancient statute labor system. The annual picnic, called doing road work, is doomed, but it dies hard. The legislature, at its present session, will pass a bill making appropriations to assist in constructing permanent improvements on leading county roads. This innovation will cause a change in road construction generally and in a short time the statute labor will be commuted, and all the roads placed under the supervision of a competent road builder.

Wanted, the Right Men.

"No chance for a poor boy to rise any more," is the wall of a certain class of people. Now I happen to know a school boy whom three or four business men are watching, ready to pounce

upon him and give him a first-class chance in the world as soon as he is out of school. He is poor, a member of a large family, but he is bright, honest, brave, and a "hustler," helping support the family while he gets his education. He is sure of a good job the day he is through school, though the men who have their eye on him are besieged with applications from other boys. It is difficult to find young men with the ability to grasp the constantly expanding problems of business.

Woodman, Spare That Tree.

This is a sentiment that is taking strong hold of the people in many parts of Ontario. Too late they realize the fact that by too great a destruction of the forests they have changed the climatic conditions and lessened the fertility of the soil. This sentiment is developed at the institute meetings and information about the preservation of the trees now standing and the best method to cause a new growth from the seed is gratefully received.

A Magic Fence.

Yankee ingenuity is on tap anywhere in the United States to outwit monopoly. Farmers around Pendleton, Ind, for example, are said to make successful use of 20 miles of wire fences for a telephone system rather than pay

exorbitant rates. Some \$200 has been spent getting the "system" in working order for a score of subscribers. The fence wire is said to work about as well as copper—except when an occasional cow goes through a fence and breaks the circuit. This scheme is widely used in California and Australia.

Postal Savings Banks.

I wonder if all my readers have a full realization of the vast benefits possible by the postal savings bank? The article on another page explains the system fully. The only reason why thousands of money order offices of the Dominion are now without postal savings banks is because officials think much business would not be transacted at them. The truth is postal savings banks are immensely popular, gaining in favor each year and with about \$35,000,000 now on deposit. If you want a government bank of this kind in your town that pays compound interest, talk it over to your grange or club, and then circulate a petition for signatures and send to the Dominion postoffice department.

Revive the Grange.

The Dominion grange, in 25th annual session at London, the cradle in which it was born, was attended by many loyal grangers who have stood firmly by the order these many years.

Were half or even a quarter of the granges that have been organized in the Dominion in active operation today, what a spokesman farmers would have before legislatures and parliament? And what an uplift to social conditions and the development of a better and nobler manhood and womanhood among ourselves! Nothing has taken the place of the grange since it lost its great foothold in Canada. The grange was very weak in the states a few years ago, but is now rapidly coming to the front as a power that has got to be reckoned with in the settlement of public questions. Why can't we make it so on this side the line?

Flying Chips.

Once more Farm and Home treats its readers to a supplement of eight pages, making an issue of 32 closely packed pages. Not the least interesting of these are the four in the supplement describing the generous offers in which our readers delight; offers which place them among the specially favored people of these days of bargains.

While the Dominion parliament is in session both parties are actively preparing for the general elections which it is believed are not far off. The general belief is that the elections will take place in June next, but some are inclined to the opinion that the government will defer an appeal to the country until next year, when they will have completed their full term.

P E I cheese and butter factories turned out a product last year valued at \$563,000. Prince Edward bids fair to become the Denmark of Canada.

Mr Tarte, the stormy petrel of Canadian politics, is going to Paris to represent the Dominion at the exposition. There has lately been a good deal of talk about Mr Tarte retiring from the government on account of ill health, but he apparently has no such intention.

Cigar manufacturers recently waited on the Dominion government and asked that a law be passed prohibiting growers from selling tobacco to any one but manufacturers. This is an exhibition of commercial piracy almost unparalleled.

The imperial war office has already purchased \$750,000 of Canadian products for use in the South African campaign. So satisfactory have been the shipments of Ont, Que and N B timothy hay, it is expected the British army will be extensive users of it in the future. Fruit jams, flour and corned beef are among the other articles finding popular favor. Government inspection of all articles sent to South Africa has been rigid and the results may be hoped to show themselves by increased trade.

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