

Northwest Review

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY.
WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
AUTHORITY
AT WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

Subscription per annum..... \$2.00 a year
in advance..... \$1.50

ADVERTISING RATES

Made known on application.
Orders to discontinue advertisements must be sent
to this office in writing.
Advertisements unaccompanied by specific instruc-
tions inserted until ordered out.

Address all communications to the
NORTHWEST REVIEW
P. O. Box 617, Phone 443.
Office: Cor. Princess St. and Cumberland Ave.,
Winnipeg, Man.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1905.

Calendar for Next Week.

- 3—First Sunday of Advent.
- 4—Monday—St. Peter Chrysologus,
Doctor. Commemoration of St.
Barbara, Virgin, Martyr.
- 5—Tuesday—St. Francis Xavier, Con-
fessor (transferred from the 3rd inst.)
- 6—Wednesday—St. Nicholas, Bishop.
Fast Day.
- 7—Thursday—Vigil. St. Ambrose,
Bishop, Doctor.
- 8—Friday—The Immaculate Concep-
tion of the Blessed Virgin. Holy-
day of Obligation. Fast.
- 9—Saturday—Of the octave of the
Immaculate Conception.

Compulsory Education.

The following article appeared lately in the "Brandon Times."

The Winnipeg school board is taking steps to have a bill introduced at the next session of the legislature making it compulsory for all children under fourteen years of age to attend school, and holding the parents or guardians responsible if this is not carried out. The attorney general and the premier have both expressed themselves as being strongly in favor of the proposed measure and it is very likely that the public school law will be amended by incorporating this principle.

The "Times" is strongly in favor of compulsory education of all children under fourteen years nor should the law be so framed as to permit children under the prescribed age attending private schools or separate schools. The law should not recognize any but national schools and all children under fourteen should be compelled to attend the public school.

The education of the rising generation is a matter which does not affect the parents alone but is of public importance and public money is spent on it lavishly. Society has a right to demand that every child be given at least a rudimentary education nor should the state be satisfied to know that certain children are attending for an uncertain period a school not recognized by the law.

As our esteemed Brandon contemporary is a faithful supporter of the Provincial Government and may therefore be supposed to voice the opinions and intentions of our Premier and Attorney-General, its public announcement of their views on the vital question of compulsory education carries great weight and deserves careful attention. We are pleased to see that the "Brandon Times" draws a sufficiently clear distinction between the general principle of compulsory education for all children under fourteen years of age, which is the only aspect of the proposed measure mentioned, so far, as being strongly favored by "the attorney general and the premier"—and the editor's personal opinions as to the applications of that general principle. What the "Times" thinks of the bearing of that measure on private and separate schools, and what the Provincial Government intend to do are clearly differentiated in our contemporary's article and may be two very different things. We shall, therefore, begin by considering the general principle before approaching the more or less gratuitous and irresponsible applications thereof.

Compulsory education is neither the panacea for all human ills, which many shortsighted politicians would fain make it out to be, nor the terrible bugbear which some ultra-conservative people think it is. The principle of obliging all parents to see that their children are sufficiently educated for the exigencies of the age is not a bad one. The Catholic Church, in particular, jealous as she is of the sacred rights of the family, has never condemned that principle. But the application of the general principle is an extremely difficult and delicate matter. To enact that all children shall have some schooling is one thing, and to enact that all children shall attend one kind of school is quite another. The former is merely an insistence by the state on the parents' duty of educating their children; the latter would be an invasion of the liberties of the home. The state may have a perfect right to say to parents: You must educate your child; but it has no right to say: You must send your child to my school. The absurdity of this latter pretension is startlingly evident in the case of wealthy parents

The Unpardonable Sin . . .

in advertising is exaggeration. Our goods place us in a position such as to make exaggeration of their quality unnecessary. We simply state facts. A call on us will satisfy you that the value we give in **HARD and SOFT COAL, BIRCH, TAMARAC, JACK PINE and POPLAR WOOD** cannot be surpassed.

ORDERS DELIVERED PROMPTLY

Royal Lumber & Fuel Co. Ltd.

OFFICE: Cor. Sherbrooke & Notre Dame Ave. YARDS: 1151 Notre Dame Ave. West.
PHONE 3390 PHONE 2735

P. O. BOX 653 WINNIPEG

TELEPHONE 1372—Office Manager. 2343—Order Clerk & Salesman. 4210 Factory.

The Rat Portage Lumber Company, Limited

MANUFACTURERS OF

Lumber, Lath, Sash, Doors, Mouldings and Packing Boxes

MILLS & OFFICE, MARION STREET, NORWOOD

who prefer to teach their children themselves or to confide them to governesses and private tutors at home. Though this case is not a common one in this country, yet it does occur especially when children are too sickly to attend school at any distance from home. What is the State going to do about them? Clearly, its interference in such cases can only amount to ascertaining that the children are properly cared for.

But are the poor to be treated less fairly than the rich? We are not speaking of those unnatural parents who, through vice or avarice, make their children work when they should be at school, or allow them to grow up in the streets without any education at all except the vicious one they pick up in the gutters. Such parents are criminal and should be punished accordingly. For the duty of securing proper education for one's children is a most grave one, binding the conscience of all parents under pain of grievous sin. But we have especially in view those conscientious Catholics who, holding in abhorrence all schools that have not a Catholic atmosphere, cheerfully stint themselves to pay a double tax—one compulsory to the schools they abominate, and the other voluntary to the school of their choice. Is the State going to force them to give up their freedom of choice? God forbid. The parents alone have the right to decide what school they will send their children to. The most the State has any right

to do is to ascertain if these schools impart a sufficiency of secular knowledge.

This application of the general principle holds good for all private schools. The State has no right to forbid Protestant parents to send their children to Mr. Tuckwell's Proprietary School, to Havergal College or to a private Kindergarten. The mere mention of these instances shows that compulsory attendance at public schools would be an atrocious encroachment on the sacred and inviolable rights of parents.

Moreover, the amount of instruction that is to be made compulsory will have to be carefully considered. In agricultural districts experience has shown that even the public schools cannot be conducted so continuously nor for so long a time each year as in the towns and cities. There are, we believe, not a few school districts in which the Department of Education cannot secure much more than one hundred school days a year. There are others where all the schooling is confined to the snowless months and others again where no regular attendance can be expected in seeding and harvest time. All these difficulties will have to be fairly and squarely met before any measure of compulsory education can receive that approval of the electoral body without which no enactment can be permanent.

When the measure will be more explicitly explained to the public, we shall have occasion to examine it more thoroughly. Meanwhile, however, we think we have said enough to show that the "Brandon Times" is correct only when it says: "Society has a right to demand that every child should be given at least a rudimentary education," and that our esteemed contemporary is advocating rank tyranny when it adds that the law should not "be so framed as to permit children under the prescribed age attending private schools or separate schools."

A FAIRMINDED PRESBYTERIAN

Those who were here at the time of the agitation which resulted in the School Act of 1890, abolishing separate schools, will remember that the only Protestant minister who protested against this injustice was the Rev. Dr. Farquharson, then, if we mistake not, in charge of a church at Pilot Mound. The Reverend Doctor has since been called to Winnipeg to fill the responsible position of financial agent for the Presbyterian body, and is highly respected and implicitly trusted by all his co-religionists, as well as by all others who have the honor of his acquaintance or friendship. The following extract from the Free Press of Nov. 23 shows that Dr. Farquharson is ever the fearless champion of justice and charity.

Rev. Dr. Farquharson, in the following letter, the original of which has been sent to the synod, gives his reasons for dissenting from the finding of that body on the school question:

At the meeting of the Presbyterian synod on Friday last the following motion was passed: "Whereas certain presbyteries of this synod have passed resolutions protesting against any legislation which would tend to infringe on the principle of national schools and of equal rights for all religious bodies within the constitution and before the law; and

"Whereas public schools are one of the most valuable instruments in

The Winnipeg Supply Co. Ltd.

Dealers in COAL and WOOD
SCRANTON COAL and . . .

ALL KINDS OF CUT WOOD

Lowest Market Prices

YARD 300 REITTA STREET

Telephone 2187

Maple Leaf

Renovating Works

'PHONE 482

Our New Address:

96 ALBERT STREET

Two Doors North of Mariaggi Hotel

OUR BUSINESS:

Cleaning
Pressing
Repairing
Altering and
Dyeing

LADIES' AND GENT'S
CLOTHES

COAL

Best American \$10.50 Cash
Anthracite

OUT AND SPLIT WOOD

The Brock & Muttibury Fuel Co.
339 MAIN STREET

COAL & WOOD

PENNSYLVANIA COAL CO'S.
PITSTON ANTHRACITE

which needs no introduction, having a well established reputation, being superior to anything on the market as a

Free Burning, Non-Clinkering,
Domestic Fuel

WOOD—ALL KINDS

Wholesale and Retail.

Your order solicited.

J. G. Hargrave & Co.

334 MAIN STREET

M. T. McIntomney

BUILDER & CONTRACTOR

Storm Sashes a Specialty

37 RORIE STREET

Estimates furnished for all Classes
of Carpenter work.

Phone 552 Largest Van in the City

W. B. THOMASON

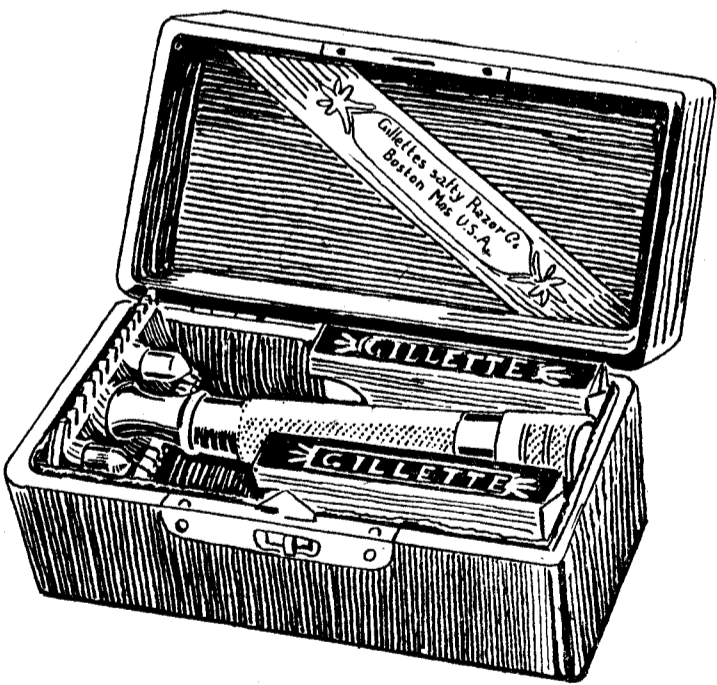
Successor to John Swanson

COAL and WOOD

Office and Yard 320 William Ave.

Furniture removed. Cut and split wood
always on hand.

GREAT ASSORTMENT OF GOODS SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS



Great Assortment of Reliable Goods for Christmas.

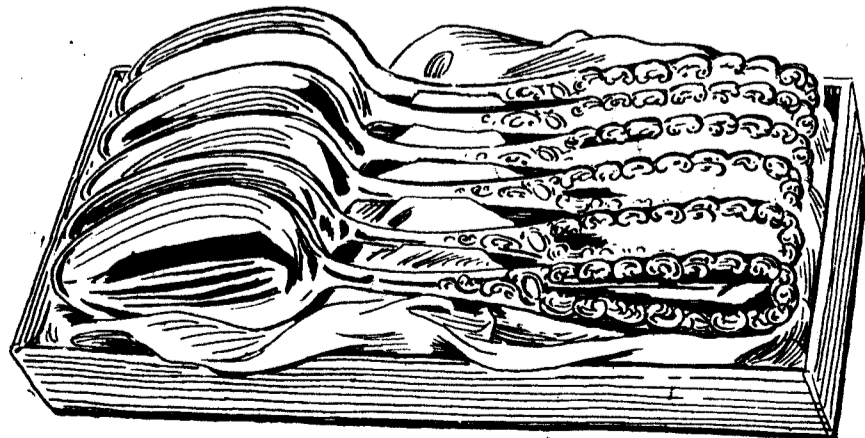
If you live in the city come and see our magnificent Stock of Yuletide Gifts. If you do not live in the city, buy from our Christmas catalogue. If you have not a Christmas catalogue write to us and we will send you one without delay. If the goods you receive are not satisfactory you can exchange them for other goods or the cash.

The GILLETTE SAFETY RAZOR is the simplest and most reliable Safety Razor yet produced; always ready for use, it requires no stropping or honing. It cannot possibly get out of order; complete, with 12 blades (each having two edges), in leather case.

Price \$5.00

Our SPECIAL SILVER PLATE TEA SPOONS, E.R.S. Brand. Choice of Bristol or tipped patterns; guaranteed A1 Plate on a nickel base. Set of 6 in satin-lined case handy for mail.

Price .85c.



EVERYTHING WE SELL
WE GUARANTEE.

THE T. EATON CO.
WINNIPEG, CANADA.

MAIL ORDERS FILLED
PROMPTLY.