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NEWCASTLE, MAY 12th, 1909.

EXTENSION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The Norwegian Council has recommended to the parliament some radical but just and humane, changes in the laws governing the rights of illegitimate children and their mothers—rights sadly neglected in most English speaking countries. The Norwegians propose that the father of an illegitimate child shall be responsible for the mother's support for the space of three months before and nine months after its birth, that the child shall bear its father's surname, and that the father shall support that child until it is sixteen years of age. These suggestions are reasonable and in the line of moral and material progress. Woman has hitherto been under a great disadvantage so far as the laws governing illegitimacy are concerned. She has had to bear far more than her proper share of the suffering resulting from youthful indiscretions in which she was not more guilty than her partner. It is time that the man was made to assume his full share of the responsibility. If the Norwegian plan is adopted, there should be at once a great improvement in the morals of the country. Nothing will restrain boyish impulsiveness or the wilful machinations of heartless deceivers like the absolute certainty of having to pay the bills for so long a period as sixteen years. When once the right of the illegitimate child to bear its father's name, to be supported by him through childhood and inherit its share of his property, is acknowledged, the percentage of illegitimate births will, in all probability, begin to rapidly and permanently decline.

It is significant that in Norway where this reform is mooted, women have a larger degree of political freedom than in most other countries.

MANUFACTURE IT HERE.

Good news print paper is now being manufactured by the Markland Company's paper mill at Hartville, Nova Scotia, and the monopoly of the Quebec and Ontario mills is broken, so far as the Maritime provinces are concerned. The pulp mills of New Brunswick manufacture nothing of higher grade than wrapping paper. But the newspaper offices of this province use a very great amount of news print every year. All this could be manufactured at home instead of being imported from Montreal or Hull. We have all the lumber needed and all the water power required. Instead of making our own paper, however, we allow foreign concerns to come into the country, buy up timber areas, and ship all the pulpwood they please to the United States, where the greater part of the work has to be done, nearly all the employment in the manufacture going to foreign firms and foreign workmen, who spend their profits and earnings in a foreign country.

The raw material should be in this country until its manufacture is finished. We have none too much work for our own people. There is lots of chance for paper mills along the Miramichi, Nepisiguit, Restigouche and St. John rivers, without sending the wood to the United States.

AMENDMENTS TO CRIMINAL CODE.

Hon. A. B. Aylesworth has embodied a number of very important clauses in his proposed amendment

to the criminal code. One provision makes a corporation, municipality or company liable to be proceeded against by summary process before a justice of the peace. Another increases the punishment upon anyone found guilty of carrying an offensive weapon, such as a dagger, knife or dirk, the offence being punishable by imprisonment instead of as at present by fine. Another section proposes to widen the present provisions of the statutes with regard to the manufacture and circulation of immoral publications or pictures. The bill provides that penalties shall be extended not only to persons who offend against the law as it now stands, but also to those who assist in the distribution or circulation or have in their possession for purposes of distribution, circulation or sale, any obscene picture or immoral printed matter. It is also proposed to extend the provision to the exhibition or circulation of plates for manufacture of immoral pictures or literature. The bill further increases the penalty for procuring women, the punishment being increased from two to five years. Then there is a provision extending present law, which makes it an indictable offence to keep a disorderly house, gambling house or betting house or an opium joint. It is intended to make it an indictable offence to steal silver or gold-bearing quartz and to extend the provisions of the present law to make it less difficult to convict of that offence. There is a clause making it a criminal offence to reproduce or sell pirated musical compositions, and a provision limiting the time during which cattle may be confined in railway cars in course of transportation to thirty-six hours.

EDUCATION COUNTS.

In Japan about 98 per cent. of the males of school age and 93 per cent. of the females attend school. The proportion is about the same in Germany. Therein lies the secret of the marvellous industrial, commercial and military success achieved in recent years by these two nations. Other things being equal, it is the educated and enlightened people that triumph every time. Germany and Japan are fully awake to the needs of modern life and struggle, and are giving their children the very best training that can be obtained. Both nations do not let education drop on the completion of the ordinary mathematical, historical and language causes, but give their young people manual and technical instruction that enables them to successfully compete with the cleverest machinists and workmen of all the nations. A

nation like Mexico, where only 16 per cent. of the people can read and write, or Russia where the population of literates is scarcely higher, can never hold its own in the struggle for existence against a people better equipped mentally.

In New Brunswick the salaries of school teachers are so low that hundreds of school districts cannot obtain the services of even third-class teachers. Therefore, thousands of New Brunswick children are growing up in ignorance, to become mere automatic hewers of wood and drawers of water for intelligent foreigners who are coming in and buying up our industries, the profits thereof to be spent beyond our borders. What this province needs, and needs badly, is a real compulsory education law—one that will not only enjoin parents to send their children to school, but see that the children actually do attend school every day of the year school is open, times of sickness alone excepted. And manual training for the boys, and manual training or domestic economy for the girls, should be part of the curriculum in every school in the land. But the latter is in vogue in only a few districts in the province. Such large towns as Newcastle and Chatham have neither a manual teacher or instruction in manual work. And every school in Northumberland, Kent and Gloucester counties is equally backward. We must either wake up educationally and industrially or see our business, and finally our country pass into the hands of some people more energetic and progressive.

THE BRITISH BUDGET

The budget that has been presented by David Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to the British House of Commons is a measure whose fate will be watched with interest not only in Britain itself, but in all other civilized countries. Mr. Lloyd-George, the most radical minister in the Radical-Liberal government now controlling the United Kingdom, has given the House of Lords and the privileged classes something to absorb their undivided attention for some time. He proposes to overcome the revenue deficit of \$80,000,000, largely due to the introduction of the old age pension system by increased taxes on the liquor and tobacco trades and accumulated wealth. With the exception of a small impost on petroleum no extra taxes are to be placed upon necessities of life; the whole deficit is to be made up by increased levies on such useless luxuries as liquor and tobacco, by higher taxes on motor cars, increased death duties, a super tax on incomes of over £5,000, taxes on mining royalties and unexplored minerals, practically double taxes on all transactions on the stock exchange, a tax on unimproved land in cities and towns, and special taxes on that part of a landholder's income which is derived not from his own industry, but from the increased value that comes to his property as the result of the labor of others who are improving the property by which he is surrounded. The tax on these unearned incomes will be increased from two pence in the pound to one shilling and two pence—thirteen times as much. The tax on earned incomes over £2,000 will be raised to one shilling in the pound. But at the same time persons earning less than £500 a year are granted a special new abatement of £10 for every child under sixteen years of age. On incomes not exceeding £500 there is to be a supertax of six pence in the pound. Stamp duties on transfers and sales of property, including the methods of disposing of property usually adopted with the purpose of evading the death duties, are to be doubled. There is a similar increase on the transfer of all "bearer" securities except Colonial and Government issues, and the stamp duties on the transferring of all other stocks and shares are largely raised. Liquor licenses are increased. The tax on land values shall, if the budget passes, be twenty per cent. on future increases in value.

Mr. Lloyd-George also proposes to set aside £100,000 for Labor exchanges as in France; to inaugurate state insurance against loss of employment by deserving workmen; and to grant £200,000 to start the reforestation and reclamation of water lands and encourage small agricultural buildings.

The taxes on tea, sugar and all the other necessities of life, with the exception of petroleum, are to be left alone. Consequently the brewers and distillers the stock exchange gamblers, the speculators who hold land vacant, for a rise in price, and all those who make a good living without working for it are crying out that the new taxation is confiscatory and calling upon the House of Lords to prevent such an inequitable budget ever becoming law. But such arguments will not appeal to

the thinking portion of the honest working people, and none of the poor except those who are hopelessly wedded to the use of alcohol and tobacco, will turn against the government because of Lloyd-George's increasing influence therein.

As fast as the House of Lords will allow, the dominant party in the British House of Commons is carrying out all its pre-election promises, thus making for itself a record almost unique among English speaking legislative bodies. If the Conservative opposition, standing for practical exemption of the rich from taxation, while imposing a protective tariff that will increase the prices of the poor man's food and clothing, and for the perpetuation of the liquor and other monopolies, should win next election the results would be most disastrous to the British nation.

SANE PENOLOGY.

(Home Journal.)

A man in Buffalo who broke a window was released recently under supervision of a probation officer on the condition that he would, through the latter, pay the owner of the window its full value in weekly installments. Four young men who set fire to a barn, causing damage to the extent of a thousand dollars, were ordered to pay \$250 each in regular weekly installments. Three have discharged the obligation and the fourth is meeting his as rapidly as his earnings permit. In this province a short time ago a man was sentenced to five years in prison for setting fire to a building. It is not difficult to decide which is the saner method of dealing with the crime of arson. Our criminal code has been largely responsible not only for manufacturing criminals but for saddling their maintenance upon those who have already suffered by their delinquency. When a man breaks a window and is charged with malicious injury, the usual procedure is to commit him to jail, tax the community for his keep, rob his family of his services, compel the man who loses the window to put in another, and to cap all by making a criminal out of a previously good citizen. The worst of it is that this left-handed justice is carried into dealing with children who are thrust into a life of evil or left to learn crime as a trade through the shameful criminal indifference of those who are responsible for making and administering law. In the city of Toronto recently, where the magistrates claim to be overworked, one of them referred to an attempt to secure an adequate system for dealing with child delinquency as a "faddism." It is a God-like "fad," and the day will come when we will look with as absolute horror upon present day methods of criminal procedure as we do now upon those of the early part of last century.

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R. N. W. MOUNTED POLICE RECRUITS.

An officer will be at the Royal Hotel, St. John, between the 8th and 14th May, for the purpose of engaging recruits. Applicants must be between the ages of twenty-two and thirty, and unmarried. Minimum height 5 feet 8 inches, minimum chest measurement 36 inches, maximum weight, 175 lbs. Terms of engagement 5 years. FRED WHITE, Comptroller.

Ottawa, 11th April 1909.



MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until Noon on Friday the 21st May, 1909, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, THIRTY times per week each way, between NEWCASTLE and INTERCOLLIERIAL RAILWAY STATION from the 1st July next. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office at Newcastle and at the Office of the Post Office Inspector at St. John. P. O. DEPARTMENT, (G. C. Anderson, P. O. DEPARTMENT, (G. C. Anderson, MAIL SERVICE BRANCH) Superintendent, Ottawa, 1st April, 1909.

MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until Noon, on Friday the 4th of June, 1909, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, TWELVE times per week each way, between DOUGLASTOWN and NEWCASTLE from the 1st July next. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Douglastown, Newcastle, and Nordin, and at the Office of the Post Office Inspector at St. John. P. O. DEPARTMENT, (G. C. Anderson, MAIL SERVICE BRANCH) Supt. Ottawa, 15th April, 1909.

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Th

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(C) stretches for a distance of 100 feet. The water is point on the pier, ed, hotel, survey has been made and occupies an important position. It is a cause of concern to the people of the town, as it is a long, one may find

Duckhook

STOP THE STOMACH often the stomach is not in good condition. Most all this vicinity drive and are wearing One of J girls, who slowly recover Miss Bell few days w Miss May spending a J. Harris, h Miss Moll ity is spend Mrs. R. M. Miss Mar a few week Harris. Dr. C. E. his home in wedding b Master H has been slowly recover Miss Mag ing a few A. Ramsay, Greta G. G weeks with Miss Oliv at her home

STATE OF OHIO Lucas Frank J. Ch senior partner Co., doing bu County and Su firm will pay ti DOLLARS in Catara that c Hall's Catara

Sworn to before me, this 18th day of April, 1886. (Seal)

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