

a resolution of which he had given notice, as follows: "Whereas the frequent changing of our text books authorized for use in the public schools and the excessive prices charged for the same impose a heavy burden upon parents and guardians of children in this Province;...

"Be it therefore resolved that a committee of competent persons be forthwith appointed by this House to enquire into the matter and select suitable text books for use in the public schools in this Province, and to recommend such action as appears best in order to secure such books at reasonable prices and to prevent unnecessary changes for the future."

In support of this resolution, Mr. Mathieson made a powerful speech. He pointed out that he had moved a similar resolution last session. He was assured by the Government at that time that the grievance complained of would be remedied. Some time afterwards a report was prepared by Dr. Anderson, but this report does not carry out the understanding arrived at when his resolution last year was withdrawn.

The resolution submitted by the Leader of the Opposition touched a vulnerable point in the Government's conduct and dealt with a subject that comes home to every household in the Province; consequently the Government must not let it pass. To save themselves from their awkward dilemma, the Leader of the Opposition moved an amendment to the Speaker's report that the amendment was irregularly before the House. The Premier thereupon submitted another amendment in which the preamble of the Opposition resolution was accepted and the following added:

"That this House authorize the Government to appoint a commission to examine into and report upon the whole system of Education in this Province, including the most suitable school books for use in the public schools and also the best means of obtaining the same."

This of course side-tracks any attempt at reform and leaves the matter wholly at the discretion of the Government. The untenable position of Government in this matter was admirably exposed by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Fraser, Mr. McKinnon and other members of the Opposition. Mr. Fraser pointed out that very little was to be hoped for from the Government; they had done nothing in the way of reform in virtue of the promise made last year. He showed that the schools of this Province had been retrograding ever since the present party came into office. According to the report there are twenty-five schools vacant. The Government are responsible for this condition of affairs. Ninety per cent of the school books have been changed and almost entirely for the worse.

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LOCAL & OTHER ITEMS

It is expected that the general Provincial election in Quebec will be held sometime in May.

The west bound Wells Fargo express train on the Erie Railroad ran into an Express train last Friday near Horsholme, N.Y. Two were killed and five were injured.

Over three thousand persons approached the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist during the Forty Hours Devotion which closed in St. Dunstan's Cathedral on Thursday last.

Spencer Compton Cavendish, eighth Duke of Devonshire, died at Cannes, France, on March 26th, of heart failure. He was born July 23rd, 1833, and was a son of the seventh Duke, and Blanche, daughter of the Earl of Carlisle.

The town of Chilpan, in Mexico, with 15,000 inhabitants was destroyed on March 27th by an earthquake, and subsequent fires. It is expected that many lives were lost; but as the town was two days journey from a railway, details were slow in coming in.

Joakim Gilbert, serving a term of life- imprisonment in the Penitentiary at Edmonton, Alberta, for the murder of Barrett Henderson, of North River, P.E.I., is dangerously ill and is hardly expected to live. He is over seventy years of age. He has since died.

Ernest Blomquist, cabinet maker, his wife, Lotta and their 12-year old son Lewis, were burned to death in a fire which consumed their home at Belmont, Mass., on March 26th. The house was somewhat removed from any other and the fire had gained considerable headway when it was discovered by the police.

The Prince of Wales will cross the Atlantic this summer when he goes to Canada for the tercentenary celebration at Quebec in one of the larger of the British cruisers, and this vessel will be accompanied by another cruiser as an escort. The British Atlantic fleet will cross ahead of the cruisers to be present and welcome the Prince on his arrival.

Rodney Kipling has entered an action at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, to recover from Morang & Co \$634.14 royalty alleged to be due on certain of his works published by the defendants. He also asks for an order directing the defendants to deliver to him several plates, electrots, all illustrations of the stories. These are valued at \$283.07.

Ralph C. Many, a Rhodes scholar from New Orleans, La., at Oxford, was washed off the rocks and drowned at Port Isaac, Cornwall, on March 25th. Ralph C. Many secured his appointment to Oxford in 1905. He was a student at Queens. A peculiar coincidence is the fact that A. K. Read, the 1904 Rhodes scholar from Louisiana, died in March, 1906, from meningitis.

The Minto came to Charlottetown from Boston on Friday last, bringing mails and passengers. She returned to Boston Saturday and came back here on Monday. The Stanley continued on the Georgetown route until Monday when she left there for the last time for Boston. She returned here yesterday and both the steamers will continue between here and Boston until the opening of navigation, one steamer leaving either side each day.

The most keenly fought by-election for the present British Parliament which was associated through the death of Clarke, member for Poekham, resulted in a great victory for the Unionists, whose candidate, G. C. B. Gook was elected by a majority of 2,492. This carried the Unionist in 1906 by a majority of 2,339. The announcement of the returns in the House of Commons caused a scene of the greatest excitement. There were Unionist shouts demanding that the Government resign.

The Montreal police have been notified that a man giving his name as William Sangster gave himself up in New York and confessed to the killing of Pierre, the young farmer of this district. Dolorme while returning from market to the Back River, near Montreal on October 26th last, was attacked by highwaymen and when he refused to give up his money was shot by one of the men, dying afterwards at the hospital. A detective has been sent to New York, and if Sangster persists in his confession he will be brought back to Montreal for trial.

At a meeting held in the Legislative Council Chamber on Friday evening last, a Canadian Club for Charlottetown was organized. The following officers were elected:—Hon. Pres.—The Lieut. Governor; Pres.—Percy Pope. Vice Pres.—Hon. F. L. Hazard, J. A. Mathieson. Sec.—Dr. Blanchard. Treas.—J. W. Ryan. Literary Corr.—G. R. Smallwood. Exec Com.—W. H. Atkins, Dr. Courty, T. C. James, J. E. B. McDevoy, A. H. V. Johnston, Dr. N. Robertson, James Eaton, W. A. Weeks, Jr. The Constitution of the St. John Canadian Club, with some amendments, was adopted. The last Thursday in March was fixed as the date of the annual meeting.

The Lenten sermon on Marriage was preached in St. Dunstan's Cathedral on Sunday evening last by Rev. J. F. Johnston. His theme was "The Marriage Vow" and his text was from 17th verse of the 11th chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews: "Obey your grades, and be subject to them. For they watch as being to render an account of your souls; that they may do this with joy, and not with grief. The Rev. preacher's discourse was an ex- haustive and learned exposition of the doctrine and practice regarding mixed marriages. The natural law, the law of God and the ecclesiastical law were all cited in opposition to such unions. Texts from the Old Testament were cited in proof of such opposition, and numerous proofs of the Church's abhorrence of such marriages were given from the New Testament, the Fathers, the Popes and the Councils.

LOCAL AND OTHER ITEMS

St. James Catholic Church, Toronto, was completely gutted by a fire which broke out in the organ loft yesterday. The loss is placed at \$20,000.

An employee of the Acadia Sugar Refinery at Halifax fell into a vat of boiling water the other day and was so badly scalded that he died within a short time.

Two Romanians walking along the G. T. Railway track on their way from work near Montreal on Monday were instantly killed by being run over by a train.

There was another small market yesterday. Butter was up to 30 and 32 cts and eggs were down to 18 and 17 cts. Oats were 48 cts, with an upward tendency. Prices generally were as per price list printed elsewhere.

Between fifty and seventy men lost their lives in two explosions on Saturday in the coal mine of the Union Pacific Company at Hanna, Wyoming. The explosions were caused by gas and coal dust and each was followed by fire.

The second of the Legislative dinners was given at Government House last evening. His Honor entertained several members of the Legislature; editors of some of the papers and other invited guests.

In the British House of Commons on Monday, a lengthy debate took place on the question of Home Rule for Ireland. The following resolution was moved by Mr. John Redmond, Nationalist leader:—"In the opinion of this House the solution of this problem can only be obtained by giving the Irish people legislative and executive control of all purely Irish affairs." After the resolution had been amended by adding the words:—"All subject to the supreme authority of the Imperial Parliament," it was adopted by 313 to 157.

DIED

At Cable Head, East, on March 22nd, Sarah A. McDonald, widow of the late David D. McKinnon, aged 64 years. Deceased was a friendly and generous disposition and endeared herself to her friends and acquaintances by her charitable and kindly ways. She bore her illness with patience and resignation to the Divine Will and devoutly received the last Sacraments. The interment took place in St. Peter's Cemetery on March 24th. She leaves to mourn a disconsolate husband and two daughters, both married in the United States. May her soul rest in peace.

At Forest Hill, King's County, on Feb. 17th, Mrs. Nell MacDonald, aged 83 years, leaving a husband, one son and two daughters. R.I.P.

At Forest Hill, King's County, March 6th, Alexander MacDonald, aged 88 years, leaving a widow and one daughter. R.I.P.

At Midgell Mills, on March 27th, Melinda, wife of Charles VanDersande, aged 37 years.

The Market Prices

Table with market prices: Butter (fresh) 0.30 to 0.32, Butter (sub) 0.23 to 0.24, Calf skins 0.06 to 0.09, Ducks per pair 1.00 to 1.25, Eggs per doz 0.16 to 0.17, Flour (per cwt) 0.75 to 1.00, Chickens per lb 0.08 to 0.09, Hide 0.00 to 0.00, Hay, per 100 lbs 0.85 to 0.90, Mutton, per lb (carcase) 0.06 to 0.08, Oatmeal (per cwt) 0.00 to 0.00, Potatoes 0.37 to 0.38, Pork 0.07 to 0.07, Sheep pelts 0.50 to 0.55, Turnips 0.16 to 0.00, Turkeys per lb 0.00 to 0.20, Gases per lb 0.90 to 0.08, Bikes per lb 0.45 to 0.00, Pressed hay 16.00 to 00.00, Straw 30 to 35.00.

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Table with jewelry and watch prices: Parlor Clocks \$4.50 to \$60.00, new fancy Alarms \$2.50 to \$6.00, plain Alarms from \$1.00 up; Ladies' Chains and Bracelets; Locketts, in solid gold; also in plate that will stand engraving; Knives, Forks, Spoons—best of plate; Eye-glasses, tested for and fitted to suit both eye and feature.

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