THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

(SEMI-WEEKLY.)

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THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The Calgary Albertan finds trouble in interpreting the meaning of an editorial published recently in the Bulletin on the subject of the proposed agricultural college. Without offence, it may also be said that its efforts in that direction are not over successful, whether due to the "terminological inexactitude" of the Bulletin or to limited perspicacity on the part of the Albertan being a matter for opinion. It may relieve the apparent distress of our contemporary to say plainly that the Bulletin favors the teaching of agriculture in the public schools; that it sees no reason why the good work so begun should be suspended and the farmer's son attending a high school given no chance to there follow up the primary work taken in the lower classes; that it considers a college for the teaching of farming one of the necessities of the case; and that it would also consider it folly to neglect the benefit of research work which might be carried on by the university and under its direction.

At present the farmer's son receives a smattering of information regarding agriculture in the public school—such information being of course purely theoretical. This is as far as he can at present receive instruction in his line of business in the province. It surely would be working no mischief to the educational system to allow him on entering the high school to omit the classics or some equally remote subjects and take instead a continuation course in agriculture. This would not in any sense be substituting the high school for the agricultural college. It would be increasing the fund of presumably useful knowledge which he would carry back to the farm or on to the college.

The agricultural college should stand in the same relation to the business of farming that the university stands in relation to the profession of medicine—it should qualify its students for that occupation so far as possible both by study and by practice. It should be a place where the book knowledge gained by pupils in the public and high schools could be supplemented by further study, where pupils without such knowledge might secure it; and where their knowledge, wherever obtained, would be put to the final test of experiment. The business of the college being to turn out farmers, in our humble opinion the college should consist of a model farm with a school attached. A college which presumed to teach men how to farm without putting them in the field and showing them how to do it must stand as unique as a medical school which did not provide hospital work for its students. The college should be a school of farming; the ordinary public and high schools cannot be such. The business of the college should be first and foremost to teach farmers how to raise better crops and better stock. This they can only learn by doing it.

Meantime in this agricultural country it would surely be folly to neglect the opportunity for using the university as a means for expanding the field of agricultural knowledge. Research work could of course be carried on at the college, perhaps as well as at the university. But college professors cannot serve two masters, and if there were imposed upon them the double duty of research work and of teaching it would be found that one or the other would predominate to the disadvantage of the other. Theory, too, has a way of supplanting practice where an effort is made to carry on the two in conjunction and the college would most likely descend into a repository and dispenser of "book knowledge"—in which case it might as well be closed so far as the farmers or the farming business of the country were concerned. If the two fields could be separated, the university left to carry on the work of investigation and research, while the college devoted itself to putting that knowledge into the heads and hands of the young farmers in attendance the best results would surely be secured.

A "Prince" With a Bomb.

Tiflis, July 3—A Caucasian prince named Chullkidze was made a prisoner here Friday while attempting to blackmail a rich resident of Tiflis by "black hand" methods. He entered a man's house with a bomb in his hand and demanded a large sum of money, threatening otherwise to explode the bomb. He was overpowered and the bomb was found to be an imitation.

MAKING MONEY FROM SEWAGE.

Sewage disposal is one of the problems that have provided thought-germs for the councils of western cities in recent years and to which no final solution seems to have been yet found. Generally the problem is regarded as one necessitating heavy annual expenditure whatever method be adopted. It is interesting to learn, therefore, that in older lands means have been found not only of avoiding the outlay but of making the disposal of sewage a source of commercial profit.

Mr. J. E. Ray, trade commissioner at Birmingham, discusses the subject in a recent bulletin published by the department of trade and commerce. He says the meetings of the seventh international congress of applied chemistry recently held in South Kensington have been full of interest, but perhaps no subject with which they have dealt concerns the general public more closely than sewage disposal. A paper read before the hygenic section describes a system which unites the elimination of undesirable products from sewage intended for use as fertilizer, with the utilization of these very products for the purpose of making commercial profit.

At present the contents of sewers are in some towns discharged into large tanks where solids are settled out forming a "sludge" containing about 90 per cent. of water. This is filtered, reducing it to a cake which contains only about 50 per cent. of water, which is usually dumped on land specially secured for the purpose. As the writer of the paper points out, however, a city of 100,000 will produce something like 30 tons of sludge per diem; the cost both for land and cartage becomes tremendous, and the land used for dumping is unfitted for building purposes.

When the sludge is used as manure it necessarily creates a nuisance to the neighborhood, in the course of decomposition; to this objection is added another, namely, that while the chemical composition of the sludge would indicate considerable fertilizer value, this is greatly diminished, and in some cases quite extinguished by the presence of large quantities of fatty matter, grease and soap. These come chiefly from domestic sources, the washing of dinner dishes providing much grease, while practically all the soap used in the country (the estimate for England is 4,000,000 tons annually) ultimately finds its way into the sewers.

It is from the recovery of the valuable fatty acids contained in the soap that the process now recommended derives a large part of its revenue, the remainder coming from the residue of the sludge cake, the fertilizing value of which can now be realized, while the resulting manure is also fertilized and odorless, so that it can be stored or used without creating any nuisance. It takes the form of a dry powder, fine as flour, containing nitrogen equal to 8 per cent. of sulphate of ammonia, and other chemicals, together with about 40 per cent. of partly decomposed organic matter.

The system is as follows: The sludge cake having been dried by heat is mixed with a little acid and passed through a specially designed retort in which it is subjected to a current of superheated steam, which carries away with it the fatty acids to be condensed in a water-cooled tower. The fat can be easily and cheaply purified, yielding a grease rich in steria acid—a valuable commercial chemical. The average profit for a city of 100,000 is estimated at roughly, $12,500.

INDIAN ANARCHISTS.

The political assassin has appeared in London in supposed behalf of the cause of the freedom of India. To Dr. Goldwin Smith and live thinkers this will be another evidence of the folly of holding a country in which Britishers cannot live and rear their children. To the British statesmen who are burdened with the task of saving India from the thousand mutually hostile clans who dwell there it marks the emergence of a new problem. There have been political assassins among the natives of India before, but heretofore they have confined themselves to India. Their appearance in the heart of the Empire is a new feature and anything but a satisfactory one. Whatever may be said of Dhinage it must be conceded that he had the courage of his diabolical convictions, courage even to the point of willingness to die for them. He shot his victim in a crowded hall, where escape was hopeless, and according to the despatches he struggled with his captors in an effort to turn his weapon against himself. Obviously he knew that to shoot Wyllie meant death for himself, and fired with this fact clearly in mind. In this kind of courage he ranks with the murderer of President McKinley. He was prepared for death if he could only slay his selected victim. No doubt he was mentally deranged, and it would be an outrage to invest the Indian peoples generally with his sentiments. But the trouble is such fanatics do not flourish singly. They appear in schools and one gone does not by any means secure the extinction of the sect. Among the millions of India are no doubt scores or hundreds who hold like views and with equal readiness to perish for them. Dhinage having shown the way to accomplish what his fellow-fanatics consider a desirable end, it may confidently be expected that his crime is only the first of many similar assassinations that will be committed or tried. Here is the crux of the question—what to do with him. No doubt he will be hanged. Any lesser punishment would only embolden his associates, perhaps give them the idea that Britain was afraid to properly punish such offences committed by such as themselves. Yet to hang him may also propagate the mischief. To his hate-crazed fellows this will exalt him to the highest rank of patriotism, will crown his "loyal" deed with martyrdom, and the blood of martyrs—or believed martyrs—has been the seed of far less worthy institutions than the Christian church. To hang Dhinage may only be to arouse the misdirected spirit of the frenzied associates who survive him and to invest the seditious conspiracy with the character of a patriotic organization.

EDMONTON CENTRE OF VAST TERRITORY

Its Tremendous Development During Past Few Years—Capital Destined to be Home of Great Industries.

Trade Gazette, Calgary—Edmonton, the centre of the great north half of Alberta and the supplying point of hundreds of small and growing towns, promises a great future for itself and for its citizens. The city is situated on a navigable stream, is the radiating point for three great railways, has the entire north trade in its grasp, and has a population of citizens so progressive that the city shows an increase in every line of business every month. Lumber, fur, grain and coal pour into the city to be distributed over the provinces and the world, while food stuffs, clothing and other supplies pour into the city for distribution to the innumerable towns springing up, are already well toward the dignity of a city. The future of Edmonton is a most enviable one, and a man of business and progress who establishes himself there is assured of a competence and a very possible fortune.

Where ten years ago were a few stores, a few hotels, and the centre only of the great fur trade of the north is now a great city of between 20,000 and 25,000 hustling souls whose belief in their city would bring it to the fore even without the added advantages of location and natural products. There are wide paved streets, electric street railway service, beautiful government and business buildings and a spirit of progress that bids fair to lead to marvellous things.

Edmonton, the Capital of Alberta, is the centre for the great Peace River country, for the railroad construction through the mountains to Prince Rupert, for the Slave Lake countries, the MacKenzie River countries, and in fact for all of the wide and fertile land north of the 53rd parallel, west of the 111th degree of latitude as far as the Rocky mountains.

A grand agricultural country is tapped by lines from Edmonton, and agriculture is the real backbone of every city. Mines may flourish, fur trade may be enormous, lumber business may be worth millions, but these branches of commerce surely in time peter out. Agriculture on the contrary usually has a small beginning and grows with a sure and resistless strength until it is the business par excellence and the source of life and wealth for the business men of the city, and the farmers alike. The richer an agricultural community the richer will be the wholesale and retail men of the city which is the centre of the district, and Edmonton is the centre of an almost illimitable grain field and pasture land.

To illustrate the increased value of farming land in this former community of fur trappers and lumbermen, it needs only to be stated that land in the vicinity of Edmonton sold in 1898 for $3 an acre, and in the year 1908 the price was steady at $20. The rich black soil of the Edmonton district has demonstrated its value and prices have gone up correspondingly. Winter wheat last year ranged from 23 to 50 bushels to the acre, oats went 40 to 80, while barley held around 30 to 40 bushels. The flax industry is becoming an important one and a considerable area of this was harvested. Rye and speltz were and always are good crops, ranging from 25 to 30 bushels to the acre.

The city of Edmonton had a year ago a population of 23,000 souls, inclusive of the sister city, Strathcona. Last year two million and a half was spent in buildings, and this year will exceed this figure very considerably. Three transcontinental roads, and four branch roads radiate from Edmonton, and already it requires over fifty great wholesale houses and warehouses to accommodate the ever-increasing trade of the capital city of Alberta.

As a manufacturing as well as a distributing centre Edmonton is progressing with flattering promise. With cheap coal right at their doors, manufacturers have a tremendous advantage over manufacturers in other cities which have to pay the haulage of their fuel. The coal mining of this district is only in its infancy, the vast beds of coal being barely scratched to yield the hundreds of thousands of tons already mined. There is fuel in the bowels of the earth in this district to supply heat and power to a vast city for an indefinite number of years, and the coal is a good quality of lignite.

Business in Edmonton has a very bright outlook, and only a few years will see a most marvellous increase.

Edmonton offers vast advantages for factories, capitalists and business men of all sorts. It offers untold advantages to the skilled farmer and the skilled mechanic. Located as it is on the great navigable river of the north, in the centre of a rich and ever-increasing population, on the line of three transcontinental roads and the centre of a number of branch lines it is a future El Dorado for the man of ability who enters into any pursuit there, from retail or wholesale merchandising to manufacturing or farming. The city commands the trade for 2,000 miles north, nearly 400 miles west, 250 miles east, and 75 miles south. In three years it has doubled its population, grown from a trading post to a city of cosmopolitan appearance, and promise to repeat the trick in another three years.

With present advantages and future outlook the business men of Edmonton have a bright prospect for continued and increased success.

WANTS PARDON.

For Crime For Which He Was Condemned to Death.

Atlanta, Ga., July 4.—Will Myers, who escaped from the Atlanta jail in 1894, on the eve of his execution for the murder of Forest Crowley and who has since eluded the authorities, has written a letter to Governor Brown asserting that he is innocent of the murder and asking for a pardon. Myers says that his family gave one of the employes of the jail $1,500 to allow him to escape. He claims that he went direct to Cuba, and says "I remained in Cuba for one year, when I returned to this country, to the state of Georgia, where I remained until the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, when I enlisted in the third regiment U.S. Sixth, known as Ray's Immunes. I was a member of Company B. I was mustered out of service at Macon, Ga., May 2, 1899. I then came into possession of some money through my grandfather. I settled down, married and have three children. I am well respected in my local territory.

"He stated he was a delegate to the Georgia convention that nominated Mr. Brown for governor. "If I only had my liberty I could convince the world that I did not kill Crowley. If you will only pardon me, Governor Brown, the world will be surprised to see who I am, and what a good citizen I am."

Myers is supposed to have killed Crowley while they were out riding. The evidence against him was circumstantial, but he was sentenced to death. The day before he was to be hanged he walked out of the jail and has never been heard from until the publication of his letter to Governor Brown.

Weight Clerk Had Rake-off.

Hamilton, July 3.—Louis Franks was this morning committed for trial on the charge of conspiring with H. M. Moren, an employee of the Hamilton Steel and Iron Company, to defraud the Company by falsefying the weights of loads of scrap iron sold by Franks to the company. Moren testified that Franks had approached him when he was acting as weight clerk and proposed that he should increase the weights, but that he did not consent to do so until September, 1907, when he was unable to pay Franks $55 he had borrowed. Since then he had made $700 in three months by falsifying weights, Franks sharing up the profits with him.

Second Man Got Away.

Vancouver, B.C., July 4.—The engineer and fireman of the C.P.R. train which was held up a fortnight ago at Ducks, B.C., have identified the body of the man shot by Constable Decker at Ashcroft on Monday night as that of the leader of the bandits. It is admitted that Constable Decker's murderer, the second train robber, must have escaped from that part of the country, the tired possees returning to Ashcroft and Kamloops after a fruitless search of days.

Discussed Immigration.

London, July 3.—(C. A. P.)—Earl Grey, accompanied by Hon. Frank Oliver and J. Obed Smith, had an interview today with Hon. John Burn. Interviewed by the C. A. P., Mr. Oliver said: "There is nothing to tell you. We just had a talk on emigration matters in a general sort of way." Mr. Oliver leaves today (Saturday) for the continent.

"Murder" the Verdict.

London, July 5.—The jury in the inquest on the death of Lieut.-Col. Wylie, murdered by Dhinage, the fanatical Hindoo, returned a verdict of murder. The evidence showed the crime to be premeditated. Adjournment followed.

FAIR RECEIPTS.

The receipts of the Edmonton exhibition from the gates and grand only are as follows:—

First day, June 29	$1,332.00
Second day, June 30	2,073.75
Third day, July 1	2,657.75
Fourth day, July 2	2,127.75
Total	$8,191.25

Another Theory.

New York, July 4.—Leon Ling, wanted for the murder of Elsie Sigel, sailed from Philadelphia on a tramp steamer on June 10. This information came to the Hearst news service tonight through an authoritative source from Superintendent Cleary, of the Philadelphia police.

Kicked by Horse.

Lethbridge, Juiy 6—Muriel, the 9-year-old daughter of Max Donaldson, was kicked by a horse. The skull was partially lifted by the kick but the young one is improving.

Lethbridge Land Sells Well.

Lethbridge, July 6—Hundreds are attending the sale of school lands. Land in ranges 12 and 13 sold today at from $7 to $14 per acre, south of Grassy Lake.

Bain Wagons are best for Alberta.

THE WEST FROM A CAR WINDOW

(M. O. Hammond in the Toronto Globe.)

Lamont, Alta., June 19.—A notable effort in the work of Canadianizing the hosts of foreigners recently added to the population of Western Canada is being carried on by the government of Alberta in this vicinity. The race most prominent for miles east and west of Lamont, especially to the north, are those generally spoken of as Galicians, sections of which are called Buckovinians, while the general name of Ruthenians is in reality more correct. To put it more succinctly, they are Slavs, and bring with them very mixed religious views, the people being partly of the Greek church and partly Roman Catholic. At almost any hour of the day or night one may see Galicians in Lamont. By day they drive in, either with ox-team or horses, and a big box wagon, usually of Ontario manufacture. The men have largely discarded their sheep skins, but the women cling to the head shawl, which covers all but the oval of their face. The Buckovinians favor white head shawls and with a kind of support on their head, giving the shawl elevation. They have something of the majesty of an Oriental; this is very well as far as it goes, but these women bring an inherited responsibility for hard work, and in the fields and at other farm labor seem to have it as severe as the men. In fact, to raise the status of Slav women-kind will be a task for the educators of Western Canada. For example, yesterday I saw a wagon with husband, wife and son of Buckovinian race driving into Wastok. The father and son sat in the spring seat; the mother squatted in the box behind.

The Schoolmaster Abroad.

The most important agency at present in use to assimilate these foreigners is the public school system of Alberta. Though many of the Galicians have been here ten years, it was not until after Alberta became a province, less than four years ago, that an attempt was made to establish schools in the foreign settlements. Already in the belt between Bruderheim and Vegreville fifty-two foreign schools are in existence under the supervision of Mr. Robert Fletcher, and a dozen more school districts have been set apart and will be organized at once. First comes a request from one or more persons in a locality for a school. A district is then organized, an adverse vote of the people being ineffective if there are 20 or more children of school age to be served. In the second instance of opposition, if the people refuse to operate it after it is established, an official trustee is appointed for this purpose by the government. Mr. Fletcher acts in this capacity for all the schools requiring an official trustee. His duties are often short-lived, as the people, even when at first in part opposed, usually, soon fall in with the idea and manage the school themselves. The government requires the appointment of an English teacher in each case, or rather a teacher whose language and race is English. Here is the occasion of opposition now and again, and tact and patience are necessary. Only a few days ago in a new school, the children were kept from attending for several days, only to end in the opposition melting away, and now there are fifteen pupils in attendance.

Idolizing the Teacher.

The parents of these children are racially proud, and do not give their affections to teachers at once. When a teacher makes good in their estimation, they idolize their benefactor, and think they cannot do enough in return. One instance of how the Slav's affection may be won was furnished by a young Englishman, who at first kept at a distance and was treated accordingly. One day he soldered some tin cans. Another day he fixed a bolt in a threshing machine. Another time he used a solution of carbolic acid, with good results, on a sore finger. After that he was the idol of the Ruthenians.

A visit was paid yesterday to a couple of schools in the vicinity of Wastok, where almost all the children are Slavs. The neatness and good equipment of the schools were matter for surprise and admiration. The children conducted themselves much as children do in an Ontario school. Perhaps not quite so orderly, but this was because some of them as yet did not understand English, felt strange and could not realize the commands to keep quiet. They were dressed sometimes in bright colors and looked a bit old-fashioned. Some of them were exceedingly bright of face; that is where bits of mother earth had not settled. All were barefoot, and if anything might be said of their feet it would be that evidently there had been a long dry spell. When one looks at the homes of these kiddies, however, little can be expected. Until the Slavs reach beter circumstances and better ideas of Camadian life their living will be pretty primitive, in small, thatched shacks, in which the poultry share the space of the humans.

Scholars as Interpreters.

Some of the children get on very well. New ones are coming all the time, and for the beginners the teachers have to use the older ones as interpreters. It surely indicates a problem in nationbuilding to hear an Ontario-bred teacher ask a twelve-year-old Rusian to tell his younger brother to keep still, and then to hear the order repeated in words that remind one of the names in far-off Siberia. It speaks well, however, for eagerness to learn to see little tots of seven or eight rushing up to the teacher to ask what a certain word is, heedless of the teacher's engagement at the moment in hearing the recitation of another class.

During my visit to the Wastok school, the teacher, Miss Dukes, formerly of New Brunswick, asked two boys to read the lesson on Caedmon in the third reader. Their performance was highly creditable when we consider their short acquaintance with English. Then she questioned them on the meanings of certain words and their answers were undoubtedly intelligent.

"Give me a sentence in which the word 'ignorant' occurs," asked the teacher of Walter.

Jean Blewett's Autumn

"The Britons were ignorant," Walter replied, and we fancied we saw a touch of Slav vanity, though the thrust may not have been intentional. Another trial lesson was Jean Blewett's poem on autumn, the subtle meanings of which seemed to have penetrated the Slavic mind.

Many of the children are eager and active; others, as in all races, are apparent dullards. It will take time to make real Canadians of them. The school training, however, will bring a closer sympathy between the Slav parents and those of Anglo-Saxon stock.

Already most of the adults of middle age or less speak English sufficiently for commercial intercourse. Their English is apt to fail, them however, when a collector visits them in search of promised money. In several directions the Galicians have imbibed something of the Canadian spirit. There is an evident impatience with the old ideas of priest rule. Recently a priest from the old land wanted his flock to erect a church in a certain place. They refused; then he wanted to hold the title for the land if they built in another place, but still they refused. He then abused them roundly, and said that in the old country they were good to handle the hoe and shovel, and that's what they ought to be doing now. They did not think so, and such actions on the part of the old Greek Church priests is cutting their rule short by years at every stroke.

A Rebellion that Prospered.

In another recent case there was evidence of a rebellion against the old regime, and also of a good spirit. A young Galician wanted to get married. A chum found him a girl, and he liked her. The father was agreeable, and promised to give 160 acres of land, ten cattle, and some money. All was well until the groom-elect proposed the employment of a Canadian clergyman for the ceremony. The father refused, and the contract was surrendered. The young Galician was sorry, but he looked about again, and at the next dance—the centre of Galician social life—he met another girl who pleased him even more. Father No. 2 was favorable, but hesitated because he had no dowry, just having come from Russia. The bridegroom however, said this was no barrier, married the girl through a Canadian clergyman, and the two are getting on splendidly.

The Galicians seem a sober race, yet they are fond of laughter. A Buckovinian woman was seen yesterday to greet an especial friend. She stooped to kiss his hand, then he raised hers to his lips. They were very jovial under the freedom of the new world. As we drove back to Lamont we passed many wagons returning from town, others camped by the wayside resting over night for an early arrival at the Lamont market. A last picture, was a solitary middle-aged Galician halted with his ox team. Warmed by his sheep-skin coat and a ruddy camp-fire in the late twilight, his coarse bread loaf to sustain his strength, his oxen lying near his wagon, he awaited the morning with gusto, for his pigs would reach the weigh scales with full stomachs after a very short morning drive.

BRITISH SHIP AFTER BORNEO PRIVATES

Trying to Rescue American Citizen Captured by Them — American Ship Also in the Chase.

Washington, D.C., July 5.—Information received at the State Department through the British Embassy here says that the commander of the British ship Merlin has telegraphed the Foreign Office at London from Sandakana, North Borneo, B.I., that his vessel is proceeding along the coast of that territory to render all possible aid in the matter of an American ship and will report if further action becomes necessary.

Italians Sent Up.

Cincinnati, Ohio, July 3.—"No member is admitted to the inner circle of any Black Hand organization unless he can prove that he has taken actual part in or has been intimately connected with at least ten plots to kill," was the startling statement wrung from Antonio Vicari, an alleged leader of the Ohio society of Black Hands organization by post office inspectors. He declared that members were admitted to the societies in a general way to implicate as many Italians in a community as possible, and thus minimize the possibility of discovery. Following the examination before the U.S. commission, Vicari, Francisco, Spadero and Vincenzo Arrigio, the three suspect caught here in a railway train a week ago, were held to the Federal court at Toledo, where the cases of the other Italians arrested in this state will be tried.

Working Up a Massacre.

Athens, July 5.—According to news from Salonica, it appears certain that the feeling against the Greeks is increasing. Certain fanatical Mussulmans have conceived the plan of organizing violent incidents with a view to throwing the responsibility for them upon the Greeks, thus provoking an explosion of fanaticism and a massacre of Greeks.

Eastern Scribes Will See the Show.

Winnipeg, July 5—The committee in charge of preparations for the Selkirk Centennial are issuing an invitation to editors of eastern papers to come up to Winnipeg next week to see the industrial fair and determine for themselves what Winnipeg has to offer toward making the proposed international exposition a success and a credit to Canada. They will be the guests of the committee from the time they step on to the special train until they are returned to thei rhomes.

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