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PHONE (Business Office) 59

Toronto Special Representative
 Smallpiece, J. P., 32 Church St.
 Toronto, Ont.

THE ELECTORS CAN SAY.

As announced in the Legislature yesterday by Premier Hearst, the public is to be given an opportunity this Fall, probably, of voting upon four significant questions relative to intoxicating liquors and their distribution. From the answers given to these questions the Government hopes to secure a full or fairly accurate expression of the opinion of the people of this province. The queries are:

- (1) Are you in favor of the repeal of the Ontario Temperance Act?
 - (2) Are you in favor of the sale of light beer containing not more than 2.5-100 per cent. alcohol weight measure through Government agencies and amendments to the Ontario Temperance Act to permit such sale?
 - (3) Are you in favor of the sale of light beer containing not more than 2.5-100 per cent. alcohol weight measure in standard hotels in local municipalities that by majority vote favor such sale, and amendments to the Ontario Temperance Act to permit such sale?
 - (4) Are you in favor of the sale of spirituous and malt liquors through Government agencies, and amendments to the Ontario Temperance Act to permit such sale?
- It is the growing view of the masses, we think, that some such step as this should be taken. The conditions in the country have changed in many ways during the last four or five years. The Government is not now in a position to know what the will of the majority is on this or other large and troublesome problems. A referendum should give a report of the electors which would have a definite result in clearing the air for many years to come on a most controversial and difficult matter.

THE TARIFF PROBLEM

The Toronto Star carried a dispatch last night which stated that a general election may have to be held in this Dominion to settle the knotty tariff problem which now threatens to split the east from the west.

While this is one way, and as a rule a fairly good one, to clear the air when it becomes heavy, we do not think that the present is the best time for it. The state of industry is too uncertain to justify disturbances of a national nature.

What the Journal would suggest, and what we believe, will command itself to other newspapers, is that a permanent commission of a responsible character, representing the manufacturers, trades unions' agricultural interests and the Government be appointed to constantly take evidence and give rulings in the same way and with the same idea of service to the nation as the Board of Dominion Railway Commissioners.

No one will deny, we think, that this latter Board has been a powerful factor in regulating railway and transportation matters. It has been comprised of large men whose judgment generally was sound and whose findings have stood. The tariff is a subject that might well engage the best brains of our country, not for a short time to bring in a report which would be filed away, but to constantly regulate and to fix tariffs based upon reliable statistics and data.

A last order from the Treasury Department, Washington, relieves Canadian subjects working in the United States from an Income tax, which is another step towards friendly reciprocity.

Save Money
 Now is the time to pack next winter's supply of eggs at Spring prices.

Water Glass—One-pound tins preserves 12 dozen eggs, 18c a tin.

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MACHINES SAVE LABOR

Work of Efficient Gas Engine in House and Barn.

How Early Winter Pruning May Be Done Without Injury—Winter Rhubarb is Delicious and May Be Grown by All.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

SAVING labor in stable and home, by the use of machinery, is one of the great economic problems engaging the attention of farmers to-day. Through the use of machinery they can produce even more, at less cost, than in years past, when labor was plentiful, and tolerably cheap.

Probably never before in the history of the farming world have so many farm problems been solved by a single piece of machinery as has now been accomplished by the gas engine. In the stable it can be employed to advantage in grinding feed for the stock. It can cut feed and ensilage. It can pump water for the house and stable whenever one pleases; a hydrant on the lawn, and in the stock yards to which a hose may be attached for washing the buggy, sprinkling the lawn, flushing pens and stable and for other purposes. It is a source of much satisfaction, pleasure and comfort.

By means of a line shaft a gas engine may operate many labor-saving machines at the same time. It can run the grindstone, root pulper, fanning mill, cream separator, churn, sheep shearers, horse clippers, rotary curry-comb and the milking machine, with which it is possible to milk two cows in about six minutes, including the time required for changing and setting. Further assistance may be had by attaching the power for refrigeration and for circulating milk over a cooling surface—a practical necessity.

No longer need the preparation of whitewash and its application with a brush be consigned to warmer regions, for the engine can pump the mixture from a tank or barrel through a hose attached to a spraying outfit. It is possible to pump it two hundred feet. When the job is done the hose should be cleaned out by having fresh water pumped through it.

The gasoline engine solves for the farmer the problems of comfort in the house, safety in the stables, and a great deal of drudgery generally.—Prof. John Evans, O. A. College, Guelph.

Light Fall Pruning is Safe.

Light pruning in fall is permissible, but heavy pruning is dangerous and likely to result in serious damage from winter killing, especially if the succeeding winter is severe. The injury is caused by drying out of the cut area and may be prevented by covering all wounds of any size with a good covering of paint made from pure lead and oil. Do not use prepared paints as these contain turpentine or kerosene which will prevent checking and drying of green wood. Coal tar makes an excellent wound covering and is easily applied.

This matter of covering wounds made in fall or early winter is frequently slighted by orchard men, but the writer has seen such serious damage result from neglect of this precaution. He feels justified in warning fruit growers with regard to the practice. In experimental trials in the case of apple orchard, varieties so hardy as Duchess of Oldenburg, Wolf River, Snow and Scott's Winter have suffered very serious injury following November pruning with the cuts left unprotected. The wounds dry out around the edges and by spring the dead area is greatly enlarged, frequently extending down the trunk or branch for a foot or more. The dead bark comes away later, leaving a large dead area, detrimental to the parts above and certain also to decay later.—Prof. J. W. Crow, O. A. College, Guelph.

How Winter Rhubarb is Produced.

The production of rhubarb in winter has become of considerable value among gardeners. It is easy to do if certain methods are followed. If one is making a permanent business of rhubarb forcing, it is necessary, each year, to set out a new bed, as plants once forced are of no further value. In the spring large roots should be dug, split in one bud sections and replaced in a rich moist ground. During the growing season they are kept cultivated and free from weeds. In the fall they are covered with manure. Next spring a second bed is planted as before. That fall a large part of the first bed is taken up, leaving sufficient to replant another bed the next spring. The roots are taken up the last thing in the fall before the hard frosts set in. These buds side up on the floor of a warm cellar—about 68 degrees or 70 degrees—and cover with an inch of sand. Be sure to fill in all interstices. Keep this sand moist. About a week later the buds will begin to swell and in from four to six weeks, depending upon the heat of the room—the cooler and slower growth in such cases—you should have rhubarb ready. After these roots are exhausted throw them away and put in more. If a constant supply is required make a new bed every two or three weeks during the winter. Be sure to keep all the front dimmed. Put burlaps of brown paper over the windows to give the bright pink color so much desired.—H. MacLennan, B.S.A., Ontario Vegetable Specialist.

Mr. J. M. Gross, of Welland, has offered to present that city with a new clock.

THE WEEK IN THE LEGISLATURE

(Special to The Journal.)

Toronto, April 8.—Several interesting matters came before the House for discussion outside of the usual routine during the past week. There was a motion brought in by Mr. McDonald of North Bruce, seconded by Mr. Carter of Guelph, asserting that the representation in the Ontario Legislature is too large, unwieldy and expensive, and pointing to the huge sum of over \$150,000 for indemnity and expenses paid to members during the past year. Mr. McDonald desired a reduction of the number of constituencies to conform with the representation on Ontario in the Federal House, namely from 111 to 89. After a spirited discussion Mr. McDonald withdrew his motion. He was supported in it by Mr. Proudfoot, the Opposition Leader, who thought the motion should have been received more seriously. If the membership was reduced to 89 it would save the province \$40,000 a year and on that account it might have been advisable to consider a reduction. Mr. Sam Carter believed that the foundation of representation should be population. The motion, however, was generally opposed.

A remarkable vote took place upon a discussion of the motion placed on the Order Paper by Mr. Hartley Dewar of Southwest Toronto in connection with women's dress at the opening of the Legislature. The Government moved an amendment to Mr. Dewar's motion (which, by the way, was entirely irrelevant), substituting congratulations to the women of the Province for their splendid services in the war, and to this was added a further amendment by Mark Irish of Toronto to the effect that the House recognized the great service of the women in the production of munitions. The Liberals were not to be caught voting against these amendments and therefore the motion as amended was carried unanimously amid a great deal of laughter.

War Tax Abolished.
 The Provincial Treasurer introduced a resolution to abolish the provincial war tax, which was agreed to and referred to the Committee of the Whole House in connection with a bill to repeal the Provincial War Tax Act.

Cost of Hamilton Highway.

In reply to a question from the Liberal side as to the total cost of the Toronto and Hamilton Highway, whether it had been completed; and if not what additional it would cost to complete it, the Minister of Public Works stated that up to January 31st an expenditure had been made on construction of \$1,088,017.71 exclusive of the extra cost of widening roadways, storm sewers, etc., to be paid by the radial railway and local municipalities. The road has not yet been completed and an additional cost will be an estimated charge upon the Commission of \$18,300, which does not include the Hamilton entrance, radial railway track moving, or Commission's share of bridge construction which items have to be adjusted by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board.

Repealed Liquor Proposals.

No definite announcement has yet been made by the Government as to their proposals in connection with the referendum to be held upon the Ontario Temperance Act next Fall, but it is understood that the following questions will be submitted to the electors: (1) The repeal of the Ontario Temperance Act. (2) The sale of light beer in sealed packages under Government control. (3) The sale of light beer over the bar. (4) The restrictive sale of spirituous liquors generally under Government control.

Assessment Law Change.

As a result of the findings of the special committee appointed to consider the Assessment Act and the proposed amendments thereto, a report has been made to the House favoring the granting of partial assessment exemption on homes, and the exemption on personal income has been raised \$200 all round. The provisions of the proposed exemption in connection with houses is as follows: That a \$2,000 house be assessed at 50 per cent. of its value, a \$2,500 house at 60 per cent, a \$3,000 house at 70 per cent, a \$3,500 house at 80 per cent, a \$4,000 at 90 per cent, and above that at the actual assessed value of the house. The proposal is that local option shall be granted to municipalities in the matter, and it is not altogether compulsory.

Deport Liquor Charges.

The Commission appointed by the Government to investigate the charges made by H. H. Dewar, the Toronto member, in connection with the operation of the license department and the administration of the Ontario first sitting. The work of investigation. Mr. Dewar has held its session in the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature is also well under way, and considerable interest is being evinced throughout the province in the results of the investigations. It transpired before the committee that over 1,000,000 quarts of liquor had been issued upon doctors' prescriptions since the inauguration of the O. T. A. The Government has changed its attitude in regard to permitting counsel to the Opposition, and they will be represented in the probe before Chief Justice Meredith by Robert McKay, K.C.

The City of Ottawa has been granted permission to adopt the single tax method of raising revenue. The Workmen's Compensation Act has been amended whereby the monthly allowances to widows and children have been increased and the maximum for all dependents raised.

Magistrate Jelfs of Hamilton had better look out or he may be put upon the Index Expurgatus. He is said to have declared movies as good as Sunday Schools.

It is estimated there are about 1000 people now in the lecture field in Canada and the U. S., discoursing on the Great War. The bulk of the stuff meted out to their hearers is said to be compiled from newspaper clippings, badly compiled and worse delivered.

Niagara Falls has passed a by-law to abolish the smoke nuisance in the following Bostonian terms: "A by-law to prevent the emission to the atmosphere of opaque or dense smoke."

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In The Hills Above Ice River



THIS man is not carving his name on a stump. By looking closely one will identify the claws on the downbeat right forepaw as those of a good sized black bear. So the human operator is removing a handsome black coat from a sleek, fat fall brute that had ventured in innocent ignorance out on the open in search of mice and such interesting changes from a diet of berries. He did not know that men with guns were creeping up the slope toward him because the wind was sweeping down from the peaks above and the only scent it took to his keen nostrils was that of the fresh, sweet snows that were already whitening the peaks above Ice River, north of the O. P. R. transcontinental line.

So the bear waddled along with an investigating nose close to the sticks and stones he turned over with his great paws. He paused at a rotting log that had fallen before some great tree which had swept the hillside in the decades past, and he turned it over with an ease that spoke highly of strong claws and big muscles; he found some grubs and he licked them up; he started to investigate a bundle of weeds and dried grasses that looked as if it might contain some tender young mice. A hundred yards away, down the slope, a man's weak ankle that had been strained in days gone by a slipping twist, turned on a stone and sent it clattering down through sticks and stumps. Bruin over the rise and out of sight, read to his haunches in curiosity. He applied the crown of a hat rising slowly over the ridge and he turned and sped away with an awkward, shuffling swiftness that could be second only to that of a moose in fallen timber, and there is nothing more awkward appearing yet nothing living so destructive to distance as a moose that is really up and going with full energies through his favorite racing ground in the swamps.

A steel-jacketed bullet whistled when it kicked dust out of the running bear's coat when it burned across the shoulder. Bruin snarled and went faster. Another bullet struck his ribs and he stopped to snap in anger at the hurt and to glare back at the source of his worry. Then, as he growled low in his throat he prepared to resume his flight; a third bullet broke his neck, and his body huddled forward and settled down like a huge chunk of jelly that had scarce "set." And there we skinned him, far above the gleaming river, whose so recently he had gorged on the luscious berries and watched the deer and moose as they too gorged themselves on the rich foods that suited their cravings as satisfactorily as berries satisfied his.

—L. V. K.

HUNGARY AND THE HUNGARIANS

Hungary has a population of 20,000,000. Hungary is unusually rich in its mineral deposits. Its mines contain almost inexhaustible quantities of gold, silver, lead, copper, iron, coal and rock salt.

Hungary, like Austria, is inhabited by several distinct races, but since the ninth century, when the Magyars invaded the region from Asia and conquered it, they have controlled the government.

Self government through parliament in Hungary is of ancient origin, being founded upon a charter called the Golden Bull, which dates back to 1222, and is thus contemporary with the Magna Carta of England.

Budapest, the capital city of Hungary, consists of the sister towns Buda and Pest. Lying on either side of the Danube, just at that point where it definitely sets south, spreads itself out over the flat plain on the left bank, while Buda occupies a series of small and steep hills on the right bank.

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