

Harkin's Academy Booster

JESSIE HARRIS, Editor

On Tuesday last, on the suggestion of one of the pupils, Grade X and XI held a meeting and formed a Debating Club. The officers elected were as follows: President—Gordon Petrie Vice President—Jessie Harris Secretary—Margaret McCurdy It was moved and seconded that the Secretary inform Chatham High School of the organization.

Toby, the Truck Horse

I am an old truck horse names Toby, my hair is sleek and Red, my neck is arched, and to quote what I have heard other people say, "I am rolling in fat", but indeed I was not always so, I can remember the time I was so that you could count every bone.

In those awful days I used to belong to a grocer and although I used to deliver many bags of corn and oats for other people's horses, yet I never had a bite of either corn or oats for myself. My master was very miserly.

But now that awful time is past, I belong to a rich farmer, who has many other horses and considering the fact that I am thirty years old, he does not make me work hard.

Last week I was in the queerest place and I had a blue ribbon tied to my halter, many people came to look at me and admire me. Across the way I could see numerous cattle, sheep and pigs, so I suppose I must have been at an exhibition. After a ride home on the train I was out in pasture, and nothing very exciting has happened since then.

R. B.

R-n-n: Please Sir I lost my history.
Teacher: When did you have it last?
R-n-n: Please, I had it this morning
Teacher: Are you sure?
R-n-n: Yes Sir quite sure
Teacher: Well as a matter of fact, I've had it up on my desk for three days.

C-r-b-t: Looking intently out of the window at a passing car when supposed to be working Algebra. Teacher let "X" equal the speed.

Miss McC-r-d-y very kindly treated the girls of Grade X and XI to chocolates given to her by—Can't you guess who?

Peanuts! Does P-t-r-i like peanuts? I'll say he does, especially the ones supplied by S-h-f-r-d.

Does C-o-k-r like arrowroot biscuits? I'll say she does Ha-Ha.

Who gave J. H-r-r-s the poppy? Somebody knows.

Contest

It was evident that in the school room a lively conversation was taking place between two of the scholars. On giving the conversation closer attention, it was soon determined that some contest had taken place a short time before, and apparently the decision had not suited some of the participants.

The contest had been a debate, the subject being "Resolved that we should have Free Trade". The affirmative side had won and Jim and Harry were having it "hot and heavy" as the slang expression is.

Jim with an indignant toss of his head said, "The next debate we have, we're going to have a fair judge or I won't go in it and a lot of the other fellows say they won't either." "Why what was wrong with the judge? you'r the only one I've heard complain about the decision, I'd like to see you judge anything half as good, that was a hard subject to get anyone to judge". "Huh, hard to judge you know right well that that judge is a strong liberal and Free Trade is the main plank in the Liberal Platform, he would have given it to the affirmative side supposing they didn't have a one point" Oh you

just peevish because the side you were on didn't win. That judge has decided dozens of debates, and if he wasn't fair they wouldn't always ask him again. How do you know he's a Liberal anyway? Well its easily seen, and the old school bell which always seems to intrude when a conversation is at its most important part, put an end to the lively argument till after school at least.

Johnnie's Answer

Teacher:—If a farmer raised 1700 bushels of wheat and sells it at \$1.00 per bushell, what will he get?
Johnnie—"A motor car".

FIELDING OR LAURIER,

WHO IS RIGHT?

Mr. Fielding in his opening campaign speech in Halifax, made the statement, that if in 1914 Sir Robert Borden had proposed to Sir Wilfrid Laurier that a Union Government be formed, Sir Wilfrid would have accepted. Instead of that, Mr. Fielding claims, the Conservative Party held on to the patronage, and the party system, although it had come to the end of its tether. It then suggested Coalition or Union, but it was too late. It was too late for Sir Wilfrid Laurier but not too late for W. S. Fielding, for he joined the Union Government, and was elected. Who was right as to the opportune time for forming a Union Government, Mr. Fielding or Sir Wilfrid Laurier? Mr. Fielding contends Sir Wilfrid was right, therefore Mr. Fielding was wrong—Standard.

Northumberland's Opportunity—Elect McCurdy.

DOUBTS CENTENARIANS

CLAIMS TO BE INVESTIGATED IN THE UNITED STATES.

Some Important Information May Be Secured About People Who Live a Long Time—Dr. Woods Hutchinson Believes That Many of Them Will Turn Out To Be Fakes.

According to the latest American census returns there are no fewer than 3,500 centenarians in the United States. Experts are to make a special study of this remarkable group for the general purpose of discovering how a person may live for a hundred years—whether most of them came from parents who were long lived, what effect marriage or celibacy had upon them, what were their general habits, etc. It is the first time centenarians as a class have been examined, and no doubt some interesting information will be the result. It will also be interesting to know if people really do live for one hundred years. Dr. Woods Hutchinson, the well-known American physician and publicist, said a few years ago that he disbelieved the claims of all centenarians. They claimed to be centenarians because it attracted attention to them and won for them a consideration they would not be given otherwise.

Dr. Hutchinson called attention to the fact that the great majority of centenarians were people in humble life, whose birth certificates would not be matters of importance at the time they came into the world. A great many of them in the United States are negroes, and in slavery days the records of negroes' births were not officially kept. Dr. Hutchinson said that many supposed centenarians advanced their claims in the full belief that they were justified. After they got old they would tell how as boys or girls they remembered some great event, such as the soldiers marching to war. They might assume that this was the War of Independence, whereas it might have been the Mexican war. As their minds failed they would gradually come to believe that they had seen some of the notable men of the early days in which they were supposed to have lived, this idea having been suggested to them by people who would inquire if they had ever met Washington or Webster or Jefferson.

However, Dr. Hutchinson's idea was a mere theory, and if there are 3,500 people in the United States who claim to be one hundred years old surely all of them cannot be mistaken. The chances of their being centenarians to-day are greater than ever before, if we except the great ages claimed for some Biblical characters, for the average span of human life is steadily increasing. Some decades ago, twenty-two was the average age in the United States. It is now thirty. As regards the ages of the worthies of the Old Testament some authorities believe that the "years" were merely the lunar changes, and that Methuselah was really 95 months old instead of 959 years. His father, Enoch, is said to have been 365 years old, but if the month theory is to hold with him, he was a youth of thirty when he died. Other authorities say that the age attributed to these patriarchs should really have been ascribed to their tribes.

Modern science is agreed that the "three score years and ten" of the Psalmist was a mere figure of speech and that many persons are strong and vigorous at this age. It is not years that bring age, but changes in the composition of the body. It is true that these come, as a rule, with advancing years, but not always. An examination of the tissues and blood might show in many cases that a man who had lived for seventy years was in truth not more than fifty years old. A man is as old as his arteries, as a philosopher has said. His birth-dates have nothing to do with it. American records show many cases of men past eighty marrying and rearing families. Some of the alleged centenarians have married. Jacob Shell, who claims to be the oldest man in the United States, if not in the world, and who is certainly an antique, is the reputed father of a little child.

A Virginia veteran, who says he is 102 and has forty-five great-grandchildren, declares that probably he will get married again, and says it will be time for him to die when he ceases to take pleasure in the company of a pretty girl. From Iowa comes the report of a farmer, aged 90, who was married the seventh time a short time ago, his bride being 78. The present wife is the sister of the first six wives, marrying into that family being a habit that has got the better of the farmer. A woman who said she was 119 years old was recently arrested for intoxication in Iowa. It is important that such cases should be examined to determine if the preservative qualities of alcohol are really as great as has been claimed.

Mark Twain's Imagination.

Mark Twain had such a vivid imagination, such a brain for embroidery, that it was a difficult task for him to tell a straight story just as it happened—he could make up one that was so much better. Albert Bigelow Paine, working on the Mark Twain "Life" found it necessary to discard much of the autobiographic material that Mark Twain had written. Investigation, talks with men still living who knew the facts, simply proved that the tales were not so. And Mark Twain was no liar. He had a glorious, an almost super-human, imagination. As he approached threescore and ten he said, as quoted in the "Life," "When I was younger I could remember anything, whether it happened or not; but I am getting old and soon I shall remember only the latter."

CHANGING SCENES—MOVIE POLITICS

In view of the tactics exhibited by King, Crerar and Co, the conclusion is forced upon the people, that the everlasting turning round, and facing about they indulge in, in the public advocacy of whatever policy, or policies they have, must be necessary to suit the exigency of their position as they see it. Taking for granted that they mean all they say, any one who follows their canvass closely and intelligently, cannot fail to see the contradictions and differences they indulge in. A dozen speakers or candidates will give a dozen different policies, and seems to have gone "on his own hook," and no matter how he faced, three-faced, or any other face it may be, it is all the "Gospel truth of Liberalism, and it is this hodge-podge the electors are asked to support. So many Railways policies have been announced and advocated on Liberal platforms, that it is hard to tell just where they are, other than a confused mess of uncertainties and differences. Any man of common sense not dominated by a craven and unreasonable party spirit, cannot fail to see how unreliable any party must be, whose position has to be bolstered up, in such a way. Judging by the tone of the public press every Province of the Dominion is witness to their inconsistencies. Even taking the reports of various speakers and candidates as given in the Liberal Press alone; the proof of their dodging, twisting and turning is evident.

enough. In fact it is the summing up, and examining the evidence as given by some of these Liberal Journals independent of their Editorial opinions—which compels Government supporters, to the opinion, that in the present crisis, the placing in power of the King—Crerar—Fielding kind of a Liberal party, would be the worst thing which could happen to Canada, on December 6th. La Minerve a French newspaper of Quebec has become so disgusted with them, that it is led to say "Liberals" have a different policy for each different audience, and a different program for every constituency. In addressing a meeting where Laborers are they declare that the farmer's ask too high a price for their produce, and then "go for" the Government, for not compelling them to take less, to keep down the cost of living. When addressing farmers, they will say that working men demand too high wages, for too few hours of work, and here again the government should interfere. Where they think the Electors favor Free Trade, it is dished up to them in great style, and if they come across a bunch of Protectionists, they are first quality in that direction. No playacter on the stage could surpass them. Their programme is everlastingly changing—like the Movies. Canada needs something more stable than that. It needs a National Policy, the governing of the people, for all the people, by the people—not a class government.

Northumberland needs McCurdy give him your support on December 6th.

CHATHAM CATHEDRAL

On Sunday the 13th, the R. C. Congregation of the neighboring town, moved upstairs for worship. Services for many years had been held in the basement, but now, in the Cathedral proper, they can worship, as the "Chatham World" says in the beautiful edifice that stands as a monument to the labor and zeal of the late Bishop Barry, and we would add, to all who liberally assisted him in his worthy work.

The cathedral has a seating capacity of about 2000, is beautifully finished interiorly and is perhaps not surpassed in this respect by any cathedral east of Quebec city. There are several large pillars of imitation marble of variegated coloring, the pulpit is of the same material, the sanctuary rail is marble, the pews and wainscoting are of oak, the ceiling and walls are in ornamental designs, the floor is of polished hardwood and has an incline so as to permit of a free view of the altar from the rear. There are no visible electric light fixtures to mar the beauty or disfigure the walls, the light being reflected from above through corrugated glass windows at either side. The building is steam heated.

GOVERNMENT ROOMS

"The Labor Hall, near Hennessy's store has been opened as committee rooms, for the party. All supporters and friends of Mr. E. A. McCurdy, the chosen candidate, are welcome.

NEW LAW PARTNERSHIP

A new legal partnership, under the name of McDade and Barry, has been formed at Chatham. They will carry on their business in the Benson block, over the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Mr. McDade is already well, and favorably known, in his profession, and he now has associated with him in Mr. Barry, a talented former pupil of St. Thomas's and Bachelor of Arts, who has devoted the past three years to the study of the law, and been admitted recently, with honors to the Bar of New Brunswick.

When you want anything you have to go after it. That's the way McCurdy does and will do when he goes to Ottawa.

NATURALLY

(Hamilton Herald)
"Naturally, the sight of all those war munitions would throw a terrible scare into Mackenzie King, who is by temperament as well as principle a man of peace."

Naturally, Didn't he save his skin, during the war by retiring to a peaceful rest, across the border? and now he wants to be Premier of the country, he didn't fight for. The gall of it. Great Scott. It is enough to make the brave sons of Canada, who fought to the death turn in their graves.

ON THE STUMP

The following old lines, are dedicated to Mr. MacKenzie King, without permission.
I love to watch the rooster crow,
He's like so many men I know,
Who brag and bluster, rant and shout
And beat their manly chests, without
The least darn'd thing to brag about

Women of North'd vote for McCurdy and make this County a better place to live in.

The Vital Issue

"What we have to decide is this—Are we going to continue the protective system of this country or are we not? That is the question and that is the whole question. And the great, big, necessary thing is that every voter in this country from the Yukon to Halifax knows that this is the question he or she is deciding when he or she votes in this great contest."

—ARTHUR MEIGHEN

The vital issue in the coming election—in fact, the only issue—is the Tariff, and to every clear thinking Canadian it should be readily apparent that a Protective Fiscal Policy is absolutely essential to stability, progress and development.

Every important country in the world upholds Protection as an essential economic principle. Even Great Britain—so long the stronghold of Free Trade—has now adopted laws that constitute Protection of the most effective kind. In fact, the present policy among most nations is towards raising their tariff walls, not lowering them. In the face of these facts it would be suicidal for Canada to do exactly the reverse and discard the fiscal system which has been responsible for its progress during the past forty-three years.

Free Trade would mean death to Canadian Industry. It would also result in the immediate closing down of Canadian plants of foreign firms, with consequent additional unemployment. There are to-day 650 American factories alone in Canada. Similar proposed ventures would be abandoned. New capital would refuse to come

to a Country lacking adequate protection and present industrial enterprise would be promptly strangled by foreign competition.

The preservation of the home market by a Reasonable Protective Tariff is vital to both city dweller and agrarian alike—now as never before. More capital is urgently needed for the development of Canada's enormous resources, which will result in a lessening of unemployment and an increased population. More work and more workers will produce an enlarged home market for products of both city and farm, and the exodus of Canadian men and women—and the dollars they earn—will be precluded.

The United States has slammed her trade door in the face of Canadian farmers by adopting the Fordney Bill, and the farmer is consequently now even more dependent upon the home market than in the past.

Yet Crerar asks you to destroy that home market by voting for Free Trade.

King's policy—if he has one—will result in the destruction of the Tariff.

Meighen stands four square for Reasonable Protection—Protection for all the people—and asks for an overwhelming mandate to give both industry and agriculture that assurance which will spell prosperity for all. Individual prosperity depends upon National prosperity. Your personal interests and Canada's very existence hang upon your vote.

Meighen will lead us through

The National Liberal and Conservative Party Publicity Committee

Make the Majority Large For

McCURDY.