

to discuss the Canadian tree. H. R. the Duke of Connaught will preside over the gathering. By giving his patronage to the Forestry Convention the Duke of Connaught follows in the footsteps of Earl Grey in evincing active interest in the problem of our natural resources.

Calgary's Engineer.

CALGARY is in danger of losing its civic engineer, whose name is Child. That official the other day submitted his annual report to the City Council, and almost before anyone had digested it, he received a telegram from the neighbouring city of Moosejaw offering him a job at \$5,000 a year, which is more than Calgary pays him.

Calgary doesn't want to lose Engineer Child. He's a worker. Here's the list of improvements he made in Calgary in 1911:

Sewers, 33 miles; 1,938 sewer connections; 38 miles of waterworks; 2,597 water connections; 11 stand-pipes; 76 boulevard taps; 12 miles of pavement; 20 miles of sidewalk; 20 miles of curb and gutter; 304 catch-basins; 9 miles of conduit, and 336 sewer manholes.

A Hangman Saving Souls.

IN Toronto, an evangelist has been holding forth who has attracted much attention. He was not always an evangelist. Indeed, his former profession was in marked contrast to his present one. He was wont not to save but destroy. He was a hangman—public executioner to the British Government. After having hung upwards of 200 people, James Berry decided to retire and save souls. In an interview at Toronto the other day, he stated that the reason for his deserting the Government service was his fixed belief that every year many innocent persons are hanged.

Convention in Fredericton.

FREDERICTON is preparing for a great convention this year—the Federation of Canadian Clubs. Last year, the Federation convened in Winnipeg. On that occasion, a Fredericton man, Dr. W. S. Carter, was elected president, and Fredericton chosen as the meeting place for this year.

Dr. Carter is getting things in order for Fredericton's reception to the delegates, who will probably be invited to the city in September. One hundred representatives of the different Canadian Clubs throughout the Dominion are expected.

A Real Water-Melon.

MONCTON, N. B., has been making money out of water. Some time ago the city expropriated the waterworks and decided to run it.

Recently, Mayor Reilly, of Moncton, after conferring with the City Treasurer, made the announcement that \$21,390.92 stood to the profit of the city in its water account for the past year.

The civic officials in Moncton are trying to devise some plan for diverting the surplus to a good cause. Some have suggested that the extra water money be applied to reducing the civic taxes.

A Veteran Civil Servant.

MONTREAL lost a veteran civil servant when the new year bells were ringing two weeks ago, in the person of Mr. William D. Robb, who resigned the position of City Treasurer. Mr. Robb enjoys the unique distinction of having held office under twenty-one Mayors. Advanced age alone has compelled his retirement. Mr. Robb, who is a Scotsman by birth, is 75 years old. He once attributed his long fortitude in office to his custom of resting his figure-haunted brain by writing poetry! Much verse from the ex-Treasurer's pen has appeared in various periodicals.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell's Birthday.

DROP into the Rideau Club at Ottawa, or the Albany at Toronto, and you may see a hale old gentleman expounding the politics of the

day to a crowd of much younger men, their chairs drawn close around him. He is Sir Mackenzie Bowell, who had a birthday on December 27. The knight of newspaperdom tripped blithely into his 88th year. He looks thirty years younger.

Last election, the venerable politician was getting letters every day urg-



SIR MACKENZIE BOWELL, Belleville, Who has just celebrated his 88th birthday.

ing him to address meetings on reciprocity. But the noisy political meeting is perhaps a little too strenuous a place for a man of 88. Sir Mackenzie does not now make many platform appearances. Though his great age keeps him out of the thick of political fights, yet Sir Mackenzie Bowell does not let himself become rusty on matters of public interest. He is right up to the minute on every happening; perhaps his up-to-date-ness may be explained by the fact that he has been a newspaperman for just 77 years! All that time he has been connected with one paper. When he was eleven years old, he entered the office of the Belleville Intelligencer. He still has an interest in that journal. All his life centres about the printing office in Belleville. It was there he first got in touch with the political principles his exposition of which in later years made him Prime Minister of Canada; it was in his editorial chair, indeed, Sir Mackenzie Bowell laid the foundation of his very home life—for as a young man he married the editor's daughter. May many more years roll round and find Sir Mackenzie still with copy paper before him.

Advertising Quebec

(From the Ottawa Free Press.)

ADVICES from London state that the visit there of Hon. Charles R. Devlin, the Minister of Colonization of the sister province, is resulting in a distinct boom for Quebec interests. He has made it clear that the Quebec Government has no intention of minimizing the work done by the Federal Government in advertising Canada as a whole, but he lays stress upon the desire of his colleagues to create a home in London for visitors from Quebec and to interest British investors in the opportunities which Quebec offers to them.

The Quebec Government is not looking with as much earnestness for settlers as are some of the other provinces, but it is quite evidently awake to the advantages of publicity as regards the industrial openings and the sporting attractions which the province has, and the new Agent-General, Dr. Pelletier, will have in his new office a continuous up-to-date exhibit of all that Quebec has to offer to the capitalist, the tourist and sportsman.

Mr. Devlin, who enjoys the distinction of being the only minister of the Crown in Canada who has had seats in three Parliaments in the Empire, has been greatly feted by his old friends at Westminster and especially by the Irish party, of which he was once so valuable a member.

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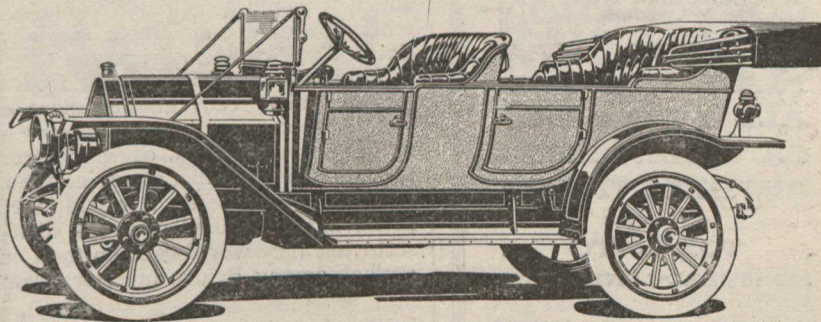
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