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VON SEY

ned in music. I am 72 years old and never g like it."—JOACHIM.

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the water power and mode and cost of development. He says it will cost \$83,800 for 100 horse-power, or \$118,580 for 5000 horse-power. This money must be spent.

WILL BE BRILLIANT FUNCTION.

Opening of First Conservative Parliament in 33 Years Will Be Notable.

The indications are that the opening of the provincial legislature on March 22 will be one of the most brilliant social events of the kind ever witnessed in Ontario.

It is 33 years since the Conservative women of Ontario, and especially of Toronto, have had such an opportunity as will be presented next month. They will not fail to make the most of the opportunity.

The invitations to the opening will include many of the social leaders of Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, London and other towns and the wives of the new cabinet members, as well as the ladies of other prominent conservative families, will unite to make the event one long to be remembered.

QUICKNESS DECEIVES THE EYE.

Prof. Abbott's Lecture on Saturday on "After Images."

The university lecture on Saturday afternoon was given by Prof. Abbott, his subject being, "After Images."

His lecture dealt with after-effects upon the retina, produced by the sensations of light and color. A stick pulled out of a fire and waved in a circle gives to the eye the appearance of a flaming circle. Here is only the one spot, and what the eye sees is an after image.

By means of discs divided into various proportions of black and white, revolving at different speeds, he was able to show that first the eye could follow the black and white; at another speed there was fusion and a grey formed, just as the two were mixed together.

BOND STREET'S NEW PASTOR.



Rev. J. B. Sileo of Lansing, Mich., has been invited to accept the pastorate of Bond-street Congregational Church, and will accept. He was pastor of Western Congregational Church, this city, for seven years, and is a brother of Rev. E. D. Sileo of Zion Congregational Church.

Concert at House of Providence.

A very delightful concert was given by Miss Jessie Maroub and her pupils at the House of Providence, Power-street, on Saturday afternoon. Miss Macnab's vocal solo, "The Shamrock," was beautifully rendered and received in hearty acclaim. Miss Macnab was assisted by Miss Annie McKay, pianist; Miss Ronald and Little Miss Reid, whose Scotch and Irish dances were most gracefully executed. The nurses of a Nursing-at-Home Mission, Hayter-st., rendered a chorus.

Glimpses of the Political Field

The very nature of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech on the autonomy bill is proof that the granting of separate schools to the minority in the new provinces is something more than the simple working out of the constitution. Sir Wilfrid spoke for two hours and a half, and the deliverance is ranked as one of the four great political speeches of his life. The topic to which he devoted two-thirds of his time which inspired his finest oratorical outbursts was the school question. The other features of the bill, important as they were, ranked as mere incidents in the speech. And why all this array of rhetoric, this stately flow of rhetoric, this appeal to human sympathies, if the separate schools are the clear and obvious constitutional right of the minority? Sir Wilfrid did not rest his case on the constitution. The constitutional arguments which he advanced were in fact a very small part of his speech. His speech was an appeal rather than an argument.

Sir Wilfrid's reasons for justifying separate schools and denouncing secular schools are not readily apparent. What was his reason for thus aggravating the sores which the bill itself was certain to inflict on the Protestant sentiment of the country? Was it a spontaneous outburst of the fervor of his faith or was it the product of design? Sir Wilfrid has never been suspected of entertaining strong religious prejudices or beliefs. He has never been a man of convictions in politics, and this is probably one reason why he has been generally supposed to have a reasonably open mind on questions of religion. The earnestness of his defence of separate schools and the utterly absurd extremes to which he carried his argument would justify different conclusions as to the intensity of his faith, if substantial motives were not to be found.

It is just possible that there was method in the madness of the premier's fulsome tributes to separate schools. Those who come behind him naturally, by reason of his great concessions to the minority, will be stronger both in number and in loyalty. To them he must look for support when the people pass judgment on the autonomy bill. Having gone practically all the way in conceding the demands of the minority, he thought he might as well go the rest.

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Plan at Nordheimer's Tuesday, 28th.

of the way and round up the vote to which he must ultimately look for protection. What would have happened had Sir Wilfrid rested his case on a feeble constitutional point and if he had rather discountenanced separate schools in speech while conceding them by act of parliament? Such a course would not have brought to his side any considerable number of those who oppose the shackling of the new provinces on general principles. The more Sir Wilfrid's speech is examined the more it reveals a bold policy, the cutting down of the bridges between him and one section of the community and a straight bid to another section to be true to the party which has been true to it.

If there was ever any hope that the autonomy bill would be discussed without touching its religious aspects, that hope did not survive Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech. Sir Wilfrid threw down the gauntlet on that question, which has excited so much animosity and bitterness in this country—the question of separate schools. He justified separate schools and insulted believers in national schools by insinuating that they are contributors to lynchings, murder and divorce. The challenge which he has thrown out will be accepted as a matter of course. The debate will really turn on the question of the Dominion parliament's right to gratuitously fasten separate schools on the west for all time. The merits and demerits of separate schools will be argued out on the floor of the house. Sir Wilfrid has linked up church and state, and it follows that passion and prejudice must be aroused in discussing the issue thus forced upon the people. When the church comes into politics it cannot claim immunity from political attack. The church has projected itself into Canadian politics and it must bear the penalty of its aggression.

It is regrettable that the prime minister for party reasons chose to defend separate schools with so much heat. In so doing he invited an issue which otherwise might have been avoided. If he had clung to his original position that the constitution laid an imperative duty on parliament the question of autonomy could have been argued without arguing the merits of separate schools. Members who might have been prepared to regard the re-enactment of the separate schools clause as a necessary evil will not readily have it thrust down their throats in giving the west separate schools they are giving what is best for the west. The constitutional aspect of the autonomy bill has all but dropped out of sight, and except in its relation to the right of parliament to usurp the legislative functions of a province, it will have a secondary place in the debates.

No man more than Sir Wilfrid Laurier appreciates the importance of the autonomy bill, or the influence which the legislation may have on the fortunes of the two great historic parties. His speech shows that he regarded the issue as the most delicate one he has had to deal with since he assumed the cares and responsibilities of a prime minister. He had advisers who assured him that the safe way of dealing with the schools clause was to treat it lightly, to picture it as the simple exaction of the constitution and to dismiss the subject in an hour's speech. How completely Sir Wilfrid ignored this advice is seen in the fact that he set himself out to make the effort of his life. He knows public opinion as few other men in Canada know it. He knows when he can afford to ignore public opinion, he knows when he can afford to trifles with it and he knows when he has to reason with it. His speech of Tuesday last was an effort to reason with the public. He stated the whole facts of the case with reasonable fairness, hoping thus to intensify the loyalty of his natural friends and mitigate at the same time the feeling of the natural enemies of his course. That Sir Wilfrid had the correct perspective of the question no one will deny. The question is, did he take the safest way of placing it before the public?

Autonomy is no word to suit the conditions under which the new provinces are to enter the Dominion. Their crown lands are retained by the Dominion. Their school lands are to a very considerable extent made the property of separate schools. An iniquitous educational system is forced upon them. Thus shackled, Alberta and Sas-

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Sherlock Holmes—NEXT WEEK—Sherlock Holmes

Saskatchewan will start on their career as provinces on the first of July next. The legislation is not creditable to the Laurier government. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had the chance of his lifetime to rise to the heights of courageous statesmanship by simply laying down the principle that the west should be free. Between the opportunity that offered and the legislation which has been introduced is a far, very far cry. There is something pathetic in the circumstances under which Alberta and Saskatchewan enter upon their new life. They have been shorn of their rights, they have been forced to link up their future with denominational schools, and for these invasions of their rights they are rewarded with federal gold. Patriotic Canadians may with good reason be apprehensive of the future. Alberta and Saskatchewan have a joint area of something like 500,000 square miles. To-day they have a population of about one to the square mile. The day may come when this country of 500,000 square miles, expanded into millions of liberty-loving people, will feel the restriction of their educational freedom. When that day arrives the west will not judge the rights and wrongs of the situation in their relation to a hoary act of parliament.

No strong argument has been put forth to justify federal retention of the crown lands of the new provinces. It is absurd to argue that the provinces would allow the lands to be exploited to a greater extent than the Dominion would permit. Some of these days the country will learn how the crown lands in the west have been administered under Hon. Clifford Sifton. No provincial government could have a worse record than has the Laurier government in the administration of public

lands. The public lands are the great political engine of the west in much the same way that the International Railway has been made the great political engine in the maritime provinces. The Dominion is not the natural custodian of these lands. It has too many issues to give the administration of crown lands that eminence which it deserves.

Bubbles. Variety artist—the weatherman. Don't open an egg with a hatchet. Even a sick room may look well. The florist deals in watered stocks. Historically speaking, that cherry tree is cut and dried.

Should painted blushes ever be described as "false shame?"

When traveling for a good appetite, is it advisable to go to Hungary? Washington was the father of his country, but Pennsylvania is the "Pa." of States.

The works of a presented watch are "within the given time."

In nailing a lie, it is necessary to hit the nail on the head.

A man trying to prove his ancestry sometimes backs up the wrong family tree.

Slighting an acquaintance is always more than a slight mistake.

Burglars don't stop to sprinkle when they clean out the "dust" in a bank.

It is trying to long for anything, and then fall short of getting it.

There's nothing to prevent left-handed people looking out for their rights.

To get a good puff from an editor give him a first-class cigar.

A telephone message is one of the things that never goes without saying.

The detective who gets up at night in his bare feet is often on the wrong track.

It is indeed an artistic cook who calls the kitchen her "stewardio."

"Your name's engraved upon my heart!" he said.

"Well, that's all right," she answered, "let it be."

So long as its engraved—'twould look so cheap.

If it were only printed, don't you see?"

A PULL ALL TOGETHER, OH!

Householders Ought to Take a Hand in Preventing Flood Troubles.

A well known business man makes this suggestion in regard to the approaching thaw: "As the city will be unable to get the street gutters clear in time to cope with the effects of the coming thaw, every householder ought to do a little in that direction himself, by getting out himself, or having his man or his boy set to work, to make a little run away in the gutter below the level of the sidewalk fronting his premises and also make an effort to open up the gutter traps where they are covered with ice, even if it is necessary to get a pail of hot water to do it.

"If every trap is opened and passage made in the gutters there will be no trouble in getting the water to run away. This all means that the city will be free of slush and ready for clean spring business a week ahead of what will otherwise be the case if some such relief measures are not attempted.

DRAGGED HALF-MILE BENEATH TRAIN

Brakeman Meets With Awful End in City Yards.

Francois Lalond, a G. T. R. brakeman met with a fearful death in the city yards on Saturday. Although it is not known just how it occurred, it is evident that the unfortunate young man, caught on the brake gear, was dragged for at least a half a mile after having probably fallen from the top of a box car beneath the wheels of the train.

When the train, which left Strachan-ave. crossing, stopped at North Parkdale, the body was seen by other trainmen.

Lalond was 22 years of age and belonged to Montreal. The body was taken to the morgue. Corner Powell may order an inquest.

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