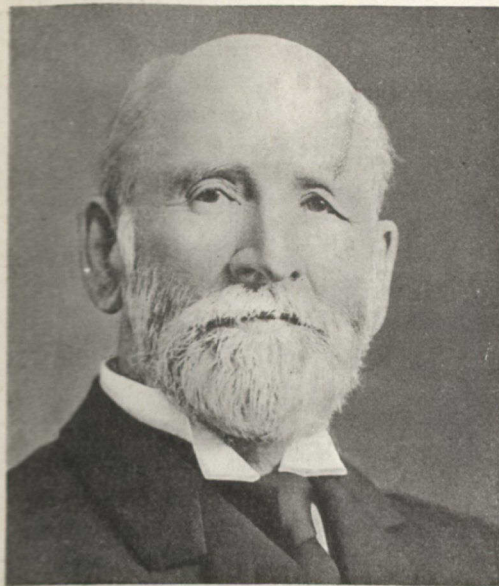


MEN OF TO-DAY

PASSING GLIMPSES OF PUBLIC MEN AT HOME AND ABROAD



A Beginner of Things

Mr. J. H. Smith originated Farmers' Institutes.

Ontario. The institutes were the forerunner of the department.

The first farmers' institute meeting in Ontario was held in Hamilton in January, 1884. Mr. J. H. Smith presided. He was then school inspector. Driving twice a year over the townships to see how the farmers' children were learning the three R's, he got a first-hand knowledge of how the children's parents were doing on the land—many a store-side talk where he unhitched for over-night. In the fall of '83 Mr. Smith went with a friend to visit the Ontario Agricultural College, and President Mills, fresh from the headmastership of the Brantford Collegiate Institute. They talked of how to interest the farmers in the O. A. C. Mr. Smith told Mr. Mills how he was getting pedagogues interested in teachers' institute work.

"Why not try a scheme like that on the farmers?" posed Mr. Mills.

"Good idea!" said Mr. Smith, who called the first meeting in Ontario. Mr. Mills sent along some of his farm professors to help out the programme. About a hundred and fifty farmers assembled. Six addresses were given, on such various subjects as farm management, agricultural chemistry, stock-raising and fruit-growing.

This meeting was such a brimming success that several others were held during the year. In 1885 a central institute was formed. Mr. G. C. Creelman, who has since stepped into his father-in-law's shoes as president of the O. A. C., was the first superintendent. Very shortly afterwards the voice of the organised farmers—not the squeak of the old Grangers' movement or the wail of the patrons of Industry—was heard so loud in the land that a Department of Agriculture was created in the Ontario Government and a Minister of Agriculture appointed. Now there are a hundred farmers' institutes in Ontario, with a total membership of about 22,000, an aggregate of nearly a thousand meetings in a year, with over three thousand papers read and discussed. Such is the unelected parliament of the Ontario farmers, whose existence is due primarily to the gentleman whose picture appears at the top of this page.

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A MANAGER OF MEN

BIG "Bob" Fleming is built enough like big "Bill" Taft to be his twin brother. And these two red-blooded, thick-chested men of affairs and managers of men have more in common than mere looks. Each is proverbially as good-natured as a summer sunrise, and each knows how to make the birds twitter when he gets up and fairly squared away to the business of a day's work.

It's a little doubtful whether President Fleming of the United States would be a top-notch in the story of rulers; but it's a sure gamble that Manager Taft of the Toronto Street Railway Company would be next door to a complete failure. He who doubts this, or that any other than "Bob" Fleming could manage that much-discussed corporation had better read the story of the last "agreement" between the Toronto Street Railway and its employees, the sequel to which apparently came within an ace of being a general strike of a big city's traction hands. That agreement began to be skirmished at away last May. Since

MAKER OF FARM HISTORY

IT seems ancient history to talk about the time when there was no Department of Agriculture in the Ontario Government. But it's only a matter of about twenty years since that province has had a Minister of Agriculture—good old days of John Dryden! Remember the Grits. However, it's not so much a matter of politics, but of farm progress that concerns the career of Mr. J. H. Smith, the creator of the first farmers' institutes in

that time no end of conferences; only to break away again into corners, making it necessary to ring in a board of conciliation under the Lemieux Act; which board, with its unwearying chairman, Judge Barron, occupied two weeks more of negotiations when so far as newspaper reports were concerned, a spark might set up an explosion any minute, and a couple of hundred thousand people begin walking to work and home again till such time as the service could have been efficiently manned. This, too, fair on the eve of the Canadian National Exhibition, when hundreds of thousands more must be ported to the grounds and back.

Of course Mr. Fleming didn't have all to do with the company's side of the case; and there came a time when the crux of the situation depended mainly on Mr. William Mackenzie. But it's safe gossip that Manager Fleming lost as much sleep as anybody over that strike-averting settlement, and up to a certain point had more than any other man to do with the actual negotiations.

Now it's all over for two years more, and the genial sunburst up at the street railway offices has time to smile as broadly as ever. But he's got the eternal grip on that traction problem if any man in Canada has; and he has the bulldog tenacity as well as the puzzling serenity of a man who knows how far he may juggle with the public, and at the same time manage his men.

No doubt of it, Fleming is a prize men-manager. He knows how to inspire loyalty. There's nothing of the cad or the upstart about him now, more than there was when he was Mayor of Toronto. Besides, he has succeeded in helping circumstances to add a comfortable hundred thousand dollars a year to the annual profits of the company in the face of an extension of service and large increase in expenditure. Toronto has been talking "tubes" for twelve months too. But Manager Fleming kept his smile. He knows that for a few days at least the corporation which he represents will be carrying Toronto's thousands on the streets.

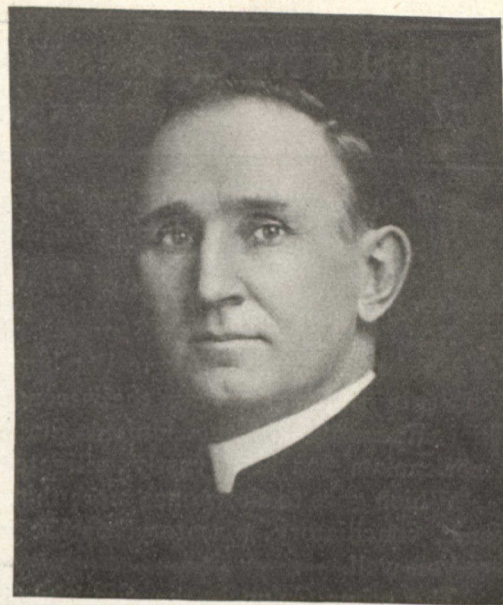
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A PROGRESSIVE BISHOP

PROBABLY the youngest bishop in Canada is Bishop A. U. de Pencier—not pronounced phonetically—who was lately put at the head of the diocese of New Westminster, that famous lacrosse city twelve miles from Vancouver. Adam Urias de Pencier was then rector of St. Paul's Church in Vancouver. He is a remarkably successful man, who had he devoted his brains to other business than clerics might have been a captain of industry.

Bishop de Pencier was born in Burrill's Rapids, down in Grenville County, Ontario, about forty years ago. From Kemptville High School he went to Trinity University, from which he graduated in arts and theology in 1895. His first charge was the parish of Marion, near Ottawa. He soon got up to Toronto as curate of St. Alban's—which is the real cathedral of Toronto, and now engaged in a huge financial effort to finish up a \$300,000 edifice, begun over twenty years ago. Next rector of Uxbridge—famous for organs—he was shifted back to Toronto, where he became senior curate of St. James', which is only the alleged cathedral of Toronto; since members of St. James' have family inheritance and burial ground under the cathedral and cathedral seat holdings must of necessity be free.

Out to Brandon was Rev. Mr. de Pencier's next move. Here he became rector of St. Matthew's and rural dean. In 1908 he left Brandon for Vancouver. Now he is Bishop of New Westminster. Which is swift progress!



A Progressive Cleric

Rev. A. U. de Pencier is one of the youngest of Bishops.



Big, Overwhelming and Genial.

R. J. Fleming is a rare combination of qualities that manage men.