

AGRICULTURE

The Provincial Government's Way and the Opposition, a Divergency of Opinion -- Wanted a Policy.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, March 7.—That the so-called opposition in the legislature is leaderless, policyless and tactless since the translation to the Supreme Court Bench of the brains of the party is more evident each passing day and plainly evidenced in every move the opposition who sit at the left of the Speaker make. Mr. Robinson's indifference is self-evident. Mr. Copp's aggressiveness does not inspire that confidence essential in a leader; Mr. Tweeddale's twaddle excites only derision; and whom have we left in the Opposition ranks that counts for a hauberk?

Last year Mr. Robinson's following was named "the unlucky thirteen," and the name sticks. They seem to be unable to agree upon any united line of criticism, or suggestive policy; such launches out for himself and all are at sixes and sevens. This was with regard to the attitude of the nominal leader of the Opposition and his following in the matter of agricultural societies.

An Awakened Interest. The government announced that because of the energetic action of the department of agriculture last year and the assistance and encouragement given the farmers that eighteen new agricultural societies had been formed and others were in process of organization. The department of agriculture took some credit for this, but was more concerned in the fact that it showed an awakening on the part of the agriculturists and a tendency to organize and co-operate that meant incalculable good for the greatest industry of the province. The old government once tried to encourage such organization, but did it in such a half-hearted and desultory way, that there were fewer than twenty in their last year of office than for several years previously. Under the beneficial influence of the dry rot which had set in in the department of agriculture, the farmers of the province as a whole were becoming discouraged and listless.

The total grants to agricultural societies in 1909 was \$3,000, and by \$124 than in the previous year, because of the diminishing number of societies. Last year the grants to the societies had grown to nearly ten thousand dollars, \$9,917.34, while for this year the appropriation for this purpose secured by the Commissioner for Agriculture was increased to three thousand dollars, or \$3,000.

Tweeddale's Twaddle. Mr. Tweeddale's twaddle the other day is responsible for the brilliant idea that the formation of new agricultural societies was an injury to those already in existence because the amount of grants to each would be proportionately reduced. Hon. Mr. Landry gives his quietus to such twaddle in appropriating an increased grant for these societies of three thousand dollars.

Now, see where the Opposition stand in the matter of encouragement to the farmers to organize. In the debate the speaker from the throne Mr. Robinson said:

"It was satisfactory to know that Agricultural Societies were on the increase, and that the important question of stock had not occasioned so large a loss as previously."

He apparently believes in agriculturists organizing for mutual profit, as does Mr. Landry. The Commissioner for agriculture, whose opinions in these matters therefore entitle him to special recognition, for he said:

"The government should, and perhaps was ready to increase the grants to agricultural societies from \$3,000 to \$10,000 or \$12,000. Through the agricultural societies was the best way to reach the farmer."

Mr. Copp. But hear Mr. Copp, whose aspirations to the Opposition leadership are so pronounced that he even takes the bit between his teeth and assumes to lead that side of the House even when Mr. Robinson is present. In this same debate and after his leader had spoken, Mr. Copp said:

"It was claimed that the government measures in aid of this industry (agriculture) had been a great success simply because some eight or nine additional agricultural societies had been established. He was not a practical farmer himself, but a very large number of his friends in Westmorland were, and the general consensus of opinion among them so far as he could gather and he had taken every opportunity to learn, was THAT THESE SOCIETIES WERE ABSOLUTELY NO GOOD AT ALL AND NO BENEFIT WHATEVER WAS DERIVED FROM THEM. Among the farmers of Westmorland very few took the trouble to exhibit at the Sackville Fair and not more than one quarter attended it. By bonusing these societies the government was not taking the proper way to stimulate and encourage agriculture."

When the Opposition agree among themselves upon a definite policy on agriculture, or any other subject, they may be in a position to offer intelligent criticism, or feasible suggestions to the government; but until they do neither the House nor the country will take them seriously.

Common Knowledge. Mr. Copp's utter indifference to the welfare of the farmers has long been common knowledge, but it has not come out in the House so strongly and unequivocally against their best interests is a matter of surprise and has called forth the strongest condemnation from some of the Opposition members, who see in this openly spoken hostility to the farmers' sad prospects of winning the favors and votes of the agriculturists. So indifferent is Mr. Copp that he did not even trouble to exhibit the fair held in Sackville, his home town, last fall, nor was he at either of the other Fall fairs held in his county. Much comment resulted at the time, but very few were willing to accuse him of such hostility to the farmers and agricultural societies as his remarks in the House a few days ago indicated.

They Have The Color Now



By feeding a white hen harmless dyes, Cornell professors have induced her to lay red eggs.

WORKS ON THE ANAESTHETIC

New York Chemist Hopes to Aid Surgery by Sleepy Grass -- Experimenting Now at Rockefeller Institute.

New York, Mar. 7.—In one of the laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute is a chemist daily engaged in delving into the mysteries of "Stipa vasyi." He expects to solve them, and when he does the institute will add to its many discoveries a new anesthetic, harmless, effective and delightful to take. "Stipa vasyi" has a common name. Cowboys and plainsmen, especially those herding cattle or sheep on the high plateaus of the Rocky Mountains, call it "sleepy grass."

One of the many agents of the Rockefeller Institute heard not long ago of a striking example of the powers of the wild hay at a "bronco busting" contest. He found out soon afterward that its chemical properties had been studied for generations. He gathered some of the grass and sent it to the institute, where a distillation was made and a gentle rabbit drank it.

The rabbit went to sleep. Experiments showed that the little animal did not suffer pain while under its influence. When it awoke it was as cheerful as once as if it had been under a refreshing slumber. The heart action had remained normal throughout. Unlike the much used anaesthetics, there was no after effect, and the whole institute staff was at once eager to find out what the plant was made of.

A chemist of proved ability received the task of satisfying the desire of the staff, and Dr. Simon Flexner, in charge of the institute felt that an addition to the aids of surgery was about to be made.

Results Not Far Off. Reports come from time to time from various sections of the country of the discovery of new and wonderful anaesthetics which will be free from the after effects often so injurious to persons with weak hearts. But none of these discoveries has so far proved of great value.

The sleepy grass has a promise, however, according to a person familiar with its properties and with what has already been discovered at the Rockefeller Institute that speaks early and satisfactory fulfillment.

This new method of denuding pain—and it is looked upon as practically assured—will not be inhaled to produce unconsciousness. It will be a drink and there will be none of the painful struggling against unconsciousness as when the present anaesthetics are taken.

There is probably no place in the world where analytical chemistry can bring to its aid more modern methods than at the institute endowed by John D. Rockefeller. From the progress made so far by the chemist the properties of "Stipa vasyi" are expected to be known in a comparatively short time. Means of making the anaesthetic available for surgeons will then be taken, but not, of course, until the most exhaustive experiments have been made to confirm its usefulness.

Lo Knew About It. At the "bronco busting" contest in the western part of Texas, where the cowboy is still lingering, victory was won by the Indians, and with ease. The fiery broncos, with records of untamable perversity and unwillingness to serve as mounts, were brought into subjection after a brief struggle.

The red men got away with the prizes under the suspicious scrutiny of the cowboys. It was not long after the winners had put miles between themselves and the tourney place before an investigation of their quarters showed that they had a supply of "sleepy grass."

ANGRY WITH LORD CURZON

Glasgow University, Which Elected Him Rector, Regrets That He Put Politics Before Duty to Institution.

London, March 7.—The students of Glasgow University are very angry with Lord Curzon. They paid him the compliment of electing him lord rector of the university and have been waiting ever since to install him. Twice Lord Curzon has written to postpone the appointed date for the ceremony at which, in accordance with custom, he has to deliver a rectorial address. This second postponement was more than the Glasgow students could stand. They summoned a mass meeting and censured his lordship for putting political engagements before his duty to the university. On receiving a letter communicating this vote of censure Lord Curzon wrote and explained that he was engaged on his rectorial address, which he was suddenly called upon to undertake some political work of importance which he could neither decline nor postpone. He was sorry it was political, but these were the drawbacks of public life.

Even if he had been able to come on the date fixed, it would have been with a half empty wallet, for his address was not completed. Another mass meeting of the students was called to consider this letter, and after a lively discussion it was decided by 533 votes against 306 to reply to his lordship that the students of Glasgow saw no reason to rescind their motion of censure passed at the previous meeting.

As a result the Times says:—"We have reason to believe that Lord Curzon has forwarded his resignation of the office of Lord Rector."

The urgent political work which Lord Curzon could neither refuse nor postpone is understood to be the scheme for the reform of the House of Lords, which his lordships will bring forward themselves if they are not invited to co-operate with the government, which, as Lord Lansdowne said on Tuesday night, they are perfectly willing to do.

FISHERMEN UP IN ARMS

Not Satisfied With Commander Makeham's Report—Undue Weight Given to Arguments of Interested Parties.

Commander Makeham's report on the lobster fishing industry of the Bay of Fundy does not appear to meet with the approval of the fishermen interested. The report recommends that in district No. 1, which includes the Bay of Fundy from the Maine border to Cape Sable, and a portion of the southwestern shore of Nova Scotia, there should be an open season of 1-2 months with a size limit of 10-12 inches, while in the other districts the size limit should be abolished. It is alleged by the representatives of the Fishermen's Union of western Nova Scotia, that Commander Makeham has given undue weight to the arguments of parties interested in the packing industry or some big merger reaching out its tentacles to the fisheries of the Maritime Provinces, and bring the fishermen who have attained a fair measure of independence to a state of slavery.

The fishermen naturally are sparing of an income tax, but it prefers out of his purses to expose this subterfuge to the country.

No Trace Of Men. Niagara Falls, March 7.—After a systematic search the authorities announced yesterday that they could find no trace of the two men who were reported to have gone over the falls.

ROSEBERRY HAS PLAN FOR LORDS

Non-hereditary House His Relief Scheme -- No Constitutional Changes Can Be Made at Present.

London, March 7.—The true which will give a breathing spell to Parliament until after Easter is welcome to all parties and to the country at large. The Government is now committed to a single chamber policy, provision in regard to the hereditary members of the Cabinet. The dissenters' objections have been silenced for the present, at all events, by the life and death threats of their Irish and Radical allies. Meanwhile the Unionists will bring forward at the earliest possible moment a genuine scheme for the revision in regard to the House of Lords. The majority of the peers earnestly hope that Lord Roseberry's plan, which he is to introduce on March 14, will be such that the Unionists will be able to give it whole hearted support.

Details Unknown. Nothing is known as yet about the details of Lord Roseberry's scheme, but it is assumed that it will provide for at least a semi-democratic house in which none will be entitled to sit by a hereditary claim alone. It is expected that there will be some provision in regard to the 111 peers and that about half the members of the second chamber shall be elected either by direct vote or by local boards, such as county councils, the membership to continue, say, for twelve years.

These proposals have no authoritative origin. They simply represent roughly what the present House of Lords is perhaps willing to concede and what the country at large would probably accept as an adequate concession in regard to the demand for reform of the upper house.

It requires little political wisdom to justify the assertion that if the Asquith Government persists in the demand for the destruction of the Lords' veto, leaving that house as at present constituted, while the Unionists bring forward a policy similar to the one outlined above, the country will give its support overwhelmingly to Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Balfour, the Unionist leaders, and Lord Roseberry.

No change of any sort in the constitution or in the functions of the upper house can be made effective by the present Parliament. There is still talk by John Redmond, the leader of the Irish party, about demanding guarantees from the throne when the House of Lords throws out the anti-veto resolutions. It is a matter of common knowledge that the King will peremptorily refuse any such demand if made, universal demand for Premier Asquith will never make such a request of King Edward, if for no other reason than because his Majesty is so popular that the knowledge of his refusal would in itself defeat the Government when it appealed to the polls.

The budget meantime is dead in all but name. It would be possible for the Government to provide the main revenue within a week by passing a resolution authorizing the collection of an income tax, but it prefers out of mere obstinacy to borrow money at heavy expense in order to give plausibility to the allegation that the Government is financially embarrassed by refusing to pass the budget of last December.

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KILLED AT HECHANOOGA

Fatal Shooting Accident in Yarmouth County Village -- Victim of Strange Accident May Now Recover.

Annapolis Royal, N. S., March 7.—A fatal shooting accident occurred at Hechnanooga on Monday by which Mande Saulnier, a teamster of that place lost his life. Early Monday morning he and a young man named Babine went into the woods shooting. After they had been out for a couple of hours Babine had a fit and in falling his gun exploded the contents striking Saulnier's feet with the result that blood poisoning developed. His leg was amputated twice in a futile attempt to stop the course of the blood poisoning, but despite these efforts he died on Friday evening. He was forty-two years of age and unmarried. He is survived by an aged mother.

What might have been a fatal accident occurred at Barrington Passage Thursday morning, and it was only by the prompt action of Howard Smith that Arthur was not drowned. Young Smith was some distance off Black Point in a small sunning boat and was in the act of hauling a large lobster trap into the boat, when a heavy sea completely filled the boat. Smith became entangled in the trap and was unable to get clear of the boat which was sinking. His father, who was some distance away, in a small boat and saw what happened, hastened to the rescue and arrived just as the boat went down. He arrived half a minute later his son would have been drowned.

The man Shaw, who was so seriously injured at Hillsboro on Friday by being dragged over the frozen ground under a load of logs by two runaway horses may recover. At first the doctors held out no hope of his recovery, but this morning hopes are entertained, although one leg is so badly crushed that amputation will probably be necessary. The other leg is broken, one fractured and Shaw is suffering from other serious injuries.

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for the abolition of the Lords. If beaten on that they would vote for the most drastic veto proposals. Mr. Snowden at Cardiff said the country was not ripe for the abolition of the Lords. The Labor party was prepared therefore to co-operate with those genuinely desirous of abolishing the veto. Canada bonds, 1909-34, are quoted at 100 1/2 to 101 1/2; Canada loan, 1910-35, at 100 1/2 to 101 1/2; Newfoundland sterling bonds, 1941-5 and 51 at 93 to 94; Quebec sterling bonds, 1934 at 100 to 102; Province of Saskatchewan bonds at 102 1/2 to 103 1/2; Canada registered 1909-34 at 100 1/2 to 101 1/2; Canada loan £4,000,000 1910-35 at 100 1/2 to 101 1/2; Ontario registered, 1947 at 105 to 106.

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Application for Incorporation. Fredericton, March 7.—A notice has been published that application will be made at the present session of the legislature for an act to incorporate the St. John and Quebec Railway Company, with a capital of \$2,000,000, to construct a line of railway from the city of St. John through the valley of the St. John river to Andover, connecting at a point on the boundary line between Maine and New Brunswick with a railway to be constructed across the State of Maine to Quebec, and thence to Quebec city or to some point on the line of the Intercolonial. The notice is signed by A. D. Gould, Freguac Isle, Maine.

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