

## The Dominion Presbyterian

IS PUBLISHED AT

323 FRANK ST., - OTTAWA

AND AT

MONTREAL AND WINNIPEG

Terms: One year (50 issues) in advance, \$1.50.

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THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN,

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Manager and Editor

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1909.

A prohibition wave which has swept over a number of states has had an unlooked for effect on one class of trade—that of glassware. The market for tumblers has so fallen off that a number of the factories have had to shut down "until a better state of affairs." One company which deals in tumblers has \$45,000 surplus stock on hand.

Although the season is late the crops in Canada's West promise to be again very abundant; and it is already assured that the hay crop in Eastern Ontario and Quebec will be the most abundant for many years. All this will we hope stimulate liberality, for the church's treasury, especially its Home Mission fund, is low and requires more liberal support than it has been receiving.

Lady Aberdeen has helped the Irish people in many ways, and is now endeavoring to arouse an interest in suppressing tuberculosis, which is very prevalent in Ireland. She states that the deaths from consumption average 12,000 annually. During her present visit to Canada Lady Aberdeen is losing no opportunity of working up interest in the matter.

We desire to draw the attention of our Scottish readers to the fact that the "People's Journal" (of Dundee, Scotland) is published in eleven different editions, covering the length and breadth of Scotland. The news of all the hamlets, parishes, and cities is given very fully, and to the Scot in Canada a copy of the edition for the district in which he is specially interested will form what may be termed "A Letter from Home." A postcard to the publishers will bring a letter containing all information as to subscription rates, etc. We heartily commend to our readers this Old Country journal.

## A BISHOP'S OPINION.

Bishop Williams, of the diocese of Huron, in the address to his synod, upheld the three-fifths clause in the local option act in Ontario. As a general rule bare majorities should rule, but there are many who will agree with the Bishop of Huron, though perhaps they do not think it wise to say so. He also thinks hotelkeepers who are forced out of the liquor business should be compensated, but we are unable to see it in that light. We can, however, heartily endorse what the bishop says about betting and gambling—that they are morally wrong and degrading to character, that betting men and women are parasites, who thrive upon other people's labor, and that there is injustice and robbery in the practice.

A great deal of attention has been directed of late to the betting and gambling habit, doubtless on account of their growing prevalence. We hope that those who indulge in them will ponder on their ways and give them up.

## AERIAL NAVIGATION.

A danger to aerial navigation has arisen which would not strike the average individual. Mischievous persons have taken to shooting at them. Aeronautes will therefore have to fly high or run the risk of being brought down by a gun shot. It will be difficult to convict anyone indulging in this kind of sport.

Speaking of this subject, it is announced that a committee of experts has been appointed to advise the British Government on aerial navigation. The Imperial Government is the first to make a move in this direction. Canada, too, is moving. Mr. Baldwin, one of the gentlemen associated with Prof. Graham Bell in his experiments at Baddeck, is to attend the Petawawa camp and give experiments, but whether commissioned by the Government, has not transpired.

It looks as if before long the announcement may be made that the annual congregational excursion, or the Sunday school picnic, will take place to such and such a place by airship.

It is to be hoped would-be marksmen will refrain from shooting at excursionists!

## GREATLY EXAGGERATED.

The Toronto Telegram says:—Church union stirred up a tumult in the solemn councils of the General Assembly of Canadian Presbyterianism. And if church union starts a row among the ministers and elders in their supreme church court, what will the highly explosive issue do when it reaches the congregation?

Our contemporary is silly in advance of the "silly season." There was no "tumult" in the Assembly over the Union discussion, and there will be no explosion when the question reaches the congregations. It is surely a gross exaggeration to style a lively debate a "tumult," but the Telegram is addicted to unnecessarily strong language, especially when it desires to convey a wrong impression.

The Czar of Russia purposes paying a visit to King Edward, and this has stirred up the opposition of one of the British M.P.'s who happens to be a socialist. In the course of his remarks on the floor of Parliament he denounced the Czar as "an inhuman brute." No doubt he is autocratic, but it is largely the result of the actions of the nihilists, who are closely allied to, if not identical with, the socialists. However, it was hardly the time or place to indulge in such language, and the member's remarks called forth strong protest in many quarters.

## A NECESSITY.

The Presbyterian Synod of England feels the want of a denominational paper and at its last meeting resolved to give a subsidy of £400 a year for three years towards the maintenance of such a paper, to be published weekly.

Our English Presbyterian brethren had for a number of years an excellent paper called "The Presbyterian;" but as it failed to be altogether self-sustaining they sold the subscription list to the Scottish Review, published in Edinburgh. They now find out their mistake and have to start anew. A denominational paper in Britain has difficulties to encounter unknown to church papers in Canada and the United States.

There the daily journals, especially in Scotland, give very full reports of Presbytery, Synod and Assembly proceedings, as well as general church news; while such publications as the Scottish Review, Belfast Witness, The Christian World, and notably the British Weekly, furnish their readers with pages of carefully edited church news of all denominations. This being the case the denominational journal, in order to be a success, requires careful management and persistent pushing. These conditions are not always easily attained when the paper is owned by a church and published under the supervision of a committee.

A denominational paper is one of the strongest links which can hold a church together, and it should receive the support of every family.

## A CONCISE FORM OF CREED.

It is sometimes said it would be difficult to find a number of persons who could agree on a creed, though the joint committee on church union seems to have succeeded wonderfully well in harmonizing the beliefs of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches. A creed should be short. Here is one suggested by Dr. James Denny, of Glasgow, to which all Protestant churches could surely agree: "I believe in God through Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and Saviour."

Why could not all the Protestant churches, including the Anglican and Baptist, come together on that, leaving each to hold and carry out their own views on polity, etc.? In such a case union need not be long delayed.

In the "Notes of the Field" given in the weekly bulletin of the American Presbyterian Church, Montreal, we find the following item:—Through the untiring efforts of Dr. J. C. Thomson special legislation has been secured from the Dominion Government granting free admission into Canada to Chinese students who come to this land to pursue advanced studies, and granting also more favorable terms to all students. The graduation with high honors of Mr. Peter Hing, B.C.L., from the McGill Law school, furnished the happy occasion for this legislation which has been granted. Some day it will be told as a proof of the darkness of the 20th century that such legislation was required. But the world moves.

Since the union of the Presbyterian Churches which took place in Montreal, 35 Moderators have occupied the chair. Fourteen are still living, and nine were present at this year's Assembly. They are:—Rev. Dr. Wardrop, Rev. Dr. Sedgewick, Rev. Principal Gordon, Prof. Bryce, Rev. D. H. Fletcher, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. Dr. Du Val and Rev. Dr. Lyle.