



Moncton, N.B., is in the throes of a Temperance crusade. They are having temperance plays in the opera house and temperance meetings in the churches at which Tennyson Smith is doing the heavy part of the talking.

The general belief that slavery has been abolished under the British flag and that the traffic in humanity is confined to voters and baseball players turns out to be erroneous. Following a story published by the Vancouver Province to the effect that an Indian girl had been sold for \$400 comes a letter from ex-Indian Agent G. W. Berbeck telling of traffic in women by certain Indian tribes. It is quite general, he says, girls rarely reaching the age of fourteen before being sold, while when they become too old to work they are sometimes turned adrift by the purchasers.

The settlement of the troubles between the Dominion Steel and Dominion Coal Companies has been happily brought about and a distinct area of satisfaction is centred over Sydney.

Ontario is about evenly divided as to whether Hon. G. W. Ross will waken up the Senate with his eloquence or become another victim to the narcotic influences of the chamber that was once threatened with abolition.

The railway to Hudson's Bay over which more than one Manitoban has ridden into the local legislature is again occupying a share of the limelight owing to the statement of James W. Tyrrell, a government engineer, that the bay is navigable till the end of November. Wheat could thus be shipped over its waters the same year it was harvested. However the 700 miles of required railroad is in no immediate danger of being built.

Dr. Pelletier, whom rumour has appointed Speaker of the Quebec Legislative Assembly, is evidently alive to the interests of his constituents. Through his efforts it is reported Sherbrooke has secured the Dominion Exhibition for next year with the Dominion grant of \$50,000 to help make it a success.

That a coal famine and zero weather are a combination that require heroic treatment was demonstrated at Drinkwater, Sask., when a train was held up by a band of farmers who turned the switch and stood guard until their waggons were loaded from a car of coal. Many of these farmers had been using lumber from their buildings as fuel.

Alberta is gathering information with a view to the establishment of a provincial university.

Some Manitoba farmers look on flag flying as an extravagant form of superficial patriotism. The rate-payers of Kildonan have written a letter of protest re the regulation requiring flags on the schools. They reckon it will cost \$70 per year per school.

The victory of Mr. A. Studholme, the labour candidate in Hamilton, though looked upon by straight party men as merely an incident of the late

car strike, is only one straw which shows the direction of the labour breeze. Dr. Jessop, M.P.P., in speaking at the Union Teamsters' banquet in St. Catharines, expressed the opinion that at the next session of the Ontario legislature the prison labour contract law would be repealed, and in Kingston they are going to have a labour candidate for mayor.

The British Columbia elections are expected to happen along about next spring and already the party press are giving close attention to both views of the history of Hon. "Dick" McBride the silver-haired boy statesman of the Pacific Coast.

"Kootenay the fruit belt" is how the land that is generally supposed to grow only mines and mining stocks may be known in the future. A scheme has been financed to put 30,000 acres of Kootenay lands on the British market as fruit farms.

Grain, transportation, the duty on agricultural implements, and the Winnipeg bonspiel, the four staple articles



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of Manitoba conversation, each show a little extra life at present. The president of the Grain Growers' Association has entered action against J. C. Gage, J. G. McHugh and J. Love, charging them with illegally combining in restraint of trade. This is of course simply a new phase of the old elevator fight. Sir Thomas Shaughnessy admits the car famine and would buy \$10,000,000 worth of cars and locomotives if he could get them. But he can't. The reduction in duty on agricultural implements amounts to 2½ per cent., or enough to carry an occasional farmer to the bonspiel.

Nova Scotia is looking anxiously for a Dominion bonus on steel ship building. It was expected along with the new tariff but failed to arrive and is now looked and longed for in a separate measure.

In opening the Maritime Winter Fair at Amherst, N.S., Lieut.-Governor Fraser once more made that grand old appeal to the boys to "stay on the farm"—as he probably didn't. The Fair, by the way, was bigger and better than ever.

L. D. Dareu, a geologist of Sural, India, has been telling the Winnipeg press that the soil of Manitoba is

suited to tobacco growing. This is probably the first attempt to prove that Winnipeg is in the banana belt.

The Hindoo labour question is the latest one to trouble British Columbia. That the latest comers do not confine their attentions to the laundry, as do Celestials in the East, is evidenced by the fact that the Hindoo employes of the Fraser River Mills Co. have challenged the white workmen to a tug of war, and have backed up their challenge with a sizeable roll of Canadian bills.

That was a typical Western act near Vancouver the other day when a crowd of hard-headed business men, who had been paying about \$1500 each for government lots, cheered heartily when one was knocked down to a poor squatter for \$400. He had been squatting on it for fifteen years. It was his home and the four hundred was his entire capital. And there were men helping with the cheering who would just as soon sell you a block of mining stock that would never pay any dividends save experience.

Vancouver is prosperous. Building permits of \$875,252 and bank clearings of \$14,000,000 for November are the proof.

The output of coal from the Lethbridge mines is expected to reach 1200 tons per day and the fear of actual suffering from the fuel famine in Saskatchewan is fast being dispelled.

The C. P. R. announces that it will proceed with the clearing of 150,000 acres of land on Vancouver Island at the rate of 10,000 acres per year. The estimated cost of clearing is \$100 per acre, and it is likely a start will be made near Ladysmith. Even the staid old "Colonist" is enthusiastic over the era of prosperity that is about to open on the Island.

New Brunswick during the season just closed received in fees for big game licenses \$27,000, an increase of seven thousand dollars over last season. The I. C. R. advertised the sporting advantages and gets the credit for the increase.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island in a recent speech pointed out that the local legislature had settled some important questions which were yet troubling the Imperial Parliament. Among these were the free, non-sectarian school question, the tenant rights question, the severance of church and state and the prohibitory law. And while you feel like hurrahing for the tight little Island you also reflect that it is easier to regulate a small household than to govern a large family.

Dr. William Saunders of the Ottawa Experimental Farm has been at Charlottetown, P.E.I., selecting a site for the Dominion experimental farm to be established near there.

Montreal real estate men propose forming a Million Club to advertise the city. They point out that real estate in Montreal is cheaper than in any city of the same population on the continent.

St. John, N.B., is enjoying a fire and salvage department investigation. Charges and counter-charges are flying concerning the cleanliness of engine houses and the sobriety of certain persons. The evidence so far is as contradictory as is usual in such cases and the outcome problematical.