

The Chronicle AND CANADIAN DAIRYMAN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1898. WEDNESDAY HALF-HOLIDAYS.

Brantford has concluded its first year of a Wednesday half-holiday for July and August, and The Expositor says general satisfaction has been the result. Both employers and employees have been enabled to more thoroughly enjoy the holiday season, and it is very doubtful if, as regards the amount of business done, any merchant has been a sufferer. In interviewing the merchants The Expositor reporter was informed in nearly every case that the arrangement had been very satisfactory and had conferred a benefit in many respects. Some would like to see the holidays extended over another month. Judging from the experience of Brantford we believe this would be an excellent idea for the consideration of Ingersoll business men next year. The outgo would prove equally enjoyable to employers and employees, while it would not injure business to the slightest extent as customers could arrange their purchases to suit the times. It is worthy of a trial.

THE CREDIT SYSTEM.

A good article on 'Creditors and Debtors,' by Outlook, appeared in the St. Thomas Times on Saturday last. He goes on to describe what a time the collector has in getting his accounts paid, and the different excuses made by the debtors. He says that some people who are in debt make no effort whatever to pay their obligations, but spend the money that should go to meet those obligations, in pleasure seeking, etc. He blames the credit system for this state of affairs. He says: 'Credit simply places a premium on a species of dishonesty, and encourages lax ideas of moral obligations. Last spring a farmer purchased a bicycle and a self-binding reaping machine. He paid cash for the bicycle, and gave his note as six months for the agricultural implement. One was a luxury, the other a necessity, but in keeping with the spirit of the times, he paid cash for the luxury and went into debt for that which was essential in harvesting his crops. People will save and plan to raise enough money to buy a piano for the parlor, when they are in much greater need of a washing machine for the back kitchen. The majority of the people to-day are in debt most of the time for greater or less amounts, but generally in small amounts, comparatively speaking, spread about in various directions. People do not build upon saving money to any great extent. They devote their mental faculties towards figuring out how to stave off the payment of this or that obligation a little while longer, and some actually seem to enjoy being dunned. It certainly does not seem to disturb the equilibrium of the people as much as it used to be, dunned or even threatened with legal proceedings for the recovery of money due.'

SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENA.

In the current issue of The Arena Rev. B. F. Austin, B. A., D. D., writes of 'four remarkable physical experiences,' detailing some events which cannot be explained by the known laws of nature. The demand for novelty in the present age seems to have extended into the supernatural. Miracles are still wrought to explain the inexplicable, but they attract comparatively little attention. Anything dealing with spooks, mahatmas, hoodoo or doubles, if invested with the charm of novelty, is read everywhere with eager attention. A race cannot shake off its ingrained superstitions in one generation, and the man who can no longer guard his spiritual welfare by kissing his thumb instead of the cover of the Bible when giving evidence in a liquor case must be open to receive some other order of belief. The 'uncanny' has no doubt its mission to fulfil. The southern negro still carries a rabbit's foot, and our greatest scientists can explain on materialistic grounds the countless instances in which the charm has been successful in warding off the hoodoo. The windigo still causes his baneful track in the neighborhood of Indian villages, and modern science is baffled for an explanation. A horse shoe is still nailed on the sashpost of a schooner, and although it is only in China that the almanac gives a list of the lucky days for various undertakings, we never forget the ill-omen attaching to Friday. There are fortune-tellers in all parts of the world and mind-readers so acute as to be a terror not only to evil-doers but to evil-thinkers. Shelly fixes the reign of the witch of Atlas at a time before those cruel twins, error and truth, had hunted all the rich natives from the earth, which does not throw the scene back to the middle ages by any means.

DRAWN INTO THE CYLINDER.

J. B. Campbell, of St. Vincent, loses his arm in a Thrashing Machine. Meaford, Sept. 2.—James B. Campbell, of St. Vincent, had his arm taken off in a thrashing machine while working on the farm of John Campbell. The men had just finished thrashing, and were closing down the machinery for the night. Campbell was helping to remove the guards, when his left arm caught in the cylinder, and was drawn in, mashing it up to the elbow.

CHICAGO PROVISION MARKET.

Messrs. Ware & Leland, stock brokers, Chicago write as follows:—The estimated stock of provisions is about 75,000 bbls. pork, 177,000 barrels lard and 33,000,000 short ribs. Price of pork ranges about the same as a year ago—lard from 1 to 1 1/2 cent per pound higher, and of ribs 1 to 1 1/2 cent per pound lower. Yellow fever reports are still numerous. Speculation is almost absent from the pit. The consumptive demand at home and abroad appears to be more likely to cause an advance than decline. The European hog supply is reported under an average and stocks small. A trader says buy ribs and sell oysters as a hedge.

MME. DREYFUS TALKS

The Prisoner at Devil's Island May Have Another Chance.

FRANCE IN EXCITEMENT'S GRIP.

An Anglo-German Treaty—The Terms of the Memo. of Agreement—Relates to Asia Minor and Delagoa Bay—Lord Salisbury Will Reply to Czar's Peace Note Suggestions. Paris, Sept. 3.—Madame Dreyfus has made the following statement: 'The truth about my husband cannot be suppressed much longer. He never fails to proclaim his innocence. His letters to me are sadder than a wall over the dead, and their breaching paths could emanate only from a guiltless soul. His all-absorbing thought is to blot out the stain of treason with which his persecutors try to tarnish his name. The martyr of the Isle de Diablotin lives but for the rehabilitation of his family. Our children must not be burdened with a dishonored name, particularly as my husband is innocent. Col. Henry's horrible and is part payment of the penalty incurred by reason of the cruel wrong done to my husband. His disgraceful death is the natural outcome of his attempts to dishonor a good officer. Col. Henry's associates may also pay the penalty.'

Short Out May Be Taken.

Paris, Sept. 3.—While opinion is for revision of the Dreyfus trial there is anxiety over the execution of the sentence. Dreyfus may be pardoned or some other short cut to justice taken that scandals may be escaped.

Not Since Sedan's Fall.

Paris, Sept. 3.—Colonel Henry's confession of having forged the famous document upon the authenticity of which General De Boisdeffre, chief of staff of the French army, in his impassioned appeal to the jury in the Zola trial, staked his own reputation and the honor of the army, and Col. Henry's suicide in the fortress of Mont Valerien have caused an amazement throughout France which has not been witnessed since the fall of Sedan. Following these, which added fuel to the flames, was the arrest of Col. Du Clam.

Revision Decided On.

London, Sept. 3.—A special despatch to the Evening Standard from Paris, published yesterday afternoon, says the French cabinet has decided upon a revision of the Dreyfus case.

The Officers Will Divulge.

Paris, Sept. 3.—It was announced yesterday afternoon by the Patrie that several officers of the general staff had decided to resign shortly and divulge all they know of the entire Dreyfus affair. One officer declares that war will inevitably follow as a result of the revelations which will be made regarding the machinations of another Government.

A Feeling That War is Coming.

Paris, Sept. 3.—The most pessimistic feelings exist. It is the common belief that Great Britain and Russia are on the eve of war, and that the consequences of the Dreyfus scandal will involve France in war with Germany.

The Government is doing its best to stem the rising tide.

Eight officers confess that the discussions that will follow revision will probably entail war, but they say that would be preferable to having the army remain under a cloud, with the possibilities of agitation leading to civil strife.

Premature Report.

Paris, Sept. 3.—The report put in circulation by a news agency that a revision of the Dreyfus case had been decided upon is now pointed out that a decision must be sanctioned by a Cabinet Council under the Presidency of M. Faure.

ANOTHER ALLIANCE.

It Looks as Though Britain Had Signed One, Offensive and Defensive, With Germany.

London, Sept. 3.—A report was current here yesterday that a treaty of alliance between Great Britain and Germany on the lines of the speech of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the Secretary of State, for the Colonies, was actually completed yesterday. This is probably an amplification of the gossip relative to the daily visits of Count von Hatzfeldt-Wildenburg, the German Ambassador, to the British Foreign Office during the fortnight, which have been attributed to a desire upon the part of Germany and Great Britain to formulate a common policy in regard to Russia and China. It is said that as yet no quo pro German support in Egypt, Great Britain will recognize Germany's claims to utilize Syria as an outlet for her surplus population. The Pall Mall Gazette yesterday afternoon says it has received from a source in which it has every confidence, information showing that the Anglo-German agreement was signed this week by Mr. Balfour and the German Ambassador in behalf of the respective powers. Continuing, the Pall Mall Gazette says that while the agreement is restricted, it embraces an offensive and defensive alliance in certain eventualities. The Pall Mall Gazette adds: 'This new and momentous departure in our foreign policy comes as a natural development of the European situation.' The Pall Mall Gazette then quotes the speech which Mr. Joseph Chamberlain made at Birmingham on May 13 last, bidding for a German alliance, and continues: 'Lately it has been evident from the tone of the semi-official German press, that the two Governments have been drawing closer, and finally there were prolonged conferences between Count Hatzfeldt and Mr. Balfour. The departure of Count Hatzfeldt proves that the object of the consultations has been achieved. Besides, Mr. Chamberlain has gone to America, Lord Salisbury is prolonging his absence, and Mr. Balfour leaves for his holidays on Saturday. Evidently the Ministers do not expect to have to deal with crucial questions of foreign policy.'

The Czar's Peace Note.

The Westminster Gazette yesterday afternoon announces that although, owing to the absence of the Marquis of Salisbury, Great Britain has not yet formally replied to the Czar's peace note, the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg has already communicated in cordial terms the hearty sympathy with which the receipt was read by the acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. A. J. Balfour, the First Lord of the Treasury, and Government leader in the House of Commons. When the Marquis of Salisbury returns to the note, the Westminster Gazette continues, he will hail with satisfaction and delight the Czar's initiative, assuring him of the warmest support of her Majesty's advisers to co-operate heartily in promoting his great aim. Refers to Delagoa Bay. London, Sept. 3.—It is reported on the Stock Exchange that the Anglo-German alliance, or understanding, relates to the British purchase of Delagoa Bay, with Germany assenting. As a result, Kaffir and Portuguese securities are booming. Terms of the Treaty. London, Sept. 3.—The Daily Mail says this morning: 'We learn that Mr. Balfour and the German Ambassador, Count von Hatzfeldt, signed on Wednesday a document preliminary to a treaty, which will give Germany a free hand in Asia Minor, and allow England to lease Delagoa Bay from Portugal, at a cost between £2,000,000 and £5,000,000. Germany will, as a fairbairn connection, support Great Britain's claim for the abolition of the mixed tribunal in Egypt. Mr. Shomburg, Kerr McDonnell, the Premier's private secretary, has left London for the Continent to submit to Lord Salisbury a copy of the treaty.'

HAMMOND IS TO HANG

The Law Will Be Allowed to Take Its Course.

BERTRAM FIRE LOSS \$59,700.

Narrow Escape From a Lightning's Bolt—Too of a Woman's Stocking Burned by the Flash—Mr. Patterson Will Meet Manufacturers at the Industrial—Hayward Sick. Hon. Thomas F. Bayard is a very sick man at Deham, Mass.

Mr. William Patterson will meet manufacturers at the Toronto Industrial. Yesterday was Pioneers' Day at the Toronto Industrial; to-day it is the Wheelmen's turn.

Budapest newspapers report the discovery of a plot to murder Baron Banffy, the Hungarian Premier.

The statement that Toronto post office officials will not have Labor Day holiday is denied from Ottawa.

The deputy game warden at Sudbury is proceeding against the Indians who are shooting deer out of season.

Shooting still keeps it up. Ninety eight in the shade on Friday. Ottawa was the nearest city at 90 in the shade.

A Toronto teamster has been fined \$5 and costs for a torrent of profanity that he let loose on a street corner.

An Imperial decree has been issued summoning the Austrian Reichsrath to meet in Vienna on September 30.

Jennie Basterrell, an insane woman, about 50 years of age, choked herself to death at the London Insane Asylum.

Three persons of Belmont village were nearly poisoned by buttermilk that had stood for some time during a recent hot day.

The details of the losses in the Bertram Ship Yards fire at Toronto show the loss to have been \$59,700, covered by insurance.

The Royal Military College opened with a recruiting class of 33. The other classes, 48 in number, will report on Tuesday next.

The Department of Marine and Fisheries shipped a large section of the Ottawa fisheries exhibit to the St. John, N.B., exhibition on Friday.

The bottle-makers have refused at Indianapolis to grant the Union Glass Blowers of the United States and Canada an increase in wages.

On Friday at New York there was a gradual increase in temperature until it reached 95 at noon. There were a number of deaths from heat.

The will of the late Jos. Simpson, Toronto, disposing of an estate of \$70,466.69, has been probated. The Government gets \$148 from the estate.

Ald. Hanlan is justly indignant over the fact that children had to pay one cent a glass for water or else go thirsty at the Industrial Fair in Toronto.

U. S. cutter Algonquin, in Montreal drydock, may be seized for wages due E. W. Bates, alleged to be due him by the Washington Government.

Mrs. John Smith, 10th concession, Sudbury, had the toe of her stocking burned out by lightning, but was not otherwise hurt, the other day.

Sir Charles Tupper on the 13th will open the New Brunswick Exhibition at St. John, and will sail, with Lady Tupper, on the 22nd for a short holiday in England.

George T. Decker, pump manufacturer at Forest, has received word that his son William had been drowned in his uncle's will about ten miles from Hamlet, Manitoba.

Friday night Toronto single men are listed to attend a lecture on Henry Newton, on the occasion of the anniversary of his birth, by Very Rev. Dean Williams, Cleveland, O.

The Newton estate in Guelph, under the will of the late Henry Newton, who died in 1875, is in the course, the son and daughter suing the widow, who has married again.

Markham and Newmarket played lacrosse at Richmond Hill and then wound up the game with a free fight, in which the police were assailed. The ringlers will be prosecuted.

Four hundred striking coal miners, under District President Dolan, marched from Monongahela City on Friday to the Yell and forced the miners in Pennsylvania, and forced the sixty men at work to join the strike.

RECEIVED REPORTS.

Standing of Varied Branches of Methodist Church Work.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 282,568.

Statistics and Reports of the Ministers, Local Preachers, Churches, Sunday Schools, Mission Work, the Colleges, Etc., Etc., All Presented and Read—Delegates Will See the Fair.

Toronto, Sept. 3.—The big General Conference of the Methodist Church occupied itself chiefly yesterday morning with the reading of reports. The session dealt with matters of interest to every member of the Methodist body. After the conference had accepted the invitation of President Withrow of the Industrial Fair to attend on Thursday afternoon, it got down to business.

The first report taken up was that of Rev. Dr. Cornish, statistician of the conference.

The following totals of church membership were then read: 1894, 267,953; 1895, 267,740; 1896, 273,329; 1897, 278,185; 1898, 280,537; indicating an increase of 19,584 for the quadrennium. If the 2,031 ministers and probationers are added the present total membership is 282,568.

The baptisms since 1897 totalled 74,998; infants, 62,838; adults, 11,160. The marriages were 39,943, and the burials 42,003.

The present total of ministers and probationers is 2,031. Seven hundred and twenty-three probationers were admitted during the quadrennium, and of these nine died, 45 were dropped, five were expelled, 386 succeeded in completing their studies, and are already ordained, and 393 remain on probation. Ten ministers were received from other churches. The deaths of ordained ministers totalled 80.

The number of local preachers is 2,359; chorists, 1,051; class leaders, 7,309; stewards, 9,071; society representatives, 6,771.

The number of Sunday schools is 3,347, an increase of 186. The officers and teachers number 39,018, and the scholars 970,339.

The number of churches is 2,329, an increase of 136. Parsonages, 1,133; burial grounds, 1,231; colleges and schools, 19. The total value of all church property is \$15,429,934. The total indebtedness is \$2,402,280. The amount of insurance is \$7,078,906.

The total membership of Epworth League and other young people's societies in connection with the church is 81,935, as against 47,175 in 1894, showing the tremendous quadrennial increase of 34,760. The total contributions of these organizations for the year ending May, 1898, were \$53,446.69.

The statistics on ministerial support showed that in the church at large \$9,976,986.43 had been raised for that purpose during the quadrennium, an increase of \$1,077,907.43. The connections funds for the quadrennium amounted to \$1,551,980.65, an increase since 1894 of \$164,363.38.

The report of the Western Section of the Book Committee, read by Rev. Dr. Briggs, showed that after paying \$34,000 to the general superannuation fund the publishing house of the church had added \$50,000 to its capital, which now amounts to nearly \$400,000.

Rev. A. C. Crews read the report of the Sunday School and Epworth League Board. The statistics were the same as given by Rev. Dr. Cornish. It was regrettable that the number of scholars who had taken the total abstinence pledge had decreased 29,930. The amount contributed by the Sunday schools to missions during the quadrennium was \$83,818.84, a decrease of \$14,976.00 on the showing of 1894.

Rev. Dr. Sutherland read the report of the Mission Board, which recommended that medical missionaries be placed under specific regulations, and indicated the purpose of mission work was primarily spiritual and not physical. It also reported against the creation of separate funds for foreign and domestic missions.

The report of the Committee on Education was then read by the general secretary of education, Dr. John Potts. The report dealt first with the subject of colleges. The showing was not satisfactory. From St. John's to Victoria every college was overburdened with debt. Victoria was the worst off of the lot. The old site at Cobourg had been sold to the Government for \$14,406, and \$13,406 had been raised in other ways.

Dr. J. J. MacLaren gave notice of a motion appealing to the Methodist Church at large to secure as large a majority as possible for prohibition at the coming plebiscite, and also one which looked to the removal of such ministers as make themselves objectionable to the parishes.

Rev. Mr. Bland asked that a committee should be appointed to look into the relation of Christianity to the social evils of the day. Carried.

The conference meets this morning at 10.30, an hour and a half later than usual, in order to allow the committees time to organize and report at once to the General Conference.

Lynch Won by NIX LEAGUES. Halifax, Sept. 6.—Michael Lynch and John Brennan rowed a three-mile race on Bedford Basin yesterday afternoon for \$200 a side. Lynch won by six lengths, in 32 minutes and 40 seconds. The boat race was the principal event of the Halifax Labor Day celebration, which was devoted to excursions and sports. The day was generally observed throughout the province.

Quebec, Sept. 3.—Quebec Trades and Labor Union were favored for their feast yesterday with fine weather. The labor societies began the day by a grand parade and a high mass in St. Roch's Church at 8 o'clock, which was followed by a grand picnic at Cape Tourant, Parish of St. Joachim.

At the Capital. Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 4.—Labor Day was observed here by a procession in the forenoon and picnic in Lansdowne Park. In the afternoon, the procession was not so large as last year.

Buffalo, Sept. 6.—Labor Day was a gala day in Buffalo. The labor organizations turned out in parade, in which it was estimated 8,000 men participated.

Yonkers, N.Y., Sept. 6.—The first phase of the conference at Quebec ended yesterday afternoon, when the commissioners departed to reassemble again on the 30th. The sitting was a short one, and at the close the usual statement of things accomplished was made with the satisfaction of the commissioners was made with the customary smile. All that is certainly known in regard to the seven days work done by the commissioners is that the general question of the relations of the two countries and the points of difference between them has been thoroughly discussed, and a basis laid for action when the commission resumes business.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has carried out his expressed intention of talking over the whole case before trying to settle any one point at issue, and the work so far done has been almost entirely educational. The trade question is the one to which the most attention seems to have been paid, and the American commissioners have during the present week been subjected to precisely the same sort of influence that is so much in evidence when tariff legislation is up at Washington. The lobbyist is here in force and does not confine his efforts to formal hearings. It is gratifying to observe that on the present occasion the field is not left entirely to the protection, and that the American commissioners have during the present week been subjected to precisely the same sort of influence that is so much in evidence when tariff legislation is up at Washington. The lobbyist is here in force and does not confine his efforts to formal hearings. 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