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THE GRAIN CASE IN DECISION

(Monday's Daily) Hon. T. Mayne Daly, K.C., stipendiary magistrate of Winnipeg, has rendered his decision in the action of the grain growers against the alleged combine in the Grain Exchange. He passed the case up to the higher court without finding the defendants either innocent or guilty.

THIS MAY HELP

(Monday's Daily) With the meteoric playing pranks in the vicinity of the bulb, and coal at \$4.50 per ton, any advice for improving either the heating quality or the lasting quality of the black diamonds should be acceptable.

The facts are these, and anyone may easily verify them: In a light fire, that is to say, a stove or house furnace, water, which is a large lump of coal, readily causes it to burn more rapidly. It soaks into the strata, into the porous surface and being there converted into steam the lump is split into parts or the surface becomes corrugated and cavernous, thus offering a larger area of carbon to the active oxygen of the air.

THE MUNICIPALITIES CONFER

(Monday's Daily) The second annual meeting of the Alberta Union of Municipalities was held in Red Deer during the past week and is an event of more than usual interest both on account of the importance of the Union itself and of the subjects considered.

The Union was organized something over a year ago as a means of establishing some kind of relationship between the cities and towns of the province, to the end that the experience of each might be made beneficial to all and that when necessary the municipalities could move as one body in a course considered mutually desirable.

Municipal government in Alberta is in the experimental stage. While several of the cities and towns have been self-governing communities for many years the greater number have become such in comparatively recent years and are feeling their way along a new path rather than continuing a way which they have been familiar with. And in doing so they have not the advantage of the example set by large cities pursuing an unchanging way along the lines of long established and unquestioned custom.

adopt the discarded system.

While most of the incorporated municipalities in the province are experimenting with civic government of a new kind of civic government, the problems requiring solution from them are multiplying with a rapidity which affords little enough time for deferred action and careful consideration.

Villages are becoming towns and towns growing into cities faster than the municipal machinery can be adjusted to the new conditions while the problems involved in the changes crowd upon them in a manner which admits of no delay. From the cleaning and grading of streets and the laying of plank walks to paving the streets, laying concrete walks and the building of car lines are matters of years, not decades, while the intervening time is studded thick with the problems connected with installing electric light, telephone, water-works and sewerage systems.

MR. ROBILIN'S MAP

(Tuesday's Daily) The Winnipeg Telegram reproduces a sketch map of Manitoba supposed to illustrate the result of the vote on Premier Roblin's telephone policy. The fifty-five municipalities which are demarcated and labeled, as many as possible of the sixty-eight municipalities which rejected the proposal are gerrymandered out of existence; none of the remainder are demarcated and labeled and the unorganized territory in the eastern and northern parts of the province is unconventionally chopped off.

MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS

(Tuesday's Daily) Among the resolutions adopted by the municipal delegates at the Red Deer convention was one to the effect that public hospitals should be built and maintained by the municipalities, instead of being left mainly dependent on charity as at present.

There are many very excellent

and very generally understood reasons why the hospitals should be removed from the municipalities and placed on a solid foundation as public undertakings. Hospitals are not usually money making institutions. On the contrary they are generally operated at a loss and the more a hospital undertakes to fulfill its mission of providing an asylum in sickness for those least able to provide for themselves, the more likely it is to show a deficit at the end of the year.

It is reasonable to suppose that the accommodation demanded from a municipal hospital will be greater than that required of an institution supported by voluntary contributions under similar circumstances. A very large number of people feel something of a repugnance to accepting treatment from a "charitable" institution, even though they are both willing and able to pay for the services and are though they may be liberal contributors toward its maintenance.

THE ANTI-BONUSING RESOLUTION

(Wednesday's Daily) The question of bonuses was discussed at the municipal convention last week and a resolution passed asking that municipalities be prohibited from giving cash bonuses, land grants or exemption from taxation. The question of the field of usefulness open to the Union. Such prohibitory law could only be passed on the strongest request of the municipalities themselves, for a government undertaking it without such request would be tantamount to interfering in municipal affairs, tramping on their local rights and tying the hands of local authorities.

AS TO REPRESENTATION

(Wednesday's Daily) The Winnipeg Telegram says: "The bill introduced by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the House of Commons on 'Wednesday' last to 'increase the representation of Alberta and Saskatchewan,' provides that Saskatchewan with a population of 257,000, 'according to the census returns, will have ten members in the House of Commons and Alberta, with a population of 184,000 will have seven members. There is evidently no provision for Manitoba with a population of 364,000, having its representation of ten members in the House of Commons increased."

It is not broken the terms of the Manitoba act in order to treat Manitoba more generously than the political ancestors of the Telegram wanted it treated. The fury of the Telegram will not obscure the fact that the cause of its fury is that Alberta and Saskatchewan get more generous provision for parliamentary representation from the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier than the province of Manitoba got from the government of Sir John Macdonald.

The legislation asked for amounts to

an abrogation of what has been considered a municipal right and should come only in response to the voluntary and general request of the municipalities. To bonus an enterprise considered likely to benefit a community has been claimed and admitted the right and privilege of the municipality. If this power is to be terminated it must be voluntarily abandoned by municipalities rather than arbitrarily destroyed by the government.

Unless the municipal bodies be unanimous in demanding the withdrawal of this power, the justice of granting the requested legislation would be a matter of question. Nine municipalities might be willing and even anxious to forego this power, but would this be authority to deprive the tenth municipality of a power it now possesses and which it desired to retain? On the other hand, the nine consenting municipalities would scarcely be willing to forego the power of bonusing if the power were retained by the tenth.

Certainly not. The increase or decrease of the representation from Alberta and Saskatchewan is governed not by the pleasure or displeasure of the Federal Government but by fixed provision of the autonomy bills which the Telegram devoted its talents to depict as villainous and especially designed to hamstring and cripple the political power of these two provinces.

Another problem connected with the municipal hospital is one which the hospital ministers to the needs not only of the city or town in which it is located, but of the district of which this is the centre. It would be scarcely fair that the residents of the city or town should be called on to make up in taxes the cost of treating patients from outside points who were unable to pay for the services and it is to meet this it would probably be necessary to secure legislation making rural municipalities liable for such charges, unless the province at large were willing to undertake the responsibility of recouping all municipal hospitals in the province for expense incurred in this way.

Came to the premises of the undersigned about Dec. 20 a back-siding mare, no brand, 3 years old. Owners can have same by proving property and costs. JOSEPH LABERGE, St. Emile Legale, Alta.

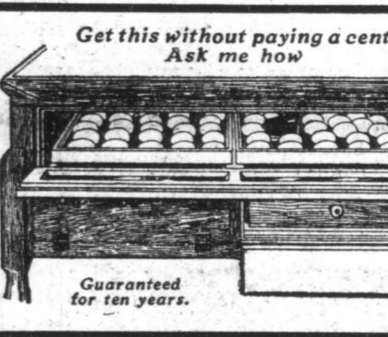
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AFTER THE BELL, PEOPLE

(Calgary Alberta) The manager of the telephone company says that they underestimated the rapid expansion of Calgary. And the Bell Telephone company underestimated the expansion of all districts and all cities. That is another habit of this company.

MR. MOORE'S VIEW Ottawa, Jan. 14.—Dr. Cash will introduce a bill to meet the car shortage in the west. W. F. Moore, secretary of the Canadian Northern system, says the difficulty is the overabundance of the bulk of the business of the west to be done in two months, and this leads to railway congestion.

SMALLPOX IN MANITOBA

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 11.—Word has been received at the provincial health department of an outbreak of smallpox at Reston, Manitoba. Dr. Macdonald, of Brandon, health inspector for the district, has visited the town and quarantined the cases, three in number. No particulars have yet been received as to how the cases are or as to whether there is danger of another outbreak.

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From Day to

WINTER BOUN Around me, to the far loe. The snowdrifts lie in drift. But all day long I dream of you. And of anemone. The winds silences follow. The winds of winter lift me. But all day long I dream of you. And for the song-titlind. All day I see the sunning plain. I know that winter's part is best. But my poor heart goes madly. And springtime's wild unres.

Vancouver, Jan. 12.—Henry Bading, a young logger of age, said to have been languishing in the police station, having been arrested in a rooming house on a charge of eloping. He is charged with eloping from Tacoma with a year-old Lillian Le Furgey, of a prominent lumberman's city. The couple took to Seattle to Victoria, where they married on New Year's day. Their father, F. J. Le Furgey, came over some days ago in steam runaways, but did not succeed in catching them until yesterday, immediately communicated with Lillian and young Bading was charge by her father. They were arrested at the Woods Hotel. Their mother is expected to arrive from Tacoma, when they will be taken to court and a decision arrived at whether the young couple will be to go their way together or extradited and the charge of elopement gone on with.

A DUO OF ROMANCE

A special despatch to a British paper from Woodstock, B., not long ago, says: A wedding took place this afternoon the bride was Mrs. Lorna Burt, daughter of Mr. V. Burt, of Jacksonville, was married to Mr. Norval Brittain, and left this evening for their future home in Revelstoke, B.C. Before the departure of Mr. Brittain, a few days ago, he was engaged to marry Miss Burt. Their correspondence continued until recently, the meantime Miss Burt being engaged to a prominent young business man of Woodstock, and the wedding was arranged to take place at an announcement card was sent to Mr. Brittain in Revelstoke, promptly sent along some presents, arriving here a few days ago. He arranged another day to go to take place at the Woods Hotel, and of off his lady love to his western home.

A MUSICIAN'S LUCK

The name of Grau immediately suggests New York and grand opera things musical generally. So the little interest pertains to the following despatch: New York, Jan. 13.—The musical aspect is felt by the family friends of Robert Grau, once manager of such celebrities as Adelina and Helena Modjeska, over the appearance of the former impresario Mr. Grau having been absent several weeks and his departure having surrounded by strange circumstances. It is now firmly believed he has met with foul play or that the pathetic straits in which he found himself after years of prosperity, fame. The transition was so sudden that the theatrical world fears worst. Not a word has been heard from the manager.

Two weeks ago Mr. Grau, who brother Maurice was superseded in the management of the Metropolitan Opera House by Heinrich Conried, suddenly arose from his seat in the box, and despite the cold, left alone without his overcoat. Absolute no clue to where he went has been had. He did not visit friends; has not been reported at any post office, hospital or morgue. Mrs. Grau and her two daughters were in very poor circumstances the time. Once they lived in a mansion in New Rochelle, when some of the great singers were earning money for the husband and father. It was the farewell tour of Mr. Grau that levelled the manager to the ranks of those merely drawing salaries. In January, 1904, when Grau was placed on the stand in supplementary proceedings on application of John Baldwin Hand, he said: "I did not make one cent out of the tour of Patti. I had a contract with the singer for her American tour, but could not execute it. All my money went, and finally I was so reduced that I had to accept a paltry salary of \$50 a week for my travelling expenses."