

The Union Advocate.

HENRY HARVEY STUART, Editor.

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OUR COUNTRY'S BIRTHDAY.

On the 1st instant, Canada entered upon her forty-first year as a confederacy. She has now seven times as much territory as she possessed in 1867, twice as many people and many times the volume of trade. But while her territorial expansion has pretty nearly reached its limit, only Newfoundland and, perhaps, the British West Indies and Guiana remaining to be absorbed, her population has only begun to grow. Henceforth, for many years, the hungry peoples who are crowded out of Northern Europe will flock in ever-increasing numbers to the vast vacant lands of our central, western and northern districts, filling our country with a mixed population which, when welded together by means of a common language and common political institutions, should make this Dominion the superior of every other state upon the earth with the possible exception of Russia, which lies in the same zone and has much more inhabitable territory. The only advantage we possess over Russia lies in the fact that we are drawing our people from a greater variety of nationalities than Russia. The dominant races of the Earth belong to the temperate zones, and nearly all of the temperate lands are in the north temperate zone. The further north we go in that zone, the harder we find the inhabitants; so to Canada, as soon as her population approaches anywhere near to that of her neighbor in bulk, will belong the leadership of the Western Hemisphere.

Should we survive assaults from without which may be made upon us while we are weak in numbers, nothing but discord within can mar our future or deprive us of our birthright.

To guard against disruption from without—and Japan and China are the countries from whom we have most to fear in this respect—let us hold on to our place within the empire, striving to bring ourselves into closer connection with the motherland and with our sister colonies in the southern hemisphere. To guard against civil strife, which would be suicidal to all parties, let us diligently cultivate the art of tolerance and brotherly love, respecting the rights and opinions of all our fellow-citizens and guarding their honor and welfare as jealously as our own. Only by mutual forbearance and timely concessions can such a polyglot nation as the Canadian exist. The task before our statesmen is herculean, but we trust they will be equal to the occasion and successfully guide our youthful state through the stormy waters of her transition period into the haven of permanent peace and security. God Save Canada!

CO-OPERATION IN BUSINESS.

In several of the countries of Europe—especially Belgium, Britain, France and Italy—there are hundreds of co-operative trading institutions which supply hundreds of thousands of people with most of the necessities, and not a few of the luxuries, of life at cost price. Starting not many years ago, on a very humble scale and with very few members, these partnerships have gained very rapidly in membership, business and influence, until now they form one of the most important departments of commercial and industrial life.

The Grange system, a kind of co-operative, has not as yet proved a success in this country, although its apparent failure was due more to the public lack of interest in, and ignorance of, the principles of co-partnership than to any defect in those principles. Wherever the Granges have been run properly, the farmers have experienced a great reduction in the cost of living.

"La Co-operative," a grocery enterprise conducted along the same lines as the European institutions of the same name, was founded, eight hours on Sunday. They may,

Is Your Hair Sick?

That's too bad! We had noticed it was looking pretty thin and rough of late, but naturally did not like to speak of it. By the way, Ayer's Hair Vigor is a regular hair grower, a perfect hair tonic. The hair stops coming out, grows faster, keeps soft and smooth. Ayer's Hair Vigor cures sick hair, makes it strong and healthy.

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Montreal by Albert St. Martin over a year ago, and is flourishing. No one is accepted as a customer but those who work for wages, or salary as some prefer to call it. All provisions are purchased for cash in the wholesale stores and sold for cash to the customers. Most of the small profit made is applied towards the maintenance of the enterprise, while the balance is used to enlarge the business. During the first year of its existence, La Co-operative supplied no less than 411 families or about 2,000 people. By next fall the concern expect to be in a position to handle fuel and ultimately dry goods, hardware, etc. The customers, as they increase in numbers, will get their supplies more and more cheaply, and finally the cost of running the institution will be such a small proportion of the money handled by it that the members will be able to buy everything they need at prices very little above what the ordinary merchant now pays for his goods wholesale.

THE LORD'S DAY ACT.

Since coming into force a few months ago the new law regarding the observance of Sunday has proved a great blessing to workmen, thousands of whom, not not being in a position to risk the loss of their jobs, were formerly compelled to work every day of the week. Since the first of March when the Lord's Day Act, so called, went into effect, some 75,000 Canadian workmen have been relieved from Sunday labor and given at least one day in the week which they can spend with their families and on which they can rest and recuperate. The Act provides that except in certain cases, all labor for gain shall be suspended on Sunday. Where part of an industrial process must be continued on Sunday, that part only is allowed to run on that day, all other departments of the work being stopped. Provision is made, in some instances, for a holiday during the week for those who have to work on Sunday.

The law is a step in the right direction. Man's nature is such that he requires one day in seven or rest; and if he violates this law of his being he pays the penalty in injured health and shortened life.

It is destined that he must rest one-seventh of his time whether he wills it or not. They who do not keep their Sabbaths weekly will keep them in the grave whither they will go much earlier than if they had taken their rest at the proper time.

Our Sunday law has several defects which render it much inferior to the corresponding statute of France. In the latter country, we understand, every worker is guaranteed one day's rest in seven—if he works on Sunday he must be granted another full day free from oil. But the Canadian law does not sufficiently protect domestic hotel and restaurant employees and railway men. The former receive little or no consideration; and railway men are entitled to a day off only if they are employed of the same name, was founded, eight hours on Sunday. They may,

vidently, be compelled, under the Act, to work six and three-quarter days a week, in which case they could have no legal redress. The great railway corporations are so powerful that they may for a long time yet continue to defy any laws against what they consider to be their own interests, but they will not always be able to dictate terms to their employees. The law imposes a real and unnecessary hardship upon those our Adventist and Jewish brethren who for Conscience' sake rest on Saturday. They are compelled to rest on Sunday as well, thus reducing the number of their working days to five per week. Some means should be found to remove his disability; as we have no more right to compel them to rest on Sunday than would the Mohammedans have to make Christians observe Friday. The French law provides for all such cases as enumerated above, and Canada could do well to bring her enactment up to the higher standard of France's code.

THE LAND PROBLEM.

The question of the ownership of land is now the leading problem confronting European Statesmen in all countries but France, where the lands of the nobility were confiscated during the great revolution and divided among the peasantry who still retain them, the people are demanding more land or at least a clear title to that which they now live upon and cultivate. In Ireland, the small farmers are asking the law into their own hands and deliberately driving cattle and sheep off the large grazing estates, determined by terrorism to keep these lands vacant until the owners are forced to sell at a nominal figure to those who will use the land for farming purposes.

The British government on the 5th ult. introduced into the House of Commons a bill for giving the compulsory purchase of 80,000 acres of untenanted land for the purpose of resettling tenants evicted during the land war. Two thousand tenants are to be given new holdings by the provisions of the bill, at a cost to the government estimated at \$2,000,000. The same government have lately introduced bills to compel a breaking up of large domains in Britain and the distribution of parts thereof to peasant proprietors in Scotland and to government tenants in England and Wales.

A bloody civil war, caused by the andholders' oppression of the peasantry, has just been suppressed by the government of Roumania. Although the insurgents were ruthlessly butchered by the victorious soldiery, sweeping reforms have been made in Roumanian land laws in order to prevent another and more dangerous outbreak.

The majority of both Russian parliaments voted, in 1906 and 1907, for the wholesale expropriation of the lands owned by the nobility and the distribution of the same to one-fifth agriculturalists who should occupy them as government tenants. Instead of concurring with the representatives of the people, the government has dissolved the second Duma and arbitrarily changed the election laws so that henceforth the subject nationalities, and the great majority of the Russians themselves, will be practically disfranchised, and the majority of the next Duma will be composed of the landlord class.

he political parties which have been expelled from the legislature and deprived of all hope of returning by peaceful means are now calling upon the people to rise and forcibly take possession of the reins of power. It is doubtful how long the Czar's soldiers will continue to support him against the people. When the soldiers desert him, his career is ended.

The Spanish government, which has lately effected a triple alliance with Britain and France, is taking wiser and more politic course than the Russian authorities. It has elaborated and submitted to parliament a plan for distributing to the communes the cultivated lands belonging to the state, so as to allow each head of a family depending on the state to take up a sufficient area to maintain his family. The land will be granted to the inhabitants of the communes on the payment of 25 per cent. of its actual value the whole amount of the purchase money to be repaid in fifty years. The plan also involves the organization of co-operative societies to aid the colonists in securing and exploiting the lands.

PLAYING WITH FIRE.

By an edict published last week, 11 Chinese officials are ordered to strictly carry out the anti-opium law and immediately begin an investigation into the quantity of land at present devoted to the cultivation of opium. Rewards are promised to those who faithfully and impartially execute the regulations, and dire punishment to those who disobey. So far, so good. But in encouraging the introduction of the vine into the northern provinces of China, the government of that country are opening the door to an industry nearly as detrimental to the nation as the one that is being so vigorously suppressed. If the culture of the vine means that the nation is going into the business of wine-producing, a fair, though not a necessary, inference; the benefits arising from the disappearance of the opium curse will not be so apparent as China's best friends had good reason to expect.

THE UNITED STATES

OF EUROPE. It would be an inestimable gain to the nations of the world for the present alliance between Britain, France and Spain to develop into an organic union, thus forming, as advocated by the Secolo, an influential Italian paper, the nucleus of "The United States of Europe." Such a confederation, embracing at the outset such a vast territory and population, would soon be joined by Italy and the numerous small states of Europe and South America. The dissatisfaction among the inhabitants of Russia and Germany should make the acquisition of those empires easy, and the nations of Austria-Hungary would not be slow to see the advantage of joining the union. The Secolo's proposition is by no means a vague and impracticable dream, but a sensible plan capable of early realization.

NORMAL SCHOOL

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS. At the various stations, this week, 800 candidates are trying the Normal school entrance examinations, and 110 are taking the Matriculation tests. Among those who are working the exams. at Batham are Miss Mabel McGregor of the town teaching staff. Miss Edith Clarke, who has just returned from Normal school, and the following from Harkins' Academy:—Misses Margaret Sobey, Nellie Desmond, Tessie Ivory and May Reynolds, all entered for first class; and Misses Copp, Muriel Jarline, Geneva Sinclair and Mabel Goodfellow for second.

From St. Mary's Academy, Miss Clare Lawlor is standing for first class, and Misses Anna McCombs, Kate Donovan, Mary Ryan, Martina Riordan, May McIntyre and Elise O'Leary for second. From Millerton Superior school Misses Olive and Bertie Clarke, Louise Crocker, Marguerite and Helena Flett have entered for first class, and Miss Nina Simpson for second. Miss Laura Bryenton of Enby is on the list for First Class also.

Rossway, Jan. 28, 1901.

C. RICHARDS & CO. Dear Sirs,—This fall I got hewn on a fence and hurt my head very bad so I could not work and it hurt me to breathe. I tried all kinds of Liniments and they did me no good. One bottle MINARD'S LINIMENT warmed on flannels and applied on my head cured me completely.

C. H. COSSEBOOM, Rossway, Digby Co., N. S. STEAMER BURNED. The steamer Bridgetown, belonging to Mr. Geo. Matthews, was burned at the Canada Dock this morning. She was built by Mr. Blake, on the premises now owned and occupied by Capt. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. E. Sinclair, about sixteen years ago, and had been used for light towing. Mr. Matthews fitted her out in good shape a few weeks ago, and the loss is a big one for him.—Chatam World.

HAD BURN QUICKLY HEALED. "I am so delighted with what Chamberlain's Salve has done for me that I feel bound to write and tell you so," says Mrs. Robert Sytton, 457 John St., Hamilton, Ontario. "My little daughter had a bad burn on her face. I applied Chamberlain's Salve and it healed beautifully." This salve allays the pain of a burn almost instantly. It is for sale by all druggists.

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