

**THE ACADIAN.**

WOLFVILLE, N. S., JULY 31, 1914.

**Editorial Notes.**

In another column we print a letter from a visitor with reference to the need of a more systematic and thorough cleaning of main street. THE ACADIAN would respectfully explain to our correspondent, who apparently approaches the subject with the very best of motives, that the street does not always present the untidy appearance that it has this week. We trust, however, that the suggestion made by our visiting friend may be the means of causing a much needed improvement to be made. A trifling amount of care every day would not cost much and would produce a very decided change for the better. In our opinion this work should be done in the early morning and not, as has been the practice of late, during the busy part of the day.

**The Tariff and Meat Prices.**

The rapid soaring of meat prices in the United States shows how utterly inadequate a free food policy would be to reduce effectively the cost of living in this country. Free meat has not brought down the price of this commodity in the republic. So far from having done so, meat prices have increased and experts say that they will continue to soar.

This goes to show that the cost of living is not entirely dependent upon tariff policy. In a country such as this, which produces so large a quantity of food products, this is particularly true. The manifest truth is that producers have gone to extremes on certain lines.

In the valley too much fruit and too little live stock and field crops may be the explanation to a very large extent of the "high cost of living."

**Public Morality.**

Citizens who are giving serious thought to the revelations before the Dugal investigation commission will read with interest editorial comments from the Toronto Globe and the Montreal Times. One is a Liberal and the other a Conservative paper, and each has been shocked by the disclosures. Fair and independent men must admit that one party has nothing on the other in the matter of public morality. Scandals that have marked Liberal, Conservative and coalition administrations in federal and provincial life, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and even greater scandals that have been hinted at but never really uncovered, reveal such a low standard of public morality that the future may well be viewed with apprehension. We hear much these days of the boy problem and kindred topics, important as they are, it may well be questioned if the subject of public morality is not of even greater importance.—St. John Globe.

**The Children's Aid Society.**

This is an age of conservation. The conservation of our natural resources is a national issue with a practical unanimity of opinion on the affirmative side of the question. We must recognize the fact, however, that the nation's greatest conservation problem is how to perpetuate the race itself. The child of today must develop into a real asset for society of tomorrow, for as the child is sent forth so will society fulfil its obligations and duties to mankind. The proper protection, care and training of the children of this Province is a matter of tremendous importance, since it involves natural characteristics and the shaping and molding of our work and destiny among the peoples of this Dominion. As we build now so shall our future be, poor, mediocre or great in all the essentials of a glorious democracy. That we may achieve the highest, it behooves us to see well to it that the building material is sound and that the workmanship is thorough and painstaking. The work of the Children's Aid Society is one that should commend itself to all who realize the value of child life. So long as we allow some children to be neglected and leave them under the influence of degraded and degenerate persons, so long as we allow children to leave our schools almost illiterate and to enter industry in this state, so long must we expect there will be a tendency of those thus neglected to drift into crime, pauperism, wretchedness and to become charges on our communities.

The fundamental principle and governing motive which underlies all philanthropic and government legislation in respect to child welfare is that of "self help," the teaching and enabling of every child to help himself. With this object in view, the Nova Scotia Government in 1913 placed on the Statute Books an Act entitled "The Child's Protective Act," the object of which was to reserve and improve the child life of this province. The superintendent of this work for one month was placed in the hands of Mr. Ernest H. Hinds, who, through training and experience, is well qualified for the position.

A branch of this society was formed in Wolfville nearly two years ago, having jurisdiction over the whole county. Dr. A. J. McKenna is the president, Mr. C. A. Patridge, secretary, and Mr. Herbert Davis the very capable agent. These gentlemen, with several of the active children of both sexes, form the executive committee. Any cases coming under the operation of the act will be looked into and reported to any of the above. The society can only carry out its intention and purpose by having the assistance of all citizens of the county who have the child interest and welfare at heart.

**Missionary Summer Conference.**

Ideal weather, a large and enthusiastic group of delegates, and an exceptionally strong staff of leaders combine to make the Missionary Summer Conference, being held this week in Acadia College, an unqualified success. This conference is held under the direction of the Missionary Education Movement, the agency through which the various denominational Mission Boards co-operate in this important work.

The conference is unique in that whilst cultivating denominational loyalty it presents the opportunity of studying the great missionary problem from the standpoint of the entire church. Bible exposition opens the morning session, this is followed by Mission Study Classes which form the central feature of the conference. An open Parliament for the discussion of Methods of Missionary Education in the congregation, Young Peoples Society, Sunday School and other organizations of the church follows.

The missionary hour, when a missionary tells informally of his or her experiences in the field, closes the morning period. The afternoon is given over to rest and recreation and make possible the combining of a vacation with attendance at the conference as many of the delegates are doing. A lawn service where life problems are discussed and a platform meeting at which strong missionary addresses are given occupy the evenings.

The program this year is exceptionally strong and those in charge as well as those in attendance are to be congratulated upon the exceptionally able group of leaders and missionaries secured.

The conference opened on Friday evening, Dr. DeWolfe, the presiding officer, gave the opening address, in which he set forth the Apostle Paul as the outstanding example of missionary devotion and service. Rev. H. C. Priest, the secretary for Canada of the Missionary Education Movement, followed with an address explanatory to the nature of the conference and outlining the program. The conference is one of a series of eight being conducted by the movement this season in Canada. The primary purpose of the conference was stated as being the training of leaders for missionary work in the local congregation. It sought to give each delegate a larger knowledge, a wider vision, increasing efficiency.

Saturday morning the regular sessions of the Conference began. Prof. Falconer of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, is conducting the Bible Exposition hour. He is giving a most inspiring and illuminating series of studies in "Great Events in the Life of Christ." No feature of the conference is arousing a larger interest than these studies.

One hour and twenty minutes each morning is being given to Mission Study. Five courses are being conducted: "The Social Aspects of Foreign Missions," by Mr. M. W. Rhnes, of New York; "India Awakening," by Rev. H. C. Priest; "Sonnus in the Southern Kingdom," by Rev. J. W. Howe, of Japan; and "Strangers within our Gates" by Rev. W. H. Barracough, of St. John. The large enthusiasm that these classes are arousing indicates something of the fascinations that may mark mission study.

The open parliament periods have been occupied with such themes as "Missionary Standards for the Local Church, Sunday School and Young People's Society," "Missionary Study," "Missionary Instruction" and "The Work of the Women's Society." Methods have been discussed and suggestive plans have been presented that cannot but be productive of enlarged interest and profit in many congregations.

At the Missionary Hour "Life and Work in India" was vividly depicted by Mr. Tedford and Miss Archibald, both of India, the latter of whom appeared in native costume and told the life story of a Hindu woman. Mr. Howe, of Japan, depicted conditions of life in the Island Empire and voiced the urgent need for aggressive missionary effort in that land.

The series of addresses given at the lawn service each evening have been of a high character and have produced a deep impression. The speakers have been Rev. A. H. Demoss, of Antigonish, Mr. Rhnes, Dr. Cutten, Mrs. Chase and Rev. J. C. Robbins. Each of these speakers have emphasized service as the keynote of life and the importance of serving in line with the will of God.

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views for which Wolfville is so widely known. The Conference closes on Friday evening of this week. It is proving an unqualified success. One hundred and ten delegates are registered, this being double the registration of last year. From present indications the registration of this year will be again doubled next season.

The Good Roads Association of Kings County is now a duly incorporated body. There is much work it might do. It already has been the means of greatly increasing the interest in the use of the split log drag and by its agitation a large number of these simple, but very effective devices, have been made and used throughout the county.

On the request of the Good Roads Association the Municipal Council of Kings County has reduced the over sixty exemption from statute labor from one thousand dollars to five hundred dollars.

The Good Roads Association has had the Assistant Road Commissioner of Nova Scotia look over several important pieces of road for which he has made recommendations for substantial expenditure, and on some pieces of which work is soon to be started.

In the hands of the Treasurer of the Association there is a cash balance which it is hoped to increase to an amount which will justify the offering of substantial cash prizes for the best kept stretches of dragged roads. How to increase this cash balance is the problem. The Provincial Government appropriations do not allow for any sum to come from that source. Automobileists have been approached for special subscriptions but in view of the already large tax that comes on every auto owner they do not feel like making further donations. A membership fee of one dollar does not yield large returns and no philanthropist has yet made a donation.

If, after every summer rally, all the split log drags at present in the county were put in use for a few hours, the total result would be an improvement in our roads such as could not be obtained by the expenditure of many thousands of dollars in the usual way. The problem is, how to get those drags at work.

The secretary of the Association would be glad to receive any suggestions to place before the executive. The treasurer, Dr. W. T. M. MacKinnon, Berwick, will receive any contributions toward a proposed split-log drag prize fund or membership subscriptions. The newspapers of the county have generously offered to give space for the urging of entries to the dragging competition and various sections throughout the county have signified a willingness to enter.

The Good Roads Association is aware of the inequalities of the present statute labor system. The majority of its executive believe the present system should be changed but that would imply a direct tax. The Association asks that every man in the county who believes that the time has come for such a change to write a letter or a postal card to the secretary expressing his opinion. If the response to this request shows a sentiment for a change further steps will be taken.

Later on it is the intention of the Association to publish a commendation of the work of many road surveyors throughout the county who have shown increased interest in their sections. Many of these men have, at their own expense, done much extra dragging and have kept a careful watch on their roads, fixing up holes and keeping ditches open and bridges safe. P. F. I. Lawson, Secretary, July 27, 1914.

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