

# THE ACADIAN

WOLFVILLE, N. S., APRIL 1, 1910.

Next week the Kings County Temperance Alliance hopes to be in a position to wipe out the indebtedness incurred in the enforcement of the Canada Temperance Act in this county. As may be remembered the celebrated Townsend case was carried from court to court at large expense, and while the Alliance was successful in every particular the expenses were very heavy. The money, however, was well expended, and the decision secured proved to be of great assistance in the enforcing of the act in other counties, as well as practically ending the sale of intoxicants in this county. The Alliance has placed the citizenship of the county under great obligation by the good work done along this line, and their call for assistance to wipe out the debt has been generously met. We feel sure that there are yet some who wish to join in this final effort, and if so they are invited to hand their contributions to THE ACADIAN before April 5th.

A special meeting of the Wolfville Board of Trade is to be held in the Board rooms on Monday evening of the 5th inst. The object of the meeting may be a full attendance of members and citizens generally. An attempt will be made to reorganize the Board and create in it a new interest among our people. It is fully recognized that there is plenty of work here for such an organization to engage in, and we trust that every citizen well disposed to the call made upon him now to assist in putting the Board upon a solid footing. We believe that one of the most pressing needs of our town is a better understanding among our business men, and more unity in devising and putting to a practical test any scheme that will improve our town and add to the prosperity and well being of its citizens. Let next Monday night's meeting prove the inauguration of such a movement as will be of lasting good to the community.

THE ACADIAN has received from Mr. F. L. Fuller, government superintendent of agricultural societies, a copy of the prize list for the standing crops competition, inaugurated by the department of agriculture. The object of the competition is to encourage the production of better seed, and \$500 is offered for standing fields of oats. Experiments have demonstrated that carefully selected home-grown seed is for the most part superior to that brought from other countries. The counties are grouped into seven competitors and the money has been divided accordingly. Kings, Hants and Annapolis constitute one group, and the amount offered here is \$95, in eight prizes. An entry fee of one dollar will be charged as a guarantee of good faith. Unless there are five entries in a competition field will not be judged, in which case the entry money will be refunded. All entries, together with the necessary fees, must be forwarded not later than July 15th to Mr. F. L. Fuller, Toronto, who will be pleased to supply any information that may be desired.

Bishop Worrell has received a dispatch from Rev. T. W. Powell, M. A. of Toronto, announcing his acceptance of the offer of the presidency of King's College, his duties to commence in September. Rev. Mr. Powell is canon of St. Alban's cathedral, Toronto, and is rector of a large suburban church in that city. He is principal of St. Clement's college, one of the most prominent colleges of Toronto, and is a strong worker for temperance, in the Sunday schools and in St. Andrew's brotherhood. He is a master of arts of Trinity college, Toronto, and is a well-known educationalist.

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A Winnipeg despatch states that it is almost certain that Premier Roblin will retire from politics on account of his health, and that the mantle will fall on Hon. Robt. Rogers, who led the house through the recent session. It is stated by those who are supposed to know that Premier Roblin has fought his last political battle. He has been Premier of Manitoba about ten years.

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## A Reply to Mr. B's Last.

Mr. Bishop admits that the 'Great Commission' occurs in Matthew, but in abridged form, an assertion that may well be disputed, as in Matthew it occupies about twice as much space and about twice as many words. Matthew's gospel also contains the majestic preface of Jesus: 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth,' also at close a similarly majestic promise. The command of Christ to 'disciple all the nations' includes the preaching of the gospel and everywhere inducing men to repent and believe. This divinely authoritative commission will to the end of time remain the grand inspiration and impulse in world-wide evangelization.

As to the question of manuscript authority in THE ACADIAN of 18th inst, I distinctly admitted that scholars were somewhat divided about the authenticity of the last twelve verses of Mark. But if Dr. Conybeare succeeded in satisfying himself and Mr. Bishop that 'those verses were added by the hand of one Ariston, the Presbyter,' he has not extensively succeeded in satisfying others. Mr. Chipman did not 'contradict himself' as Mr. B. affirms. Mr. C's statement was that while 'the text of the disputed verses of Mark, also some other documents, yet it should have been added that in about all other manuscripts in which the connection is given, and in all the other versions the foregoing passage is retained. And in such statement Mr. C. quoted substantially from the critical notes of Dr. G. W. Clark's commentary on the gospels—a gentleman who enjoys the full confidence of scholarship and Christian honor of the great A. B. F. Society. In the foregoing quotation it may be seen that there is a difference between manuscripts and versions. Assuredly Mr. B. is not ignorant of that fact. In the interests of fair discussion it might be advisable for Mr. B. to make an apology for his rash assertion. In such apology he might include acknowledgment of some other unvarnished statements. I will mention but one. He says that 'ultra orthodox people deny all the results of modern scholarship' and that 'according to Mr. Chipman modern scholars are all off the track or worse.' So far as there are concerned in this charge thousands upon thousands of modern scholars, and of the rank and file of our churches, Mr. B.'s assertion is an absolute falsehood. We welcome all real light always from whatever source. Honorably take back also that charge.

In regard to Dr. A. B. Bruce and the use at that time of a volume from his pen in Acadia University, I have only to say that, ardently as I love and admire my benighted literary mother, my Governing Board and Teaching Faculty are not infallible. But Mr. B. could scarcely have made a more damaging quotation from Dr. Bruce, namely that 'he concludes that the Commission is really an idealized utterance of Jesus', that is, it is what the gospel writer thought he meant to say. Such fantastic exposition places Dr. Bruce far ahead in the company of skeptics.

Again, in THE ACADIAN of 18th inst, I cited authorities as proving the early custom among certain heathen nations of estimating time by the moon instead of the sun, thus counting as twelve years what we count as one. I hope Mr. B. has so far recovered from the shock of such information that he can now stand not only the mention of names, but also a few quotations for such authority. According to Plutarch, Numa Pompilius, the second king of Rome, who died 579 B. C., said: 'The Egyptian year at first they say, was of one month, and so though they live in the newest of all countries, they have the credit of being a more ancient nation than any reckon in their genealogies a prodigious number of years—counting months as years.'

The historian Diodorus Siculus, who flourished about 44 B. C., emphatically confirms the above. Another writer, C. A. Sheldon, affirms that 'in the columnar lists of Egyptian kings, their reigns were not always conservative. In the death of the second or third king the country was divided into Thinite or Memphite dynasties, ruling at the same time. Other independent kings also started up and reigned contemporaneously in different parts of Egypt, which fact greatly invalidates conclusions based on assumptions of consecutive reigns.' A copy of The Bible Student and Teacher, a very scholarly up-to-date magazine, says: 'A new list of papyrus brings the Egyptian calendar within 150 years of the Biblical narrative.' This much for Egypt. The archaeologist, A. H. Bayce, of Oxford, who stands in the front rank of modern scholars, says: 'The astronomical view of the old Babylonians made the moon the measure of time.' Rather heavy work Mr. B. will find it successfully to repudiate the foregoing testimonies.

With others that might be cited they go to show that, however correct by Babylonian or Egyptian tablets may have been preserved, their legends as to civilization, etc., are largely unreliable. And as the work of the archaeological excavator's pick and spade goes on, it will by comparison confirm the priority, independence and reliability of the Biblical story of the creation of the world, the origin and unity of the human race, etc., etc. How majestically Genesis opens: 'In the beginning God created, etc.' How immeasurably such divinely inspired history rises above national heathen legends. The foregoing statements Mr. C. regards as a sufficient answer to Mr. B's questions, as

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Now that two farmers are devoting all their spare time to the discussion of theological questions, with a clearness that resembles mind, it is almost time 'The Reviewer' or some other clergyman should give us some information as to the proper method to pursue in the growing of turnips and other vegetables. As a matter of fact the people of this township possess considerable ignorance with regard to the proper cultivation of vegetables, and it is surmised that they know a good deal more about theology than is absolutely necessary.

There is a growing feeling abroad that about all the theology necessary is a good truthful knowledge of the 'sermon on the mount.' 'New theology' or 'orthodox' theology would save a man about as quick as would a runaway automobile. The best outlook would appear to be that you get out of sight and hearing of the whole or the part of the 'golden rule' and such other daily ministrations as present themselves.

The Independent Toronto Saturday Night is saying some queer things about Hon. William Pugsley. The St. John Daily Telegraph, his highly owned organ, almost present to its readers a recent editorial from Saturday Night, whose editor is a bold state of mind these days because the Hazen government is proposing to build the Valley Railway in spite of the opposition of that organ and its independent non-partisan readers. We have three of the latter in Wolfville and we employ us to consult, advise and far-seeing politicians.

The banquet given R. L. Borden in Halifax is said to have been a great success. The only mistake the managers made was in not inviting some non-partisan statesman from the country to be present and tell the poor Tories just how to manage a banquet. Some of these great men are qualified to know all about banquets or anything else that's new of their business. We propose, as ever, to let the grins and totes alike manage their own machines in their own way, and the man who thinks he has, far-excellence, wisdom is generally a specialist and fool to boot.

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