

The Manitoulin By-election

In the election in Manitoulin to fill the vacancy in the Ontario Legislature caused by the death of R. H. Gamay, the battle was between R. H. Turner, the government candidate, and R. Bowman, the choice of the organized farmers. In support of the former, Premier Hearst and Hon. Messrs. Henry, McGarry and MacDiarmid appeared in the field. Supporting Mr. Bowman, secretary J. J. Morrison and A. A. Powers went up from the United Farmers of Ontario. The result of the contest was the election of the farmer candidate by a majority of about 300. In former elections the Conservative majority had ranged from 226 to 829.

The Weekly Sun, of Toronto, says: "The women were as much interested as the men. Apparently Mr. Bowman received more of the women vote in proportion than did Mr. Turner, the women being freer from political bias and in many cases voting against their husbands."

"It is idle to pretend that the Mennonites elected Mr. Bowman. It seems that there are not a dozen Mennonite families on the Island, the population of which is of British origin and largely Orange."

The Two Candidates

In Mr. Turner the Conservatives had a candidate who for 24 years had been president of the Conservative Association of the riding. He was personally popular, known owner and manager of a telephone company which extended the whole length and breadth of the Island, and with other large business interests. Back of him was a political organization which had been perfected by the late R. R. Gamay.

Mr. Bowman is a farmer, 32 years of age, with no experience in politics, but possessed of good judgment, pleasing personality, and, as the event showed, of "winning ways." His supporters had organizations in only nine of the 40 polling places in the district.

Mr. Bowman's Platform

Mr. Bowman's platform included the Public Ownership and Operation of Public Utilities, Civil Service Reform, Abolition of All Patronage and District Legislation. Coupled with these planks was the appeal against partyism as the source of the evils of political life and the proposal to substitute for it a representation of the important interests of the country, chief among which was agriculture, now inadequately represented in the Ontario Legislature by 12 members in a House of 111, these representatives of the various industries to meet in parliament not for the purpose of playing the game of politics but as the directors of a great business institution would meet, to give each to the other the benefit of their experience and judgment for the purpose of managing for the benefit of the whole community the business of that community. Evidently this platform appealed to the electors.

Can Sit on His Milking Stool

In an interview in the Weekly Sun, J. J. Morrison, secretary of the U.F.O., mentioned that Premier Hearst had said that Mr. Bowman, if elected, would have no standing in the Legislature—he could not sit in the government side, and there would be no place for him among the Liberals. Said Mr. Morrison: "Speaking in the same hall on the next night I said this was exactly what we wanted; we did not want Mr. Bowman in the House as the representative of either one of the old party machines but as a representative of agriculture. 'And probably,' I added, 'if he can sit nowhere else they will let him take his milking stool into the House and sit on that.'"

The Value of Competition

Realizing the value of the child-life in this present age of youthful activity on the farm, in the city, and in every home, the agricultural secretary of the Glen Bain municipality, Saskatchewan, G. Kilshaw, a returned soldier, laid a plan before the teachers of his district whereby it was made possible for the teachers and scholars of the various schools in his division to take part in what proved to be an eventful day and one that will live long in the memories of those who participated. The teachers, with their flocks, assembled at Arnold school on June 7, 1918.

The morning was given to lectures

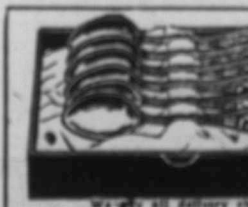
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and a very interesting lecture on weeds was given by Mr. Lloyd, of the department of agriculture, who kept the children in high glee as he recalled to their minds the definition of a weed. The answers given were many and to the older persons present the days of youth came back with a thought of the mistakes that we had made in trying to describe that a weed was a plant that grew in its wrong place. We all felt that a few more interesting talks

along this line, given in our public schools, would not only prove helpful but would make the life of the children more bright and would enable the child to take that long walk from home to school with a keener desire to be in attendance when the bell rang. The little plant by the wayside would encourage him to be ready and active in the spring of life for the winter will come and put an end to his learning. Noon was spent in recreation and a compe-



School Children of Glen Bain Municipality in a Stock Judging Competition.



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tion in baseball between the various schools took place. The result of this event is not finished yet for the different schools have and are still continuing to visit each other on Friday evenings to finish the competition that received its start at the gathering in June.

In the afternoon another lecture was given on Poultry Raising by Mr. Holman, from the department of agriculture. His lecture proved even more interesting than that given in the forenoon for the children were much more conversant with poultry than with weeds. After the lecture was finished the children took part in the stock-judging competition that was held in the school grounds. It was nearly five o'clock before the last child left for home. Everyone was tired, which is the usual result of a successful day.

The value of this day will reveal itself in the future progress made by the children who took part in this grand event and we feel that our community life has advanced both socially and educationally as a result of this gathering.—Rev. A. S. Oliver, Driver, Sask.