

THE EXERCISE OF THE FRANCHISE

A Problem of Much Importance Today

(Halifax Recorder, editorial)

It is probable that not more than half the qualified voters went to the polls in the City and County of Halifax at the election on the 5th inst. This is the case at nearly every election. It is harder work for committees and political organizations to persuade the people to go to the polls than it is to persuade them that this or that policy is the correct one. Most of the expenses of elections are due to the fact that it is necessary to provide some "inducements" for the people to exercise the privilege of their franchise. This is remarkable but it is true. In Canada, when some years ago, it was claimed that there was more corruption in election than in any country in the world, the chief reason for the payment of money was the desire to get the voters to the ballot boxes. It was not infrequent for a canvasser to be told by a voter that he was "too busy" that he "could not afford to lose the day" that he "had business elsewhere" all of which excuses the canvasser knew were simply preliminary to a bargain as to the nature of the "inducement" that would take him to the polling place in order to fulfill his duty as a citizen.

Sometimes it was considered expedient by committees to camouflage "inducements" by the hiring of the voter's team to haul himself and perhaps a neighbor or two to the election booth. Then, of course the voter expected that he would be fed and entertained with cigars and anything else that was going. The party that was able to fulfill all these conditions was considered corrupt and no doubt properly considered, but it was a tremendous advantage in the getting of votes and whichever party had the most money had the better chances. Another expenditure has arisen which was not contemplated. The use of the motor car is now very general in elections and the extension of the franchise to the women has made it almost imperative for both parties to be

gracious enough to see that the ladies get to the polls with as little inconvenience as possible. Nothing is more delightful on a fine day for the average woman elector than a drive in company with her neighbors in order to exercise the franchise, and realizing this, election managers and committees have found it necessary to provide automobiles on polling day. To pay for the hire of these automobiles means a greater expenditure than used to be required to pay for the teams of voters, so large sums of money are required for elections in spite of the fact that the corrupt practice of buying votes has somewhat disappeared.

Of course there is a law upon the Statute Books that in Federal elections at least voters shall not be taken to the polls at the expense of anybody else. But this regulation is honored more by its breach than its observance. Both parties, with that unfortunate disregard for law that seems to be prevalent in every circle at the present time, simply ignore the statutes that would restrict their liberty of action and cost them their election if anybody were inclined to protest the result.

How to bring about such a condition as will induce the people to go to the polls and exercise their franchise at elections without having to be persuaded to do so is a problem. It has been suggested that only those people who record their vote at one election should be enfranchised for the next contest. Of course in addition to their votes there should be the votes of those who became of age and qualified in the interval and no doubt there would be some provision to excuse those who were so ill that they could not attend at the polling booth. But such a law as would disfranchise any man who did not interest himself enough to go to the polls will appeal to many right-thinking people who believe that the franchise once given, should be exercised. The campaign to obtain votes for women was long and strenuous and now that the franchise has been so extended the least they can do is to exercise their privilege when the opportunity offers. If they become as indifferent and as speculative as many of their husbands, their brothers and their sons, the value of the franchise to them will materially decrease.

Some years ago a Halifax country election was set aside because the

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"Fruit-a-tives" Relieved Both Dropsy and Sick Kidneys

The Wonder of Fruit Medicine

Those who know they have Kidney Trouble—who suffer with pain in the back—who are up frequently at night—will welcome the news that "Fruit-a-tives", the wonderful medicine made from fruit juices and tonics, will positively relieve Kidney and Bladder Troubles—as proven by this letter.

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Fort Robinson, Ont.
50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c.
At dealers or from Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.



Promotes warmth, comfort, builds energy. SCOTT'S EMULSION

The total wheat production of Canada in 1922 was 399,786,400 bushels of which Saskatchewan produced 250,167,000 bushels.

The Eskimos give the doctor his fee as soon as he calls. If the patient recovers he keeps it and if not it is returned.

Heads of large implement and machinery firms in Edmonton and Calgary state that for every acre of corn that was sown in Alberta last year ten will be sown this year.

1923 will be the greatest prospecting year shown so far in Northern Ontario. The largest rush of prospectors is in the district extending from Swastika for a hundred miles east into the Province of Quebec.

Grain men and others in Calgary already forecast the probable yield of wheat in Alberta this year at something in the neighborhood of 100,000,000 bushels. This estimate is based on the 65,000,000 bushel crop of last year.

The total wheat production in Canada has grown from 16,723,000 bushels in 1871 to over 399,000,000 in 1922. The number of elevators in 1905 was 825 with capacity for 18,320,332 bushels. To-day the capacity of 3,924 elevators in Canada is 231,633,420 bushels.

The Canadian Pacific Railway have further reduced the freight rate on horses from prairie stations to all eastern Canada points. The old rate on horses from Moose Jaw to Montreal or Toronto was \$1.39 1/2 per hundred pounds. The new rate will be \$1.20 1/2 or a saving to the farmer of 33¢ per car.

"Will Summers," owned by His Majesty the King, was recently brought to Canada on the Canadian Pacific Steamer "Marbura" and will be kept at the "Prince of Wales" Club in Calgary for breeding purposes. This famous five-year-old has a pedigree back to Orms and Golein, the former sire of Elyng Fox and the latter a Derby winner.

It is reported that the head of the textile department of Leeds University, England, has invented a process for the making of artificial wool from cotton waste. The basis of the process is cellulose acetate. The product wears well as wool, it is said, will take the dye of any desired color and is considered a better insulator than natural wool.

During the last fiscal year Canadian exports of tobacco amounted to 71,901 pounds with a value of \$175,826. Of this value the United Kingdom accounted for \$135,784, the United States \$5,216 and other countries \$34,826. There are 125 tobacco factories in Canada, Quebec and Ontario being the principal producers.

Running on schedule the Canadian Pacific liner "Empress of Canada," Captain A. J. Halley, again demonstrated her right to the claim of "Queen of the Pacific." The Canadian vessel left Vancouver 24 hours after the American liner "President McKinley" and arrived in Yokohama five hours in the lead.

The British Government is completing at Chatham the largest and most wonderful under-water craft in the world. On the surface she will displace 2,750 tons and when submerged 3,500 tons, this displacement being 1,400 tons greater than that of the largest German submarine. With a twelve-inch gun the new submarine will be able to bombard any object and then quickly disappear under the sea.

GOOD HEALTH IN A NUTSHELL

It is an easy thing to keep in good health during the winter. One doctor says that all a fellow has to do is to eat lots of fruit juices. Fruit juices prevent colds by building up the white corpuscles.

Another doc says that by starting the day with a cold bath everything will be fine.

Still another doc says that a long walk in the morning and another one just before retiring will keep anybody in fine condition.

"Keep your vigor intact by taking a long automobile ride every day," says a motor magazine.

One M.D. opines that fifteen minutes of exercise in the morning will carry anybody through a day, and that microbes won't have any effect on a man who exercises regularly.

One specialist says that if a person keeps his thoughts on the finer things of life he won't catch any cold or get any other physical ailment.

Still another one says that if the temperature in a house never gets above 68 degrees there will be no danger of colds.

So there you have it in a nutshell

Take It From Me

Money, health and teeth are among the hardest things to keep.

Nothing will take the stupidity out of a man like a second wife.

Recipe for making blunders: Do your thinking afterward!

Respectability is a destination that can be reached only by working your own passage.

Some people make a specialty of appearing virtuous just for the reputation of the thing.

Faith loses its halo when it induces you to believe things that your common sense tells you are not so.

Hes Heck says: "Half the joy in eatin' soup is the taste and the other half is the noise."

Here and There

Buffalo in Wainwright reserve increase at the rate of about 2,000 each year.

The output of coal from Canadian mines during January, 1923, amounted to 1,743,800 tons.

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NEVER ON TIME
"My dear," he complained
you have kept me on the corner
for two hours. Meanwhile, I have
missed an important engagement
at the office. You are always late
You keep people waiting. You
keep me waiting. It is a very
serious fault. 'It may cause me to
lose a lot of money some day.'
His wife merely favored him
with a pretty pout. But he kept on.
"Oh, bother. I always break a
watch."
"At least carry a calendar," he
urged.



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Wishing All a Prosperous and Happy New Year

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