

The Planet.

Business Office 53
Editorial Room 102
S. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1906.

THE NORMAL SCHOOL.

The proposed action of the Ontario Government, to establish three new Normal schools, is one which has been received all over the Province with words of the heartiest commendation. The question of education is one of the most important of any now before the public, and it is receiving able treatment at the hands of Mr. Whitney and his colleagues.

Chatham's claims for one of these new schools are many. As has been pointed out, there are at present no Government institutions situated in the Maple City, and, apart from that, there is no other place in Ontario so perfectly suited for an institution of this kind. Situated as it is in the very centre of the three counties—Essex, Kent and Lambton—from which it would draw the great majority of its students, it would be decidedly the most convenient city for all wishing to attend a Normal school in the western portion of the province. We have, also, as has so often been remarked by educationists from all over the Dominion, the most up-to-date, finest equipped and best managed schools in Ontario. The public school teachers educated in these schools, and trained in our own Model school, are always in demand and stand high in the vast host of educational workers in the Province. Why should not a city, which has provided such facilities for school training, be recognized and rewarded?

The joint committee appointed to present the Maple City's claims before the Government, is working earnestly and faithfully. These gentlemen, who are among the most prominent and influential citizens of the community, deserve the highest praise for their prompt action in securing an audience with the Hon. the Minister of Education for Wednesday next. It now rests with them to put the case clearly and effectively before him, and knowing the gentlemen as we do, we are quite certain that this will be done.

Whatever the outcome may be—and the prospects for success are very bright—the community will owe to the gentlemen on this committee a hearty vote of thanks for the time and energy they are expending in the interests of our city.

PULPWOOD CONCESSION REFORM

Most important is the announcement of the measures to be taken by the Ontario Government in relation to the pulpwood resources of the Crown Lands, says the Mail and Empire. This announcement was not unexpected. It changes into a reality the professions and the promises which Mr. Whitney tendered to the people when he was in Opposition. His Government is now dealing with the pulpwood assets of the province exactly as the urged the Ross Government to deal with them, exactly as he pledged himself to deal with them.

Hereafter pulpwood tracts will be disposed of in limits, that is, in defined parcels, as pine has long been disposed of. And at such times as it is deemed to be in the public interest to sell pulpwood limits, certain ones designated will be put up at auction after being duly advertised. If the Government's upset price is not realized, the limits will not be sold. Thus the province will get whatever bonus the competition of bidders will bring or it will keep the timber. Of course, the tracts offered will be of such extent as appears to be requisite for the maintaining of a large mill in an adequate supply of raw material, but there will no longer be any areas granted on the magnificent scale of those conveyed by the Ross Government. These, which spread over the country north of the C. P. R. main line as if they were great countries, are not in the interest of the pulp and paper industry of this province. In the first place, their magnitude has a tendency to scare away other people who wish to establish pulp and paper mills in Northern Ontario. Against competitors in possession of such great resources of timber, manufacturers with modest capital might feel that they would have no chance. In the second place, the seeming advantage of the concessionaire under the Ross system is deceptive, as settlers are free to rush in and occupy the land, clearing the pulpwood away as fast as they please. That is, the Ross type of concession deters competition and does not ensure an unfailing supply of material. Under the new arrangement these two defects will disappear. There will be no blanket limits, and the pulp and paper makers who pay for timber and go

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to great expense to build mills and construct power works for the manufacture of such timber into product can rely upon getting what they contracted for.

Two new conditions have been adopted as supplementary reforms, conditions in the interest of the public as well as that of the limit-holders. The better to perpetuate the supply of timber, the Government has raised the minimum measurement of trees eligible to be cut from the present diameter of six inches on the stump to one of eight inches. This provides for speedier and surer renewal of crop. Further, the fire-ranger service will be strengthened, and in every way made efficient for the protection of the limits. Five Ross agreements which were not carried out have been cancelled. Any disposition hereafter to be made of them will be subject to the new conditions laid down by the Government.

A Grim Wager.

Wagers have sometimes taken a grim form. It is credibly recorded that in the eighteenth century a wager was laid for one of a party of gay revelers to enter Westminster abbey at the hour of midnight. He was to enter one of the vaults beneath the abbey, and in proof of his having been there he was to stick a fork into a coffin which had recently been deposited there. He accomplished his object and was returning in triumph when he felt himself suddenly caught and was so overcome with terror that he fell in a swoon. His companions, not being able to account for his long absence, found him in this condition. The fork which he had fastened into the coffin had caught and pinned his long cloak and so occasioned a fit of terror which nearly proved fatal.

The Partridge and the Fowler.

A Fowler caught a Partridge and was about to kill him. The Partridge earnestly besought him to spare his life, saying: "Pray, master, permit me to live and I will entice many Partridges to you in recompense for your mercy to me." The Fowler replied: "I shall now with the less scruple take your life, because you are willing to save it at the cost of betraying your friends and relations," and without more ado he twisted his neck and put him in his bag with his other game. Those who would sacrifice their friends to save themselves from harm are not entitled to mercy.—Æsop.

No Sleep For The Kidneys.

Old people are especially liable to Kidney and Bladder Irritation. The organs are weakened by age. This starts up inflammation—blood is not properly purified as it goes to the kidneys—and the bladder is unable to retain the urine properly. There is a constant desire to urinate day and night—and sound, restful sleep is unknown.

Bu-Uu

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