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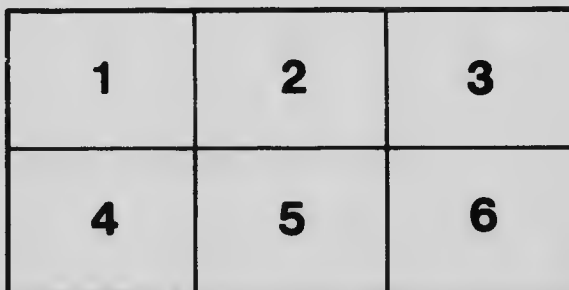
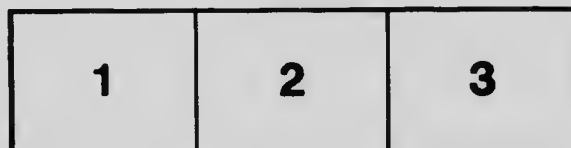
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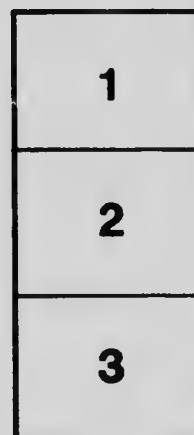
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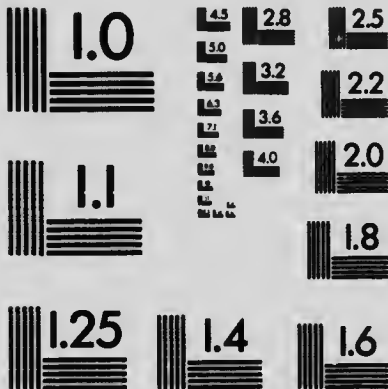
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# PROGRESSIVE ONTARIO



BY

J. C. BOYLEN

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# PROGRESSIVE ONTARIO

BY J. C. BOYLEN

**M**ARITIME Ontario, with ports on tidewater, is one of the glimpses given of the future by the Provincial Government's undertaking to develop and people the upper and greater portion of the Province. Sir James Whitney and his Government are pledging Ontario's credit for five million dollars and as much more as may be necessary for the opening up of this virgin country the size of a European empire.

The Provincial map has been rolled back beyond the Albany River. The District of Patricia is the latest challenge to the trail blazer. No longer is the territory from the Height of Land to James Bay a strange country. The names of its great rivers are now familiar, and its valleys "filled with hush to the brim" are being stirred from their solitude.

Ontario's only maritime outlet has been over the unsalted seas of her south. Now the men in charge of the Ontario Government Railway have declared that the Province is in possession of at least one good harbour on James Bay. This railway, the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario, is within 175 miles of the Bay. Surveys for the extension of the road to the mouth of the Moose are being made, and the addition of the District of Patricia has given a shoreline of six hundred miles of tidewater and has resulted in Ontario securing a great share of the grain port to be established at the terminus of the Hudson Bay Railway.

This new epoch in Ontario's

history suggests a review of the progress made by the Province that is regarded by its citizens as being still the back-bone of Confederation. That it is a far cry from the Ontario of to-day to the Upper Canada of 1866 is obvious. Seven years are declared to work a complete change in the physical life of man, and if that be true, the last seven years of Ontario's history have wrought a transformation and have witnessed events and movements that mark these as great times in which to live. The strides made by Ontario in the last decade have been made in such busy times that he who stops to contemplate them feels compelled to stop longer and make sure that he is borne out by the record.

From a revenue of \$6,128,358 in 1904 to one of \$9,370,833 for the latest fiscal year indicates that Ontario has increased in material wealth. In seven years her field crops have increased in value by over forty million, eight hundred thousand dollars and the lands which produced them have increased in value by a like sum. Ontario's field crops to-day represent over one hundred and seventy-five millions in cash and the fields in which they grow by over six hundred and eighty millions. Live stock on farms to-day is worth twenty-five millions. The total permanent assets of the agricultural industry exceed one billion three hundred millions—an increase in seven years of nearly one hundred and fifteen millions.

With the discovery of Cobalt and



MOOSE FACTORY, ONTARIO'S PORT ON TIDEWATER

the finding of Porcupine the mining industry in the Province has bounded from an output valued at \$11,572,647 in 1904, to one valued at \$41,976,797 in 1911. Ontario is first in nickel and third in silver among the mineral countries of the world.

But the price of this material progress has been generous and judicious expenditure. The sources of revenue for a province are limited. Ontario's revenue last year exceeded that of Toronto, the capital city, by only three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Progress under such limitations depends almost entirely upon the development of the sources of revenue available. This is no light task when it is remarked that the Province has appropriated for this year two million and forty-four thousand dollars for education, over one million for agriculture and colonisation, one million three hundred thousand dollars for the maintenance of public institutions, seven hundred and forty-seven thousand dollars for the administration of justice; that four hundred and twenty thousand dollars is given in grants to hospitals and

charities and that the cost of civil government and legislation is over one million dollars.

This means that there has been an increase in the last seven years of over one hundred per cent. in the appropriations for agriculture, that over one million dollars more is being spent upon primary and secondary education, and nearly half a million dollars more upon the maintenance of public institutions such as hospitals for the insane, prisons and corrective institutions.

Out of the increased revenue the income of the University of Toronto, which is the Provincial University, has been increased from \$143,715 in 1904 to \$488,575 in 1911. This institution, the property of the people of Ontario, now ranks as one of the leading universities of the continent. Some surprise was created at the Allied Colonial Universities Conference in Great Britain a few years ago when it was learned that the University of Toronto was not only a teaching university but that research work was carried on in its leading departments. There were old country pedagogues who smiled indulgently at





A GROUP OF BUILDINGS, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

first at such news. With the reorganisation of the University in 1906 a new spirit has been created and fresh vigour infused. Departments have been enlarged and new buildings added. The affiliated colleges are getting closer to the main buildings of the university system. Knox is being removed to the campus-side and Trinity will locate across the street from Wycliffe. The University Press is an up-to-date publishing house, and its output would be a credit to any seat of learning. A walk through the University grounds for a view of the buildings, inharmonious as some of them may be, is a delight. Nothing indicates Ontario's true progress more convincingly than these temples of science and culture.

To-day the pioneer veterinary school of the continent is a Government institution affiliated with the University of Toronto. It was taken over from private hands in 1908 in the interests of the live stock industry and is now under the Department of Agriculture. The new On-

tario Veterinary College is to be housed on University Avenue in a modern building now under construction.

Not only in imparting knowledge to the farmer, but in adding to agricultural knowledge is the Ontario Agricultural College devoted and earning for itself the standing of a university of agriculture. Affiliation with the University of Toronto has added to the academic standing of the college. Research and experiments in improving the fecundity of soil, improving the methods of breeding of live stock and poultry, improving the quality of seed, advancing methods of stock feeding and dairying and in eliminating the great waste attendant upon the industry of agriculture are carried on. Bulletins are issued giving the results of experiments and investigations. The attendance at the college has almost doubled since 1904.

A sense of public duty caused four million dollars to be spent to construct a transmission system for the distribution of electricity generated





A NORTHERN ONTARIO HOMESTEAD

by the waterfalls of the Province to provide a supply for municipalities and users of power at cost. The work is a monument to the unselfish labours of the Honourable Adam Beck and is a triumph of engineering. To date it is the last word in the distribution of electricity.

The Hydro-Electric enterprise, comprising a high tension system at present extending over three hundred miles with over three thousand steel towers carrying over twelve hundred miles of cable and its scheme of plain but wonderful transformer stations, was carried through for a sum within the estimate, something new in the construction of a public work. Opposition to the project on the part of the private interests antagonistic to it was so determined that even the very right of the Legislative Assembly to enact the legislation authorising it was attacked. Ontario's answer to that application was one so unanswerable that the legislation was undisturbed. As an assertion of the rights of provinces to legislate on matters within their own jurisdiction Ontario's answer on that occasion is a state document of prime importance. So

thoroughly does it deal with the matter that the likelihood of such a question being raised again is remote. Now some of the benefits of the Whitney-Beck cheap power policy are being felt. Ontario's predominance as a manufacturing province is assured.

This predominance will be maintained by the soldier of the industrial army. His numbers are rapidly increasing in Ontario, and with them are increasing the dangers and occupational diseases that daily incapacitate many. Compensation to workmen for injuries is under consideration and legislation to that end only seems to await the selection of the best method of compensation. It is virtually proposed that where a man is injured in the course of his employment the fact that he is injured establishes his right to compensation.

Since Sir James Whitney's "Scaffolding Act" the list of casualties on sky-scrapers and other steel-framed buildings has been shortened. As the steel frames of these structures are reared the girders to hold the floor on the storey below the workmen must be covered with planks. Workmen aloft who miss their foot-



INSPECTING A VEGETABLE GARDEN AT ENGLEHART NORTHERN ONTARIO

ing are no longer in danger of falling through a network of beams to the basement and generally to death.

Ontario has demonstrated that a government owned railway can be made to pay. The administration and operation of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway is a triumph for public ownership and a tribute to the railroad ability, business acumen and public spirit of Mr. J. L. Englehart, the Chairman of the Commission operating the railway for the Government. The success of the operation of this railway is no small achievement when it is remembered that it received no assistance whatever in the way of a Dominion subsidy, such as other railways have received. In 1906 the earnings over expenses were \$181,525. while in 1910 the earnings over expenses were \$426,490. The line has a strategic position in connection with the transcontinental lines, run-

ning as it does north and south. To take full advantage of this position much of the older portion of the railway has been rebuilt. The Grand Trunk system has secured running rights over this line which connects its Ontario system at North Bay with its transcontinental artery at Cochrane. For these rights the Grand Trunk Railway is to pay a rental of \$300,000 a year and a percentage of the maintenance charges of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway.

Railway legislation has been progressive. Since 1906 no railway has been allowed a franchise extending beyond twenty-five years. The day of the perpetual franchise is over. Since 1906 there has been a Railway and Municipal Board, so that the public now have a tribunal authorised to deal with all grievances arising from the operation of railways under provincial jurisdiction. This



THE HONOURABLE MR. HANNA INSPECTING THE CATTLE AT THE "JAIL" FARM

Board is also a tribunal for the protection of the telephone user, particularly the rural subscriber. Under the Charters Telephone Act the Board can compel any telephone company operating under provincial authority to exchange with any other company similarly authorised that declines to be accommodating. Under an arrangement with the Federal authorities connection is secured for the rural telephone subscriber over the lines of the Bell Company, which operates under a Dominion authority.

Of territory the Province has plenty. Population is what counts. How to develop this territory to employ and to support a population is one of the high functions of government that Ontario's administration is endeavoring to perform with an earnestness which critics do not question. The Ontario boy has been made to think twice now before he decides to go west. "Stay in Ontario" is a slogan which rings in his ears. At Sir James Whitney's suggestion the present Dominion Government plans to assist the Provinces in their tasks by making them grants out of the Federal surpluses in aid of agriculture and in aid of highway improvement. This means much for Ontario.

The rapid growth of Ontario's cities and the increase in her industrial population have taxed the counties to their limit for the production of a food supply. The farmer has found that his output was far from sufficient and through lack of skilled help it was growing less. The high cost of living became an acute condition. Lack of farm help means smaller areas under cultivation and smaller dairy herds. This means idle acres and impoverished land, while increasing urban populations require an increased food supply.

Action on the part of the Government to relieve this situation continues in aggressiveness. The efforts of the Department of Agriculture to help the farmer are carried on through channels that have numerous ramifications. The story of the activities of the Department would be a chronicle in itself. Through his Provincial Government the farmer has a hand on his shoulder continually. Since 1907 the District Representative has been abroad in the land, and wherever he has appeared the farmer has taken hope. His acres have doubled and trebled in production. Years ago, when the Premier, Sir James Whitney, led the Opposition as Mr. J. P. Whitney, he saw



AN ONTARIO GOVERNMENT "HEALTH" EXHIBIT

the difficulty of reaching the average farmer through the class-rooms of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. Class-rooms were too small for such work, and the work to be done was urgent. When Sir James's opportunity came the best the Ontario Agricultural College could give was sent into the counties as far as the funds would allow. The emissary was a trained agriculturist and he is showing the farmer how to get the best out of his land, how to renew its strength, how to care for his orchard and how to adopt business methods in the marketing of his produce. The District Representative is on the staff of the High School or Collegiate Institute in the locality in which he is stationed.

Out of the Ontario Agricultural College men—and women, too—are coming every year who carry messages of hope to rural Ontario. These

messages are delivered in many ways. The District Representatives take run-down orchards, for instance, and demonstrate how spraying and care can increase the yield as high as 500 per cent! Old counties like Norfolk and Lambton have taken new leases of life. Seven years ago no such work was done. This year there are about fifty demonstration orchards.

This increase in production requires marketing facilities. Here Ontario again took her farmer by the hand. The Province made it possible for him to ship his berries, grapes, peaches and orchard crops to the prairies. The Western demand has grown to such proportions that this year the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable J. S. Duff, appointed a Market Commissioner with headquarters in Winnipeg to keep the Ontario fruit farmer posted on the condition of the prairie market.



THE HONOURABLE MR. BECK ADDRESSING FARMERS ON THE MERITS OF  
ELECTRICITY AS AN ADJUNCT TO FARMING

In London the staff of the Ontario Government office in the Strand have introduced Ontario peaches to the marketers of Covent Garden.

Seed and stock shows challenge the farmer to grow his best, and the prizes awarded confer on him the standing that his husbandry deserves. Field crop competitions came with the District Representative. In 1907 when these competitions were organised there were 325 competitors who entered crops covering 3,000 acres. Last year there were 18,000 competitors who entered crops covering 28,000 acres!

But dairying and intense cultivation are problems on the farm in

these days of higher standards and meagre supply of labour. The man who can solve the farmers' problem of how to secure help, of how to get the most out of his land and of how to make the life of himself and his family happier and less laborious will be the man of the hour. The Honourable Adam Beck, of Hydro-Electric fame, has tackled these problems, and the eyes of Ontario are upon him. To teach the public to use electricity and to supply it to them at cost has almost become a religion with him. What he has done for the manufacturer and the city dweller, he now aims to do for the farmer. During this autumn the Hydro-Electric

Power Commission, of which he is chairman, is giving demonstrations in various rural localities of what electricity can do on the farm. In each district on a farm near which is a low tension transmission line supplying some municipality Mr. Beck and his demonstrators thresh the grain by a separator driven by a portable motor installed at the barn door and supplied with power by a cable hooked onto the transmission line at the roadside.

But the main part of the demonstrator's outfit is a collection of farm machinery and utensils which are put in operation by electricity.

With a two-horse-power motor, a circular saw, a pump, a grain chopper, milking machines, a cream separator, a washing machine, a cooker, a toaster and a number of other things may be operated if used in their natural place on the day's programme on a warm. A three-horse-power motor will drive an ensilage cutter. The possibilities such demonstrations suggest are many.

Advanced indeed have been the steps in the last seven years for the protection of public health. Milk, that prime incubator of germs and disseminator of disease, is now produced and marketed under sanitary conditions. In 1909 the Government appointed a Milk Commission whose members awakened the Province to the evils arising from unclean dairying and careless handling of milk. The recommendations of the Commission are embodied in one of the most progressive statutes of any state. The consumer now receives a supply measuring up to a strength and delivered as carefully as testing and inspection can ensure.

Rivers and streams are no longer allowed to be polluted with sewage. Tuberculosis is now classed as a communicable disease, and every medical man is compelled to notify the local and provincial officers of health of all cases of communicable disease coming under his care. Vaccination

is compulsory when in the opinion of the authorities public health is menaced. The Province has been divided into Health Districts and each district is in charge of a medical officer with ample power to carry out the law. He owes his appointment to no local body and is therefore beyond local influence. The sanitary campaign is being waged diligently. Travelling exhibits show how to ventilate the sleeping room and the sick room, how to feed the baby, and how to care for the consumptive. He who runs may read circulars, pamphlets and booklets issued under government auspices on all subjects pertaining to sanitation and health. Prevention rather than cure is the new gospel. The physician of tomorrow is the sanitarian.

The baby is an object of no small concern. Infant mortality occurs at a rate that is an economic loss. Infant mortality is about twenty-eight per cent. of the death rate, while the rate for consumption is not more than eight per cent. Nearly ten thousand children die in Ontario every year. The campaign of education in charge of Dr. J. W. S. McCullough, chief Health Officer of Ontario, who is assisted in this particular branch of work by Dr. Helen MacMurchy, is being diligently carried on, that the mother may be informed and the child given a chance.

"The science of penology" has now few students in Ontario. Stone walls no longer a prison make. Society's weaker members now atone for their mistakes under uplifting conditions and have a chance to return to society more fit than when they were taken away from it. The Honourable W. J. Hanna has inaugurated a new era in the work of treating the criminal. Instead of being guarded behind walls and made an unwilling competitor with free labour, he is put on his honour and sent out into the fields of the new prison farm near Guelph by the Provincial Secretary. The unfortunate



whose liberty the law has demanded is no longer caged and confined in the manner that the term convict has long expressed. He is put out in the open and there are no striped clothes to make him feel that he is an outcast. He goes to his rest like a human being and is not herded into a cage like a wild beast by guards who cover the corridors with rifles. Humane as the old Central Prison was thought to be with its patch of garden, its broom factory and wood-ware shops, it is a relic of barbarism compared to the central corrective institution of the Province today and its companion institution at Port Arthur. Instead of the congested old Central Prison being a reformatory it was too often a con-firmatory. Its disappearance to make room for industrial progress will be the removal of a landmark that many unfortunates will show no haste to remember.

The offender has cause to take hope when he is taken to the prison farm to serve his term. It lies with him whether he will serve the full length of that term, for in connection with the institution is the Parole Board, which rewards good conduct and obedience with shortened terms. The liberated man goes out to the world with no prison pallor on his face and with spirit unbroken. Neither does he go penniless. His term of toil brings pecuniary reward which enables him to return to employment dependent on no one, with a new attitude toward the future.

Legislation has also been placed on the statute book by Mr. Hanna enabling municipalities to discard their dungeon-like jails for the farm idea. Toronto has taken advantage of this opportunity and the victim of city temptations is not now put where enforced confinement and idleness leave him brooding. He is placed on a farm a few miles north of the city where his strength of mind and body is renewed by toil in the open. The poor inebriate recovers his will

among surroundings where he is treated as a man and where those with him are regarded as men.

Another reform is being wrought by the Provincial Secretary. He has designated, and organised as far as possible, the Asylums for the Insane as Hospitals for the Insane, and it is his object to make them hospitals in fact as well as in name. To that end the Government has acquired an estate of 600 acres at Whitby where those who are so unfortunate as to be mentally afflicted can be cared for among natural surroundings and with a minimum of confinement. They will be occupants of cottages and residential buildings and not of "institutions." They will spend their days and nights under conditions as normal as their state will permit, and their individuality will be regarded and cultivated as far as circumstances will allow.

Social problems of various kinds have been dealt with by the energetic Provincial Secretary. Handling the liquor traffic of a province like Ontario is a man's job, and Mr. Hanna's efforts in that direction have been creditable. Under his leadership in curtailing it by mandate and regulating it by license Ontario has gone a long way in the last seven years towards minimising the evils of the traffic. His opponents criticise him for not having gone far enough, but the bar has been abolished in all communities where there is a public opinion sufficient to effect abolition under the procedure provided. There were 2,384 licensed taverns in 1905 and this year there are about 1,500.

Forestry is being carried on in a practical manner. At one time the provincial revenue was augmented annually by more than a million dollars by periodical auctions of timber limits. Over a million of the revenue of 1904 was from this source. Since that time the practice has been discontinued. Now the Government is buying timber instead of selling it.



Till two years ago Algonquin Park, covering over 2,000 square miles, was a collection of timber limits on which lumbermen had licenses to cut both pine and hardwood. Cutting was going on at a rate that threatened the sources of several rivers. Conservation measures were resolved upon for removal of the forest growth would destroy the park and would injure the streams which had their sources in the park. The Government has spent \$290,000 to extinguish timber licenses covering 219 square miles of the park and in some adjoining townships covering 132 square miles which have been added to the reservation. Provision has been made for securing by purchase the surrender of other licenses in the reserve. Ontario's six forest reserves cover an area of 18,000 square miles.

Now no timber is sold except where forest areas have been damaged by fire. Timber so damaged must of necessity be sold and sold promptly. When such sales take place the areas are divided into small berths so that the small operator can be in as good a position to tender as his big competitor. Timber put up for sale on such occasions is offered at a rate per thousand feet instead of a rate per mile, and this ensures that all the timber cut shall be paid for.

With the increase in the value of timber the Government felt warranted in increasing the fees on timber licenses. The rate of dues was increased from \$1 to \$1.50 a thousand feet board measure and on square timber from \$20 to \$50 a thousand feet cubic. The ground rent was increased from \$3 to \$5 a mile.

The trend of public and high school education has taken a practical turn and promises to be more rational. The overcrowding of the professions and the imperfect provision made for the training of skilled workmen have demonstrated that the tendency has been to educate the young mind away from labour

and handicraft rather than to equip that mind for the day's work in practical life. As a state Ontario has been a most generous supporter of education. But it is not too much to say that the results obtained are none too satisfactory considering the money spent. This tendency to give cultural training rather than vocational training is a relic, to some extent, of the days when the population of the Province was not so well served by the professions and when manufacturing was carried on only in a comparatively small way.

Classes in agriculture are already in the rural schools. They are in charge of the District Representatives whose other duties have become so pressing that their work as teachers cannot be given the attention it requires. Sir James Whitney has recently announced that these classes are soon to be conducted by teachers who will be graduates in the new agriculture course established by the Ontario Government. The teacher-in-training who makes agriculture his specialty is to take a four years' course, the first two years to be spent in Toronto, McMaster and Queen's University, and the second two years at the Ontario Agricultural College.

Cautious but steady steps are being taken to give the school teacher a professional standing in the eyes of the public and to secure for the members of that profession salaries that will induce them to follow that calling longer. The Honourable Dr. R. A. Pyne, the Minister of Education, has a devoted assistant in his deputy minister, Dr. A. H. Colquhoun, in his efforts to attain those ends. Failure on the part of the school boards to pay adequate salaries is not the least of the causes of the scarcity of teachers. The cost of a public school education is being lowered. Now a set of public school readers costs forty-nine cents; formerly these books cost \$1.15.

