

R WILFRID LAURIER REPLIES TO ADDRESS

And Assures Ottawa City Council That the Government Will Continue Its Efforts to Improve and Beautify the City

Ottawa, Nov. 15.—The mayor to-day recorded the following letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, expressing thanks for the resolution sent by the council last night. The premier writes: "Dear Mr. Mayor: I have received a copy of the resolution which was unanimously adopted by the council of the city of Ottawa on the 7th of Nov. last, to offer its sincere congratulations upon the decisive and what must be to me the gratifying manner in which I have again been returned to power by the electorate of Canada."

government will continue their efforts to improve and beautify Ottawa, and to make it over more worthy of its position as capital of this young and growing country. This letter will be read at the next council meeting and placed in the minutes. The rumors which have been in circulation of late with regard to the acquisition of the Ottawa and New York railway by the New York Central, according to advices, are well founded. H. W. Gays, manager of the road, is in New York in connection with the matter, and when he returns a definite announcement is looked for. The road has been on the market for a long time, and now likely to be disposed of. Sir Wilfrid Laurier leaves tomorrow morning for Quebec, to see the Minto send off. He will return here on Saturday, and will leave for California on Monday. Hon. W. S. Fielding returned to-night from the maritime provinces, and got a great reception from his numerous friends, on account of his brilliant victory.

NOVA SCOTIA'S NEW COLLEGE To be Opened at Truro in January Next.

Some time ago the local government determined to build and equip a central Agricultural College in Truro to replace the structure destroyed by fire, but on a larger scale and with a view to the greater encouragement of agricultural development in this province.

A Recorder representative learning that this institution was about completed, and that preparations were being made for its opening, called on B. W. Chipman, the Province's capable secretary of agriculture, this morning and he confirmed the above. Mr. Chipman said that the government of the province had been particularly fortunate in securing the services of Prof. Melville Cumming, B. A., to act as Principal. Mr. Cumming has been in the city this past week and arrangements are now complete for his assuming the charge of the institution at the first of the new year. Mr. Cumming is a native of Truro, son of Rev. Dr. Thomas Cumming, formerly of that town, who is now in Salt Springs, Pictou Co. Prof. Cumming is therefore not only well qualified to act as Principal from a knowledge of the local situation, but is otherwise well trained for his work. He is a graduate in Arts from Dalhousie University, a graduate from Iowa Agricultural College, and Guelph Agricultural College, Ontario. At the present time he is vice-principal of Guelph College, and lecturer on animal husbandry there; the principal, Professor Creighton, being also of Nova Scotia origin. The province, and especially the farming community, are particularly fortunate in being able to secure the services of Prof. Cumming as Principal.

The government have also appointed Prof. Sears, now of the Wolfville Horticultural School as Director of Horticulture in the new institution. Prof. Sears' work in the interests of fruit growing in this province is already widely known and appreciated. He comes to the larger field that we all trust is opening in this new college, with undoubted prospects of successful continuation of his splendid work for horticulture.

The building which is practically completed, with the exception of the furnishings, will cost about \$50,000, and will be a credit to the province in every way. Its appointments are modern and up-to-date and very favorably with any similar institution elsewhere, dimensions alone barred. The formal opening of the college will take place on or about January 24th next, with a series of short courses in annual husbandry, cultivation of soils, poultry raising, dairying, horticulture and the courses will conclude with a series of lectures. The formal opening of the college will be a grand affair. At the formal opening of the Agricultural College address will be delivered by some of the best and ablest agriculturists in Canada, positive announcement of this being made a little later.

Heart Palpitation at Night Rattles even the strongest man, but to the average woman it is a taste of general purgatory. Take a little Nerviline in sweetened water and away goes the palpitation. You'll be saved lots of worry by keeping Nerviline on hand, which is a treasure for all sorts of pains and aches. Nerviline cures headache, stomach and bowel troubles quickly. Costs 25c. for a large bottle.

SHE WAS SURPRISED. (Charlottetown Guardian.) Rev. R. S. Patterson, Bedegus, P. E. I., John McLean, Richibucto, N. B., and J. L. Murdoch, St. John's Church, Windsor, were the first students educated in Pictou Seminary under the late Dr. McCulloch. After finishing their studies in Nova Scotia they were sent to Glasgow, Scotland, where they received their degree of M. A. On arriving in Scotland three young men called on a minister to whom they had letters of introduction. After a few minutes conversation the minister called to his wife to come and see the three young preachers who had just come from Nova Scotia. On entering the room she lifted up her hands in astonishment saying: "Ay, mon—the're no' black."

A DISCUSSION OF THE GOTHENBURG SYSTEM.

(Montreal Witness.) The Gothenburg system was discussed last night at the first meeting for the session of the Montreal Economic and Statistical Society, which was held at the Corona Hotel. Prof. A. W. Flux, vice-president, in the chair, Prof. R. E. Macnaghten, B. A., lecturer in McGill University read a paper on the subject, and among other members present were Ald. Ames, W. F., the Rev. John Williams, W. F. Carley, R. H. Lane, Dr. Hicks, Prof. Tory, Hal Brown, S. P. Stearns, Dr. J. M. Elder, D. M. McGoun, Mr. Archibald, McGoun, K. C., Mr. Burke and Mr. David Williamson.

The chairman announced that the programme of the session on which they were entering would include papers by Mr. Roswell Fisher on "The Claims of the Wage-earner," Mr. Lightfall on "The Municipal Government," Mr. Stearns on "Alexander Hamilton," Mr. Judge, on "Food supply of the Empire," Dr. Hicks, on a subject not yet announced, and Prof. A. W. Flux, on "Reciprocity and Preference." Some talk took place as to the change of the name of the society, and "The Political Economy Club, of Montreal," was suggested, but no action was taken. Prof. Macnaghten's name was then balloted on, and he was admitted as a member of the society. Having expressed his thanks he proceeded to address the meeting on the subject of the Gothenburg system. It was, he said, the first and only attempt to deal with the liquor traffic by scientific lines. If the principle was studied impartially, it was bound to meet with approval. There was one point to emphasize. It was the principle of the system, and not its petty details, he was going to bring to their notice. His address would not be on the Gothenburg system and its relation to the whole scheme of temperance reform.

There was a consensus of opinion among judges, statesmen, clergy and people all over the English-speaking world that most of the crime was due to the enormous waste of money on the present system. The total estimated annual expenditure on alcoholic drinks in the United Kingdom was over £162,000,000. When the population was considered and the fact that many of the people were living in abject poverty, it was not surprising that the public house was the necessary outlet for the sale of alcohol. Public economy and morality demanded reform. They started, then, with this unanimous consensus of opinion in favor of reform, although there was no consensus of opinion as to what that reform should be. To begin with, it was necessary to analyze the conditions of the present system. The real and radical defect of that system was that the public house was conducted as a shop. It was a shop the same as any other shop, except in one particular, namely, that other shops could exist in any number, but in this particular trade the number of shops was limited by law. The consequence of that was that every one of these shops had a license for the sale of alcohol had an absolute or partial monopoly, and that the shop-keeping instinct of the retailer was enhanced by his having a certain amount of monopoly. The consequence of the public house being a shop was that the publican by the law of commerce was bound to push the sale of his own particular wares. That they had no other wares, alcoholic wares had nothing to do with the argument. He submitted that the publican was not to be blamed for that. Some people seemed to think that the publican was a man of whom one could not say bad things enough. The publican had as much right to earn his living in a trade licensed by law as any other trader. He was not to be blamed for the disastrous consequences of the traffic. It was the system that was at fault.

Again, in an ordinary shop there was no temptation to buy goods beyond one's actual needs, but they all knew that men, not lunatics, went in to drink only one glass and come out incapable of knowing how much they had drunk. The publican, owing to the law of commerce, bought in the cheapest market, purchasing his spirits at the lowest possible prices, to retail them at the greatest profit. There were many kinds of alcohol, and there was probably as much difference between two glasses of alcohol as between two glasses of water, one perfectly pure, the other containing the germs of typhoid fever; and the law of commerce did not lead the publican to supply the best. There had been two general classes of remedies proposed, the first prohibition, the other the Gothenburg System. High licensing, local option, and similar plans belonged to the first class, and the Public House Trust System in England to the second. Prohibition appeared to have the merit of simplicity, but it had been weighed in the balance and found wanting. Prohibition, in fact, did not prohibit, at least in the towns. In the country it was a partial success. The other class of remedies was represented by the Gothenburg System, and the importance of this system lay in the principle not in the details. The real principle of the Gothenburg System was the elimination of private profit. Again, the Gothenburg System at Gothenburg was a first attempt, and it was, necessarily, an imperfect experiment. The locomotive constructed by George Stephenson was also imperfect, but no one made its imperfections the grounds for arguments against railroads. The Gothenburg System applied in Gothenburg solely to the sale of spirits, and had nothing whatever to do with the sale of malt-liquors. There was there practically a system of free trade in the sale of malted liquors. This was a fact that the enemies of the system had neglected when they dealt with the statistics of drunkenness in Gothenburg.

In giving a historical sketch of the origin of the system, the lecturer mentioned that, to begin with, the company in Gothenburg closed nearly one-third of the public-houses. The weakness of the system was that the profits were given in aid of the local rates. The profits should have been applied to meet purposes, as free libraries, parks, gymnasias and the like. That was a serious defect, but the defect could easily be remedied. It was not an inherent part of the system. The real principle of the system was the elimination of private profit combined with a scientific recognition of the fact that all distilled liquor be properly rectified before being sold for consumption. The manager was given a commission on the food and non-intoxicants that he sold and none on the alcoholic liquors. All else was detail. The advantage of the system was that it recognized the existence of the law of commerce to which he had referred, and utilized it in the interests of public morality. In the case of a public house under present conditions the moment a man went into it it was the interest of the proprietor, manager or bar tender to endeavor to sell him as much liquor as he would be induced to take, and he was a bad shop-keeper, a bad shop-keeper unless he induced the customer to part with his last farthing. But under the Gothenburg system the manager said to himself, "Here is a man who wants a glass of beer. I do not want to sell him that because I will make no profit on it. I want to sell him tea and food because of the commission on it." He knew that every time he opened a bottle of whiskey and drew a glass of beer he was wasting his time. The lecturer claimed for this principle two things. It was absolutely automatic. That point needed no further argument. Every time a customer went into a house on the Gothenburg system the principle was bound to work. Secondly, he claimed that this principle was eminently flexible. The stimulus to increase the sale of food and non-intoxicants could be increased by increasing the commission on them and keeping the fixed wage as before, or if it were thought that a manager of a public house was careless, his fixed wage could be reduced and his commission on food and drink increased sufficiently to stimulate his zeal. The objections to the Gothenburg system, the lecturer argued, were not made by impartial persons, but by persons who believed in prohibition, who were crying and sighing for the moon of prohibition and were not content with anything less than the complete prohibition of the sale of spirits, that is, under the Gothenburg system. One objection to the system was that it was not common to the statistics of one town with the statistics of another, and what was worse, the statistics of one country with another where the police regulations were absolutely different. The only statistics that were trustworthy were those relating to the same town at different periods. Lastly it was urged that the element of private profit was not altogether eliminated because the shares paid a small percentage. A man who was getting three percent for his money in a bank unless he were to lose money should receive interest on it on investing in a public house company or on the Gothenburg system, and there must be a margin of possible profit to balance a margin of possible loss. The interest on shares in a public house trust company in England was 5 percent, which was only 2 percent above what the depositor could get in a bank on absolutely safe security. He did not think there was much substance in the objections in the question of private profit. He submitted that he had shown that the system should be applied in some form in Canada. He believed that by this means they would reach a solution of the liquor question, and he hoped that something would be done to bring about this desirable solution.

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On the motion of Ald. Ames Professor Macnaghten was thanked for his lucid paper, the chairman remarking that the subject had been recently brought into notice in discussion with the appointment of the new Governor-General. In the discussion that followed in which Mr. Ames, Mr. Stearns, Professor Tory, Mr. McGoun and others took part, the points dwelt on were the adulteration of liquor, especially in Montreal; the character of the class of men who are engaged in the liquor traffic; the value of the high licensing system; the question of how the Gothenburg or any other system could be applied to cities, the open violation of the license laws and the failure of public sentiment to enforce the law.

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Belleisle Bay. S. S. Beatrice E. Waring will leave St. John for Head of Belleisle and intermediate points every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 11 a. m. Returning, leave Belleisle on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 a. m. B. E. WARING, Mgr. Phone 611A.

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