

THE WEST WILL RULE DESTINY OF CANADA.

Territories Will Have a Million People in Five Years---Growth of Calgary---The Mormons---Autonomy---Church Union Is Universally Favored.

(Montreal Witness.)

Lieutenant-Governor Forget, of the North-West territories, and Madame Forget, have just arrived from Regina, to spend a few weeks with their friends in Montreal.

His Honor is as sanguine as ever over the prospects of Canada's great prairie lands, and he fully confirms his prophecy of last year, when he declared that, with a continuance of the present tide of immigration, the Territories would, in five years, have a population of one million inhabitants. Looking into the more remote future, he now believes that in twenty-five years the North-West Territories will contain a greater population than that possessed today by the whole Dominion, and that the majority of the representatives in the House of Commons will come from that section of Canada.

The Lieutenant Governor also finds that business goes on increasing as the population grows. Regina, with a population of 6,000 souls, has six banks, while Edmonton has seven, and all are doing a good business. The people read a good deal, and the sixty newspapers now published in the Territories are well patronized, and it would be difficult to find a home that does not receive one or more of these papers.

As regards the present high value of real estate in Winnipeg, Edmonton, and other western cities, Mr. Forget says that while conservative minds fear a reaction, others believe that the present state of things is justified by the increasing population and the advantages to be derived from the many new railways to be built in the new future.

Far from considering the present number of railways in North-Western Canada as too large, Mr. Forget believes there will be another still further north, the Trans-Canada.

As to the creation of one or more provinces, His Honor says that the people are divided on the question. Some are in favor of one province, others would like to see the Territories divided north and south into two provinces, and still a third lot of people opine for a division east and west.

He expressed the belief that when Sir John A. Macdonald created Alberta, Saskatchewan, Assiniboia and Athabaska as provincial districts for postal purposes, he had in his mind that these would one day be so many provinces.

Speaking of the general appearance of the country, the Lieutenant-Governor says that while, some years ago, the lack of houses gave one a lonesome feeling, to-day the vacant spaces is the exception, especially along the different railway lines.

Growth of Calgary.

W. G. Hunt manager in Alberta for the Massey-Harris Company, with headquarters at Calgary, has only been about a year in his new quarters, having previously represented the firm in Montreal for many years. Now, returning for a brief space to the city, it is with glow and animation that he speaks of the present conditions in the Northwest, and the marvellous possibilities of the immediate future.

As to material development, Mr. Hunt tells of the city of Calgary, which, a few years ago, boasted of two or three thousand souls, and which now contains twelve thousand inhabitants—a city which is growing by leaps and bounds, which is lovely for situation, which has all public institutions of a wholesome and educational character, which is building new churches and which makes the claim that for situation, for contiguity to population, for the advantages of a great future, it should be the capital of the proposed new Province of Alberta; tells of the growth of the whole of Alberta, the thrift and prosperity of the Mormons, the assimilating qualities shown by the Galicians, the new towns which are springing up, while as for the wheat of Southern Alberta—the fall wheat—it is the best in the world, and the wheat-growing belt is the most to be desired of any part of Canada.

The Mormons.

Mr. Hunt mentions the Mormons more particularly. Mr. Hunt has gone in and amongst them, and says he found them sober, thrifty, prosperous, and moral. They conform to Canadian laws and there had not been a hint of polygamy. At the same time they believe in polygamy as a principle of doctrine. What intelligent Mormons have said is this: "The law of the land is against polygamy, therefore, we don't practice it. There are many Mormons in Alberta who would not practice polygamy, even if the law of the country allowed it, and yet such believe in the rightness of the principle. Most of the people, of whom there are about ten thousand, came from the State of Utah, and therefore they are imbued with the principles of Mormonism," although Mr. Hunt recently met a young man from Australia, who had been converted to Mormonism in the course of one year's acquaintance of the country, and who told him that he fully believed in the principle of polygamy. The Mormons say that they have no objections to the religion of the Gentiles; they simply say that the Gentiles do not go far enough; they don't teach or practice all that there is in their Bible, especially polygamy, which they consider is plainly taught therein.

But Mr. Hunt considers that the Mormons are good citizens. They look after their women and children and the men go out to the farms, upon which they live for a week, coming home to their families on the Saturday. The women and children all living in the towns have the advantages of social life which would be absent on the farms. Their church is all in all. They obey their bishops as the Roman Catholics obey their spiritual guides. They have all sorts of children's guilds, for they recognize the importance of forming the plastic mind after their own model.

The West Will Rule.

As to the question of autonomy, Mr. Hunt said the Territories were about ripe for it, but that the people in the North-West had no thought of being handicapped with any obligation in respect to the school question. They must have the free control of their education. There must be no binding of the people either as to the present or the future. If that were attempted there would be trouble. Autonomy they want, but autonomy without any handicap.

Mr. Hunt mentioned what he considered the advantages of Calgary over Edmonton, as the site for the capital of the province of Alberta. Calgary is on the main line of the C. P. R.; the Grand Trunk Pacific will lay a branch from their new line to the city, in which there are now, by the way, thirty-five wholesale establishments, and in which, in a few years there will be a population of twenty-five thousand.

"This is the point of importance," said Mr. Hunt, "the North-West will play a larger part, both politically and otherwise, in the Dominion than the North-Western States in the United States can ever play, for this reason: In the United States there are immense populations in the east, which is congested; consequently, the east will exert a preponderance of political power. With us the case is different. We have no great populations in the east. The whole breadth of habitable territory from the southern boundary northward is but a narrow strip at the widest. On the other hand, we have in the meridian of Calgary a richly-habitable country with small variation in climate extending four hundred and fifty miles north and south. As a result, the North-West will, before long, be sending fifty members to parliament. This will change the centre of political gravity, and will bring about remarkable results in many ways.

"When people speak of the North-West they lump Manitoba and the Territories together. Do you know that Calgary is farther west from Winnipeg than Montreal is distant from Chicago?"

Church Union.

In the west Mr. Hunt says that every thinking person who cares at all about religious matters, is in favor of church union. There has been a waste of men and money in new centres. Mr. Hunt, at public meetings has called it highway robbery. "You find three churches in a small place where one would do the work of three men where one would be enough. They preached that the people should bring the tithes into the storehouse that nothing be lost! The way the thing happened was this—a certain centre looked promising. One body said they must have a church there to meet the coming needs; another saw an opportunity for expansion. Perhaps three churches were built; perhaps the place did not grow; and the result was three churches and three ministers, where one church and one minister would do. The union church, where that existed, worked all right. Each felt a pride of one religion.

Mr. Hunt was a delegate to the recent Toronto conference. He had been an ardent advocate of church union for years, and spoke in glowing terms of the admirable spirit which prevailed at the conference. At the joint conference, the subject was discussed in a general way all day, without a single 'snag' being struck. Each body seemed to think, not how much we get, but how much can we give. It was felt that all had much in common. One Presbyterian minister said that if he could not preach Arminianism—that is, if he could not proclaim a full and free salvation for every creature on earth, he would retire from the church; another said that before Arminianism, before Calvin, God had been with his people, and he would still be with them in the new departure; a third said that there had been too much accentuation put upon certain views of the different theological schools. All were animated by a

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FOR YOUNG MEN.

Honest work, honest words, honest dealing—that would be a good motto for a young man to begin life with. You may be dishonest without speaking a word or taking a shilling out of any man's pocket. It is dishonest to slight your task; to be satisfied with anything short of doing your best. The schoolboy who goes to his class with a lesson but half learned is laying the foundation of a dishonest habit. Thoroughness is honesty-faithful preparation for every work. Let your ambition be to do work that will stand the test of time and endure in eternity.

SWEET CAPORAL
CIGARETTES
STANDARD OF THE WORLD

MORNING NEWS IN BRIEF.

Local.

Rev. J. D. Marr, pastor of the Carleton Methodist church, made a few remarks regarding the boxing match in City Hall west end, this afternoon in his morning sermon yesterday. He said that it was despicable that men such as Littlejohn and Jordan should engage in such a low sport. He does not altogether blame these men, however, but says that the man who granted the license is to blame. Mr. Marr's remarks were strong and his opinion of Mayor White granting a license for the boxing exhibition was clearly expressed.

A service in memory of the late pastor, Rev. H. H. Kouch was held in Main St. Baptist church last evening. Rev. Dr. G. O. Gates delivered an eloquent discourse on the life of the late pastor. A large congregation was present.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce have assumed their duties as superintendent and matron of the Industrial Home. Mr. and Mrs. Longley left the institution on Thursday last.

Rev. Dr. Gates reports that up to date replies from 220 Baptists communities in the maritime provinces have been received forming union with the Free Baptists of New Brunswick.

The offices of Main street Baptist church Sunday school have decided to postpone indefinitely the feast and cantata in connection with the Christmas season. Rev. Mr. Coppitts will officiate as the church's pastor, temporarily.

Ernest Appleby has been engaged as tenor soloist of St. Andrew's church choir during the winter season.

Provincial.

The fire on Saturday afternoon, in Sydney Hotel, Sydney, C. B., caused damage estimated at upwards of \$5,000 mostly by water, to furniture, furnishings and carpets. The girls lost all their belongings. One of the bell boys named Connolly, was sleeping in an attic room and narrowly escaped suffocation.

At Ottawa, on Saturday, an order-in-council was passed allowing the law to take its course in the case of Thomas Cammack, now in Woodstock, (N. B.), jail under sentence of death, for the murder of his brother-in-law, Willie Doherty. Cammack will be hanged on Jan. 12. Radcliffe will be in British Columbia then and it will be necessary to get some local man to do the work of the hangman.

Jennie Debois, wife of Robert B. Boak, of Chicago, died Saturday. She was a native of Bathurst N.B. and the body will be brought to Halifax the funeral to take place from the home of the late Sir Robert Boak.

Word is received by Pickford & Bjelke at Halifax, of the drowning of Michael Morrissey, aged twenty-seven, a native of Newfoundland, at Dominica, West Indies. A boat captained and the occupants were thrown into the water. Others swam for the boat, but Morrissey never came to the surface. He was of the steamer Dahome.

But for the coolness of physicians and nurses twenty-five patients of the New England sanitarium at Stoneham, Mass., which was partially destroyed by fire last night, would have lost their lives. A. B. Chapman, of St. John, a paralytic, was, while in a chair, brought through the flames by the wife of Dr. Otis. The loss is \$25,000 and the insurance \$15,000.

General.

Dr. Leroy S. Chadwick was on Saturday, on his arrival at New York, taken to Hoboken police headquarters and finally left for Cleveland not as a prisoner, but as a spirit of generosity, and all felt that the Spirit of God was operating to bring about a union.

Mr. Hunt feels that within about a year the various sub-committees will be able to report to the joint committee. There is a vast amount of work to be done. Each member will receive full information as to the questions of doctrine, polity, administration, and the like, so as to be fully informed. As to the title of the new united church, that was not suggested formally. The 'United Evangelical Church,' the 'United Church,' these names had been suggested, but the baptism will be simple when all other difficulties have been conquered.

WESTERN SABBATH.

Rev. J. G. Shearer Reports That It Is Well Observed, Even by Foreigners---Glacé Bay Case.

Rev. J. G. Shearer, General Secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, has returned to Toronto from a four months' trip in the interests of the Alliance, through Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia. He reports that he was most favorably impressed with the manner in which the Sabbath was observed even among the recent arrivals from Europe and the United States.

In an interview with a reporter of the News, Mr. Shearer said: "Regarding the attitude of the people of the west toward the Lord's Day, I would say that I believe the prevailing public opinion in the west is, if anything, in advance of that in Ontario and eastern Canada, except in the case of British Columbia, where it is less so, owing to the special conditions peculiar to mining and lumbering districts. There is a tendency on the part of the Europeans and Americans to deprecate the Sabbath by labor, business or sport, but they rarely repeat the offence. The Canadian settlers, either through the Lord's Day Alliance, or the Northwest Mounted Police, or both, take prompt action in case a second offence is committed with the result that the settlers after a few years' experience of the Canadian Sabbath, appreciate the advantages of it almost as much as we do ourselves.

"Recently an enraged official of the Alliance broke up a broncho-busting party at Hartney, where a number of American rough riders were amusing the populace on a Sunday; though it was a question as to whether he had the law on his side.

"The habit of drinking would seem to be on the increase in Manitoba, being made more generally possible by the administration of the license system against which one hears on every hand serious complaints.

"We have just received word that the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia has dismissed the appeal of the Sydney Glacé Bay Electric Railway Company against the judgment of the County Court, holding that all the employees of the company are liable for working on Sunday. This will enable the Alliance in that place to put a stop to the high-handed policy of American capitalists who have been endeavoring to force Sunday cars on the community. It will also apply to Pictou county, where similar trouble exists."

Beauman. Still in a brown study. Always thinking about something.

Wise—So are you, but it is always about your clothes. The result is apparent in the case of either of us. I get creases in my forehead and you have them in your trousers.

FOREST FIRES.

(Forest and Stream.)

The terrors of fire on the prairie or in the forest have often been pictured. Volumes of early travel over the plains of the southwest describe the fury and speed of a conflagration of the prairie, the mingling of beasts ferocious and gentle in a common flight, and, after the fire had passed by, the blackened smoking land strewn with carcasses.

Not a few among our readers have witnessed such scenes, and in early days it was not uncommon to find on the prairie old buffalo bulls whose sight had been destroyed by the flames through which they had run. Even within a few months we have seen in Dakota a prairie fire, which traveling over level land, ate up within our view the stacks and buildings of a prosperous farmer.

There recently occurred a deplorable conflagration in the St. Mary's country in northern Montana, a region well known to many of our readers. The fire started within the forest reserve on the head of Swift Current river, among dead tops left years ago by persons cutting timber for houses or for mining use. The wind was blowing a gale, and, once beyond control, the fire destroyed the local saw-mill near the town of Alton, one house in that town, and thence swept down through a fine body of timber south of Swift Current river and over on to Boulder Creek, and perhaps all around Flat Top mountain. The few houses occupied by miners and squatters within the area covered by the fire were all destroyed, together with all their domestic animals. For fury and swiftness no fire like this was ever seen, even in that country of forest fires. The heat was so intense that fish were cooked in Boulder creek, and within a mile of Swift Current valley a bull elk was found roasted in the timber.

A large area of mountain and valley once covered with beautiful green timber is thus now a blackened waste, and many years must elapse before the country shall become reforested. The danger to the forest from the heaps of dry tops left here through the inefficiency of an employe of the land office was long ago recognized, and the attention of the land office called to the peril. To its failure to act in the premises is due this disastrous fire.

It is just probable that legislation will be passed next session giving power to the dominion government to increase the representation of the west in the Canadian senate to 24. At confederation there were three groups of senators, each group comprising 24. One group for the maritime provinces, one for Quebec and one for Ontario. The intention now is to make a fourth group of 24 for the Territories west of Lake Superior, which would make 96 senators in all. There are at present 11 senators west of Lake Superior.

The Boston board of aldermen Saturday afternoon voted 8 to 4 in favor of establishing a municipal gas plant, but Chairman Doyle held that the order failed of passage because it did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote.

Newfoundland is prosperous. The revenue for the last half year is the largest yet known.

John Mollenhauer, founder of the Mollenhauer refineries, one of the largest plants of the kind in the world, died Saturday night at New York of cerebral hemorrhage.

Two offers of \$50,000 bail have been made to Nan Patterson, at New York. One is by May Irvin, and another by three prominent citizens of Fairmont W. Va. Mr. Jerome will not accept the bail.

For the first time in the history of United Italy, clerical aldermen went to the Quirinal at Rome yesterday to extend the Year's greetings to King Victor Emmanuel.

C. A. Billingsley, president of the Capital National Bank, at Guthrie, O. T., which failed last June with \$1,000,000 deposits, was indicted on Saturday on seven counts.

Cardinal Richard, Archbishop of Paris, has given out a letter from Pope Pius X. in which the pontiff says in relation to the French government's attitude to the church of Rome: "Neither will the bitterness of the offence be able to turn us from love of our nation, nor will the progress of the offense ever make us despair of a return to better conditions."

THE AMENDE HONORABLE.

We desire to correct a slight error that crept into our columns last week either through the stupidity or the natural clumsiness of one Jim Richards, whom out of the goodness of our heart we had taken in his hour of need and given a job as printer on this publication. In an article announcing the appearance of a book of poems by our esteemed townsman, Mr. Rubie Crowther, we took occasion to refer to the gentleman as the leading literary light of Laurel Hill. Much to our regret, as we need hardly say, the word "weight" was added to our remarks, making us, wholly without our knowledge and distinctly against our will, speak of Mr. Crowther as "the leading literary light weight" of this city. We have only to say that we have discharged the guilty party and recommended Mr. Crowther's poetry to all lovers of genuine literature. We would also say in this connection that our highly gifted and rapidly rising poet's father, Mr. G. Crowther, has just received a large supply of boots and shoes, hats, caps, and harness, which it would be well to examine before buying elsewhere. Mr. Crowther is also paying the highest market price for butter and eggs. See his ad on page four. The Crowthers are able to trace their ancestry back in a direct line to the Mayflower.—(Laurel Hill Lightning Arrester.)

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SMOKING A CIGAR.

"I have a customer who thinks he smokes twenty cigars a day," said a dealer to a reporter. "As a matter of fact he gives away many of them and throws away some that are only partly consumed. However, he is firm in the belief that he smokes more actual tobacco than any man in town, and a boast on the subject in my store recently led to a curious bet. He declared, to begin with, that he could smoke three ordinary cigars in half an hour. A bystander remarked that no man alive could smoke even one cigar continuously until it was consumed without taking it from his lips. 'Bosh!' said the man; 'I do that right along, and think nothing of it.' 'I'll bet you a box of perfectos you can't do it right now,' said the other, and in half a minute the wager was made. By its terms the cigar was to be consumed in steady, consecutive puffs, and not removed from the lips until burned to a mark one and a half inches from the tip. A clear Havana Colorado maduro was selected for the test, and the smoker took a seat and began. He puffed like an engine for about two minutes and accumulated something under half an inch of ash, and then he began to wobble. He shifted the cigar from side to side, pulled slow and fast, and seemed to have difficulty getting his breath between the draws. At any rate, he kept turning his head to avoid the smoke, and finally got to laughing. I could see he was in torture, but he stuck to it until he got within half an inch of the mark. Then he jumped up suddenly, threw the cigar away, and walked out of the shop. I paid the bet and charged it to his account, and he told me last evening that the very idea of tobacco made him sick. I doubt whether it would be possible for anybody to smoke even a moderately strong cigar through in the manner I have described."—(Kansas City Journal.)

SUGGESTIONS BY READERS FOR INTERESTING FEATURES OF THE TIMES WILL BE WELCOMED AND GIVEN FULL CONSIDERATION.

Jones (at the bank)—"Must I be identified?"

Teller—"Not unless you wish—the check is no good."

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