

THE DISPATCH.

Board of Works

VOL. I. NO. 43.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., MARCH 27, 1895.

PRICE TWO CENTS

IN A NUT SHELL.

MANITOBA SCHOOL QUESTION SUMMARIZED IN BRIEF.

What Remedial Legislation Means.—Reasons Given by the Privy Council for its Decision.—Greenway will Appeal to the People.—Delicate Case for Parliament.

The governor-general-in-council has recommended, with regard to the Manitoba school question, that "It seems requisite that the system of education embodied in the two Acts of 1890 should be supplemented by a Provincial Act which would restore to the Roman Catholic minority the rights and privileges of which such minority has been deprived."

The two acts of 1890 established the public school system now in vogue in Manitoba, and against which the various appeals have been made. Before the passage of these acts separate schools existed in the province.

The judicial committee of the privy council decided that the acts of 1890 were intra vires of the Manitoba legislation, on an appeal on the ground that they were not, as they did not affect the rights of minorities existing before the union in 1870.

The Manitoba act under the provision of which Manitoba came into the union, provides that an appeal shall be from any act of the provincial legislature to the governor-general-in-council if such act "prejudicially affects any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools which any class of persons have by law or practice in the province at the union."

On this ground an appeal was made to the supreme court of Canada asking for a declaration that the governor-general-in-council (really the Dominion Parliament) had the right to interfere and give remedial legislation against the public school act of 1890. This court decided that no interference was justifiable, but the judicial committee of the privy council, the highest court in the empire, has reversed the decision of the supreme court of Canada. Their Lordships in giving their decision say:—"Contrast the position of the Roman Catholics prior and subsequent to the Acts from which they appeal. Before these passed into law there existed denominational schools, of which the control and management were in the hands of the Roman Catholics, who could select the books to be used and determine the character of the religious teachings. These schools received their proportionate share of the money contributed for school purposes out of the general taxation of the province, and the money raised for these purposes by local assessment was, so far as it fell upon Catholics, applied only towards the support of Catholic schools. What is the position of the Roman Catholic minority under the Acts of 1890? Schools of their own denomination, conducted according to their views, will receive no aid from the State. They must depend entirely for their support upon the contributions of the Roman Catholic community, while the taxes out of which State aid is granted to the schools provided for by the statute fall alike on Catholics and Protestants. Moreover, while the Catholic inhabitants remain liable to local assessment for school purposes, the proceeds of that assessment are no longer destined to any extent for the support of Catholic schools, but afford the means of maintaining schools which they regard as no more suitable for the education of Catholic children than if they were distinctively Protestant in their character. In view of this comparison, it does not seem possible to say that the rights and privileges of the Roman Catholic minority in relation to education which existed prior to 1890 have not been affected."

They further say, "It is certainly not essential that the statutes repealed by the Act of 1890 should be re-enacted, or that the precise provisions of these statutes should again be made law. The system of education embodied in the Acts of 1890 no doubt commends itself to, and adequately supplies, the wants of the great majority of the inhabitants of the province. All legitimate ground of complaint would be removed if that system were supplemented by provisions which would remove the grievance upon which the appeal is founded, and were modified so far as might be necessary to give effect to these provisions."

The government of Canada has sent a document to the government of Manitoba, making the suggestion which is quoted at the beginning of the article.

Without doubt the Manitoba government will refuse to interfere. Mr. Greenway, the premier, will appeal to the people, and will, no doubt, be sustained, as the majority in

the province is strongly in favor of the public school system.

Then the Dominion Government will have to act, and it may well pray for wisdom to act rightly. THE DISPATCH thinks that this is a problem in the solution of which both parties should unite. We want no general election on the "race and religion" cry. The two parties united in the Jesuits estates question; they may, with more reason, unite on this question which is quite as perplexing.

Parliament is called for the 18th of April. The action of our legislators on this Manitoba school question will be closely scrutinized and unsparingly criticized.

In an editorial opposing interference by the Dominion, the Toronto Globe says:—"The ground upon which the so-called relief is to be granted is not that Manitoba at the time she entered the Union had a Separate School system which the acts of 1890 destroyed. That ground was cut away by the first judgment of the privy council. It is simply that a majority of the people of Manitoba in 1871, after the Union, established a system of Separate Schools, and that in 1890 a majority of the people of Manitoba abolished that system. So, in effect, it is a declaration that a province may establish a Separate School system but must not abolish it; may by law enlarge the privileges of the minority but must never diminish them."

The Mail and Empire quotes from an article in the Week by Principal Grant. "Possibly no Government and no Parliament of Canada would dream of doing more than simply to call the attention of Manitoba to the decision of the Privy Council, and express the confident hope that it will hasten to remedy the grievances under which, in the judgment of high and impartial authorities, a minority of its people are suffering. To such an appeal the mind and heart of Manitoba would surely respond." And it adds, "The determination of the Government is entirely in this line. It calls for no interference with the Public schools; it relates the complaints of the minority, and it casts upon Manitoba the responsibility of acting. The procedure, while in accordance with the decision of the Judicial Committee is moderate."

Awful Calamity.

SALT LAKE CITY, March 26.—The explosion at Rocky Mountain coal mine No. 5, situated at Red Canyon, Wyo., is believed to have killed 80 men, who are imprisoned in the mine, in addition to 10 who were in the power house above ground, or near the shaft openings. The slopes and entrances to the lower workings are all blocked by wreckage, and it is thought at least three days will be required for rescuing parties to reach the bodies. The horror occurred at 5.45 yesterday afternoon at No. 5 Central Pacific mine, Red Canyon, five miles north of Evanston. The explosion in the mine shocked the whole country around, wrecked the power plant, a fan house and several other buildings, entailing heavy loss, but the death roll far overshadows other considerations. Edwin Cox, the outside carpenter; James Bruce, outside boss; James W. Clark, Wm. Sellers, jr., and James Gally, an Austrian, were killed in the power house, while O. Maltby, foreman; Jerry Crawford and Andrew Mason were injured and died soon afterwards, the last three being about the power house at the time of the explosion. A few hours later the dead bodies of James Limb and Fred Morgan were brought from the slope only a short distance down. A great throng of people gathered around the mine anxiously inquiring regarding friends known to be in the mine. All hope of any of them being alive is gone. No one, after seeing the ghastly spectacle presented by the two bodies brought out of the slope, could have any hope of anyone in the mine being alive. How many were in the mine at the time of the explosion will take time to tell, but the best information obtainable places the number at over 80. Nearly all known to be killed leave large families.

The shock of the explosion was felt for miles around and was distinctly heard at Evanston, seven miles away. The scene about the mine is heart-sickening. The air was filled with the screams of 50 widows and 250 orphans. They gathered about and saw the remains of loved ones brought to the surface. The explosion blew out or loosened all the timbering and supports and cracked or shattered the walls and roof so that the work of recovering the dead is difficult. It is thought the 38 men who have not been found were gathered on the seventh level to await the coming of the last man trip of the day which was to take them to the surface. A few lives were saved because of the time of the explosion. The miners quit work at 6 o'clock and it is customary for them to be near the entrance and come out just as the whistle blows. A number of men had come out, and some had just left the entrance to the mine slope away from the working tunnel when the explosion occurred, thus escaping death. John Hanna, carpenter, had just come out, was talking to Cox and Bruce when they were killed, he being burned slightly. The mules that were in the mine were killed by the force of the concussion. This is the third disastrous explosion in this vicinity. In 1881 No. 2 mine, Rocky Mountain exploded, killing 36 Chinese and four white men. In the spring of 1886, in Union Pacific mine No. 4, 36 men were killed.

ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR.

AMOUNT OF MONEY VOTED FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.

Total Expenditure \$24,625.00.—\$1,500.00 for Streets.—Another Claim Against the Town.—\$500.00 Voted for a Pest House. Poor Appropriation Cut Down.

At the meeting of the town council on Friday evening the only absent members were G. W. Vanwart, chairman of the finance committee, and John Sutton. The first thing the council struck was a letter from D. B. Gallagher, asking, on the behalf of Henry Walker, that the council vote that gentleman \$100 to indemnify him for damage that had occurred to him from the overflow of the stand pipe. The letter was referred to the water committee.

The audit committee found what they thought to be a mistake of \$1,000 in the finance report of the board of school trustees. The town treasurer had charged the trustees with \$4,300, and they had only given the town credit for \$3,300. The report was handed back to them for explanation. It appeared afterwards from a statement of ex-Mayor Hanson that the last \$1,000 was paid the board late in December and would therefore appear in their next annual report.

The council went into committee of the whole, with Coun. Leighton in the chair, to pass the estimates. Now, the interest became great. The chief questions around the board as each department brought in its request for money for the expenses of the year 1895 was, "what's the least you'll take?" "is that the best you can do?" The county asked for \$2,231.60. The town owes the county now \$1,871.64, made up of balances due in past years, and an arrangement had been made whereby one quarter of the overdue account should be paid each year. So the \$2,231.60 was made up of \$1,763.69 for rates and schools and \$467.91 was the quarter of overdue balances. The council opened the ball by carving down the allowance to \$1,763.69, and they kept up this system clean through the chapter. The only items that were not cut down were the fixed salaries in all the departments and the interest on debentures.

The board of health has been kicking for a pest house for some years, but the council has with a questionable economy ignored the kick. This year the health officers took the bits in their teeth and demanded \$570, \$500 of which was to be devoted to the erection of a pest house. If the council refused to grant this, or to build the necessary house, the health officers intimated that they would build a house on their own account and make the town pay the bills. The council took the wise view of the case and voted the board of health \$70, and \$500 for a house for health purposes.

The water works committee asked for \$2,300. The council promptly, and utterly without reason, concluded that the water works could be operated in most elegant fashion for \$2,000, and they voted that amount.

The electric light committee asked for \$975.00 and the council consistently voted \$800.00.

The schools rather had the bulge on the council for they are bound to vote whatever amount the board of school trustees ask, so they carried unanimously \$4300 for schools.

The street committee asked for \$2,000. Coun. Nicholson wanted to know what proportion of the amount it was intended to expend in each ward. Coun. Carr could not say as to that until the snow was off, but he assured the council that justice would be done to each ward. The mayor wanted to cut the estimate from \$2,000 down to \$1,500. Times were hard, and the taxes in arrears showed how hard it was for a poor man to pay his taxes. In reply to Coun. Carr's statement that the expenditure on the streets would enable the poorer men of the community to pay their taxes, Coun. Bailey said that only a dozen men at most could be employed on the streets and they alone would be benefitted. There were plenty of men who never drove on the streets who did not feel able to pay taxes to have them repaired in these hard times. He assured Coun. Nicholson that the street committee would vote the solid south well. The council finally voted for streets, \$1,500.

\$1,363 was asked for the support of the poor, and \$1,000 was voted for that purpose. Coun. Smith made an earnest request that the council would not be economical in this department of all others, but would deal generously with the poor. His eloquence was lost on the desert air.

The management of the poor farm got itself hauled over the coals in great shape.

Some councillors thought the oxen should be translated into beef and a team of horses procured to replace them. However, they went on to the next item.

The fire department was voted \$2,500. The town hall got \$125.00, which might be considered large, but that there is an intention to put it into good condition.

Some of the councillors thought it was not necessary to assess for the deficit of last year, that the present council would only be following precedent to leave a deficit to the next council, but the mayor and others took the view that this would be folly, and \$1,722.71 was voted to cover the deficit of last year.

Engine house No. 2 got \$500. It is to be finished inside and out, and the upper story fitted up as a dwelling house. A tenant can be readily secured at \$7 per month, so some of the councillors say.

Below are given in tabular form the estimated expenditures and receipts.

EXPENDITURES.	
Interest on debentures.....	\$4,316.50
Bank int.....	150.00
School debenture.....	500.00
Water works.....	2,000.00
Light.....	800.00
Schools.....	4,300.00
Streets.....	1,500.00
Poor.....	1,000.00
Fire.....	2,500.00
County.....	1,763.69
Police.....	850.00
Team.....	540.00
Salaries.....	250.00
Printing.....	150.00
Hall.....	125.00
Board of health and house.....	570.00
Assessors.....	50.00
Deficit.....	1,722.71
Engine house No. 2.....	500.00
Sewers.....	30.00
Discount on taxes.....	500.00
Miscellaneous.....	507.10
	24,625.00

RECEIPTS.	
Water works.....	6,000.00
Sewers.....	125.00
Licenses.....	700.00
Fines.....	50.00
Town hall.....	50.00
Scales.....	100.00
Fire.....	100.00
Poor farm.....	200.00
	7,325.00

The excess of estimated expenditure over estimated receipts is \$17,300, and this amount will be assessed for.

Procedure of Public Meetings.

THE DISPATCH is in receipt of a very useful and instructive book, issued by The Carswell Co., Ltd., and intitled "Procedure of Public Meetings" by John Geo. Bourinot, clerk of the House of Commons and the well known authority on Parliamentary Procedure. This excellent book is an abridgment of Dr. Bourinot's larger manual on the Procedure of Public Bodies in general. It is particularly useful in synods, conferences and municipal councils, and we would strongly recommend its perusal to members of our own county and town councils. An immense amount of time, and annoyance is saved when every member of a legislative body, knows the correct order of business. As Dr. Bourinot is an accepted authority on constitutional questions, his decisions may be accepted as *ex cathedra*. The work contains over 150 pages and is handsomely bound in light blue cloth. The cloth bound book will be sent to any address for \$1.00 and a paper covered copy may be secured for 50 cents. Address, The Carswell Co., Ltd., Toronto.

About Lumber.

An extensive operator in lumber told THE DISPATCH on Monday that all the men are out of the woods or they are coming out as fast as they can. "The season has been very favorable for lumbering, but I do not think," he added, "that there will be as much in the river as last year. There is comparatively little been done on the Aroostook, while on this side of the lines operations have been somewhat heavier."

"What do you think is the prospect of the good price for lumber?"

"Oh! we can tell nothing about that," he replied.

"Considering that the season has been favorable, will not operators be able to make something out of lumber this year, even if the price is not as high as they would wish?"

"There may be something in that. The winter having been very favorable, the expenses have been lighter than if we had had a severe winter."

It Makes a Difference.

Before the elections the Patrons were very pronounced in their intentions of making the acceptance of a railway pass by a member, something approaching a capital offence. Since the Patrons have become Members, have actually had a pass in their hands bearing their own name, and realized its great convenience, their opinions have been modified, if not mollified. They now rather favor the proposal that the mileage allowed Members should be abolished, and that the Government obtain the passes for the members. Human nature touched by the pocket, is shockingly, lamentably frail.—*Bobcaygon Independent.*

THE MUSINGS OF THE IMP.

CAPITAL USE WHICH WILL BE FOUND FOR THE NEW PEST HOUSE.

The Sort of People who will be Sent There.

The All-Round Man and the Square Man with the Square Face.—Some Thoughts About the Old Flag.—Who Owns it?



I noticed in a leading paper the other day an advertisement for a man to work on a farm. The advertiser stated that for the position that he was desirous to fill he wanted "an all-round man." The

idea of an all-round man struck me as funny. How queer he would look as he rolled along the street. It would be almost a necessity for him to be double-faced, and utterly impossible for him to be "square." A "square" man would be a curious phenomenon, too, but the most amusing of all sights would be to see the "all-round man and the square man," walking down Main street arm and arm. I never saw a really square man, but I have saw a man with a square face.

* * *

The old flag was suspended down Queen street on Monday last in honor of the liberal orators who held forth that day in the Opera House. It had not been taken down on Saturday. There is nothing objectionable at all in flying the old flag all the year around but I must enter my protest against each party claiming the "flag that braved" etc., as its own peculiar property. In the election of 1891, the Tories were so enthusiastic that they refused even to blow their noses unless it was on a handkerchief of the old flag design. Now it appears that the grits have appropriated the ancient banner. They are after the minister of justice for proclaiming that England is falling behind in the commercial race. And, here in Woodstock, not satisfied with flying the old flag on their jubilee occasion, they have, as it were, nailed it to the mast, and perhaps will keep it there till the general elections are over.

* * *

Don't thou know dear reader, that this Woodstock is to have a pest house? A pest house is a place wherein to incarcerate people who are pests. A board of commissioners will be appointed to decide who are and who are not of this class. In order to hold them all the edifice should be considerably larger than the city hall, and should be strongly built. When once the institution is running in full blast a great multitude of now familiar face that no man could number will disappear from our streets. The first hot day that strikes town will see every man and woman who has said "is this hot enough for you?" confined within the walls. A number of kind hearted, sympathetic people who will insist on inserting their proboscis in the affairs of other people must suffer the same fate. Then those hypercritical people who think a fellow ought to live up to his professions, and who tell us we are hypocrites if we preach an ideal four miles high and only succeed in living up to one four feet high, would be clapped into durance vile with the other pests. There is no class of people so troublesome as those who think there should be any particular connection between a man's theories and his practices. By the time we had locked all these, as well as the people who say the country is going to the dogs, and those who think it would be a waste of time to keep the post office clean, and those who would buy the "Pansy" series for the Sunday school libraries, and all other cranks, curiosities and back numbers, our town would be sadly depopulated and the council would have to vote a sum of money to assist emigration from Great Britain.

THE IMP.

Quick Results.

THE DISPATCH is undoubtedly the most remarkable medium for advertising here, or elsewhere. A gentleman in town had a house to let, and of course he handed in an advertisement to this paper. The advertisement was just set up, ready to go on the press, when the party wishing to let the house, notified the manager of the advertising department that he had already rented his house. Can any other paper beat this for results?

The Moncton Leader.

Moncton's new paper, the Daily Leader has come to the DISPATCH office. It is a newsy paper, well printed. Mr. H. T. Steven's long journalistic experience is quite apparent in its general get-up.