

Teachers Petition for Higher Salaries.

The following petition was handed the provincial government on the 21st inst.:

The petition of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association hereby humbly sheweth:

That it is now generally admitted that the salaries paid to teachers in the public schools of the province are entirely too low as compared with those of other professions. The time and expense now required to qualify for the teaching profession, and the inadequate remuneration coupled with the greatly increased cost of living during the last few years, prevent many suitable persons from entering the profession and are continually forcing those engaged in teaching to leave and take up more lucrative employment. By far the greater number of those who are now teaching have been so employed less than three years.

While it is highly desirable that teaching should be a permanent profession, conditions are all against young people taking it up as a life work. The rewards of teaching remaining in most cases stationary, young men and women use the profession as a mere stepping stone to better paid employment, soon leaving their schools to the charge of others as inexperienced as themselves in the art of training the coming manhood and womanhood of the province. First class teachers in rural districts are being supplanted by second and second class by third and, in many cases by untrained teachers holding local licenses only. More than this, the chief superintendent's report for 1903-4 shows that during the term ended June 30th, 1904, there were 407 districts in the province without teachers of any kind, the children of those districts being totally deprived of educational advantages. Conditions in 1904-1905 were very little, if any, better than in the previous year.

Wherefore, your petitioners, in order to have such a serious state of affairs remedied as soon as possible, pray that your honorable body with introduce into, and recommend to the favorable notice of, the legislative assembly at its coming session, amendments to the school law along the following lines:

First—No further issuance of local licenses; and cessation, as soon as possible, of the further issuance of third class licenses, all of the latter, at present in force, to remain so during the pleasure of the board of education or inspectors.

Second—Each parish (as far as may be found practicable) to constitute a single school district with a school board elected or appointed as the legislature may determine. Among the important duties of the parish school board would be the grouping of the present districts and the establishing of central graded schools wherever the conditions would permit, the employment of competent teachers and the local supervision of all the schools of the parish by the agency of a paid secretary. The minimum rate of assessment should not be less than one-half of one per cent of the assessable valuation of the parish. The sum thus raised, supplemented by the county fund grant and a special provincial grant for poor parishes equal to the amount now paid to poor district, would, in our opinion, be sufficient to provide much better school privileges for all of the children than many of them now enjoy. It would assure a more intelligent and effective administration of the law. It would enable the trustees to increase the local salaries of the teachers by at least fifty per cent without imposing too heavy a burden upon any locality.

Third—The sum of \$40 per year (instead of \$30, as at present) to be paid directly to teachers out of the county fund, and that, in order to meet this additional claim upon the fund, the amount levied upon each county to be equal to forty cents for every inhabitant of the county instead of thirty cents as at present.

Fourth—The provincial grants to teachers of the first and second classes, after two years of service in the public schools, to be increased by ten per cent. for the third year, and by a further ten per cent. for each additional year thereafter until a maximum is reached of \$200 per year for the first class male teachers; \$160 for second class male teachers; \$150 for first class female teachers, and \$120 for second class female teachers. Also the provincial grant to principals of superior schools, after two years' service in the superior schools, to be increased by ten per cent for the third year and by a further ten per cent each additional year thereafter until a maximum per year of \$350 be reached.

Fifth—The legislature to set for all districts (as at present is done for grammar and superior schools) the minimum salaries to be paid teachers by the local school boards.

Sixth—The inauguration of a liberal pension system for teachers who have served a considerable time in the profession, no reduction in regular salaries to be made therefor. Such a provision would encourage more men and women of talent to remain teachers.

And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.
(Signed) W. M. MacLean, president, St. John; Harry Harvey Stuart, secretary-treasurer, Newcastle; Rev. R. Cormier, Hampton; R. Ernest Estabrooks, Woodstock; Miss Bessie M. Fraser, Grand Falls; Berton C. Foster, Fredericton; executive committee N. B. T. A.

The Future of Great Britain.

Mr. J. Ellis Barker, in a brilliant article on the "Future of Great Britain," in a recent number of The Nineteenth Century Magazine shows emphatically, from the record of three thousand years of history, that as long as agriculture is the supreme industry and the chief national concern, and as long as proper military precautions are taken, and men are trained to defend their homes, just so long is a nation or empire safe. But all the great empires and nations of the past, as soon as they became well-to-do, conceived the ambition to become luxurious. At the bidding of their manufacturers and traders they neglected their agriculture, curtailed military training and legislated in behalf of manufacturing and commerce, with the inevitable result that their decay was inevitable. Great Britain has long neglected her agriculture and her army, and is depending largely upon foreign countries for her food supplies. In every case in the past where such a policy was persisted in the results were disastrous. The United States has been for years sacrificing the interests of her agriculture to nurse and develop her manufacturing industries, and today the vices of civilization are more prevalent in that country than in any other part of the world. In France, on the other hand, the interests of agriculture are supreme, and are being kept supreme, with the result that France is today the first nation in Europe, and she is at heart economically and morally sound. Her army is one of the best in the world, and her future is practically assured. In Canada we are still fighting for supremacy of agriculture and for the proper support and development of our military forces. The manufacturers are at war with both of these ideas, and care apparently nothing for the future of this country, or for the welfare of our children, so long as they can satisfy their selfishness and greed by becoming rich beyond the dreams of avarice. We should remember that experience is the mother of wisdom, and that history is philosophy teaching by example. If agriculture be kept supreme, all business and all manufacturing will prosper, and the farmers will keep the country in the straight and narrow path of social, economical and political morality.

It's a pleasure to tell our readers about a Cough Cure like Dr. Shoop's. For years Dr. Shoop has fought against the use of Opium, Chloroform, or other unsafe ingredients commonly found in Cough remedies. Dr. Shoop, it seems, has welcomed the Pure Food and Drug Law, recently enacted, for he has worked along similar lines many years. For nearly 20 years Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure containers have had a warning printed on them against Opium and other narcotic poisons. He has thus made it possible for mothers to protect their children by simply insisting on having Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. Sold by All Dealers.

Undiscovered Crime.

"Can you point out a man who at the age of thirty has not committed at one time in his life a crime that would have sent him to the penitentiary?" remarked a trusty at the penitentiary the other day. "I do not believe that there is a man living, excluding, for the looks of the thing, the clergy, who has not done something to bring him here had he received his just deserts. It is not always a great crime that sends a man to the penitentiary. There are men in here for stealing chickens or clover seed or nothing at all. It is easy to get behind the walls. There are many men on the outside who should be in here. I am personally acquainted with a few myself. But the difference between these people and myself is that I have been caught and they have not."—Columbus Dispatch.

SALT RHEUM CURED.

By Dr. Williams' Pink Pills After Doctors Treatment Had Failed.

Skin trouble indicates that the blood is in a poisoned state. It is the poison in the blood that causes blotches, pimples, eczema, boils, salt rheum or bad complexion. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills made rich, red blood that banishes these troubles. Mrs. Osborne, wife of Andrew Osborne, clerk of the Township of Kennebec, Frontenac County, Ont., writes: "I cannot speak too highly of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, for they did for me what doctors failed to do. Some years ago I was attacked by salt rheum in the hands, caused by a run down condition of my blood. I endured the tortures of this terrible disease for some time, and only those who have been similarly afflicted can realize my suffering. At times my hands were so bad that I could not comb my hair, I was helpless. I consulted a doctor but his treatment failed to benefit me—my case seemed incurable. While in this condition I read of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and decided to give them a trial. Soon I began to improve and by the time I had taken about a dozen boxes I was completely cured and I have not since had the slightest return of the trouble. I can heartily recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to all similar sufferers."

You can't cure eczema, salt rheum and skin eruptions with salves and outward applications. These troubles are rooted in the blood and can only be cured through the rich, red blood Dr. Williams' Pink Pills actually make. This simple medical fact should be known to everyone. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills not only cure skin diseases, but all other troubles caused by bad blood, such as anaemia, with its headaches, sideaches and backaches, heart palpitation, indigestion rheumatism, neuralgia, St. Vitus dance and the special ailments that afflict so many women and growing girls. You can get these pills from your medicine dealer or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

In Favor of the Milking Machine.

Arguments in favor of milking machines are given by C. B. Lane, of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, in the Live Stock World, as follows: Nervous cows do not seem to resent the method, as long as the machines are properly adjusted. The machines are ideal for use with a kicking cow. The scarcity of milkers and the unreliability of many of them has had a tendency to keep many men from going into the dairy business. It is believed also that the advent of the milking machine will encourage farmers who now have small dairies to enlarge their plants and to make dairying their chief business. Where the milking machines have been introduced they have influenced dairymen to clean up their barns and take more pride in their work. This naturally will result in the production of cleaner milk, and perhaps in some cases in better prices.

Not Liable.

(Harper's Weekly.)

Last summer these were tried in Chicago a breach of promise suit that awakened much interest in legal circles by reason of the ingenious means taken by counsel for the defendant to secure a verdict for his client.

Counsel for the plaintiff had begun to read what was alleged to be the proposal of marriage on the part of the defendant. This so called proposal appeared on a telegraph blank. Turning to the jury, counsel began "My darling Marie."

At this juncture counsel for the defendant interrupted his colleague at the bar. "May it please the court, this document, being partly printed, and partly written, it cannot, by the rules of evidence, be offered in part by plaintiff. Everything on the blank must be read."

Notwithstanding the protests of counsel for the plaintiff that the printed matter had no relevancy with the case—the fact being that the proposal was written on a telegraph blank by accident—the ruling of the court was that everything on the blank should be read. Accordingly the reluctant counsel for plaintiff was forced to read the following:

"There shall be no liability on account of this message unless the same shall be repeated, and then only on condition that the claim shall be made within thirty days in writing." Then after the signature, followed: "Yours devotedly, Harry," together with this N. B.: "Read carefully the conditions at the top."

To the great delight of counsel for the defendant the jury returned a verdict in his favor within twenty minutes.

Widow of "Stonewall" Jackson.

It will come as a surprise to many of our older readers to learn that the widow of "Stonewall" Jackson is still alive. The State of North Carolina recently offered her a pension of \$100 a month, but the offer was declined, Mrs. Jackson suggesting that the money be devoted to the relief of destitute widows of Confederate soldiers.

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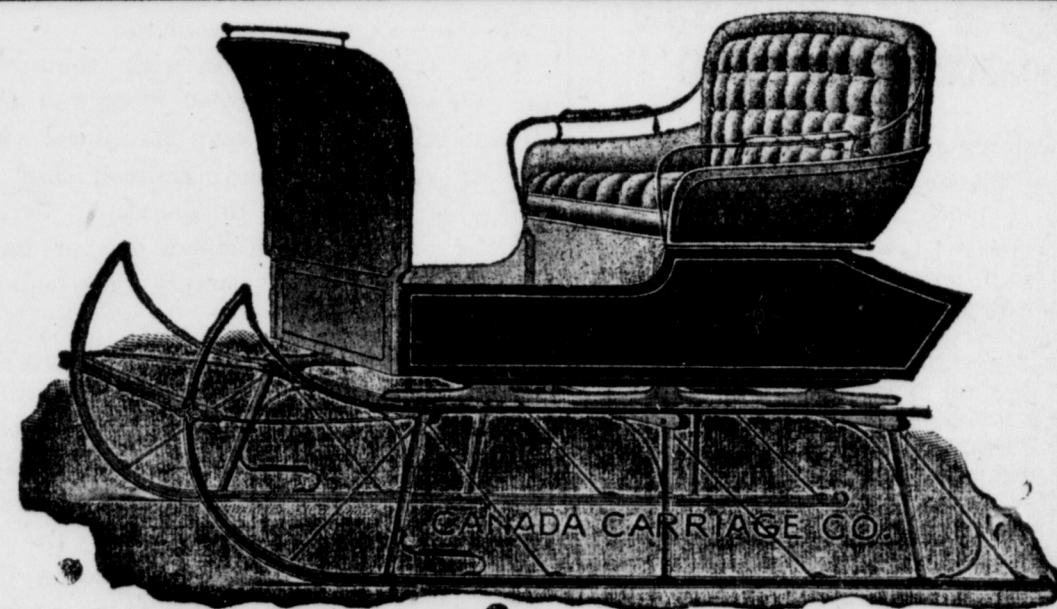
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