

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER

"THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST." -Peter.

VOLUME LI.

ST. JOHN AND FREDERICTON, N. B., JUNE 10, 1903.

No. 23.

Editorial Outlook

THE CENSUS.

An Ottawa despatch says the Census Bureau staff is to be reduced at the end of June. There are now 126 clerks, and 100 of them are to go out. Why not discharge the whole lot? And it would be well to begin at the top. There is first-class incapacity somewhere in the Census Bureau, and we have strong suspicion that it is chiefly at the head.

KING AND POPE.

The President of France contemplates visiting Rome. He intimated his desire to meet the Pope. The Pope has caused the President to be informed that he cannot be received at the Vatican if he visits Rome as the guest of the King of Italy. The President must choose between King and Pope. All this is unlikely to make more cordial relations between France and the Vatican.

A "FREE COUNTRY."

A whole family of Italians, who recently arrived in New York, were arrested for shoplifting. They included three generations, from grandmother to grandson. They appeared quite surprised when arrested. Taxed with their crime, they pleaded that they thought America was "a free country," and that they might help themselves to what they wanted. We wonder if some of the motley gang Canada is getting will have like notions of this "free country."

EXPELLED.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Times has been expelled from Russia by order of the government. No charge was made against him other than that the tone of his correspondence was regarded by the government as hostile. And the Russian authorities do not tolerate much freedom of speech, or even of thought, if they suspect one of hostile thought. The correspondent was given three days to make arrangements for leaving; he would not have been given an hour but for the influence started in his behalf by the British Ambassador. A strange proceeding surely, but quite like Russia.

ACADIA.

The anniversaries of Acadia College, Acadia Seminary and Horton Academy last week were interesting events. The college graduated a class

of thirty-five B.A.'s, and five graduates received the M.A. degree in course. No honorary degrees were conferred.

The Seminary completed one of its most successful years. The registration for the year was 175 young ladies. Domestic science, a new department this year, has proved a success. There has been a marked increase in the departments of music, elocution and art. The institutions at Wolfville are doing excellent work, and are a credit to our Baptist brethren of the Maritime Provinces.

POLITICAL NEWS.

In British Columbia Mr. McBride is the new Premier. His government is Conservative, the first B. C. government on straight party lines. There will be an early dissolution.

It is intimated that Sir Henry Joly de Lotbiniere, Governor of British Columbia, will resign soon, owing to the serious illness of Lady Joly.

Mr. A. E. McIntyre, for some time an editor of the St. John Telegraph, has been appointed government analyst at Quebec.

The commissioners in the Gamey case presented a report which exonerates Mr. Stratton from the charges of bribery, and says that the charges was the end of a scheme by Gamey to explain his erratic course.

NO EVIDENCE WANTED.

The Police Committee of the Montreal city council has passed a rule that policemen when engaged in securing evidence against rumsellers for violation of the Sunday liquor selling law must wear their uniforms. Some of the men, it seems, have been moving about in civilian dress and have obtained evidence against Sunday grog sellers. The rum gang could not stand that, so their servants, the Police Committee, were called upon to stop it, and they have done it by the rule concerning uniforms. The Police Committee's action is a notice to the rumsellers that they are not to be interfered with, and to the policemen that they are not to notice violators of law by the favored gang. Montreal is not the only place where officials and law breakers work together.

AUSTRALIAN RAILWAYS.

In Victoria, Australia, the railroads are owned by the government. The employees are, therefore, in the civil service. Recently they organized themselves into a labor union, in

affiliation with other labor organizations. The government did not object to the organization of its employees, but would not permit affiliation with other unions, involving the possibility of a sympathetic strike which would paralyze the whole railroad system. The railroad men were directed to disassociate their union from other labor organizations. The men struck. The government was firm, maintained order and promptly filled the places of strikers, and passed a law dealing severely with strikes in the public service. The strikers were forced to yield, and are getting back to their old places as fast as possible.

THEY WANT RECIPROCITY.

The desire for reciprocity with Canada has suddenly awakened in the United States. The *New York Journal* says: "Give us reciprocity with Canada. The moment is critical. If nothing is done now, it is fair to expect that better trade relations with Canada will be postponed to the indefinite future."

This sort of talk in a United States paper, remarks the *Mail and Empire*, is quite unusual. We have generally done the begging and the pilgraming to Washington and taken the rebuffs. But now Canadian trade has become a thing to be sought after. Reciprocity associations fill the United States, and the British Government propose to revolutionize the fiscal policy of the Mother Land to make sure of our trade. Undoubtedly the eagerness of each whets the appetite of the other. Our closest natural sympathy is with the efforts which Mr. Chamberlain is making to open the eyes of John Bull to his real interest in seizing upon the chance to bind the Empire more closely together; but we may be forgiven just a little complacency at the new position we have reached. Canada is no longer a "wall flower." John and Jonathan are each eager to write their names down on our programme.

CANADIAN POLITICS.

The *Toronto Globe*, in an article on present conditions in the public life of Canada, says:

The curse of politics in every Legislature from Halifax to Victoria, and in the Senate and House of Commons at Ottawa, is the notion that political conduct has no relation to the Ten Commandments, that party expediency is the first law of politics, that being found out is the only political crime. That notion is the political creed of those who aver that they are not in politics for

their health, of those who affect to sneer at Sunday-school politics, and of those who defend vilest political crimes with the devil's argument that elections are not won by prayer.... From the days of the first parliament until now there have been among us, in both political parties, forces making steadily for political unrighteousness, and something of their issue in humiliation and loss has come upon this generation. And to the heritage of the past we have added our own quota of easy political virtue and lust for political power. The burden is well-nigh intolerable, and unless lifted will crush as a millstone the life of our nation.

Dealing with the question of the deliverance of the country from these great and threatening evils, the *Globe* writer evidently believes the Christian Church has a duty. This is a little strange, for, as a rule, the political press has a habit of suggesting that the Church has no business meddling with public affairs, that it has enough to do to teach Sunday school, hold prayer meetings and conduct regular Sunday services. It is refreshing, and a sign of hope, to have the political press call on the Church to help make the country better politically. Declaring that to the Church is committed the ministry of political redemption, the *Globe* says:

If politics is to be redeemed, all the agencies of education, of reform, of ethical culture, and of religion, must work together, each in its own way, and all made vital and positive by a common dominant life. In that work of political redemption the Church has a larger opportunity and must take a more responsible share than many ministers and churchmen think. It is ignorance and atheism that divorces religion from politics, it is political cynicism that looks askance at the Decalogue and the Sermon on the Mount, and the day of redemption of politics will not come until the Church brings new life into the individual and social and political relationships of men.

The teaching is sound. Religious principles must have to do with men's politics as with every other thing in their lives.

NOTES.

Governor Snowball received the honorary degree of D.C.L. from Mt. Allison College last week.

President Roosevelt, in California a few days ago, had the pleasure of meeting and greeting a matron whose name is Mrs. Gesetherest, and who has the honor of being the mother of 34 children. He has emphasized on all suitable occasions the blessing of large families, and here stood his ideal.

Miss Winnifred Johnston, of Fredericton, who went to South Africa

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