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TUESDAY, MAY 10, 1927.
THE FIRST PROHIBITORY LAW.

As has been previously pointed out in these columns New Brunswick's first prohibitory law was enacted in the year 1855 and remained on the statute books for a period of six months. Sir Leonard Tilley, always a staunch advocate of temperance, was Provincial Secretary at the time, but introduced the bill as a private member and not on behalf of the government. While the bill went through the House with very little difficulty it eventually brought about a crisis in the affairs of the government and led to the defeat of the Liberal party. When the bill was first considered by the House a motion to give it the three months hoist was defeated by a vote of 17 to 21. The motion to give the bill its third reading was carried by a vote of 21 to 13.

The prohibitory legislation of 1855 was more drastic than the Intoxicating Liquor Act of 1916, inasmuch as it prohibited the importation, manufacture and sale of liquor. Sir Leonard Tilley, referring to the act some years later said that he thought public sentiment was behind it, as petitions praying for the legislation the size of rolls of carpet had been brought into the House. The passage of the law was undoubtedly a bold experiment, as temperance sentiment was young in those days, and the consumption of liquor was large in proportion to the population. We are told by one historian then when this province was settled by the Loyalists the use of Intoxicants were considered necessary to happiness, if not to actual existence. Jamiaca rum was brought in from the West Indies, and was regarded as an infallible cure for all the ills that flesh was heir to. It was taken into the woods for the lumbermen, as it was felt that they needed it in their work, and it was not even suggested that as good results could be obtained from a mild stimulant such as tea, although it has since been proved a fact. In those days every kind of work connected with a farm had to be performed by the aid of liquor. Rum sold for about fifty cents a gallon, and most people felt that they could not afford to do without it. That booze fighters were numerous in the old days is shown by the fact that in 1838, when the province had a population of 120,000, there was consumed in New Brunswick 312,298 gallons of rum, gin and whiskey and 64,579 gallons of brandy, besides large quantities of ale and stout. The value of this at present day prices would be around \$10,000,000, whereas the sales by licensed vendors last year, with a population more than three times as great as in 1828, was \$1,144,721. Had the ratio of consumption been maintained the same as in 1838 the province last year would have disposed of \$30,000,000 worth. Reasonable temperance reformers should be fairly well satisfied with the progress made by New Brunswick along the lines of temperance and sobriety.

Well, what happened to the prohibition act of 1855? It has been stated that it was carried in the Legislature by the votes of men who were not themselves total abstainers, but were anxious to make some political capital, and were under the impression that the Legislative Council would throw out the bill. They were naturally much disgusted and disappointed when the Council passed it, which goes to show that hypocrisy was not unknown in the middle of the 19th century. We are told that those who sold liquor continued to sell it and set the law at defiance. There was confusion on all sides and to cap the climax the Lieutenant Governor, Hon. H. T. Manners Sutton, finally took the bull by the horns and dissolved the House against the advice of his Executive Council. The Governor himself was a wine bibber and opposed to prohibition. The election which followed was one of the hottest in the history of the province. The action of the Governor was denounced by the Liberals as tyrannical, but he found stalwart defenders. The government was defeated, Mr. Tilley being among the members to fall of reelection. A new administration was formed and the prohibition legislation of the previous year was promptly repealed by a vote of thirty-eight to two. Sir John C. Allen, who afterwards became Chief Justice of the Province, was Solicitor General in the administration which repealed the act. With

prohibition out of the way the new government soon lost its hold on the Legislature and on going to the country in 1857 was badly beaten.

The sudden death at Ottawa yesterday of Mr. Archibald W. Campbell, better known as "Good Roads Campbell", will be sincerely regretted all over the Dominion. He was the father of the good roads movement in Canada, having started in while in the employ of the Ontario Government. For some time he has filled the position of Highway Commissioner under the Federal Government, his duties haking him to all parts of the Dominion.

Nominations for the Quebec provincial elections took place yesterday and polling takes place on the 16th. Fourteen Liberals, including Premier Taschereau and several of his colleagues were returned by acclamation. The Conservative leader, Mr. Arthur Sauve, is being opposed in Two Mountains. He is making a very courageous fight but the odds seem to be against him. He will do well if he can hold his present following in the House.

Market quotations in the fur trade show the price of house-cat pelts has dropped 10 per cent. and that they now bring only 65 cents for the best grades. There must have been a frightful increase in the tabby mortality rate to glut the market to that extent. Of greater interest to us, personally, however, is another phase of the matter. It confirms our suspicion concerning a lot of the fur one sees these days.

Kansas City man was fined ten dollars for hugging a young woman, notwithstanding the fact he claimed it was "an accident." There's lack of chivalry for you, and if we were the young woman we think we'd follow up with a civil suit.

Edison is credited with the epigram that genius is 2 per cent inspiration and 98 per cent perspiration. But he has never explained how a person can succeed by sitting in a cool place waiting for the perspiration to come.

Because a truck has succeeded in butting a train off the track is no reason why a light touring car should get ambitious. Former experiments in that line prove the car always gets the worst of it.

Another of the enduring mysteries is what that last daub of goo is the shoeshiner puts on the oxfords for psychological effects.

Our Government guarantees to every individual the right to the pursuit of happiness, but each man has to do his own running.

Speaking of a "full house," it will be of interest to poker fans to know that England expects to entertain five queens and a king this summer.

Personally, we don't think China is awakening. Rather it seems to be suffering from nightmare.

An article on Russian folk tunes is entitled "The Music of the Moujik." It describes all the old-time steppes.

Paradichlorobenzene is said to be sure death to moths and isn't any too good for linotype operators.

Simile: As mysterious as the regular trade of a Chinese striker.

Every Saturday night we wonder how Earl Carroll is getting along.

How come none of the "healthful diets" contains anything palatable?

Some days our attitude toward this spring is that it is only in its infancy.

Sale of Market Plots.

The City of Fredericton, feeling that the citizens should not be called upon to pay for the upkeep of the market scales, grounds, etc., have decided to derive a revenue from the City Market. All that part of Phoenix Square adjacent to the curb surrounding the City Hall has been divided into separate plots or locations of eight foot curb space each. These plots will be sold at Public Auction in order that each farmer may have an equal chance of bidding in his favorite location. This will be of advantage to the farmer insofar as he will not be compelled to leave home at such an early hour in order to obtain an advantageous position in the Market to dispose of his produce.

H. W. Hammond of Providence and Fred Harvey of Providence R. I., are in the city. They expect to remain several weeks.

THROUGH OUR SIEVE

Ignorance is bliss only to those who think they know it all.

Heaven is worth seeing if it is more beautiful than an apple orchard in bloom.

Human nature is always going to do something tomorrow, and some day it will.

Easily the English language lends itself to ridiculous typographical errors.

Even if there is no train coming it will pay to slow up and look both ways at the scenery.

"By always looking forward to tomorrow" remarked the Man on the Car "we miss the thrill of today."

One meets many prominent persons by radio that one could never hope to get acquainted with in any other way.

Surely a vindication at this late day cannot do Socrates any good. If he were alive and running for office it would be different.

Bob Ryder remarks that "a girl can't even have a touch of eczema anywhere any more without danger of detection." But why should she want eczema?

Short skirts have done a service for young womanhood in showing the goggleeyed public there are not as many bowlegs as was at one time suspected.

SUMMER CAMPS BROKEN OPEN AND ROBBED

Three more summer camps on the Woodstock road between the city and Springhill have been broken into during the past few days and their belongings ransacked. Mr. F. B. Edgecombe of this city is the owner of two camps at Springhill and both were broken open. Admission was obtained by smashing the glass out of the door. A quantity of Hudson Bay blankets, grey, red and blue in color, were lugged off. While the thieves left no clue behind suspicion rests on parties who seem to have been making a business of pillaging on summer camps. It is reported that another camp just outside of the city limits was recently burglarized and a quantity of stuff stolen. When the provincial police force is organized and begins functioning it is going to stop camp thieves, chicken thieves and other malefactors who operate in the rural districts to get by with their nefarious work.

Rotarians at Saint John.
A large delegation of the Fredericton Rotary Club is attending the annual convention of the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland which opened today at Saint John. Among the Fredericton delegates are E. Allison MacKay, G. S. Armstrong, G. W. Brown, C. F. Bailey, F. L. Cooper, H. B. Colwell, Dr. R. Dakin, Joseph Dolphin, W. W. O. Fenety, W. D. Gunter, W. W. Laskey, L. S. Morrison, F. C. Murchie, Donald McLeod, J. H. McMurray, Ivan McKnight, J. A. Reid, H. A. Smith. Owing to the absence of so many members the weekly luncheon of the Club today had no particular features.

Something none of the standard books on etiquette gives you is directions for a graceful bow to the inevitable.

DIED
EDGAR—At his home, Springhill on the 9th inst., William Edgar aged 73 years. Funeral Wednesday afternoon with service at the late home by Rev. J. G. Berry. Interment at Rural Cemetery Extension.

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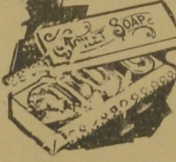
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