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ADULT EDUCATION IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

A Survey Made by J. T. Croteau, Ph.D., Gives
Some Interesting Facts

In view of the interest being taken in the Adult Education question in this province, the following survey of what is being done in Prince Edward Island may be of interest. Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island are ahead of New Brunswick in so far as Adult Education is concerned.

Introduction

The adult education movement is still in its formative stages on Prince Edward Island. Yet, measured quantitatively, and qualitatively, its progress in the first six months of its existence has exceeded the most sanguine hopes of those in closest touch with the movement.

It is the purpose of this report to survey and attempt to evaluate the work that has already been done in adult education in Prince Edward Island and to indicate possible lines of future procedure. No attempt will here be made to discuss the philosophy of the adult education movement. In fact, adult education at the present time has no very definite principles or objectives, but it is through such work as is being undertaken here on Prince Edward Island that the adult education movement will obtain precision and direction.

It has been found, however, that a very successful method of carrying on an adult education programme consists essentially in the organization of study clubs, throughout the community, with a central directing body furnishing study material and necessary instruction. Furthermore, it has been found that adult study is most effective when it is focused primarily upon action; for instance, groups will study money, credit and banking, not merely to become acquainted with the monetary system, but with the idea in mind of forming credit unions and managing their own finances. Likewise, social reform will be studied with the end in view of forming co-operative consumers, marketing and producers associations. This plan is working successfully in Nova Scotia; and, if we may judge from present indications, it may prove equally successful in Prince Edward Island.

Antecedents

Adult education, of a sort, has existed for generations on Prince Edward Island. Debating societies in many districts have had some educative value. The Farmers' Institutes, and the Women's Institutes were designed primarily for educational purposes. The work of the Women's Institutes has been especially important and has had an uplifting influence upon the whole community. As an educational institution in the true sense, Women's Institutes occupy a unique position in Prince Edward Island. The I.O.D.E. have been interested in Empire study. The Red Cross, the Department of Public Health and other such associations have done a certain amount of work along educational lines. Lecturers have, from time to time, imparted some information to the people. A few attempts at night schools were received hopefully, but the project was not sustained. In spite of all these efforts, however, it can hardly be said that a unified and organized adult education movement has ever existed on the Island. Yet the presence of these organizations has made the task of inaugurating such a movement much less difficult than it otherwise would have been.

Reports of the success of St. Francis Xavier University naturally aroused

not a little interest in adult education on the Island. This was further awakened by the coming, in 1933, of the Carnegie Library Demonstration. It would be expected that a library system embracing one-third of the population would interest the people in books and education generally; and the fact that the socially-minded director, Miss Bateson many times referred to the possibilities of adult education in her addresses was probably of even more significance. Finally, in the fall of 1934, Professor A. B. MacDonald of the Extension Department of St. Francis Xavier University came to Prince Edward Island. This visit of Professor MacDonald was beneficial in that it brought the Island into first-hand contact with the Nova Scotia movement. The Island was also honored by the visit of Dr. Beck of the American Adult Education Association in the summer of 1935. The visit of Dr. J. J. Tompkins to Charlottetown last November brought with it further enthusiasm for the movement.

Beginnings

While Miss Beaton had spoken on study clubs and adult education, the pressure of her library work made it impossible for her actually to organize these clubs, although the library could very well furnish them with study material. Last July the movement began to take definite form when at Catholic parish rallies, held simultaneously at Tignish and St. Peter's, rural problems were discussed and a recommendation was made to form study clubs in all the parishes. The authorities at St. Dunstan's were requested to undertake the supervision of a suitable programme. Last fall, therefore, after some discussion, St. Dunstan's University decided that it would move ahead experimentally in the matter of adult education. It was not realized at that time that such a large number of Prince Edward Island people seem to have been waiting for just this move.

St. Dunstan's started in a humble way by publishing a pamphlet on study clubs. By direct correspondence and in other ways, the organization of study clubs was urged, particularly in the Catholic parishes of the Island. There has been no intention on the part of St. Dunstan's, however, to try to restrict this movement to the Catholic population. It merely has found it most expedient to use existing organizations and contacts, with the idea in mind that if the movement proves successful, it can then be broadened out. In fact, the writer has had conversations to that effect with a committee of the United Church Presbytery and with the officials of most of the agricultural associations. The opinions expressed at these conventions seem to indicate that the movement could easily be made to include the entire population.

HERTZOG ASSAILS VERSAILLES TREATY

CAPE TOWN, South Africa, June 3.—Prime Minister J. B. M. Hertzog yesterday termed the post-war Versailles Treaty "the world's greatest source of friction" and declared that failure of the League of Nations would lead to the destruction of civilization.

DARES DEATH TO SAVE MAROONED MONGREL DOGS

LYTTON, British Columbia, June 4

A pair of nondescript mongrel dogs, worth nothing to their Indian owners who had sought to drown them, were safe last night as they licked the hands of new-found owners, who risked their lives to rescue the two animals from their nine-day refuge on a precarious ledge 200 feet above the swirling waters of the Fraser River.

While his companion, R. Pingle, stood watch at the anchor end, Ray Washpock slid 400 feet down a 3-4 inch rope to the spot where the dogs were marooned, coaxed them into a haversack he carried, then climbed up the thin strand to safety.

While the two dogs, a collie and an airedale, turned worshipful eyes on their rescuers, Pingle and Washpock announced they would claim ownership, then took them to their cabin eleven miles south of here to begin the task of filling out the lean, starved frames.

The dogs swam to the ledge nine days ago, when an old row boat in which they had gone adrift capsized in Cisco Canyon, a few hundred yards from this town.

Since then a half-dozen rescue parties had made futile attempts to rescue the animals.

Friday, J. W. Quaife, summer-resort chef, made an abortive attempt to feed the dogs. He slipped over the cliff ledge in an unsuccessful attempt to toss the dogs a package of food, and had to be rescued by a railway-yard watchman, who saw his plight as he became stranded on a crumbling ledge 150 feet from the top of the cliff.

MEDICAL SCIENCE WINS OVER INDIAN MEDICINE

SIoux LOOKOUT, June 3.—Modern medical science was winning a fight in Sioux Lookout hospital recently, a battle against the ancient healing artifices of an Indian tribal medicine man.

Doctors were fighting to save the life of an eight-months-old Indian baby, scalded on the back, arms, head and feet when a pot of boiling water was overturned in the home of Ambrose Mikenik 100 miles north of here.

The agonizing pain of the burns was increased by the application of salt on the wounds, applied by the medicine man of Mikenik's tribe, in good intention but misguided efforts to heal the sores. The salt was rubbed in after the blisters had been broken.

Observing their child in intense agony the parents carried the baby to the nearest settlement, Hudson Bay Post. It took them two and a half days to walk the seventy-five miles over the wastes of snow and ice, two and a half days of agony for their papoose.

At the post Factor Sandy Hughes applied first aid and sent out an appeal for an airplane. Pilot Frank Brown flew the child here, and doctors said the baby would recover.

Sinister-looking individual (significantly—Is yer husband at 'ome, ma'am?)

Lady (resourcefully)—Well, if he's finished his revolver practice, he'll be playing in the back garden with our bloodhounds. Did you want to see him?

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NEW POWER PLANT TESTED OUT SATISFACTORILY AT MINTO

Hon. W. S. Anderson, Chairman of the N. B. Power Commission, One of Those to Witness
Test—Description of Plant

(Special to The Daily Mail)

MINTO, N. B., June 4.—The members of the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission witnessed running tests of the new installation at the Grand Lake Power Plant at New-castle Creek yesterday, on the shore of Grand Lake.

Hon. W. S. Anderson, Chairman, D. W. Messereau, Vice-Chairman; and Plus Michaud, Commissioner, saw the new boiler and 8,300 horse power turbine in operation.

The new boiler is of the Kidwell type with a capacity of 100,000 lbs. steam per hour. Coal is pulverized in three mills, each capable of grinding three tons per hour. The coal is all mined in the surrounding Minto area. It is taken to the plant in coal cars; dumped into a deep pit from which it is hoisted by an automatic slip to the top of the 80 foot building; the skip empties into a small car which conveys the coal to whichever one of the seven hoppers is to be filled. The coal is then dumped into the hopper from which it passes by gravity to the pulverizing mill. In the mill it is ground to the fineness of talcum powder while being dried by currents of hot air.

From the mill, the pulverized fuel is forced by air current into the huge furnace and is there burned in suspension.

About 80 percent of the ash is carried through the short steel smoke stack by means of large motor driven fans. The remaining ash drops to the water cooled hopper at the base of the boiler. From this point it is sluiced away to an adjoining bog by simply starting a motor driven pump. From the time the coal is dumped from the railway car no manual labor is applied to it.

The stea is carried at a pressure of 450 lbs. and temperature of 650 degrees F. to the new Parsons turbine with generator attached to the same horizontal shaft. This machine makes 3,600 revolutions per minute and at normal rating can produce 8,300 H.P. with temporary overload capacity of 25 percent.

The new plant represents the last word in efficiency; a building almost 100 feet high from basement to roof, but only 28 feet by 50 feet, houses the boiler and auxiliary equipment. The turbine room is about 50 feet high from basement to roof and contains a small floor area, but the whole building is literally filled with machinery, piping, pumps, motors and other auxiliary equipment.

The electrical power is generated at 6,600 volts. One 2,500 K.V.A. transformer has been added to complete a bank of three of the same size and characteristics. These transform the current to 66,000 volts for

transmission to Miramichi and to Moncton. At the latter point connection is made with the 66,000 volt Musquash system. 6,600-33,000 volt transformers at the plant convert the energy for supplying Fredericton and Marysville. With the high voltage connection between Grand Lake and Musquash, by way of Moncton, the Commission are able to operate the two power plants in parallel so as to obtain maximum efficiency in the use of both coal and water. Mr. Anderson explained that when water is plentiful at Musquash, that plant is operated at full capacity, and coal is saved at Grand Lake. When water supply at Musquash reaches a low point the load on that plant is lightened and increased at Grand Lake.

The total capacity of the Grand Lake Steam Plant is now 15,000 H.P. and of the Musquash Plant 11,000 H.P.—26,000 H. P.

Mr. Anderson states that the new addition had been estimated to cost about \$500,000 but had actually been completed at around \$450,000.

The original plant contained two boilers and two turbines, each of 3,333 H.P. capacity. The new installation is so truly an enlargement of the old that it is scarcely apparent to the uninitiated where the old ends and the new begins.

Last year this plant used 27,000 tons of Minto slack coal. The mining of that fuel provided full time labor for at least fifty men. With the increase in power demand the coal consumption will increase in proportion.

Only one switchboard operator, one turbine engineer and one attendant fireman are required on each eight hour shift.

The addition to the plant will not require any increase in operating staff.

MILITARY HONORS

Two little Scottish children were boasting about their respective soldier fathers.

"My father's a soger", said one little girl.

"My father's a soger, tae", retorted the other.

Ay, but my father's a brave man, a terrible brave man", persisted the other; "he's been in a war an' he's got medals, a terrible lot o' medals; and he's got the Victory Cross, an' the King fastened it on wi' his ain han'!"

"But my father's a braver man than yours", said the other, sticking up valiantly for the honor of the family, "an' he's got dizzens and dizzens o' medals and Victory Crosses, and he's got a wudden leg 'at the King nailed on wi' his ain han'!"

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