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THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMISSION

The Royal Commission on Technical Education, which began its work in Halifax yesterday, is an able body of men, with a big job to do. A commission more notable in personnel and program has never been appointed in Canada since the fathers of Confederation set about their task. The close interest and good wishes of all good Canadian citizens will follow Professor Robertson and his strong body of associates, throughout their efforts to assist the Governments, Federal and Provincial, of Canada, to frame and to execute an efficient policy of industrial training.

Technical education is second in importance to no element, other than moral, that makes for national efficiency. Knowledge without the skill to apply it is of little worth. Knowledge is the flower, action the fruit. Technical education provides the connection—bridges the gulf between theory and practice.

Probably Germany is the most notable proof of this. To its elaborate system of practical instruction in the useful arts and applied sciences, Germany owes more of its wonderful progress during the last decade or two than to any other cause. Germans are excelling in manufacture of all kinds and are forcing their business interests to the ends of the world, chiefly because they have learned to do, as well as to know.

What Germany has done within its limited field, Canada, with its vast and fertile areas and its unequalled resources of field, mine, forest and waterpower, can do a thousandfold. We have done a great work as it is, but much of our doing has either been strident in the dark or blind imitation of others.

That the authorities have awakened to the need of improvement in present educational conditions along technical lines, this Commission is impressive evidence. Beginning here, where more has been done in the way of State Technical Education than anywhere on the Continent, the Commission will tour Canada comprehensively, studying its conditions and needs at first hand; then they will travel to the educational centres of the Old World, to glean there suggestions and information wherewith to frame a policy to meet the Canadian situation.

What that policy may be can only be surmised. Our political conditions offer obstacles to the execution of an effective system. Constitutionally, the Provinces must retain the control of education and political, religious and racial conditions are such as to prohibit any change in this regard. The Halifax Echo thinks there should be no obstacle, however, in the way of the creation, if not of a central Technical University, at least of a Federal Bureau, to serve in part as a pioneer and in part as a base of supplies for the Provinces. Such a Bureau, under the administration of a man of Professor Robertson's knowledge and enthusiasm and genius for imparting his knowledge and spirit to others, and well equipped with the funds to be used, under careful conditions, for the assistance of Provincial efforts, could accomplish a great work for Canada.

EASIER THAN DIVORCE

There is no necessity now for a good American to go to Nevada for a divorce, says the Montreal Star. All he has to do is to send his wife across the border to see her mother or somebody else in Canada and trust to the immigration inspectors to prevent her getting back again. A lady who has been living in Buffalo for seventeen years is in a hospital at St. Catharines. She spent three

weeks at that city visiting some relatives. When she tried to go home, she was held up by the inspectors, became hysterical through fright, and has been ill ever since. Her husband, who managed to elude the vigilance of the Canadian officials, is now in St. Catharines to try to recover his wife. Heaven only knows what will happen if they try to return to Buffalo together. One may be taken and the other left, but which will be which, this time, there is no knowing. The best thing they can do now they are happily reunited, is to sacrifice their home in Buffalo and settle down in Canada. Of course, if they have any children in Buffalo that complicates the situation a little, but possibly they may be smuggled in some dark night. Under no circumstances, however, should husbands or wives, either Canadian or American, risk permanent separation by crossing the border alone in these troublous times, unless they want to be divorced.

A COMPARISON

When Mr. R. L. Borden opened his political tour in Ontario a few weeks ago, he devoted his first speech almost entirely to a discussion of the Quebec Bridge, charging the Government at length with all sorts of mismanagement and worse, in this regard.

That is, he gave his party as the keynote of his campaign, a wail of something dead and gone.

Possibly the Government may be open to censure for some things in connection with the building of that bridge, but the point that the people of this country are interested in now is not the failing of the old bridge but the building of the new. And in this regard Mr. Borden had nothing to suggest.

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier made the first speech of his western tour, he dwelt not upon what his Government had done but upon what it was going to do, and hoped to do. He spoke chiefly of transportation and of the navy,—both of them large, live, pregnant public issues.

Aside altogether from Sir Wilfrid's plans and policies for the development of Canadian transportation and for the building of the Canadian Navy, the fact that he emphasized these two great matters of public concern as the keynote of his campaign while Mr. Borden was content to look for his material to the past, furnishes one good reason, at least, why Sir Wilfrid continues to be the Premier of Canada and Mr. R. L. Borden continues to be the leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

MR. HAZEN GETS BREVET RANK

(Boston Globe)

The sum of \$5000 was telegraphed to Lieut.-Gov. J. Douglas Hazen of New Brunswick late yesterday afternoon by the citizens of Boston for the relief of the fire sufferers of Campbellton and Richardsville, N. B.

The Chatham World commenting on the visit of Gov. Tweedie and Premier Hazen to Campbellton and the prospect of a special session of the Legislature rises to remark that "the Legislature will sustain the Government in any action it may take, vote any money that may be granted, and pass any legislation the Government may promise. There is no need whatever for a special session." Such is the World's opinion of the abject servility of the Hazen majority in the Legislature.

AT THE BIJOU

Two fine features, The Family Feud a very pleasing drama, and The Castaways, including a wreck at sea. A Western feature tomorrow, Percy the Cowboy.

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD

Negotiations are on for the sale of the property at the north-east corner of the Old Burying Ground, owned by Miss Eliza Hill. This property at one time formed part of the burying ground and was owned by the city. Slackness on the part of the city rulers many years ago allowed the property to become Miss Hill's by right of possession. There is now an excellent opportunity for the city to obtain the property by purchase. At present the land and the buildings upon it are not an ornament to the Old Burying Ground and the next owner may make it still more of an eyesore.

Messrs. R. W. and W. A. B. McLellan returned yesterday from a business trip to Montreal and New York.

Miss Alice Nixon and her little niece Lillian of St. John are the guests of Mrs. Henry Clarke, George Street.

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CAMPBELLTON OFFICIALS CONFER WITH PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES

Lieut. Gov. Tweedie, Premier Hazen and Others Talk Over Situation with Town Officials—Feeling Exists that the Provincial or Federal Government Should Come to the Aid of the Town—Building Work Recommended but Labor is very Scarce.

Campbellton, N. B., July 18.—It is now almost an every hour occurrence to see new buildings rise above the ruins of the fire stricken town of Campbellton. Like magic they are springing up in all sections of the desolate town, causing the optimistic inhabitants to have most buoyant hopes for the future of their formerly prosperous and pretty commercial centre.

Buildings for many purposes are being fairly pushed into the air, and a great hum of activity prevails in all quarters. Not only dwelling houses, but business establishments are being erected, and tomorrow or next day will see the opening of stores selling general merchandise by wholesale and retail, dry goods, groceries, drugs, tin-ware, boots and shoes, and in fact almost every article desired in the home.

With cheerful complacency the destitute people gaze on the scenes of bustle and animation, surrounding them, and seem to take it as a matter of course that such should be the case, for they entertain a remarkable degree of confidence that the barren stretch of charred wood and ashes is to give way to new and costly buildings, both public and private.

PLENTY OF WORK, LABOR SCARCE.

Everybody seems to be diligent in the work of rebuilding or relieving. Labor is, unfortunately, very scarce, and men are being brought from outside towns to assist in the general activity.

Few men, indeed, are unemployed in Campbellton, desolate and forsaken though it may be. Many are engaged in carpentry, others about the relief stations in connection with supplies, and still others are busy cleaning away the debris from the ruins. The devastated town is rapidly changing in appearance from the pitiful spectacle it presented a few days ago.

A remarkable difference is now visible in the appearance of the railway yard effected by crews of men who have been working tirelessly until a splendid clean-up has taken place. Many of the old sleepers along the track have been uprooted and new ones placed in position. The old ties were quite badly burned in the fire, and the rails which they held in place were twisted.

The employees of the New Brunswick Telephone Company will soon be transferring their offices from the tents, which they now occupy, to a temporary wooden building. Connection has been established by telephone with various parts of the town, and several telephones have been installed.

A SMOKE IS A LUXURY.

The people have now been pretty well supplied with the articles they were so greatly in need of, through the kindness of those who generously donated for their support. There are many things, which are still scarce, however. Among the men folk in most cases, a pipe is now looked upon as a treat, while a cigar is a luxury indulged in at rare intervals.

The search for stolen goods is still being continued. This afternoon Lieut. F. A. McKenzie, of Chatham, with a squad of six men, crossed the river here, and sought for articles from Campbellton among the houses of the Indians. As a result of their investigation, they returned, with 1,000 rounds of ball ammunition, which they took from two Indians, Frank Morrison and John Bear.

It is known that a great quantity of furniture has been taken to a back woods settlement about seven miles inland, by the Indians, one of whom was seen in charge of seven trunks of goods from the scene of the fire.

The soldiers report that there are some cases of smallpox near where

they found the ammunition, the outbreak being confined to the Indians.

GOVERNOR AND PREMIER ARRIVE.

Lieut. Governor Tweedie and Premier Hazen arrived in town tonight, and were taken in automobiles about the ruins in company with Hon. Robert Maxwell, Col. J. D. B. F. McKenzie, Richard O'Leary, Mayor Montgomery of Dalhousie, Col. Mersereau of Doaktown, and Mayor Murray, of Campbellton.

This afternoon a meeting of the town council was held in a big marquee on the school grounds. Several matters of importance to the citizens were discussed, among others, the bonded indebtedness and the laying out of the new town.

THE BURDEN OF THE TOWN'S DEBT.

Mayor Murray presided and, in addition to the councillors, James Reid M. P., for Restigouche, was in attendance. The question of the indebtedness of the town, a matter involving \$300,500, was discussed at length and the feeling was that the local or Dominion government should shoulder the burden until the town could take it over. It is felt that the interest should be paid on the bonds by one or other of the governments until they are wiped off. It was finally decided to let this matter stand for a meeting with the lieutenant governor and the premier this evening.

On the settlement of this question, as well as on the plans of the I. C. R., depends the future of Campbellton and the people are deeply interested as to what will be the outcome of the matter.

In connection with the question of new streets or a change in the location of the old ones, it was decided to employ H. A. Chandler, deputy land surveyor, to make plans and conduct a survey under the direction of the town engineer, D. T. Black.

FINANCES DISCUSSED.

The meeting of the town council and Governor Tweedie and representatives of the local government was held this evening in a large tent on the school grounds. Mayor Murray presided. The speakers were Governor Tweedie, Premier Hazen, Hon. R. Maxwell, Hon. C. H. LaBrosse, F. P. Brady, of the I. C. R., Richard O'Leary and Judge McLachy. The trend of the remarks was very encouraging to the people, as each seemed strongly impressed with the belief that Campbellton would rise from its ashes because of the many advantages it possessed as a commercial and distributing centre.

The remarks of F. P. Brady, of the I. C. R., were especially encouraging. Among other things he said that it would be cruel to take from Campbellton the railway works which she once possessed.

The other speakers referred to the geographical position of the town and its former thriving condition.

Regarding the bonded indebtedness it was decided to leave the matter with the executive of the relief committee, together with the town council, for them to frame a policy to be acted upon during the meeting.

The mayor announced that Mr. O'Leary had donated \$250 to the relief fund, which statement was received with applause. A vote of thanks was moved by F. M. Anderson, seconded by A. G. Adams, and tendered the speakers.

The lieutenant governor replied on behalf of all the speakers and the meeting was brought to a close, the feeling being that it had been very encouraging and satisfactory.

Little Willie—Say, pa, what is an empty dream?

Pa—It's the kind of dream you have my son, when you go to bed hungry.

July 6, 1910

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