

THE DAILY HERALD

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Manager. Editor

DAILY HERALD.

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1904.

SPOKE PLAIN TRUTHS.

While we may not agree with everything that Principal Foster said in his very vigorous and excellent address to the Teachers' Institute, it must be confessed he spoke many plain, wholesome truths worthy the attention of the higher educational authorities.

Two of Mr. Foster's points should especially arrest the attention of those whose duty it is to act in educational matters. His plea for higher financial rewards for the teachers has often been put forward in these columns, and Mr. Foster has by strong comparisons emphasized the beggerly pittance that are doled out to the teachers as salaries. Mr. Foster finds that the ordinary domestic servant whose education need not approach even a cursory acquaintance with the three R's, is rewarded as well, if not better than the majority of female teachers in our public schools. Perhaps Mr. Foster errs slightly when he puts the domestics' wages so high, for if his figures were correct, they would be an element in the discouragement of the average young man who contemplates setting up housekeeping, and we say this without meaning a personal reference. As a matter of fact however, it may be said that the domestic say on \$12 a month and board is quite as well provided for as our average female teachers, and surely a statement of the case on that basis is strong enough to impress on the people who pay with the great injustice under which the latter class labors.

Mr. Foster thinks that it is not parsimony but lack of funds that prompts the people in the country districts to pay such miserable salaries, but in this we differ from him. Of course there are many exceptions throughout the country districts in which the ratepayers have all they can do to keep body and soul together, but there are many districts composed of well to do farmers with fat Savings Bank accounts, who are too niggardly to pay the teacher a decent living wage.

The other point on which we very heartily agree with Mr. Foster, is his plea for fair play for our young men who are fitted to adorn the highest educational positions in the province. Why should we go outside of our own University graduates when appointments to the faculty of that institution are open. Why as Mr. Foster enquires, import our professors from the United States, Ireland and Scotland, while scores of our own educated young men have to seek positions abroad. This is worthy the attention of the University Senate, now and for all time.

The tendency seems to be to import men for the best public positions we have to fill, and whether it is in our educational institutions, the military or what not, we seem to think that our own men are not equal to the duties of the positions which should be open to them. It is creditable however to those responsible for the appointments, that the two highest positions in our educational machinery are filled and admirably filled by men born, bred and educated in this province. The fact that Dr. Inch and Dr. Harrison are sons of our own soil does not prevent them from most effectively discharging the responsible and onerous duties of their

positions, and the men who succeed them when they have laid down the burdens of office should be those who have filled with equal success humbler positions in the educational service. There would be a great outcry of the government or the University Senate went to the United States or Ireland or Scotland or anywhere else outside of New Brunswick for a chief superintendent of education or a president of the University, and this feeling should be manifest when humbler positions in the educational service are to be filled.

DEMAND GREAT HASTE.

The Tories in Parliament after having condemned the Grand Trunk Pacific railway project as utterly useless and unnecessary are now very much concerned lest it may not be pushed forward with sufficient promptness to meet the needs of the west.

Tuesday Dr. Roche, Tory member of Marquette Manitoba, objected strongly to the clause giving the company eight years to complete the western section of the road. He particularly desired that the prairie section should be pushed through as speedily as possible. He declared that it was all very well to say, as had already been said, that the company would find it to its own interest to build this part quickly, but Dr. Roche thought that the people of the West would feel safer if it were so stated in the contract. He moved, seconded by Mr. Boyd, another Tory member that the prairie section should be commenced forthwith and completed within four years of the passage of the act.

The Government opposed this as not being necessary. Mr. Fitzpatrick said also that the Government preferred to look upon the whole of the western section from Winnipeg to the Pacific as one work. There was no danger of the company wasting any time over the construction of the prairie of the line.

If the new line is unnecessary, why this great Tory haste to to have it constructed. The action of Dr. Roche is a strong confession that the Tory party has been hypocritically opposing the great railway enterprise.

ON DANGEROUS GROUND.

The editor of the Halifax Chronicle is courting trouble, and may have his eyes scratched out. He sneeringly refers to the W. C. T. Union as "local branches of an American organization of elderly female politicians." It is a pity to observe such a promising and otherwise well meaning young man as the Chronicle editor inviting dislike and opprobrium by lampooning so powerful and active an organization as the Union. Some of these days he will be employing his vitriolic pen in an attack on the Local Council of Women, another female organization which strives with its senior, the W. C. T. U., for public recognition and control of certain lines of action.

Are we to understand the Chronicle editor as opposed to the public efforts of such organizations? Does he believe that women's place is the home rather than the forum? Would he have our wives, sisters and sweethearts to be simply domestic drudges and not share in the glorious work we men are trying to do for the world and humanity?

Death has caused another vacancy on the supreme court bench of Quebec.

Judge Desmaris, who died suddenly Wednesday at Three Rivers, was the successful candidate in the federal election in St. James Division of Montreal in 1896, and was subsequently appointed to the bench. He was fifty years old, and previous to his election to parliament served from 1890 to 1892 in the Quebec legislature as member for St. Hyacinthe.

The name of Rev. J. C. Koper, of the General Theological Seminary, New York, is prominently mentioned in connection with the vacant position of Bishop of Nova Scotia. He is an Englishman, 45 years old, unmarried, and is said to be an exceptionally strong man. He is a graduate of Oxford, and for a time was a professor in divinity at Trinity College, Toronto.

It is heard with much regret that Hon. James Sutherland, the efficient and popular minister of public works, is in poor health, and must temporarily retire from active work to recuperate. In the meantime it is understood that Mr. Sutherland's duties will be discharged by Hon. Chas. S. Hyman.

It cost the Japanese \$1,241,800 for tramp steamers used to bottle up the harbor of Port Arthur. The old crafts were fitted up as fireships, loaded with stone and sunk either by their crews, Russian mines or Russian guns, but the expenditure seems to have been most effective.

The Japanese struck a bit of hard luck in the loss of two warships by accident, and it is believed fully 500 men perished in the disasters. One of the lost vessels is a first class battleship, and the other a third class cruiser. The Russian cruiser Bogatyr, is also reported ashore, and possibly useless for this campaign.

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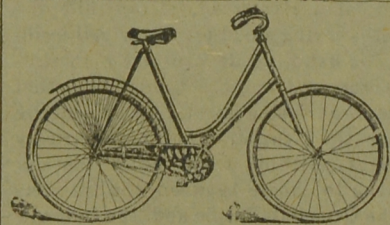
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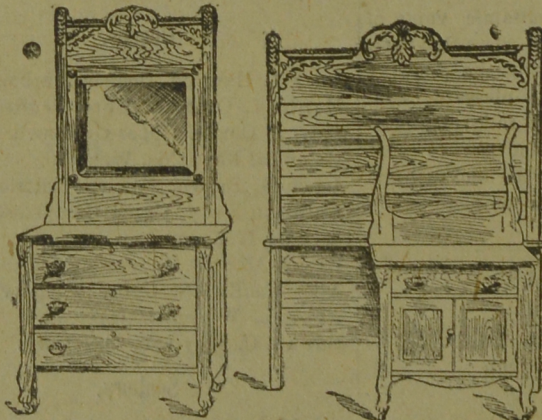
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