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DAILY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1906

PENSION BILL WILL GO.

Parliament can do good service for the country by promptly passing the government bill repealing the act giving a pension of \$3,000 a year to ex-ministers who have held a portfolio in the cabinet for five years.

The government aroused a lot of criticism by granting the pensions, and while there might not be a serious objection to helping out an ex-minister in financial straits, there is strong opposition to young men like Mr. Foster and Mr. Tarte for instance, being able to pocket \$3,500, while remaining in active occupations. Mr. Foster last year received \$6,000 of the public money only \$1,000 short of a cabinet minister's salary.

Politics is an expensive business and few men come out of it in pocket, even ministers finding that their salary is inadequate to the demands made upon them.

Better, however, to give them an increase of salary, so that they may be able to lay by something for their old age, than to indiscriminately pension every man who happens to serve five years in a cabinet position.

Some such idea is possibly prevalent at Ottawa. The Toronto Globe correspondent discussing the proposed repeal of the present pension bill, says:

"The pension proposition will possibly be permanently abandoned, and instead at some future date provision may be made for increasing Ministers' salaries to a figure which will be more in consonance with the present cost of living, and will permit the beneficiaries to lay by something for the future. It is reported that one of the Privy Counsellors who became entitled to a pension displayed great prudence and realized on his annuity for a lump sum in cash. This report may or may not be true. If it is a fact the purchaser will find himself in a very awkward position. He may consider himself the creator of a sort of vested right, but parliament will hardly take that view, and his chances of reimbursement from the public exchequer are slight."

MUSIC IN THE SCHOOLS.

The Herald is glad to observe that the Provincial Teachers' Institute now in session at Chatham, has taken up the question of music in the public schools, and the proposition finds sturdy supporters among the members of that body.

Some months in these columns the Fredericton board of school trustees were strongly urged to try the experiment of providing musical instruction of the pupils, and the question was earnestly taken up by the teachers, but received scant support from the trustees, who urged as an argument against the change, the lack of financial ability.

Since that time the school grant has been increased \$2,000, some of which has been absorbed by advancing the lady teachers' salaries, but it is hoped that with their enlarged means the trustees will be able to expend a small amount for a music teacher.

The experiment has been tried in Moncton with great success, and Inspector O'Brien is authority for the statement that it would not be abandoned under any consideration.

A SENATOR'S VIEWS.

Senator Ellis of St. John who at one time in his newspaper the Globe, showed an inclination to favor the annexation of Canada to the United States, has made a speech in the Senate, in which he declares that this country is shaping towards national independence.

The Senator is wrong. The feeling for continued British connection was never so strong in Canada as it is today, and it will increase as the years go by.

As for the annexation movement, which was never serious, it has entirely disappeared.

On the question of reforming the Senate, of Senator Ellis expresses views that are more practical than his independence propaganda. He would favor a senate along Norwegian lines, if there were to be a change. He would have the term of a senator the term of three parliaments. He would select as members of the senate a certain number

of the members of the lower house returned at the general election. The vacancies created in the commons by their appointments to the senate could be filled by supplementary elections. This would not be more disturbing to the lower house than the elections resulting from contested seats of gentlemen who have succeeded by the usual means. He would reduce the representation of the senate by at least a third. He would give Prince Edward Island four as at present, but cut Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to six each and reduce the number of senators from the other provinces in the same proportion.

THE LATE ALEX. MUIR.

Canadians will hear with regret of the death of Mr. Alexander Muir, the Toronto school master, who wrote "The Maple Leaf," Canada's national song, which has been sung from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the southern boundary of the Dominion to the frozen Arctic regions, which cheered weary marches of Canadian soldiers in South Africa and is generally accepted as an embodiment of the Canadian national feeling.

Mr. Muir, who was much honored in his home city, and whose name will be long revered all over the country, passed away very suddenly. He was 72 years old, a native of Scotland and a graduate of Queen's University, Kingston. He composed "The Maple Leaf" in 1866, and also wrote other popular songs.

CURRENT COMMENT

The St. John millmen's strike is over and it is a good thing for all concerned. The mill owners stood firm and won, and the men returned to work some \$25,000 poorer than before the strike.

Decorate for old home week. The mayor makes a proclamation on the subject, and all good citizens will take the hint. Make the city look so attractive next week, that all our visitors will want to come back early and often.

Sir Frederick Borden is to visit Camp Sussex on Monday, and if the minister brings his fiddle along with him the boys will have a lively time.

New York specialists who have examined Murderer Thaw, report him perfectly sane, but that will not stop his lawyers from putting on the insanity plea when the case reaches trial.

Mr. Robert Edwards' Slimassie does not seem to fear the latest fast trotting importation. The Halifax mare won the free for all in straight heats yesterday at Moncton.

The city council is to consider on Saturday next the question of adopting the compulsory education law in Fredericton, and it is to be hoped that the law will be put in force. There is a considerable laxity in school attendance here, and the law was made to provide that all children of school age shall take advantage of the facilities, offered for education.

The weather man prognosticates fine and warm weather for several days, and with this the Old Home week celebration promoters will take heart.

Mr. Foster, although widely advertised as one of the speakers at the Gagetown Tory picnic, will not be present at that function. Mr. Foster probably has unpleasant recollections of a visit he made to Gagetown in 1896, when at a political meeting he was sandwiched in between Hon. A. G. Blair and Hon. D.

C. Fraser and spent one of the most miserable afternoons in his history. People who attend the Tory picnic on Dominion Day will not be electrified by the speakers who are to address them. There is not much eloquence or magnatism in Mr. Borden, Mr. Broder or Mr. Rufus Pope who twice within the past two years has been rejected by the electors of Compton. The public will have a much better time if they attend the old home week celebration in Fredericton.

BITS OF NEWS.

When Sir William Van Horne's summer residence on Ministers' Island, St. Andrew's was opened Tuesday it was found that the linen and silver closets had been rifled of their contents by burglars. When the robbery occurred no one knows. The house was visited every day by the gardener, and he never saw anything disturbed. About \$1,000 worth of goods were taken.

According to the census taken this week by order of the town council the total population of the town of Dalhousie, N. B., is 1,168 souls.

Last evening the St. John millmen met and decided to call the strike off and go to work again. The strike lasted eighteen days from the 9th day of the present month to the 27th. That means that the millmen have been idle sixteen working days, which, roughly speaking, means a loss to them of from \$25,000 to \$30,000.

Mr. William Hendrie the noted horseman of Hamilton, president of the Ontario Jockey Association, is dead.

The annual meeting of the trustees of the Carleton County Hospital at Woodstock Wednesday afternoon turned out to be a rather spicy gathering. One section of those present strongly opposed the re-election of Rev. G. D. Ireland and that of Dr. Rankin, as Directors. The other side quite as strenuously fought in favor of these gentlemen. The result was a deadlock. Finally the meeting was adjourned for a month. It is expected that the adjourned meeting will afford considerable interest.

THE CAPABLE MISTRESS.

Some Mistakes That She is Liable to Make With Servants.

The capable mistress is generally the most considerate, and there is no question but that she is the strongest factor in the production of whatever good service is given in the household today. Nevertheless she is sometimes inconsiderate, and in this way—she can "turn off work" so quickly herself that she often forgets others have not the same faculty. Girls in a new place are often slow just because they are so nervously anxious to please. A capable mistress, impatient because things are not moving so rapidly as she knows they can move, does not always give a maid the two weeks' trial, by which she could do herself justice. Again, the capable mistress comes into the kitchen to make a cake. Everything is ready to her hand, and she whisks up the cake in a few minutes, telling Jane to bake it carefully. She goes upstairs and contrasts her quickness with Jane's slowness, forgetting that she had neither placed things in readiness nor cleared them away, neither supervised the baking.—Jane Seymour *Kink in Atlantic.*

Thought Negroes Immortal.

The simple minded natives of Hispaniola imagined that the negroes, who were imported in droves as slaves from western Africa by the companions of immediate followers of Columbus were immortal. The black man was a novelty to these West Indian islanders and their belief arose from the fact that the negroes were never seen to suffer from any natural infirmity, such as affected the white man and the islanders themselves. The American climate agreed with them better than their own unhealthy Guinea, and from their remarkable vigor and extraordinary longevity the Indians not unnaturally concluded that they were immortal. For a long time they saw or heard of none who died, except as criminals at the hands of Spanish executioners, and so they believed that the only way to put an end to a negro's life was to hang him.

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Notice to Contractors

Tenders will be received at the office of the Board of School Trustees until Saturday, 7th day of July next, at 12 o'clock noon, for the erection of an addition to the Morrison Mill school building. Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the undersigned, and also at the office of W. E. Minue, architect, Gibson.

CHAS. A. SAMPSON,

Secy. School Trustees.

Fredericton, June 27, 1906.

June 27.—dtf.

LETTER HEADS.

BILL HEADS.

NOTE HEADS.

STATEMENTS.

BUSINESS CARDS.

Printed

To

Suit

You

At

The Herald Office.

Notice to Water

Consumers

Consumers of water who have not yet taken out their permits for the present term, and who intend taking advantage of the rebate, are reminded that the time for doing so will shortly expire and are requested not to defer doing so until the last moment, as it will save much delay and inconvenience if attended to at once.

ALEX. BURCHILL,

Superintendent.

Fredericton, June 14th, 1906.

June 15.—dtf.

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