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DAILY HERALD

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31 1907

THE OLD AND THE NEW

The world is at the threshold of another year, ready to bid adieu to the old and to welcome the new.

The flight of time takes no notice of the artificial boundaries which men set up for their own convenience to divide the span of the earth's existence into cycles, centuries, decades, years, months, weeks, days, hours, minutes and seconds, but pursues relentlessly its course while man himself occupies but a brief period from his birth to the grave.

The old year is passing out with all its record of failure and success, with its sorrow and its joy, with plans wrecked or advanced, with its calendar of horrors, its bright page of mighty effort for the improvement of humanity, and the new year impatiently knocks at the door for admittance.

The world is growing better as the years advance, says the optimist, and he is in the great majority; the old times were best declares the pessimist, and the world is going to the dogs, courted Divine judgment and condemnation.

The opinion of men, whether hopeful or otherwise, does not make much difference in the plans of the Creator for the maintenance of the Universe, but the acts of men have much to do with affairs on this sphere, and the balance is in favor of the good, the noble, the true.

This earth is a great deal better today than it ever was—better because of the spread of the Christian religion, better in precept and practice, and while the millennium is still a long way off, the harmonizing civilizing influences of Christianity are working to that end, and achieving much.

We Canadians have much to be thankful for in the record of 1907.

Great prosperity and development have crowned the year, while less favored lands have felt the pinch of poverty, of famine, and disasters of various kinds.

Canada is today the Mecca of the oppressed and needy of almost every country under the sun—the new Eldorado, the land of promise and of plenty.

The problem of receiving and caring for the rush of immigration is one that seriously confronts the governments and the people of this great country.

There is room for many millions, but the assimilation of diverse peoples, the absorbing of many nationalities so that the future race of Canadians shall be stalwart and strong, and self-respecting, courageous and Christian, are matters which will require careful treatment and watchfulness, from those in authority.

We are a nation in the making, our foundations have been well and truly laid, and let us take care that the superstructure is strongly and permanently erected.

We are making history, the history of a young and vigorous country, with scarcely any limit to our possibilities, let us build wisely and well, so that in contemplation of the future, we may feel the same degree of pride that we boast of in our past and present history.

Let us welcome the New Year with the courage and hopefulness that makes for success, forgetting yet learning from the failures of the past, and pressing on to greater things in the years to come, and then shall the men and women of Canada, and the country itself accomplish even greater things than have come to us in the past.

Here's to a Happy and Prosperous New Year, to all, and may we appreciate to the full the advantages which we enjoy as citizens of one of the grandest countries on the face of God's beautiful earth, as inheritors of all the glorious history and tradition of the mightiest empire the world has ever seen, and as subjects of a wise, God-fearing, sovereign, whose desire for his kingdom is that it shall prosper and flourish, and whose every effort is towards maintaining and extending the prestige and the glory of the British nation, over which he so successfully reigns.

A Happy New Year. May there be less sorrow and more joy, peace and contentment, prosperity and righteousness in the homes of the people, in the busy marts of commerce, in the office and the councils of the rulers of the nation, and may Canada and Britain march forward to their great destiny blessed by the recognition and kind care of a beneficent and smiling Providence.

VICTORY IN NICOLET

The Conservatives were quite hopeful of winning the federal bye-election in Nicolet, Quebec. They had a strong candidate in Mr. Hoeh, a leading merchant of the county, while Dr. Turcotte, the Liberal nominee, was considered weak, having already been defeated six times.

But the Liberal cause is stronger than its candidates, and Dr. Turcotte is returned by a majority of 500 in a constituency which from 1867 to 1904, with the exception of 1891 went solidly Conservative.

The vacancy was created by the resignation of Hon. Chas. Devlin to accept a seat in the Quebec government, and the new election which occurred on Monday called into the field many stumblers from both parties.

The result is most satisfactory to the Liberals and is another indication

of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's great hold on his native province.

There is no reaction in Quebec against the Liberals, there is none in Ontario, there is indeed none anywhere in Canada, and the Conservatives can have no hope of success in the next general election. The bye-elections are an indication of what will happen when Parliament is dissolved and they have gone overwhelming Liberal, thirty-four constituencies since 1904 declaring for Laurier, and only nine for the Conservatives.

The next bye-elections will take place in Stanstead and South Huron, Jan. 22. The former in the last contest went Liberal, and the latter Conservative, and both were vacated by the death, since Parliament opened, of the sitting members, Mr. Lovell and Mr. Gunn.

RECKLESS STATEMENTS

Mr. Flemming, M. P. P., professes to have discovered a deficit in the provincial accounts of over \$400,000, and as a genius in misrepresentation rivals Mr. Hazen, who declares the public debt is \$9,000,000, when it is really less than \$4,000,000.

Mr. Flemming arrives at his absurd conclusion by adding into current account several items of capital account authorized by the legislature to be bonded, and then expects the public to believe that in actual expenditure during the past year the government has run up a deficit of over \$400,000.

These opposition people are getting so hungry for power that they will stop at no statement, however reckless and unfounded, to prejudice the government.

There was Mr. Hazen's illusion about the debt, Mr. Harry McLeod's dream about the recently acquired lands, and now Mr. Flemming's reckless statement about the alleged deficit.

We trust that with the opening of the New Year the opposition will make resolutions to treat public questions and their opponents fairly, and to have more regard for the truth.

CURRENT COMMENT

Happy New Year.

The electors of Nicolet seem to be sound on political questions.

Our Tory friends are afraid that the St. John Valley railway will be built.

There will be ice tomorrow for the skaters and curlers, and sleighing for the horsemen.

Well, Dr. Turcotte deserved election in Nicolet. A man who can stand six defeats and not get disheartened has pretty good stuff in him.

The Hamilton Spectator observes that there is no more popular man among the Conservatives of Hamilton than Hon. G. E. Foster—Gleaner. (This morning's despatches record the sad news of the startlingly sudden death of the Spectator editor.)

Montreal Herald: New Brunswick investigators "regret to report" that in the Scott Act town of Moncton fifteen bars were found in open operation, in Scott Act Fredericton as many, and drug stores selling everywhere. It is hard to force a community to be better than it wants to be in such cases.

Col. McLean, the Liberal candidate for parliament in Sunbury-Queens, is showing great energy in looking after the material interests of that constituency, which has found its Tory representative of little use. The united counties need wharves and other public works—a need Mr. Wilnot has failed to impress on the authorities, and Col. McLean is setting about to secure these necessary aids to commerce.

GREETINGS

We extend to all our best wishes for a very

Happy and Prosperous 1908

We desire to thank our many patrons for the very liberal patronage extended to us during the past year and trust we shall receive a continuance of the same.

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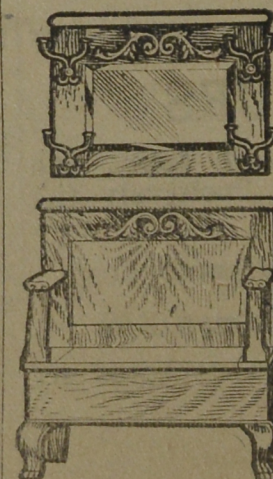
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NEW YEAR

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