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EASTERN TEACHERS IN RECENT SESSION

(Continued from page one) qualified the talk and only wanted a short one, for the reason that we are only yet in the initial stages of this important movement and nothing of any great moment has yet developed.

To begin at the beginning, Mr. Mathieson, the gentleman who occupies the distinguished position of Premier of this province, felt that the situation here was not as it should be, and he considered that after this war would be over new conditions would arise whereby it might become necessary to inaugurate an entirely different procedure and policy from the one we had been accustomed to—in fact a renaissance or new birth.

What is to-day known as the P. E. Island Development Commission was the outcome of that Conference. We are composed of 20 members taken from the three counties. We are not an executive or an administrative body, we are advisory only. We are expected to collect all the available information on the different subjects and deliberate upon it.

Politics have been eliminated in the selection of this Commission, and we are one and all determined that politics will be kept out of it. Theoretically speaking it is considered that the smartest, wisest and most able men in any province are in the Legislature. Possibly they are, but I think that you will all agree with me when I say that smart as they are—a great deal of their power is lost or wasted by the fact that they are biased and prejudiced by party politics. This is

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where our Development Commission will make headway, because we are determined to approach the great work we have been appointed to do from a broad-minded viewpoint, untrammelled by party jealousies of any sort. I do not think I am over sanguine when I say that with such men as your Mr. Poole, Mr. John A. McDonald, of Cardigan, Mr. Stewart, of Georgetown, and others whom you may not know as well as these men, but who would have come to the front in a much larger community than they are in now—I say with men such as these I feel confident that we will evolve something out of this movement which will be of lasting benefit to the entire community.

We have now under consideration a great many subjects and we expect the initial reports from the chairman of the sub-committee on each of these subjects to be ready by the end of this month. To give you an idea of the magnitude of this work I will read a portion of the minutes of the last meeting of our Commission in which is set forth what the different chairmen on that occasion decided to touch on first.

The matter as read appeared in the "Patriot" on April 11th or 12th. On Agriculture: Rev. Dr. Gauthier, the chairman, said the following branches would be dealt with: Aid to dairying; strawberry and raspberry culture; co-operative buying and selling; community breeding of live stock; drainage of farm lands; growing small.

Education: Rev. Dr. Gauthier, chairman—System of high schools; better salaries for teachers; rural science; technical education. New Industries: Mr. Pope, Chairman, reported that the following matters would be taken into consideration: Manufacture of glass, an excellent deposit of sand for this purpose being found at Souris; the use of mosses as antiseptics and for other purposes; the utilization of our sea weeds; the toy industry and other matters.

Transportation: Mr. Rattenbury, chairman, reported that the following matters will be taken up: 1. The I. C. R. authorities will be communicated with, with a view of having closer connection day and night with through trains from Halifax to the West for mails and passengers when the Car ferry begins running. Cold storage for fish and meat, dairy products, and fruit. 3. Heated cars for fruit and perishable products in winter. 4. Special rates for distributing centres. 5. Better transporting facilities with Newfoundland. 6. Steamboat transportation and development of trade with the West Indies. 7. That a committee nominate a Prince Edward Islander to be appointed by the Government to investigate trade and commerce with the West Indies, and to report upon the requirements of these markets. 8. The need of improving facilities at certain shipping points on the Island, such as Bradabane, Montague, etc., where there is a heavy congestion. The Government will be asked to macadamize the approaches to these as quickly as possible. 9. Steps should be taken to settle the automobile question so that cars could run all over this beautiful province in the summer season. The strong objections by the farmers has to be reckoned with. In Manitoba the same problem was solved by the Government opening up race courses at certain points, running automobiles there, and having the farmers bring in their horses to be broken in to the automobile. The question should be taken out of politics altogether.

There will also be a great many other subjects and by-products of these subjects will turn up—for example I was somewhat surprised and disappointed to see by letters received here lately that the cheese and butter industry of this province is decadent. The foreign buyers in Halifax and Montreal report that conditions in these lines have been going from bad to worse ever since 1907, and we are by no means getting anything like the top price. Our cheese is too porous and when put in cold storage invariably mildews and crumbles, and our butter is in a deplorable condition. The result is that Island products in this line have received a bad name. This is a thing that might well be looked into by this Commission, the causes discovered and a report submitted.

I presume the subject that would interest you most to-night would be that of Education, and it would indeed be presumptuous on my part to attempt to speak before such an intelligent gathering as the Eastern Teachers' Association on such a subject, but there is a gentleman here who has kindly consented to speak to-night, and who is possibly better qualified than any man in Canada to deal with the subject of Education. I refer to Professor MacCreedy, who may strike out from the shoulder in no uncertain manner, and who, if he is in his usual form will show you that the entire system here in P. E. Island is absolutely and entirely wrong, that is, the system is wrong, but the teachers are alright, except they are not properly paid. P. E. Island is indeed fortunate to have the opinions of such a man as Professor MacCreedy. I only hope that we can keep him here long enough to help our Committee to arrange things as they should be. I have heard him explain where the educational system is defective and I have heard him suggest the remedy, but I am afraid that it will not be much use going to the Legislature unless we can also suggest the operation it will be necessary to go through in order to raise the additional expenditure which the great change will doubtless necessitate.

Those of you who have followed the manoeuvres of different Legislatures in the past will doubtless be struck by the fact that they can generally make a good showing for three or four years of their term, but on the election year the result is always very unsatisfactory. This applies to both parties. When the Liberals were in power they gave a considerable amount for the purposes of Education, possibly all they could spare. When the Conservatives came in they were instrumental in securing a much larger grant from Ottawa and were thereby enabled to augment the Educational grant, but in no way sufficient for the requirements if they are to carry out the recommendations which we will doubtless suggest. More money will yet be required, and the great question that confronts not only the Legislature, but not only our Commission, but the entire people of this Island is, where is this additional money to come from?

You are doubtless aware that the word "Tax" grates in no uncertain way on the average Prince Edward Island ear, and the political party who would even whisper the word "Tax" would be consigned by the electors to outer darkness, but taken as a whole the people of this province are of a generous disposition, and I have no hesitation in saying that I believe if the matter is properly placed before them they would come forward with the necessary amount to make up the deficiency, provided that the word tax could be changed into a name such as "Voluntary Aid to Education," or something of that sort, and in order to carry out the improvements in the Educational line which we will recommend it will be essential and necessary that a much larger amount is available than we already have.

much can be done at present until the final report of the Sub-Committee on Education is brought in, but in the meantime I would strongly suggest that the teachers of this province use their best endeavours to instruct the fathers of the children under their care that in order to have a better system of Education, they, the parents, will have to be up and doing in a financial sense. Mr. D. Edgar Shaw then gave a reading from Drummond, which was most heartily applauded.

ADDRESS BY REV. DAVID WRIGHT Rev. David Wright, delivered an address on "The Value of Education as an Asset of Human Life." Mr. Wright first dealt with education in the abstract, explaining the various theories. One is that education means "drawing out." Another theory is that the mind of the child is like a sheet of blank paper, or clean slate that it will take any impressions which may be given it. This latter theory takes into account the factor of environment. Neither of these theories are satisfactory inasmuch as the activity of the human mind is not considered. The human mind is like God. It has a creative power.

Mr. Wright touched on the creative power or development or evolution as illustrated by the invention of the binder. If you ask yourself where ideas come from; if you trace ideas crystallized into material form, you come back to God himself, who made things out of nothing. The human mind comes into existence with the power of working up new materials for itself. Cramping is not education. Some teachers try to lead the pupil along the bias of his own mind. The teachers should also try to make a study of every individual. People have to be taught to think. They do so automatically. The mind is constructed to think. Education means presenting to the child the best material in order that the mind may work upon it. Education is the power of the mind to take up the plastic material lying around it. "Education," said Mr. Wright earnestly, "means life, eternal life. A people without education is a dying people." Education is of infinite value, and should not be treated in a niggardly manner. The best investment possible is money spent for the education of the young.

Mr. Wright also dwelt on the need of more parental sympathy for the teacher, and on the problems which teachers have to face. The greatest problem is how to deal with girls just budding into womanhood. This is even a greater problem than dealing with boys just budding into manhood. The problem of education for this province will have to be faced by the Government. No Government can do it unless they have the means, and the sinews of war must come from the people. What we have to export from this province is men and men developed by education.

He hoped to see the time when Montague will have its school children under one roof, with a building in which the community will take pride, with the teachers adequately trained and equipped for their great work. Two young ladies of Montague, Misses Mary MacIntyre and Hazel Campbell, sang the "Long, long Trail" very sweetly, and responded to an encore.

PROF. S. B. MCCREEDY'S ADDRESS

Prof. McCreehy then delivered an illustrated address on "Our Schools." The pictures of schools of various kinds in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Western Canada and the United States were thrown on the screen and described. Prof. McCreehy said that the people of Prince Edward Island are getting a full measure for the money which they are expending on education. They are getting a good deal for nothing, but the world is moving and we must keep pace with the times. If we must progress, we must spend more money for education. The Island people are very lightly taxed compared with the people of other parts of Canada. On a \$2,700 property in a rural part of Ontario, Mr. McCreehy paid \$42.18 in taxes, \$17.02 of which was for the school alone. In villages, the size of Montague, in Ontario, the tax would be much greater. We can't get something for nothing. If we want the good things in education we must pay for them. Nothing is too good for the children in Prince Edward Island. They are of the best stock in North America, if not of the world—Anglo-Celtic stock. There is no better material anywhere.

The pictures of the schools were being used to illustrate the progress which is being made in education elsewhere. Many are consolidated schools. The professor stated that he understood that a movement was on foot to have the Hillsboro School re-opened. After a solo by Miss Annie Sutherland, and a few remarks by Mr. J. A. Macdonald, the meeting closed. The special train left Montague at 11 p. m. and arrived in Charlottetown at 1 a. m.

The closing session took place Saturday forenoon. The report of the different committees was presented and adopted.

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The financial papers throughout Canada as well as family and business papers of all descriptions are referring to the Silver Black Fox Fur Farming Industry in the most glowing language. The majority of these papers would not refer to the industry when in its speculative state, in other than derogatory terms.

The public press throughout Canada and the United States had to be convinced that the industry had merit. They had doubts as to whether or not foxes could be successfully raised in captivity—they were skeptical as to the prices paid for pelts, but now that the industry has demonstrated in the face of the most adverse conditions in generations, that first of all foxes can be raised with practically the same certainty as household pets, and secondly that prices ranging from \$500, to \$1,500 cash have been realized for pelts in an infant market, with the established fur markets practically cut off and Europe disorganized and in a state of turmoil.

When it is considered that Island Silver Black Fox Pelts brought as high as One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars each, in spite of all these conditions, is such as to give some idea of the future earning possibilities of the industry. Numerous Fox Companies have already reduced their capitalization from its inflated state, during the speculative period, to a point that insures good returns on a pelt basis. Many such companies are in the pleasing position to pay a good dividend for 1916 operations.

When the people of Canada and the United States realize the good returns that can be secured from the industry on a pelt basis there is every reason to anticipate a demand for shares in Companies that will again send the price soaring sky high, and the man who holds a large block of stock in well managed Companies will be gratulating himself.

There is little doubt but that the Fox industry is preparing for a big healthy boom. The Provincial Government is giving the business the support and encouragement that it deserves, and the foremost influential papers do not hesitate to endorse and laud the industry as a sound and legitimate enterprise.

Security Silver Black Foxes Ltd., advertised in the Guardian is the lowest capitalized Company with the highest quality stock procurable, having first pick of a number of the leading ranches. The 20 per cent. guaranteed cash dividend covers the full par value of every share. The Directors have pledged themselves not to accept a single cent for their services, but simply hold a large block of stock, make the Company pay good dividends, and secure their returns in this way.

Security Stock will only be offered to Guardian readers at 95c. per share up to and including Saturday, May 27th. An offer of this kind is extremely rare—capitalization was never lower, a proposition was never more attractive with its guaranteed cash dividend and other outstanding features. The person who is interested in securing either a small or large amount of stock should make application at once to R. E. MacLeod, in care of Guardian Publishing Co., Charlottetown, 9846-5-20M21.

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Mr. Landrigan, Manager of the School Supplies Department, addressed the teachers on the work of his department. His address was discussed by Messrs Adams and Cain. The question box was then opened. A number of questions were submitted, a number were answered, and the balance sent to the Teachers' Magazine.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President—L. W. Shaw. Vice-President—Inspector Cain. Recs. Secretary—D. F. Tierney. P. N. Secretary—Frank Kenny. Executive Committee—Augustus Cairns, Inspector Mullins, Miss Alice Gordon, Inspector Adams.

LETTER OF CONDOLENCE

The following letter of condolence was received by Daniel Buchanan, and other members of his family:— Dear Friends:— We hereby desire to convey to you our sincere sympathy in the sorrowful trial you have been called upon to bear in the death of your brother Charles, who was so suddenly called away in the prime and vigor of youth. Words fail us to express our sorrow for you in this time of trouble and bereavement, and although we cannot now understand those severe trials we know that God doeth all things well, and we commend you to Him, who alone can comfort the broken hearted and heal all their sorrows and comfort those who mourn.

Signed on behalf of Knox L. O. L. No. 1047. Everett MacLeod W.M. Kenneth McLeod, R.S. (To sister Nettie, brother Daniel and Alexander Buchanan:— The members of Refuge Division No. 201, Sons of Temperance, desire to express their sympathy for you as members of the said Division, in the sudden death of your beloved brother Charles. During the days of his earthly pilgrimage, Jesus called the children to Him and blessed them and said: "Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven," and so you may be comforted by the thought that your dear brother has gone to be with those who have been redeemed from earth and is with the blest.

We pray that you shall all so live here that you shall meet again. Signed on behalf of Refuge Division L. J. Leard, M. E. Leard, Caselo Sharpner.

You will like its Fine Granulation Buy your sugar in these neat 2 or 5-lb. cartons, which you can place directly on your pantry shelves. Just cut off the corner and pour out the sugar as you need it. Lantic Sugar comes also in 10 and 20-lb. bags for housewives who like to buy in larger quantities. "The All-Purpose Sugar" 2 and 5-lb. Cartons 10 and 20-lb. Bags

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