

SOME FACTS ABOUT OUR PROVINCIAL VOTERS.

According to the official report there were at the Dominion election of 1908 a total of 28,782 ballots cast. In the provincial election of 1908 the number of voters was much smaller making a total of 19,654. There was no contest in the city of Charlottetown in that year, but we have added into the total the number of votes cast in the city at the provincial election of 1904.

From this it would appear that nearly one half more voters took part in the Dominion election of 1908 than took part in the provincial election. Of the 19,654 who took part in the provincial polling of the year referred to but 13,293 voted for Councillors in the Legislative Assembly. This is barely two-thirds of the number who voted for Assemblymen, and considerably less than half the number that voted in the Dominion election.

One half the members of the Legislative Assembly were elected by 19-

654 electors and the other half by 13,293 electors. Thus 6,361 electors who went to the polls were unable to vote for more than one candidate each, while 13,293 electors were able to vote for two candidates.

At the time the Legislative Council was done away with twenty years ago, there seemed to be good reason for retaining the real estate qualification for a portion of the electorate. Since then public opinion has advanced and many conditions have changed. Manhood suffrage is now the rule in many of the great and progressive countries of the world, and it cannot be expected that seven or eight thousand electors in Prince Edward Island who are qualified to vote for members of the House of Commons will much longer rest content with a franchise which only permits them to vote for one candidate each for the Legislative Assembly, while other electors may each vote for two.

A MODERN CAR-FERRY.

In view of the growing interest in the subject of winter navigation in this Province the following account of a modern ice-breaking car-ferry may be found worthy of attention. It is taken from the January issue of Popular Mechanics, and is entitled "The Largest Ice Crusher in the World." "Separating the northern from the southern peninsula of the State of Michigan is a narrow stretch of water some eight miles across, known as the Straits of Mackinac. Of course at all seasons of the year this necessitates the use of a car-ferry to form the connecting link. In the summer months there is but little difficulty encountered, but when the winter changes the straits into vast fields of ice several feet in thickness, a desperate struggle is waged.

"At times the ice is piled in the path of the ferry to the height of from eight to ten feet. In early days, a strongly constructed ferry with the cars towed on a vast scow behind was used, and later this gave way to a powerful ice-crusher that carried the cars on the lower deck. But still the problem remained unsolved until a few weeks ago, when the "Chief Wawatam" made its appearance.

"This is by far the largest and most powerful ice-crushing ferry in the world. The new ferry is constructed of steel and cost half a million dollars. It is 352 feet over all, with 62 feet beam and a depth of 25 feet. All the machinery is below the main deck. On this deck are found four tracks capable of holding 25 standard cars of 36 feet in length. The ferry is equipped with three engines of 2,000 horse power each. Two of these triple-expansion engines are situated in the aft part of the ship

and one forward. The ship is propelled by means of twin screws."

"The conditions at the Straits of Mackinac and those existing at the narrowest part of the Strait of Northumberland seem to be very similar in several respects and the fact that such conditions have been grappled with successfully affords the best possible encouragement for an attempt to do the same in solving our winter difficulties here.

LICENSE LAW VIOLATED.

It has frequently been the subject of remark in these columns that where the liquor traffic is "regulated" by license laws such laws are quite as often violated as is our own excellent prohibitory law. Here is confirmation of this contained in a private letter from a clergyman formerly resident here and well known in this city and Province. Writing from St. John to a gentleman in Charlottetown he says:—"Last week I visited 18 bars in one afternoon and found more evidence of violation under our license system than Charlottetown would show in 100 visitations. Only two or three places are within the provisions of the Act, I entered by side alleys into bars, also went in front door on main street and out through to another street—clearly in violation of law. All this led to my making formal complaint against the license inspector to the Provincial secretary and he has promised to lay the matter before the Government at its first meeting."

"This little glimpse behind the scenes shows how violations of license laws are winked at and how notoriously common they are, not in one city only, but wherever the license system is in vogue. It also shows the utter lawlessness of the liquor traffic. It cannot be regulated. It is crooked in its very nature. One might as well expect to find a boat-load of live eels all lying straight as to find men engaged in liquor selling who would keep any law, whether made at their own instance or otherwise. Some of the better class of license laws have a few excellent provisions, which if carried into effect would tend to allay some of the evils resultant from the trade. But every license law is evaded and broken. It is quite as easy to enforce a prohibitory law to the letter as to enforce a license law to the letter, and the results are tenfold better. It is easier to kill a venomous serpent than to regulate one into harmlessness.

NOTES.

It has been decided to hold a Temperance Congress for the Dominion to open at Toronto on February 13 and to continue for four days. The occasion is the annual meeting of the Ontario Alliance. Delegates are expected from all the Provinces of Canada. The President of the United Kingdom Alliance and the National Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of America will be invited. It is hoped to have two thousand delegates in attendance.

Our readers will remember that some months ago the Gaekwar of Baroda, one of the feudatory princes of India, visited Canada and was very favorably spoken of in the press of this country as a most enlightened and progressive ruler. It now turns out that he was guilty of a breach of etiquette and decorum at the recent Durbar in Delhi. What he did is thus described in a press account:—"On being presented, after a single bow, he turned his back upon the King Queen with a smile, the intention of which was unmistakable." The Gaekwar has since publicly apologized for his conduct which he excuses on the ground of nervousness.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

The Examiner, which we suppose speaks with authority, says that when the winter steamers take up their work the Earl Grey will make round trips daily between Charlottetown and Picton and the Minto will make return trips between Summerside and Tormentine. The steamers will remain over night at Island ports, leaving this port and Summerside respectively at 7.30 in the morning, and leaving Picton on return at 2 o'clock and Tormentine at 2.30 p. m.

The bank accountants who have been investigating the public accounts of this Province report its present liabilities to be \$1,070,000.

Premier Mathieson at Hunter River propounded an important program, including a car-ferry at the Capes, with a broad gauge on the P. E. Island Railway, which he says he has the highest authority for stating we can get at an early day if we agree upon it, and this without prejudice to our claim to the Tunnel, should the ferry not prove satisfactory. This ought in our opinion to be promptly accepted.

The MacKinnon Drug Co., are making a specially good display of Moir's chocolates for the holiday trade. All the packages are of handsome design and the contents perfectly fresh. The prices are such as will appeal to the average pocket-book.

ASTRONOMERS, ATTENTION.

Sir,—Can some one of your readers tell me how the moon being further north at some times than at others affects the weather? It has been suggested to me that the moon's seeming place is due to refraction, through a watery atmosphere. Is there anything positively

WHERE TO SHIP SMELTS AND EELS

Shippers should write to R. W. Sandford, 38 Fulton Market, New York, if they wish to receive the highest market prices and quick returns for their smelts and eels, as this firm assure all that they will make satisfactory sales. They have a steady demand for their goods and find no trouble in handling large quantities as will be seen by their ad in this issue.

Having been established since 1880 M. L. Sullivan & Co., Fulton Market, New York, can handle smelts and eels from this Province to the best advantage, as they have a ready run of customers who are willing to pay high for first class goods and as the weather is getting colder the demand grows. Shippers should write the firm before making their arrangements elsewhere. Their ad, giving full particulars, appears in this issue.

I. Goodman Co., Fulton Market, New York, have every convenience for handling smelts and eels shipped to them from this Province and will display them to the best possible advantage so that when they reach the customers they will bring the highest market prices. The firm guarantees satisfaction and as they have been doing business here for some years they need no further introduction and a trial order will prove their statements.

The Americans want smelts and eels from Prince Edward Island and John W. Rich & Co., 175 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, is ready to supply them, if shippers from this Province will send him the goods for which he is prepared to pay high and make prompt returns, as will be seen by his ad. As the season advances the prices remain good and now is the time to ship when the communication is uninterrupted and thus no delays.

THE PERFECTED WONDERS OF THE X-RAY.

The intense popular interest that was aroused by the announcement of the discovery of the X-ray is vividly described by G. E. Chamberlain in the January number of Popular Mechanics Magazine. "Not only," he says, "did the entire scientific world, most reluctantly do honor to this master workman (Roentgen), but the literary world, the commercial world, the laboring world, were each and all carried away with enthusiasm. Writers loosed their imaginations with the most weird and fanciful results, and it was a boom for the comic artists and toke-smiths. "Every working man held strong views on the matter. Few things before or since have so grasped and held the popular fancy. Cathodes, anodes, Crookes tubes, and a source of other scientific terms were in common use. One result of this was that practically every person who could read any language had a fairly accurate idea of how the X-ray was produced and what it had accomplished."

The more recent developments in the use of the X-ray are described by the writer, who ascribes much of the credit to American investigators. The improved apparatus now in use are described in detail and a number of interesting illustrations accompany the article.

RICHESON ATTEMPTS TO END HIS LIFE.

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—Richeson, the minister accused of murdering his fiance, attempted suicide this morning and is in a serious condition.

THE GRAND TRUNK'S NEW HOTEL.

Work on the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, the new \$2,000,000 hotel, constructed by the Grand Trunk System is progressing very favorably. Nearly all of the plastering of the hotel is now completed and there remains to be done only the lobby, bar and grill room ceiling. Most of the marble floors for the dining room corridor are laid, and after the plaster work of the lobby is completed work will be started on the marble work of that floor. Heat and light have been in the building for the last two months, and when the plaster is sufficiently dried in the various public rooms, the decorators will be able to commence the interior decorations. Some of the woodwork for the big rooms is in the hotel, and the erection of this is going on. The general appearance of the various rooms, is beyond expectation, and when completed will be of the richest effect, artistic in design, and wonderfully beautiful.

THE LATEST CENSUS BULLETIN RETURNS.

OTTAWA, Dec. 20.—The second census bulletin giving population by sexes shows a slight increase in the total population, the figures now standing 7,192,338.

With several small divisions omitted the female population numbers 3,767,937. Males have increased almost 300,000 more than females, this being due to immigration.

Prince Edward Island shows: Kings County, 11,598 males, 11,040 females; Prince, 16,551 males and 16,228 females; Queens, 18,916 males and 19,389 females.

Figures by constituencies will necessitate redistribution and the new unit of representation will be 39,852. This means numerous reductions in Membership from the Eastern Provinces.

OBITUARY.

At Mayfield on November 27th, 1911, there passed from this earth to the Home beyond, Ann, dearly beloved wife of John Toombs in the 79th year of her age. For fifty-five years they had travelled hand in hand but now the tender cord is broken. She was a most affectionate wife and mother and will be greatly missed in the home. She was ever a kind friend to those in need, and the way-lining man always found a welcome place at her table. According to the life she lived she will be one of those who will hear that welcome applause "Well done, inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me." She leaves to mourn a sorrowing husband, six sons, two daughters and one sister. During her last illness she was tenderly cared for by her son and daughter (Mrs. Sadie Bryson) assisted by kind friends and neighbors who shall not soon be forgotten. Quite early in life she became a member of the Presbyterian Church and lived a consistent life till her death. She was greatly comforted by the kindly visits of her beloved pastor, Rev. John Stirling of Cavendish. On the 29th her remains were laid to rest in Cavendish Cemetery.

Dear loving mother, thy work is done, And all thy suffering past, And how we miss you none can tell, But glad thou'rt home at last.

CHICAGO HAS A DISASTROUS FIRE.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Fire last night wrecked the Board of Trade building, one of the landmarks of the Loop District, routed a thousand guests in three hotels and destroyed the records of the Federation of Labor and of a score of Unions, which were housed in the Board Building. The monetary loss is \$200,000.

MONCTON PEOPLE NOW USING NATURAL GAS.

MONCTON, Dec. 20.—At noon today people became users of natural gas piped from the Albert County wells, seven miles away. This is regarded as the most important development in the city progress. The occasion was suitably observed.

The holiday trade has been well looked after by the McKinnon Drug Co., their stock is replete with fine perfumes, chocolates, military brushes, mirrors and other excellent gifts for the Xmas trade. A look through their clean bright store will help you in making selections.

A GOOD POSITION

Paying \$55 to \$100 Monthly offering excellent chances for advancement, awaits every young person who completes a course at the G. T. P. School of Telegraphy and Railroading. Over 200 stations will be opened on the Grand Trunk Pacific. New students begin every Tuesday. Write for Circular. —C—Address, W. T. LITTLE Principal, Fredericton, N. B. 10—97mwd1s17wks.

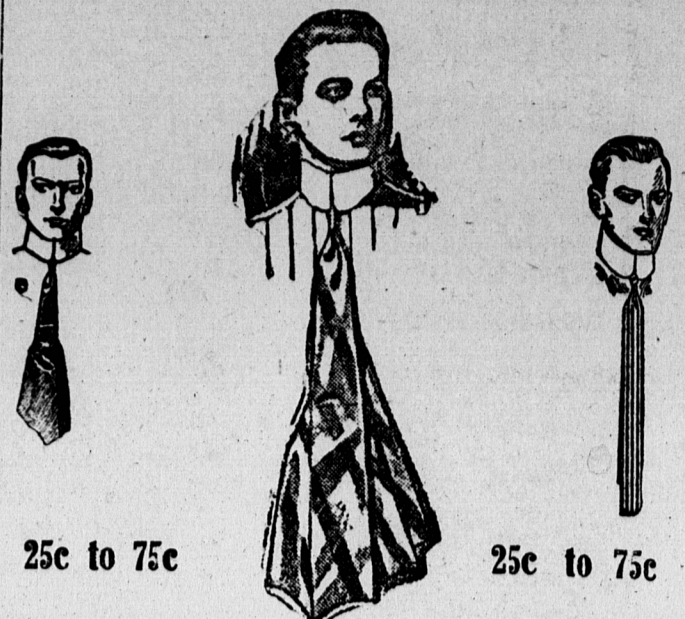
Accident and Health Insurance

The policies we issue are the best in the market and for the least money Our Company is most reliable and very liberal in its settlements. Look into the matter without loss of time and take a policy

D. B. Stewart

Charlottetown, General Agent for the London Guarantee and Accident Co. Ltd London, England.

Christmas News From Patons Store



Christmas Ties -- Patons are Best

Happy will be the man whose Christmas gift is picked this year from Paton & Co's magnificent display. This department is superintended by young men who have made a study of the different lines in their departments and are brim full of suggestions to help the weary shopper. The different gifts will be nicely boxed in Christmas boxes and can be easily mailed if desired or will be delivered as requested. A good muffler makes a very neat gift and you will have no trouble at all in selecting from the very large stock. Long silk and wool mufflers in handsome boxes 90c. \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2. to \$3.50. Knit muffler in neat box at 35c up. Also a good line of silk mufflers.



There are about sixteen lines that are loaded down with the latest contents in ties, mufflers and silk handkerchiefs and everyone knows how acceptable they are as gifts. The silent salesman speaking for themselves and contain everything for the father, husband or friends. There are hundreds of sweater coats, handsome affairs that are priced right, with high or low roll collars, all sizes from the four year old boys to the two hundred weight man. For the busy housewife what could bring a smile to her face quicker than a Bissell carpet sweeper. Patons have them in all the different makes and they are beauties too. From \$3 to \$4. A silk shirt will make a nice Christmas box for the daughter or wife at \$5.00, \$6.50, \$7.75 and \$9.00 or a black sateen shirt at 93c to \$2.25.

PATONS Give Her a Brussel Sweeper \$2.75 to \$4.00 PATONS

Give Daddy a Nice Pipe

Give him one he will be proud of—a handsome, genuine meerschauin. He will probably never buy such a pipe for himself although he has always wanted one. Come in and see our superb showing of M^rERCHAUM'S FRENCH BRIARS CALABASH pipes. We have them in all the desirable shapes with cases and without. Xmas pipes from 25c to 10.00.

J. G. Jamieson Druggist The Medical Hall

"Men's rubbers 88c., Boys' 58c., Youth's 48c., at Goff Bros' 12-54-57. "Open evenings until 9 o'clock. The Rogers Hardware Co., Ltd. 12-19-51.

Signet Rings

are very popular this season and we have an extra large stock of new ones, including the very neatest and most up to date designs. Prices are 10k gold 1.50 up. 14k gold 3.75 up. We engrave any of these in best style monogram without extra charge.

G. H. Taylor Jeweler and Engraver,

Cameron m. v. Phoe Who they Smallwood J. Cronin v. r. v. Grocy Cuffin & Co. Chappels Grocy

Mothers! Fathers! Give your Children Cameron's Home-made Bread

The golden crusted, Snowy crumbed loaf Good for you—good for them. The grocers named in this "ad" can supply you. M. & A. McLeod Crockett & C. Mrs. Geo. Moore Water St. Mrs. Trainor (Roanoke St. Mrs. J. Trainor (Spring Park R.)

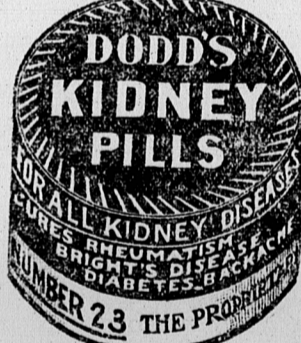
For the Christmas Season

We offer our trade the most practical and the most sensible of all Xmas Gifts.

Foot Wear

Nothing could be more acceptable than a pair of Slippers—Harem, Hart bedroom and other kinds that we have in store. Come and see our display.

Goff Bros



The School that has won the confidence of the people."

Recommends The Union Commercial College.

Mr. Wm. Moran, Prin. Union Commercial College, Dear Sir: I consider that the work done at your institution is of a very high standard and I can safely say that the Union Commercial College ranks among the foremost Business Colleges in Canada. To justify this statement I have only to refer to the marks made by me of the last Civil Service examinations. Wishing you continued success in your work, I remain Yours truly, (Sgd.) W. J. McDONALD. Send or write for illustrated prospectus.

Wm. Moran Principal. New Royal Bank Building.