

THE DAILY EXAMINER

JANUARY 10, 1896.

THE TEACHERS' SALARIES

We are pleased to note that public opinion is quick to resent an indignity to our teachers. Naturally there are continual strengthening sentiments of public respect and esteem for teachers who year after year and generation after generation, are the educators of those in whom the love and hope of the people are chiefly centered. It is, therefore, not wonderful that many persons are anxious to know why the supplements of several excellent teachers who have long been engaged in our schools have lately been reduced. Is there any absolute necessity for this? Has the city become so poor that it cannot continue to pay to deserving teachers the modest amounts which they have been accustomed to receive? Such are the questions that we hear. The meetings of our school trustees being held in private, the short statements given to the press being due to the courtesy of the Secretary, parents are, of course, in ignorance of the motives which actuated the trustees when making the invidious reductions which have been noted. Briefly stated, the motives were, we believe, to do that which the trustees believed to be justice to the whole body of teachers and to induce teachers to obtain the higher class licenses. While the expediency of having licenses of the higher classes may be admitted, it ought not to be supposed by anyone, least of all by the trustees, that years of actual work upon the minds and characters of living children is not a better guarantee for efficiency as a teacher than the few months of extra study in Latin, French and mathematics which is necessary to the getting of a first-class license. However this may be, it will be hard for the trustees to persuade the people, even though it be true that the younger teachers were entitled to an increase of pay, that it was right or considerate or necessary to humiliate those who are older by cutting down the small salaries which they have received in years gone by. We are glad to hear that the reductions will not, in any case, take effect until midsummer, and we hope that ere that time they may be reconsidered. Some of our correspondents have referred to the arbitrary and unrepresentative principle upon which the Charlotte town school board is founded. The people were content to overlook this so long as the trustees, guided by the opinions of the press and their own good sense, continued to act wisely. But if acts of the school board do violence to the feelings of the people there will speedily be an agitation for reform in the direction of popular control.

THE MAYORALTY.

The nomination of the Honourable David L. Laird for the office of Mayor, ought not to carry with it into the election the idea of dividing upon party lines. It is true that Mr. Laird is a party man. So are we all party men. But we do not carry our partisanship with us into every relation of life. Nor need we carry it into the Mayoralty or any other civic department. Mr. Laird has not, so far as we know, carried his partisanship into the Water Commissioners office to which he was elected by the votes of men of both parties, and we are not justified in concluding that if elected to the position he would carry it into the Mayoralty. In the selection of candidates for the Mayoralty Mr. Laird's partisanship ought to be no more considered than that of Mayor Dawson, or Mr. George Peake, or Mr. Alexander Howe, or Mr. T. A. McLean, or Mr. S. W. Crable, or Ex-Councillor Hazzard, or any other gentleman whose name has been mentioned in that connection. Having been rejected out of the candidature for the representation of Queen's West in the House of Commons, Mr. Laird is not personally in politics, and but for the sympathy that is felt for him on account of the sharp practice of which he has been the subject, his partisanship cannot, in fairness, be regarded as any more significant in a civic contest than that of any other man. So far there has been no selection of candidates. We have no positive knowledge that any of the gentlemen named as candidates would accept a nomination. We do not know the grounds or conditions upon which any one of them would consent to enter the field as a candidate for the Mayoralty. We only know that we want a Mayor who will be free to serve, as a Mayor may and can, the interests of the whole body of citizens, and not those of any particular class or clique. Would it not be well to have a public meeting and talk the matter over in a business-like way? After a fair discussion we should be in a better position than we are now to select candidates for the approaching contest. Let us rise superior to party jealousies and interests if possible and place in office, men who will do the right thing for our town. We do not now plead for Mr. Laird or any other man. But only for an unprejudiced, intelligent and business-like selection of candidates.

—St. John Gazette: Mr. Davies, the Liberal leader of the Maritime Provinces, was present at the Sussex meeting last night, and vigorously denounced the National Policy. He made an interesting disclosure respecting the trade policy of the Liberal party. "It was," he said, "a tariff for revenue only, with duty levied for protection limited," and then he said the nerve to say right afterwards that the policy was not hard to understand. It is the fashion now to form limited liability companies to carry on many classes of business. How would this sound: Laurier, Davies & Co., (limited) successors to the Liberal party.

FRUIT CULTURE.

The advancement of fruit culture is to be the subject of a series of lectures to be delivered in this Province by the Horticulturist of the Central Experimental Farm. We are permitted to insert the following letter received this morning by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor:—
Central Experimental Farm,
Ottawa, Jan. 6, 1896.
Hon. G. W. Howland, Lieut. Governor of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, P. E. I.
Dear Mr. Howland:—Knowing the great interest you take in all matters pertaining to the Island, and especially to the advancement of fruit culture, I beg to advise you that, under instructions of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, I have arranged for a series of meetings to be held in Prince Edward Island for the discussion of this subject, and am arranging for our Horticulturist, Mr. John Craig, to attend and give addresses on these occasions. A given address will be held at Charlottetown on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 2 p. m.; one at St. John's on Wednesday, the 29th, at 2 p. m.; one at Alberton on Friday, the 31st, at 2 p. m.; and one at Summerside on Saturday, Feb. 1st, at 2 p. m. Mr. Craig will be prepared to discuss fruit matters generally with the people, and I hope his visit will result in stimulating the fruit industry throughout the Island. Yours very truly,
W. J. SANDERS, Director.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—The Quebec Mercury says: "Sir Charles Tupper, Baronet, is the man everyone looks to as the future leader. Indeed, some go so far as to say that the Home Government is in no less a hurry to have Sir Charles Tupper at the head of the Canadian Government now than so many questions affecting Imperial interests are being considered in London and Ottawa."
—The Patriot shudders "at the thought of Sir Charles Tupper becoming Premier of Canada." This would be a good subject for a cartoon, or better, for a living picture. It is to be hoped that Mrs. Rogers and Mr. Harris will adopt the suggestion for the next entertainment. The slightest enunciation of criticism in the country shuddering would not shivering be the better word?—at the thought of Sir Charles Tupper? The back-packer, sweet Tart and Jimmy McKean might appear slender in the background. It would make a pretty picture—a more decided hit than even Shakespeare's witticisms.
—H. Spencer Howell writes to the Mail and Empire: It is a curious fact that nearly all the old maps of South America show the boundary line between Guiana and Venezuela as being a counterpart of Schomburgk's "extension" line. I have in my possession a copy of Herman Moll's "A System of Geography," published in 1791 (William III.), and there is a very accurate map of Terra Firma—the northern portion of South America—and this dividing line is laid down almost identical with that of Sir Robert H. Schomburgk, surveyed in 1841-4. It runs in a south-westerly direction, the north limit beginning at a point near the mouth of the Paria or Orinoco river. It lies about equidistant from the Essequibo (Orinoco) river and the Essequibo (Geopitillo) river and separates North Andalusia (eastern Venezuela) from Caribana or Guiana. Another matter of importance is that the boundary at the coast line is marked at the west of Pt. Barima, and beyond the extreme western limit of England's claim.

NEWS NOTES.

Comparing a tariff for protection with a tariff for revenue, Senator Sherman shows that the average monthly surplus under the McKinley Act was \$1,292,821, whereas the Wilson bill yielded an average monthly deficit of \$4,559,000.
—One result of the war talk is a modest increase in a congress to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the establishment of a gun factory in Benicia, Cal. Of course there are suggestions that it be located in other States, for even in patriotic personal and local feelings will be manifested, but Benicia has the first, if not the best, case. The Americans have discovered that war scares are among the most expensive national follies.
—Sir Frederick Leighton, president of the Royal Academy, who has just been raised to the peerage by Queen Victoria, is a great figure in the world of the higher Bohemia of London, and, with the exception of Whistler, the object being to put a man in the realm of art. He is a sculptor as well as a painter, and it is charged that his precise knowledge of anatomy has marred some of his best works with the brush. Sir Frederick is also an orator, and had he not lived for art alone, he might have been an essayist of power.
—The commander-in-chief of the British army has intimated his intention to institute a prize which will be called the Wolseyley Cyclist Infantry Challenge Cup, to be competed for in riding and shooting by cyclist sections of all British volunteer infantry corps, the first contest being appointed to be held in connection with the Home District Rifle meeting at Bisleby on the first Saturday in May, the day of the great competition in marching and shooting by the Guards, Militia and Volunteers of the District. The conditions are to be settled by Major-General Stracey, Colonel Eustace Balfour, Colonel Saville and the Hon. Selousberg McDonnell, all practical riders, who have given attention to the adaptation of the cycle to military purposes. The distance to be ridden will be about forty miles, and a minimum pace will be fixed. The men—probably squads of eight—will have to fire immediately on completing the ride, the object being to determine which team is the most capable of accurate shooting after a reasonably rapid march.
—Look out for colds at this season. Keep yourself well and strong by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great tonic and blood purifier.
—Something worth talking about—Paton & Co's great sale of blankets, comforts, underwear, dress goods, oddments and remnants.—Jas. Paton & Co.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CIVIC AFFAIRS.

Sir,—I was asked on Monday to sign a resignation to Mr. David Laird, and I have myself to be put in nomination for Mayor. Mr. Laird has done very well as a Water Commissioner, to which he was elected some years ago when the Government of Charlotte town was in the hands of the trustees of Charlotte town. He is now to be trotted forward by certain well-wishers in his own party (who are his political enemies) in order to secure certain ends of their own. It is doubtful if Mr. Laird will be elected as Mayor. But he will, in any event, be elected as Mayor. He is now to be trotted forward by certain well-wishers in his own party (who are his political enemies) in order to secure certain ends of their own. It is doubtful if Mr. Laird will be elected as Mayor. But he will, in any event, be elected as Mayor. He is now to be trotted forward by certain well-wishers in his own party (who are his political enemies) in order to secure certain ends of their own. 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