

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1908.

A SCHOOL COMMISSION.

There are obvious defects in our school system some of which were touched upon in the recent discussion in the Legislature with the result that the government asks authority to appoint a commission to inquire and report upon the system, the most suitable books and the best means of obtaining the same. Much will depend upon the men appointed on such a commission. They ought to be experts in education, broad-minded and progressive and well-acquainted with the best that other Provinces and other countries are doing in educational matters. Men however prominent but who have run for years in a rut will not be likely to elevate or improve the existing system. On the other hand those who would make changes for change sake and without improvement would be equally useless on such a commission.

The school book question has been found to be an important and vital one in all the Canadian provinces and elsewhere. Vast fortunes have been made in the publication of school books while parents have been paying double prices for very cheaply got-up books. The middleman and the rake-off are not unknown abroad in this trade. In Prince Edward Island books have been obtained quite as cheaply in the past as in most other parts of Canada, at less prices than in some, and we have heard of no corrupt dealings. But we have heard of a bonus being offered in another province to secure the acceptance of a certain book or books for use in schools. The proposal was rejected, and perhaps for that reason came to light.

More than one board of education, itself honest and unsuspecting, has been victimised in the matter of school books by plausible schemers. The proposed school commission will find an important part of its work in selecting the most suitable books and the best means of obtaining them at reasonable prices. There will be an opportunity to render real public service in this branch of the commission's work.

THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

M. W. Murphy of China Point calls the Guardian's attention to the fact that under the constitution the Dominion Government is obligated to "assume and defray all the charge for the geological survey." He proceeds to set forth that the contents of the rock structure beneath the surface of the Island are unknown; that the strata lie in a horizontal position so that no precise knowledge can be had except by boring; that no borings have been made by the Dominion Government and we know no more on the subject today than was known in 1871 when the report of Dr. Dawson's survey for the Island Government was published.

Mr. Murphy further points out that the Geological Survey of Canada has been quite a costly affair and other sections of Canada have been pretty effectually surveyed. From 1873 to 1906 inclusive nearly three millions of dollars (\$2,929,610) had been expended in this way and the outlay has increased from year to year. As our people contribute by taxation for carrying on this important and costly work without sharing in the benefits, Mr. Murphy suggests that our Legislature take the matter up as a provincial claim. Better still, we think, if it should be insisted that a thorough geological survey of the Island be made. We are clearly entitled to this and until it shall be done no man can tell what possible stores of wealth may lie concealed beneath us. The Guardian has frequently insisted upon having borings made and we gladly call attention to the matter again.

CONCERNING FARMERS' MEETINGS.

In another column a practical farmer talks in a practical way about the recent Seed Fair at Summerside. He seems to think that the public meeting was considerably diverted from its true purpose by loading down the platform with imported speakers, lawyers, legislators and clergymen whose volubility is in inverse proportion to their knowledge and experience of farming. It was ever thus in this distracted world.

Our correspondent made the mistake of thinking the Seed Fair was to be an experience meeting and it turned out to be a preaching service so to speak, and it is so much easier to preach than to practise what one preaches. But who shall say it was not, after all, a seed fair for the lawyers and the politicians? The grain harvest is not the only harvest that is gathered on this fertile Island. There is also a harvest of votes and a harvest of fees to be gathered in due time.

The harvest of votes is not a yearly affair as is the harvest of oats or wheat, but in the one case as in the other, the seed must be sown or there would be no crop. And this is the year of the vote harvest. The lawyer too, must sow if he would reap; he must advertise himself as occasion offers on the public platform, exhibit his eloquent powers before possible clients of the future and otherwise attract attention as he may. All times of the year are his seed time and harvest. Leaves have their time to fall and flowers to wither, but the man of law, like the angel of death has all seasons for his own.

For these reasons our agricultural friends should be patient with the professionals. If the practical farmer can get but two minutes on the floor at an agricultural meeting or a seed fair while the lawyer or the politician occupies an hour, the farmer should remember how much more the occasion may mean to the politician than to him. And especially this year when the political fields must be sown and reaped within so short a time.

SAFETY IN OUR SCHOOLS.

The Teachers' Federation is to be commended for the earnest consideration it has given to the matter of securing the safety of pupils and teachers in our public schools and for the sane and practicable recommendations made in regard thereto. These recommendations cover the continuance and improvements of fire drill the introduction of a fire alarm system and telephone connection with the City Fire Department; hose on each flat connected with the water service of the building; a fireman's axe in each half and ladders by which the windows of the second storey may be reached; one window at least in each room; to open easily from the bottom and all doors to swing outwards.

In all these there is not an unimportant or needless recommendation. With the other proposals as to steps to the windows of the basement class-rooms in Prince and West Kent schools, and a means of exit from the second floor to the

MOTHER'S Seigel's SYRUP

By its strengthening and regulating action on the stomach and bowels puts an end to INDIGESTION, relieves pain and

Cures Windy Spasms

Price 60 cents per bottle. Sold Everywhere. A. J. WHITE & Co., Montreal.

roof of the annex, together with obviously necessary precautions in the furnace and fuel rooms, the recommendations cover the vital points of present danger. Nothing is said of costly iron fire escapes, doubtless because these have very serious drawbacks in the season of snow and ice, and especially for the use of small children. Fire escapes, if built should be kept covered. But apart from these, if the recommendations of the Teachers' Federation were carried out in their entirety the existing very grave dangers would be mainly removed, and at a comparatively trifling cost in view of the security they would afford.

ALEC YEATON'S SON.

The wind it wailed, the wind it moaned, And the white caps flecked the sea 'An' I would to God,' the skipper groaned, 'I had not my boy with me!'

Snug in the stern-sheets, little John Laughed as the sea swept by; But the skipper's sunburnt cheeks grew wan As he watched the wicked sky.

'Would he were at his mother's side!' And the skipper's eyes were dim, 'Good Lord in heaven, if ill betide, What would become of him?'

'For me, my muscles are as steel, For me let hap what may; I might make shift upon the keel Until the break o' day.'

'But he, he is so weak and small, So young, scarce learned to stand, O pitying Father of us all I trust him in thy hand!'

For thou, who markest from on high A sparrow's fall, each one! Surely, O Lord, thou'lt have an eye On Alec Yeaton's son!'

Then, helm hard-port, right straight he sailed Towards the headland light; The wind it moaned, the wind it wailed, And black, black fell the night.

Then burst a storm to make one quail, Though housed from winds and waves, They who could tell about the gale Must rise from watery graves!

Sudden it came, as sudden went; Ere half the night was sped, The winds were hushed, the waves were spent, And the stars shone overhead.

Now, as the morning mist grew thin The folk on Gloucester shore Saw a little figure floating in, Secure, on a broken oar!

Up rose a cry, 'A wreck! a wreck! Full, mates, and waste no breath! They knew it, though 'twas a speck Upon the edge of death!'

Long did they marvel in the town At God His strange decree, 'That let the stalwart skipper drown, And the little child go free!'

—THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH.



Just Arrived THE ASTORIA SHOE

For Gentlemen. The best and most stylish shoe in Town.

The real English Oak Sole imported from the old country; no more trouble with soles wearing out before he time.

Oh! My They are Nobby. ALL NEW STOCK. See them in our window.

GOFF BROS.

"Wearwell" Pants for working men, look-well, fit-well and wear-well.

WHAT OTHER WOMEN HAVE FOUND OUT

Is that in our dress goods section they can find splendid variety and assortment, no poor goods at any price. Prices low consistent with quality, colorings fast and shades of the newest. Our aim has always been quality and we think our efforts have been appreciated. Below we give a partial description of some special lines.

ALSO A SPLENDID line of stripes which we offer along with our special at 50c yd.

FRENCH VENETIAN 44 inch all wool a beautiful soft lustrous cloth in mid brown, golden brown, Copenhagen blue, clear navy, myrtle green, clear navy, dark navy and black this is a brand new cloth just received is all wool and similar to the regular 65c. line on the market. Special at 50c yd.

OUR SPECIAL FRENCH VENETIAN all wool suiting wide width, many people prefer this line to chiffon broadcloth. We ask a comparison of the finish with other Venetians on the market as we control this line for Charlottetown. Shades Cherry Garnet, Copenhagen Blue, Bright Navy, Clear Navy, Dark Navy, Fawn, Golden Brown, Mid Brown, Dark Brown, Myrtle Green Pearl Grey and Black. Our price \$1.25 yd.

CHIFFON BROADCLOTH the kind that won't ruff up but wear as clean as a hard walled serge.

LONDON SHRUNK all wool and 52 inches wide. We also control this line for Charlottetown. Shades Castor, Copenhagen Blue, Bright and Clear Navy, Tan, Golden Brown, Chocolate Brown, Pearl Grey, Myrtle Green, Olive Green and Black. Our special price is \$1.48 compare with regular \$1.75 lines as shown in Charlottetown.

CHIFFON BROADCLOTH the kind NEW STRIPED SUITINGS 58 inches wide in newest colorings, Blue with stripe, Brown with stripe Blue and Green stripe etc. prices \$1.45 to \$1.55 yd.

ALSO NEW PLAIN DRESS GOODS New Black Lustres, new Poplins, new Taffeta cloths, French Cordes Batistes, Bretz Cordes, Panamas, Lustres, Mohairs, Cheviots, Serges, Shepherd Checks, Silk and Wool Eoliennes, all silk Eoliennes, Glorias, etc.

To sum up, we have a word on stock is most complete and we invite inspection. Now what are you going to do about it?

JAS. PATON & CO.

MEDICAL SCIENCE ADVANCING FAST.

Formerly doctors prescribed stomach treatment for Catarrh and Bronchitis. They seldom cured and Catarrh has become a national disease. To-day the advanced physician fights Catarrh by medicated air. He fills the lungs, nose and throat with the antiseptic vapor of Catarrhazone to cure. It contains the essences of pure pine balsams, reaches all the germs and destroys the disease. Every case of Catarrh, Bronchitis and Sore Throat can be cured by Catarrhazone. 25c. and \$1.00 sizes. Sold everywhere. Get it to-day.

What goodness. The merits of hat goodness is not the price you pay but the style, comfort and service you get. That's what makes "Chrit's" hats the best value. Prowse Bros. Ltd. 3-27d21

Have you seen the new ideas we are showing in wall decorations? We should be pleased to have you call and examine the handsome "upper third" "crown" and "panel" effects that we have here in such generous range. Desires from the wall paper mills of France that will delight every artistic buyer ask the salesmen to show you these. Moore & McLeod. 3-28d31

The best dressers wear Hawes three dollar hats. You cannot get better quality in any five dollar hat sold. Prowse Bros. Ltd. 3-27d21

We have placed on sale a great collecting of white appique shams and table covers in very pretty designs at 20c, 25c, and 28c. They are really surprising values. Moore & McLeod. 3-28d31

Wash goods in gingham and chambray are recently in from the mill. Ask to see our new line of chambrays at 16 cents per yard, Moore & McLeod. 3-28d11

New Advertisements

FACTS That Recommend the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company

The Position To-day The Manufacturers Life Was Incorporated June, 1887

Authorized Capital \$3,000,000.00 Subscribed Capital 1,500,000.00 Paid-up Capital 300,000.00 Business in force, December 31, 1907 \$1,237,157.00 Total Assets, December 31, 1907 9,459,430.69 Surplus on Policyholders' Account 1,004,495.32

Important Items From 1907 Expenses Reduced

Despite the very large amount of insurance applied for during the year the ratio of expenses to premium income was decreased. 63 p c. To largely increase the amount of new insurances, and at the same time reduce the expense ratio is an achievement worthy of special notice.

The payments to policyholders in 1906 amounted to \$455,757.72, and in 1907 to \$721,227.83 an increase of \$265,470.11 The total amount paid to and set aside for future payments to policyholders reached the sum of \$1,777,992.20.

Interest Earned While security has been the first consideration in the investment of the Company's funds, advantage has been taken of the high rate of interest prevailing. The permanent investments made during 1907 earned an average of 6 1/2 p c. while the investment of the Company during 1907 earned an average of 5.31 p c. This is an increase in the average of 23 p c. over 1906.

THE REMARKABLE PROGRESS OF 1907 The Following Comparisons Tell the Story of the Great Success of the Manufacturers Life During 1907.

Table with 4 columns: ITEM, 1906, 1907, Increase. Rows include Net Premium Income, Interest and Rents, Total Income, Assets.

INSURANCE IN FORCE, DEC. 31, 1907 - \$51,237,157.00 NO OTHER CANADIAN COMPANY HAS EVER EQUALED THE RECORD AT THE SAME AGE

To have Insurances in Force of over \$51,000,000.00 and a Premium Income of over \$2,000,000.00 a year at 20 years of age is certainly a remarkable record.

How Our Securities Were Valued The Manufacturers Life this year as in the past has used most conservative methods in the valuation of its Securities. As is well known the market value of all Securities on December 31, 1907 as a result of the recent financial panic in New York, was at a point much lower than the interest earnings and stability of the Securities would naturally place them. While this does not in any way affect their actual value to a Company such as the Manufacturers Life where Securities are purchased to hold for long periods and because of the rate of interest yielded, yet the company has used these stringent—and unreasonable—quotations in valuing its assets. Even on this extremely low basis, which is far below the true value, the Company's surplus to policyholders is well over the Million Dollar mark.

This progressive and up-to-date Co., is strongly organized in the Maritime Provinces under the able management of The E. R. Machum Co., Ltd., of St. John, N. B., while J. A. Moore is the General Agent for P. E. Island.

Particulars regarding Premium Rates, Agency Contracts or any other information will be gladly furnished by the St. John Office or by J. A. MOORE, Pownall, General Agent for P. E. I.

Cod Fish We have in stock 150 QTLS

of the very best obtainable on the Island and selling low.

Wholesale and retail at J. H. MYRICK & Co's, Grafton Street 3-28d31 Charlottetown.

Drake's Carbonated Beverages are pronounced by judges to be the Very best on the market

Send in your spring orders now to A. P. THORNE, Box 1065, Charlottetown

- List of beverages: For Ginger Beer, Strawberry Soda, Raspberry Soda, Root Beer, Lime Juice Soda, Vanilla Cream, Grape Soda, Kola Champagne, Crab Apple Cider, Claret and Soda, Beefola, Catawba Champagne, Imperial Regal-Arimac.

We do not belong to any combine and have been manufacturing the above goods for over 40 years. Our plant which is in charge of a competent chemist is the Finest in the Maritime Provinces.

Prices etc same as Last Season, 3-27d11

Goodies to Delight the Palate. Our chocolates never disappoint. They are always the same and always the most delicious that can be had. Lowney's and Ganongs. we buy and only quantities we can sell in a reasonable time and that assures freshness. You'll invariably find these dainty confections at their best here. J. G. JAMIESON, DRUGGIST, The Medical Hall.

Glasses For Headache. Have you tried drugs and found them useless? If so you may need glasses. We can tell you by means of our up-to-date method of testing. G. H. TAYLOR, Jeweler and Optician.

McLeod & Bentley Barristers and Attorneys-at-law. Solicitors for the Bank of Nova Scotia Money to loan. 111-113 Bank Nova Scotia Centre

FAIRYLAND Opera House Saturday Night

Farewell Performance by The Philharmonic Four Guitar, Banjo, Mandolin and Organ Chimes. Miss Davis, Messrs Davis, Smith and Leavitt. Miss Agnes Champney The Boston Soubrette

Moving Pictures Housekeeping made easy Condemned to Marry. The Washerwoman. The Cashier. Two illustrated songs by Maddison and Harney. GRAND DISTRIBUTION OF \$35 Worth of Prizes including a STOVE, BATH TUB, etc, etc. Admission 10c to all. 6-13d1f

WARBURTON & SHAW BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS, NOTARY PUBLIC, Etc. Office in Cameron Block Charlottetown, P. E. Island. A. B. Warburton, B.A. D. L. D. Edgar Shaw. dr16m

Mark Wright Furnishing Co. Saturday March 28 Have furniture re-covered now

before the great annual spring house cleaning commences with a rush. Telephone us—will send our team—and we'll do the work promptly and satisfactorily. Mark Wright Furng' Co. Wholesale and Retail BEER & WEEKS, Proprietors, Sunnyside.

New Advertisements

Schooner For Sale For sale schooner "Roseneath" 93 tons register now lying at Connolly's Wharf, Charlottetown. For particulars apply to I. M. POOLE & Co Charlottetown or to the owners J. W. J. ANDERSON, Burnt Church N. B. 3-28d21

FISH You can always get the best at our store. Quite a stock arrived by the "Minto," various kinds, all fresh. See our large advertisement. 3-28d11 J. H. MYRICK & CO.