

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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A thought for today BY HYNDMAN'S THINKER



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ANOTHER TREAT COMING

Lovers of high class drama are again indebted to Manager Gallagher of the Prince Edward Theatre for a real treat to be enjoyed this week and to which all are looking forward with pleasure. "Three Live Ghosts," by Max Marcin and presented by the all English Company which had won its reputation in London has had a phenomenal run in Montreal where it was the theatrical sensation for several weeks, and also in Halifax and St. John. It is to be produced here on Wednesday and Thursday evenings of this week, August 3rd and 4th with a matinee on Thursday afternoon and all who love a good play presented by real artists will undoubtedly make it a point to be present. Of the actors it is only necessary to say that they have captured the most exacting theatre goers in our largest cities and have a reputation to sustain. The play itself is ingenious, full of such plots and complications as are likely to arise when three soldiers, reported killed, unexpectedly appear on the scene and in the midst of the events which their supposed death had precipitated.

This all English Company has been persuaded to spend four days in coming off the regular beat to play two nights, an expensive experiment undertaken mainly at this time to escape the heat of the larger cities and to enjoy a respite in the cooler climate of Prince Edward Island, a compliment to Manager Gallagher who induced them to come and also to the climate of Prince Edward Island.

We too seldom have an opportunity to hear the best theatrical performers and when the opportunity occurs we should take advantage of it and so encourage more such visits. The tickets have been placed at the lowest possible figure to meet the necessarily high expenses and we feel assured, from the reputation won elsewhere by these artists, that the price of admission will be considered very low for the value given. Arrangements have been made to reserve seats for motor parties from outlying towns and villages and it is understood the demand for these is already very considerable. Let no one miss this too rare treat.

BUSINESS IN P. E. ISLAND.

Whatever cause or causes there may be in other parts of the world for complaint about hard times, high and low prices in buying and selling, unemployment and the other ills which come in flocks, there is certainly little cause for such complaint in Prince Edward Island. In the City of Charlottetown to

day, for instance, the City Council is carrying on street work, employing from 75 to 100 men at \$2.50 to \$2.75 a day. The Telephone Company is laying underground cables from the City Hall where they connect with the underground cables on Queen Street; to Johnson and Johnson's corner. This latter is a big piece of work, employing a large number of men including laborers, carpenters and masons. In this section there will be 400 pairs of cables, enclosing 1200 lines. Connecting stations of mason work are being built at the corner of Great George and Kent Streets and at Johnson and Johnson's corner. The work here alone will occupy a considerable part of the summer. In addition to this the company is installing 25 miles of telephone line east of Souris and opening a new office at South Lake eleven miles east of Souris. Besides these crews of men are working between Summerside and Brudenell where additional lines are being installed, at Brudenell where the line is being transferred to the new road recently opened, and smaller crews at other points.

About a dozen new buildings are being erected in the city, including the new Protestant Orphanage at Hazelbrook and Beech Grove Inn, North River. Some hundreds of men are employed on the new road projects throughout the province and altogether there are more men employed and more work being done than at any other time in recent years.

As to prices of farm products it is as yet too early to make any predictions but there is no reason to fear that there will be any serious losses on that account. With plenty of employment in the centres and generally throughout the province the home market alone will be in a healthy condition and in any case the shortage in Europe is yet to be made up.

Notwithstanding the epidemic of fear about coming hard times, mainly a repetition of complaints from less favored countries, conditions in Prince Edward Island today are as promising and as prosperous as they ever were. True, there are not the abnormal prices of the war years but this applies to our buying as well as to our selling and on the whole we are as well off and even better off than when fortunes were made or lost in a night.

In this province we know nothing of hard times. We have no unemployment; there is abundance of work for those who are willing to work. The nearest approach to hard times here is when we anticipate the worst and the cry of hard times goes from mouth to mouth until we begin to believe it.

Current Comment

Some time ago we had occasion to recommend some interest on the part of the public in the Highway policy in the form in which it is being carried out by the present government. Our suggestion was non-political and having in view the getting out of most substantial value and the best possible return for the immense amount of money that is being spilled into these projects. In two of the bigger provinces big scandals have developed on this subject, in Nova Scotia where a Royal Commission at a heavy expense has investigated, and in Ontario where the press is literally ablaze with condemnation of the waste, extravagance and, as some claim, corruption that is being disclosed. One instance has been particularly referred to where in that great province, amongst the many costliest of roads built around about his own properties, a single two miles of public highway actually cost the country \$400,000, or \$200,000 a mile. We have, of course, no roads of this class to complain of here, but for a province so small as this, with revenues limited as ours

are, there is a shelling out of public moneys and a consequent addition to our big public debt that is surely worthy of the more careful consideration of the people who will in the end have to pay the piper.

When the Liberal press declared this Highway expenditure as "AN INFERNAL SCHEME INVOLVING THE PROVINCE IN HUNDREDS OF THOUSAND OF DOLLARS, PERHAPS MILLIONS", they spoke with absolutely no knowledge of what the scheme was and without a word of information as to how much or in what manner the money was to be expended. The people now have an important knowledge of what the outcome is destined to be and can think with their eyes open. On other occasions we were loth to discuss on its merits the work which we had not personally examined, but more recently we have had the benefit of an experience, or two. The first was along a new piece of work approaching completion, in the district of the

Commissioner of Public Works, the whole story of which might be described by a solemn declaration that after travelling less than four miles we turned back and reached the starting point with unbroken necks, and with the auto still holding together, a high tribute to the solidity of its construction. Of course it may be reasonably argued that this is only newly built and that when, like a new pair of shoes, it is broken in, the travelling will become smoother, and perhaps this is true.

Our second experience was along a stretch which they cannot say is not "broken in". It was that highly eulogized Appin Way from the old time residence of the H. N. Mr. Crosby to North River Bridge, built last year and the rough places smoothed down by a year of public traffic. That there are stretches along this road nice and level and smooth may be freely admitted, but this does not apply to the whole and there are spots where even the wind puffed tires and responsive springs of the best auto will not save the passenger from getting a good healthy shaking up. It would not be right to say that the road on the whole is not a fairly good one, but having travelled it frequently in other years we fail to see that pronounced improvement which its largest cost should ensure to us. For after all it is the amount of convenience or advantage in RELATION TO WHAT IT COST that is the determining factor as to the merits or demerits of the system. If we pay a hundred dollars for a fifty cent service we are being jeweled and fooled, and herein is where this road system may be as picturesquely described by the Patriot, "An Infernal Scheme."

The debentures issued, and sold at a big discount, to pay for these roads will have to be paid for by the taxpayers of this province in twenty-five years. Long before that time what will the condition of these highways be? Apart from the culverts, the only permanent feature about them, they will be as they were before the first pick and shovel of this Bell Government programme touched their surface. The extra travel and traffic in which our people will have to put on an increased gait, to raise funds to meet the extra taxation produced by their cost, will bring back the old cuts and ruts and hollows, now filled in with soft clay, and in less than two years from now, when the incompetent aggregation have reached the final end of their tether, there will be ample of ditches and hollows in these boasted highways to damn them into political perdition. Because of its influence in wiping them off the political slate they will no doubt again pronounce it "an infernal scheme" but it will then be infernal only because by their incompetency and stupidity they have made it so. We again advise the people to take a greater interest in these works before the money is all squandered and the debt becomes too unwieldy for our province to handle.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson

LONGING

It seems to me we can never give up longing and wishing while we are thoroughly alive. There are certain things we feel to be beautiful and good and we must hunger after them.—Elliott.

There is a mystic border land that lies Just past the limits of our work-day world. And it is peopled with the friends we met And loved, a year, a month, a week, or day.

And parted from with aching hearts, yet knew That through the distance we must loose the hold Of hand with hand, and only clasp the thread of memory. But still so close we feel this land, So sure we are that these same hearts are true.

That when in waking dreams there comes a call That sets the thread of memory aglow. We know that just by stretching out the hand In written word of live, or book or flower.

The waiting hand will clasp our own once more, Across the silence, in the same, old way.

Senator Domville Died Saturday

ST. JOHN, Aug. 1.—Hon. James Domville, Canadian Senator, died at the Kennedy Hotel, Rothesay, at 5 p.m. Saturday. Senator Domville had been in failing health for several months, and his death was due to general breaking up of his system.

Others' View Points

HEART SURGERY. (New York Sun.)

The results of an extraordinary operation upon a punctured heart performed by surgeons attached to the Holy Family Hospital in Brooklyn will be awaited with great interest, as leading to greater knowledge, or at least a closer estimate of the possibilities of heart surgery and, indeed, of other than surgical treatment of heart affections.

This patient, a 16-year-old Italian boy in good health, suffered a puncture of the heart in which seven stitches were taken by the surgeons, three in the heart muscles and four in the envelope. Such an operation has been performed only twice previously in surgical history; but this boy survived the immediate operation, contrary to expectation, and made a good rally from the anaesthetic.

Such delicate operations, naturally, are successful according to the vitality of the patient, given adequate skill in the operator. Their great value seems to be in greater presumptive knowledge to be gained concerning the capacity of the cardiac muscle to sustain physical repair, and its resilience under such treatment. A psychological gain both to operator and patient may be supposed to exist with every such operation which succeeds, for in the circumstances "hope springs eternal in the human breast" literally as well as in the freer traditional sense.

WOMEN AND STYLES. (New York Times.)

For explanation of the failure of women to take the effective part they could in the natural congenial work of bird preservation one must go, probably, to the same peculiarity which, according to report, is about to make them abandon their present style of dressing, perhaps the most commendable from both esthetic and hygienic standpoints that has been devised for general wear in all the history of feminine fashions, and return to one in every way inferior to it.

That peculiarity is a strange docility to the mysterious authority that sets "styles" for each recurring year.

It would be pleasant to believe that women dressed as they have for the past year because they appreciated the various merits of such costumes. How can that be believed, however, if, in submission to the ukase issuing from some mysterious source, they are about to abandon their new freedoms, at least in part, and return to their old slaveries?

In answer to protest they allege the impossibility of buying anything that is not for sale. As if they did not, or rather as if they could not if they chose, determine absolutely with what the shops should be stocked! At any rate, by united action for a single season they could teach such a lesson that never again would it cynically be assumed by designers and manufacturers that women will wear whatever they are told "everybody is wearing," regardless of whether the change is for the better or the worse—of whether the change is from beauty to ugliness or the less beautiful—of whether the change makes the wearer seem ten years younger or ten years older than her age.

There is no more necessity for wearing long skirts and high collars next season than there is for wearing egret plumes and the feathers of birds of paradise—none, that is, except an imagined necessity to do what others are doing.

THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE. (London Times.)

The bare catalogue of the hopes of the Shackleton expedition may well tempt high spirited boys into running away to sea, and may turn old men into wistful youths. For what are scholarship examinations, or the counting-house, or even the comfortable armchair that they should not be as dust and ashes compared with the quest for petrified continents? Are not whales and fur seals, unknown birds, the mystery of the Antarctic ice, and lone rocks to serve as wireless relays, better than the dull duties of home? But Sir Ernest has no vacancies; his old and tried companions have hurried to his call. There is nothing for us but to wish him good luck and to look forward to the joy of reading his stories.

THE WESTERN CROP. (Edmonton Journal.)

One thing certain about the crop is that it is considerably ahead of that of the average season. Those of us who have spent many anxious

STANDARD OF QUALITY. It is estimated that there are nearly two hundred different brands of baking powder in Canada; and the fact that there is more Magic Baking Powder used than all the other brands combined, must show conclusively that it is eminently superior. MAGIC BAKING POWDER CONTAINS NO ALUM. It has always been the policy of the manufacturers to maintain the high quality of Magic Baking Powder—to make, and keep it, as near the point of perfection as possible. Made in Canada.

evenings in August in watching the thermometer approach the freezing point, know how much early maturity means. The Grain Trade News estimates that wheat is two weeks ahead of last year. Cutting actually commenced in the Melita district in southern Manitoba, on Monday last, a field of Marquis and Red Bobs having the distinction. Old timers state that this is the earliest harvest on record in the district. As was to be expected, the yield of this particular field was not heavy. The crop killers, like the crop boosters, we have always with us. The former are particularly industrious this year. They have for two or three weeks now been trying to convince the public that black just has shown itself on the Saskatchewan wheat. But the Regina officials have denied this all along and made their denial yesterday very explicit.

they had advanced to 178, and in 1921 the figure was 393. Newsprint from 100 jumped to 177 in 1914 and to 623 in 1921. Newspaper postage, which cost the normal of 100 in 1907, was 147 in 1914, and 337 in 1921. Ink was 100 in 1907, 200 in 1914, and today stands at 331. Editorial expense jumped from 100 in 1907 to 120 in 1914, and 241 in 1921. Miscellaneous expenses went from 100 in 1907 to 127 in 1914, and to 244 in 1921. Taking the average of all newspaper costs, it was found that while the average in 1907 was 100, in 1914 it was 159, and in 1921 it reached the high mark of 411. It is not surprising with such figures that over 4,000 newspaper publications have gone out of existence in the United States, and a corresponding number in Canada.

in a hearing on injunction proceedings now before the state court. Application to transfer the hearing to Federal jurisdiction was made yesterday by the Shipping Board, and argument on the motion will be heard by State Supreme Court Justice Martin at the forenoon session of his court. The ships, nine in number aggregating more than 145,000 gross tons, are valued at more than \$8,000,000. An offer to purchase these ships was made yesterday by the United States Mail Line, which telegraphed the Shipping Board at Washington asking that a valuation be placed on them. Ad mission was made that the steamship company is negotiating with large financial interests who were unnamed with the idea of further development of their business.

Newspaper Costs. (Brantford Expositor.)—The reason the newspaper morgue is so full is shown by an editor who has been investigating the cause of so many newspaper demises. He figures out that in 1907 wages were at 100. In 1914

Start Legal Battle Over Seized Ships. NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—First steps in a legal battle to determine possession and control of nine steamships, seized here last week by the United States Shipping Board from the United States Mail Steamship Co., will be taken today.

U. S. Passports Not Now Necessary. WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—An executive order promulgated today, provides that citizens of Canada, Newfoundland, Bermuda, Bahama Islands, St. Pierre, Miquelon, may enter the United States from those countries without presenting passports of identity, cards or similar documents.

Beer & Weeks. ART LINENS. TOURISTS ON A VISIT TO THE ISLAND. Are cordially invited to call and see our showing of MADEIRA LINENS, JAPANESE LINENS, STAMPED LINENS, PENNANTS, CUSHIONS, SOUVENIR GOODS. Enormously the largest and finest showing of these goods in the Province. PLAIN EMBROIDERY LINENS, WORKING SILKS, STAMPED LINENS. We will gladly show you these beautiful goods—You won't be pressed to purchase.