

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 19, 1908.

UNFAIR COMPARISONS.

Very unfair comparisons are made in the public reports and in Parliament to the discredit of the Prince Edward Island Railway. The fact is that the Government owns and operates a system of railways in four Provinces—Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The entire system should be grouped together in its earnings and expenditure. Or, if we must have a statement of the earnings and outlay by Provinces let it be for all the Provinces. Let us know how much the Intercolonial pays or loses in Quebec, for instance. The I. C. R. is credited with a surplus this year. In what Provinces was it earned? The usual comparisons between the I. C. R. and the P. E. I. R. are unfair in another way. The Island road has no rail connection with any other railways. Cut out almost an entire section of the I. C. R. taking away its connection with other portions of the road and it would sink double the amount of the Island Railway deficit every year. Better still, connect the Island Railway with the mainland railways by the Tunnel and we shall be glad to have our accounts kept separate. There would be no better paying portions of the Government Railway system than this if we had all-rail connection.

THE COST OF BOOK-KEEPING.

Forty years after confederation it is found that the book-keeping in the public departments needs reforming. The public knew little or nothing about this till it came out in Parliament that an expert revision of the accounts and accounting methods of the Marine Department had cost some \$78,000. Now it transpires that a similar process in the Government Railways last year cost \$343,000. These are very big figures for only the fifteen or sixteen departments. If all are to be reformed in the same way it will be a matter of millions. We are left to infer that the old systems must have been shocking bad. If so, there was obvious need of reform long ago. Accounting is no by any means a new art. It is as old as history. Why was not the public book-keeping put in order ten, twenty, thirty years ago? But we fail to find that the new system called for any less accountants and clerks. Every year sees an increase in the number of civil servants that are tumbling over one another in the offices and corridors of the public buildings and higher and higher salaries paid them. What will the end be?

NEWS ON BOARD STEAMERS

The winter steamers are equipped with the wireless telegraph system and the suggestion is made that when they are detained for days in the middle of the Straits, as recently occurred, the passengers should be furnished with an outline of telegraphic news from about the world. The big liners on the Atlantic furnish their passengers with a daily news bulletin. Why not something of the same sort on modest scale for passengers on the winter boats? Painful experience has proved that it may take longer to go by steamer from Georgetown to Pictou than from Halifax to England. The detention is irksome. The desire for news at such times grows intense. It could be gratified with comparatively little trouble or expense. Why not have it done? We assure the authorities that the favor would be greatly appreciated by those on board the winter steamers whenever they are detained on the passage.

WILL THE SCHOOL BOARD ACT?

The Guardian has received strong commendation for its earnest warnings as to the danger in our school buildings. The conditions are indeed alarming. Four story buildings, packed with helpless children, shut in within inward opening doors. No fire escapes; no ladders; no hose for extinguishing fires. No means of giving alarm. And in three minutes from the outbreak of a fire in the basement they might be beyond all human aid. Here are all the conditions for a holocaust. True, nothing has happened, so far! Nothing had happened in the Collinwood school until the other day. Shall we then wait till something happens before taking any precautions? If something like that would happen here there would be an awful responsibility rest upon those in authority who have neglected the most obvious and urgent provisions for the safety of our children. What will the School Board do about it?

When the Legislature adjourns in order that its leading members on both sides may attend the Annual Seed Fair is shows a favorable estimate of the importance of the Fair, which we may add is growing from year to year.

The Montreal Star quite aptly remarks: "The people would be more impressed with these Opposition charges of wastefulness if they believed the Opposition would do any better if they came into power." And then the Star goes on to remark upon Haggart's Tay Canal.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. CURE SICK HEAD ACHE

Stomach ailments, headache, vertigo, dizziness, nausea, dropsical distension, after eating, pain in the side, etc. While the most remarkable success has been shown. Each bottle contains 100 pills. Price, 25c. Small bottles, 10c. and 5c. Sold everywhere.

Something New IN Rubber FOOTWEAR

More Comfort to the Feet. THE BERLIN Electric Rubber For gentlemen \$7.00. Also best line of ladies' rubbers in the City. Ask for riveted heel rubbers and you have it. GOFF BROS. drwstf

Table with market prices for various goods like Herring, Cod, Oats, Potatoes, etc.

Women Worry More than men, says Dr. McComb, and one reason is that their nervous organizations are more delicate. True, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is just the nerve-builder, appetite-giver, and blood-purifier they need.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- See David H. Auld & Co's ad in this issue. Come and hear Rev. T. Marshall tonight in Grace Church. 4th Regt. Band at the Arena to night, good ice and good music.

Regain Your Strength. Our Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil. J. G. JAMIESON, DRUGGIST, The Medical Hall.

Glasses For Headache. Have you tried drugs and found them useless? G. H. TAYLOR, Jeweler and Optician.

Beaver Flour. A bag or a barrel—it's all the same. Ontario and Manitoba wheat—milled the same—and blended in exactly the same proportions.

Lobster Factory Supplies. 1000 coils best Manila rope all sizes. Carvell Bros. 3-12dt66i

E. H. BEER See Our Wall Papers

H. W. WEEKS. Thursday, March 19

Low expenses under this store's new management enables us to sell the best iron beds made at prices heretofore impossible. Mark Wright Furn'g Co.

FORCING A CLEAN SWEEP! 50.00 IN PRIZES. Read This Limerick. FIRST PRIZE—Five Piece Parlor Suite, value \$17.00.

LIMERICK. Though versed in dry goods and furniture lore James Paton loved water galore He enjoyed the ship's motion Ninety times crossed the ocean

We will clear all our spring mattresses in the best quality of HERCULES Spring Interwoven with heavy copper wire running through them admitted to be one of the best springs on the market and in order to reduce our stock we will give 25 per cent discount.

PATON'S For Good Furniture. PATON'S LIMERICK. I agree to abide by the decision of the editor of one of the Daily Newspapers as final and enter the competition on this distinct understanding.

VALUABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE BY AUCTION. The Imported Pure Bred Stallion "Reformer" registered Number in Great Britain 13151. In Canada, No. 5880.