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Morning Daily (founded 1887) \$5.00 per year (delivered) in advance.

Mr. Charles Dalton, President. J. H. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. L. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1922.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION

The letter of Mr. R. H. Rogers Chief Superintendent of Education, which appears elsewhere in this issue, speaks for itself and we earnestly commend its careful perusal, particularly by the mothers throughout the province. The conditions revealed by the medical inspection of schools he very properly describes as appalling. Over eighty percent of our children physically defective! If any one of our farmers discovered that eighty percent of his live stock was in such a condition that it would be physically impossible for them to attain to proper marketable proportions he would have good cause for alarm and if he could not find a remedy he would immediately sell out.

Why is it that with such splendidly successful care of our animals we are so careless about the health of our children whom we love infinitely more than we do our animals? The only answer is because we do not realize, because many of us do not know. The mother loves her child and because she loves him, she lets him have what he wants rather than what is good for him. If he prefers tea or coffee to milk he gets it; if he wants to sit up late at night he is permitted to do so; if he prefers corn beef and cabbage because his father takes it, he gets his corn beef and cabbage, in nine cases out of ten the child prescribes his own diet and his own manner of eating and sleeping and general conduct. If he becomes anemic, sallow looking, with blackened and diseased teeth, with open mouth and a listless look, well, it is the will of Providence and if he becomes consumptive and dies before his time we blasphemously attribute that also to the "inscrutable will!"

The Child Welfare movement conducted by the Red Cross Society is a campaign of education in the matter of health. It is not merely a movement for the detection of physical defects among the school children but to devise means for the prevention of such defects which originate long before the children go to school and continue increasingly as they grow older until they finally end in premature death. This is the beneficent work undertaken by the Red Cross Society at its own expense a work greater than any other ever undertaken by any organization, a work the aim of which is healthy manhood and womanhood and the kind of citizenship that good physical health almost invariably ensures.

As Mr. Rogers points out, the Red Cross Society has initiated this work has given a demonstration of what can be accomplished and, with only a fraction of the schools and the homes reached, the three nurses in charge have accomplished a great deal. Henceforth the good work must be carried on at our own expense. What are we going to do about it? One thing at least we all can do and we owe it to our children and to our future citizenship, we can become members of the Red Cross Society and help by that much. Every school in the province can have its juvenile Red Cross Club with a small membership fee and that will be some help. And we can all stand by the Red Cross Society, can support it and work with it and become part of it, making the whole province a Red Cross Society, saving our children and thus saving the men and women of a few years hence, removing the handicaps now in the way and thus building up a healthy, wholesome and happy Canadian citizenship. Let all who

can hear Dr. Robertson and Dr. Wodehouse in Summerside Wednesday evening at the Strand Theatre Charlottetown Thursday evening.

THE PROBLEM

We are all agreed that the greatest need of this province today is a larger population and we are all agreed also that the most expeditious way of securing a larger population is by immigration. There is of course a better way, namely, to retain our natural increase, to keep our young people from emigrating. The latter way is only partially possible at present. We have neither inducement nor opportunity for all our young people, not even for a majority of them. With a larger population and the increased commerce and industry which a larger population would develop, we would have both room and opportunity for most of our sons and daughters. They would find at home the employment they now must seek elsewhere.

The problem then is how to secure immigrants and what to do with them after we have secured them. Obviously there is but one answer to this question, that is, either put them on the land or in the fisheries. These are our only industries and we have room for several hundreds in each. First as to where to get farms for them. There are several hundred unoccupied farms in the province; farms which are absolutely waste which neither pay taxes in proportion to their size nor produce anything. On these farms only can we hope to find room for immigrants.

How to make these vacant farms available for settlers is a matter for the government. If this is not within the jurisdiction of the government then we may abandon the immigration question. We have no other room for immigrants and no other work for them except fishing, but that is another problem. The vacant farms should be made available either by taxing them to such a figure that their owners would be glad to sell them or by enacting a law which would enable the government to expropriate land that remains unimproved for a certain number of years. There is no excuse for holding land in a dog-in-the-manger fashion. If an absentee owner cannot find use for his farm either by leasing it or working it, he has no right to hold it to the detriment of the province.

The problem of dealing with vacant farms must be faced sooner or later. It is the only bar now to immigration and until it is removed all talk about immigration is useless. The fishery problem is also a large one. We are by the side of the greatest fisheries in the world with opportunities equal to those in Newfoundland and Gloucester. It is, however, a question for the speculator and no doubt some day some enterprising American will come in and develop it. In the meantime we should turn our attention to making room on the land for immigrants.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Persons who have recently driven over or through the roads declare it will cost as much to restore them to their original condition as it did to re-make them. They could have been kept in their improved state by a little timely attention. All that now remains after our unknown expenditure is the concrete culverts and one or two bridges.

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by its correspondents.

Notes By The Way

It has passed into a proverb that nothing is more inevitable than death and taxes. And taxes are necessary in order that the government of the state and the useful public services shall be carried on. For this reason good citizens as a rule pay cheerfully all just and reasonable taxes laid upon them by the lawful authority. They have done so in this province at least for generations past. Thousands have paid in this way without demur all demands upon them from the time they came of taxable age until the day of their demise.

We have in this city and Province three taxing authorities, civic, provincial and federal. Our civic taxes have been levied and collected from year to year and at the year's end it would be hard, if not impossible to find in all Canada a city of the like population with so small a proportion of unpaid taxes. That shows "what kind of a man" the average citizen of Charlottetown is, and it is very much to his credit. Very little friction is or has been noticeable in the collection of civic taxes, or for that matter in the collection of federal taxes, which, because of the war are necessarily very high. Here the contrast between the federal and civic taxes on the one side and the pro-

(Continued on Page 7)

Prohibition Report

Sir,—The information furnished by Mr. Barbour made interesting reading. But why leave out the Tignish doctors? When supplying this would the Chief Inspector also state whether the results of the month of October are to be considered as representing the average monthly business transacted by the Commission. I am, Sir, etc.

PROHIBITIONIST

The Plebiscite

Sir,—I have to thank Miss Holman for answers to my questions, which however in part are at variance with the propaganda of the Alliance. To quote Mr. Bentley: "In this plebiscite we are dealing simply and solely with the liquor exporter." Miss Holman: "The voting YES on the Plebiscite would make the C. T. A. thoroughly operative in this Province and would give the public a chance of judging of the effectiveness of Prohibition, etc."

Which is correct? I am, Sir, etc. W. C. LAWSON Alberton Dec 4th 1922.

The Fox Show

Sir,—In your issue of Saturday, December 2nd, your review of the Fox Show held in Toronto, your account of the foxes exhibited by the writer is not quite correct. You state that the foxes exhibited by Morrissey & Callaghan of St. Louis were a splendid lot. Now I desire to say that Mr. Morrissey does not live here, but is a resident of Tignish and had entered three puppies born last spring from foxes owned by the writer. This entry won two prizes and ribbons and the third fox scored 92 1/2 points. I think I can safely say that no other litter of puppies at the Show equalled this score. The entry of Joseph Dunbar of Alma was an error of the secretary's and should have read: "Raised in Joseph Dunbar's ranch." Out of eight litters of 1922 puppies we were awarded five prizes and ribbons, and one prize and ribbon for the only adult fox we intend keeping for breeding purposes, we having won four prizes and ribbons instead of four as your report states. This we consider a splendid showing, "without any special preparation or attention," at the greatest quality Fox Show that ever was held, and against the highest grade silver black foxes in existence. Thanking you for your valuable space. I am, Sir, etc., W. P. CALLAGHAN, St. Louis.

School Medical Inspection

Sir,—I have before me 140 record cards containing the reports of the Red Cross Nurses on their work in the schools. Nearly one-fourth of the schools and school departments have now been inspected. In almost all cases the examination was by a local physician with the assistance of the Red Cross Nurse. In each school every child present was carefully examined and individual records were made. From these a summary for the whole school was compiled, a copy of which was sent to the Department of Education.

The disclosures made are appalling. In every school but one the percentage of children having defects exceeded 80 per cent of the whole number examined.

The exception is a school of 29 children of whom 22 are defective and 19 have defects other than defects of teeth. This banner school is therefore 75.8 per cent defective. In no less than 51 of the schools and departments examined every child was found defective, and in 8 of these every child had defects other than those of the teeth. Defective vision, defective hearing, defective nasal breathing, abnormal tonsils, enlarged glands, anaemic appearance and malnutrition are all very frequently observed. The last mentioned is found in nearly every school. It is rarely, if ever, due to an insufficient quantity of food, but results from the use of unsuitable or ill-prepared food. In practically every school children are found who are under weight for their height. If a child weighs 10 per cent less than the weight proper to one of his height, the case is noted. In many schools from one-third to one-half of the children are thus 10 per cent or more under weight.

It is no doubt true that in many instances children will "grow out" of certain states of physical unfitness; the restorative forces of nature, without special aid from the doctor, will in time work a cure. But in the meantime discomfort if not acute suffering is the lot of the patient, and while nature is concentrating on the repair of the body the character and mind are being denied their proper development.

The man who though grown strong in his adult life can only look back upon years of semi-invalidism has a sorry inheritance from his youth. He has missed the experience of normal childhood with their invigorating reactions upon character and his mind and spirit are by so much permanently impoverished.

But children will not "grow out" of all those defects of body which are revealed by the medical inspection of the schools. Medical treatment or operation is essential to many of these children if they are ever to become healthy men and women. In very many instances defects have been discovered the existence of which had not been suspected by either the child or his parents. The child was not thriving, but no one suspected that adenoids, diseased tonsils or some other physical defects were the cause.

The disclosures made by the medical inspection have resulted in large numbers of children being given medical attention which has rescued them from serious illness, lasting disablement or early death. It is well known that bad behavior and backwardness in school work are often due to ill-health. If every child were in normal physical condition there would be a very marked speeding up of school work and the expenditure of public money for education would be much more fruitful of results than at present.

The work of the Red Cross in the schools is not only to bring about the remedy of physical defects after these have developed; it labors to prevent as well as to cure. This it does by the inoculation of health habits. Its object is to train up a body of Canadian citizens who by following right ways of living will from their childhood be physically fit; and if they are physically fit, their mental and moral education will be greatly facilitated.

In a recent letter to the papers, Dr. W. Miles Garrison has drawn attention to the ravages of consumption amongst our people. As a specialist in this disease he gives it as his opinion that "the ranks of adult tuberculosis here mostly recruited from childhood infections;" and in commending the work of the Red Cross Society in the schools he says, "The factor of education underlies the solution of the entire problem;" and further "Every one therefore should as a starter get behind the Canadian Red Cross Society and help with this most important work and make it a permanent institution in the schools."

The Canadian Red Cross Society undertook its work in the schools of this Province as a demonstration. It did not contemplate carrying it indefinitely at its own expense. It is now appealing to the people of Prince Edward Island to provide means for continuing this most necessary service. It says, "We have showed you how it is done and how urgent is the need of it. We cannot bear the financial burden any longer. It is your task to do what can be done to the end that your children may grow up into healthy and efficient manhood and womanhood."

It will be nothing short of a disaster if this work is now brought to an end. No service of greater value to our country has ever been instituted since the public school system was established. It is most earnestly to be hoped that the people of Prince Edward Island will recognize the value of the service which the Canadian Red Cross Society is rendering and will afford the means of continuing it permanently in our schools.

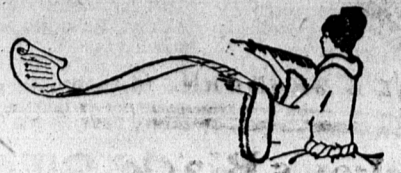
I am, Sir, etc., R. H. ROGERS, Education Office, Charlottetown.

Ku Klux Klan

Sir,—In your issue of Nov 30th you have the following: "Ku Klux Klan to organize in Dominion?" I am glad that you have released yourself from all responsibility by using the handy interrogation point, for it will be a sad day when such an organization is allowed to start in our Dominion, for it is, nothing less than a society of blood and death! Its chief purpose is to create prejudice by falsehood or misrepresentation against the Jews, the

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Control the Negroes, the Foreigner and the Masons. The Kluge presents the prospective initiate with such questions as: "Where were you born?" "Are you a gentle or Jew?" "Are you of the white race or of a colored race?" "Do you believe in white supremacy?" "What is your religious faith?" Such questions are used to bar out the Jew, Catholics, Negroes and Foreign born. In regard to the Jews the words "drive them out of the United States" are used to enlist Jew-haters into the ranks. Just as the organization misrepresents the Jews, they go to great lengths in declaring that most of its members are Masons. But the facts are

Amos N. Abenson of Washington Iowa, Grand master of that state has directed a communication to all Masonic lodges under his jurisdiction as follows: "Whereas, it has become known to your grand master that a certain 'Ku Klux Klan' has been and is now organizing within this jurisdiction an alleged secret and invisible empire; and whereas, it is reported that its organizers and agents have stated and intimated to members of our craft that the said 'Ku Klux Klan' is in effect an adjunct of Free Masonry and in accord with its principles and purposes, and whereas, any such statement or intimation is absolutely untrue and is a violation of the laws of the State of Iowa." (Continued on Page Eight)

