

THE MORNING GUARDIAN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1899.

THE MUNICIPAL SYSTEM.

From time to time this journal has suggested the introduction of the municipal system of county government in Prince Edward Island, but so far the suggestion has met with little response. And yet we are convinced that the proposed reform has so many reasons in its favor, and has so demonstrated its merits by long experience in other provinces that it ought to be introduced here.

Old Canada had the municipal system long before Confederation, and during nearly half a century of its operation no public man of any repute has ever proposed to return to the previous order of things. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the municipal plan has not been tried so long, but has proved in every way satisfactory to the people. In those provinces county government was at first conducted by the justices of the peace, who met together in semi-annual sessions at the county town and administered the county's affairs. These men were not responsible to the people, the latter having no direct voice in their selection. Under the new order of things they gave place to councillors elected by the people and who carried out the people's will.

We readily see the reason why the city of Charlottetown or the town of Summerside should be governed by councils chosen by their own people. They might have left their affairs to be ordered by the provincial Government and Legislature, as our three counties have so far done, but there are many things which the town or city council can do better for us than the provincial Legislature could do. The care of our streets, walks and squares, the lighting of our streets, the assessment and collection of taxes, our systems of police, water supply and sewerage, are matters of local concern and can be better provided for and operated by men chosen by the votes of the local electorate.

In like manner the affairs of a county can be better and more economically administered by a county council. The condition of the roads and bridges of Prince County, or of either of the other counties is a matter of much more consequence to the residents of that particular section than to persons outside. Under the municipal system all direct taxes are apportioned, collected and expended among the people who pay the taxes and by persons appointed by themselves. If the people are overtaxed, or their taxes are unfairly distributed they have only themselves to blame, and at the annual election of councillors they can provide a remedy. The system by bringing the taxing power into direct touch with the people also operates as a powerful check upon needless taxation.

The care of the poor in the British Isles and in almost all English speaking countries except Prince Edward Island is a local charge. We are satisfied that the prevalent system elsewhere is better than our own, for the reason that local overseers of the poor as they are called, have close personal knowledge of the needs of their indigent neighbors, and are often able by affording temporary or partial relief to prevent poor or unfortunate persons from becoming a permanent charge upon the rate-payers. They also prevent idle and undeserving persons from being maintained at the public cost.

In many ways too numerous to be here detailed the system of municipal organization gives to the people a direct control and a measure of self-government which cannot be obtained in any other way. It serves to greatly increase the interest of the average citizen in public affairs, and is a

powerful educator in all that pertains to good government. In other provinces a large proportion of the members of the Legislatures and of Parliament are men who have first served the people as members of the county council.

Hardly less important is the fact that the municipal system appears to afford the best, if not the only means of relieving the Provincial Government and Legislature of charges that are too great for the limited income of the Province, and in that way equalising the provincial revenue and expenditure. For this reason, if for no other, we hope to find our public men disposed to make themselves acquainted with the working of municipal institutions in other Provinces. What has proved so eminently satisfactory after long trial in other parts of the Dominion cannot be wholly without merit.

"Every Path Hath a Puddle."

The puddle in the pathway of most lives is a defective circulation due to a blood supply that instead of growing clear and strong like a mountain brook, is stagnant and impure. Puddles may be purified, however, and become limpid streams. That is what Hood's Sarsaparilla does with human blood.

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Sick Headache—"For a long time I was troubled with sick headaches. Different medicines failed to give me relief. I took Hood's Sarsaparilla, my husband having been cured of salt rheum by it, and soon it made me feel like a new woman." Mrs. ROBERT McAFEE, Deerhurst, Ont.



Hood's Pills cure liver ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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"There are None So Blind-- as Those who Will Not See"

They are some people who cannot be convinced that white is white and black is black.

because they are determined to have their own way about it. Very good. Some people go through life missing the great truths and the greatest happiness as well as comfort

There are others again, who are convincible. It is to men of this class that we like to talk about the merits of the SHOREY merchant-tailored, ready-to-wear and quite-sure-to-fit clothes.

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Shorey's clothes cost about half the price of made-to-order clothes and have every desirable attribute of the very best made to measure garments, besides embodying many unmatched features strictly their own. That is why we say investigate the merits of the clothes bearing this label before going to a tailor. You risk nothing and stand to win a lot.

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"What are you going to do about it?"

EDUCATIONAL LECTURE.

Hon W. W. Stetson, Superintendent Education for Maine U. S. A. will deliver a lecture on the above topic under the auspices of the Provincial Teachers Association in the Y. M. C. A. Hall on Thursday October 5th 8 o'clock p.m. Admission 10 cents. ALSO.—An entertainment will be given by the Teachers Association in the Y. M. C. A. Hall on Friday evening 6th Oct. Commencing 8 o'clock. His Honor the Lieut. Governor will preside. A. P. TROWSDALE, President, Charlottetown Sept. 30th. E. S. McPHAIL, Secy. Treas. Pat. Ex. till Oct 6th.

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the bottle bears our label it is a guarantee that the contents are the best, as well as the cheapest. Our Ginger Ale, Cream Soda, Lemon, Sour, etc, still take first place, wherever offered.

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Evening Instruction

At the P. E. Island Commercial College will commence Monday, October 9th, inst., at 7.30 p. m Instruction in Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Shorthand, Penmanship, Typewriting, etc.

Apply at once to Day Students admitted free.

ISAAC OXENHAM, Principal. Charlottetown, Oct. 4 1899 tf.

Spring Trade

The time has come when you should look up your wardrobe and see how you are fixed for spring war. In the event of your deciding to invest in a suit or overcoat, etc., act promptly by ordering the same from

J. T. MCKENZIE, THE Tailor