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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (founded 1887) \$5.00 per year (delivered) in advance; \$4.00 per year (mailed) in advance in Canada, and \$4.50 for U. S. A.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1920

THE EXHIBITION

The question has frequently been asked, could a purely agricultural exhibition be successfully conducted here? And the general opinion is that it could not. While horse racing is, in a sense, a distant relative of the agricultural family it cannot properly be classed with the interests of the general farmer. Yet it is safe to say that the races are the great attraction at all exhibitions; safe to say that without the races the exhibition would be a failure not only financially but educationally, simply because people would not attend. While very many of our farmers and their wives and children attend the exhibition to see the live stock, the field crops, the fruit, etc., it is still true that the great majority attend to participate in the "fun of the fair," which includes meeting with friends, the horse races, the fakirs and the other attractions.

It is quite safe to assume that without these, and these in abundance, our exhibitions would be practically impossible. But what of it? This does not argue a lack of interest in agriculture, it only means that the great majority of people regard the exhibition as a holiday season and they want all the entertainment that a holiday entitles them to.

It is admitted by many staid farmers and other staid people that the empty midway at the present exhibition has a chilling effect upon entering the grounds. Yesterday, the third and perhaps the biggest day of the exhibition, the stock pens and the exhibition building were but meagrely patronized, while the grand stand on the race grounds was closely packed from end to end and hundreds were unable to obtain seats. The race course furnished practically the whole attraction—and it certainly was a great attraction, a credit to the enterprise that brought to Charlottetown the largest number of horses and the greatest speed that ever took part in a maritime race. The stock, all magnificent animals, the field crops, the fruit, the merchants exhibits, which would have done credit to any city in the maritime provinces, were the side-show, the races were the exhibition.

In the opinion of many who are deeply interested in the success of our exhibitions, the midway attractions must be resuscitated if our exhibitions are to be more than a series of races. This does not necessarily mean the introduction of objectionable features, it simply means that nine tenths of those who attend exhibitions and help to make them a success educationally as well as financially, are looking for "the fun of the fair."

THE MAKERS OF UNREST

Nine tenths of the trouble and the unrest in the world today is caused by the agitator and the disgruntled. Nothing is easier than to exaggerate difficulties, to lay upon some one else the blame that is generally our own. And few things are easier than to follow the crowd; it requires no courage, no initiative, no thought. This is where the agitator has the advantage. He can generally muster the nucleus of a crowd; the nucleus attracts others and in a short time he has the crowd at his heels. And every individual in the crowd has some grievance, real or imaginary. To this grievance the agitator appeals. The fault is easily laid at some one's door. All existing institutions receive their share of the blame; everything that is denounced; everything that is must be changed; government must be placed in the hands of the agitator and the party of his creation. And then will come the millennium when all wrongs shall be righted and all grievances redressed!

This happened in Russia where, it is true, there were many real grievances. The agitator with the cure-all got his crowd together and they proceeded to bring about the promised millennium. The millennium came but instead of a heaven on earth it was a hell.

The agitator, the denouncer of existing conditions, the man who would tear down tested and tried institutions to make room for a maniac's fad is a menace and should be treated as such. Fortunately our province has been comparatively free from such; we have no illiterate or ignorant classes to whom such appeals could be successfully made; we have no foreign element in our midst to vent their antagonism against British institutions. We ourselves have met our grievances and, when possible, removed them by sane and rational methods.

Hitherto the agitator and the Bolshevik have had no place among us and we are perhaps the only province in Canada that has altogether escaped them. Our sister maritime provinces are comparatively free of them and the result in Colchester the other day shows that sanity still rules there. Yet there is danger. It is up to us to weigh very carefully any new nostrums prescribed for us. They are easily tested; lying and misrepresentation and slander are unmistakable danger signals. When these are evident the safe course is to give them a wide berth and we feel assured that this test will be rigidly applied by our intelligent farmers.

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Correspondents for P. E. I.

J. ROWLAND PATON, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

3165-9-30-21.

CURRENT COMMENT

Yesterday we referred to the Farmers contributions of \$28,000 to make up the militant salary of Hon. C. A. Crerar, the Grain Growers Farmers leader. To this must be added his \$4,000 sessional indemnity, bringing the total up to \$32,000. If his ambitions could be realized and the Prime Minister's stipend of \$15,000 added to this giving him an income from the people's pockets of \$45,000 per year his cost to the country will be anything but modest for a man whose emoluments, such as Mr. J. R. McMillan, are travelling around the country blaspheming better men who are devoting their best energies to the country's interests for the comparatively meagre allowances of from \$5,000 to \$15,000. There is also a loud wail of grafting and corruption charged against all governments, except of course Mr. Crerar's and the Farmers Government of Ontario. If Mr. McMillan is an authority everything in the world outside of these two are steeped with corruption and rotten to the core. But this fiery agitator did not give us the exact date of Mr. Crerar's repentance. When did he become honest? For he was a member of the Borden Government during the heaviest period of its spending programme, he was a party to the Civil Service Commission and an influential portion of that system of rottenness which the Ontario agitator goes so far out of his way to describe. If Mr. McMillan's description of him is correct, when did he turn over the new leaf and become honest.

As one of Mr. McMillan's tricky arguments he points out that "A man in England bought a Massey-Harris binder for \$80. When he sold out later he came to this province and had to pay \$125, for the same." What a specious subterfuge to deceive! Is there anything in England or anywhere else that can be bought today at prices that prevailed years ago? What is Mr. R. J. McMillan being paid for the hot air he distributes, as compared with what he could sell his services for five years ago? The next misrepresentation is that "The Grain Growers of the West

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

QUIET TALKS.

By Rev. Harold T. Roe.

I have read somewhere of an eccentric old minister of the Gospel who in a dramatic manner revealed a significant fact to his fashionable congregation one Sabbath morning. He was addressing the boys and girls present with their parents, and asked them to recite the fourth commandment. There was no response. He called for the fifth, with a like result. Then suddenly taking from this pocket a pack of playing cards he scattered them, with a sweeping movement of his hand, along the aisles. Then pointing to one boy he asked him to find the Jack of Diamonds, another to bring the Nine of spades, and a third the Knave of Hearts. They did so without a mistake. The old minister allowed the incident to point its own moral. It was very obvious and very significant, too.

Do you know I rather fancy that the average child today is far more familiar with Mary Pickford, Fatty Arbuckle and Charlie Chaplin than with the names and characters of the Bible. This is not something to be lightly dismissed. It deserves a little serious thought. Are the children of today to gather their ideals from the idols of the movie screen? Must the great characters, not only of the Bible, but of his own, be pushed into the background to make room for the "Big Bill Hart" and Anita Stewart? Moving pictures are here to stay. I can not condemn for one moment the many excellent film productions now being shown on the screen. It is the question of mistaken emphasis that I desire to stress.

NEW GOODS

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S. A. McDONALD

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came to the manufacturers of Ontario and the farmers there sent a deputation to the U. S. and as a result they are getting mowers from \$10 to \$15 cheaper than the manufacturers can sell them for. If it were true that these things could be bought for less money across the border, the Western farmer would hurry to purchase them there. But despite the fact that these are amongst the lowest priced articles of commerce, the imports are actually falling off, and were materially less last year than in the periods preceding. Thus the actual figures of imports stamps the falsity of this utterance upon its face.

He then goes on to say that the "Civil Service pay roll amounts to \$160,000,000. That's my estimate and nobody in Canada can deny it." Nobody desires to deny that it is HIS ESTIMATE, but they might however seriously question its accuracy. He admits they are his own estimates, and that he failed to verify them, and he has an established reputation for estimating very far from the truth. For instance at Cardigan he estimated the total expenditure of Canada at \$43,000,000 in 1906 while in truth it was somewhere around twice that amount. In his search for confirmation of his figure on the Civil Service he says "No member of Parliament could tell me," and he twice applied to the Auditor General's office. "He didn't know anything about it." Only this brilliant Mr. McMillan knows, because he has a monopoly of all the wisdom, and all the honesty (?) of Canada. In point of fact he had the public accounts of the country at his disposal from which he could

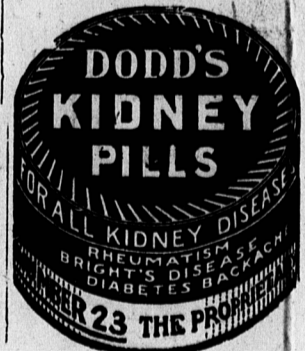
have secured the correct figures and told the farmers the truth. He "Finally was told that it figured up to \$15,000,000 but his own estimates looked more formidable for the purposes of agitation and so he used them, by his own admission without confirmation."

Not satisfied with slandering everything within sight in the political arena he seeks to drag the findings of our courts into the maelstrom of his imaginary corruption. He is too wily to make the attack in the open. The underground method in this case is the safest. His statement is that "In Manitoba a few years ago a contractor along with three cabinet ministers, stole a million and a half from the public funds." He was not brave enough to specify the men or the incident, for by being sufficiently specific he might be called upon to answer for his libel when something more than his mere word would be required to clean his skirts. No doubt he had reference to the Parliament building scandal. That was fully investigated in a long and expensive trial in the highest courts in the province of Manitoba. Innumerable witnesses were examined and every detail closely investigated. The judges of these courts certainly less prejudiced and more competent in judicial determinations than Mr. J. R. McMillan, failed to discover any millions, or even any cents stolen by any "cabinet ministers." This was a lone discovery of the Crerar agitator, and which he would not dish out so readily if he were in Manitoba, where he would be held responsible for his utterances. To insinuate that these Judges deliberately winked at the stealing of

millions by Ministers of the Crown, borders close upon sedition. But the Manitoba Judges imprisoned certain Bolshevik seditionists and they are since not popular with friends of this class.

He then commences like the ordinary "dirty bird" to foul his own Canadian nest, viz: if he is Canadian, by comparison of our war accomplishment with that of the United States. He says the U. S. "have already paid off 45 per cent of her war debt, but what did we do? We have only paid 6 per cent of our debt." The most damaging falsehood is often the one based upon a foundation of imaginary truth. Of a truth the United States paid of a large portion of her war debt, but what did we do? Why she scarcely ordered the war and for three or four years from the opening of hostilities they were not in the conflict while little Canada with

Continued on Page Five



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