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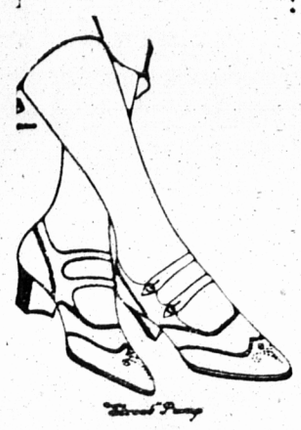

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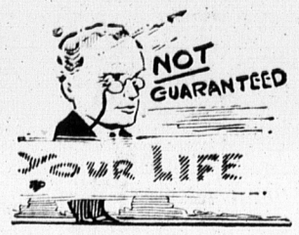

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Sir Charles Dalton, President. J. R. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. D. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1922

PETTY CRIMES

There is nothing supernatural or even phenomenal in the series of crimes now disturbing our province. There may be "discarnate intelligences" playing mischievous pranks at Antigonish and other favored localities but the thievings and burglaries that have recently shocked our people both in Charlottetown and Summerside have no such origin. The same "discarnate intelligence" that did duty in the Garden of Eden is no doubt doing business at the old stand and possibly may have had a part to play in the recent occurrences, but it is as ridiculous as it is useless to try to hold it responsible. This ancient enemy of the race has long been held in check by quite natural and tangible means; it has broken out only when these means were neglected, when our watchfulness was relaxed, when those on guard went to sleep. This is the origin and the cause of the present "wave of crime" as many choose to call it; it is as natural as falling over a precipice or rolling off a log.

A crime is committed and the perpetrator "gets away with it"; what is more natural than that others should follow the example? The government which makes our laws opens rumshops all over the country and makes a clear net revenue of $50,000 out of the business; what is more natural than that others should operate "stills" or go into the boot-legging business? The administration of law has become so lax that the majority escape punishment; what is more natural than that others should take the risk?

It is true that a certain proportion of offenders have always escaped; true that persons found guilty have escaped the full measure of punishment legally due them; true that some known to be guilty have got off scot free, but it has ever been true that where punishment is the inevitable sequence of lawlessness, law and order become the rule of the land.

Too many offences in Charlottetown and Summerside have recently gone undetected, too many offenders have got away with their ill-gotten gains. This is not creditable; there is laxity or inadequacy somewhere and the environment is not wholesome for the rising generation.

PROTECT THE BIRDS

The Dominion Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, has issued a pamphlet on Bird Protection, a copy of which, we understand, has been sent to the different schools throughout the province.

The pamphlet is timely and the information contained in it interesting and useful. We trust the pamphlets will be given a prominent place in our schools and that the pupils will, through it and the help of the teacher, be given an opportunity to realize the important place occupied by the birds in world economy and world progress.

There is a tendency on the part of children, boys especially, to regard birds, squirrels and other non-belligerent creatures as legitimate targets for stones and sticks and air guns. This tendency is acquired, not inherent. It has its origin in the boy's natural love of sport, a virtue which may easily be turned into a vice by example or by thoughtlessness.

If the boy is taught that the hunted animal suffers as much as the hunted boy and is as sensitive to pain as the boy is, he will think twice before throwing stones at these defenceless creatures.

If the child is taught that birds are as necessary to the production of a crop of grain or hay or apples as cultivation and fertilizer are he will think twice before killing them or frightening them away.

It is a well known fact that the insectiverous birds are the only protection we have against insect pests; that, if it were not for the birds our farm products, our fruit trees and even our forest trees would perish. These facts instilled into the minds of children would do much to save our birds which unfortunately are much less numerous than they ought to be. Time was when our Island forests were full of birds; this was when large areas were covered with forest and the birds found shelter in them. With the clearing away of these the birds' retreats were broken up and they became more easily the prey of boys and of men with guns.

There are still enough groves to harbour our birds if only we protect them; still enough groves around homes to become haunts of beautiful song birds and it is a singular fact that birds of even the shyest species become tame and neighborly where the children have learned to love them and never attempt to harm them. The lordly robin, one of the most beautiful as well as the most useful, can be induced to eat crumbs at the children's feet. This is equally possible in the case of many, probably all, other birds. In the parks of large cities birds, squirrels and other little animals feed from the hands of visitors, but in these places it is an indictable offence to kill or capture one of these little ones.

There are now societies for the protection of birds in every civilized country in the world and much good has been done by them. Game laws have been passed, close seasons have been prescribed for the protection of game birds which are needed for food and it has been made an indictable offence to kill insectiverous or song birds at any time. These laws will be effective only if backed up by public opinion and healthy public opinion can be formed only by properly training the children.

The design of the pamphlet above referred to is to establish friendly relations between the children and their friends, the birds, to teach them their value as helps to the farmer and as a delight to the homes where they can be taught to visit and to love.

THE PATRIOT'S QUIBBLE

The Patriot of yesterday referring to the recent Liberal caucus at which the Premier was not present says it was not a meeting of the government or of Government members. Quite true, but were not all the members of the government present with the exception of the Premier and one other? It also declares, as a good party organ, that "there never was a time when Premier Bell was more firmly seated in the saddle than at the present moment" and that "there never was any discussion among the members of the government about throwing the Premier overboard." Certainly so long as he is "in the saddle" they will never call it "throwing him overboard," but judging from the touching allusions by Mr. Hessian, it would appear that the time of this emancipation is not far off.

THE INDEFENSIBLE

The Patriot's admission that the standard for matriculation into Prince of Wales College has been lowered, together with its emphatic declaration that it has not, is a sample of that organ's ordinary defence of the government. "A Country Teacher," in a letter published elsewhere, humorously deals with the organ's peculiar effort which requires no other comment than that it is characteristic of the Patriot. That the Bell government can do no wrong, that whatever it does is the best that can happen and that its black is white is the burden of our contemporary's continuous song. The ridiculousness of the statement that the Bell government has enjoined that "in the study of geography there is added the item of maps studies in the geography of Europe" and that "in arithmetic candidates are warned that special emphasis will be made (placed?) on definitions and arithmetical principles," is too sublime to be touched. Evidently the Bell aggregation has studied its geography without maps and its arithmetic without arithmetical principles. How the innovation will enrich the education of the province we leave to our readers.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Although the ice is still holding on the bays and rivers the time for caution has arrived. Usually the ice is regarded as perfectly safe until some one's horse breaks through when by common consent it is pronounced unsafe and traffic stops. It would be wise to quit just a little before this happens.

On Wednesday morning Premier Norris of Manitoba called upon the Hon. MacKenzie King to open negotiations for the transfer of Manitoba's natural resources to the Province, as an accounting basis for resources alienated from it since it entered Confederation in 1870. On Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Norris received his "walking ticket" from the Legislative Assembly of the Province. Such is (political) life.

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.

IT IS FUNNY

Sir,— Funny, is it not, how far a partisan newspaper will go in defence of the actions of its own party? The Patriot of Saturday the 18th. inst., referring to the charge made by the Leader of the Opposition that matriculation to the Prince of Wales College has been lowered, says: "This statement is not correct."

It is admitted that about fifty pages is taken off the Latin, one quarter of the text and by far the most difficult quarter. Without a knowledge of the omitted part a student is unable to study a Latin Author. Surely a student should be prepared to read a Latin Author when he enters P. W. C.

It is also admitted that Part I. of Hall and Stevens School Geometry is omitted. But it says that this was not formerly required. It is true that the Department of Education did some years ago, require merely the Practical Geometry but soon saw the mistake and added Part I. of Hall and Stevens. The Practical Geometry does not contain analytical Geometry. It is nothing more than Mathematical Drawing with some computations of angles and distances. A good preparation of Euclid, but not Euclid.

The funny part of the defence is what is given as the additions to the course mentioned. First English Literature increased by three cantos of the Lady of the Lake instead of two. Many have wondered why when requiring any part of the Lady of the Lake, a narrative poem, the whole was not required. It is easier and much more interesting to teach the poem as a whole. The addition there is not much. Second, map studies in the Geography of Europe. One would think that previously Geography was studied without maps. Why Mr. Patriot Geography always implied map studies, so there is not any addition there. The third addition is the funniest of all: Special emphasis will be made (laid is meant) on definitions and arithmetical principles. What an attenuated thing the arithmetic of the past must have been without definitions and arithmetical principles a kind of soulless emaciated body!

To summarize a most important part of the Latin is omitted, all the real Geometry omitted. In place of which we have an interesting cantos of the Lady of the Lake that the majority of students would read in any case, as they will the rest of the poem. A mythical addition to Geography and Arithmetic. Funny is it not? Yes very funny.

I am Sir, etc., "X"
A COUNTRY TEACHER.

Notes By The Way

(From The Examiner.)

We note the rather sorrowful plea of the esteemed Patriot for "greater respect and more consideration for our representatives Federal and Provincial." There is certainly a conspicuous lack in that regard. It may be well to inquire the cause, for present conditions are unusual. We have had a number of different administrations Conservative and Liberal during the past twenty-five years, but we do not recall that any of them complained of want of respect.

Does it not occur to some of our many Liberal readers that the cause may possibly be found within the government itself? Let us judge them by a fair Liberal standard, comparing them only with previous Liberal administrations. Which one of them deceived the people as the Bell Government has done? Which one of them taxed the people as has been done since 1919? Which one of them broke their promises to the people in such wholesale fashion? Which one of them ever perpetrated a big Salary Grab? Under which one of them did ever a premier stigmatise our entire population as "peculiar?" or, by his chief spokesmen at the opening of the legislature insult the farmers by reminding them of alleged thievery, or traduce the fair fame of our Island as a possible "Garden of Bootleggers?" Who before the present government's time ever suggested taking tax payers by the nose to make them take their medicine?

Our Liberal friends will note that many things have changed since we had a Liberal government before. Many innovations have been introduced by the Bell Government a few only of which are above noted. We ask are these truly Liberal innovations as judged by the best Liberal standards of the past? And again we ask, are such innovations of the sort that can promote respect for the Bell Government?

Most sincerely do we sympathise with any worthy editorial writer upon whom devolves the task of defending what is wholly indefensible. A valiant returned soldier who has perilled his life and limbs to save his country in its hour of direst peril is rewarded with a position as door-keeper or messenger, perchance to carry a message to one of the wealthiest men of the Island who, at a fat salary—no taxpayer knows how much—presides over the exaction of poll taxes wrung from the poor. Yes, Liberal reader, some things are hard to defend.

Where was the able-bodied mover of the address in the hour when his country called for men? Did he respond to the call? Or did he stay at home drawing mortgages upon the farms whose owners he now insults, to purchase hay at $35 per ton to save their starving cattle? Drawing mortgages and pocketing salary grabs pays better than facing bullets in the muddy trenches. Leave that to the messengers and door-keepers! It is a truly Liberal measure to shut off the farmers' supply of mussel mud and put them off with a promise that some time in the future they will try to get the Ottawa Government to build a branch to Richmond Bay? In two years past what has the Bell Government done or tried to do to recover our Northwest land claims.

To judge them by the standard of past Liberal governments is fair enough, is it not? If so, what previous Liberal government would have done such things, neglected such things, closed down useful public services, said such things as the Bell aggregation has done and said? If not, then is it really a Liberal government at all? It is true that many honest Liberals have given it their support for a time. Was that support at your hands deserved? Ought it to be continued? Think it over.

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the W. S. Louson collection

THE INVISIBLE FRIENDS

I live as one with all the throng
That move the city streets along;
The gay, the glad, the weak, the wise,
Each has his story in his eyes!
And yet I see more oft than not
Amid the living those who drew
Away from us in dust's still guise,
Or, rather, felt their presence through
Some dim communication sent
Down the blue-valleyed firmament.

Always, at crossings, looking up,
I find some memoried face again,
Like a dim vision in a cup
Held to the dreaming lips of men.
I seem to know some old friend goes
In silent shadow—like a rose
That in wild April winds blew down
The storm swept alleys of the town.
Catching again some rooted life
Of beauty dim beyond the strife,
And when some day I wandereth
And old lane—there it is, its breath
Faint but supreme with fragrancing
Of love's recoverable spring.

They move each day just as of old
Along my path, the shadows hold
Faces and forms we may not see;
But yet in visioned memory
I have them back at such slight cost,
I do not think they're ever lost.
The friends in whose smile we used to glow,
The loved who were suddenly laid low,
The wise, sweet comrades, sorrow-kist,
Striving to reach us through the mist!

By Folger McKinsey

Others' View Points

Moses and Darwin.

(Chicago Journal of Commerce)

Whether the earth grew in six days or in six million centuries, whether man came up from a lower order of animal life during vast stretches of time in which all other forms of life came into existence on earth, need not disturb people's religious faith. The essence of religion is not in detail, but in spiritual principles and human loyalty to them. Just now, when some agitation exists over efforts to teach Darwin's theories as truth in schools and colleges, we may sympathize with those who condemn such teaching without in any way weakening our intedlectual honesty. It seems reasonable that only established truth should be taught in schools as such.

TRUE SPORTSMANSHIP

(From the Ottawa Citizen.)

There was an incident of last night's hockey final that stands out as an example of good sportmanship that deserves to be applauded from one end of Canada to the other, the honest decision of Mr. Joe Wallace, veteran umpire and loyal Ottawa fan, who in the first period gave the verdict against his team on a close play that to most of the great crowd looked like a goal. The puck was perhaps within an inch of being over the line when Toronto defence man was lucky enough to reach it. Had the umpire called it a goal, the result of the play-off might have been reversed. But Joe Wallace knew it was not a goal and he had the honesty and courage to decide as he saw the play. Spectators in line with goal posts, and thus in the best position to see what happened, pronounce his judgment correct. That decision may have cost Ottawa the title, but it won for this city something infinitely better than a hockey championship. We need more men of the Joe Wallace type in Canadian sport.

.... Mines Do not Last Forever.

(South African Argus.)

Even if the mining industry remained free from disturbances and interruptions our case would be as strong. For mines do not last forever. It is only a question of time before the mining industry begins to dwindle and fails to provide an outlet for the activities of any considerate number of people. Are we doing enough to build up something to take its place? We think not. To put the matter bluntly, South Africa is living too much from hand to mouth. It is spending to much on the needs of the day and not providing sufficiently for the future. This national short sightedness may not matter for a time. But the day may come when it will land the country into a most unpleasant plight and force our young men to emigrate in order to obtain employment.

PRINCE OF WALES CONCLUDES TOUR

KARACHI, British India, March 20—The Prince of Wales has concluded his tour of India and sailed from this port on the battle cruiser Renown, bound for Japan.

The Prince was enthusiastically cheered by a large gathering at the quay to bid him farewell.

The First Morning Glory of Spring Fashions--

THE HAT!

Ready tomorrow morning!

Like an early flock of robins—brilliant as the first warm glow of the spring sunshine—harbingers of the glorious days that are just around the corner.

And yet, these exquisite Spring Hats are most delightful to wear on any March afternoon, in sunshine or snow-flurry, because they glorify any outfit and are in season for the afternoon teas and bridges so popular just now.

Just an exclusive collection—brought early for the select possession of those smart women who demand the new fashions a week or so before their friends and neighbors.

Of course, we invite you to come and see them, even if you are not ready to buy a Spring Hat now.

The ladies are asked to order as early in the week as possible for delivery Saturday.

Miss Doiron is exceptionally rushed just now, but the early morning shoppers will find her with more leisure than later in the afternoon.

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WE HAVE been almost exclusively a Government and Municipal Bond House, consequently, the underwriting of a Hotel's securities was, and is, a departure from our established policy, and one not to be undertaken lightly.

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Not only so, but these same men have secured a Directorate for "The Mount Royal Hotel" of the most able and successful business men in Canada. And, because of all these factors, we underwrote "The Mount Royal Hotel" 8% Convertible Debentures, and with all the force at our command, and with our reputation at stake, are offering them to investors.

It is our considered opinion that these 8% Convertible Debentures are a safe and sound investment; and it is our judgment that in a reasonable time substantial dividends should be paid upon the Common Stock, which is now given away as a bonus.

Write today for a copy of our circular describing fully the 8% Convertible Debentures of The Mount Royal Hotel Company, Limited, offered at 100 and interest, carrying a bonus of 30% of Common Stock.

To W. A. Mackenzie & Co., Ltd.

38 King Street West, Toronto.

Dear Sirs: Please send me a copy of the circular describing the 8% Convertible Debentures of The Mount Royal Hotel Company, Limited, and oblige.

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Please write clearly.

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