

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN CURRENT COMMENT

Friday April 2nd being Good Friday and a public holiday The Guardian will not be issued on Saturday. Advertisers please take note.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1920

THE CATTLE BUSINESS

Statistics recently compiled show that, compared with population, the stock of cattle in Canada today is exactly what it was twelve years ago. This means that the yearly increase of cattle has only kept pace with the increase in population allowing no margin for more export trade. It means also that we are only barely holding our own in cattle production although demand abroad and facilities for reaching the markets have increased tremendously.

According to the Dominion Bureau of statistics the number of cattle in Canada in 1908 was 7,546,000 when the population was 6,650,000. In 1919 with a population of about 9,000,000, we had only 10,083,000 cattle the percentage to population in both years being practically the same.

We should do better than this. There is generally, and particularly at present, an unlimited market for meat products of all kinds; transportation and shipping facilities are abundant; our farmers are better situated today and we have much more acreage under cultivation than ever before, yet so far as cattle raising, one of our most profitable lines, is concerned we are no further ahead than we were twelve years ago.

No definite statistics are available to show how the different provinces stand in this matter but we have good ground for believing that in this province at least we have considerably increased the number of our cattle. While exportation was practically at a stand still during the war there was quite a large export trade last summer both in live cattle and beef and we have no doubt that with the new shipping facilities now in contemplation there will be a still greater increase during the coming summer.

A word of warning is necessary at this stage. The high prices prevailing should not tempt any farmer to sell his young female cattle. There is room for many times our present cattle population and there is no more profitable stock. With a good herd of cattle fertility is assured; a profitable milk return is assured and good prices for years to come are assured for beef cattle. Keep as many of the young males as possible for the live cattle market, and as many of the young females for the dairy herd.

That there is money in cattle, both directly for milk and beef and indirectly in manurial value every farmer knows and one of the strongest evidences of thrift and good management on the farm is a steady increase in the number of cattle. Few farms in this province have yet reached the limit of live stock and those who have come nearest to it are the best off.

ANOTHER VIEW OF IT.

Those who are bemoaning the reduced value of the dollar may find some consolation in an article in the Business Digest of which the following is an extract:

"Don't forget that the '50-cent dollar' idea cuts both ways. Sure enough a dollar spent now will only buy half as much as it would have bought five years ago. But by the same token, don't forget that a dollar saved now is likely five years from now to be worth two dollars. 'Chances to make 100 per cent on your money' are being offered by every promoter of oil and mining stock. Yet, right here and now, the conservative investor is being offered a chance to make 100 per cent on his money in the most solid sort of gilt-edged securities. How? Simply by saving it now. For, when commodity prices come down to normal again—and very few people deny their belief that, sooner or later, they will come down materially—it is obvious that money saved now will be 'worth' then proportionally more. \$500 saved five years ago is worth today, actually in commodity-income value, only \$250. But \$500 saved today, will five years hence, if commodity prices drop one-half, be worth \$1,000.

And even that doesn't tell the whole story. Suppose that \$500 saved today, invested in good bonds, many of which can be bought, under present conditions at prices which will yield 6 per cent or better. Five years hence when commodity prices have dropped back, these bonds will be yielding 4½ or 5 per cent. In other words, they will have appreciated in value, giving a further profit on this appreciation."

DAYLIGHT SAVING.

The State Legislature of Massachusetts has passed a daylight saving bill by a vote of 181 to 38. The daylight saving law becomes effective in New York State next Sunday, and the heads of many key industries announce that they will observe it despite the fact that railroad time tables will be based on standard time. The Journal has been of opinion that the opposition to daylight saving which developed in Canadian Parliament and the U. S. Congress, was the result of prejudice rather than reason, and we should not be surprised if before long both these legislative bodies face about on the question. In the meantime, the people of Ottawa, Toronto, and Montreal are to enjoy the sunlight regulation this summer and the advantages will be far greater than the slight inconvenience that may be caused a comparatively small proportion of the population through a variation in railroad time.—Ottawa Journal.

Premier Foster of New Brunswick, like our own Premier Bell, is a firm believer in some of the excellencies of the Ottawa treasury. His government is convinced that the "time has come for the province to get a larger grant from Ottawa." The money is there. At least they think so, in spite of their preachings of federal bankruptcy. And they want the money. Of this there is no doubt. But the puzzling question is, and it bothers the Bell government also, how can they get it. Now our combination distinctly promised the electors that they would collect this money. When they get through, New Brunswick will know how it is done.

In the Liberal proposal to lay excise as well as import duties up on luxuries it would be interesting to learn how they can do so without pinching the poorer classes. Tobacco for instance is a luxury. How can they evade pressing upon the poor man to whom this is perhaps his only special indulgence? To tax the gasoline for the rich man's auto, you must also get at the farmer's motor and the fisherman's launch. Increased duties on silks and satins make the hair ribbons and hat trimmings of the poor man's children soar up in price. If you put it on jewelry you make the working man pay up on his cuff links, his collar studs and even his wedding ring. And after all would it not be putting these and other things such as jams, jellies and relishes out of the reach of working classes and their families, people who have just as much right to a taste of the good things of this world as have those with long purses and abundant bank accounts?

The finances of Canada is the next subject for serious consideration. After cheese-paring the estimates to the extent of about a third of a billion dollars there is still a visible shortage of revenue for current expenditure of, in round figures, \$200,000,000. While the situation is grave the difficulties are not insurmountable. We have a growing revenue but it is accompanied with increasing responsibilities and large outlays demanded to develop the country so that we cannot expect much from this source. Borrowing is the only present expedient, but borrowed money must be repaid, and we cannot and must not live on loans. The advertisement of the war is giving to Canada the best emigration of any country. It is already increasing to an agreeable extent. Increased population means in every instance an enlarging revenue, and with this a reduction of the per capita debt. Economists tell us very properly that individual carelessness and industrial thrift are national in character, and the industry which enriches us also swells the national treasury. This is so to an extent we scarcely

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Lawson

PLAN PLEASANT SURPRISES

If you have something charming to say about someone who has helped you or who has done some thing particularly nice for some one else, you can make that person's heart glow by expressing your appreciation in no unstinted terms.

If you have committed a fault, or made a blunder, you can sometimes rectify things by a frank and free confession and apology.

If you love someone who loves you, don't be afraid to say so. Never be afraid to say the kind things you think about your friends, their clothes, their looks, their houses or their children.

But do be afraid to say the unkind things. If you think a disagreeable thought, bite your teeth on it, and close it up in your own mind, for so will you acquire much merit, and save yourself and others much unhappiness.

Don't tell to much of your own, or anyone else's personal affairs. If some woman, in a moment of indiscretion, such as comes to all of us, has told you a bit of her personal troubles, don't repeat it.

Don't wash your soiled linen in public. In other words, keep family quarrels to yourself. Don't let outsiders roll their tongues over the sweet morsel of scandal you, and you only, can provide.

Don't relate the harrowing details of your own or your husband's latest operation. No one wants to hear that kind of "organ recital." Don't talk about illness, anyway. We all have troubles of our own.

Remember that a good listener is much rarer than a good talker and all of us love the person who sits and listens to us with rapt attention as if every word that fell from our lips was a pearl of great price.

Express love—don't express hate.

Indeed, one of the greatest factors in your personal success in business or in society is the ability to know just when and how to say so.

MARGARET CURRIE.

Others' View Points

FIRST AID TO MOTHER

(Providence Journal)

A league of grandmothers and single aunts is proposed by a child-welfare expert to assist mothers in guiding the rising generation. Whether the auxiliary combination would prove a felicitous one may be questioned, though. Grandmothers are all right, as every child would gladly testify—more especially boys. Aunts are another matter. They are unquestionably all right, too, in their way. The world would have a rougher time than it does if bereft of them. But aunts certainly are not in the same class with the grandmothers, from the child's point of view—and it is the child that the new proposal would consider. There is an ancient but still delectable bit of verse—seemingly frivolous, but containing the solemn judgment of the ages—which, according to the best of our recollection, begins as follows.

Grandmothers are worth all the aunts in creation— They let a feller do what he pleases, and don't bother about education.

There you are, it might be feasible, in order to organize the available resources so as to serve at approximately one hundred per cent, efficiency, to have two leagues, one of grandmothers and one of aunts, taking turn and turn with the child. It may be doubted if a merger would work. All human experience seems to show that when it comes to the bringing up of children grandmothers and aunts do not pull well in harness. Their views are apt to be as irreconcilable as the fourteen points and the peace treaty. The aunts usually have their way of course. Whether that is the worst or the best of it we would not dare say.

Our duty then is to carefully plot out, contribute our small quota to our country's up-building, avoid the sophistries of dreaming political theorists, and in the end our Canada will be solidly established as one of the most stable and grandest of the earth's dominions.

A despatch from Ottawa to St. John, N. B., indicates a reasonable prospect of their getting the required harbor improvements. This being so it should improve our chances of railway standardization. It is well worth pushing for.

Manitoba farmers have come to the late Isreal Tarte's conclusion that "Elections are not won by prayers," and are hustling after a campaign fund of a quarter million dollars. They have appointed 700 canvassers under seventy captains to gather in the funds. History reminds us that they once denounced all such funds.

The question of a Canadian navy will not be fully gone into at the present session of parliament, but there is evidence that a commencement will be made on a small scale. It is conceded that the government have accepted two ships offered by the Imperial Government. In the meantime our ministry will have time to work out the problems and at the next session announce a definite naval program. The two ships will replace the Niobe and Rainbow which are obsolete.

THE REASON WHY

WHY ARE LEAVES NOT ALL THE SAME SHAPE

Leaves are of different shapes because they belong to different families of plants or trees. They are a good deal like people in this respect. Hardly two people in the world look exactly alike, but there is a distant family resemblance in members of the same family. It is difficult to say just what happens inside the tree to determine the shape of the leaf and that causes them to possess different shapes from others. The shape of the leaf is a mark of identification of the family to which the tree or plant belongs, just as you can tell from a dog's ears and from other characteristics what his breeding has been. In the case of plants and trees, however, it is quite probable that the shape and texture of the leaves has been developed as the result of the conditions under which the plant grows. A plant or tree throws off oxygen and takes in carbonic acid gas through the surface of the leaves. To thrive and be healthy it must secure just the proper amount of this food and as the quality of food taken in depends upon the amount of surface exposed through the leaves, each particular tree or plant has developed in its own direction in this respect until this feature of their structures has been adjusted properly to their needs. It is a good deal like the radiation of heat in your home.

—From the Book of Wonders. Published and Copyrighted by the Bureau of Industrial Education, Inc., Washington, D. C.

Save Many Millions But Not His Name

(Providence Journal)

When John D. Rockefeller gives a million dollars or ten million dollars to some charitable or benevolent purpose, newspaper humorists point out that the price of coal oil or gasoline is due for an advance, in order that the public may have the opportunity of contributing to the benefaction. This is unjust to Mr. Rockefeller, who is one of the most generous givers in history. Nevertheless, the man who devotes vast sums to the public good and keeps the matter a secret is rare indeed. Even if he is not over fond of publicity he does take a normal human satisfaction in being praised, in having the admiration and respect of his fellowmen. Not in recent history has there been a man who gave so much money under a seal of secrecy as Mr. George Eastman, of Rochester, the famous kodak maker. The fact has recently been disclosed that Mr. Eastman is the mysterious "Mr. Smith," who at one time and another has presented to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology more than \$10,000,000. The gifts have been spread over several years, yet it was only a few days ago that the secret leaked out.

Inventor of the Kodak.

Mr. Eastman may not be the wealthiest of American millionaires, but if the poet is right when he says that all you can take with you when you pass out is what you have given away, he must rank very high indeed. He began with nothing. When he was six years old his widowed mother moved to Rochester, and by her stern exertions the boy was kept at school until he was fourteen, and then he began to work. Chance took him to a bank, where he toiled eleven hours a day over ledgers at a task in which he has said since it is not possible for one to be interested. His hobby was photography, and in his spare hours he worked and experimented, eventually making inventions out of which films were developed, and which proved the foundation stone of his fortunes. He did not spare himself, nor did he spare others, for it is related that the men who knew him thirty-five years ago considered him a crank and bore and one whose mania on the subject of photography put him almost out of the ranks of the rational. In the meantime, he saved his money, knowing that one day he would need it for his own business.

Wonderful MoneyMaker.

That time came, and he bade adieu to the bank, and began the business which now employs 18,000 men and women. As William C. Cheney points out in the New York Times, only one romantic element is lacking in the story of George Eastman's great success. He never was seriously handicapped for lack of capital. To begin he had his own savings, and then when he needed a few thousand dollars more he found another Rochester man who was willing to back him to that extent. Not long ago this former partner died, leaving an estate of about \$16,000,000, mostly the fruit of the small investment he made thirty years ago. The business grew by giant strides. There were new inventions and one of the finest advertising campaigns ever carried on. Who is not familiar with the slogan, "If it isn't an Eastman it isn't a kodak?" The name "kodak," a copyrighted word, entered into the English language like other copyrighted word, "vaseline." When other men invented something useful to the science of photography Eastman bought it up, and in the meantime Eastman's own staff of highly paid specialists was always at work.

A Patriotic Sacrifice.

One of the most interesting things we recall about Mr. Eastman is that in the Winter of 1917-18, when war demands produced a coal famine, and many people were without fuel, he shut off the heat in his own magnificent conservatories, and permitted his collection of exotic plants to perish, rather than waste the coal to keep them alive. We can imagine that to a lover of beauty like George Eastman, this was a far harder test of patriotism than would have been the giving of thousands to a war charity. He was a cheerful subscriber to war funds, and gave more than a million dollars to relief. Mr. Eastman lives in what has been described as a ducal palace. He is a bachelor with no near relatives, and thus is freer than most millionaires to dispose of his wealth without any regard to the claims of family. His greatest hobby is music, and his ambition now

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is to make Rochester a musical centre whose fame will be world wide, and with this end in view, he has, among other things, established the Eastman School of Music at an expenditure of \$4,000,000.

What the Worker Needs. This column does not, as a rule, give any breathless attention to the opinions of millionaires on subjects not connected with their money making, but Mr. Eastman is an exceptional millionaire. He says that under modern conditions of industry it is practically impossible for a workingman to take a keen interest in his work. It was different in the old days of the handicrafts, when a man made some complete thing, and could take a craftsman's pride in the product. Nowadays he must have some interest outside his daily toil, something to look forward to after his stint is done. In the opinion of Mr. Eastman, music would go far to provide this interest and stimulus. He knows that the music with the greatest charm is the music that one requires some musical education to appreciate, and that is why so many of his millions have gone with the ultimate end, not of educating musicians, but of educating audiences. He is a great lover of music himself, but admits that nothing gives him greater pleasure than a good boxing match. His regard for his own employees is shown in the fact that he has already given them \$6,000,000 from the profits of the business, while his total benefactions amount to about \$27,000,000.

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