

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1920

CROP REPORTS

The harvest is now sufficiently advanced to permit of a fair estimate being made as to its approximate quantity and quality. It is generally accepted that the grain crop is lighter than average; there was a promising growth of straw, but, owing to the comparatively dry weather and the excessive sunshine and heat, the oat crop did not fill as heavily as usual and it is estimated that the yield will be below average. The wheat crop, generally speaking, is exceptionally good although in some sections much damage was caused by rust and we are informed that some fields in several localities are absolutely ruined. The hay crop, contrary to early expectations, was larger than average and the crop was saved in excellent condition. The potato crop will be somewhat below average per acre but there is a larger acreage and the prospects are that the aggregate crop will be at least an average one, probably something over.

As to prices dealers can as yet give no idea. Crops elsewhere will govern prices here. The western crops are all reported to be much above average so that we shall probably not have any shortages elsewhere to boost our prices here. The potato crop in the United States is reported to be exceptionally large. Those potatoes are now on the market and fall prices will to a large extent depend upon the keeping qualities of the United States crop. The New Brunswick crop is reported a fair average. There will be no general shortage of potatoes and although predictions at this early stage are uncertain, few will be surprised if prices are considerably lower than last year's.

WHAT CANADA LOSES

In a recent issue reference was made to the appointment of Major L. N. Seaman to an important position in India. We understand that in addition to the natural ambition of a young man to rise in his profession the pecuniary inducements were so attractive as to have no approximate parallel in Canada. The Indian Government is developing an industry which they regard as sufficiently important to warrant any reasonable outlay; they secured, on Canadian representation, a capable Canadian for the position and made him an offer which, in justice to himself, he could not turn down. Canada, which knew and admitted his ability, could not or would not meet the competition and lost his services. A coincidence was that after he had accepted the Indian position a similar offer was made to him by the British government which also is undertaking similar work.

We mention Major Seaman's case only because it is the last instance of this kind that has come to our notice. There have been many others, not only in Canada as a whole but in each of the provinces and more markedly in our own province probably than in any other.

In the matter of employing and retaining the services of our sons we, as a nation and as provinces, have been following the "penny wise and pound foolish" policy. The most successful private enterprises have followed a different policy. In those the capable man is paid what he is worth; in government undertakings a man is paid according to a set scale which usually applies to competent and incompetent alike. The competent man automatically finds his level in other callings or in other countries and his own country loses his services. Instances of this kind have been common in our political history. We do not need to look far back to find a \$30,000 man filling a political position and by his ability saving his country millions of dollars, but unable to live on the stereotyped salary attached to the position, compelled to abandon it. We find one after another of our ablest and best men called away by higher salaries elsewhere to do work which their own country needs and which it could pay for if it recognized actual values. How many men has Canada raised and educated and trained for special work in universities, in colleges, in the church, in industry and in commerce, and lost to the United States or elsewhere where remuneration is commensurate with ability and efficiency?

From our own little province leaders in education, in the pulpit, at the bar, and in other callings have been lured to more remunerative and more influential fields than are available here. This, because of our limited opportunities, is unavoidable but our very limitations should warn us not to pare too closely the reasonable reward of useful and necessary work, useful and necessary, that is for the building up of our own province. So far as Canada as a whole is concerned there is ample room for all the ability and the education that we possess and at as great a cost as any other country can afford to pay. Canada has room and opportunity for every son whom it can train into useful service and every such son who is enticed abroad is an unjustifiable loss to Canada.

THE EXPLANATION

The Patriot's explanation of the latest turn down to the returned soldiers is a good joke: "Now and then," it says, "when a man with special qualifications for a position is available the government in its discretion and judgment sees fit to avail itself of his services." Sure it does, but the complaint is that "in its discretion and judgment" the government has found so few returned soldiers equipped with these "special qualifications."

CURRENT COMMENT

It is unusual for editors to take notice of anonymous correspondence but there should be exceptions to such exclusion. The writer making underhand charges, personal allusions and strong criticisms, even when fairly founded, under a non-deplume, has no claim to open recognition. A letter signed "Censor" in Monday's Patriot, dealing as it does with an abstract question is in our opinion worthy of comment regardless of the writer's modestly withheld name. There is much of truth in his appreciation of our Island editors, and particularly those directing our daily papers. Only those acquainted with the exacting duties and the daily difficulties of the newspaper office can have a true conception of what he is up against, or the roughness of the road he has to travel. When bouquets come, infrequently, modestly as suggested in the Patriot's footnote prevents public enjoyment, while equally without a murmur he must bear unflinchingly the arrows and the slings of criticism, not always tempered with justice, much less of mercy.

Most people think the editor's task an easy one and many are conceited with the idea that they could do the work much better. We are indebted to Hon. Mr. Nash for the following related several years ago but which impressed me as being of wide application: A citizen met him in his office in somewhat of friendly criticism, suggesting that a change of matter along other lines would make the paper much more readable and popular with readers who are tired of the hum-drum customary routine. The general editor readily agreed and asked if he would suggest some subject for an example. He did so. "Now said the editor, "would you mind jotting down a few observations upon the subject, here take my pen." He did so, and there his troubles commenced. He stared at the blank paper, scratched his head, and commenced to move uneasily in his seat. "What's the trouble my friend?" "I don't know just how to commence it." Then the editor gave him an opening sentence. Restlessly he puzzled himself a while longer, then resigned his temporary editorship, with the remark that "it isn't as easy as I thought." And that may be cited as the average critic's experience in actual practice.

To please everybody is impossible. Human minds, tastes, ambitions and character are too diversified to feed contentedly upon the same literary food. One tells us "you give us too much politics," another, "you are not soaking them half enough. Why don't you get after them in earnest?" And yet another will condemn political attack, while another large number will denounce what they call sermonizing and moralizing. Should the pulpit be a fair guide for an editor? Have they preached hell and damnation? Have they condemned and incurred public displeasure? Have portions of their congregations thrown up their subscriptions and rejected the place of worship because of the expo-

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

- THE COMMON TOUCH. By Edgar A. Guest. I would not be wise—so very wise That I must sneer at simple songs and deeds. And let the glare of wisdom blind my eyes. To humble people and their humble needs. I would not care to climb so high that I could never hear the children at their play. Could only see the people passing by. Yet never hear the cheering words they say. I would not know too much—too much to smile. At trivial errors of the heart and hand. Nor be too proud to play the friend to the while. And cease to help and know and understand. I would not care to sit upon a throne Or build my house upon a mountain-top. Where I must dwell in glory all alone And never friend come in or poor man stop. God grant that I may live upon this earth And face the tasks which every morning brings. And never lose the glory and the worth Of humble service and the simple things.

sure of their wrong doings by the man of God? The writer, anxious that this column would be of the greatest good to the largest number, once asked an opinion from what he believed should be one of the most competent critics in the province. His answer was: "I know sufficient of an editor's duties and responsibilities not to criticize what he does. He knows best, and he usually does what is best." And if he did not, as "Censor" remarks, he would not long hold his position. Yet candidly an elevation in tone would not be any injury to the reputation of the press, and the kindly encouragement of such, as by our correspondent friend in the Patriot, would be helpful, and we would like to hear from him of-ten.

Our schools are again open. The pretty sight of the youth and flower of our land with their loads of modern school paraphernalia tripping merrily to their daily studies, and the buzz and hum of activity which can be heard even by passers by, from the class rooms, are again a happy familiarity. When we look at those busy faces intent upon their studies we are inclined to ask, what will the harvest be? Amongst that number there are sure many embryos of distinction and greatness. Who could point out from the little throng the future Lieutenant-Governor, Prime Minister, Chief Justice or the future occupants of the big position of learning or state. And yet they are all there, and in most cases totally unconscious of their future prominence and great importance to the state. It pains us to think that percentage there is also there the unfortunate one, the future sin-stained, the barnacle upon the purity of public life and the stumbling block to the prosperity of the community. There is a magnificence in the study of subjects in the school curriculum, but there is a far greater grandeur when it is associated with ambitions for an exalted place in character, in reputation and in life. The teacher who realizes that the student has also a soul to cultivate, will not fail in the reward for this part taken in moulding our national destinies. And the scholar's aim should be, to excel and attain, not the mental, but the exalted positions is life.

Comment is being frequently made in the Montreal Star upon the increasing tendency to lawlessness, noticeable particularly in their large cities. It is the natural outcome of unnatural conditions. When everyone has a full larder and a reasonable coal heap crime is usually at the minimum. The answer that times are good, work plentiful and wages high will not always meet the case. All are not fit for, and many cannot get this employment with high remuneration. Yet they are compelled from their scanty supply of funds to pay unbearable prices for what they need to keep body and soul together, or die in want. In the noted hard times period of 1874 to 1879 men were murdered for the sake of a few dollars, and because thousands were out of work, the alternatives were crime or starvation. Following the introduction of the National Policy in Canada by which the struggling industries of the country were encouraged into new life, and employment provided for the idle, there was a steady cessation of crime, which kept on reducing as prosperity increased. It is because of need that many steal, particularly so with petty thieves, and the best safeguard is to neutralize the need, by more insistently combating those conditions which tend to cultivate social unrest.

Speaking before the Canadian Club and the Board of Trade at Vancouver, the Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, pointed out that ships for the Canadian Mercantile marine were being built at from \$25 to \$100 per ton less, and much better built ships, in our own shipyards than in the United States. Sixteen Government ships were finished or under construction in B. C. at a cost of \$22,000,000, and all would be left for the carrying trade of the Pacific coast. Negotiations are also under way for the building of passenger ships in the Old Country which would be available within a year's time, or sooner. This steamship system would perfectly connect our Canadian railway system with the carrying trade to the Orient, vastly increasing our trade with Asia and Europe.

When in doubt as to what to say suppress your thoughts. Only the best of everything comes to the man who waits on himself.

Bolshevism Much Like Czarism

Bertrand Russell, the leader of pacifist philosophy in England, has returned from Russia where he went with high hope to view the blessings of Communism in practice. He now admits that it is a failure, and that Bolshevism is "internally aristocratic and externally militant." He found that a party numbering not more than 600,000 has imposed its will upon the Russian population, which is about 120,000,000. Nevertheless, he does not believe that Bolshevism in Russia is about to be destroyed. His conviction is that the Russian people are not now ready for any form of real democratic government, nor will they be for years. The government that Lenin and Trotsky have forced upon them is, he believes, necessary, and is to be regarded as we would regard a revival of the government of Peter the Great, not as a modern experiment that is likely to prove useful to the rest of the world. At best it will prove something like the government that Britain is giving the people of India, with the difference that Russians are being benevolently governed by Russians. We do not see much importance in this point since the Russian people as a whole have no say as to what Russians shall rule over them.

Less Freedom Than Ever.

We gather from Mr. Russell's article, which appears in the Nation, that there is rather less real freedom in Russia now than there was before the war, and that the chief difference lies in the fact that instead of Czar Nicholas and his advisers, Russia has the twin czars, Lenin and Trotsky. Under Nicholas the Duma was a closer approach to the machinery of self-government than the Soviets. There is also the difference that under the Czar most of Russia was owned by a comparatively few land owners. Now the agricultural land is divided among the peasants. But the Russian farmers, though probably better fed than before, are yet unable to get more than a bare living. When they want to sell their surplus in the towns they are offered money which they know to be worthless, but which they have to accept. Nevertheless, they are raising a small surplus as possible, and Mr. Russell finds the result in the large cities where "underfeeding is nearly universal." Unless Russia can resume her trade with the rest of the world, the Russian peasants are likely to raise less and less food, and starvation may threaten. It then will be the duty of Lenin and Trotsky to inaugurate a new reign of terror to force the farmers to feed the nation.

No Free Speech.

There is less free speech in Russia than ever before; it is less possible for public grievances to be published. Under the Czars, there were independent and radical papers, even though they were censored and frequently suppressed. There were voices like those of Tolstoy's and Gorky's, crying against the misery of the common people. To-day, not only all the newspapers, but all the printing, and all the public halls are owned or controlled by the Communists, so that there is no way for a man to address any large number of people. It is impossible for anyone to get a general hearing if he protests against the existing regime. All voting for Soviet candidates is done by show of hands, so that anyone daring to vote against a government candidate would be an easily marked man. In recent Moscow elections, the opposition party, called the Mensheviks, won forty seats out of 1,500 because the candidates were known in certain large factories where the electoral campaign could be carried on by word of mouth.

Thousands Shot, Untried.

In all his chance encounters, Mr. Russell never encountered anyone who was admittedly a Communist. Among the ordinary crowds of people they appeared as scarce as vegetarians would be with us. Yet, as related, all power is in their hands. The Communist party, or rather that part of it that governs Russia, is divisible into three classes. In the first place there are the old revolutionists, tested by years of persecution, exile and imprisonment. They are tough and fanatical and rather out of touch with their own country. They hold most of the high posts. Then there are those who are enthusiastic Bolsheviks because of the material success of



Off to School in New Clothes

Mother beams a smile of contentment as she sends her boys off to school, knowing they are comfortably and becomingly dressed. She also knows that her boys like their new Clothes because they fit both their person and personality. They're real Boys' Clothes because they come from a real Boys' Store.

Every thing the Boy Wears, Clothing, Hats, Furnishings

200 Boys Sample Suits, sizes 6 to 16 years, About 25 Patterns in the lot Special while they last \$10.00

200 RATTLING GOOD BOYS SUITS THAT WON'T COST A FORTUNE AND PLEASE BOTH THE BOY AND HIS MOTHER. THEY COME IN ALL THE LATEST PATTERNS, MATERIALS AND STYLES, IN FACT THERE IS A SAMPLE OF THE COMPLETE OUTPUT OF ONE OF THE LEADING MANUFACTURERS OF BOYS AND YOUTHS' CLOTHING, COME IN AND LOOK THEM OVER AND TAKE YOUR CHOICE OF ANY SUIT IN THE LOT FOR \$10.00. FIT BOYS FROM 6 TO 16 YEARS.

We have others as near "Boy-proof" as possible and they will stand all the hard knocks and scrapes that a red-blooded boy is apt to give them. Sizes 6 to 18. \$12, \$13.50, \$15, \$18, \$20, \$22 and \$24.00.

PATONS LIMITED

Bolshevism. This class the army of policemen, spies, and secret agents largely inherited from the Czarist regime, who make their profit out of the fact that no one can live except by breaking the law." Mr. Russell continues: "This aspect of Bolshevism is exemplified by the Extraordinary Commission, a body practically independent of the Government, and possessing its own regiments which are better fed than the Red Army. This body has the power of imprisoning any man or woman without trial on such charges as speculation, or counter-revolutionary activity. It has shot thousands without trial, and though nominally it has lost the power of inflicting the death penalty, it is by no means certain that it has altogether lost it in fact. It has spies everywhere and ordinary mortals live in terror of it."

Brains Not Lacking.

The third class consists of those who are not ardent Communists, but who have rallied to the Government because they believe it to be stable and work for it, either out of patriotism or because they enjoy the opportunity of developing their ideas freely without the obstacle of traditional institutions. However, as remarked, if their ideas should develop in a form not acceptable to orthodox Bolshevism, these enthusiasts would find it difficult to promulgate them. It is this class, however, that supplies Bolshevism with its industrial brains, which Mr. Russell thinks rather highly of. There is a great scheme now afoot to develop incredible electrical horse power by means of Russia's peat fields, and in Mr. Russell's opinion, Bolshevism will be able to command the high intelli-

THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

That Tryon Meeting

Sir:—It was my privilege (I would not care to call it pleasure) to attend a meeting called by the Liberal interests to defend or educate the Electors in the workings of their various acts and amendments passed by the Powers that be at Charlottetown. Now, Sir, when I say the Powers that be I do not mean the Government as a whole but the part of the Government who can hold out the longest and fight the hardest when in Caucus, for we were told at that meeting it must be so rightfully or wrongfully that when any one man or a part of the Government fought hard enough in caucus the rest of them had to assent to the measure when the vote was before the House or resign whether they agreed with it or not. So Sir, we cannot and must not blame the Government for the various acts that do not digest well with the electors because we do not know whom to blame for them. The Guardian says the meeting was largely antagonistic to the Liberal representatives and the Patriot declares the meeting was 75 per cent in favor of them. At any rate as a silent spectator I felt before the meeting adjourned that

gence necessary to work out this problem. In a talk with Lenin he found that the Bolsheviks consider fantastical the idea of Communism being established elsewhere except by a bloody revolution. In fact to paraphrase the advertisement, "if it's not murder and pillage, it's not Bolshevism."

Wonderful Bargains at GOFF'S

- Boys' boots in dombola and goat \$5.00 for \$2.50. (Old Stock. Sizes 4 and 5 only)
- A complete line of ladies patent pump, white welt, high heel, etc. etc. \$7.50 for \$5.00. (Please come and see these)
- Men's neatly, well made work boots for \$3.75. (Nobody offers anything like them for the price.)

Balance of our large stock of high grade, fashionable oxfords at 25 per cent discount. (Through an error we received more than double our requirements infants and children's shoes at prices that defy competition.)

GOFF BROS. LIMITED