

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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RURAL EDUCATION.

We hear much these days about rural education and the need of teaching the children something of the science of agriculture. This is well. Boys and girls should at least be given an opportunity to choose farming as their life's work; they should be taught something of the dignity of productive work on the farm, as compared with a dependent occupation under an employer.

Primary education should serve as a foundation for any calling the boy or girl may choose to take up when they go out into the world to make a living. While, in an agricultural country like ours where farming is by long odds the most profitable, the most independent and the most useful occupation in sight, and every effort should be made, both at home and in the school to bend the boy's mind in the direction of the farm, yet each boy, when the time comes, will choose his own path and if wisely directed by his parents, he will choose the calling for which he is naturally fitted.

The school will not have done its whole duty by the child when it has taught him or her the rudiments of the three R's and a smattering of grammar, history and geography. The influence of the teacher is a factor that must be reckoned with and every teacher, young or old, good or bad, exerts an influence upon the child either for good or ill. The intelligent teacher who keeps abreast with current events throughout the world will create in the minds of the children a thirst for knowledge, a desire to read good books and to avoid trashy ones. The need of intelligent and informed direction of the child mind has never been as much in evidence as today—when history is being made and when events which are now daily topics have become woven into permanent history. The children should be taught that they are standing upon the very threshold of world history and that if they are to become intelligent men and women they must keep in touch with current events and especially with events that have evolved out of the war. Intelligence and the love of it is one of the great factors in education and its development is a matter for both the home and the school to encourage. Newspapers recording the events of the passing days are within reach of all homes and of all teachers and both should see to it that the children's natural love of knowledge of world doings is intelligently gratified. This is an essential part of both rural and city education and the school or the home that neglects it does so to the detriment of the children.

THE DISCREDITED COMMISSION

The Patriot returns to its wallowing in the mire it worked up a few days ago for itself and the government of which it is the discredited and at present the anathematized organ. By evading the point at issue it still foolishly hopes to further gull the people whom it has so shamefully tried to deceive. What it has written it has written and any interpretation it may hereafter put upon the Falconwood report and any defence it may attempt on behalf of the Bell government is discredited even before it is made. The damning fact is before the people that the very material which the Commission "discovered" on February 9th was required has been on the spot, in the institution, since last August, placed there by the Arsenault government, and that the Bell government neglected or stubbornly refused to use it and so prevent the disgracefully unsanitary condition which it now complains of. And the fact is also before the people that this Commission and the hullabaloo kicked up about it was all for political effect and to pave the way for whatever financial enterprises it may undertake to get it out of its dilemma. This is the sum total and the result of the famous Bell Commission to date.

To offset the criticism on its action for leading the party into such a hole the Patriot pretends to find some consolation in the fact that the Guardian "admitted" that the plumbing of the institution had deteriorated and calls this admission a "right about face." It should not be too much even for the intelligence behind the Bell Commission to understand that a system in continuous operation for forty years would deteriorate and necessitate repairs. Notwithstanding this natural deterioration from time to time the system, on the testimony of the Grand Jury, was "perfectly satisfactory" on June 24, 1919. On the representation of the then resident physician, Dr. Seaman, repairs and modernization were found necessary and the material, as already stated, was purchased and placed in the institution in July and August last. After that came the election of the Bell government, months of alleged unsanitary and disgraceful conditions and finally the Great Commission on February 9th.

The political history of Prince Edward Island may have some chapters that are not to its credit but its pages will be searched in vain for anything so transparently dishonest and bulldozing as the Bell Commission and the misuse made of it by the Patriot.

CURRENT COMMENT

The Patriot has tamed down to almost normal. Violent scare headlines are dispensed with. But a rebash of the old election bunkum is dished out with that characteristic stamp oratory of the South "Broddern" where has de money gone. The books of the Public Works and of every department of government are at the disposal of the Editor of the Patriot. Every dollar and every cent expended including all vouchers, are there on file and on record. Liberals have all these in their full possession. Every thing is there accounted for. Why try to deceive the public with such windy, wordy balderdash?

The late Government made desperate attempts to hush it up. Why seek to mislead? Public records were always at the disposal of members of the legislature and the press, and the Public Accounts always published to the people. Why not be candid and truthful, if only for a change? True many things are asked for in the quest for party capital, things which have no existence, which in the natural order can not be given. They now have vault and archive alike at their service. Let them hunt up and trot out those impossible things.

They are now advertising for 1,000 bushels potatoes. With a "farm of 300 acres," they should produce sufficient for these institutions. So says the Patriot. This originator of economic philosophy is too valuable to be tied up in a newspaper office. As an instructor of intensive agricultural production he would be of inestimable value to farming interests.

To provide pasture for the large herd of cattle, from which the institutions get their milk. To produce hay, oats, barley, wheat, mangolds, turnips and garden vegetables to feed horses, cattle, sheep and poultry, from a farm largely of woodland and orchard, and then a surplus of potatoes sufficient to feed over 400 people for a whole year would be a miracle to excite the wildest admiration of the most progressive of our farmers. Surely "sleeping sickness" is severe in the Department of Agriculture when such a genius is not expropriated for public service.

The Commissioner of Agriculture has made, or is about to make, an important discovery. At a meeting of the Board of Trade and prominent farmers he learned that potatoes was an important industry. Yea worse than this it was pronounced the biggest and most important. His cow stables were relegated to third position, and his Dairy hobby horse stabled. He was tardily present at the meeting himself, and there was indignation that the wet blanket was thrown by the Hon. Mr. Crosby over this new enterprise which would mean so much for the farmers in this province.

Low grade and cull potatoes are required for feeding hogs, says Mr. Crosby. Don't we raise hogs now in large quantities? Are they not the best fed hogs in Canada? And don't we export millions of bushels of potatoes, and grind

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson

"HANG TO YOUR GRIT"

Don't give up hoping when the ship goes down. Grab a spar of something—just refuse to drown. Don't think you are dying just because you're hit. Smile in face of danger and hang to your grit.

Folks die too easy—they sort of fade away; Make a little error and give up in dismay. Kind of man that's needed is the man of ready wit, To laugh at pain and trouble and keep up his grit.

—LOUIS E. THAYER.

BE HOPEFUL

Be hopeful, friend, when clouds are dark. And days are gloomy, dreary. Be hopeful even when the heart is sick and sad and weary. Be hopeful when it seems your plans are all opened and thwarted; Go not upon life's battlefield. Despondent and faint-hearted. And, friend, be hopeful of yourself. Do by-gone follies haunt you? Forget them and begin afresh. And let not hindrance daunt you. Though unimportant your career may seem as you begin it. Press on, for victory's ahead; Be hopeful, friend and win it.

—Francis Strickland.

The only people who really enjoy hearing your troubles are lawyers. They get paid for it.

hundreds of thousands of bushels in starch? And with a sure market at profitable prices at our very door, could we not produce millions of bushels more? Lethargy of the Commissioner, his vision limited to a dairy, and cold water from Mr. Crosby are amongst the stumbling blocks to success.

Dismiss the Manager of the School Supply, and handle the business in the Education Office, was the declared policy of Liberals in the Legislature and on the political stump. Mr. Landrigan has been dismissed, and Mr. F. W. Hughes, livery stable keeper, put in his place. The Patriot's lame excuse is that it is only temporary, until they decide what to do, and that Mr. Landrigan wished to retire to take up farming. Too thin. Were they talking through their hats on their educational policy? It appears they are in ignorance still as to what they are going to do. If the appointment was only temporary, couldn't it be given to a returned soldier, many of whom want employment, until some other work turns up?

Others View Point

BABY WITHOUT A BIRTHDAY

(London Chronicle)

Babies born on February 29 are certainly deserving of commiseration if they have to wait till leap year comes round to celebrate their birthday. But what about the baby that chances to come into the world on a day that is not marked in the calendar? Such cases happen. There was a boy born during the voyage from Yokohama to San Francisco on the last day of February, 1904 just as the ship was crossing the 180th meridian. A day had to be intercalated to make the actual number of sunrises and sunsets correspond with the calendar, and the question arises when will this little chap, born on February 30, have another birthday? Not until he happens to be on the sam-
ple in similar circumstances.

TEACHERS' SALARIES

(Guelph Mercury)

School Boards everywhere want the best talent, but hesitate to reward it, and the children suffer in consequence, because of a niggardly economy. Guelph has always enjoyed an enviable reputation since the early days as a model teaching centre and it was pointed out last night that there is a grave danger of deterioration if the Collegiate here is to be simply a training ground for inexperienced teachers. Continuity is necessary, and there is no doubt that if there were no other compensations in the profession than the salary there would be few continuing in it. The board should try and meet the situation in such a way as will provide a salary for all classes in keeping with the living conditions of the present age.

WASTED LESSONS

(New York Times)

There is a right horse to back today, as in 1854 and 1878 there was a horse which at least offered much more prospect of ultimate success to its supporters; but the old game goes on. Two centuries of intrigue over the couch of the sick man have taught Europe little; five centuries of Turkish history in Europe, ten centuries of Turkish history in Asia, the uniform and unrelieved stagnation of the countries under Turkish rule, have failed to teach the lesson that Turkey cannot be reformed. Here is a horse whose backers pay no attention to past performances.

BURN'S HIGHLAND MARY

(London Chronicle)

Highland Mary's tomb, which, with the Old West Kirk, Greenock, is to be removed to make room for shipyard extensions, has kept alive the memory of Robert Burns's most ardent passion for 78 years. Mary Campbell is assumed to have made more impression on the poet's susceptible heart than "Mary Morrison," the name that disguised his first love, Elision Begbie, from public recognition in his verse. Burns's own correspondence seems to suggest that the poetic heart was big enough to hold two passions at once. Mary Campbell sharing her reign with Jean Armour, the heroine of his "scrap of paper" marriage.

THE VOTE IN SCHLESWIG

(Toronto Globe)

The great majority of the people of North Schleswig have voted themselves out of Germany into Denmark, thus punishing Germany for the Prussian crime of 1864, when the provinces of Schleswig and Holstein were forcibly torn from Denmark's side. Today, fifty-six years after this wrong, nearly all the people in Northern Schleswig use the Danish tongue, and

they are Danish in their hearts. In the southern half of the province there has been an incursion of Germans which has altered the balance of nationality, so that the Danish Government renounced any claim to a large part of this region lest many Germans should vote for Danish nationality merely to escape war taxation and in future might be a source of trouble and peril. The vote just concluded was taken in the First of Northernmost Zone, adjoining Denmark. A vote will soon be taken in the Middle Zone, in which the population is more mixed. The Middle Zone includes the line city and port of Flensburg, with 70,000 inhabitants, and the Germans will make desperate efforts to keep it.

The plebiscite has been conducted under the supervision of Allied forces, including many British seamen, so as to prevent intimidation by other Danes or Germans and insure an honest vote and count. Among the Danes in Northern Schleswig there has been an enthusiastic propaganda. Their organization issued a manifesto with this message: "Tear up the boundary posts and move them far to the south. We will go home to Denmark." The rejoicing in Denmark over the result will have its counterpart in the fury of the Germans at being deprived of productive territory which added to their limited coastline on both the North Sea and the Baltic.

BUT THE PRINCE ENJOYED IT!

(Toronto Globe)

There is talk of Lloyd George coming to the United States and Canada for the rest cure. He would have as a result a time as the Prince of Wales had.

The British Navy Miracle of War

(From the London Despatch.)

It is four years since the battleships slipped away to their war stations and the British Navy became suddenly the one decisive and fixed factor in an unstable and fixed world. It is good to think that even in Europe at large was startled and agitated at Germany's revelation of what a great modern army could be and do, so in Berlin there was dismay and astonishment when it became plain that sea power was, after all, the one solution to the world's new and terrible problems, and that that power, vast and capable of growth lay in the hands of Britain. It is clearer now; the German appreciation of its truth has evidenced itself in all that state of phrase-making which culminated in the shibboleth "freedom of the seas," and in the outcry against the blockade which tightened around the Central Empires and reduced Germany, the world's second naval power, to the position of an infant state.

Twenty Million Men Carried.

The supreme task of the Navy has been to make secure on all the seas of the world the transportation of men, material and food. Before the date of the declaration of war on June 30, 1915, the needs of the Allies have involved the carriage by sea of some 20 million men, two million animals, and about 110 millions tons of naval and military stores, cargoes whose business and diversity have never been contemplated nor foreseen.

The submarine war intensified yet the great work of supply and transportation went forward with never an interruption; there was no time when the Allied path towards the ultimate victory was closed.

The Navy which in August, 1914, had comprised warships and auxiliary vessels to a total of two and a half million displacement tons had swelled by June of last year to a sum of six and a half million; its personnel had grown from one hundred and forty-six thousand to nearly four hundred thousand; and of the 20 million men embarked and transported to total losses due to enemy action up to 27 April, 1918, had only reached the relatively small figure of 3,282—roughly equal to one lost for each six thousand carried.

Securing Communications.

The squadrons that fought at Jutland, then the great warships and the lesser craft that fight with them, bear only a part of the burden of the war at sea as it is waged nowadays. With the advent of the unrestricted submarine warfare, the task of the Navy to secure our communications across the sea became rapidly systematized, a whole new science of sea warfare shaped itself, to be mastered in time to meet America's entry into the war and safeguard the passage of her troops across the Atlantic.

These by 27th July, had reached a total of well over a million, of whom about half were transported in British ships, involving the organization of 61 ocean escorts and 393 destroyer escorts, and escort and convoy duties have imposed upon our ships more than a million and a quarter miles of steaming a month. Besides this, the submarine situation called for the ceaseless activities of a whole fleet of patrol and similar vessels, whose work in home waters carries them not less than six million miles a month. The American share in the work of guarding her own transports was prompt and valuable. Up to 27th July 556,195 men had been ferried to Europe in American ships, escorted by 40 ocean escorts of American ships and 335 destroyers.

Unassailable Figures.

It is by the figures the unassailable official figures of miles and tons, that one pins down to reality the tale of the daily miracle, by virtue of which alone Great Britain and her allies lived and continued the struggle. That wonder of organization and foresight has its full recognition in Germany; it was we recall, by the work of the submarine that we were to be starved to submission; the blockade was to make of our island situation the means of our ruin.

Our eight million army (the figure is that cited by General Smuts) was to be cut off from us; America's intervention was to be negligible—she would be sundered from Europe by these thousand impassible miles of water. And the plan at its first showing had in it a real plausibility, a foundation of soundness which convinced all Germany and her allies. It was devised and put into force by men who were masters in their profession, and yet, though admirals in Germany stand or fall by it, it failed.

Keeping the Roads Open.

An idea of the immensity of our work is to be gained from the figures of the number of convoys and the ships composing them. Homeward-bound sailings on the six great steam routes, the North Atlantic, Gibraltar, Dakar, Sierra Leone, Mediterranean, and Rio de Janeiro, from the date of the first sailing on 24th May, 1917, numbered 6,521 vessels of all nationalities, while ships cleared and still employed 5,487. To guard the convoys led 441 convoys home-ward and 392 outward. In all trades, convoys have been furnished for 61,691 sailings, 373 ships have been lost, showing a proportion of losses to sailings in convoys of 61 per cent. And all this has taken place and still goes on with the smooth unhesitating precision of a well-managed railway.

Side by side with the policing of the seas of the globe and the shepherding of ships across them, there comes always the great routine of watchfulness and precaution which keeps open the road of our front in France, the guarding of our own shores, co-operation in the naval operations of our allies in a dozen seas.

There were British monitors in the Lagoon of Venice firing at the Flava—minelaying and travelling patrol—all the vast unceasing industry of war, and with the readiness, the razor-edged keenness of training and preparation, and never flagging hope of battle.

Thoroughness and Efficiency.

The Navy works stolidly with all that thoroughness and efficiency which belongs to its great tradition, and is its heritage from its glorious past. Ships keep the seas month in and month out knowing the ports to coal; men give themselves ungrudgingly to the long monotony of the lesser work of war—always in the hope—Battle, some day when the patient years have achieved the sum of hardships and seas which the Navy keeps open are opened for all time; they will come out. And then—Trafalgar again. Who, seeing the men and the ships, can doubt it? But, meanwhile, the Navy works.

POPULATION OF LONDON AND NEW YORK.

With the Chinese yellow is regarded as the color of royalty. In the rural districts of Australia many of the horses wear cowhide shoes.

There are less extremes of wealth and poverty in France than in any other country. In Holland the breeding of cats for the sake of their fur is a recognized industry.

Musk, as a curative power was employed by the Romans in cases of gout and sciatica. Owing to the increase in size of our brains, it is stated, our skulls are becoming thinner.

A shark six feet long was recently caught by a girl fishing with ordinary hook and line in Blude Bay, Cornwall.

There is no complete divorce in Ireland. The best that mismatched couples can obtain is judicial separation, which does not permit remarriage. The criminal records show that the most cases of murder occur in January, June and August, and the fewest in November, December and February.

The recent tour of the Prince of

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QUITE A DIFFERENT MATTER.

(From London Tit-Bits.)

The egg-shaped headed young master had begged for the hand and heart of the wealthy bacon curer's daughter, and had been promptly booted down the steps by the old man.

His daughter, who had witnessed the scene, came tearfully to remonstrate with her father. "Papa," she sobbed, "you should not have treated him so! You can have no idea how he loves me! He is willing to die for me this minute!"

"Well," said the old man as he scratched his head thoughtfully, "I'm sorry I made a mistake, I don't know that there can be any objection to that; I was afraid he wanted to marry you."

After Stock Taking Sale

There is now on our counters a few hundred pair of Men's, Women's and childrens boots, shoes and rubbers at prices that will make the most careless sit up and take notice. Assortment No. 1. Men's Boots Banker, Regal, Slater and other good makes all sizes except 8's at \$3.98. Assortment No. 2. Women's Boots. A various lot of broken lines sizes 2 1/2 to 4 1/2 and a few 7's at \$3.98. Assortment No. 3. Boy's Boots, sizes 4 and 5's at \$2.35 unequalled value. Assortment No. 4. Misses boots size 11 only at \$1.98. Assortment No. 5. Rubbers. A big lot for 50 cents per pair including Childs, Misses and Women's sizes 10 1/2 to 7 in black and tan and men's large sizes 11, 12 and 13. Don't miss this and our many other bargains.

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