

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1926

RURAL MAIL CONTRACTORS.

The rural mail service is the only branch of the Government Service in Canada in which men are employed under contract, by public competition. In every other part of the Post Office and other Government departments all employees from the janitor to the highest official, are engaged on a permanent salary basis, and at a living wage, always ample to provide for the necessities of life.

This would be the case in every other branch of the Postal Service if public competition was allowed. The Government extends to janitors, postmasters, city letter carriers, postal clerks in offices and railway mail clerks, as well as post office inspectors, and all other employees, a permanent engagement on a salary basis, not allowing any competition. So the mail contractors are merely asking that the same fair treatment be extended to them and that they may enjoy the same conditions as are experienced by all other Government employees in Canada.

There is also the system often practised by the post office inspectors; when contracts are being tendered for, to write the applicant tendering for the contract, informing him that his price submitted was too high. The contractor is obliged to furnish two reliable sureties to the value of \$5000 each. In case of the contractor not being able to fulfil the terms of the contract or, in other words, becoming financially ruined, because of the low price received on the contract, these two sureties will be compelled to step in and fulfil the work of the contract, or carry on the work to the completion of the contract period.

In the United States the Rural Mail Carriers have for the last ten years enjoyed a permanent salary basis of engagement, and at an income of \$75.00 per mile, per year, which is \$5.00 per mile, per year more than that asked for by the mail carriers in Canada. They are also given free uniforms and running equipment, which consists of horses and rigs, and two weeks' holidays each summer, as well as the regular ten statutory holidays, and all with full salary-payment; while the Canadian Mail Contractors' Association are only asking for \$70.00 per mile per year, rate of income, and the regular ten statutory holidays.

The average rural mail contractor is 20 miles in length, the average income received is \$732.00, while the expenses required yearly to perform this service have been considerably over \$1,000.00; hence a yearly loss has been incurred of approximately \$300.00, as well as the contractor being forced to give, free of all cost, the responsibility of service as well as the free use of his running equipment. This is entirely unfair and requires remedial measures for relief of such conditions to be made forthwith, and the mail contractors are merely asking for fair conditions, under which to give service.

It is in the interests of the public service, as well as the mail contractor performing the service, that a fair, living wage be provided, with the security of a permanent engagement, and the public generally throughout Canada are strongly behind the Mail Contractors' Association in their efforts to secure these desired changes; and it is to be hoped that the Postmaster General and the Government at Ottawa will see the necessity of granting, or which, by common consent, is known as the Indian summer.

THE BIG STICK.

That the electors of Canada are no longer architects of their own political destiny is becoming very evident. Not as they will but as they must, is now the order. Mr. Mackenzie King has definitely assumed the role of despot and tyrant. A Nova Scotia constituency furnished a striking example of how the thing works. The constituency of Yarmouth-Sheburne innocently and in the exercise of their rights as free citizens, on the 14th of September, elected a Liberal candidate, Mr. Hatfield. On the same day the electors of the City of Halifax rejected a Liberal candidate, Col. Ralston. This latter act aroused the ire of the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, as he had distanced a chair in the Cabinet specially for the gallant colonel, probably in consideration of valiant services rendered by the latter in the Great War, as Mr. Mackenzie King himself was unable to attend in person. To undo the "mistake" made in Halifax, Mr. Mackenzie King asked Mr. Hatfield to resign his seat in the Commons and give it to Col. Ralston in order that the latter might qualify for the Cabinet seat. Either Mr. Hatfield thought he would make as good a Cabinet Minister as Col. Ralston, or the people who elected him saw no good reason why he should give up his seat to a man who had been rejected by Halifax—and the deal was off. Hatfield refused to resign, and Ralston was still out. But Mr. Mackenzie King was not to be put off thus. There was a Nova Scotia senatorship vacant. True, it had been promised to another, namely, Mr. E. M. MacDonald, but what of that? Mr. Hatfield was, willy nilly, raised to the senatorial seat, leaving the seat given him in the Commons by the electors, vacant, and ready for Col. Ralston who, according to Mr. King's program, was to climb by this way into the Cabinet.

The situation now is that the Yarmouth-Sheburne seat in the Commons is vacant. Col. Ralston is ready to take it and climb thereby to the reserved seat in the Cabinet, but "the people, ah, the people, they that dwell in the steeple," they who really own the seat, are yet to be heard from. Whether they shall be asked in the usual way to elect Col. Ralston or whether Mr. Mackenzie King will place him in without even the formality of an election, on whether the people will possess their own souls and elect another man, remains to be seen.

It also remains to be seen how Mr. Hatfield's dignity will stand the strain. He was elected by the people. Mr. Mackenzie King considers him good enough for a senatorship, but not good enough for a ministerial position in the Cabinet! What Mr. Hatfield thinks about it himself is another matter. Any way, he gets a life pension of \$4,000 year and—to Halifax with dignity!

These excuses appear to be flimsy not to say suspicious, in view of the importance of the report to a million people in the Maritimes who are eager to know its contents. What lengthy consideration can be necessary seeing that the Government is committed in advance to give full effect to the commendations it contains?

Shipment of two million tons of Nova Scotia coal up the St. Lawrence this year is reported by the Vice-President of the British Empire Steel Corporation. It is added that the collieries will be operated full time until November 29. But for high freight rates like shipments could be made by rail all winter after the close of navigation, giving employment to Canadian miners and keeping in the Dominion many millions of dollars that are now sent across the international border.

Mr. Hatfield, M.P.—elect for Yarmouth-Sheburne, N.S., has been appointed to the Senate. The people elected him to one House and the Government "switched" him into the other before he had a chance to sit down in the Green Chamber. The dear people must now elect another, and the Government has intimated that they had better take Cpl. Ralston. They are expected to meekly obey the mandate from Ottawa. Such is the game of politics as it is played!

Notes by the Way

In the production of gold Canada stands third among the nations of the world. The world's annual output of the precious metal is about 18,000,000 fine ounces, of which one-half, or 9,000,000 ounces, comes from the Transvaal, 2,300,000 ounces from the United States, 1,700,000 from Canada, 700,000 ounces from Australasia and the balance from other countries. The production of gold in Canada has more than doubled since 1913.

A possible explanation for the delay of a ministerial election in this Province along with those in other Provinces may be found in the fact that a new portfolio is to be created by Act of Parliament at the coming session which will be allotted to Prince Edward Island. In that case there might be no federal by-election here until some time during the coming session. For the time being Hon. P. J. Veniot is the sole Cabinet Minister yet gazetted for the Maritime Provinces.

Canada is to be represented at Washington by a Minister, not an Ambassador. The distinction between the two is that the Minister will have no diplomatic functions. A number of political journals in both Canada and the United States have fallen into the error of supposing that Hon. Vincent Massey, who is designated for the Washington Post, is to be a full-fledged Ambassador.

Ontario has been given four Departments, Quebec gets four Departments, besides the Solicitor-Generalship and the Leadership of the Senate. Saskatchewan is honored with the Premiership, the Ministry of Railways and that of Agriculture. No other province than those just named is allotted more than one Cabinet Minister.

According to the Toronto Globe, the rum-runners are still laughing at the feeble efforts to hold them in check. The Globe notes that the new Minister of Customs, Hon. W. D. Euler, "has a big job on his hands," and goes on to say, "New Ministers make promises, but the rum-runners who contribute to campaign funds laugh behind their hands and continued their nefarious game. The public awaits some definite statement by the new Minister. What is to be the policy of the King Government on this important matter? And when is it to be put into effect? Car loads of liquor are delivered at border points, and from there filter away to an unknown market on one pretext or another. It is an effort to the people of this country, who are utterly weary of the evasions and delays of Ministers and officials. It is time to end this traffic by firm action at Ottawa."

An Ottawa despatch tells that the report of the Duncan Report on Maritime Rights and Claims is not likely to be made public until the meeting of Parliament. Various excuses are made for the unseemly delay. The report was submitted to the Meighen Government; it was held for the King Government who have been too busy to consider it, and now Premier King and some of his colleagues are away to the Imperial Conference.

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There are some 320,000 supernumerary officers and officials on the Japanese pension roll which amounts to about \$60,000,000 annually.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

SCIATICA—INFECTION OR INJURY

Physicians will remember the treatment that was advised in cases of sciatica just a few years ago. It ranged all the way from months of rest in bed, to the severe operative procedure of opening and stretching the sciatic nerve, and thus breaking up adhesions. Another method of treatment was to burn the flesh with a cautery to set up a counter irritation. The use of alcohol and other substances was also extensively used. However, some Boston physicians, Goldthwaite, Painter and Osgood, nearly eighteen years ago, were able to demonstrate to their brethren that the joint between the hip bone and the last bone of the spine (that is, the wedge-shaped bone between the two hip bones) was actually capable of a slight amount of motion, and at this point and how it, a great deal of the sciatica started.

In other words, being a joint, infection could get in there as well as there could be a slight sprain and further, bright prospect for the business. Working on that basis physicians now think of sciatica as a symptom either of infection from teeth, tonsils, or elsewhere, or else a strain or sprain due to lifting or excessive twisting as in golf or other games.

If there is no history of injury to the teeth, tonsils, gall bladder, intestine, the sinuses adjoining the nose, are all carefully examined, and any defect corrected. Where there is a history of injury, adhesive tape, two to two and a half inches wide is strapped tightly over the joint, and extending from a point an inch below the hip prominence on one side, to the same point on the other side. After wearing this a week a brace is fitted.

As mentioned once before, sciatica may be caused by a heavy abdomen, and takes some of the "curve" out of the small of the back is the proper treatment for older people. In young folks reduction of the food intake, and the development of the abdominal muscles, is the correct treatment. It is certainly gratifying to know that the cause of this terrible pain is now known, and adequate treatment can be given.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "I selected the two first pieces." Say "I first two." There can be but one first.

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: deprecit. Pronounce last syllable "it," not "id."

OFTEN MISPELLED: debris. SYNONYMS: ascertain, disclose, discover, discern, detect, expose, find.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: INSENSATE desitute of sense or reason; mad; brutish. "He feared the insensate man."

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

October 9, 1926

REDEEMED FROM DISTRESS.—"The Lord liveth, that hath redeemed my soul out of all distress." 1 Kings 1:29. PRAYER—O Lord, our God, Who is like unto Thee?

Departmental Inspection of Roots, etc.

AS NOW CONDUCTED, ETC.

Historical. Inspectorial work by the Federal authorities of Canada is now being conducted according to a system which has already borne valuable fruit, and is calculated to become more extensive in the years ahead. No other service that has been rendered was so essential in this country. The report of the department of Agriculture shows that the education imparted is having its effect, and was continued last year in connection with the Root Vegetables Act and all violations numbering 1,175 as compared with 1,315 in 1923-24 were carefully investigated. Inspections were made under this Act during the year ending March 31, 1925, as follows, with certain abbreviations:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Number Inspected. Potatoes: 3,424; Baggies: 56,498; Bunches: 5,598; Bulbs: 1,783; Miscel. veg.: 626; Onions: 19,885; Pkgs.: 46; lots: 14,315; Total: 747, 1,142,141, 77,975

The rapid expansion of the potato industry which has taken place in this province in recent years has brought into line nearly all growers in an association whose object is to cater to the markets in every respect, which has ushered in a bright prospect for the business. Extension Division was formed at Ottawa, says the Report, for the purpose of assisting in the development of markets for fruits and vegetables. Information on this matter is obtainable through the Department of Agriculture, Extension Division, Ottawa, New and needed light has been shed on the best methods of cultivation and the most suitable kinds of fertilizers. The superiority of our tubers as in the United States and overseas, and is bound to attract still wider attention, and enhance the value and increase the volume of this product. It should also teach our people a much needed lesson on the high value of the soil which so many of them abandoned to stony fields afar where patience and perseverance are not always so well rewarded as they are at home.

It must not be supposed, however, that the federal Report on Agriculture is the most complete publication of its kind to be found within the reach of enquirers for agricultural information. The annual Report of the Department of Agriculture of this province is also available with a comprehensive amount of facts, figures and reports which are very enlightening to all who require such information. But as we have dealt with the inspection of potatoes, etc., at length, in this article, we are unable to all a later date to make lengthy observations on its scope and value. By nothing the contents it is possible to peruse both federal and local without overlapping. Let us say here that these notes are merely summaries and lay no claim to official exactness. We only speak as an observer, who takes a lively interest in the industrial development of our country.

There is a difference between the federal report and the provincial reports. The federal covers the Dominion, the local the Province only—it contains the details of each subject. This is evidenced by the report of the Hon. Mr. Myer, and the report of the Hon. Mr. St. Laurent. Speaking of this Blue Book we can only do so in a general way, one must procure a copy of it to ascertain fully the nature of the work done and the improvements visible on the classification of the reports as they increase in number. We do not know how many of those reports have been printed, but it is our report sent free to every household in the Province would no money misspent; and would do a world of good in correcting wrong impressions in regard to the manner in which the public service is conducted. This, however, might prove too expensive and might be accomplished by adopting some other means. At any rate the electors would do well to think it over.

Traffic and Parking Before Rail Meeting

CLEVELAND, Oct. 8.—Representatives of the city and state governments met with American Electric Railway Association delegates here Oct. 4-8 to consider city and interurban transportation problems.

Traffic congestion relief will be one of the main topics. Parking regulations in congested areas will be one of the outstanding recommendations. Other subjects to be considered include co-ordination of rail lines and bus service, financing and

KEEPS TO HER OLD STYLE.

LONDON, Oct. 8.—Miss Agnes Keyser, better known to the Royal Family and the masses as Sister Agnes, is a dapper little Victorian woman, who still has a waist, and wears a mass of hair heaped on top of her head. She was a friend of King Edward VII, and during the Boer War established the hospital for officers in Grosvenor Crescent which bears his name. She is still matron of this hospital and Prince George was a patient in her institution in 1922.

Miss Alfred Jamieson has returned to Halifax after a short visit to her mother and sister in this city.

A number of one and two table bridges were held this week, and the younger folk are especially busy among themselves. Dancing appears to be as popular as ever, and the coming season promises to outrival previous ones.

Mrs. Leith McLeod held her post-nuptial reception yesterday afternoon, a large number of callers being welcomed. Mrs. McLeod looked very girlish and pretty in a lovely dress of yellow beadedorgette, and was assisted by her mother, Mrs. L. R. Unsworth, and a visit to Mrs. Helm's parents, Mr. and

Happenings of The Week

For everything that happens wrong a dozen things go right. For every tear a flood of song Rings out across the night. For every dark and stormy day A week of days are fair. However chill the clouds and gray, 'Tis always bright somewhere.

For every heart of bitterness. A host of hearts are light. For every hour of deep distress A whole long day is bright. For every faithless friend we find That many friends are true. So, after all, God's mighty kind To such as me and you.

Mr. and Mrs. John McArthur, who have been spending the past few weeks with Judge and Mrs. McQuarrie, Summerside, are leaving Monday for their home in Los Angeles, Calif.

At the Golf Links this afternoon Mrs. H. M. Davison, Mrs. E. McNutt, Mrs. L. Davison and Miss Alice Cox will be the tea hostesses.

Now that the evenings are closing in early, hostesses are preparing their winter programs of entertainment, club meetings, sewing parties, etc.

Sincerest sympathy is extended to Mr. Peter Newsum and family in the sudden death of Mrs. Newsum, who will be so kindly remembered by her wide circle of relatives and friends.

The Van Arnam's Minstrels made a pleasant diversion in entertainment this week, and were well received.

Mrs. Stewart, wife of Premier Stewart, and Mrs. D. R. MacLennan were entertained last Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. D. R. Morrison, Summerside.

Miss Nellie Gillespie, whose engagement to Mr. Grant Gregory, was announced this week, was the guest of honor at a shower yesterday afternoon given by her friend, Miss Lillian Wonnacott, her sister, Mrs. Melville Andrew, acting as hostess at her home, 241 Pownall Street. Upwards of forty guests were invited and showered on the recipient many delightful and valuable gifts which were conveyed to her in a prettily decorated basket. Afternoon tea was served when the fun of opening the gifts was over, the tea table being presided over by Mrs. W. F. H. Gill, while Mrs. Chas. Drew cut the ices. Assisting in dispensing hospitality were Mrs. Lyman Davison, Mrs. Andrew, Miss Emma Nicholson, Miss Alice Cox, Miss Dora Mathieson, Miss Roma Stewart, Miss Rose Longworth, Miss Doris Gill. The guests were ushered in by little Miss Marlon Andrew, who winsomely attended the door.

Mrs. W. J. Robertson, after a short visit to Borden, has gone up to Toronto, where she will reside with her nephews, Messrs. Clyde and George Auld.

Dr. Clarence Webster, the noted educationalist who lectured in Summerside Tuesday evening was the guest for the night only of Mr. and Mrs. Neil McLeod. It had been hoped that the doctor's visit would have been sufficiently lengthened to enable him to see some of the Garden of the Gulf, but professional duties prevented this, as he was obliged to leave by the early train Wednesday. Dr. Webster, however, is under promise to visit the Island in the very near future when it is hoped he will have an opportunity of studying this section of the Maritimes at closer range.

A group photograph of the clergy and lay delegates attending the Presbyterian Synod in Halifax this week, and published in Friday's Herald, includes Rev. and Mrs. Muir, Rev. and Mrs. Mulligan, Rev. Mr. Stavert, and Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Thomson.

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For the cool days

SHREDDED WHEAT

With hot milk and a little cream

Strengthening and satisfying



FOOT WARMERS

You'll be sorry if you put off buying a Hot Water Bottle until midwinter. The cold feet season sets in early, and you will miss a lot of comfort if you fail to provide yourself with the remedy. A Hot Water Bottle will do more than enable you to sleep in comfort; it will cure toothache, neuralgia, or any deep seated pain. There's a good deal of money thrown away on rubber goods that are only half rubber. No such Hot Water Bottle here.

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Windstorm--Hurricane--Tornado

Florida Today. Your Town Tomorrow

HYNDMAN & CO., LTD.

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Use Your Telephone

If it is nasty weather, you don't feel well, you're too busy to spare the time, you don't wish to get dressed to go out. These and a dozen other reasons are apt to prevent you from coming to our store for some much needed article. Just TELEPHONE 315 and we will deliver the goods promptly.

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