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RAIN, A BIG ASSET

IT RENEWS THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

(Historicus.)

In abnormally rainy seasons when people begin to murmur it would be well to pause for a few moments and think of what an immense asset to the world the sparkling rain drops are when they fall upon the face of the earth. Some damage may result from an excessive rainfall, nevertheless rain is a blessing and a benediction to mankind that rivals nearly all others. Even the youth of the land must have been impressed by the laments they hear and the parched sights they see in a season of abnormal drought. The sons of toil of the earth are in peril, and the remedy is far away in the skies which can only be reached by the Almighty Hand. But except in very isolated cases disaster is averted by a copious downpour of rain being sent down by the same Almighty. Famine in our country rarely occurs, and then only in small areas; the people's hearts are quickly gladdened and joy reigns where only fear and sadness dwelt before. Thanks ascend from grateful tongues and the world is all again in smiles. The reverse outlook hovers over the terrestrial bounds and despondency no longer broods over the face of the stricken area, when rain falls. Once more all danger disappears and hearts go up full of joy and gratitude to the Giver of all good gifts. The hills and valleys are thoroughly refreshed and cleansed, and young and old rejoice, and if any doubted the result they show their regret by joining in the laughing and carolling all the louder. So much for the transformations that are displayed when all danger is past and gone. It makes one happy to reflect on those manifestations of pleasure. They will cling to memory to teach us all that they are as effective as if the gorgeous rainbow had been sent to remind mankind that he had thought upon His promise never to send another deluge upon the earth. No doubt the rainbow has been sent as usual, but became obscured behind the dense clouds that hid it from view.

Other thoughts enter our minds at this point, which have reference to this Canada of ours. Those thoughts are that ours is largely an agricultural country, that we all depend on the fruits of the soil for our subsistence, and to a great extent upon our own intelligence to withstand unforeseen events. One outstanding point is that drainage in such a country should never be neglected. Much injury to the crops by such means can be avoided. Another important factor in its welfare is that we grow a greater diversity of crops, and see that such crops are adapted to our soil and climate, and thoroughly understood. It must be admitted that tremendous strides along those lines have been made during the past quarter of a century, still it is well to keep such matters in mind all the time, and be ready to grapple with any new conditions that may arise from time to time.

The next point to be considered as one of the highest importance is the cost of production—how to raise as much on 30 acres of well tilled and fertilized soil as was grown on 100 acre farms 20 years ago. The best source of information we know of now are the Departments of Agriculture in Charlottetown and Ottawa. This is one way of reducing cost of production. Less seed, labor and cultivation is a reduction of cost.

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 of correspondents.

THE MATRICULATION

Sir,—The number of those who passed the entrance examinations for Prince of Wales College, this year, was small in comparison with the number who tried to pass. The question lies the cause? This is a question for the incoming Government. For all governments, the greatest good for the greatest number, is the prime concern. But the number of those who seek the great good from that excellent Government Institution, Prince of Wales College, is reduced by about three-fourths. Why is this so? Those who tried the entrance examinations were the pick of the schools throughout our towns and country. They are bright boys and girls, ambitious to "burst their birth's inviolous bar," anxious to better their condition in this life and to their themselves more useful to their country. How is it that so many of them failed to reach the essential step in the ladder of success? Prince of Wales College was established and maintained, at considerable cost to the Province, for the very purpose these young men and women have in view. But they are deprived of the right to make use of it. Does the fault lie in the common schools in which they were taught the rudiments of learning? Or does it lie in the management of the college?

The Hon. A. B. Warburton stated a few years ago that in his opinion it was "not impossible to so alter our school system, not so much in the general principles as in its details, and by grafting new charts on the main stem and cutting off some old ones, as to afford a much better general education to the country, more in accord with the requirements of the Province and to somewhat (perhaps materially) reduce its cost." One of the questions for consideration proposed by Judge Warburton was, "Can our system of education be made to conform more nearly to the present requirements of the Province? That question is still to be answered, and if the Liberal Party coming into office and power, should answer it practically and satisfactorily, the leader and members of that party will deserve, and will receive, credit. The chief of the present requirements of this agricultural Province is men and women to stay and work on its farms and to cultivate the land in such a way that "two blades of grass may grow where but one grew before," and two bushels of potatoes may be produced where but one was produced in the years that are passed. To this end there must be scientific instruction such as Prince of Wales College ought to afford and in which our young countrymen are likely to excel.

The cause of the failure of so many young men and women to pass the "entrance examinations" recently held, was found in their answers to questions about Latin, Greek, and Mathematics. Would it not be possible to minimize the study of these abstruse and difficult subjects and pay more attention to subjects the knowledge of which will enable the youth of this agricultural province to appreciate the value of their fertile soil and good climate and obtain greater results?

I am, Sir, etc.
A PROGRESSIVE.
Charlottetown, Aug. 5th, 1927.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

August 6, 1927

THE SAINTS.—God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about Him. Psalm 89:7.

PRAYER.—O Lord, may all Thy saints reveal to the world, the majesty of Thy might, and the largeness of Thy love.

August 7, 1927

THE ALMIGHTY.—O Lord God of hosts, who is a strong Lord like unto thee? or to Thy faithfulness round about thee? Psalm 89:8.

PRAYER.—The Lord is my Rock and Fortress, in Him will I trust.

THE ROSE

Among the bloom that near life's pathway grows,
That bares its bosom to the sunlit glare,
And breathes sweet fragrance on the morning air,
None are more beautiful than the summer rose.

With haughty pride her humbler sex she scorns,
Nature has given her an exalted place
Among the children of her kindred race,
And shields her virtues with a brier of thorns.

Thou sweetest daughter of her floral bowers,
With charming features, form and courtly grace,
And ruddy cheeks and blushing dimpled face,
Art sovereign queen of all her stately flowers.
In days of ancient chivalrous royalty
Thou wert the emblem of their loyalty.

CANOE COVE NOTES.

Canoe Cove feels justly proud of again being chosen as the ideal camp site for the Y.M.C.A. boys, and the C.G.I.T. girls. Probably in no other part of this beautiful Island province could a more favorable spot for camping be found. The field is on Mr. McCannell's farm and is well protected from the inclement winds and weather by a beautiful bush at the shore. It is well suited for all sorts of outdoor sports, and the sandy beach is well adapted for aquatic sports. The boys and girls will carry back pleasant memories of this natural beauty spot.

Not only do the young folks from our own city find rest and relaxation from the busy life of the city, but many folks from distant cities come here to renew acquaintances and to visit their relatives and the old homes once more.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan McFadyen, of Lowell, Mass., are spending their vacation with relatives in this section.

Mr. John McDougall, of Berlin, N. H., is visiting his brother and sister, Donald and Mary McDougall.

Angus McKinnon has returned to Cambridge after a short visit to his old home.

Keslie McDougall and his wife motored to the Island from Somerville, Mass., and are spending a few days with Mr. Hugh McPhee.

While the boys and girls are enjoying their vacation, their parents are regretting the loss of one of the finest school teachers this district has.

Mr. Neil McCannell is kept busy these times, and continues to do a thriving business.

The McFadyen boys are kept busy at the forge and carriage shop, and though the warm weather must be trying on them, these days, they may always be seen actively engaged.

We wondered why Mr. Duncan Darrach was so proud lately, and then we were told of the arrival of the Darrach family of a little son, and then we knew. Both mother and son are doing nicely.

Paying Grease For The Wheels—And Then "Some"

(W. L. COTTON)

If I remember rightly it was the late Great Hon. Edward Blake who predicted that the Canadian Pacific Railway, if built, "would pay for the grease on the wheels." That statement was repeated on thousands of political platforms, and electors were consequently constrained to vote against the political party that, in terms of Canada's Union with British Columbia were promoting the construction of that railway. Yet according to the official report the net earnings of the Canadian Pacific Railway, last year (1926) were \$2,962,000. That is to say, after paying about 100,000 employees and the cost of coal and all other costs and charges, the Canadian Pacific Railway had clear at the end of the year about \$40,000,000.

The company now owns 20,000 miles of railway, 83 ocean and lake steamships, hotels to the estimated value of \$25,000,000, a hundred and fifty million acres of farm lands, wires millions of acres of farm lands to which settlers are invited, an express delivery organization for every large city, coal mines, saw mills, and grain terminals, together with a \$20,000,000 irrigation project and many allied interests.

In the first five months of the present year, the C. P. R. cleared \$2,962,000, and it is showing the company's faith in the future by building, in British yards, no fewer than nine ocean-going steamships—five of them fast cargo ships for a weekly service between London and ports in Canada, and the other four up-to-date passenger liners. These nine vessels will represent a gross tonnage of 122,000. It is expected that seven of them will be in commission early next year, and that the other two will follow in the spring of 1929. One of the latest developments of the business was the completion of arrangements for a weekly service of steamers of the first class between Southampton and Quebec.

HOUSEHOLD SCRAP BOOK

By ROBERTA LEE

The Handy Towel
When working around the kitchen, fasten a loop at one corner of the hand towel to slip over the thumb string, or pin the corner of the towel to the belt. Each time the hands must be wiped, several steps will be saved.

To Reduce Flesh
Avoid starchy foods and fats. Take plenty of exercise. Take a hot bath, followed by a cold bath, twice weekly. Do not drink water with meals.

Cleaning Velvet
Velvet can be cleaned by sponging with benzine, rubbing always in one direction. Then steam over a boiling kettle.

As has ever had, Miss Marian McSwain. She has not only been faithful in the performance of her duties as a teacher, but has endeavored herself to every one in the Cove through her quiet and unassuming manner. It is with reluctance we let her go to the United States, where she plans to follow her teaching career. She carries with her the sincere and hearty wishes for success, from each and every person in Canoe Cove.

Another young school teacher, Miss Beatrice Campbell who taught in New Argyle during the past year, plans to resume her studies at Prince of Wales College this fall. At present Miss Campbell is visiting friends in Charlottetown.

Dougald McDougall is sporting a brand new Chevrolet sedan, and has surprised his friends by his ability to handle the machine.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Campbell motored to Cape Traverse, where they visited friends, and returned home after a pleasant trip.

Mr. Neil McCannell is kept busy these times, and continues to do a thriving business.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

(Continued from page twelve)

life of the early settlers in these parts. The farmers made their own agricultural implements. A few of the people had brought iron plows with them from the Old Land, but generally they were of wood, shod with iron by the local blacksmith. The same material served for the construction of harrows, except that these were fitted with spike teeth. The crops, of course, were harvested by means of reaping hooks, cradles and scythes. It may well be imagined that gathering in the harvest in those days was no light task. Nor did the farmer's toil end with the evening. There were the family's shoes to mend, or possibly some member of it needed a new pair. So out came the cobbler's kit, and after supper the settler, even if he had been hard at work in the woods all day, was soon busy cutting the strong leather into covering for his children's feet. And 'I'll warrant that those rugged home-made shoes would outlast many pairs of the factory-made footwear we have today.

And the women of the household were kept just as busy as their men in this "home spun age." The mothers made the clothes for their families. And by "made," I do not mean that they simply went down to the village store, bought a piece of cloth and fashioned it into clothes. That was the last step in their task. They got the wool as it came from the sheep's back, and they washed it; then they carded, spun, wove, dyed, fulled it, and finally they tailored it. Indeed, quite likely, they often helped with the sheep shearing. Nor did the tasks of the women end here. Often they worked in the field, and became no mean wielders of the reaping hook, not to mention such diversions as loading the hay, or milking the cows.

But our forefathers had a way of combining work with play in a very agreeable manner—a practice which seems almost to have died out in the present generation. They used to hold all sorts of "frolics." Thus, for instance, a hostess would give a "thickening" frolic, to which she would invite the neighbors from miles around to help thicken a bolt of cloth which she had woven. During the first part of the evening the men would work around the thickening table, until the work was pronounced finished. Then all would go into the next room, in which the floor had been cleared for dancing. And, until dawn the hours would be sped in threading the intricate mazes of an old-time dance—a good quadrille or perhaps an eight-handed reel. The music of course was furnished by a fiddle—the busy feet of the fiddler keeping time to the strains of his instrument, and doing their part by marking the rhythm of the tune. The "frolics" have gone, it is true; but the old-time square dances haven't—yet. Visitors to our soil may still see at the country teas, under the dancing booths newly covered with a thatch of fresh green boughs, bright eyed youths and maidens going through the figures of the lancers. There is a circumstance about these affairs which, I think, may strike the stranger as rather strange. It is this. Though all are quite obviously enjoying themselves, yet they seem to go through the evolutions of the dance in the most solemn and decorous manner imaginable. Possibly this serious demeanor is caused by the plaintive tones of the fiddle, which, even though the music be the gayest possible, nevertheless imparts a melancholy tincture to every note. Or it may be due to nothing more than the pre-occupation of the dancers with the intricacies of the dance.

However that may be, no observer noting the dignified and graceful manner in which these old fashioned dances are performed, can fail to be impressed, by the contrast, with the low estate to which the modern dance has fallen. On this matter, I speak without bias, since, though I once knew how to do the lancers, I have long ago forgotten, and can now only go through the fox trot and one-step. Dancing, which reached its zenith of beauty and elegance in the "Minuet" has since gone through a steady, if gradual, degradation. The intricate steps; the beautiful figures, all have gone, and in their place we are left with a clumsy and ungraceful waddle. Do not misunderstand me here. I am not speaking of morals. The minuet, and the age which produced it were certainly not more moral than the present day. But for grace and charm—well, let anyone look at the minuet as it may be seen even today, danced by pupils of schools of classical dancing. And then let him look at the modern dance hall, close packed with wriggling couples, performing unseemly contortions to the outrageous and startling noises of the jazz band. I am content to leave the verdict with him.

(To be continued.)

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PAINTED HER RUG

applied to the rug which has been scrubbed and thoroughly dried, formed the back ground for a stenciled border done in pale yellow. A coat of varnish over all made it possible to wash the rug as you would wash the floor.

Miss America Passes Up Titles For Yankee Mates



Dukes and Princes Need No Longer Apply, Says Singer

New York City.—Princes and dukes from across the water may sigh in vain for United States citizenship, and worried Miss America isn't having any titles this season, thank you! She's found something far more to her taste right here at home—a Yankee sweetheart.

At least that is the opinion of J. Harold Murray, who plays the lead in Rio Rita, popular new musical show produced by Florenz Ziegfeld.

Mr. Murray bases his conclusion, like Will Rogers, upon "what he sees in the papers" and even more pertinently upon personal observation. He is the kind of leading man who always has feminine admirers, no matter what role he plays. But lately he has discovered that the role does make a difference after all.

"The number of letters from fans increases by leaps and bounds as soon as I begin to play an American hero," he declares. "I have played men of every nation and generally princes, dukes and the like. You would think a glamour would surround these that would make girls more enthusiastic than they ever could be about a plain American 'Mr.'. But that does not seem to be true and there have noticed that lately there have been few marriages between American girls and Europeans of title.

"Since there are just as many old maids in the Old World crying out to be restored with American dollars as there ever were, I deduce that it's our girls who have changed—and I think, for the better. Perhaps the war did it."

Mr. Murray's singing of "Rio Rita," title song in the Ziegfeld production is a musical sensation here. He was chosen several years ago by Caruso for an operatic career, but has always stuck to operetta and musical comedy.

BABY'S OWN SOAP

From Baby's birth last out its war!

New shears for various uses about the house have one curved blade that is notched and the other with a smooth edge.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

SPANS THE WORLD

JULY 1st

CANADA'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

1867 1927

THE CROWNING TRIUMPH OF CONFEDERATION
THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
MADE A KING OF EMPIRE

Fete Canada in London

The illuminations on the C.P.R. Office building on Trafalgar Square, London celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of the Canadian Confederation, excited very general interest and praise in the capital going on in London on July 1, the building attracted the attention of scores of thousands of people who travel by foot or motor bus, around that hub of the Empire in which the C.P.R. offices are located. Incidentally it drew general attention to Canada and Canadian history.

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