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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

An Independent Journal, aiming to be JUST, IMPARTIAL, RELIABLE NEWSY, seeking at all times to further the best interests of the people and Province and recognized therefore as **THE PEOPLE'S PAPER**

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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

MONDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 17, 1906.

DR. McNEILL ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Dr. McNeill has lifted up his voice through the Patriot megaphone to prophesy against the "mere politicians" who monopolize the public life of this distracted Island. He tells us, and we are glad to learn on such indisputable authority, that it is not the size of the Province that is at fault. It is the size of the men we send to the Legislature and to Ottawa. "They are not statesmen but politicians," Judea, he tells us, gave religion to the world and Athens gave arts and philosophy to mankind, and both Judea and Athens were small communities.

Why then has not this Island raised up men of light and leading, who would so dominate the counsels of the Dominion as to secure for us regular and cheap communication and more branch railways and saved us our lost representation? The question seems pertinent but the foundation for the learned doctor's argument is, so far we fear, not quite sound. What have religion, or art or philosophy to do with party politics? Elections are not won by prayers, as Mr. Tarte, has told us, or by the exalted maxims of philosophy, or the refinements of art. Dr. McNeill is evidently aware of this when he cites what is vulgarly spoken of as the "salary grab" as the work of small politicians rather than exalted statesmen.

But even here there is something to be said on the other side. It is a modern maxim that "the man who makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before is a public benefactor." What then of the politician who makes twenty-five hundred dollars of indemnity grow where only six hundred grew in a past generation? No doubt, too, that in doing this our politicians had in mind the precept of a Judean King, reputed wise in his time to the effect that "men will praise thee when thou doest well unto thyself." They did well to themselves and now smilingly and confidently await the popular approval. If the people like that sort of thing, why, that is the sort of thing they like. And if that sort of thing is not to the good Doctor's liking, why does he not prophesy against the people?

It seems to be really the people who are at fault. There are many great statesmen in their midst, and yet they choose little politicians to represent them. We could name lawyers, and editors, and doctors, all men of gigantic intellect and at least one of them of fine physical stature and commanding presence, who have upon occasion actually offered themselves as candidates to the party conventions only to be rejected, or if accepted by the convention it was only to be left in a minor

ity at the polls. "The prophet is without honor in his own country." We have particularly in mind a learned and fluent doctor, who, if the people had but consented, would have turned loose his resistless eloquence on the Legislature, or have shaken the very throne of Laurier at Ottawa by his weighty deliverances in the Commons. But the people lacked discernment, rejected their ablest, wisest and most accomplished statesman and gave the honors of place and power to mere politicians. What can be hoped from an electorate so blind as that?

But after all we can do nothing without the people. The man who would rise to the heights of commanding statesmanship must rise upon the willing shoulders of the people. "First catch your hare" is the necessary preliminary to making hare soup. First secure your election, Doctor, and then develop the statesmanship which links great men with the immortals. Learn to sway men sufficiently and you may laugh at "bulldozed conventions." Even such "resistless eloquence" as Milton sung of first "wielded at will the fierce democracy" before it "furnished over Greece to Macedon" and the throne of Artaxerxes. Learn to sway the minds of the people, Doctor, and thereafter we shall not have to complain that all our public men are mere politicians. There will be at least one notable exception.

Premier Roblin believes in making the young Manitobans of all nationalities acquainted with the national flag, and has ordered that on and after 1st January next it shall fly over all school houses during the school hours. The government will provide the flags. Good for the Prairie Premier!

It is high time to be getting ready for the big Exhibition. Get ready the exhibits, the live stock, the grain, roots, vegetables, fruit. Get ready to see the biggest and best exhibition ever offered in this Province. Get ready to house and feed the biggest crowd that Charlottetown ever saw.

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GOUT
RHEUMATISM
SCURVY
URIC ACID
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THE COMING SESSION.

Some of the Ottawa correspondents are predicting that the session to open in November will be a short one. We cannot endorse the prediction. It is said the revised three column tariff will be ready when the House meets, but when ever was there a short session at which a tariff was revised? The Opposition will have endless criticisms and suggestions of amendments, and the hundred and one industrial interests affected will keep up a perpetual lobby to get things to their liking. And apart from the tariff and all the usual business of an ordinary session there is the question of increased subsidies to Provinces, the fisheries, and the representation question to be threshed out.

These questions together with the proposed additions of territory to Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan and the preservation of Niagara, will necessarily drop into Parliament from the coming meeting of Premiers, as so many extras for the coming session. And the very fact of beginning the session early renders its continuance through the winter extremely probable, as members will be in less haste to get home than they are when the session is inevitably prolonged through the spring months. Moreover, this will be the third session of the Parliament and members will begin to make speeches for the country with a view to next election, which may come at any time. We look for a sitting of four or five months at the best.

Why Forty-Five Women Died.

During the month of March forty-five women were reported to have died in the United States as the direct result of using "headache powders." The poisonous and powerful ingredients caused paralysis of the heart and nerves, and death followed.

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This week we offer some very unusual values—unusual even here—the home of low prices. Jas Paton & Co. 9-13dtf

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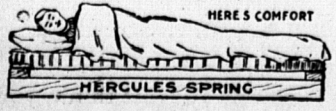
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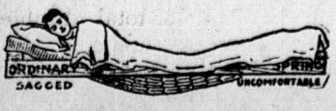
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