

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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HALLOW E'EN

Boys, tonight we of all ages and sizes will celebrate Hallow E'en that is, the eve of All Hallows or All Saints Day. From time immemorial the eve has been observed in diverse ways. In this country, meaning America, and with special reference to Prince Edward Island, we have observed it by cutting up pranks on the roads and streets, removing doorsteps to surprise the occupants of the house, sometimes to injure them seriously; removing gates, fences, carriages and other effects and sometimes injuring them and causing the owners heavy losses. Those of us who have been trained to respect other people's property and to be careful not to cause any injury to persons contented ourselves with real fun in which no one was injured and no property damaged and we generally managed to put in a very enjoyable Hallow E'en. Some of us, however, sometimes became mixed up with those who had no respect for the property of others and who did not care whether others were injured or not. In this way we have got into trouble—recently, except that we had no business to become so mixed up.

These reminiscences are recalled today in the hope that all good boys will take warning and not get mixed up with doubtful company. The doubtful company generally gets away and the innocent are almost sure to be caught. We do not know why this is; it is enough to know that it is. Now, tomorrow will be All Saints Day and all the Saints will be in the Police Court preferring charges against the boys who are caught tonight by the Police. And you never know whom the police are going to catch; they won't catch them all but depend upon it, they will catch somebody and somebody else will see the gang doing mischief and of course they will identify only the innocent and he is the fellow that the Saints will be entertaining in the Police Court tomorrow.

Now boys, let us be careful tonight. Let us have lots of fun but let us not do anything that will injure property or hurt anyone for we have it on good authority that some people are "laying" for us and that if we are seen doing anything wrong or are mixed up with others who are doing wrong we'll catch it tomorrow.

THE POULTRY BUSINESS

Mr. T. A. Benson, formerly Dominion Poultry Representative for this province and now District Poultry Promoter for the Province of Ontario, has been addressing Egg Circle meetings in the eastern portion of the province. From his previous experience here, Mr. Benson is in a position to make comparison with former conditions and to form an idea of the progress made in the poultry business.

The poultry business has vastly improved during the seven years since Mr. Benson left the work. In number and in the quality of both eggs and poultry there has been a vast improvement. Better than this, however, is the fact, which Mr. Benson is always proud to mention, that the reputation of Prince Edward Island eggs and poultry has gone far and wide. In this connection during one of his addresses he mentioned the case of a Jew on the Boston market who was trying to negotiate a purchase of poultry. He was assured by the wholesaler that the stock offered was genuine Canadian poultry. To this the Jew replied: "I don't want none of your Canadian hens, I want Prince Edward Island eggs!" Prince Edward Island eggs also have a splen-

did reputation in the American market and are still being largely imported notwithstanding the Fordney tariff of six cents a dozen. Egg dealers find it good policy to assure their best customers that the eggs they offer are genuine Prince Edward Island eggs. Mr. Benson during the past week has addressed meetings in the principal sections of Kings County. The meetings invariably were largely attended and the men and women present entered enthusiastically into the spirit of the co-operative principles which he enunciated. He was assured that the great majority of his hearers had improved and enlarged their flock and that they are determined to continue their support of the movement.

This week Mr. Benson will turn his attention to Queens and Prince Counties and will wind up his Prince Edward Island tour with an address to the business men and citizens of Charlottetown on the evening of Tuesday, November 7th, the meeting to be held in the Stran Theatre. Mr. Benson has much of interest to tell and it will be to the interests of business in Charlottetown that our business men hear him.

UTILIZING VACANT FARMS

The trek to the cities struck other parts of the world as well as Prince Edward Island. In the United States there are probably more vacant farms in proportion to population than anywhere else in America. But the shrewd Yankee, after uselessly bemoaning for several years the loss of agricultural production and the consequent high cost of living, has "got out himself" and is now sensibly overcoming the handicap. In the State of Vermont, farm after farm had been abandoned until the state looked like a veritable wilderness. The land had once been fertile and shrewd men realized that the fertility could be restored and the waste made good. A gentleman figured out the possibilities, had sufficient vision to look into the future and, best of all, had the courage of his convictions. He raised the necessary capital, bought up 3600 acres of the abandoned farms, started an orchard several years ago, and today the orchard, the largest in America, is bearing apples and pears on a scale hitherto unknown in the United States.

This year's crop now being harvested is estimated at 36,000 boxes of 100 apples each, carefully picked, each apple wrapped in oiled paper and placed on the market as Number One apples and selling at a figure which assures a satisfactory profit. Many of the trees are still too young to bear but a careful estimate places the crop of three years hence at 15,000 car loads. Each full grown tree produces 30 bushels of apples. Then there are pear trees as well which are expected to contribute their quota to the profit.

From an unproductive, waste and useless area of abandoned farms this immense orchard has been evolved and it is still growing. Without the enterprise and vision of this one man this great wealth-producer would have lain idle indefinitely and the people would have indefinitely bemoaned the loss and the waste.

What are we doing or going to do about our vacant farms? True we have no 3600 acre areas but we have contiguous farms of a hundred or more acres each. Anyway we have vacant individual farms any one of which could probably be purchased for a nominal sum and—remember this—whether used as orchards, poultry runs, or for ordinary mixed farming—any one of them can be made a full fledged producer within two years.

Notes By The Way

The swift fall of prices for field crops within the past year or two has given the farmers of Canada and the United States cause for serious thought and has caused an under current of discontent that had not existed before the war. It is perhaps more pronounced across the border than it is in Canada, and has aroused a determination in both countries to end certain conditions that now exist.

The average farmer on both sides of the line owns his farm, the buildings, live stock and implements thereon. He also works daily at his calling. He is thus both a capitalist and a laborer. His daily toil is not a matter of eight hours, but of twelve, or fourteen hours. If he has sons at home they work as he does. If otherwise, he must employ hired labor at least during the season of planting, cultivation and harvesting, or throughout the year. Thus he is at once a capitalist and a laborer and an employer of labor. But under present conditions in many cases he finds that his crop will not pay the cost of production alone, without charging anything as interest on his investment.

We are speaking of the farmer who depends wholly or mainly upon field crops, as do many in the Canadian West. Mixed farming pays better as prices of meats, dairy products, eggs and poultry have not fallen so swiftly as grain and root crops. The grain grower finds the value of his product shrunk to pre-war prices, while exorbitant freight rates cut deeply into his returns. These charges he must pay both on what he buys and what he sells. He is therefore deeply interested in freight rates.

He sees that the labor unions by their organizations, by strikes and threatened strikes have been able to maintain war prices for their labor on the railways and in the coal mines, thus holding up the cost of labor and fuel which are the big items in the outlay for transportation. And the farmer has not struck and cannot strike. He has simply stuck to his job and has gone on producing grain and other field crops which do not at present prices pay the cost of their production. As a final result his lands have fallen in value and he finds his capital investment and the reward for his labor in operating his farm both painfully diminished.

All this is discouraging to the grain-growing farmer and gives ground for the prevalent discontent. It also operates as a deterrent to immigration which is on every side so greatly desirable. If farming in the Prairie Provinces ceases to be a paying business immigration prospects cannot become bright until conditions change. Labor made great gains during the war and according to Mr. Gompers the labor leader, it has since kept the gains then made. In the Middle Western States recently wheat was selling at 90 cents per bushel while brick layers, needed to build a new school house, charged \$1.50 per hour for their labor.

What was further discouraging to the farmers who wanted the school, was that it would cost four cents to lay a single brick and 300 bricks was a day's work. The price of a bushel of wheat would lay only twenty-two and a half bricks in the school house wall. The bricklayers would get \$12 a day for his eight hour's work and it would swallow up the price of 13 bushels of wheat and something over to pay him. Surely there was not much comfort for the wheat-grower in this incident. Such inequalities in the rewards between the farmer and the artisan savor of rank injustice.

How are conditions to be equalized? They have in the United States the Farmers' block and we in Canada have the United Farmers, both of which are seeking a remedy by political action, but with very doubtful results so far. Labor organizations in the United States and Canada are unfortunately interlocked and this has a very serious bearing upon labor cost; the price of coal of which Canada is a very heavy importer and upon the cost of transportation in Canada. Apparently we must wait for further time to bring about anything like a normal equalization of present abnormal conditions.

In the meantime it is clearly demonstrated that stock raising, and egg production pay better than most field crops and the system of mixed farming practised largely here is more fortunate than the grain growing of the prairies. On the whole the farm-

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 expressed by its correspondents.

What is the Matter With John D. McIntyre?

Sir,—No doubt Mr. McIntyre, in quoting past history, speaks from personal experience, and I am sorry for him, but even that does not give him the right to libel our fair Province as he has done. Take his letter as a whole, and here is what it says:—"We must delve and dig in order to find the cause that is giving life and strength to THIS DEPLORABLE SOCIAL UNREST at the present time in P. E. I."

It is strange that a man has to come all the way from Boston (where even the police and firemen left their posts, leaving the city to the mercy of the thugs and pickpockets) to point out this terrible state of affairs.

Here again he may be speaking with authority, for I presume Mr. McIntyre is one of those who left the island, but I claim it takes initiative for a young man or woman to pick up and leave their home and friends, even if the home is not all that it should be, and I think most people will agree with me that it is AMBITION that takes our young people off the island, more than anything else, because our island is too small, there is not the chances for a young person, there is in some of the larger Provinces, unless he intends to follow farming.

To prove this all we have to do is point out such outstanding figures as Jacob Gould Schurman, Sir L. H. Davies, Sir Andrew McPhail, Dr. Dave McKenzie and numerous others and ask, did these men leave home through lack of AMBITION?

From this charge he jumps to our method of farming and says:—"This combined with the haphazard methods of farming brings about at the end of each year the usual crop of discontent." But as described by Mr. McIntyre, will he kindly explain, how it is that Prince Edward Island advanced the Canadian Government more money for Victory Bonds per capita than any other Province or how is it that we in Prince Edward Island are worth more per capita than any other people in our Great Dominion, and are we to believe that this "LAHAZARD METHOD" is responsible for our being known as "The Garden of the Gulf," "The Million Acre Farm" or "The home of the McIntyre (potato)?"

His next statement is to the effect that their:—"Domestic animals have been brutally treated, imprisoned during cold winter months in cold, dirty, foul smelling stables without sunshine ventilation, bedding or proper food and drink."

Just imagine, could anyone blame him for leaving the farm, and he also remembers:—"Where horses have been beaten without mercy AND FOR NO CAUSE WHATSOEVER."

Where was the Law, and why did not Mr. McIntyre report this matter to the proper authorities, instead of being a party to the crime by shielding the man who would do such an inhuman thing and he has overlooked the fact that there is always a CAUSE for every effect, and I would say in a case of this kind the cause was, the man was crazy, another case of where the sooner he called an auction the better.

Here is another outburst, on a par with the rest of his letter:—"We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that cows have been stoned, dogged and staked from the back pastures to the dirty cow pen." This no doubt must account for another fact, that P. E. I. holds the reputation of being the foremost dairy Province of the Dominion for its size and why it is sometimes called "The Denmark of Canada."

After treating with the "DEPLORABLE UNREST," "WOEFUL LACK OF AMBITION," "THE HAPHAZARD METHOD OF FARMING," "THE FOUL SMELLING STABLES," "THE HATED AND TORTURED HORSES AND COWS" and the "DIRTY COW PEN" he takes up their inhuman treatment our children receive at the hands of their parents by:—"I was sent to heathless schools, whipped and beaten by untrained teachers, (what a blessing for the child that the teacher was not in training otherwise it might not have survived the beating) and then when they get home—"they would be sent to do chores, they were physically unable to do" he does not state how they got along doing the chores; they physically could not do, this would be interesting and might come in handy for some of us grown up folks, if he would only tell us how it is done.

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Mr. McIntyre winds his letter up with some good advice, but is it necessary? Do the people of P. E. Island really need to be told to show mercy to their dumb animals and kindness to our children? I think not. If he really wants to do a good turn to the people of this Province let him leave our farming methods alone, also the dirty cow pens? and write about the fifth and shares of what he claims as HIS CITY for no amount of cow dung will hurt even a "queen bee" and it will grow an immense crop of turnips. Proud! I should say we are, why shouldn't we be, when we have the finest little spot on earth, where there is no want, no vice and very little crime, the least per thousand of population of any people on the American continent, when we are part of a country like Canada which in turn is part of the British Empire. Proud is no name for it, that is why we always call ourselves ISLANDER.

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Daily Selections for Guardian Readers. From the W. S. Louson collection.

ALL SOULS' NIGHT. Lonely as we two who loved him so. (The old, old dog, and I) Watch while the fire burns low, so low. And dreary hours crawl by. If it be true that souls may roam. The world tonight—his will come home!

THE CLOCK STRIKES TWELVE! How still my room! Hark! 'tis the dog's glad whine. Who brooding peers into the gloom! His eyes with welcome shine! Beyond the power of human sight. Whom does he see, this mystic night?

Is it the wind that moans outside? Who's there? Again who's there. Both longing arms I open wide. And clasp the empty air! Tears fell unchecked—against my knee. The old dog leans in sympathy! —Mazie V. Carathers.

THY LOVE ABIDES. It singeth low in every heart. We hear it each and all—A song of those who answer not. However we may call. They throng the silence of the breast. We see them as of yore—The kind, the true, the brave, the sweet. Who walk with us no more. More homelike seems the vast unknown. Since they have entered there. To follow them were not so hard; Wherever they may fare. They cannot be where God is not. On any sea or shore; What'er besides, thy love abides. Our God for evermore!

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. ALL KIDNEY DISEASES. RHEUMATISM. BRUISES OF THE FACE. BRUISES OF THE BACK. BRUISES OF THE THROAT. BRUISES OF THE NECK. BRUISES OF THE WRISTS. BRUISES OF THE ANKLES. BRUISES OF THE ELBOWS. BRUISES OF THE SHOULDERS. BRUISES OF THE HIPS. BRUISES OF THE BUTTOCKS. BRUISES OF THE THIGHS. BRUISES OF THE CALVES. BRUISES OF THE FEET. BRUISES OF THE HANDS. BRUISES OF THE FINGERS. BRUISES OF THE TOES. BRUISES OF THE EARS. BRUISES OF THE NOSE. BRUISES OF THE MOUTH. BRUISES OF THE EYES. BRUISES OF THE EARS. BRUISES OF THE NOSE. BRUISES OF THE MOUTH. BRUISES OF THE EYES.