

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Advertising Phone.....132-3 News and Edit. Day Phone.....133
Subscription Phone.....132-2 News and Edit. Night Phone.....132 & 133

Head Office at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.
Branch Offices at Summerside, Alberton, Souris and Montserrat.
General Representatives—All Advertising Agents in all parts of the world.
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Chicago, Tribune Building.
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TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1913

CO-OPERATION.

The general subject of co-operation has been discussed in various ways and at various times by our people and many conclusions, helpful and hurtful, have been arrived at.

In a general way, we believe, it may safely be assumed that no system of co-operation can be successfully carried out in which the province as a whole does not participate. It is quite true that, for local improvements, for local helpfulness and for local encouragement along general lines of work and living, communities can co-operate within themselves and such co-operation is commendable and will lead naturally upward to that general system which will elevate the province as a whole, give it a place in the world's markets, and make for general prosperity.

Prince Edward Island is but a small community. Its products go out to the world's markets, generally compounded with other Canadian products. They carry with them no distinctive mark, nothing to indicate that they are better or worse than the general bulk of similar products going out from all over the Dominion. When they go into the nearer markets, such as those of our neighboring provinces in which they bulk largely, they go in good and poor and medium alike. The honestly and carefully prepared is bulked with the dishonestly and carelessly prepared. There is nothing to indicate that the product of our best and most up-to-date farms is different in any way from that which is put up in the most slipshod method on our poorest farms. And it must be admitted that even in our small community there are those who will misrepresent, those who will prepare carelessly and ignorantly for the market.

Now, the prices in those markets for which we are catering are fixed not by the highest but by the poorest quality. Let us illustrate. A dealer buys a carload of pressed hay. From previous experience he knows that a proportion of this hay is "filled" with refuse and worth little, if any, more than half the price of good hay. He makes his calculations accordingly and appraises the price of the carload on the value of the poorest quality. And in this connection we have known a Nova Scotia firm refuse to buy a carload of P. E. Island hay at any price, a decision arrived at from previous experience. If this carload of hay had been graded,

each bundle government-stamped as to grade, the name of the original packer attached, and the guarantee of the merchant given that if the bundle was not just what it claimed to be it would be returned at the expense of the original owner, the whole situation would have been changed. Number one hay would bring the price of number one, not that of number three as at present.

This principle will apply to every article of produce which we export. Packages should be inspected and along with the official stamp should bear the name of the original packer and he should be held responsible for the same, under reasonable regulations, until it reached the ultimate consumer. With such a safeguard the honest producer would receive for his product the highest price the market would afford, certain names would be listed in the markets as names to be relied upon and a guarantee of honest and reliable quality. Their products would always command the highest price, for the day has gone by when cheapness ruled. It is quality that rules today in the markets with which we are concerned and guaranteed quality will always command the highest price.

To bring about a condition of affairs which will lead to this the farmers and the merchants can co-operate in the truest sense. Much of the fault for any dissatisfaction in this regard lies with the merchants. In their eagerness to secure the trade many of them will buy whatever is offered them and, too often, they pay the same all round price regardless of quality. If they insisted upon a certain standard of quality, making the proper discrimination in the prices paid it would lead to a general raising of the standard.

Farmers' Institutes also can do much in insisting upon the standardizing of quality by their own members and insisting also upon prices being graded according to quality.

The Institute that will begin with its own members, adopting an Institute trade-mark with the name of the Institute and of the individual packer upon every package that goes to market, will do very much to raise the standard of quality for the whole province as other institutes will be compelled to follow suit. And all the Institutes should insist upon the enactment of a general inspection law for the whole province.

SIR WILFRID'S GRAVE OMISSION.

There was an interesting interlude in the Naval debate last week. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had challenged the statement of Premier Borden that while in office he (Sir Wilfrid) had been favorable to that part of the Government's naval policy which includes representation on the Imperial Defence Committee, and the Premier replied with evidence which Sir Wilfrid could not refute. It appears that Sir Wilfrid while in office not only agreed that Canada ought to be represented on the Imperial Defence Committee, but agreed to establish a Defence Committee in Canada in close co-relation with the Imperial Committee. But for a reason, for which Sir Wilfrid chose to give no satisfactory explanation, no announcement of this important decision was ever made in Parliament, until the Secretary of State for the Colonies communicated the fact in the course of his despatch on the proceedings of the last Imperial Conference. From that despatch it appears that it was the unanimous view of all those present at the Imperial Conference on May 30, 1911, including Sir Wilfrid and the other Canadian representatives, that the representation of the dominions should be not by the High Commissioners, but by Ministers who would be responsible to their colleagues and Parliament, and at the same time it was decided that a Defence Committee should be established in each dominion, which would be kept in close touch with the Committee on Imperial Defence at home. The resolutions ultimately put forward by His Majesty's Government and accepted unanimously by the members of the Imperial Conference at the Committee of Imperial Defence were:

"(1) That one or more representatives appointed by the respective Governments of the dominions, should be invited to attend meetings of the Committee of Imperial Defence when questions of naval and military defence affecting the overseas dominions are under consideration. (2) The proposal that a Defence Committee should be established in every dominion is accepted in principle. The constitution of these Defence Committees is a matter for each dominion to decide."

Now, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, when Premier, did lay on the table of the House of Commons the report of the Conference with respect to military affairs, but he suppressed the report, of which these resolutions are part, of the Conference with respect to Imperial Defence. The only excuse that Sir Wilfrid now offers for this grave omission, is that he considered the report to be confidential, and that he acted in good faith in respecting that confidence. But why should it be confidential as regards Canada and not the other Dominions? In all the other Parliaments the respective Governments reported that they were parties to such an agreement, Canada alone was allowed to remain in ignorance of her representatives' pledges. Why? Because it is the policy of Sir Wilfrid to run with the hare and hunt with the hound. He wished to appear as a central Imperialist in the Councils of the Empire in London, and as merely a sentimental Imperialist in Canada, favoring nominal connection with the Mother Country. As the exponent of his policy in the course of an important contribution to the English press has it: "He desires Canada to have its own flag and its own fleet; in short he prefers an alliance to a Confederation." Holding such views it would have been extremely inconvenient had he, on his return from the Imperial Conference, been compelled to admit that he had been a party to an agreement unanimously arrived at in favor of a measure of Imperial Confederation.

NOTES.

If the Caledonian Club wish a visit from a deputation of Gaels this autumn they had better enter into negotiations at once. A Gaelic propaganda is being carried on in Scotland for the purpose of popularizing the Highland tongue. At a recent meeting of the Executive Council of

An Comunn Gaidhealach it was reported that sixteen new branches had been formed in Argyleshire and that a number of meetings had been addressed in Sutherlandshire. A suggestion was made that a tour of Canada and the United States should be made in the autumn on behalf of An Comunn Gaidhealach and to stimulate interest in Gaelic in the different places visited. The cost of the tour was estimated at £1000, and it was stated that a guarantee fund would have to be opened. It was recommended to the Executive Council to consider the matter. It was reported that the Mod prize fund now amounted to £147, 10s. Mr. H. F. Campbell, Aberdeen, moved that a remit be made to the Education Committee to consider and report on the propriety of initiating a movement for founding a University College in the Gaelic area of Scotland. The motion was unanimously carried.

Germany is making a bold bid for the supremacy of the air. Of the vast sum of £52,000,000 voted for the increase of armaments, no less than £7,000,000 is to be spent within the next five years in providing new and greater air fleets for the Army and Navy. By this means Germany seeks to attain at one mighty stroke, not merely to a position of the world pre-eminence but of world mastery in the air. Over and above the sum to be raised for flying by the new war levy in Germany, is the sum of £1,000,000, which had already been set apart by the German Government for the development of aerial defence, and a further £350,000 provided by public subscription to the national flying fund. The total sum which Germany proposes to spend on the new arm, is roughly, £7,500,000, exclusive of maintenance and other charges. Of this total £2,650,000 is to be administered by the Navy, and will be spent during the next five years. It is not definitely stated within what time the remainder, which is to be devoted to the Army air service, will be spent. The great fleet of airships and aeroplanes which Germany will thus create for herself will cost £4,500,000 a year to maintain. Thirty new airships are to be added to the twelve Germany already possesses, and 250 new aeroplanes to the existing 150. The decision of the German Government to increase the amount of gold in the "war chest" from £6,000,000 to £18,000,000 is arousing anxiety in German financial and industrial circles, which already have been perturbed by the scarcity of gold and the Army increase.

The Rev. W. B. Ritchie, M. A., writing us from Edinburgh under date of 7th inst. says: "The only people who are attracting much attention at the present are the Suffragettes. Mrs. Pankhurst is the problem; and how to get at her stomach. She has eaten nothing since her incarceration! And the Home Secretary, and all other secretaries, are at their wits' ends, and do not know what to do. I greatly admire the pertinacious boldness of these women and their determination. What will they do next? or rather, what will they not do? You are having stirring times over your Naval Bill which I hope will be carried."

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BIT OF ROPE SAVES HIS LIFE. MONTREAL, April 19—If he has a fancy for heirlooms, Frank Szostowski, has a piece of rope which may be kept sacred by his children's children. It saved him from death yesterday when he was washing a window between the sixth and tenth floors of the Transportation building; his appliance broke and he fell, held dangling by one end. After he had attracted the attention of those on the office above him, and had been rescued, he readjusted the rope and washed another window.

THE OLDEST MAN LIVING

If asked about his corns would say they didn't bother him because he always used Putnam's Corn Extractor. For fifty years "Putnam's" has been the favorite because painless and sure. Try only "Putnam's," 25c. at all dealers.

If you need a tonic take Rexall Beef Wine and Iron. It makes rich blood and builds solid flesh. It renews vitality and tones the nerves and entire system. It gives strength, energy and increased appetite. If you are generally run down it is just what you need. Sold with the Rexall guarantee. Price 75c a bottle. The McKinnon Drug Co., Corner Great George and Kent Sts. MONTREAL.

ISLANDERS IN PARLIAMENT

Sir—The members from the Island out a very narrow swarth in the House this session. The inference would be that this would be only natural for lack of numbers. But this is not the reason—it is lack of interest and energy. Compared with the members from Eastern Nova Scotia across the straits, they compare very unfavorably. Several of the ablest men in the House are from Eastern Nova Scotia. There is not one really able member from the Island. The Liberal members from the Island, at least had an opportunity this session to gain notoriety on the naval bill debate and the closure bill, but the two Liberal members never opened their lips, while the six members from Cape Breton and Eastern Nova Scotia had the floor almost all for themselves, if we include with them

Do not miss number day with taking, Blazing of Piles. No surgical operation required. Dr. Chase's Ointment will relieve you at once. Dealers or send you a box: all Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Send 10c for sample box. If you mention this paper and sample box, you pay postage.

The two New Brunswick members Pugsley and Carvell. Like the six members from extreme Eastern Nova Scotia, McDonald, Plettou, Sinclair, Guysborough, Chisholm, Antigonish; and Messrs MacKenzie, Carvell, Kyte and Chisholm, Cape Breton, the two Conservative members from the Island are Gaelic Scotchmen. The six Nova Scotia members mentioned all speak Gaelic, and speak it fluently. Any one of them can get up in the House and make a speech, if need be, in Gaelic. Messrs McLean and Nicholson can also speak the Gaelic, but probably not so fluently. It would be well for the Island Scotchmen to practise speaking the English a little more and not be satisfied to remain as mere voting machines in the House. The Liberal member from Prince is a Welshman, a Celt, too, it is presumed, but his Celtic tones are seldom or never heard. The member for Kings is a typical Hibernian of the blood from which orators are made, but this one failed to embrace the golden opportunity of the present session to make a name for himself.

Tempora mutantur. The Island was not always thus. In the days of Sir Louis Davies, and in the days of Hon. D. Ferguson, the Island's voice was sure to be heard in important public questions—in the days of even Perry and Welsh, of Bell and of LeFurgey, of the Yeos, of ex-Governor McKinnon, the Island in the past never had to take a back seat. Must we then lament, with Burke, that the "days of chivalry are gone," so far as the Island is concerned. However, "winter communication" will be up sometime before the end of the session, when the Island members will no doubt, awaken from their sleep. This annual debate is looked forward to by the Upper province members.

I am, Sir, etc., J. M. Ottawa, April 19.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE.

His friends will regret to learn of the illness of Dr. Caven, Charlottetown.

A cable was received in Charlottetown yesterday morning, stating that Mr. Douglas Sutherland, who left Halifax on the "Victorian" on April 12th, had arrived in Liverpool yesterday (Sunday), safe and well. He had a most enjoyable passage over.

Mr. E. Garth White of the Canadian Pacific Railway Natural Resources Department, left yesterday morning for Montreal after visiting his home in Charlottetown. This was Mr. White's first visit home in seven years.

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Corset Sale Two Pairs For The Price Of One Is Your Favorite Among This Lot?

Kabo Corsets 612. regular \$1.50 for 75c 779. " \$2.15 for \$1.08 640. " \$1.50 for 75c 680. " \$1.50 for 75c 888. " \$2.65 for \$1.33

P. C. Corsets Directorie \$1.65 for 83c 41. regular \$2.40 for \$1.20 112. " \$2.40 for \$1.20 112. " \$1.65 for 83c Irene. " 85 for 43c 1910. " 65 for 33c

Warner's Best-Proof Corsets - 810. " \$1.80 for 90c Geisha " 85 for 43c

B & I Corsets 1630. regular \$3.95 for \$1.95 309 " \$1.50 for 75c 1125. " \$3.00 for \$1.50

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