

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1928

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, MORE FREEDOM THREATENED.

IN this agricultural province, the Department of Agriculture should play a more active and important role in the development of our chief industry than it now does. Its scope, indeed, should encompass more than this single industry and should embrace all of the industries which are capable of being carried on profitably in Prince Edward Island. Nova Scotia has a Department of Natural Resources embracing, as well as Agriculture, Fisheries, Immigration, Colonization, the Tourist Industry and such other industries as are calculated to fully develop the active and latent resources of the Province. The name of the Department suggests its purpose and its ideal and the Nova Scotia plan might be worthy of imitation. However, whether our local Department extends its jurisdiction, or continues to function within the same limits as in the past, it would seem that it could be made capable of better serving our people than it now does.

The most important official of any Department in any Government is the Deputy Minister. In the Department of Agriculture in this Province the official performing the duties of Deputy Minister is the Secretary, Mr. Boulter. This is a full time office for which a full time salary is voted. Mr. Boulter is also Secretary of the Potato Growers Association; this also is a full time office. On account of his association with the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Boulter has duties also as an official of other co-operative farmer organizations. Recently the Government assigned to him additional heavy duties as Secretary of the Exhibition Association. This is the office which the late Mr. C. R. Smallwood so ably filled for so long a time.

During the early days of the Potato Growers' Association when its future was not assured and when its financial condition was such that it could not afford to rent offices or engage permanent officials, the Department of Agriculture wisely placed at its disposal its offices and the services of its secretary. The Potato Growers' Association has done a great work for this Province. The vision and devotion of its directors and its secretary, and the unselfish co-operation of the rank and file of its members have made of it a great commercial organization. It has outgrown its offices in the Department of Agriculture and now occupies its own spacious offices where it employs a large staff of permanent officials of which Mr. Boulter is the chief. His job there is a full time job for a big man. The office of Deputy Minister of Agriculture is a full time job for a big man. We believe that it is unfair to both the Association and the Department that this arrangement should be continued. The Association has done so much for our people that it would be a great pity to see its usefulness curtailed because its chief salaried official has not the opportunity to give its affairs his full and undivided attention. It may be said that this is the affair and the concern of the Association, and perhaps this is so. It is, however, the affair and the concern of all our citizens that the chief salaried official of the Department should not be able to give that Department his full and undivided time and attention, so as to make it serve our Province and our people more effectively than it now does. When the estimates were being discussed recently in the House, the Minister of Agriculture was unable to answer the questions directed to him, because, he stated, Mr. Boulter was not at hand to tell him. This is a concrete example of the importance of this official's duties—especially at the present time.

THE miscalled Temperance Alliance has struck one more blow at liberty and freedom—the freedom of the Press and public speech. At yesterday's meeting it decided not to allow the reporters to publish their reports unless first censored by a Press committee appointed by it. Naturally the reporters declined to sacrifice the dearly bought freedom of the Press, and withdrew, leaving the Alliance to its own devices. This is but another evidence of the tendency of fanatical domination. Give a group of fanatics power, and human freedom would not be worth a five years' purchase. The whole idea of that type of mind is suppression, suppress everybody who does not see eye to eye with it, suppress everything that does not meet with its approval. If obstacles to attaining its end be met with they must be got rid of, even if it entail exile or death. The great lessons of human progress, the great struggle for freedom and liberty, are lost on such type of mind. All it sees is as far as its nose and the attainment of its immediate object. Well, thank goodness, all such little minds in the past have perished without staying progress to any considerable extent, and we presume Prince Edward Island will continue to make headway though the little minds dominating the Temperance Alliance succeeded in keeping the discussion of its proceedings from the public. What is the Alliance's gain today is by no means the public's loss.

The writers and speakers labored day and night to establish the delusion that prohibition is temperance and that to attempt to establish temperance in the Province on any other basis than that of force—the law, the magistrate and the policeman and imprisonment—was not only useless but harmful. And this has been the result in every land where a prohibitory law has been enacted. Wherever compulsory laws were adopted moral suasion and education along purely temperance lines were abandoned and incalculable harm to the cause of sobriety has resulted.

LOOKING FOR PROTECTION.

CANADIAN fruit and vegetable growers are again seeking redress from the dumping of early products from the United States. Deputations representing different associations in Ontario and Quebec waited on the Government last week to urge that the dumping clause be applied to these United States products. Such protection was secured when Hon. H. H. Stevens was Minister of Customs in 1926, and since then Canadian growers have had the benefit of their own market. Under the customs tariff articles produced in Canada are protected against dumping, but, due to the rapid changes in market prices of perishable products, it was found impossible to determine the fair home market value of any one shipment between its rival and sale in Canada. The Minister two years ago was given authority to place a fixed value for duty on these perishable products. Notwithstanding this advantage given to them in their own market, the two Ontario associations interested claim that the public have not paid more for their fruit and vegetables than they did in similar years previous to the order, while their industries have benefited tremendously. About a month ago, however, the Mackenzie King Government yielded to the demands of western free traders and cancelled the authority given the Minister to prevent dumping. In consequence the vegetable and fruit industries of Ontario and Quebec are threatened with disaster. All that they ask is that they be given the same protection as producers of non-perishable goods against dumping by American growers. The request is reasonable and should be acceded to by the Government.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Clearing up the roadsides and cutting away the unsightly underbrush and weeds, would add greatly to the scenic attractiveness of our highways. Indeed, the roadsides should be converted into finished sidewalks as safe places for pedestrians.

Notes by the Way

A lady and a tiger from the text from which the prohibition organ preaches its latest sermon on temperance. All newspaper readers are familiar with the story of a "young lady of Niger" who went forth for a ride, perched upon the back of a tiger. A tragedy ended the excursion. "They returned from the ride with the lady inside, and a smile on the face of the tiger." The dry organ's illustration is different from that, and goes to picture a frail young lady who has entered the cage of a tiger and controls it with a whip "into submissive obedience to her every command." This goes to show that tigers can be educated, to a certain extent, but are still unreliable, owing to their wild, blood-thirsty nature. A piece of meat in one case would arouse the bloody instincts of the caged tiger, we are told; just the same as the opportunity afforded by being abroad did in the other.

Other stories teach the uselessness of trying to educate tigers, but not that it is useless to try to educate girls and boys, women and men in the evils that follow in the wake of intemperance or the good that results from habits of temperance and sobriety. It is just here that the advocates of prohibition have failed. During the past year enough was said and written in favor of prohibition—if all were recorded—to cover the Province of Prince Edward Island from shore to shore in every direction. But what was said and written by the advocates of prohibition in favor of temperance of itself and apart from their pet hobby, was too trivial for account.

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Men and women are not tigers and as such to be hunted down. Whether they drink or abstain, they are formed of human flesh and blood and as such they have resented and will continue to resent the selfish and despotic attempt to dictate to them what they shall or shall not eat or drink. The assumed right of a man to say to his neighbor, "I don't drink and therefore you shall not," has no warrant in Scripture teaching, is contrary to common sense, and arouses a natural and justifiable revolt which is sweeping the prohibitory law off the statute books of province after province and country after country.

Bishop Lloyd of Saskatchewan, who had before publicly protested against the number of foreigners being dumped into Canada, has written again to the Toronto Globe setting forth the contrast between "British Australia and mongrel Canada." He points out that of 113,000 immigrants reaching Australia last year, 93,000 were British. In Canada, on the contrary, but a minority of British have arrived during years past, and the disparity is becoming greater from year to year. Thus in 1922, of the immigrants who sought new homes in Saskatchewan, 40 per cent. were British, as compared with only 21 per cent. in 1923, 30 per cent. in 1924, and only 25 per cent. in 1925.

That was the way things were going in the years named. How are they going now? Up to March 16, 1928, out of 2,095 landed at Winnipeg by the Canadian National Railway, only 300 were British. Settlers in Saskatchewan since March began numbered 855 and only 100 of these were British. In three days the Canadian Pacific Railway dumped into the West 170 British settlers and 1,680 aliens, mostly of Southern European origin. There were 18 British among 225 arrivals in Prince Albert between March 1 and April 21.

That is the way things have been going in peopling the West with immigrants. What wonder that the Bishop of Saskatchewan registers his protest? What makes the existing situation and the outlook toward the future more alarming, is the fact, noted in this column the other day, that the Minister of Justice is moving to repeal the law providing penalties against anarchy and sedition, while the Minister of Immigration is moving to repeal the law which now prohibits Anarchists and Communists from entering the Dominion.

During five years past twelve millions of dollars have been expended by the Canadian Government to bring immigrants of all sorts to settle in Canada. During that time 573,864 immigrants have come to Canada, and 591,121 emigrants have gone



By James W. Barton, M.D.

ARE YOU CARRYING A SPARE

A business man gave a talk to a group of young men recently his subject being "Do you carry a spare?" He spoke of watching passing motor cars one day and finding that ninety-nine out of every hundred carried a spare tire. Just how much a spare tire means to the motorist is so generally known that it is not necessary to go into details. You are miles from anywhere without a spare and a tire goes wrong. You are up against a lot of work, a long delay, a missed appointment or something even more serious. A spare tire would have prevented all this. His application was that a young man should be well trained for his particular work but should be capable of doing something else in an emergency. What is my thought from the health standpoint? The folks gave you a good body, and Nature is a "friendly force" that is always just a little ahead of your needs. Have you then any need of a spare? Yes, because the force that is behind your creation ordained that that body of yours in addition to having a good parentage and Nature behind it, should do something for itself to retain and increase physical fitness. So that spare that I have in mind is the care, the thought you give that body of yours. There are only three points to consider that is food, rest, and exercise. It is here that I like to compare that body of yours to the farmer's horse. He sees that it gets enough food, and no more, that it gets sufficient rest, and if for any reason there is not work for it to do he takes it out for exercise, because the horse "must have exercise." And if you have done much motoring you know how secure you feel on the road as you think of the first class spare tire you are carrying. Similarly there will be a wonderful satisfaction, a great confidence in yourself and your powers, if you are carrying a "health" spare, because your health is your greatest asset.

That Body of Yours

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH By W. L. Gordon. WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: "Ancient" refers to things of great age or antiquity, "antiquated" refers to things that are obsolete. OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: Edinburgh (Scotland. Pronounce ed-n-bur-o, not burg. OFTEN MISPELLED: succeed; double c, double e. SYNONYMS: gulf, pit, abyss, depth, void. 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: PROPITIOUS; attended by favorable circumstances. "The propitious moment had arrived."

HOUSEHOLD SCRAP BOOK By ROBERTA LEE. Mouth and Tooth Wash: A dash of lemon juice in a glass of water makes an excellent mouth and tooth wash. It removes tartar and sweetens the breath. Dishwashing Soap: Try using a good white soap for dish washing. It not only benefits the hands, but is good for the fine china and glassware. Toast Cubes: Toast cubes, or crotons, afford an excellent variation from the customary crackers served with soup. Spice Boxes: Tea, coffee, and spices will lose their flavor unless kept in tightly closed receptacles.

The Land We Love By Frank Yeigh. The Ashburton Treaty. Q. What is the Ashburton Treaty? A. The Ashburton Treaty was negotiated between England and the United States in 1842 to settle disputed boundary questions between Canada and the State of Maine and also along the shores of Lake Superior to the Lake of the Woods. It resulted in giving the United States a large section of the State of Maine that penetrated the Province of Quebec. It was long regarded as a one-sided settlement, but it had the effect of settling several irritating questions between the two countries.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers May 2, 1928. REBIRTH: Mother earth is waiting For the Springtime's gentle rain, To hasten the renaissance Of tree and flower again. The human heart is waiting For Christ to come again, To bind the wounds of selfishness And free mankind from pain; Christ, so full of selfishness, So full of love divine, Teach us to pray "Thy kingdom come," Make Love our only shrine. —Elizabeth Kleiser.

OUT OF THE HEART — The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life; but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.—Prov. 10:11. PRAYER—Enable us to keep our heart with all diligence for out of it

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