

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Major A. A. Barrett, President. J. R. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. D. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1920.

EXCHANGE CREDITS.

Our recent telegrams, while telling of still further demoralization in exchange, made the announcement that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had invited financial experts to an informal conference with a view to arriving at a solution of the difficulty.

A committee on "Currency and Foreign Exchanges after the War," appointed some months ago by the British Government, has recently issued its report. This report emphasizes that increased production, cessation of government borrowings and decreased expenditure, both public and private are first essentials to recovery.

Barclay's Bank Limited, London, England, in its monthly review for January, discussing this report, makes the following interesting comment on this recommendation:

"The suggestion that we should give preference to exports to countries in a position to pay with reasonable promptness, is not one which will commend itself to those who appreciate to the full the interdependence of nations and who realize how serious is the economic situation and how bitter the need of a large part of Europe. The problem of Central Europe has three aspects—the humanitarian, the political and the economic—neither of which can be altogether ignored.

After a lengthy discussion of the whole situation the Review places its finger on the cause of the adverse exchange between Great Britain and the United States as follows:

"Directly or indirectly this country at present is probably doing more in the direction of giving credit to foreign countries than any other nation, not even excepting the United States, and this despite the fact that during the war we financed our Allies to a huge extent not only in relation to their purchases in Great Britain but also to those made in the United States.

A HOME WANTED.

There are probably three hundred lady employees in the stores, offices and banks in Charlottetown. A large proportion of these are from the country and are boarding in the city. In the larger cities both in Canada and the United States, single firms employing as many or more ladies, provide a comfortable home for them in which they are boarded at actual cost, enjoy all the privileges of home, hold occasional entertainments, hear occasional lectures and are otherwise helped.

Suppose—only suppose—the merchants, banks and offices in this city employing such help, were to unite on a similar scheme. The cost, proportionately borne by all, would not be excessive but it is safe to predict that it would pay manifold. In such a home under the management of a capable and dependable matron, the girls—or women—would be in a position to enjoy a life of comparative independence impossible in the ordinary boarding house, and, by friendly intercourse and mutual helpfulness, be in a position to improve themselves mentally and physically.

The larger firms that have adopted this system find that it pays both them and their employees by making the latter more contented and more efficient in their work. There is no doubt that it would pay both the employees and the employers in Charlottetown.

The initial cost would be considerable it is true but not beyond reach. It has been done elsewhere and it has been found to pay. Shall we move up some day and undertake it for the sake of the girls, to whom it would be a godsend and also, selfishly if you will, for the sake of the greater efficiency and the better service it would be sure to effect?

Raging Demand For Holmes' Return

Few figures in modern literature so stir our sympathy—stir it even to the point where it becomes akin to admiration—as does the biographer of Sherlock Holmes, says the New York Sun. No job outdid him in patience, no Boswell ever suffered more at the hands of his hero. Think of going through life wondering open-mouthed at the intellectual feats of the great detective, to have your "Marvellous, Holmes!" met with an invariable and impatient retort of "Elementary, my dear Watson," or to have your excellent and, as you thought, helpful suggestion that the murderer must have been a large man to have carried the body a quarter of a mile on his back answered with "exactly, my dear Watson, your reflection, though profound, had already crossed my mind."

A Much Suffering M. D.

Thing, too, of what the good Dr. Watson has suffered at the hands of a hero who always picked out the worst of weather to thrust a revolver into his hand and drag him out in the open country to crouch shivering behind a hedge for uncounted hours. We admire Dr. Watson, but we do not envy him; and yet we are forced to say that Dr. John H. Watson has not done his duty—at least not all of it. He has killed Sherlock Holmes once and brought him to life again; he has led him out to make "His Last Bow." But there are still stories that the good doctor knows and hasn't told, stories which he himself admits that he knows. Could we make our own selection from the long list included in the published biographies of the distinguished detective we should be much puzzled, but probably our first demand would be for the full story of the arrest of Wilson, the notorious canary trainer, which removed a plague spot from the East End of London.

Some Promising Tales.

Another good story is hinted at by Dr. Watson in the same chapter of the Holmes biography when he refers in a way most irritating in its casualness to Holmes' "famous investigation of the sudden death of Cardinal Tosca—an enquiry which was carried out by the express desire of his Holiness the Pope." Appealing, that, but somehow we prefer the notorious canary trainer. Those are but hints from one story, "The Adventure of Black Peter." For a real manifest of richness recall a paragraph from "The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez" in the same volume, "The Return of Sherlock Holmes." Dr. Watson refers calmly to "the three manuscript volumes which contain our work for the year 1894," and then goes on:

"I see my notes upon the re-

turn of Sherlock Holmes." Dr. Watson refers calmly to "the three manuscript volumes which contain our work for the year 1894," and then goes on:

Daily Selections For Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louison

THE DOCTOR SAYS

This week a doctor who is young, unmarried and who has already won an enviable reputation as a specialist in his chosen branch of medicine, was talking to me about the increasing number of young girls who are seeking treatment for various ailments, the causes for which he summarized briefly as "cocktails, cigarettes and jazz."

He said: "I finally had to send for the father of one of my girl patients to tell him that I could do nothing for his daughter unless he could keep her in at night and take her cigarettes away from her."

"I have watched that girl gradually degenerate until she now looks positively tough, although she belongs to one of our best families." At the dances this winter, the girls are smoking between dances just as much as the men.

"I'm not a prude and I don't say a grown-up woman should not smoke if she wants to, but I do object to these children, just out of the schoolroom burning up their nerves, their throats and their whole lives by such un-checked license."

"I tell you, there's something wrong with the whole state of society just now. The extravagance of dress, of manner and of mode of living; the unbridled license of the stage, the 'smart' magazines and books, of conversation—topics are discussed now quite openly that once would not have been broached in any mixed gathering; the smoking, the drinking, the style of dancing—it all gives the man who had an old-fashioned mother, furiously to think."

"What sort of wives and mothers will these girls make? I don't know, and I'm afraid to make a prophecy."

MARGARET CURRIE.

pulsive story of the red leech and the terrible death of Crosby the banker. Here also I find an account of the Adleton tragedy and the singular contents of the ancient British barrow. The famous Smith-Mortimer succession case comes within this period; so does the tracking and arrest of Huret, the boulevard assassin—an exploit which won for Holmes an autograph letter of thanks from the President of France and the order of the Legion of Honor."

Page Conan Doyle.

There's an excellent start for a new volume, and on reflection it might be that the repulsive story of the red leech is to be preferred to the report of the arrest of the notorious canary trainer. Away back in the early days of Dr. Watson's struggles to immortalize his hero he confessed to a supply of material which should never be allowed to remain hidden. Consider these cases from "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes": "The Adventure of the Paradox Chamber; the Amateur Mendicant Society, which kept up a luxurious club in a lower vault of a furniture warehouse; the Loss of the British Ark Sophy Anderson; the Singular Adventures of the Grice Patersons in the Island of Uffa; The Camberwell Poisoning Case. In the last named case "Sherlock Holmes by winding the dead man's watch proved he'd gone to bed two hours before," we ought to know more about that, and we feel a right to further knowledge of "how the dreadful business of the Abernethy family was first brought to my notice by the depth to which the parsley had sunk into the butter upon a hot day."

Two Famous Deductions.

How many modern detectives would not benefit by instructions in what to deduce from winding the dead man's watch and the necessity of observing the penetration of parsley into butter? There is more than mere amusement in this. Has Dr. Watson the right to conceal from the public "the singular affair of the Aluminum Crutch" or to fail to give us "a full account of Riccioletti of the clubfoot and his abominable wife"? It is possible that on the ground of irreparable wrong to the public some remedy might be found in an application to a court of equity—something like a mandamus coupled with a subpoena duces tecum that should make Dr. Watson do his duty.

Others View Point

BROTHERHOOD AND SISTERHOOD

(Brooklyn Eagle) A washerwoman in the suburbs of Chicago demands a place in the front yard of her employer to park her automobile. It is granted without protest. Chicago has always believed in liberty and fraternity.

AN IDOL IN BOSTON

(Brooklyn Eagle) Boneyard Boston has a new statue of Robert Burns. This will be a marked aid to Christian Scientists, or Faith Curists, or New Thoughts devotees in providing that there is no such thing as prohibition.

WINTER WITHOUT SLEIGH-BELLS

(New York Times) This is not really an old-fashioned winter. No winter, however, boreal, can be that without sleigh-bells. And the fitful, vanishing tinkle, which has sparsely enlivened the cold snaps of recent years, has apparently passed definitely. Time was when a good half of Fifth Avenue was kept packed with snow. Time was when, on the first day of sleighing the blooded horsemen of Manhattan lined up below Fifty-ninth Street for the race out of Gabe Case's, where the victor of sleigh and sleighbell received the meed of a cold magnum. Through-out the city pulses danced and blood leaped to the cheek as with the voices of youth. Eyes shone and nostrils pealed with musical laughter. To the festival of sleighbells many things are needful besides sleighs and bells and packed snow. The horse was a large part of it; and it is a consequence of our redoubled luxury that the horse is no more. Not through part of that old festival was the tossing mane, the gleaming eye, and the snow hurled rhythmically backward from polished shoes of steel. Likewise, Gabe Case is no more, and his spacious hosiery. And then—the magnum. But enough of this. If it be true that one joy, rightly husbanded is enough for a lifetime, surely one sorrow will do for a Winter's day. The sleighbells of Manhattan are no more.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE POW-HATTAN

(New York Commercial) In the distress of the Powhattan we have another instance of the sturdy conduct of our sailors. It was no small thing for the captain of the Powhattan to fight the battle as he did against the elements, to keep his passengers calm, and to exhibit such supreme confidence in the ultimate outcome. We are prepared to read thrilling accounts of the experiences of the Powhattan, and we believe that, among the incidents none will stand out more strongly than the conduct of her heroic skipper.

THE DOOR OF PREFERENCE

(Hamilton Times) "When I was a child it was necessary for me to beg my bread from door to door," said Mr. Waterson, M. P., for Kettering, in a speech in the British House of Commons. He was actually shunting railway cars three days before he entered the House. Mr. A. E. Waterson was elected for Kettering as a Co-operative candidate, and is the only member of the House directly representing these interests. The door of preference is open to all.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

The Duke of Connaught left London on Dec. 27 for Cannes, and intends to be away until the spring. His Royal Highness has been unable to attend to his duties, necessitating care and the cancelling of most of his engagements, during the past three months, but the state of his health is otherwise entirely satisfactory.

Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands is a great lover of flowers, and takes delight in watching the development of plants which she has set with her own hands.

At the Queen Mary Needlework Guild on Monday afternoon the members had the pleasure of listening to a delightfully descriptive and instructive paper by Major Bartlett on Tangiers.

Dr. and Mrs. Fullerton entertained at dinner last evening in honor of Mr. Malcolm, of Scotland, who with Mrs. Malcolm have been visiting their son Mr. J. H. and Mrs. Malcolm in this city for several months. Their visit has been somewhat marred by the illness of Mrs. Malcolm, but it is pleasing to know that she is now recovering from the effects of her journey and has already made a host of friends here. Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm leave early next month on return to Scotland.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Milne Fraser, of Halifax, left this week for New York en route to Florida, where they will spend the remainder of the winter.

The Woman's Club was gay with handsomely gowned women on Wednesday afternoon, the occasion being a delightfully served tea in aid of the P. E. I. Hospital given by the Ladies' Auxiliary, of which Mrs. Matheson is President. The large attendance was indeed encouraging to the different committees and resulted in upwards of \$125 for the Hospital.

Much to the regret of their numerous friends, Miss Elsie and Miss Nicholson said good-bye here this week as they left on Thursday morning on an extended visit, the former to Vancouver and the latter to Regina.

In order that comment on the modern dance may cease, and dancing is the popular mode of entertainment the world over, dancing masters on the Continent, where criticism is especially harsh, are eliminating a step from the Tango, and renaming it the "Habana." They have added a new step to the Fox Trot, and called the dance the Spanish Schottische. Some steps in the one-step have also been modified, and it has been named the American Polka. Meanwhile dancing continues and everyone does it to suit his or her particular fancy.

Miss Bryson of the Rena MacLean Memorial Hospital, is now at the Dalton Sanatorium, having been transferred there this week.

Hockey fans had two exciting games to cheer at the Arena this week, but the successful outcome so much desired for the home team did not deter them from giving the Stellarton visitors every credit for the splendid fight they put up. The Abbies and Bluenose teams played good clean hockey and although the home team won the first game the home team went out on Thursday night. The visitors enjoyed their outing to the Garden Province, and their hosts enjoyed having them. It is regretted that the Dalhousie team was prevented from coming on account of the examinations, but several other games in the league series will lend excitement aplenty for all.

The Bankers' hockey in Summerside on Wednesday evening was one of the nicest outings of the season and crowned with success for the Charlottetown team. After the game an hour's skate followed by dancing and refreshments at the Cabaret, whiled away the evening all too quickly until time for the special to leave for home. The visitors are looking forward to another good time in Summerside.

Word concerning the illness of Bliss Carman, poet and writer, who has been at Saranac Lake for several months, is that he has received a severe setback and that his condition is not reassuring. Mr. Carman is in his sixtieth year, and his age his illness is serious but not necessarily fatal.

It is understood that elaborate preparations are being made for the opening of the Country Club in about two weeks' time, and dress-makers are being rushed to the limit of new gowns for a series of dances, etc., already being discussed and anticipated.

The Burns' Concert on Monday and Tuesday evenings was even a bigger success than formerly and abounded in the choicest Scotch songs, choruses, music and dancing. The pipe band was never heard to better advantage, but each item was so enthusiastically endorsed that not a dull moment was felt. Among those in attendance were the Lieutenant Governor, his lady and party, who occupied prominent seats in the left balcony, artistically draped with the Union Jack.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the G. W. V. A. at their meeting on Tuesday, discussed ways and means to help the G. W. V. A. in the great work they are undertaking for the welfare of the returned soldiers, their wives and dependents. As a beginning in a social way the Auxiliary are giving a Tea next Friday afternoon in their rooms, so that they can meet and welcome the overseas brides who have come to the city to live. Several other business matters were discussed with G. W. V. A. officers and the profitable work so auspiciously opened during the war under the Presidency of Mrs. (Judge) Stewart, is to be followed up.

A host of friends join in sympathy with Mrs. J. T. Jenkins in the very painful accident she had this week when she slipped on the floor, severely injuring her hip.

Mr. and Mrs. D. O'M. Reddin have gone to New York on a visit with relatives and friends.

Miss Elizabeth McKinnon's many friends throughout the city and province sympathize with her in her illness, and hope that she may soon regain her former robust health.

Rev. H. D. and Mrs. Raymond delightfully entertained the senior members of St. Paul's choir at the Rectory last evening.

Amid regretful farewells Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Harrison left Thursday morning for Stratford, Ont. During the past week they were the recipients of two public presentations and guests at numerous social gatherings, and leave for their new home with abundant good wishes for their welfare.

THE REASON WHY

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ANY THING EXPLODES?

By explosives are meant substances that can be made to give a large quantity of gas in an exceedingly short time, and the shorter the time required for the production of the gas the greater will be the violence of the explosion. Many substances that ordinarily have no explosive qualities may be made to act as explosives under certain circumstances. Water, for example, has caused very destructive boiler explosions when a quantity of it has been allowed to enter an empty boiler, that had become red hot. Particles of dust in the air have occasioned explosions in saw mills, where the air always contains large quantities of dust. A flame introduced into air that is heavily laden with dust may cause a sudden burning of the particles near and from them the fire may be conveyed so rapidly to the others that the heat will cause the air to expand suddenly, and this together with the formation of gases from the burning, will cause an explosion.

It must not be thought, however, that fine sawdust or water would ordinarily be classed as explosives. The term is generally applied only to those substances that may be very easily caused to explode. The oldest and most widely known explosive that we possess is gunpowder, the invention of which is generally credited to the Chinese. It is a mixture of potassium nitrate, or saltpeter, with powdered charcoal and sulphur. The proportions in which these substances are mixed vary in different kinds of powder but they usually do not differ much from the following:

Sulphur 10 per cent. Charcoal 16 per cent. Saltpeter 74 per cent.

The explosive quality of gunpowder is due to the fact that it will burn with great rapidity without contact with the air, and that a burning it liberates large volumes of gas. When a spark is introduced into it, the carbon, charcoal, and sulphur combine with a portion of the oxygen contained in the saltpeter to form carbonic acid gas and sulphurous acid gas, and at the same time the nitrogen contained in the saltpeter is set

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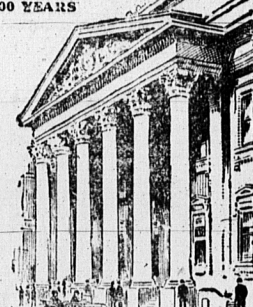
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free in the gaseous form. This action takes place very suddenly, and the explosion takes place so and the volume of gas set free is so much greater than that of the powder that an explosion follows. In the manufacture of gunpowder, employed the burning is slower er all that is absolutely necessary and continues until the projectile is to mix the three ingredients has travelled to the muzzle of the thoroughly and in the proper proportions. But to fit the powder for use in firing small arms and cannon it is made into grains of place at once, but there is less various sizes, the small sizes being used for the small arms with short barrels, and the large sizes for can-

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