

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SECOND CARFERRY.

While complacently watching the daily and nightly battle between the Carferry steamer and the exceptionally heavy ice we must not lose sight of the fact that we have only one steamer to carry on this unequal fight and that any day we may find ourselves isolated from the outside world with no mails, no passenger travel and no necessary supplies.

The work done by the Carferry steamer this winter has been nothing short of marvellous; she has been doing the practically impossible daily for several weeks and Captain Read, who has eliminated the word "impossible" from his vocabulary, deserves and is receiving unstinted praise. Yet the impossible, even to Captain Read, is continually before us and isolation is not only a possibility but a probability.

In view of these facts the urgent need of a second steamer should be persistently pressed upon the railway authorities and the government. It is a matter of almost life and death to this province and there should be no rest or let up until the second steamer is on the stocks with an assurance that she will be ready for next winter's work.

The government has already intimated that expenditures will be pared to the bone during the coming session. This is as it ought to be and will no doubt be carried out. But our necessity is too urgent to be passed over because of the need of curtailment of expenditure; it is to avoid expenditure and loss that the steamer is required and this must be pressed home.

WHY NOT?

The Patriot gives prominence to a letter advocating an increase in the Premier's salary. What's the matter with giving the Attorney General also an increase? During the past regime these two offices were amalgamated and the two salaries were combined. Under the Bell regime however there were so many aspirants for office that amalgamation was out of the question. Now the divided salary is inadequate and the faithful, probably inspired, are advocating an increase.

Well perhaps it can be worked on the Premier and, if on him, the Attorney General will have an equal claim and his turn will come later—if the government survives the tempest already threatening. It will be remembered that during the last session Mr. Bell, then leader of the Opposition, in demonstrating the fact that the then government had sufficient funds for all its requirements, provided they practised reasonable economy, advocated the following retrenchments among many others: Reduction of salary of Clerk of the Executive by \$300; abolition of the Manager's salary in the School Supply, \$1200; reduction of the draughtsman and engineer's salary, Public Works Department, by \$150. Here is a matter of \$1650 available for addition to Mr. Bell's salary provided he keeps his pre-election promises and provided also the Attorney General is satisfied to wait.

It will be interesting to watch the evolution of Premier Bell's salary from its present attenuated dimensions to what it may be if all goes well with the financiers.

UNIFORM SYSTEM NEEDED.

Uniformity either in the observance or in the violation of the city bye-laws on the cleaning of sidewalks after a snowstorm appears to be an urgently needed reform. After a recent snowstorm some law-abiding citizens had their sidewalks cleaned off promptly; their neighbors had not and after the heavy thaw on Wednesday and Thursday the former were canals of ankle deep water held in place by the higher levels on the latter which were quite dry.

Observance of law is not usually a cause of complaint but as the habitual offenders persist in refusing compliance with the law it might be advisable to seek reform by a general evasion.

This is not given as a new bye-law but merely suggested as an experiment. Should it result in improvement of present conditions its general adoption might be considered later.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. H. R. Stewart, Secretary of the G. W. V. A. takes exception to the accuracy of the Patriot's list of returned soldiers, supposedly beneficiaries of the Bell Government's boasted generosity. Two of the alleged "returned soldiers" who were given appointments, namely, the keeper of the Prince County Jail and the clerk of the Court at Alberton are, Mr. Stewart says, not returned soldiers. The Patriot had in two different issues flaunted these so called appointments of soldiers as proof that the Bell Government had never lost sight of the soldiers' claims, but it has wisely avoided all reference to positions given to political healers and which should have been given to soldiers.

The Island Farmer also "rubs it in" to the Bell Government about Falconwood Hospital. It says that "when the Bell Government in the late summer of last year took charge of the affairs of the province the members also became the trustees of the insane asylum at Falconwood." With conscious or unconscious sarcasm it adds that they "wisely" went out in a body to that institution, "found many things in need of repair" and appointed a commission. The inference naturally is that they very "unwisely" left these "many things" going from bad to worse and in a horribly unsanitary condition till the end of February.

CURRENT COMMENT

Government took charge? No outlet or inlet for water into any of the bath tubs. The weather too cold to use the river for bathing purposes. Have the inmates been deprived of these cleansing conveniences during all this time? If this is so; if those wards of the people of this province; those most helpless of God's creatures, have been allowed to exist in such unsanitary filth and neglect for a full half year, then it is not an ordinary but a damnable crime. Was it the outcome of incompetence or neglect or both combined? Or was it deliberately done to manufacture capital against the late government? The matter is too serious to be lightly set aside. The public should and must know.

It partakes the character of a serious charge against Dr. Godwin an officer on whose management the people have a just and unbounded confidence. Would he tolerate such conditions for a month, or a week, or even a single day? Yet the Commission reports these conditions to exist at "PRESENT" on February 9th. If we judge Dr. Goodwill aright, and we think we do, he would have the plumbers and repair men on the job at once on discovery, or the public would know the reason why.

Falconwood and preceding hospitals have a history in his province. At times these have been the scenes of stirring events and of political jobbery in many cases which are now coming to light. These matters will be dealt with in the coming days.

The passing of the Hon. A. K. McLean from the Union Cabinet is another of these straws which indicate, what many expect and hope

for, a return to straight party lines. The Hon. gentleman occupied several important cabinet positions, acting as Minister of Finance during the illness of Sir Thomas White, and his valued services are no doubt appreciated by his colleagues and the country. What his future course may be we do not know. If to return again to the Liberal ranks, it can only be to stand as sponsor for the Government whose policy and administration he was so prominent in framing and carrying out.

Sir Sam Hughes has already given notice of resolution to revert to the old system of appointments to office on the recommendation of the sitting member. There are many and the numbers are increasing who are of Sir Sam's opinion. The Civil Service Commission have their human attributes and results are not measuring up to original expectation. W. T. R. Preston, one of the giants, although not always a safe guide, of Liberalism, has also come out flat-footed for patronage. The late leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, while refusing to oppose the Civil Service bill in passing, made it distinctly understood that he reserved the right to formulate his own policy on these matters. Our local government have exemplified what that policy will be in the most effective manner, and in terms which cannot be misunderstood.

CAPTAIN S. P. GEROW SAFE IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, Feb. 24.—Captain Stephen P. Gerow, a Canadian officer whose home is in St. John, N. B., who was reported in a New York despatch last night to have disappeared, is in Montreal. Capt. Gerow walked into a local newspaper office this morning and explained to friends there that he left New York in the ordinary way on

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business two weeks ago and went to Philadelphia. From there he went to Boston where he was sick for a few days. On his recovery he came to Montreal. Capt. Gerow stated he was returning to New York tonight.



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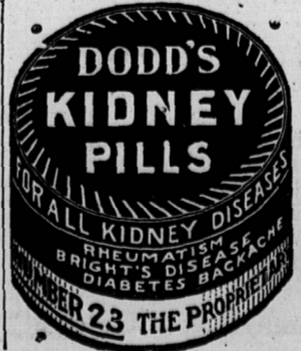
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LIVING BY THE DAY

Each morning is a fresh beginning. We are, as it were, just beginning life. We have it entirely in our own hands. And when the morning with its fresh beginning comes, all yesterdays should be yesterdays, with which we have nothing to do. Sufficient it is to know that the way we live today determines for us our tomorrow. Simply the first hour of this new day, with all its richness and glory, with all its sublime and eternity-determining possibilities, and each succeeding hour as it comes, but not before it comes. This is the secret of character, building. This simple method will bring any one to the realization of the highest life that can be even conceived of. This brings such a life within the possibilities of all for their is no one, if really in earnest and if he really desires it, who cannot live to his highest for a single hour and if for an hour, why not for the day.

Let me but do my work from day in field or forest, at the desk or room, in roaring market-place, or tranquil room; Let me but find it in my heart to say, When vagrant wishes beckon me "This is my work; my blessing, not my doom; Of all who live, I am the one by whom This work can best be done, in the right way." Then shall I see it not too great, nor small, To suit my spirit and to prove my powers; Then shall I cheerful greet the laboring hours, And cheerful turn, when the long shadows fall, At eventide to play and love and rest, Because I know for me my work is best. —Henry van Dyke.



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NOTE THESE RECORD FIGURES—

Table with 2 columns: Policy/Asset type and Amount. Policies Issued and Revived: \$22,199,547.00; Total Policies in Force: 84,597,490.00; Assets: 18,869,550.26; Payments to Policyholders in 1919: 2,299,854.97; Net Surplus: 2,694,338.13

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