

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

President—W. Chester S. McLure. Secretary—Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D. S. O. Vice-President—J. B. Burnett. Associate Editor—D. E. Currie.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1930

Mr. Stewart's Nomination

Conservatives of Charlottetown and County, and throughout the Province generally, will hail with satisfaction the nomination of Mr. W. Allan Stewart, president of the Green's County Liberal-Conservative Association, as the party's candidate to contest the seat vacated by Mr. W. Chester S. McLure, M. P., Mr. Stewart, who is a partner in the firm of Messrs. Moore & McLeod, Limited, is widely known and esteemed as a man of character and business ability.

The New Commissioner

After a delay of nearly five months, the position of Commissioner of Police for the Province, a position created by statute of the Legislature passed on April 14th last, has been filled by the appointment of Constable Joseph Trainor, who takes over his responsible duties as from today.

Commissioner Trainor is to be congratulated upon a promotion well merited by his service on the Charlottetown Police Force, and as a returned soldier and former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He has proven himself to be conscientious and efficient in the discharge of his duties and it is these qualifications which will make for success in his new position.

One of the first measures to be undertaken by the Provincial Police, it is hoped, will be the cleaning up of the prohibition mess. If Commissioner Trainor is to achieve any results in this connection, however, it is necessary that he have the active support of the Government and Prohibition Commission. If convicted bootleggers are to be released before finishing their sentence, or kept out of jail altogether with the connivance of somebody "higher up," as has frequently been the case during the past several months, no amount of vigilance on the part of the magistrates or law officers will succeed in curbing the liquor traffic.

Under the statute the Commissioner of Police "may hold an enquiry into the conduct of any member of the Force or of any officer or employee under his control," but unfortunately there are others over whom he will have no such jurisdiction. In the final analysis therefore, it is the Government which is still responsible for the effective administration of the law.

Too Much In Words

At the 12th Congress of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, held recently in London, no fewer than forty-four resolutions were passed dealing with various matters of importance and interest. No doubt, says the Financial Post, all of these resolutions will be brought to the attention of the governments of the Empire by the different delegations that were present from Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, Great Britain, etc. But one may well wonder how much attention such an encyclopaedic range of resolutions will receive from any busy government. The resolutions will probably be politely acknowledged and filed, to be entirely

Notes By The Way

How to insure the safety of the travelling public on the highways is increasingly claiming the attention of governments everywhere. The province of Ontario has secured legislation compelling all drivers of automobiles to put an accident insurance sufficient to cover—at least partially—any property or personal damage which may result from their driving.

Without such a law, irresponsible drivers may cause damage to property or injury to persons without being able to compensate those suffering injury. Carrying accident insurance would at least give drivers a sense of responsibility, and would be at least a partial guarantee to owners of cars that in case of damage that they could hold somebody responsible. In any case, with auto accidents increasing almost daily, the idea is worth considering.

In half a dozen prairie cities, including Winnipeg and Edmonton, a total of 186,801 votes was cast in the recent elections, compared with 151,332 in 1926. In Saskatoon the increase was 60 per cent., and in Regina 50. This record evidences more than growth in population. It means that the people are taking a greater interest in their Government, which is a very healthy sign of citizenship.

All dolls in Russia are to be shot at dawn! This drastic action is reported from Moscow as part of a campaign against children's conventional toys, especially dolls, which are held to be non-Communist, reactionary and injurious. Those which, when pressed on the "Tumski," utter the bourgeois words "Ma-ma, Pa-pa" are particularly objectionable.

A Canadian Press despatch announces that a group of men representing the business and economic interests of the Argentine will visit Canada next month. They will come via Vancouver and it is said they will probably travel as far east as Montreal, says the Telegraph Journal. Our Boards of Trade should endeavor to induce them to visit the Maritimes, through whose ports trade with South America should pass in winter, and some of it throughout the year.

Fire Prevention

Fire prevention week will extend this year from October 5 to October 11, and the Dominion Government will shortly issue a proclamation pointing to the enormous losses suffered by fires, and suggesting various means of impressing upon people the necessity for care in the handling of inflammable materials. Carelessness is the great enemy and one needs to be constantly on guard against it. Carelessness in the home, carelessness in public places, carelessness in the forest, all help to make up enormous annual losses which is discreditable to the country. It is surprising in what little matters people can be careless, to the loss of themselves and the community. A half-lighted match, a live cigarette butt, a little gasoline for cleaning purposes, have often started disastrous conflagrations. A campaign of education in fire prevention has been carried on in the schools of the different provinces for several years with good results. But it must be kept up because the danger from fires is always present and constant vigilance is necessary to prevent them.

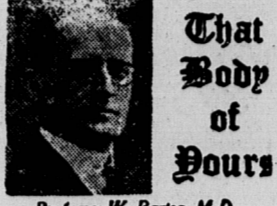
The Dominion Bureau of Statistics makes an announcement which should be envied by those countries deploring a decrease in the marriage statistics. June weddings in the various provinces of Canada showed an increase of more than eighty-three percent, over the month of May. The Province of Quebec led with a gain of one hundred and forty per cent. The Maritime Provinces had a gain of sixty-eight per cent.; Ontario, eighty-three per cent.; the Prairie Provinces forty-two per cent.; and British Columbia 62 per cent. Even after allowing for the natural augmentation of "June Brides" figures such as these should go far to counteract the dismal croakings of the pessimists who argue that social standards are degenerating as a result of a growing disregard for the marriage state.

Editorial Notes

The papers that used to tell us there was no unemployment are now assuring us that Mr. Bennett can't cure it.

Farmers in a Kansas district use loudspeakers as scarecrows. The wise old crows would rather face a shotgun than static.

Interesting figures on highway construction and the growth of highway systems are given in a booklet recently published by the Highway Education Board of the United States, which will be available to delegates to the Sixth International Road Congress meeting in Washington in October. Among other statistics one reads that of the total 1928 highway income of \$1,568,946,170, 20 per cent. was derived from motor vehicle fees, 18 per cent. from gasoline taxes, five per cent. from Federal Aid, 17 per cent. from bonds, 27 per cent. from general taxes, and 13 per cent. from miscellaneous funds. General taxes fall two per cent. short of covering the cost of maintenance alone.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

YOUR SHAPE MAY AFFECT YOUR HEALTH

I have spoken before about the three general shapes of individuals; one with the short narrow body and long legs; one with the long wide body and short legs; and one with what might be called normal length of body and legs.

The narrow thin short body on long legs would be more likely (but not necessarily) to have lung trouble and indigestion.

The wide long body and short legs would be stronger naturally, but as he would be a good 'feeder,' he was more likely to have liver, heart, and kidney ailments.

The individual with normal length of body and legs would naturally have a little better chance than either of the others in avoiding definite ailments.

However there is another factor enters into this matter and that is the ductless glands.

Too much thyroid activity and you get the thin nervous individual, easily flushed, feels the heat keenly; heart rapid, often grows very tall in his teens.

Not enough thyroid activity and you find slow heart, overweight, habitual headache. Activity of adrenal glands, situated one above each kidney, means strength of body and mind. In activity of these glands means long slender bones, tending to tuberculosis.

Activity of the pituitary glands in the skull means great increase in length and strength of bones such as in these "giants" of the circus side show.

Inactivity or lowered activity of these glands means shortness of height, increase in fat about body, bones thin, teeth irregular.

Activity of parathyroid glands, behind breast bone means shortness of height.

Less or lowered activity of these glands means more length and slenderness of bone, thin increase in height. Also while intelligence is normal there is mental depression very marked.

The secretion of the pancreas gland affects the handling of the sugar in the blood.

The secretion of the thymus gland in neck affects growth of bones and nerves and muscles, as does also the pineal body in the skull.

You can thus see that you are to a considerable extent what your glands have made you.

You are what you are in shape. Take a look at yourself.

If thin get out of doors and eat good food.

If tendency to be stout, eat less and take more exercise.

This is all you can do about it, but this is really all you need to do about it, because Nature is really very kind to us.

The Poet's Corner

QUEBEC

Wolfe and Montcalm! two nobler names ne'er graced The page of history, or the hostile plain; No braver souls the storm of battle faced, Regardless of the danger and the pain. They passed unto their rest without a stain Upon their nature or their generous hearts. One graceful column to the noble twain Speaks of a nation's gratitude, and starts The tear that Valor claims and Feeling's self imparts. —Charles Sangster.

FROM GLOOM TO GLOOM.

Old Farmer Guff had been on a trip to the city to receive electrical treatment for his rheumatism. On the day of his return he was met by his own local doctor.

"Well, Guff," said the latter, "how are you now?" The old farmer shook his head unhappily.

"I'm very much better," was his dismal reply. "That's good!" replied the doctor. "Now you can cheer up and be your bright old self again."

"No, I can't," said Guff mournfully. "I've no means of telling when it's going to rain."

York municipal barge, carrying rubbish to sea, brought back 1,000 cases of Scotch on the return trip.

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. This Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

L. M. MONTGOMERY'S IDEAS

Sir—Recently a letter . . . of which the logic and sense of humour appeared to be about on a par . . . appeared in your columns, attacking my book, Magic for Marigold. I had a good laugh over this letter and had no intention of taking any notice of it. But others have followed it containing statements and insinuations which, in justice to myself, I cannot ignore.

I am accused of "caricaturing" the people of P. E. Island . . . of laughing in my sleeves" at them. I am a daughter of Prince Edward Island and I yield to none, not even affectionate visitors from "the States" in my love and admiration for its people and the land of my birth. And I have never insulted them by supposing that they were so provincial and "back-country" as not to be able to endure a little friendly humour, even at their own expense . . . nor do I now suppose it, in spite of some self-evident exceptions as shown by "Insider's" letter.

I do not know what one of your correspondents means by speaking of the "customs" in Magic For Marigold as being "Mosaic and antiquated." I doubt if she knows herself. The heroine of the book is a little girl, living a very quiet life in a P. E. Island farm community, and I mentioned only such family customs as reacted on her development. P. E. Islanders can afford to be called Mosaic. I consider it a compliment. Moses and his law are still, I am glad to say, considered reasonably up-to-date among us and for that we have no need to be ashamed, even before visitors from the States where the Ten Commandments seem to have been thrown overboard completely. Perhaps our customs are "antiquated." We still have families and family reunions, family loyalties, christening parties . . . and we still go to church. We do not have gang murders, lynchings, divorce and companionate marriage, so no doubt we are very old-fashioned, and books about us must to that extent be old-fashioned too.

I was born and brought up in the very heart of three of our old "pioneer" clans, and I know them from A to Z, as not even a lady who has spent two whole summers on the Island can do. I know their virtues and their faults . . . for even P. E. Island pioneers and their descendants have faults. I have a few myself. I know instances of tragedy; and comedy beside which the fictional incidents of my books pale into insignificance. I know their fierce spat; among themselves and their equally fierce loyalty when any outsider attacks them. Nor does this date only to pioneer days. Last summer when I was on the Island I was regaled with an account of a recent "clan" row which both for tragedy and comedy surpassed anything I ever invented. Human nature does not change. It is the same now as it was in pioneer days.

I am accused of "caricaturing" the Islanders because I make a tormented old bachelor declare that one girl has thick ankles, because I make one clan member say of another that she is very economical with the cream, and because one old lady says that she had twins twice to spite her mother-in-law. Could crossness and provincialism go further? One would suppose that even a person who was absolutely joke-blind could not take that seriously. Twins are not so obligingly subject to order. And I have, it seems, "no right" to use the "real names" of places when I "belittle" the inhabitants. If the poor soul who perpetrated the foregoing absurdity reads in future some novel of life in New York or Toronto wherein some of the inhabitants are "belittled," I suppose she will write straightway to some metropolitan paper arraigning the author. Let Sinclair Lewis, Theodore Dreiser and Mazo de la Roche stand from under in time.

I suppose there is at least one woman in P. E. Island who is mean, and at least one girl who has thick ankles. I avow . . . let the consequences be what they may . . . that I have known a few myself. Do my fellow-Islanders want me to depict them as wingless angels, perfect in every respect . . . and as dull and insipid and uninteresting as such creatures would be? No, I have too much respect for their common sense to think that of them. I believe that most of the Island people have outgrown the Elsie books.

There are people . . . it may be even in P. E. Island . . . who are so "back-country" as to imagine that everything a writer puts into the mouths of her characters is an echo of her own opinions, but I think there are not many of them. Most of our people have sufficient intelligence to distinguish between humour and caricature, and as for the few who cannot, may God have mercy on their souls.

Marigold is not intended to be "Miss 1930" or Miss Any-age, She is . . . or is intended to be . . . one of those ageless daughters of imagination and vision that are found occasionally in every age of a nation's history. I do not pretend that her type is common, but it exists. As for the other characters in my books, not one of them is "drawn from life" . . . though I doubt not that the provincial type of mind aforesaid imagines that I go about with a sort of mental camera photographing my unfortunate friends and acquaintances for immediate use. My characters are "types" that are found wherever human beings congregate and I cannot help it if an occasional cap fits.

Yes, "after all" . . . as one of your correspondents so condescendingly remarks . . . my books do "travel abroad." My audience is not wholly in Prince Edward Island. And from all over the world thousands of letters come to me annually telling me that my books have filled the writers with a wish to see P. E. Island because I have depicted it as such a charming place. Even . . . as some of your readers may recall . . . so insignificant a person as the Hon. Stanley Baldwin, then Premier of Great Britain, asked the Dominion Government to include Prince Edward Island in his itinerary of 1927 because he had become so interested in it through reading my books. I do not know of any other province in Canada which was so honoured for a similar reason. But then poor Mr. Baldwin had never enjoyed the inestimable advantage of being a native of "the States."

I do not think I, or my writings, have done my dear Island or its people any harm. For proof I quote the concluding paragraph from a review of Marigold published in a prominent literary journal in Great Britain: "We have only one fault to find with this very charming book. We are afraid that Mrs. Montgomery has idealized the people of Prince Edward Island slightly. We feel sure that not in any country in the world can there be found so many delightful and interesting people to the square mile as Mrs. Montgomery depicts in "the Island."

In view of the foregoing I think neither the anxious lady from the States nor "Insider," need worry as to the impression of P. E. Island and its people made on the world at large by my books.

I write fiction . . . not history or biography. And I shall continue to write of P. E. Island and its people as I see them, through loving and sympathetic eyes; but I shall not be deterred from poking a little kindly fun at some of their foibles . . . or even their faults . . . for that I shall offend the susceptibilities of visitors from "the States" or even

of ultra thin-skinned islanders themselves. Thanking you, Sir, I am, Sir, etc., L. M. MONTGOMERY MACDONALD

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