

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE POULTRY BUSINESS.

It is encouraging to see so much interest taken in the poultry business in this province, especially interesting to note that so many farmers are aiming at pure bred poultry, as indicated by the abnormal demand for the prospective output of the Canadian Farm Products chicken hatchery.

Many of our best farmers calculate that the hen is the most profitable animal on the farm and there are those who have decided to make poultry the principal line of stock.

What is true of the poultry business is true of every line on the farm—it is only the best that pays. There are many breeds of poultry. As in every other line of live stock each breed has its favorite and the final test lies with the breed chosen.

THE FIRST ROUND IN PARLIAMENT.

Federal Liberalism appears to be no more fortunate in its camouflage efforts than the Prince Edward Island variety. Mr. MacKenzie King, by way of an amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne, suggested that the only relief in sight for Canada at present was a general election, giving as his reason an elaborate and eloquent misrepresentation of what the Union Government had accomplished and was accomplishing.

This gave the veteran statesman, Sir George Foster an opportunity to take him in hand and in what is described as one of the finest orations ever listened to in the House, exposed the fallacy of what he termed Mr. King's "fine bit of diplomatic camouflage."

Camouflage is but a temporary makeshift. It was effective in war only until it was found out; then it was worse than useless. Criticism and fault-finding on general principles, when contrasted with solid historical fact, crumble to the ground and this is what happened Mr. MacKenzie's first effort as leader of the Liberal party under the sledge hammer blows of Sir George E. Foster.

The session promises to be an interesting, probably an exciting one. The first round has been a distinct triumph for the government.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Bell Government has been laboring painfully in its preparation to launch its frenzied financial scheme. It has had two very severe spasms up to now and there are more coming. Shortly after its assumption of office it issued, over the signature of the Provincial Auditor what purported to be a "Financial statement" showing the enormous (?) and ruinous (?) expenditure by the late Arsenal Government.

G. W. V. A. and the Premier, the publication of which has had the effect of a bombshell falling in the midst of the Bell Government's defences, has been followed by a painful silence. The attitude of the Bell Cabinet, since the explosion, recalls a cartoon of one of the critical periods of the war, showing the Kaiser and a number of the war lords sitting in dazed silence, the silence at length broken by a hoarse whisper from Hindenburg—"say something," "start something."

CURRENT COMMENT

While the city police are urging the removal of ice from sidewalks, a commendable move, it would be well to advise care in doing so. We have some fine concrete walks many of which are an eyesore because the surface has been badly chipped and spalled with picks and axes in recent years. Don't spoil our beautiful walks. A little care will prevent it.

Antagonism to the farmers movement is on an increase amongst Ontario Liberals. The jealousy is from the fact that this party is principally made up of defectors from the Liberal party. Liberalism has busily educated certain interests, and particularly farmers, into a belief that free trade or low duties would be a panacea for all national ills. In power they never put their precepts into practice. Farmers, tired of this deception, are taking the matter into their own hands, and as a result this jealousy on the part of their alma mater.

The movement in Ontario is largely experimental, and although the trial is made under most favourable conditions, with a leader of considerable sound judgment and ability, there are already misgivings as to success. It is admitted to be class government, which in a mixed community, no matter how excellent these may be in character and purpose they can not satisfactorily grapple with the many phases and countless problems of administration. The finest combination of farmers procurable would be as much at sea in dealing with intricate questions of industry and labor, as would the very best of our industrial classes outlining a good programme of agricultural advancement. This leads to the one conclusion that Canada's salvation, commercial and industrial, depends upon a sane system in which every class, creed and sect has the right of entree or is represented.

This divergence is evidenced by the different attitude of eastern farmers as compared with those from the west. In the west free agricultural implements, and free grain export, is the whole science of government. Incidentally this means taxation for revenue, and still more incidentally the popular seat to pay the bulk of the taxation. The eastern farmer's position differs materially from this. Grain to him is more of a side issue. Dairying, poultry, hogs, sheep, fruit and truck farming, with their extensive cheese, butter and canning accompaniment, are to him the more vital of interests. To kill out industry and drive our factories to the States would destroy his home market and put him up against American competition in the sale of his products, much of which he would have to ship across the line to sell. This proposal is not attractive to him. He much prefers to pay ten or twenty dollars more for a reaper, which he only purchases once in a lifetime, to losing hundreds annually in the sale of his products, in duties to the Yankee government and in extra freights shipping to the States. For this reason he is an entity, separate and apart from the western farmer. This is very plainly emphasized by the recent Farmers Convention in British Columbia.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louison

DISCONTENT

A great deal of discontent arises from over-consciousness about what people may say about you or your actions. Many unhappy persons seem to imagine that they are in an amphitheatre, with the assembled world as spectators, whereas they are playing to empty benches all the while.

TURN ABOUT

"Don't go and look for trouble, search for happiness in stead. Don't cling to dark material when there's blue and gold and red; Don't pull the blinds and hide the sun; you can't keep sunbeams out; If you feel right down wretched JUST TURN YOURSELF ABOUT."

NEW DAYS

God takes our yesterdays, dim and old. Touched with sorrow and sinning, And gives to us with a grace untold. The years' soft dew and the dawn of gold— Gives us the fresh beginning.

THE END OF LIFE

The end of life is to be like God, and the soul following God will be like Him.—Socrates.

bia, also a fruit growing and mixed farming class, who decided to remain out of politics and to give greater attention to development of their business.

Neither of the political parties at Ottawa want an election. Liberals more so than any. Unrest is too much in evidence as yet and return to pre-war conditions is slow. The stupendous work of reconstruction is only fairly commenced, and to establish political chaos at this time would be madness. The Parliament is young yet. Scarcely more than two years since it was elected, and the government returned by an overwhelming majority, and that apart altogether from the soldier vote abroad. Yet the Liberals play at war dance with their stock cry that it has not the confidence of the people. It is their old game. As a political dodge McKenzie King has moved a vote of want of confidence his heart and the hearts of his followers, literally in their mouths for fear it might carry. They know the fatal result of an election to themselves. Whether the government were sustained or not, the divided Liberal party would not be ascendant. The greater likelihood would be a heterogeneous number of groups, independents, farmers, labor, socialist, Conservative, unionist, and huddled in an obscure corner William Lyon McKenzie King with a corporal's guard of followers.

A CONUNDRUM.

Question to the Editor of the Patriot.

Noah of old three babies had, or grown up children rather.

Shem, Ham, and Japheth they were called, who was Japheth's father?

Editor Patriot; I don't know. I give it up.

Question: I'll help you out with an example.

Premier Bell three babies had, or grown up hobbies rather, Waste, Taxes and Lethia they were called, who was Lethia's father?

Editor Patriot, brightening up: Oh; now I know.

Question: Well tell me, Who was Japheth's father?

Editor Patriot: Why Premier Bell of course.

Others View Point

A HARD-LEARNED LESSON.

(Minneapolis Journal).

The Allies must abstain from all interference with the progress of political change in Russia. This is the lesson of intervention in Siberia.

"HE THAT TOUCHETH PITCH."

(Louisville Courier-Journal).

The good apples in a barrel do not heal the rotten ones, and, by the same token, the law-abiding and country-loving people do not, by contact and example, make good citizens of the "reds." Segregation is the only remedy in either case.

SHOULD LEAD THE WAY.

(Toronto Globe).

Lord Beaverbrook's paper, The Daily Express, calls upon the women to save England by hauling over to America their superfluous gold. They might retort by asking him to head the procession.

"RISK THEM AT A TURN OF PITCH AND TOSS."

(Boston Globe).

Too often the average American plays with his personal finances in much the same way as he plays his National game of poker. If he does not prosper he is "broke," but if he wins he rakes the table, and then gives a little on the side to the "kitty."

HOW "PINAFORE" NEARLY FAILED.

(Westminster Gazette).

"Pinafore" memories are being revived on all hands by the amazing success which that famous opera is now enjoying again at the Princess Theatre. With the single exception of "The Mikado," (1,147 performances), "Pinafore," with its 994 performances, had a longer run than any of the series when it was originally produced. And yet, as has been recently revealed, it was very nearly withdrawn as a comparative failure after the first few weeks.

Some promenade concerts were running at the time, however, at Convent Garden, and it occurred to Sullivan, who was conducting them, to put a selection from the music into one of the programmes. It

caught on immediately, and this saved the situation. Appreciation of the music drew attention to the opera, the public began to go to it more and more, and thenceforward there was no further question as to its not succeeding. Rarely before, indeed, had a work of this class achieved such prodigious success or become such an absolutely universal rage in respect alike of its music and its book.

And yet the success of "Pinafore" in London was nothing compared with that which it afterwards enjoyed in America. There were, indeed, at one time actually no fewer than sixteen different opera-houses, theatres, or music-halls at which it was being given simultaneously in New York alone. There was a "Nigger" version, given entirely by "colored" artists, a children's "Pinafore," a German "Pinafore," and even a church-choir "Pinafore"—and from all of these performances neither author nor composer received so much as a single penny.

In connection with "Pinafore" and the States a curious story is told which serves to illustrate the difficulty of forecasting public taste in matters theatrical. Shortly after the work had been produced in London a well-known theatrical writer (Mr. G. H. Jessop, author of the book of "Shamus O'Brien") was commissioned by an American manager to advise as to the likelihood of the opera taking in the States. Mr. Jessop went to see it twice, decided that its satire was far too logical in its application to make any sort of appeal to American audiences, and reported dead against it.

THE VALUE OF A HOBBY

(Edinburgh Scotsman)

Anyone, of any age, who has a really beloved hobby, personal to himself, has a line of communication with first rateness still open. Many schools fail in valuing and encouraging this mental individualism which make any boy or girl the intellectual comrade, though not the equal, of men and women of genius, the boys to whom no minuteness of observation of the ways of birds ever seem dull, however little they may interest anyone else, is a type of the mind truly alive and autonomous.

New and Old Industries

Sir—Your issue of the 2nd inst. contains a letter signed "St. Peter's Starch Co., Ltd.," and complains of the action of the Charlottetown Board of Trade in respect to the action they have taken in endeavoring to promote the interests of the city and province by supplying information and a promise of further assistance in procuring additional information for a large American organization looking over Canadian territory with a view of establishing a potato flour mill in Canada. First, the writer complains that the starch men in this Province were not given sufficient notice. The Board of Trade had notices in the three Charlottetown daily papers calling attention to the meeting, and asking all interested to attend. These notices were inserted as soon as the date of the meeting was known. A similar meeting was held in Summerside, and so far as the writer is aware, no notice or report of it was ever published, but no fault is found with this. The fact that three different starch manufacturing companies were represented at our meeting would go to show that it was fairly well advertised, and if I mistake not the three companies represented control the bulk of the output of the Province.

Your correspondent must remember that the Charlottetown Board of Trade has very limited funds at its disposal, and that advertising costs money. If the Charlottetown officials in their Company would take sufficient interest in the affairs of the city to become members of the Board, there is ample room for the exercise of their talents, and their fees would have helped to pay the expenses already incurred in connection with the matter. However, the facts are that the St. Peter's Starch Company was represented at the meeting, and their representative was given ample opportunity to express his views, and although he was advised by Mr. Hartman that the product they were turning out under the name Potato Flour is an entirely different article from the product of the Falk Potatoes Flour Company, he still tries to sidestep the matter, and states that the chemical analysis shows very little difference. As the American product was unknown to him until he saw it at that meeting, I am of the opinion the chemical analysis referred to is largely the result of imagination, and beg to assure you that a proper chemical analysis will be provided if necessary, but as to whether the analysis is the same or not the product is different and used for a different purpose.

The American article as explained to us is a Yeast Product, and is used by the bakers as an improver for bread, taking the place of milk or other like products, while the Potatoes Starch flour supplied by our local mills is used in the baking of certain kinds of pastry, and is, so I am informed, in reality the raw starch product as used for laundry purposes, rawashed and re-ground, and any one familiar with laundry starch and the method of manufacturing will naturally conclude it is not a desirable table product.

If it is a fact, as stated at the meeting by the representative of the St. Peter's Starch Company, that they are unable to find a market for their product, why should they object to some one else coming here to manufacture some kind of flour for which they claim to have an unlimited market? It looks very much to me like the "Dog in the Manger" attitude. Mr. Hartman stated at that meeting that they were compelled to abandon their season owing to the increased demand from the bakers, the advertising campaign planned for placing with the householder through the retail trade the product they are turning out.

Your correspondent also refers to the price 9 1/2 cents per pound or \$19.00 per barrel, but does not mention that the product of his own mill is for sale in Charlottetown at 25 cents per pound, or almost \$50.00 per barrel. Perhaps if the price was placed on a proper basis the Company might not have to complain that they are unable to operate their plant owing to the lack of orders.

Again your correspondent states that the quantity 4 1/2 to 5 lbs. of potato flour to a barrel of wheat flour cannot have much effect on the bread produced, but when you remember that it represents a very large percentage of the flour used, you will see that the effect might be very considerable, beside, the product as described by Mr. Hartman acts somewhat as a yeast product, and the fact that the demand from the baking trade in the United States has taken care of the entire production of the Company, and that they are now importing from Europe to fill the demand, and that they are at present preparing to establish twelve new plants in the United States, and are looking over the Canadian ground with a view to locating here is sufficient argument that they have the market, and we can take it for granted that they know what they are doing, and in any case we do not see that the St. Peter's Starch Co. need concern themselves to any great extent over the danger of competition that the Falk Company may suffer from their German and European labor or product. As far as making use of the plants and machinery of the local Starch Companies to produce an article such as the Falk product, I am quite sure it is not out of the question.

The suggestion was made to Mr. Hartman that some of the local plants might be of use, but he said absolutely not, and this without seeing them, and I feel sure that in an examination of the methods employed in the manufacturing of starch would not satisfy the average consumer that the article produced would be very desirable as a table product.

The processes of manufacture as described by Mr. Hartman, of potato flour and potato starch, are entirely different, and while the origin is the same, your correspondent will scarcely care to state that the local product from potatoes does not differ from the potatoes themselves, so the potato flour may differ from potato starch of potato starch flour. We have no authority from the Falk Company to take up this matter for them, they are quite capable of looking after themselves, but feel that when your correspondent attacks the Board of Trade for the action they have taken in endeavoring to locate here what must be one of the greatest openings for our people, then some one should speak.

I wish to refer to another statement made. Your correspondent states that the quantity of the processed mill would be a carload of potatoes per day. This is not what Mr. Hartman said. What he stated was if they built here they would build a plant capable of using four units, but that the quantity of the processed mill would be a carload of potatoes per day, they would want at least sufficient potatoes to keep one unit in operation, and would much prefer to have sufficient to operate two or more units, and that they kept in reserve the quantity of the processed mill would be a carload of potatoes per day. This is not what Mr. Hartman said. What he stated was if they built here they would build a plant capable of using four units, but that the quantity of the processed mill would be a carload of potatoes per day, they would want at least sufficient potatoes to keep one unit in operation, and would much prefer to have sufficient to operate two or more units, and that they kept in reserve the quantity of the processed mill would be a carload of potatoes per day.

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Table with columns: Year, Income, Assets, New Business, Business In Force. Rows for 1899, 1904, 1909, 1914, 1919.

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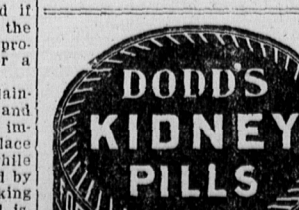
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