

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

President—W. Chester S. McLure. Secretary—Lieut. Col. D. A. Mackinnon, D. S. O. Associate Editor—D. K. Currie. Editor and Manager—J. R. Burnett.

\$2.50 per year (in advance) mailed in Canada and United States. Morning Daily (founded 1887) \$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1929

The Prohibition Situation

Recent glaring evidences of disregard for the Prohibition law have had at least one beneficial effect: they have emphasized the necessity of the law being brought to a rich and poor, high and low. The feeling amongst the less well-to-do of the community has been that the Prohibition law is intended to be administered to their disadvantage. The people who can afford to pay for "scripts" get all the liquor refreshments they require, and if the demand in "scripts" exceeds the supply they have no hesitation in turning to their bootlegger, who not infrequently parades as a respectable member of the commercial community. In the least suspected places the bootlegger is to be found. His patrons consider him, not an offender against the law, but a public benefactor. He himself considers that he is committing no crime because he is supplying the public demand. The under-dog in the bootlegging trade—the peddler—finds the business a profitable one, and the risk not too great as, according to the law, the purchaser as well as the seller of bootleg liquor is liable and the purchaser is not likely to give the peddler away. The "middle-man" bootlegger supplies "teddies" to the peddler, allowing him a commission of fifty cents per "teddy" for the first two sales, and \$2.00 if he sells three "teddies." A high pressure rum salesman can easily dispose of six "teddies" per day, according to our information; hence he is assured of a regular income of \$4.00 per day with practically no exertion. So long as these conditions prevail it is very hard for the administrators of the law and the officials entrusted with its enforcement to make the law effective.

We have not the slightest doubt that the prohibition officers and the magistrates are doing their best to cope with the situation; but it is beyond their powers. For in the households of the very elect of prohibitionists the insidious traffic finds its way. The revelation of the fact that temptation is so rampant in this Province as to invade homes wherein, one may assume, a respect for Prohibition is inculcated unceasingly, is in itself the most damning indictment against the law and the whole system of its enforcement.

In the old days, when liquor was publicly sold and consumed, some genuine progress in temperance was made by means of education and example. The conditions were by no means ideal, but at least they pointed the way towards a rational solution of the evil. Today, when the traffic is carried on through underground channels, when temperance education in the home has given place to reliance upon a so-called prohibitory law which places a premium on hypocrisy and enables bootleggers to make profits greater than the old time saloon keepers ever dreamed of making, what safeguard is there for any community? The increased number of prohibition officers has failed to keep pace with the increase in the traffic. The jails are filled with bootleggers and yet bootleggers, in greater number than ever before, walk the streets and ply their business, reaping profits which in the course of a few years, sometimes in a few months, place them on "easy street" and enable them to get into the safer and more profitable wholesale game, where they act as supply agents to a newer crop of bootleggers, recruited largely from among the younger generation and, wherever possible from among people least likely to be suspected. An occasional fine or jail imprisonment is taken as a matter of course, as a sort of tax incidental to the profession, the profits of which were than offset the risk incurred. The whole system forms a vicious

circle. The most discouraging aspect of the situation is that under the present administration it is a system which the Province will have to endure. It is the logical result of government by political prohibitionists.

Stupid Strategy

The Free Press of London, Ontario, thinks that Premier King has reason to wish to disassociate himself and his Government from the stupid political strategy whereby the former Premier of Saskatchewan, Hon. Mr. Gardiner, clung to office for three months after the defeat of his Government at the polls.

Premier J. T. M. Anderson declares that Mr. Gardiner was acting under advice from Ottawa when he refused to resign till defeated in the House. That is denied by Premier King.

"Whoever was Mr. Gardiner's advisor," comments the Free Press, "or if the plan was entirely his own, it was bad business and poor politics."

"The very same week that Mr. Gardiner was defeated," continues the Free Press, "Premier Baldwin was overwhelmed at the polls in Great Britain. Within a week Mr. Baldwin had resigned. Ramsay MacDonald had formed his Cabinet and Parliament had been summoned. There could be precedent found for Mr. Gardiner waiting to meet the Legislature before resigning. This was the plan followed by Mr. King in 1925. But there was no precedent for Mr. Gardiner during the interregnum of three months, letting contracts for millions and making appointments. This was utterly undemocratic and contrary to the Government. It is no wonder that Mr. King is endeavoring to show that he was not the author of such stupid advice."

"From the standpoint of the Conservatives the action of the Gardiner Ministry played into their hands. It proved beyond doubt to the people of Saskatchewan that the Government deserved defeat. It was the last nail in the coffin of the party."

The Wood Fire

There was a time, says an exchange, when the wood fire was mankind's main dependence for comfort and even existence during nature's fits of inclemency. Those were the days before the radiator became standard in this country and the coal grate in England, when the wide hearth and the roaring flame were a commonplace of domesticity, when the Yule log vied with rum punch or egg-nogg as an expression of Christmas cheer.

It is hardly necessary to remark that the race has traveled a long way since that halcyon era; how long a way may be gathered from the fact that "The Art and Mystery of a Wood Fire" is a featured article in the January number of "The Countryman," an Oxford publication. In it Mary Countess of Lovelace, its author, seeks to re-educate her generation in the technique of the open fire of wood, describing in much detail the size and construction of the fireplace best suited to its efflorescence; the number, nature and dimensions of the logs to burn; the implements to use in their control, and so on.

Very likely the open wood fire remains less of a luxury in this country than it does in England. But the moral is plain even among us—namely, that what were yesterday's necessities among the humblest became today luxuries among the most exalted. It constitutes a curious reversal of the trite formula so beloved of the high-powered salesman, that today's luxuries become tomorrow's necessities.

Editorial Notes

The speech of King George at the opening of the five power naval conference will be broadcast, and the event is one of great significance. The words of the ruler of the British Empire will be heard with profound interest throughout the English-speaking world.

Notes By The Way

Gold has long been known to exist in minute quantity in sea water, and some years ago a fake company tried to gull the public with a plan for the extraction of the precious metal from the waters of the Atlantic ocean. It was soon ascertained that this could not be done on a paying basis.

It has also long been known that the waters of the Dead Sea in Palestine are heavily impregnated with salt; in fact what is now called the Dead Sea, because it has no outlet, was commonly spoken of the Salt Sea. It is now claimed that the waters of the Dead Sea are ten times richer in gold than any salt or fresh waters and that may be practicable to extract the gold from it. Both British and French newspapers have discussed the subject in a casual way, probably because of the British mandate over Palestine.

Thousands of tons of Christmas letters, cards and parcels have loaded the postal cars on railway trains, the postal service of ships and air mails as never before this year. And despite all that the telephone, the telegraph, wireless and radio can do in the way of distributing messages, the burdens cast upon the mail service are increasing from year to year, with every prospect of larger business in the years to come.

The warfare that had begun between Russia and China is reported to be settled into peace, but, speaking generally, the affairs of the world are in a very unsettled state. It is profane to say "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." There is a revolutionary and murderous spirit abroad in the world as the year draws to its close.

The lives of many rulers have been threatened or attacked of late—those of the Viceroy of India, the royal family of Belgium, Mussolini, the President of Argentina and other high in state affairs in the Old World and the new. And when before has human life been held so cheap in the minds of the assassins as in these last months of 1929 in the United States, or even in parts of Canada?

The snow came earlier this year than usual throughout the Dominion and it abides and piles up persistently. The Quebec Government which had undertaken to keep the highways of the province open until spring is now blamed by the press for its failure to do so. Storm has followed storm so quickly that there was not time between to make a clearance. How long this condition of things will continue in Quebec, Ontario and the West can only be a matter of conjecture until a change shall come.

The education of soldiers' children has engaged the attention of the Tolmie Government in British Columbia. The Minister of Education has publicly stated that a bill has been prepared to be introduced at the next session of the legislature to provide for the education of the children of ex-service men who could not afford to pay for it.

This, he said, would not stop at the high school but would enable children of fathers who had sacrificed themselves for their country to complete the course at the normal school if they so desired. The idea is not altogether new, for a scheme of that sort is now in operation in Saskatchewan.

Many patrons of radio in this luxurious age find great satisfaction in listening thereto, especially the lovers of music. It reminds one of the words of Longfellow:

And the night shall be filled with music; And the fires that infest the day Shall fold their tents like the Arabs, And as silently steal away.

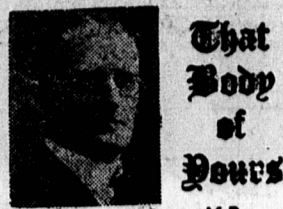
Canada has more live stock than ever before, according to the estimate of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Here are the totals:

Table with 2 columns: Animal, Count. Horses: 3,876,487; Cattle: 8,930,988; Sheep and lambs: 8,728,309; Swine: 4,881,725; Poultry: 60,889,782.

The increase over 1928 was in horses but little; and cattle were almost the same in both years. Sheep and lambs show an increase of over 400,000 and swine almost as many more, white poultry increased by over 7,000,000.

Hon. Charles Dunning has been broadcasting his views on a variety of matters regarding Canadian finances, in which the tremendous importance and vast responsibilities of his department and of the Minister at its head are very conspicuous. He gives the impression that the Government, like the solar system, has at its centre a great shining orb dominating the entire system and around which all other departments and ministers revolve as satellites.

Otherwise his deliverance reads like an introduction to his coming budget speech, or preparatory thereto.



That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

SLIMNESS NOT SO FASHIONABLE NOW

Now that the fad for 'slimness' is getting a body blow from our fashion leaders, and it is considered quite all right to have a fair average weight for your height, you may be tempted to lessen your care in regard to your food intake.

As you know about one case in a hundred of overweight is thought to be due to the ductless glands, which do not make the body processes work hard or fast enough to burn up all the food, and so it gets deposited as fat in the system.

However the other 99 cases usually get their overweight, in the early stages by overeating.

Then as the weight gradually increases they feel less like moving about, and thus the two factors, overeating and underexercising, get in their work. The result is a gradual increase in weight.

"The overweight individual spares himself exertion."

Sometimes it is the nature of his work which keeps him sitting all the time and yet he continues to have a 'healthy appetite.' Sometimes it is a lack of desire to work or exercise, that seems to be an actual part of the makeup, that helps to increase weight in some individuals.

This explains why this business of reducing weight is considered so difficult to master. It means an effort, a serious effort, on the part of the individual if he or she is to get down to normal weight.

The effort consists of approaching a table with a great desire for food and having to cut down on bread, potatoes, and desert of which you are extremely fond; cutting down as much as one third. It means also that you limit your liquids to perhaps a glass of water or one cup of tea or coffee at a meal. Also that during the day when you would like to drink two or three glassfuls of water at a time that you limit the amount to half a glass.

It means that you walk a certain distance every day, or try to get some daily exercise, five to ten minutes, and wear plenty of clothing. That after this exercise you do not take two or three glassfuls of water but limit yourself to half a glass.

Water is good for you, but if your body is a 'wet', that is holds water easily, then you don't need to drink as much as you think necessary.

Remember then reducing is a matter of will power, willingness to do without a certain amount of food, willingness to take a certain amount of exercise daily.



The Poet's Corner

THE HAND

The hand of a man is a sapient thing For the thrust of sword or lute-playing.

For sowing the harvest or gathering in, For works of mercy and deeds of sin.

The eagle's wings may bear him far, From cloud to cloud, from star to star;

But the power which governs the sea and land Is the power which lies in the human hand.

It grips the lightning, it tames the sea, It builds the worlds that are to be: Ages of labour and strife outworn Are limned on the hands of the babe unborn.

The prisoned soul behind the eyes May read the secret of the skies, But the thing which works the scheme God planned Is the awful and wonderful human hand.

—Frederick George Scott.

THE LAND WE LOVE

By FRANK YEIGB

THE GRENFELL MISSION

Q. What is the Grenfell Mission? A. Dr. Grenfell began his work in Labrador shortly after graduating in medicine from Oxford. The first hospital ship was equipped before 1892, and made its first voyage to Iceland, where he built homes and mission ships for the fisher folk. In 1892 he came to Labrador. From a small hospital of two rooms, cut from the forest surrounding it, has grown a chain of hospitals, eight nursing stations,

The Public Forum

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

WHAT IS HUMOUR

Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. Boyer, of Halifax, in this morning's issue tacitly asks my endorsement of his stand on the anonymous question. While giving unqualified approval to his denouncing of the indefensible custom may I be permitted to suggest to him that he lends too much dignity to "Humorist's" efforts by discussing the subject matter of his effusions. Who can be the arbiter of another man's merriment? It is wholly a matter of opinions. One writer under the nom-de-plume of Dod Grile, said, a pig's face is as pretty as a man's face—in the pig's opinion. In this case the pig's opinion is as likely to be right as the man's opinion. Who will deny it? The ribald jest, the obscene story excite the guffaw and "hee haw" of vulgarity quite as readily as the more refined humor appeals to decency: "and to them that like that sort of thing, that is just the sort of thing they would like." The Negro minstrel who thinly veils his identity with lamp-black or burnt cork is more generously applauded than the musical artist or melodramatic actor; and it is a saying as true as old that appreciation is in general in inverse ratio to merit. The best bit of humor in "Humorist's" productions has been introduced by him unconsciously, that is his classing his effort with Mark Twain and Sam Slick. What would poor Clemens or Haleburlton think of it could they return? I am Sir, etc.

F. P. DOULL

Charlottetown, Dec. 27, 1929.

Bed Of Atlantic Will Be Sounded

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Efforts to ascertain just exactly what happened to the bed of the Atlantic Ocean three weeks ago when it was shaken by a series of earthquakes that snapped deep sea cables and sent a sympathetic shudder along the North Atlantic coast are to be made by cable ships of the Western Union Telegraph Company when they finish repairs on which they now are working.

Three ships, the Dominica, largest cable vessel in the world; the Lord Calvin and the Cyrus Field—are now on duty at the scene of the two greatest tremors the first two about 1,000 miles due east of New York, working on repairs to the New York-Azores cable, and the latter some 200 or 300 miles south of Newfoundland, engaged in patching the New York-Newfoundland connecting link of the European cable.

When they have finished their tasks, delayed and made difficult by recent storms, they will be instructed to gather all the oceanographic data possible by soundings on their way back to port.

So far the ships have noted no marked change in the topography of the ocean bottom since the quakes of November 18. The Dominica and the Calvin, operating on information furnished by the device which locates cable breaks within an average of a quarter-mile of exactitude, have picked up the Azores cable exactly where it was laid.

Although the break occurred at the deepest point along the cable's path, the one-inch wire was fished from a depth of approximately three and a half miles with no more than normal difficulty, although heavy weather since has prevented the completion of the splicing.

The grappling iron of the Cyrus Field caught the Newfoundland cable too, at the depth of about two and a half miles, which was looked for at the point where the break came, while cable ships of other companies are reported to have picked up their broken lines in the same area without noting any changes in depth.

Senatorship New-Year Gift

OTTAWA, Dec. 27.—A New Year's gift of a seat in the senate is forecast as coming to Hon. Robert Forke. The intimations have been that, while nothing would be doing till after Christmas, it might be expected before the year ended and New Year is regarded as the acceptable time.

two orphanages, two boarding schools. He also initiated a few small industrial and agricultural schemes, all on a social welfare basis. In 1912 he opened the King George the Fifty Seaman's Institute in St. John's Newfoundland.

Just Getting Past

Many children in public school are satisfied if their test or examination paper comes back with a pass mark says the Farmers' Advocate. The great rank and file of laborers and artisans are content with their work if it is only good enough to pass inspection and meet minimum requirements. Many farmers consider they have done well enough if their product simply measures up to the minimum standard set by law, and they entertain the belief that anything superior to that would be a direct loss to themselves and a gain to the dealer or consumer. From childhood to old age, in every walk of life, urban and rural, there is an innate human tendency to just "get past." That is why there is an average level where most of us are content to walk and work; while the few who constantly strive to do their best, to excel, to make a better mousetrap than their neighbor, rise to greater heights and become the leaders in agriculture, industry and in the various pursuits of this highly modernized age. How true it is that

Heights by great men reached and kept Were not attained by sudden flight, But they, while their companions slept,

Were climbing upward in the night. Minimum requirements in every line are set for the average intellect or for the one of only average skill.

We recently heard an officer of the Seed Branch at Ottawa subjected to a grower's criticism that the standard of quality set by the Seeds Act was entirely too low. His reply was: "These standards are high enough for the average, high enough for the growers considered as one entire group; they are probably as high as could be successfully enforced, but for the ambitious individual they are admittedly too low."

Laws are made for the masses, not for the individual. Standards attainable by the rank and file are high enough to write on the statute books. A pass mark of 40 or 50 or 60, as the case maybe, is possibly high enough for the average pupil. But those who are considered successful in the light of human values strive to do their best regardless of pass marks or legal standards, and it is they and only they, who attain real success and enjoy the satisfaction that comes to one who rejoices in a task well done.

Possibly, barring complication, it may be done at the Cabinet Council tomorrow.

A Senatorship for Mr. Forke would, of course, be the prelude to Hon. T. A. Crerar replacing him in the cabinet and contesting Brandon.

Thus, three by-elections loom up—Huntingdon-Chateaugay, due to the death of Mr. Robb; Bagot, by the death on Tuesday, of G. D. Morin, M. P., and Brandon by the prospect of a coalition between the two parties.

Good for Toothache—Minard's Linctament

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Paris Auction Sale of Silver Fox Pelts. At the Great Paris Fur Auction which will be held the week of JANUARY 20th. We have arranged to contribute a special OFFERING OF 1500 CANADIAN SILVER FOX PELTS. This sale has been widely advertised and will be the first European Silver Fox Sale in 1930 and exclusive to us as there will be no other Canadian Silvers offered. Commission and terms exactly similar to London Sales. Pelts for this Sale must reach our Montreal office NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 4th. E. H. RAYNER, Limited. 450 St. Peter St., Montreal, P. Q. Charles R. Stavert, Agent, Summerside.

By pressing a button attached to a hospital bed recently invented in Brighton, England, said in his speech on a recent Sunday that the men were created equal in the sight of God, a woman rose and shouted "He is a liar."

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"BLACK TWIST" CHEWING. HICKEY & NICHOLSON.

Just the Thing For Christmas. Giving is a pleasure. But as Christmas after Christmas rolls by it becomes more of a problem to make gift selections. It seems as if every one has everything. However, it is quite easy to select gifts which are unusual. Yet practical, and just what people want. Christmas Time is Coleman Time. Bethune Hardware Co. Ltd. "THE FRIENDLY HARDWARE STORE" 123 Queen Street Phone 157