

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1919.

THE PROVINCIAL DEFICIT.

If the contest in First Queens has done nothing else it has made the government show its hand in the matter of finances. We were told by the Patriot some time ago, when we announced that Mr. Bell claimed that the excess of expenditure over receipts was \$137,000 that the government was busily engaged "seeking to discover" the state of the finances. We assumed then that Mr. Bell had been taken to task for admitting that the excess was no more than \$130,000 and that an endeavor was being made to make it appear considerably more.

Yesterday the result of the search for discovery was made known through the Patriot and we are told that it was submitted to the various meetings held in support of Mr. Crosby in the First District. Now what do we find from the statement signed by Mr. John Anderson, the Provincial Auditor, and Mr. Bell the Premier?

The receipts up to September 9th, are given as \$429,054.70 and the actual disbursements as \$566,396.51, showing an excess of expenditure over receipts of \$137,341.81.

It will be noted that this is purely and simply a cash-book entry of receipts and expenditure. No account is taken of the stocks on hand in the various departments, no inventory of these being submitted.

Included in the expenditure is all the money paid for next winter's supplies at the public institutions and all the material purchased in connection with the roads and public works department.

If credit were given for these, as there ought to be, instead of showing an excess on the debit side of \$137,000 there would be a comparatively small difference which would be more than made up for in ordinary circumstances by the revenue due and payable this fall. It is well known to the government and all those who take an interest in public affairs that the large proportion of the taxes is paid between October and December 31. Few farmers or business men ever think of paying their taxes until the end of the year. When this taxation and inventory are accounted for there will be a different tale to tell.

In order to make the showing worse the government sets forth that the receipts include \$116,243.30 of the subsidy paid in advance and assert that if this be deducted the excess of expenditure over receipts would be \$255,938.78.

Now just see what this means. This is a statement of actual receipts and expenditure. No account is taken of the uncollected revenue which would offset the expenditure, but that part of the revenue which has been collected is deducted because, forsooth, the period of the year to which it applies has not expired.

We leave it at this. Anyone who knows anything about book-keeping and finances knows just as well as Mr. Bell that Mr. Anderson's report deals exclusively with the money paid in and paid out to September 9 and purports to be nothing else. It is not a balance sheet of the government nor does it pretend to set forth the state of the finances of the government as at September 9th.

THE POSITION OF THE TEACHERS.

The position of the teachers is now clear cut and defined. In city, town, village and country they are united in their demand for a reasonable wage and in this the best element in the province is with them. The teachers of Charlottetown have taken a firm stand on behalf of their less fortunate confreres in the rural districts and, as stated in yesterday's Guardian, have made their determination clear to the school board that a reasonable living wage must be provided for the rural teachers.

In their stand on this question they are supported by the Superintendent of Education, and by Principal Robertson of Prince of Wales College; Mr. H. H. Shaw, who was Acting Superintendent of Education during the absence of Col. Campbell at the front, may also be quoted as favoring the attitude adopted by the teachers as he recommended concerted action on the part of the teachers for a living wage.

It is now up to the government to provide the means whereby our schools throughout the province shall be maintained not only in their present efficiency but vastly improved by showing the teachers in a tangible way that the government is behind them. A definite promise to this effect has already been made to them and in the interests of the province the promise should be carried out in good faith and at once. As to ways and means the matter rests with the government. There are two alternatives, either increase the salaries of the teachers to the minimum amount demanded or close the schools. The former the province can well afford to do, the latter would be disastrous not only for the present but for the future.

If promises impossible of fulfilment have been made it is now too late to haggle over them. The means must be provided; the schools must not be closed; the future of the province must be made secure.

NOTES

It is estimated that the winners of the approaching world's series baseball games will get about \$5,000 each for their services, which might work out at the rate of \$100 a game. Is it any wonder that there is such a rush to the ministry?

HINTS FOR The Motorist

BY ALBERT L. CLOUGH

DRY BATTERIES IN MOTOR CAR SERVICE

Different Conditions Demand Cells of Different Character.

Dry cell batteries become useless in two ways, first by being exhausted in service through furnishing all the current they are capable of supplying and second, by the effects of time, it being a fact that in from a year and a half a battery deteriorates practically completely, even though it never is called upon to furnish current. For lighting service or as a regular ignition source the heavy duty or ignition type of cell is to be preferred, as the probability is that it will be exhausted by current draft before it has greatly deteriorated through age. To use with a magneto merely to furnish ignition current to start the engine, it is a question whether it pays to use the ignition type of cell for here the actual service is very light indeed and what is wanted is a battery that will act as "standby" for as long as possible, without renewal. In this service the "general purpose" or even the telephone type of cell will give the necessary current for the brief periods it is required and will resist deterioration by age considerably longer. The same thing is true of a dry battery used as an auxiliary ignition source, while an engine is being cranked by the storage battery that furnishes the regular ignition. Here also a long life battery is desirable and heavy current capability is unimportant. There is upon the market a type of dry cell which is "extra dry," that is, it contains no free moisture and will give no current until after water has been supplied it. Moreover it will keep indefinitely without deteriorating and can be put into service at any time by the addition of water. A battery of such desiccated cells constitutes a reserve source of ignition current, which can be put into action within a few hours after water is added to the cells, to take the place, temporarily, of a storage battery that has run down or is otherwise not available. In making up batteries from dry cells, it is necessary to use one cell for each volt required by the apparatus to be operated for example, to take the place of a six-volt storage battery, six dry cells, connected in series, i. e., with the zinc terminal of one connected to the carbon terminal of the next, are necessary.

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson

THE MOTTO THAT COUNTS

"You may bring to your office and put in a frame. A motto as fine as its paint. But if you're a crook when you're playing the game, That motto won't make you a saint. You can stick up the placards all over the hall. But here is the word I announce: It is not the motto that hangs on the wall. But the motto you live that counts."

"If the motto says 'Smile' and you carry a frown; 'Do it now,' and you linger and wait; If the motto says 'Help' and you trample men down; If the motto says 'Love' and you hate— You won't get away with the mottoes you stall. For the truth will come forth with a bounce. It is not the motto that hangs on the wall. But the motto you live that counts."

Close the book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness.

HENRY VAN DYKE.

Do not worry; eat three square meals a day; say your prayers; be courteous to your creditors; keep your digestion good; exercise; go slow, and go easy. Maybe there are other things that your special case requires to make you happy; but, my friend, these, I reckon, will give you a good lift.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen

Signed the Treaty that Ended the War

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G. H. TAYLOR JEWELER

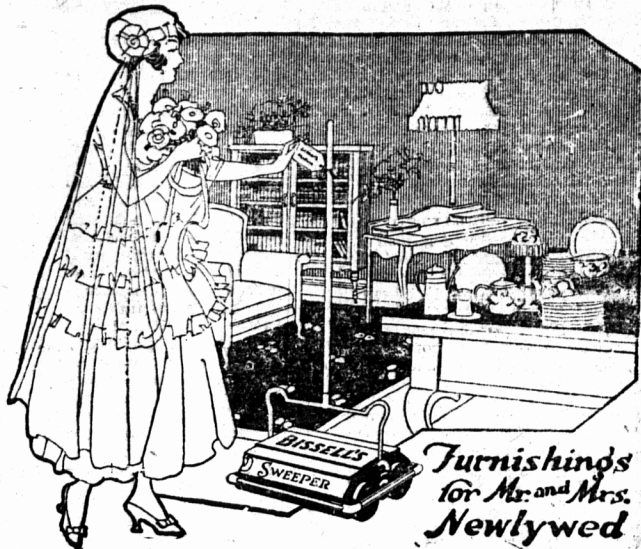
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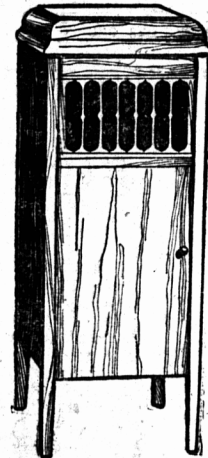
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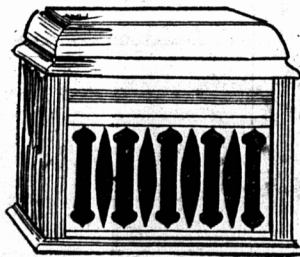
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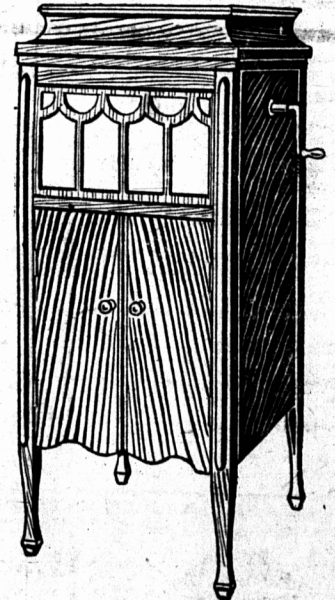
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