

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1926

Notes by the Way

QUICKLY after the demand of the railway trainmen had been settled, the civil servants at Ottawa have decided to ask for increased pay. This is not a new thing for them; they have been asking and getting favors at frequent intervals during the past sixty years.

There were only some 15,000 beneficiaries in the railway settlement, but this civil service demand has several times that number behind it—an army, in fact. The tired and sorrowful multitude of taxpayers must find the money if the Government says the word, and when has a demand from the Ottawa civil service for increased pay ever been denied?

A Liberal member from Quebec has introduced a bill to abolish the Civil Service Commission. The Commission, although it did not prove entirely satisfactory in all respects, was found useful in raising the standard of qualifications among civil servants. But there has always been some dissatisfaction with the Board, which increased during the past year when two commissioners were disgraced before the Customs Probe Committee and felt compelled to resign.

It seems to be understood that the Deputy Minister as a body are hostile to the Commission for various reasons, and there is believed to be a considerable proportion of the members of Parliament from Quebec and elsewhere who desire to have the old-time system of patronage restored. It may turn out that the bill above referred to will receive a very considerable support in the House of Commons and it might possibly pass.

The labor unions in Detroit are protesting against "an unlawful invasion of foreigners." The so-called foreigners have their homes on the Canadian side of the river, but cross to Detroit in the morning and work in factories there during the day and return to their homes when work is ended in the afternoon. It is said some 15,000 men and women are in the group complained of. It is claimed that this practice is in violation of the United States immigration law and must be stopped forthwith. It is hard for these people to lose their employment in winter, but it would appear that their only alternative is to cross the border river and make their homes in the land where they earn their wages.

The reduction of letter postage from three cents to two took effect last Dominion Day, and the postal revenue in July showed a slight increase over July of last year. But in August, September and October the postal revenue fell off month by month, first \$500,000, then \$400,000 and lastly \$200,000 as compared with the same months last year. Contrary to expectation, there has been in three months a loss of over a million dollars from diminished receipts. This was different from what happened in the early Laurier days when Postmaster General Mulock reduced the letter rate and the revenue bounded upward at once. The two-cent rate will with its way to the front again as a revenue producer, but it gains ground more slowly this time than before.

After a brief period of activity—only a week—Parliament has adjourned till February 8. Thus a week of work is followed by eight weeks of rest. But, of course, there were reasons of an exceptional kind for what has occurred. The orderly working of Governmental and Parliamentary machinery was suddenly interrupted last mid-summer, and many important things have occurred since then—a general election and a change of Government included. These involved the necessity for an immediate calling together of Parliament to vote the unvoted supply for the current year. And it is just as well that the members made short work of that by making it a blanket vote.

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "treat her the same as you would your sister." Say "just as."

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: glance. Pronounce the a as in "ask," not as in "at."

OFTEN MISPELLED: almanac. SYNONYMS: money, coin, cash, currency, capital, funds, property. WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: SUAVITY; urbanity; politeness; gentleness. "He bowed and spoke with a most friendly suavity."

That Body of Hours

By James W. Barton, M.D. A NEW WORD—ARTHRITIS.

A word has crept into our every day language that is displacing another word entirely. The new word is arthritis, and the old word is rheumatism. Arthritis simply means the inflammation of a joint, and arthritis is spoken of as an inflammation of some particular part of the joint. So important are these joint conditions considered now that Cornell Medical College has what is called an Arthritis Clinic, and they are endeavoring to simplify the causes, and thus the names, of the inflammations of different parts of the joint.

In six hundred cases they found that four hundred were due to an inflammation of the lining of the joint; that is, the lining that makes the joint to keep the joint lubricated. The other two hundred were due to an inflammation of the surface of the cartilages that cover the end of each bone forming the joint.

The first type was usually found in young people of people up to middle age, whereas the other type was found in middle aged and older people.

That was a real start in clearing matters up. Now what about the causes? In the first type or young folks' type, 61 per cent. were due to infection from teeth. Think of that, 61 per cent. of these cases due to tonsils and teeth.

This is an answer to our humorists who tell us that "it is easy to be a physician, all you have to do is to say 'Ahem, it is from the teeth.'"

The second type, in older people, was found to be due in most cases to natural changes that come with advancing years.

The treatment of the young type of arthritis is first to remove any infection in teeth, tonsils, gall bladder or elsewhere, and then to apply heat, massage, or gentle motion of the joint to help the circulation and thus carry away waste products.

In the second or older type all that can be done is to have the patient keep "moving."

A little exercise, and not too much food, are the points to remember.

Lost Cathedral Sceptre From Past

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Archaeologists are greatly excited over the news from Copenhagen that Dr. Noerlund, leader of the Danish archaeological and geological expedition to South Greenland, has reported the discovery of the foundations of a large cathedral at Ivigo, in the district where the Norsemen lived under Eric the Red about the year 1000 A. D.

The Norse colony in Greenland and its virtual disappearance into thin air has long been the subject of discussion and speculation among archaeologists, historians and clerics, for in the middle ages a large and prosperous colony simply ceased to exist and no reliable traces of the community have ever been found.

Some 900 years ago Eric the Red, a Viking ruler, and his son, Liek Ericson, planted colonies of Norsemen in Greenland and introduced Christianity. By the beginning of the twelfth century Greenland had a bishop, and there were at least twelve Norse churches in the middle ages.

From 1247 to 1261 Greenland was a republic, but later the colonies gave allegiance to the Kings of Norway. There was some 10,000 inhabitants of Viking breed in the Arctic Circle when the last reliable statistics were compiled, and the complete disappearance of the "Lost Colonies" is more of a historical tragedy than the story of the "Lost Continent of Atlantis."

The colonists had to rely mainly for supplies on regular Scandinavian expeditions which sailed summer from Norse ports. In the fourteenth century Europe was ravaged by "The Black Death" plague and the despatch of relief expeditions to Greenland was discontinued.

Successor and feet of his own resident population, and the Greenland colonies were overlooked for some years.

When after a considerable interval relief vessels were again sent to Greenland, the sailors were unable to find the old harbor entrance at Ivigo—it had, evidently, been frozen up or blocked by glaciers.

Further investigations revealed the trace of the 10,000 members of the colony, and it was clear that they must have died, migrated or dispersed in search of more hospitable regions.

Whether any of the colonists intermarried with Eskimos and "escaped southward" has been a subject for controversy, and there were no wanting optimists during the past 200 years who imagined that the colony must have moved to other parts of the Arctic, and that their descendants could still be found living in inland valleys. No such traces were ever found, however, and it is traditionally understood that the last Norse Bishop of Greenland died around 1377.

Dr. Noerlund's expedition has located the ancient bishop's palace at Ivigo, and established that it covered some five and a half acres. It was built of red sandstone, probably in the 12th century. The explorers have brought back the skeleton of a bishop—judged to be a bishop by the episcopal ring still on the finger of one hand. A bishop's crozier, made of walrus horn, is among the finds, and from his-

Island Demands At Ottawa During Session

(Historical)

The electors of this Province are not unaware of the long catalogue of complaints which has piled up against the Dominion of Canada respecting our federal interests in a variety of ways. Indeed, this Maritime Province has been suffering for a long time, and the press has been crying out against the neglect and suffering of which the people bitterly complained. Now, however, a new and fiercer light has been let in on Liberal neglect by the Royal Commission Report just made public. It is not quite "the fierce light that beats around the Throne," it is more in order to say "the fierce light that beats on those near the Throne at Ottawa." This changes the situation very abruptly. Now the neglect of the past five years must end. There will need to be action—where all along we have had but neglect, and all petitions must be given to matters that have been kept hidden away at Ottawa.

The Guardian deserves heartfelt thanks for its enterprise in publishing the Royal Commission Report in full. It is no longer the old hidden light, it is light shed over the Dominion generally and our Province particularly—it is practically in the hands of every man on the island.

All this turns on a new light on representation at Ottawa. Now the supporters of the Government will have to get busy and see what the Government is going to do about it. The Royal Commission has caught them sound asleep, and we hope has thoroughly awakened them. Our Provincial rulers have been trying hard to wake up the Cabinet at Ottawa on the matter of increased Provincial subsidy but only had a promise which the King Government has not yet fulfilled.

The Royal Commission may stir them up. It is quite precise in its conclusions. It says to Hon. Mr. King the Government of Canada should pay an increased Provincial subsidy of \$125,000 to the Provincial Government of P. E. Island. It says emphatically that this should be done. It also states emphatically that there is an additional Car Ferry required by this Province in order to maintain our Railway connections with the mainland and they elector in New Brunswick and the island will endorse that statement.

The next question is "Who is to look after this important business?" Why, the men to insist on these demands being complied with are the supporters of the Government at Ottawa. They have received due notice that it is up to them. They must speak out in the House and call upon the Government to grapple with those two problems also several others clearly set forth in the Commission's Report. They must be heard, and heard in earnest. It is for them to solicit the assistance of the Maritime members and get all to press forward.

We need not press upon the Opposition members. They will stand by the island to a man. And our local rulers will also perform their part to the letter.

The magnificent strides of the new era of progress in this Province are also calling to the Government at Ottawa to "bend on the ear;" it must not cause delay. Such a chance of making vast progress has not knocked at the door of this Province in the past fifty years.

There is also the completion of the widening of the Murray Harbor Branch to be attended to at once. Now is the time to keep the ball a-rolling.

In the teeth of battle Lord Nelson's records it is taken that the skeleton may have been that of Bishop Jon Sverrestre, an adopted son of King Sverre of Norway.

There were several chapels and other buildings in the neighborhood of the palace and cathedral. In another place were found the remains of a church, presumed to have been built by the wife of Eric the Red; also a runic stone with a remarkable inscription so far untranslated.

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Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

December 17, 1926.

THE HAND OF GOD—"The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek Him; but His power and His wrath is against them that forsake Him." Ezra 8:22.

PRAYER—"Blessed is the man that maketh the Lord His trust. Always seeing the sunnyside That's the glorious way of him. Rollin' his head with his mouth stretched wide, As quick to laugh as duck to swim; Whatever you say or whatever you do He'll answer you back with a chuckle or two."

THE LAUGHING BOY. Laughin' from mornin' to night it seems, Just chock full of the gift o' fun, An' the angels send him their comic dreams. So's he can grin for 'em every one, An' his grandma says when he laughs her down, He's the disreputablest boy in town.

"What'll we do?" says Ma to me, "With a boy like that who won't behave?" An' I answer back, "We'll let him be; Old folks' faces are far too grave, An' it's good for us to have the joy An' the rollickin' mirth of a laughin' boy."

BETTER MILK. See that the refrigerator is clean. Bring the milk in from the steps as soon as possible. Wipe the top of the bottle before removing the cap. Keep the milk in the top of the refrigerator right next to the ice. After the bottle has been opened, recover with a paper cap or a glass stopper.

Gloria Swanson has obtained pictures of the Paris Opera Comique for use in reproducing scenes in "Sunya." Reno Hubert, Miss Swanson's designer, used a still camera, and through time exposures completed a series of 100 photographs. The art director will utilize them in making his sets.

Motion pictures of the Opera are not permitted. The fairy, Tinker Bell, in "Peter Pan" was a tiny bit then, but she comes to the screen again in a grown-up role. She is impersonating Anita Baker, millionaire sportswoman, in a picture featuring Thunder, the police dog star.

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Never Worry If he is a smoker, he would be utterly content if every one of his gifts were good cigars. We have the kind he likes and smokes every day—specially wrapped for Xmas—in boxes of 10, 25, and 50. Then there are these typical gifts for men: Dunhill's Pipes and Lighters, cased Pipes and Pipes in sets, Dunhill's Razors, Cigaretts in 50's and 100's. Soft Collar Cases, Handkerchief Cases, Shaving Sets, Bill Folds, Military Brushes, etc.

THE WHITE DRUG STORE J. G. JAMIESON

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