

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1919.

THE FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING.

There is substantial authority for the expression, "The foolishness of preaching." Its author was himself one of the greatest preachers the world has ever known and while admitting the "foolishness" of it he also admitted that it bore "some" fruit.

We are not here referring to the preachers of the Gospel. There are other preachers, many of them, and probably nowhere are they more in evidence than right here in Prince Edward Island. We are a farming community and the farmers are being preached more to than any other class of sinners. Much of the preaching is unquestionably "foolishness," much of it also gospel, but the farmers, like other sinners, are apt to become gospel hardened.

"The foolishness of preaching" consists probably in the fact that so little attention is paid to it. Our farmers, at an agricultural meeting, will follow the reasoning of the agricultural preacher as devotedly as his brother sinner in the church listens to the Sunday sermon and, like the latter, will afterwards go on doing things in his own way after he has listened to and acquiesced in the homily.

How many of our farmers have abandoned their former methods and adopted those preached to them? "Some" have turned from the error of their former ways and adopted modern methods but by far too many are farming as their fathers and grandfathers did when conditions were vastly different from what they are today. The "foolishness of preaching" may yet reach these and the path of wisdom is to keep it ever before them.

There is no agricultural doctrine as universally preached or as universally believed in as co-operation and there is probably none so little practised. We have, it is true, cooperative associations, successful ones too, and although all share in the profits that come from faithful observance of the doctrine they also share in the losses occasioned by want of complete all round adherence to its principles. The Cooperative Egg and Poultry Association has, through the efficacy of watchfulness and the "pay-according-to quality method" succeeded probably in getting more out of co-operation than any other of our associations. The efficacy of this system lies in the fact that a member receives value for just what he gives.

Every individual in the community is benefitted by the honest effort of every other individual and is injured by every dishonest effort. This is why cooperation should be complete, why every man in the community should, as far as lies in his power, help his neighbor. This would be real cooperation and would benefit the whole province and with it every individual.

PRICES

Many sermons, lay and professional, have been preached about the evils of high prices and if the evils denounced in our regular Sunday sermons were agreed to with equal unanimity the common sins of humanity would receive a severe jolt.

All are agreed that prices at present are exceedingly high, so high as to place the ordinary necessities of life almost, if not quite, beyond the reach of the great majority, but the trouble is what to do about it.

It has been suggested in some quarters that an effective remedy would be a general strike on the part of the consumers. Stop buying eggs, butter, poultry, beef, and immediately the sellers of these products would capitulate! If this little province of ours should make up its mind to buy no more of these articles until the price came down it would not alter the situation to the extent of the thousandth part of one percent. on the price of anything. Every pound we produce of the articles mentioned would simply be shipped out of the province and the effect on the price would be nil. It is the outside markets that fix our prices. It is because St. John's, Sydney, Halifax, Montreal and other centres are prepared to pay the price, that we are obliged to pay it. The outside markets are wide open and asking for much more than we can supply.

In the matter of clothing, boots and other wearing apparel the European markets are ready to absorb all our manufacturers can send them, and also ready to pay the price. If we refuse to pay ten dollars for a pair of boots that we could have bought before the war for five dollars, the manufacturer simply sends it to Europe where he gets his price. This is true of everything we buy. The European market for manufactured goods will pay any price asked for, while the cutting off of the regular supplies of raw material, the constant demand for it and the higher wages to workmen all contribute to the cost of manufacture.

Supply and demand are the factors in the regulation of prices and no theorizing or philosophising or anathematizing will alter it.

An occasional financial luminary heartens the poor consumer with an elaborate theory of the why and the wherefore of high prices. Here is one from a financial writer in a United States paper and "treated" in Toronto Saturday Night:

"If a situation exists where the number of goods to be moved increases twenty-five percent., while money and credit is increased fifty percent., then the money is worth that much less; in other words, each individual article costs more. If money and credit jumps to over one hundred percent. in the increase of the number of goods to be moved, then each individual item takes twice as much money as before to buy it. It is very much simpler to accept this theory than it is to endeavour the impossible task of trying to discovered by investigating in an

Others View Point

Health in the Air.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The suggestion by an English physician that airships be used as sanatoria for the treatment of tuberculosis is has much to recommend it. In combating the tubercular germ modern medical practice has all but abandoned drugs. It depends largely on pure air, sunshine, rest and an abundance of wholesome food. There would doubtless be some difficulty in stocking the larder of a floating sanatorium, but rest would be unavoidable and the airship at an easily negotiated altitude would provide air and sunshine in a degree of purity and plenty hardly attainable on the earth's surface. But the most interesting feature of the suggestion is the wider service it prophesies from the conquest of the air. Only a few years ago the airplane, in popular expectation, merely platted another avenue on the chart of adventure. With the war it developed into an invaluable branch of arms that revolutionized military tactics. Since the war it has quickened the industrial pace by accelerating communication. Now it is recruited by medicine in the battle for health. In what new field will it appear tomorrow?

A Perishing People.

Lemberg Forward. All East Galicia from Lisko to Kowrow is starving. The people, ill-treated, ragged and barefooted, suffer their cruel fate in despair and resignation. The large estates, having no cattle, no machinery, not even seed, are lying fallow. The peasants' small property is in the same plight. The events of war have severed all connection of the country with the rest of the world. It is impossible for the people to earn any wages or even to procure the necessities of life. Native and foreign smugglers and dealers creep about like hyenas and rob the poor, desolate people of their last coins or of whatever may have been left in their purses. All over East Galicia typhoid is spreading in an alarming manner. Hygienic or sanitary institutions are lacking. There are no medicines, no hospitals, and no sanitary service. In masses the people are lying in their miserable homes, dying without help, buried without coffins, there being no boards to make them with. The Ukrainian people in East Galicia are dying out, and the only way of saving them from starvation is to end the war, to abolish the frontier lines, and to give them work.

A German View.

St. John Standard. An interesting situation created by America's failure to ratify the Peace Treaty is discussed by the Berlin Vorwarts, which says Germany's position is respect to international law is unprecedented in the world's history. It says that though the Treaty has been ratified by Germany and three of the principal Powers it cannot become effective, because America's participation is a postulate of its execution; because America is supposed to have a place on all the commissions appointed to carry out the provisions of the Treaty. The Vorwarts adds: "Germany has pledged herself to submit to the dictum of the Commissions, but not to Commissions arbitrarily made up on the other side. As facts are, therefore, Germany could take the standpoint that we are prepared to carry out the peace, but only as prescribed by the Treaty. We will

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson

THE OUTLOOK AND THE UPLOOK

"When the outlook is dark, try the uplook." These words hold a message of cheer; Be glad while repeating them over, And smile when the shadows appear. Above and beyond stands the master, He sees what we do for His sake; He never will fail nor forsake us, "He knoweth the way that we take."

"When the outlook is dark, try the uplook."—The uplook of faith and good cheer; The love of the Father surrounds us, He knows when the shadows are near. Be brave, then and keep the eyes lifted, And smile on the dreariest day; His smile will glow in the darkness, His light will illumine the way.

For we know, that all things work together for good to those that love God. To those that are called according to His purpose.—Romans 8:28.

endless circle, as to what particular agency it was that first started to raise our commodity costs."

A gem truly both in English and in high finance! The helpless buyer will no doubt be comforted by the fact that an article really does not cost double what it should but that his money is worth only half what he thought it was.

acknowledge the competence of the Commissions whose composition is according to the Treaty, but will not acknowledge the competence of Commissions otherwise made up. Thereby the whole Peace Treaty would go by the board. It would be necessary to agree on a new treaty.

While the Allies are able to blockade Germany at any time she will probably think twice before demanding another peace treaty.

Making Democracy Ridiculous.

Ottawa Journal. One does not know whether to be amused or annoyed at reports from Toronto that Premier Drury and his Cabinet contemplate eliminating traditional ceremonies and what is referred to as the "social atmosphere" from the next opening of the Legislature. We are much afraid that in his effort to affect his conception of democracy, Mr. Drury is paying a little too much to the gallery. After all, what is democracy? Is it not political doctrine of majority rule through the ballot, with the good of the many as opposed to the privilege of the few as the goal? Or is it merely something which aims at destruction of social customs and of ceremonies which have their basis in traditions revered, and rightly so, by millions of the British race?

Parliaments, like courts, are steeped in ritual and ceremony. Much of this ceremony and ritual, instead of being undemocratic, as some of our Ontario super-democrats appear to believe, is, on the contrary, an eternal reminder of some of the greatest sacrifices and triumphs which democracy achieved in the days of its bitterest struggles. Perhaps a perusal of what some of it symbolizes would change Mr. Drury's mind.

There is another thing. British Parliaments have ever been noted for their dignity. No one who has ever visited American legislatures but has been struck with their utter lack of dignity and authority as compared with the legislatures of our own country. This dignity is not mere emptiness of ceremony or a dying relic of autocracy. It is the majesty with which all right-thinking citizens ought to be willing to surround the source of law. And in an age when more than ever since the beginning of time, there is a tendency to flout law and to challenge authority, we say if it is not wise to do anything which may have a tendency to strip Parliaments of the respect in which they are held.

The Falling Mark.

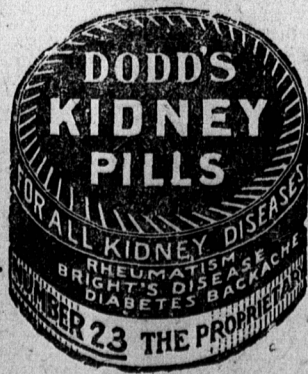
London Morning Post. In Germany now you need a great number of marks to take you a very little way. A bill for a modest lunch for two at a hotel restaurant in Frankfurt, known as a good and cheap place before the war, is forwarded as a curiosity by a correspondent. The lunch consisted of fish at 105 marks—and goose at 150 marks. The charge for bread was 14 marks, potatoes at 10, and butter at 15. Table charges and two bottles of mineral water added another 41 marks to the bill, the total amounting to 335 marks, or over £16 in English money, supposing the mark to stand where it stood.

German Repudiation.

St. John Standard. It is no surprise that Germany manifests an inclination to violate the agreement she made as the price of peace. The Ebert republic entertains about the same ideas of the sanctity of treaties that the Hohenzollern autocracy did. Pledges are to be kept if convenient, or if their redemption is forced, but not otherwise.

The present rulers of Germany have watched not so much the attitude of the United States toward the covenant as the concrete facts of demobilization. The question she has considered is whether or not the Allies would remobilize and order their soldiers forward. Apparently she has concluded it is safe to regard the Versailles treaty as another scrap of paper. She assumes that neither the United States nor Great Britain can be induced to participate in coercive action and that France will hesitate about acting alone.

Marshal Foch was ignorantly attacked as an imperialist because he



insisted on practical guarantees for the treaty's enforcement—such as the occupation of a large zone of German territory until Germany met her obligations. This was not imperialism, but common sense. He had intelligence enough to foresee exactly what Germany would do if pressure were removed. The hope of getting the treaty peacefully obeyed rests on the occupation of German territory. The marshal was not able to secure the advanced line he asked for, but he did succeed in preventing complete evacuation.

What's in a Name?

Detroit Free Press. What is there about that good old Saxon word housewife, that twentieth century dames should shy at it? According to Solomon, "many daughters have done virtuously," but the housewife outranks them in excellence. A woman, registering, that she might exercise her new privilege of voting, so disliked giving her occupation as housewife that she called herself "office assistant," on the strength of having occasionally received and replied to messages in her husband's office. "Maid" was so universally rejected by young women in domestic service that the term "household assistant" was coined to solve wounded pride and "save the face"—as the Chinese say—of those formerly designated as "hired girls."

THE REASON WHY

WHAT CAUSES THE GURGLE WHEN I POUR WATER FROM A BOTTLE?

The air trying to get in causes the gurgle. Air has one strong characteristic which stands out above everything else. It wants to go some place else all the time. When it learns of a place where there's no air, it wants to go there above all things, and goes at it with a rush. Now, when you turn a bottle full of water upside down, the water comes out if the cork is out, of course, and as soon as the water starts out the air strives to get in, and every time you hear a gurgle you know the air is getting in. Every gurgle is a battle between the water and the air. Sometimes the air comes and pushes the water back enough to let it slide into the bottle; sometimes the water pushes the air back, and thus the

Canadian-American Trade Relations

In America's last fiscal year Canada sold \$400,000,000 of her products in the U.S. Market, but purchased there \$700,000,000 of goods. Thus \$1,100,000,000 of Canadian-American trade was affected by the fluctuations in Canadian Exchange. We maintain separate Foreign Exchange Departments under specialists at our New York, London, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver Branches, to offer you the fullest measure of assistance in your trade financing.

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ENGINEER DROWNED DEXTER, Me., Dec. 6.—Stephen P. Brown, an engineer connected with a New York firm, was drowned late today in Sebec Lake when the ice broke beneath him. He sent his nine year old son, whom he was dragging on a sled, for assistance, one mile away, but sank before help arrived. Brown was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was in charge of the construction of the tunnel under Mount Royal, Montreal. Minard's Liniment Cures Dandruff

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