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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (founded 1887) \$3.00 per year (delivered) in advance. \$3.00 per year (mailed) in advance. In Canada add \$4.50 to U. S. A. J. R. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. Sir Charles Dalton, President. D. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1922.

DOING IT HIMSELF

Our optimistic Liberal contemporary, The Moncton Transcript, finds some consolation in the fact that the Prime Minister "considers matters at Washington of such importance as to go there himself. In the past there has been too much of a tendency to refer them to somebody else." There is an old adage "if you want a thing well done, do it yourself." It may require some conceit to act wholly upon this old suggestion and evidently Mr. MacKenzie King is not wanting in this virtue. Also he no doubt remembers former experiences with Washington. His illustrious predecessor, Sir Wilfrid Laurier made the mistake of sending Messrs. Fielding and Patterson to Washington to negotiate a reciprocity pact. "And go they went." They succeeded in making a pact that was acceptable to Washington but the people of Canada would have none of it; the pact died a natural death. When Mr. MacKenzie King came into office he sent Mr. Fielding again to Washington to pick up the fragments of the old pact but there was another king in Washington who knew not Fielding and the latter returned with the sorrowful announcement that there was nothing doing at Washington. Then the Right Honourable William Lyon MacKenzie King rose to the occasion. He would go himself "and go he went." Whether it was a slap in the face to Mr. Fielding who is now supposed to be "finishing his work," an enlargement of the bump of conceit foresaid or plain bluff has not yet been revealed. The revelation will no doubt come later.

BEGINNINGS

Looking backward over a few years of history we who sometimes pride ourselves on having reached the "top of the world" must admit that we have not come far on the road to civilization, that we have only quite recently emerged from conditions which to us bear a close resemblance to mediaeval primitiveness. Canada is still young; in our own province the pioneer implements which carved our present comfortable homes out of the forest primeval have not all rusted out. The flail, the reaping hook, the grubbing hoe are still stored away in many out-houses and present a curious contrast to the modern gasoline driven whreshing machine, the self binder, and tractor. Log houses of primitive build, now used as store rooms are still to be seen in modest retirement behind the modern and, by comparison, the palatial homes of today. Memory still carries us back beyond the civilization of today to a time when, in this province at least, civilization as we now know it had no existence, when the country was a wilderness, when homes were but shelters from the rain and the storm and when our forefathers lived only to work.

The modern world is still young; still in its infancy. Practically all that constitutes modern civilization has been discovered within the life time of the present generation. All that we have and are, in the material sense we owe to the discovery of the use of coal and that discovery is of comparatively recent origin. Coal was known to the ancient Britons but only in a primitive way and but little used and that as a substitute for wood fuel when the latter was not easily available. In 1250 a charter was granted by King Henry Third to the barons permitting them to dig coal on their own estates. The charter was granted more for the

sake of the tax it brought than for any hope of making it a useful commodity. For hundreds of years after that the use of coal was regarded as an offence. In London its use was prohibited by law. The extension of the city of London eventually made it necessary to use coal as a fuel and in 1606 a number of small vessels were chartered to bring in coal from the north. Gradually the latent possibilities of coal were discovered and by the middle of the 18th century, the use of coke instead of charcoal for smelting and the use of coal gas as an illuminant in London in 1807 was the first real impetus given to the general use of coal.

The mining of coal in these years was primitive and the story reads like a romance. Outcroppings seams were followed from the surface and the coal was carried in baskets by women to the pit's mouth. Tunnels were followed to a distance of 200 yards when fire damp and other deadly gases were encountered; water also made it impossible to proceed farther. Then pumping by hand worked windlasses was resorted to. Wooden railways took the place of women carriers; the water pumped out of the mines was utilized to drive waterwheels and windlasses to hoist the coal through perpendicular shafts. Only three hundred years ago, coal which had lain in the earth for countless centuries began to be a half-banned luxury; two hundred years ago it became a growing necessity and less than one hundred years ago it became the master material in the world's progress. To coal we owe the tempering of steel; which made modern machinery possible; the world's railway system; our modern steam engines, the discovery of gasoline, of kerosene; the aeroplane, the development of electricity with its ramifications in telegraphy, telephone, the radio with its wireless telegraph and telephone. What, in short have we today that we do not owe to coal? and coal is really a child of one hundred and fifty to two hundred years.

We are still at the beginning of world progress; the older men of the present generation have witnessed the introduction of all that is worth while in the material development of the world. What will the children of today see in the next half century

COMMENDABLE INDUSTRY

During the summer months a number of Indians, men, women and children, camp at Rocky Point and at Hillsborough, where they make ornamental baskets, slippers, bows and arrows and other trinkets, ornamental and useful, which they sell at reasonable prices to those who call on them. Their enterprise is well worth encouraging. They have little of the world's goods and their little camps are more picturesque than comfortable. Like many others they have their troubles, more perhaps than fall to the lot of those who are better circumstanced. Their manner of living is not conducive to health and many of them have their sick to look after. A little patronage from those who are more comfortably circumstanced will go a long way with them and, besides, there is something to learn from their industry and their ingenuity. Like many others also they have known better days. Once they were the sole occupants of this country, its first families, its aristocrats. They had their chiefs, their royal courts, their picturesque gatherings. They have many claims upon us, let us not forget them.

Notes By The Way

In this season of richly growing crops, it is pleasing to note that Canada not only produces the world's best wheat, but is a strong competitor for the very first place as a quantity producer. Senator Calder, of New York, recently declared his conviction that the United States would soon fall behind Canada in the production of wheat. "The Dominion," he stated, "will develop several times the wheat acreage of the United States."

Herbert Hoover, U. S. Secretary of Commerce, a short time ago was responsible for the statement that in ten years the Republic would be a wheat-importing nation. In 1921 Canada rose from the third place to the second among wheat-producing countries. In ten years between 1910 and 1920, while the United States' wheat crop increased in quantity by 35 per cent., and in value by 100 per cent., Canada's wheat crop increased in quantity by 70 per cent., and in value by 400 per cent. And this is only the beginning. Our big neighbor has about reached his maximum of wheat production, while in Canada there is every prospect of a vast expansion in the near future.

In the latest issue of Agricultural and Industrial Progress in Canada, issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway, mention is made of Prince Edward Island as a region of transcendent loveliness and rural tranquility, where true beauty blends with agricultural activity; to the inhabitants it is just "The Island," for to those who live upon it, it is without a rival among the many bright jewels of the ocean. That is really a very pretty compliment! Among the facts noted are that the island "in its limited area has more tillable land than any other of the Maritime Provinces."

Other facts stated in the same article are that the island is in reality one large farm, of 1,398,000 acres, in which agriculture affords a direct livelihood to fully 80 per cent. of the population, and indirectly to a large percentage of the remainder. That domestic fur production in our fox ranches last year was valued at \$1,240,000; that island seed potatoes have for years been renowned over the continent and in general demand, and that it produces proportionately more cattle than any state in the American Union with the single exception of Iowa.

After citing many other interesting facts about our field crops, dairying, egg production, etc., the article concludes thus: "Prince Edward Island is almost unique on the American continent as a purely self-supporting agricultural area. It is a region of prosperous farms and picturesque comfortable farm homes, where the tranquil serenity of the countryside is reminiscent of old world scenery, and the most desirable of living conditions prevail. For those who would combine the life beautiful with the

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers. From the W. S. Louson collection.

THE STORY OF A KICKER.

By Holman F. Day. There lived two frogs, so I've been told. In a quiet wayside pool; Aid one of these frogs was a blam'd egg bright frog. But the other frog was a fool. Now a farmer with a big milk can Was wont to pass that way; And he used to stop and add a drop Of the aqua pura, they say. It chanced one morn, in the early dawn When the farmer's sight was dim, He scooped those frogs in the water he dipped— Which same was a joke on him. The fool frog sank in the swashing tank As the farmer bumped to town, But the smart frog flew like a tug-boat screw And he swore he'd not go down. So he kicked and splashed and he slammed and thrashed, And he kept on top through all, And he churned that milk in first-class shape In a great big butter ball. Now when the milkman got to town And opened the can, there lay The fool frog drowned; but, hale and sound, The kicker he hopped away. MORAL Don't fret your life with needless strife. Yet let this teaching stick You'll find, old man, in the world's big can It sometimes pays to kick.

pleasantest of agricultural activities, no spot could be found more delectable than little Prince Edward Island over whose rolling farm lands blow the fresh salt breezes from the Atlantic."

Truly, it may be said of Canada and of Prince Edward Island in particular, that it is a lovely land, a goodly heritage, and the lines have been cast for us in pleasant places. Nothing but the hand of Heaven or our own folly can ruin the Dominion, or our own fair Province, or blight the bright prospects that we have before us. This year, so far, at least, Heaven has smiled upon Canada from ocean to ocean. And if we have not either federally or provincially such governments as many of us would prefer, the fault is our own and the remedy will soon be in our own hands. For all of which may the Supreme Goodness make us duly thankful!

Canadian Guides Are Among The Finest

Discoursing in The Nineteenth Century about Canadian guides, it is the man of French extraction, the descendant of Parkman's couriers de bois, whom John Murray Gibbon most admires. The type is noted for courage, strength and endurance. Joe, with a pack of 300 pounds, "walked faster than I could walk with nothing but a fishing rod." There was Joseph Paul, guide for the North West Company, who picked up a sugar barrel filled with bullets by a playful storekeeper, "and let it fall on the counter, smashing the woodwork to pieces and breaking the barrels so that the bullets spilled into the cellar." In the bush Joe had an appetite that matched his strength. A gargantuan eater was he; Fifteen eggs a day, five to each meal; bacon, fish, pork and beans; steaks and flapjacks. "Then he complained that he could not eat because of indigestion." If the French-Canadian guide is so brave and hardy, and wears so well, it is because he comes of heroic stock. To the end of the French Dominion in Canada no English names stand out in the opening up of the wilderness. It was the colonists of New France who sailed up the St. Lawrence, explored the Mattawa, pushed into Lake Nipissing, portaged down into the Great Lakes, and were soon trading on the Mississippi and the Missouri, while the English colonists, still huddled the seaboard, say the New York Times.

The Work of the Voyageurs.

The Frenchmen hunted, trapped, and were one with the Indians, whose women they lived with. After the passing of New France there is a procession of English and Scotch explorers in the chronicles of the time: Samuel Hearne, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Simon Fraser, David Thompson, Sir George Simpson, Milton and Cheadle. The Rev. A. G. Morice in his "Dictionnaire Historique des Canadiens de l'Ouest" asks who did the hard work of the expeditions led by these travellers and promoters. The answer is, the voyageurs, who had penetrated and mapped the wilderness and were brothers of the Indian. Simon Fraser owed much of his success to the half-breed, Jean Baptiste Boucher, known as Wac-can-by the Crees. On three expeditions Charles Legace was the guide and interpreter for David Thompson. The Hudson Bay Company found Alexis Bonami Lepersance indispensable as driver of its batteaux in the fur trade, a man as strong as a bear and of a vitality no hardships could wear down. Toussaint Charbonneau, a guide of the Northwest Company, was on all explorers' lists in the early part of the nineteenth century. For river service one French-Canadian, John Jacob Astor declared, was worth three Americans. In Parkman's "Oregon Trail," the French-Canadian hunters are deservedly honored. Mr. Gibbon says that the French woodsman of the present day is admirably depicted in the Francois Paradis of Louis Hemon's "Marie Chapdelaine."

New Brunswick Celebrities.

There are also sterling guides among the men of British descent. "If any one," says Mr. Gibbon, "were to ask a New Brunswicker who is the best known native of the province, he would probably name the guide, Henry Braithwaite, who, in spite of over 80 years, still calls and tracks the moose with the energy of youth." Other famous guides in New Brunswick not of French blood are Adam Moore, Arthur Pringle, Harry Allen and Claude Knapp, names well known to American sportsmen. A character whom Mr. Gibbon met on the Upper Tobique was Van. He had built a cabin near a lake round which there was a large clearing. "Must have taken some work to clear this bush," I remarked. "Not a bit," he said. "All it cost me was a little salt. It was the deer

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Must be Treated as Equals. The Canadian guides respect themselves, and must be treated as equals by the sportsman. A Boston newspaper raises the question as to why goodness should not be taught in the schools. It is being taught by men and women in school and out, by their example, in the most potent way. Not one of us but recalls the "beloved professor" because he radiated sheer goodness, the quintessence of kindness to a man and boy and beast. We all remember him; gentle, patient, with a sense of humor that often saved the day and the boy, at a crucial moment perhaps that there will not be time to do of needed discipline. Teach goodness? Yes; that way; and here is one reason why school committees, which are so busy just about this time of year in engaging teachers, should remember that they are buying for their communities a priceless gift for the children—the gift of a good example, a teacher of goodness as well as of French or "math" or some other science or art. U.S. SHIP SUBSIDY BILL LEFT OVER BY SENATE. WASHINGTON, July 12.—As the result of a conference of Senate Republican leaders held today the Ships Subsidy Bill will not be pressed in the Senate this session. It has been decided it is unwise politically, to try to force it through before election, and also that there will not be time to do

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