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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1922.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION

Day after day the European despatches are anxiously scanned for further light on the troubled situation that has so suddenly developed there; day after day the despatches are conflicting and uncertain. We have been told the Turks were feverishly mobilizing on the border and that the British were "digging in," massing squadrons of armmen behind their lines and calling in reinforcements from every available source. Coincident with these reports came the word that France has sent a plenipotentiary to Kemal Pasha urging him not to precipitate a conflict by advancing into the neutral zone. What Kemal will say to this while his soldiers are placing their guns has yet to be revealed. Meantime, amid all the warlike preparations reassuring word come, some of them palpably interested, some no doubt voicing a hope and all assuring us that there is no danger of war.

That there is very grave danger cannot be questioned. Great Britain is not making the present demonstration in the Dardanelles for nothing, not calling out her battalions and her air squadrons and her ships for nothing. She sees the danger and is preparing for it. Great Britain does not want war and we may depend upon it she will sacrifice anything except honour to avert war, but if it comes she is ready for it, ready to fight it out alone as she has done more than once and not for herself alone but for the world.

The most serious feature of the European situation is its origin. The trouble began when Greece invaded Anatolia, and there is an unanswered question in this connection. It is said that Great Britain encouraged this move on the part of the Greeks. If she did, why? Great Britain does not interfere in international mix-ups for nothing. It is admitted that France not only formed an alliance with Turkey but supplied them with guns and ammunition, and all this without the consent and behind the backs of the Allies who came to her assistance and rescued her from annihilation by Germany. Nor does France interfere in international mix-ups for nothing. Why did she enter into a secret alliance with her recent enemy?

The plain fact is that France has been dissatisfied with—probably jealous of—Britain's advantageous position in the allied coalition of the Dardanelles. The Allied control was an agreement by the Allies in the war settlement. France was a party to the agreement, but it has since become evident that Great Britain with her great navy could, in the event of war if she chose, close the Dardanelles. This is undoubtedly the cause of France's present otherwise unexplainable attitude on the Turkish question.

The serious feature in the whole situation is the estrangement between Great Britain and France, an estrangement which will tax the ingenuity of the best intentioned diplomats of France and England to heal. That the best elements in both countries are engaged in smoothing out this international tangle is evident. France cannot afford to quarrel with Great Britain and the latter does not want to quarrel with her but she has unequivocally declared that the Dardanelles shall be kept free, not for herself but for the world and she is determined that this shall be done if she has to do it alone.

According to our despatches this morning Lord Curzon of England and President Poincare of France have agreed to recommend to their respective governments the

handing back of Constantinople to the Turks, the neutrality of the Dardanelles to be guaranteed by the League of Nations. This may end the dispute on this score but Kemal Pasha and his government are yet to be heard from.

ANIMAL INTELLIGENCE

If, in the training and teaching of our boys and girls their attentions were directed occasionally to the beauties and the virtues to be found if looked for in the so called lower animal world there would be less of the thoughtless persecution that has practically destroyed the bird life and the little animal life in our fields and forests. We too often forget the almost human, sometimes more than human, faithfulness, devotion and self sacrifice to be found among our humbler fellow creatures. Thoughtlessly a boy throws stones at a bird and prides himself on his marksmanship if he hits his mark. If he knew that a nest full, a home full, of little ones are waiting for the return of the mother that cannot come back, waiting as eagerly and as longingly as he himself would await the return of his mother; that the little ones suffer as keenly as he would the pangs of hunger and the slow torture of death by starvation, he would think twice before throwing a stone that would cause so much sorrow. "Oh! a bird," he thinks. Only a mother rather, searching as diligently and often as wearily as a human mother for her tasty tidbits for her beloved little ones!

Does the mother bird, the mother squirrel, the mother rabbit, feel as keenly as the human mother the pangs of separation from her little ones? We can judge only by their actions. They have no speech intelligible to us with which to move our hearts with a tale of their sorrow but mother birds, wounded to death, have been known to drag themselves painfully and in the agony of death to the nest of their waiting little ones and cover them with her dying body to shield them from the enemy that did her to death. What more could a human mother do?

Caught outside their home by the accidental closing of their door during a sudden freezing sleet storm, a male bantam was found dead beside his mate, his wing spread over her to shield her from the cold; her life was saved. What more could the human male do for his mate? He might arouse the neighborhood with a recital of his wrongs but human self sacrifice could scarcely have done more.

The so called lower animal world is full of instances of devotion, of love, of self-sacrifice, of ingenuity and calculating intelligence, and there is no more fascinating exercise of the faculty of observation for boys and girls than the study of wild life. In their intelligence and in the exercise of such virtues as we usually credit to the human species they are much nearer the human level than we generally think. The more it is studied the more we shall find in it. One thing, at least we shall not find in it, that is, an excuse for persecuting them.

REDUCING TRADE

Every schoolboy has learned by this time says the Victoria Colonist, that very nearly half of the world's gold is in the possession of the United States. The American dollar can work its way anywhere and demand a premium—except in Canada. Its value varies all the way from one hundred cents to seven million Russian roubles. Of all the European exchange the pound sterling is about the nearest approach to the normal value of the dollar.

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 expressed by its correspondents.

Educationalist's Position Defined

Sir.—And Pedagogue thinks he has proven that only 15 per cent fall actually at Prince of Wales College in the first year. I tried to follow his reasoning, and failed to make head or tail of his figures: Nor do I think could anyone else. His figures seemed to be a labored effort to bolster up a case. I shall not accept his conclusion as to 15 per cent till he puts up a better case.

I remember well the time when, Prince of Wales College certificates were accepted in lieu of the Provincial examinations for teachers licenses. "Pedagogue" is in error when he states the Board of Education approached the College on this matter. The fact is that Dr. Anderson the then principal of Prince of Wales College after trying for years, obtained this boon for his students. The approaching was all done by him and he obtained this privilege by agreeing to raise his pass mark to 60 per cent. I am speaking from memory, but I am sure I am correct. I know I am correct as to Dr. Anderson's initiative. It was not till the present principal took charge that the pass was raised to 65 per cent and the change made in the values of subjects. Before then each subject was worth 100 marks.

Since this privilege was granted the College, the number who went up for the Provincial teaching examinations, has continually fallen so that very few take it now and pass. The reason for this given by many is that at the College half the examinations are finished at Xmas while at the Provincial, all the subjects must be taken in the Spring. And so every subject must be kept fresh from beginning to end which does not apply to the College. Consequently there being so many subjects, the pupils (only the poorer ones) go up for the examinations, having long floundered beyond their depth because they had no supervision of their work, they have lost hope and feel it is no use to take it. The result is they go home plucked, \$400.00 out of pocket and nothing to show for it.

As "Pedagogue" says, "the greater freedom and fewer subjects in the 3rd year fires the 2nd year students with zeal to get through their year and into the '3rd.'" Now comes it that so few students take the 3rd year as compared with the 2nd year and many do not apply to the College. I am not out to bring the 3rd year under fire, but I wish to assure those who are responsible for the incongruous and outrageous system that now prevails that it will soon be under fire if they do not mend it.

I am charged with unfairness and advocating "patent absurdities" and I will leave it to your readers if I have not been fair and above board. Look on the other side "Pedagogue," stating only 15 per cent fall. Such proof as he gives! The Board of Education approaching the College to accept the Provincial examinations for teachers licenses. Many living know that this is not true. He further states that the system that was then adopted is the one that now prevails. That is not true; then the subjects all had the same value, not as now. And he asks your readers to believe that I took the examinations then and

In view of these obvious facts it is surprising that the Republican Administration should seek to give permanence to the emergency tariff by new legislation. Europe has no gold with which to buy American goods and her ability to pay her bills and resume her trading account with our neighbor is made still more difficult by these duties. Canada's position is not materially altered by the new bill. Markets which had been accessible to our agricultural products and livestock are virtually closed. The less Canada exports to the South the less she will import. The same applies to other countries which have been in the habit of doing business with Uncle Sam. In the meantime we shall have to develop new markets and cultivate the growing sentiment in favor of long field known as the British Empire.

One cannot help but marvel at the action of the Washington Government. Economic law would seem to be set at naught in its adoption of the new measure. Our neighbor's trading account with the rest of the world will be reduced and its policy cannot help but increase the cost of living with in its own domain. What is more important still is the fact that the new tariff will offer no assistance towards the solution of the problem of international trade.

I know. What is the use of trying to argue with one who only states the truth as it suits him. Now I will state my position. 1st.—That too many students fall. 2nd.—That in my opinion that this is largely due to the exacting of 65 per cent to pass, and the assigning of improper values to certain subjects at the expense of others. 3rd.—That there must be better normal training. 4th.—If better normal training cannot be obtained in any other way, the 3rd year must go. 5th.—There should be some supervision of the places where students board and their food and comfort. 6th.—That there should be cadet training. 7th.—That the plans in the College should be put to some use. 8th.—That athletics should be fostered more. These "Son" thinks are "patent absurdities" I will leave it to your readers to judge between us. The fact, however, remains that something must be done and done quickly if we wish to save many of the large class now in the 1st year. I am Sir, etc.

EDUCATION 'ST. Normal Training Sir.—The many letters appearing in your Public Forum lately show that the people of this province are taking an active interest in Prince of Wales College, and Normal School. This is to be commended. It shows that the people are awake to the paramount need of education at the present day. Never was the realization of the need of education greater than it is today. To this end we find our universities and schools being filled to their utmost capacity. Even farmers have to be trained and educated along their lines of work. For this purpose we have technical schools and experimental stations (scattered) broadcast throughout our land. The suggestion, alone, of these institutions fifty years ago would have been regarded as ridiculous. It is well that we should ask ourselves if the training and teaching of our teachers at Prince of Wales College show any sign of being up to the mark. It is well that we should ask ourselves if the normal training of our teachers, as compared with that in the other provinces of Canada, is of the excellence of the academic training. "Educationalist" advocates more normal training, and in addition says it does not make any difference where a person secures his academic training, as long as he is able to pass the requirements of the Board of Education. This is all right so far as it goes, but where are students going to get their academic training? One or two in a hundred might study home and be able to pass, but the remaining number, must go to P.W.C. Now if anyone says that the academic training, they make up for by a reserforce force, increased at the expense of the serious mistake as any competent specialist in pedagogics will say that the least academic training any teacher should have is (that of the full high-school course or its equivalent. Although he may never be called upon to teach some of the subjects he has made up, the supply reserforce force, breath of outlook and open up a comprehensive view of the whole matter of education of the child. Absolute mastery of the acedemical subjects is fully essential; and no schoolroom device or superficial tactics can take its place. Thus it is seen that to lessen the academic training, is merely outing the question.

The only solution of the problem is to increase the term at P.W.C.. A careful perusal of the report of the Chief Supt. of Education will liberally repay anyone for the time they spend. Here he suggests the advisability of lengthening the course at P.W.C. for first class teachers to three years, second class to two years and third class to one year. His plan is an excellent one and the sooner a scheme like this is put into operation, the better for every one concerned. But to do this we must pay our teachers more than at present. You will say, "How are we going to do this?" We do not wish to pay more taxes. Well, there is one thing that will help and that is consolidation. There are too many small schools in this province that are not only a heavy expense to the province, but also are a great hindrance to the pupils on account of the smallness of the classes. Any good teacher will say they cannot do good work in a school with one or two in a class.

The tax payers of P. E. I. certainly get the worth of their money that is spent along educational lines, but they would reap far better returns if a little more money was spent on education in increasing the teachers' salaries. In this way teachers would be satisfied to stay on the Island instead of going West. In the issue of the 23rd, I notice "Educationalist" asks why the athletics at P.W.C. are so poor. I for one would like to know what he means by the adjective poor. He must have a meaning for poor that he has never seen Prince of Wales students taking part in athletics. He must not expect its athletics to be up to the standard of a university, where the students are in residence and have all kinds of equipment and also where a great many of the students are fully matured men. Any unprejudiced person who saw the football and hockey teams at P.W.C. last year

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Death Sentence Pronounced in Case of Umar Roberts

(Special to The Guardian.) TUSKET, Sept. 23.—Omar Roberts, the North Kentville guide, convicted of the murder of his nineteen year old housekeeper Flora Gray, on the night of Aug. 23-29, was sentenced to be hanged on Friday, November 24, by Mr. Justice Chisholm, of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court, here today. The murdered girl was found fatally burned in her room in the Roberts shanty by neighbors, who answered an alarm given by the convicted man that his house was on fire. According to Roberts' confession, as given in evidence at his trial, placed gasoline outside his housekeeper's door, after which he entered her room. When his advances were rejected he threw the gasoline over the girl and her bed and set fire to it. Roberts' old that he had previously made an offer of marriage to Flora Gray and ascribed the motive of the crime to jealousy. When asked by the judge if he had anything to say, Roberts replied, "Thanking the judge, and the counsel, both for the crown and the defence for the fairness with which his trial had been conducted. There remains, but one more chapter to be enacted in the grim story.

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the W. S. Louson collection THREE PRAYERS Here are three prayers written by Dr. Henry Van Dyke, after a sunrise service on the top of Mt. Rubidoux on Easter some years ago. They were first published in the Ladies' Home Journal.

Bedtime Prayer Ere thou sleepest, gently lay Every trouble thought away. Put off worry and distress, As thou puttest off thy dress; Drop thy burden and thy care In the quiet arms of prayer.

Night-watch Prayer If slumber should forsake Thy pillow in the dark Fret not thyself to mark How long thou liest awake. There is a better way: Let go the strife and strain, Thine eyes will close again If thou wilt only pray:

New-day Prayer Ere thou risest from thy bed, Speak to God whose wings were spread O'er thee in the helpless night— Lo, he wakes thee now with light Lift thy burden and thy care In the mighty arms of prayer

Canada Slated To Dazzle the World (Special to The Guardian.) CALGARY, Alta., Sept. 23.—Canada is standing on the eve of a period of development in population in the next quarter of a century, both for the crown and according to Sir John Willison, president of Western Canada Colonization Association, who gave a general outline of the aims of the association at a combined meeting of the men's and women's Canadian Clubs of Calgary and the local Board of Trade last night.

MacLELLAN BROS. Headquarters for MEN'S WEAR

The "probs" say "cooler weather," and of course it will be cooler. We all expect cooler weather—What does it matter? We have nice medium weight Overcoats, or we have the nice warm Overcoats of soft cloth, that won't tire you to carry around. It doesn't make any difference what kind of weather there is, we can suit you in an Overcoat. Prices from \$25.00 up. There are many people who are hard to suit in Hosiery, say that they cannot get a We have the remedy for these good fitting suit made. That people, right here in our store. Buy your socks from us, and your troubles are over, and besides, your sock won't cost you as much as you have been paying. Another very important part of your apparel for comfort, place, where you can be fort is your gloves. We sell the right kind in wool, mocha and the price will also suit and kid, in lined and unlined, you. You frequently hear people say that they cannot get a good fitting suit made. That is their fault—they do not patronize the RIGHT TAILORS! WE MAKE GOOD weight Overcoats, or we have the nice warm Overcoats of soft cloth, that won't tire you to carry around. Buy your clothes at the part of your apparel for comfort, place, where you can be fort is your gloves. We sell the right kind in wool, mocha and the price will also suit and kid, in lined and unlined, you.

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