

THE GUARDIAN

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TUESDAY, JULY 22, 1913

RAPID TRANSIT

We stand awed before the achievements and inventions of science and we complacently congratulate ourselves on living in the greatest age in the history of the world.

Within the past fifty years the world has been practically renewed. The ends of the earth have been drawn together. Railways and fast steamships have brought the distant places to our feet.

While realizing that so much of fullness and richness have been added to our life we wonder if, after all, very much has been added to the real happiness or comfort of the ordinary individual.

The advance in medicine and surgery, for example, has been very great. Appliances and equipment for combating diseases have been so perfected that many of the diseases which were scourges a half century ago have been practically wiped out.

The following letter from a consulting engineer, a man of great weight in his profession, and who has done noble work as a social reformer in Johannesburg, will show what has been the outcome:

"Dear Sir,—I am writing you in the hope that you will make some effort to stop the wholesale murder that is now and has been going on for many years in the Witwatersrand Mines.

The present Phtthisis Compensation Board has had 2,413 claims presented to it in six months. The applications in January were 11 per day, and I am informed, in February and March from 8 to 11 per day.

"Owing to the shortage of efficient miners the mines people are winking at the continual employment of men in an advanced stage of silicosis, and this collusion is furthered by the fact that before the miner can receive the very meagre compensation of £8 a month for one year, he must give up his blasting ticket and livelihood.

Many married men go on working, knowing they are doomed, for the sake of their wives and families. "There have been no further foreign arrivals of miners for many months, and consequently a very large and increasing proportion of the underground men are now Afrianders. It is generally agreed that these men, being the progeny of those living an outdoor life, succumb to silicosis much quicker than the foreigner; and he gets it quickly enough.

"The principal sufferers are the 'rock drill men.' More than half the bad cases occur among them. They only number altogether about 3,000 in employment at one time; and it is now clear that about half of them are knocked out every year. This is a state of occupational disease unequalled in the civilized world.

"I took up this question in the Transvaal Leader in the latter part of 1910; and, partly as a consequence, the present Phtthisis Compensation Act was passed. My figures and conclusions were derided and treated as scare-mongering; it is now clear that they were all understated. Under a succession of supine and indifferent governments the 'industry' has needlessly killed and scrapped with accident and disease about 100,000 human beings since the war.

"I am not a party politician at all. I ask you to take up this matter as a duty to humanity in general, and one of the utmost importance to South African humanity in particular.

In view of these disclosures it is to be wondered at that there should be seething discontent among the Transvaal miners? It is a tempting of providence more scandalous and diabolical than any needless war and for which political leaders in England and South Africa are almost exclusively to blame.

The letter of Dr. Ross in this issue contains much food for serious thought. We are laying the foundation of what will, if properly safeguarded, become one of the greatest enterprises of which the province is capable. Without these safeguards it

A RAND TRAGEDY

The tragedy of the Rand is not the serious labor troubles and consequent loss of life which we have been in-

menting recently, but something far more calamitous and which perhaps accounts to a very considerable extent for all the painfully strained relationship between capital and labor in that land of gold.

The Transvaal is sub-tropical. In the days of the Dutch it was considered not only unhealthy but foolhardy to employ white labor in the mines, except for supervisory purposes. With the advent of British control a cry was raised by the Liberal wire-pullers, for party purposes in England, that the land won by British blood must be developed by British bone and sinew; that colored labor must as far as possible be dispensed with; that sufficient inducement in the way of remunerative wages would attract plenty white labor to the mines.

This was going in the face of all proved experience, for the Dutch, to give them their due, have as little use for colored labor as any white race in the world, but they knew by years of trial and suffering, that God never intended the white man to toil in the sun on the field, or in the bowels of the earth, in a tropical or sub-tropical country. The colored race is naturally adapted for tropical and sub-tropical conditions, and so long as it is efficiently supervised gives the best results.

It is just ten years since colored labor was largely withdrawn and white labor substituted in the Rand.

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NOTES

The letter of Dr. Ross in this issue contains much food for serious thought. We are laying the foundation of what will, if properly safeguarded, become one of the greatest enterprises of which the province is capable. Without these safeguards it

will go to pieces. The reference to the ruin of our oat trade with England is apt. It will be remembered that there was a time when our oats brought the highest price in the English market simply because they were "Prince Edward Island oats." Through the greed and dishonesty of a few people we lost our good name and our oats would not sell in England simply because they were Prince Edward Island oats—and therefore discredited. The same danger threatens our fox industry. Hitherto we have commanded the highest prices in the London market, and the name "Prince Edward Island fox" was one to conjure with. The whole world wanted our stock and was prepared to pay our price for it. If inferior stock is permitted to mix in and reduce the quality that we built our reputation upon then our fox business is doomed, as far as supplying breeding stock is concerned. Now is the time to apply the necessary safeguards and we trust the meeting tomorrow will be largely attended and that measures will be adopted which will conserve and safeguard a business which bids fair to be one of the greatest in the world.

THE FOX INDUSTRY

Sir:—It is a sound principle in trade that one should be at liberty to buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest. The same principle should apply in trading in foxes, and there should be no restraint upon it. A great difficulty, however, lies in the fact that we have no fur experts who are able to pass judgment on the real, intrinsic value of foxes by an examination of their fur. In the present delirious state of the fox market any animal that is black or that shows black markings seems to pass muster and to command high prices. Judging from Lamson's account of sales there is no question as to the high values of our native eastern animals, as well as some animals sold from certain Hudson Bay factories.

There is also no doubt that ranches every element of permanency and will continue to yield good dividends when the now too top-heavy prices will take a tumble. But I pity the investor or whose means is tied up in poor stock. They have bought on soaring prices and if a slump comes as it is likely to do I fear many innocent people will be ruined.

From the importations that have in the last year or two been coming to us, the industry is in so chaotic a condition that it is difficult for the investor to know where he stands. No harm can be done by importations when they are represented as such, but unfortunately they are often palmed off as our original stock on innocent buyers. This conduct even on the part of a few will very quickly cause all our stock to be viewed with suspicion, as has happened to our hay and our oats. In view of this not only threatening but present danger, every fox-rancher should confer and take adequate steps to prevent a catastrophe.

As one who has been in touch with the fox industry for a great many years I am very sensible of the extreme difficulty that even experienced breeders have in judging the value of the pelts of foxes. For the benefit of the public I will relate the following incident, the truth of which I can vouch for:—

A certain pioneer breeder finding that his stock was becoming too inbred, and to outbreed them imported an inland fox purchased by himself and inspected by him before buying. So far as he could tell he was in all respects a prime animal, much superior to anything he had before. He was exhibited to the few visitors to the ranch, myself included, as the prize animal of the bunch. His progeny came in due time and some were slaughtered and their pelts with others from the original stock sent to Lamson's. He was much surprised that while the pelts of the original stock fetched prices ranging from £90 to £190, the get of this brute fetched no more than £24 to £12. Year after year the same thing happened.

On comparing the pelts before shipment this breeder as far as he could tell gave the palm to the stock of the inland fox. Even after several out-crossings the blood of this brute told on the prices. An experiment in crossing our original reds and blacks produced stock in the fourth generation equal to the royal black, but this fellow would never be done and finally he was killed, fetched a very poor price, and all his progeny was weeded out. This breeder could never make out just what the defect was that caused the returns to be so low.

"By gad, doctor," he said to me, "them Lamsons must have witchcraft for they can spot that devil's stuff every time."

Every fox-man on Prince Edward Island should attend the meeting on Wednesday next to try to evolve some scheme to reduce the fox industry to order—a scheme that will conduce to the stability of the business and the prevention of contagious diseases, and yet be no hurt to any honest man engaged in it.

I am, sir, etc., ALEXANDER ROSS.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. D. J. Fraser, Professor of New Testament Theology in the Presbyterian College, Montreal, is visiting in Charlottetown, the guest of Dr. C. J. McMillan. He is accompanied by his friend, Rev. Malcolm Campbell, Montreal. Dr. Fraser leaves this morning for his old home in Alberta, where he will spend his holidays.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

- 1675—Frederick I. of Prussia born. Died Feb. 25, 1713.
1706—England and Scotland signed the treaty of union.
1793—The exploring party of Sir Alexander Mackenzie reached the Pacific.
1796—Gen. Moses Cleaveland, director of the Connecticut Land Company, arrived at the mouth of the Cuyahoga river and began the settlement of the city of Cleveland.
1814—Rt. Rev. Michael Egan, first Roman Catholic bishop of Philadelphia, died in Philadelphia. Born in Ireland about 1761.
1839—David H. Moffat, financier and builder of Western railroads, born in Orange County, N. Y. Died in New York city, March 19, 1911.
1849—James Gordon Carter, the founder of normal schools in America, died in Chicago. Born in Leominster, Mass., Sept. 7, 1795.
1857—First cable news from Europe received in Boston by way of St. John's, Newfoundland.
1896—Marriage of Princess Maud of Wales and Prince Charles of Denmark, now King Haakon VII. of Norway.

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

The Infante Don Jaime, second son of the King and Queen of Spain, was born at La Granja Palace, near Madrid, July 22, 1908.
Bishop John C. Kilgo, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 52 years old to-day.
Joseph L. Bristow, United States senator from Kansas, 52 years old to-day.
Adolphus Frederick the reigning Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 65 years old to-day.
Duke of Somerset, who is president of the English Olympic Games Association, 67 years old to-day.

PROPOSED NEW COMPANY

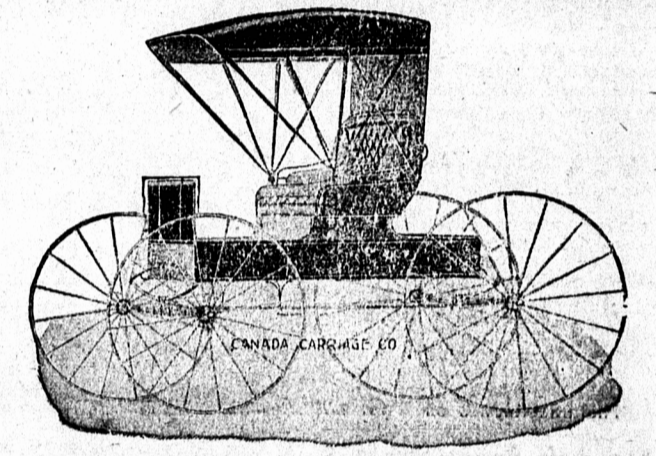
A new company is being formed in Charlottetown under the title of the Charlottetown Selling Agencies, Ltd. and they have applied to the Lieutenant Governor in Council for incorporation by Letters Patent. The applicants are Chester McLure of the city of Charlottetown, agent; John S. Pierce of Charlottetown, salesman; E. Bruce Huggan, of Charlottetown, salesman; Miss Katherine A. Smith, of Charlottetown stenographer and Miss Mary A. Flynn, of Charlottetown, stenographer.

It is proposed that Messrs. McLure, J. Pierce and Huggan shall be the first or provisional directors of the company. The office and chief place of business of the proposed company will be situated in Charlottetown. The company is being opened with a capital stock of \$10,000, divided into 1,000 shares of \$10 each. The principal objects of the company as set in the application for Letters Patent are: To conduct and carry on a general wholesale and retail mercantile business and to act as agents and representatives for any person, firm or corporation in the buying and selling of dry goods, hardware, groceries, boots and shoes, crockery, glassware, silverware, furniture, carpets, and house furnishings, readymade clothing, hats and caps, jewelry, ladies and gents furnishings, harness millinery musical instruments farming implements, horses, cattle, sheep, poultry and other farm stock, grain, potatoes, dressed meats, hides, and skins dairy and other farm products, coal, raw furs and skins, lumber, firewood and other products of the forest, products of the sea, goods, wares and merchandise of every kind and description; to carry on a general agency for all kinds of manufactures jobbers, firms or corporations engaged in mercantile business; to conduct business general commission merchants, agents, factors and brokers, to purchase own, hold, lease, acquire, mortgage, sell or otherwise dispose of real and personal estate in the Province of Prince Edward Island; and to subscribe for, take, hold and dispose of shares in any other corporation or corporations, organized or to be organized.

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Call in and look over the exhibit—we can quote you the very lowest prices for cash—easy payments if you wish. Reliable agents all over the Province.
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It costs—but the steady increase in business proves its value. When you stay at the Halifax you can enjoy living.
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Co., Corner Great George and Kent Sts. Mtl.

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New Rubber Bathing Caps
We have a splendid new stock of bathing caps all this season's goods in rubber lined and pig gum rubber in various colors and the latest styles. Prices from 25c to \$1.00 each.
Water Wings
We have these in cotton and silk.
J. G. Jamieson
DRUGGIST

Dainty Souvenir Jewellery
In enamelled belt pins, brooches, cuff links, spoons, stick pins and fobs.
Special Stock
G. H. Taylor
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S.F.E.
that rich, golden crust—appetizing isn't it?
We refer to
Cameron's Home-Made Bread
Montague Black Fox Exchange
Correspondence Solicited
L. M. McKinnon, Manager
Montague, P. E. I.

PURSE OF GOLD FOR REV. FATHER SAVAGE
MONCTON, N. B., July 20.—Rev. Father Savage, pastor of St. Bernard's Church, who returned Friday from a trip to the Holy Land was tonight formally welcomed home by his congregation. He was presented with a purse of gold and the latter by a valuable gold chalice. W. B. Chandler, K. C., read the English address, while the French address was read by Dr. F. A. Richard.

My mare, a very valuable one, was badly bruised and cut by being caught in a wire fence. Some of the wounds would not heal, although I tried many different medicines. Dr. Bell advised me to use MINARD'S LINIMENT, diluted at first, then stronger as the sores began to look better, until after three weeks, the sores have healed, and best of all, the hair is growing well, and is NOT WHITE as is most always the case in horse wounds.
F. M. DOUGET.
Weymouth.

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We want every man who is interested in good shoes—splendid shoes at a tremendous cut prices, to see our \$4.00 to 5.00 shoes, now \$2.85. The leathers are box and velour calf, vicid kid, patent, colt and gun metal. No words expressed here can impress you half as well as a visit to our store. We're now going to give our patrons something unusual in shoe values. It will be nothing short of
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