

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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OUR MARKETS

Many of our readers remember the political bunkum talked during election campaign about the value to us of the United States Market. We were told with that sorrowful solemnity with which certain politicians are in the habit of regaling their hearers at political meetings that we could not live without the American market, that without it we would become practically bankrupt within a few years. These political economists, if elected, were going on pilgrimage to Washington to smile upon the politicians there and beg of them to let us into their markets, to give us reciprocity, to let down their tariff bars and we would do the same for them. In fact we have kept our bars down in the hope that they would reciprocate.

The United States politicians instead of reciprocating raised their tariff considerably higher and our Liberal politicians are still clamoring for a still further lowering of our tariff.

Now what are the facts? The United States market is of little use to us so far as our principal products are concerned; more than that, it never was any good to us with the exception of for certain commodities which, when it suited the United States, they bought from us.

Our home market, as has frequently been pointed out, consumes about eighty per cent of our foodstuffs. We have a large surplus in bacon, dairy products and eggs. This surplus goes almost exclusively to Great Britain and has gone there for many years. A table recently compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics gives details of our export of them by decades since 1871, of which we give the following by way of comparison:

In 1871 we shipped 10,258,000 pounds of bacon to Great Britain and only 77,100 to the United States. This proportion has been maintained with practically no variation until 1923 when our shipments to Great Britain amounted to 190,818,300 pounds to Great Britain and 168,000 to the United States.

In 1871 we exported to Great Britain 8,163,659 pounds of cheese and to the United States 86,374 pounds. This proportion also was maintained with little variation until 1923 when the figures were 106,550,400 to Great Britain and 5,902,300 to the United States.

In 1871 our butter exports to Great Britain amounted to 9,954,531 and to the United States to 4,276,661. While the quantity increased very largely the shipments to both countries remained relatively the same during the years following. In 1923 they were 17,527,607 to Great Britain and 2,423,086 to the United States.

Our shipment of eggs to Great Britain did not begin in earnest until 1901. In 1911 we shipped 11,273,452 dozen to Great Britain and 37,197 to the United States. In 1923 the figures were 3,158,070 to Great Britain and 290,480 to the United States.

imported from the United States \$13,382,895 and from Great Britain \$330,818.

These imports of provisions practically in meats and dairy products, all of which come from the United States either free or under a low duty, come into direct competition with our products in our own markets and we receive practically no value in return by way of trade and yet there are those still surviving from the flood of 1911 who want reciprocity.

LIMITATIONS.

It was long since discovered that all human achievement has its limitations. Perhaps the earliest and most forcible example of this was in the building of the tower of Babel. Humanly speaking there was nothing to prevent the building with brick and stone and mortar of an edifice that would transcend the floods and make a safe habitation for the people in time of storm and danger. But something happened, something not taken into consideration by the builders. The tower was never completed.

The farmer figures out with painstaking accuracy the capacity of an acre of land. He computes the cost of clearing the land, of fertilizing it and the expense of working it. He wisely chooses a marketable crop and after making due allowance for possible changes in the market, he estimates his profits as secure at a generous figure. He proceeds with his venture and it succeeds. His acre of land yields him a profit even beyond his expectations. Thus encouraged, he increases his acreage, works ten where he had worked only one. Something happens, he loses his work and his time.

One good cow yields a large net profit in a year; by mathematical calculation twenty cows would yield twenty times the profit of one and he increases his herd to twenty. Disease strikes the herd and the venture ends in failure.

Farmers inform us that a flock of twenty sheep is a profitable one, but when this number is increased to fifty or sixty, disease develops and there is loss instead of profit. Similarly a flock of twenty or thirty hens returns a very considerable net profit while in the flock of a hundred the opposite is the case. And so, it is argued, it goes through all human activity.

Is this the case? We do not think so! In the case of the acre of land as compared with the ten, the trouble is that we depended upon one crop only; we put "all our eggs in one basket." Mixed farming would have yielded a corresponding profit on the ten acres.

If we undertake to herd twenty cattle in a space large enough for only two or three; if we try to raise sixty sheep or a hundred hens where there is room for only a fraction of these we invite disease and disaster. There is no reason why twenty head of cattle, a hundred sheep or a thousand hens should not yield a proportionate profit provided they had as good a chance as the single animal or the smaller flock.

Our limitations are largely due to the fact that in our inordinate ambition we overestimate our capacity. Within our capacity there are no limitations.

The various summers that have occurred during the past season have been somewhat spasmodic and none of them particularly summer-like. They are all now practically over, and we are gradually lapsing into the good old winter time, on the duration of which we may safely depend. Yes, we had no Summer!

Notes By The Way

It is a common complaint in the United States and Canada that while the legislatures are constantly turning out new laws and regulations to improve morals and manners and secure public safety these enactments in an increasing measure fail of enforcement. We have a strict prohibitory liquor law in this city and province, but judging from our own observation the number of drunken persons appearing on the streets has of late been increasing.

It is true that in comparison with other towns of like population we have a creditably sober city. And because of that fact a drunken man attracts more notice on the streets than would otherwise occur. But when on a walk of two or three blocks to and from the post office three or four drunks are encountered, it serves as a forcible reminder that the bootlegger is plying his nefarious trade. Some of the places where the illegal stuff is obtained are by common report quite well known, and it would seem to be high time that they should receive the attention of the police.

Some of the automobile regulations are being constantly violated in this city and province. This is true, we believe, of every province of Canada, and of every state in the American union. It is true, notwithstanding the efforts of our excellent Automobile Association and notwithstanding that most of our car drivers are both capable and cautious, and that serious accidents have been relatively few in this province. It is the few who are either not qualified or not careful to observe the regulations who are to blame, and who are a source of danger to public safety.

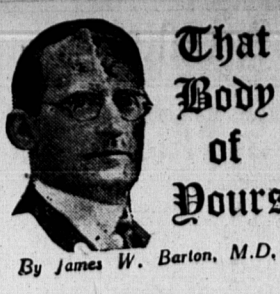
There has been an increasing and appalling number of fatal and minor injuries resulting from motor car accidents in Canada, and the United States during the past few years. The number of the killed and maimed from this cause have been a remarkable fulfilment of Mother Shipton's famous prophecy that—"Carriages without horses shall go." And accidents fill the world with woe.

That prediction was first fulfilled in the railway accidents of almost a century past, and doubly fulfilled since the advent of the motor car. The largest numbers slaughtered and maimed have been the result of collisions between automobiles and railway trains at level crossings. In this province almost all our railway crossings are level and they are very numerous, and in hundreds of cases the view is so obstructed by trees that those responsible for the safety of precious lives are unaware of the danger until it is too late to avert a collision. It is true that in the country districts of our province trains are less frequent and motor cars also than in many countries and this is probably one reason why we have so far escaped so well.

The cautionary maxim, "Safety First, which has been so persistently drilled into the minds of trainmen by the railway authorities during the past few years, has prevented hundreds of railway accidents that would otherwise have occurred and has doubtless saved thousands of lives. Alike caution should be reiterated and impressed upon the minds of all car-drivers. The motor car is as complicated as the locomotive and requires quite as much skill to operate it and keep it in order. Moreover, the locomotive has exclusive rights on its track of steel from which all other vehicles and foot passengers, as well, are excluded.

The motor car, weighing a ton to a ton and a half propelled by, say, twenty to forty horse power and capable of a speed of forty to fifty miles an hour, is turned loose upon our streets and highways. It is much the heaviest vehicle on these roadways. When running at high speed it has a tremendous momentum. It must make its way among horse-drawn vehicles of all sorts, and other cars coming and going among pedestrians, among occasional droves of cattle and sheep, all of which have equal rights on the highway. It would seem that the car driver should have approximately an equal apprenticeship, equal training and skill with a locomotive engineer. Yet, how far short of this standard is the qualification of even the average car driver! There is food for thought in this.

Violations of the regulations governing the operation of motor cars that have come under our observation have been mainly breach of the speed limitations and running without headlights in the night sea-



By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE COMPLEXION

The complexion means a lot to everybody irrespective of age or sex. The difficulty in the matter of advice here is that just as eyes, nose, mouth, hair and disposition vary with different individuals so does the skin also. In some there is a fineness of texture that calls forth our admiration, while in others the skin is less fine and always will be.

Also many skins secrete more oils than others giving one almost a greasy appearance. Others are actually deficient in this quality and have a skin that looks to be baked or parched.

And so when you read in "beauty" hints that hot water and soap should never be used on the face, you can understand that such advice might apply to a skin deficient in oil, but good soap and hot water would be an actual necessity to an oily skin.

If you live in the country away from dirt and dust, warm water once a day, and cold water once or twice through the day should keep the skin in good condition. But you know that the skin of the face reflects usually the general condition of the body. You know also that a plentiful use of Epsom Salt will rob the blood of its constituents that the skin assumes a pallor that is so fashionable at times, at the expense of the actual health of the body.

Exposure to wind and sun calls for a good face cream that suits your particular skin. A little face powder in the summer is a necessity and cannot do much harm. The skin is more than a covering. It is a piece of mechanism as is every other part of the body. Aid it, if it needs it, but don't interfere with it, if Nature has blessed you with a good complexion.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

THE DRIFTER

Ah, my system's lacking, lacking, For the want of pep,
Haven't got the action needed,
And a chance goes by unheeded;
When it needs a little backing,
Just to make a rep.

Ah, my mind is dreaming, dreaming,
Dreaming of success;
When it should be active, scheming,
'Stead, with hazy ideas teeming;
Satisfied to go on dreaming,
Dreaming to excess.

Ah, my life is spoiled with thinking,
Thinking of success;
When I should be up and working,
Even small things I am shirking;
Never dreams with action linking,
Only dreams with idleness.

Ah, my system's lacking, lacking,
Action's needed here;
Lacking pep and motive power,
Reaching vainly for Fame's tower,
When I should be hacking, hacking,
Like some old-time pioneer.

Uncle Sam Frowns On Cuba Lotteries

General Crowder, American envoy to Cuba, has been summoned to Washington to discuss the Cuban lottery question. Washington is said to regard the lottery as a violation of the economic pact between Cuba and the United States. Cuba regards it as one of its most cherished institutions. Not only is it approved by practically all Cubans, but it constitutes a most important source of government revenue. To abolish it as the United States desires, would be to deprive the government of several millions of dollars a year. It is true that these millions would remain in the pockets of the Cubans, but it does not follow that they would as cheerfully contribute them for the purpose of running the country if the lottery were not the bait. Moreover to end the lottery would be to deprive whatever government is in office of its chief political machine. The persons licensed to sell tickets, who are called the collectors, constitute the most influential political element in the population. They have patronage to distribute; they have money to contribute to the political funds. They are always the friends of the government in power which appoints them, and robbed this organization Cuban politicians would be at sea.

The Gambling Instinct.

It is commonly said that gambling is inherent in the Latin races, but perhaps it does not differentiate them from other races. The Cubans have always gambled, but what distinguishes them from most other peoples is the fact that they love a sheer gamble with no other element than that of chance deciding the matter. More virtuous peoples have decided that gambling in itself is a sin and is only to be tolerated if some element of skill or calculation or strength attends it. That is why they regard lotteries with horror, and this is why though there was a tremendous agitation for a national lottery carried out by Horatio Bottomley, the English government rejected it. Bottomley argued that there was still a great hoard of riches in England remaining after the greatest of war efforts had been made in the matter of raising money, and that it could be lured forth by a sheer gamble. He may have been right in his facts, but his morality was voted wrong. The United States government casts a similar vote with regard to Cuba, and Cuba demands that the United States mind its own business.

Gomez and the Gamble.

When there was an American Military Governor in Cuba, he suppressed the lottery, and under President Palma and during the second American intervention there was no lottery. The Cubans had borne, with some resemblance of fortitude, the suppression of the public bull ring, but they fretted under the anti-lottery restrictions. It became a political issue, and in 1909 Miguel Gomez was elected. He ran his campaign on two chief planks, one of them being the restoration of the lottery. He fulfilled his promise and the lottery has been running ever since. It is strictly a government affair, with 70 per cent of the net receipts going in prizes and the rest being retained for national purposes. The President appoints the collector, or major agencies, numbering 961. Each of these is entitled to buy a specified number of full tickets and to retail them at a profit. The agent pays \$19 for a \$20 ticket and sells it at \$21. Theoretically, each of them can make legitimately \$450 a month, but in practice the privilege can be sublet for \$200 or \$300 a month. The whole tickets are divided many times, so that a man with perhaps only a dime to risk can purchase a share and stand to win his proportion of the capital prize, which is \$100,000.

Stories of Graft.

Not long ago the collector was increased to 2,000, the avowed object being to increase sales in order that more money might be forthcoming for pensions and bonuses to government employees, while the agents were appointed for life. The President vetoed the bill, but it was sent back by overwhelming majorities. It is said that there are now 500 of his relatives in these posts which are worth for a four-year term, nearly \$7,000,000. He appointed his son assistant director, and his uncle chief director. The whole thing was run by the Zayas family. There were revived old stories of graft. The Cubans believe that there is graft in the conduct of the lottery, but they refuse to become excited

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