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JAIL ENQUIRY DEMANDED

Rumors of further irregularities in connection with the Prince County Jail are circulating throughout the country which the Provincial Government in its own interest, would do well to investigate.

If prisoners, confined to jail, can get drunk and disorderly with impunity, if they can commit assault and battery upon each other and even attempt to set fire to the jail building in their drunken frenzy, what assurance have the law-abiding people of the community that their own lives and property are safe?

What assurance have they that the incompetence and criminal negligence of the authorities will not result in even more alarming outbreaks? Bloodshed has already occurred on a public highway in the jail vicinity when drunken prisoners, at work on the roads and presumably under guard, fell to blows and had to be taken into custody by the Summerside police.

Complaints have been made to the Summerside Town Council that offenders, placed in the jail, have walked out unhindered, and one Summerside merchant has come forward with the extraordinary grievance that the congregating of bootleggers and rowdies about his place of business on one of the main streets of the town, if not checked, would force him to close his shop.

These complaints have been the subject of much discussion at recent Council meetings and have been forwarded to the Attorney General with strong recommendations for prompt action to be taken.

The Government however, continues to mark time. The jail continues to be a free-and-easy institution where bootleggers and other lawbreakers, presumably confined under lock and key, are freely accessible to their friends and can practically do as they please.

The latest reports from the Prince County Jail are all calculated to allay public unrest. It is stated that the prohibition officers themselves have been storing liquor in the jail for alleged safety. It may or may not be this liquor on which the prisoners get intoxicated.

On the other hand, the very fact that liquor was found there would cause suspicion as to the rightful owners and origin. Surely the time has come for a thorough investigation into the conditions surrounding the management of the Prince County Jail.

The respectable people of Summerside will not be satisfied with less, and throughout the Province generally there is the feeling that the danger limit has been reached and the Government, if it is to act at all, should act at once.

VACCINATION

The health authorities are very properly interesting themselves in the long neglected matter of small-pox vaccination. It is not to the credit of the Province that 85 per cent of the children attending school in rural districts are unvaccinated.

Institutes, the Red Cross nurses and medical profession to convince our people of the necessity of complying with the law in this respect, and of seeing to it that their children are vaccinated as a precautionary measure against small-pox. More than once in recent years we have had epidemic scares, when small-pox cases have been introduced from the lumber camps in our sister Provinces, and there is no telling when there may be a fresh outbreak.

ONTARIO ELECTION

An election in Ontario, seemingly on the horizon, will have few elements of drama, says the Ottawa Journal. Not since the collapse of the old Ross Government has the Liberal party in the province been so barren of virility, while the most that can be expected of the Progressives is opposition on a few scattered fronts.

THE BENNET TOUR

While the political experts are divided in opinion as to results of Hon. R. B. Bennett's recent tour of British Columbia, says the independent Financial Post, from one aspect the leader's visit was a tremendous success. Mr. Bennett departed from the beaten paths and went into the out-of-the-way places. He visited logging camps, mining towns, fishing villages and cross-roads settlements.

A HITCH IN TIME

When the roads are once more blocked with snow, as they no doubt will be, and the nights are long enough for letter writing, there will no doubt be the usual voluminous correspondence about the advisability of adopting the side hitch. It will be too late then, if anything is to be done in this matter preparation must be made for it before the roads are blocked.

Notes By The Way

An impressive letter in The Guardian Forum of Friday last deals with boys and cigarettes. It shows clearly that the cigarette is very injurious to boys and girls, checking their physical growth and mental development.

Most smokers also readily admit that the use of tobacco in any form is injurious to about nine out of every ten who practice it. It is to many persons a mortgage upon their lives, held by the tobacco imp who becomes their master, and they his slaves.

Ontario is to have an election some six weeks hence, on October 31, on the result of which much will depend. The Liberal opposition cannot complain that due notice has not been given. It is no way a surprise attack upon the electorate that Premier Ferguson is making. He and his Government are, however, evidently confident that their record will be approved by the people on polling day.

A short time since The Globe gave a clear intimation that it would not be prudent for the Liberals of the Province to face an election under their present leader, Mr. Sinclair. But no change has been made by the party in that respect since the warning was given.

In several ways Ontario occupies a peculiar and pivotal position among the Provinces of the Dominion. It is situated midway between the provinces beyond the Great Lakes—in the West, and Quebec and the Maritimes in the East, and has the largest population of any single province.

The King Government, which has been losing control of Province after Province where it was strong, and has just now lost its hold on Saskatchewan, cannot be oblivious of the coming contest in Ontario, especially in view of the fact that a federal general election is inevitable in the not far distant future.

A remarkable letter written by Sir John Macdonald seventy years ago, was read by President E. W. Beatty, of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in a discourse which he delivered before the Canadian Chamber of Commerce at Calgary on Thursday last. Mr. Beatty's subject was Transportation, and the portion of Sir John Macdonald's letter which he read was addressed to C. J. Bridges, then a director of the Grand Trunk Railway. It is here reproduced.

"It is quite evident to me that the United States Government are resolved to do all that they can, short of war, to get possession of the Western Territory, and we must take immediate and vigorous steps to counteract them. One of the first things to be done, is to show unmistakably our resolve to build the Pacific Railway."

"It must be taken up by a body of capitalists and not constructed by the Government directly. No time should be lost in this, and I should think we had made a great stride if we got you to take it up vigorously. The thing must not be allowed to sleep, and I want you to address yourself to it at once, and work out a plan."

Sir John Macdonald, the greatest leader that Canada ever had, more than once saw the dangers which threatened this country from across the border, during the fenian raids of 1866 and 1870, also during the election of 1891, when the Liberal party was committed to free trade with the States, but the grand old Chief never managed always in his time to counteract and frustrate these insidious designs.

It would be a large order by the League of Nations to get a column a day in all the leading newspapers of the world for the publication of peace propaganda. And if known as such it would have little value. The League seems to need an experienced journalistic adviser. Long ago it was written that it is a vain thing to set a snare in the sight of any bird.

Four U. S. admirals want a big U. S. navy. More than four ship-building contractors want the same and are willing to "chip in." There is nothing new in that, but it is well worth while for the taxpayers to keep a watchful eye on the admirals and contractors.

That Body of Yours SHOES ARE IMPORTANT

By James W. Barton, M.D.

I remember as a youngster accompanying an older brother to a shoemaker who "measured" his feet for a pair of shoes.

My brother thought he was taking measurements that were very tight and told him so.

The shoe maker calmly stated: "I always make them very snug because they will gradually stretch and will then look and feel too large for you."

Now this seemed like good sense to me at the time, but I learned from the feet I saw during the examination of recruits for the war that "tight" shoes on children were the cause of much suffering and inefficiency.

As a matter of fact statistics show that in some districts as many as 40 to 50 per cent were rejected as class A men simply because of poor feet.

And the majority of these cases of "bad feet" could be traced to tight ill fitting shoes in childhood.

When you think of baby's first pair of shoes, which someone has described as "like a paper bag," you are perhaps thankful that the shoes of grown ups are not so unshapely.

And yet the very purpose of those roomy baby shoes is what you should keep in mind. That is that the feet should have room to "work" in.

A boy or girl, man or woman, could not wear shoes of the baby type because, although freedom for the action of the muscles of the foot and toes is necessary, so also is support for the weight of the body, which after all rests upon the feet.

Now it is not necessary in these days of well made footwear to have shoes made to order, unless the foot is unusually narrow or broad, or the instep unusually high or absolutely flat.

All that is necessary is to get a shoe that is long enough—longer than the foot with toes lying flat; and wide enough, wider than the width of the foot.

A short shoe bends the toes upward and the joint sometimes gets so stiff-ankled—that the toes remain bent. This is called "hammer" toe. This caused rejection of many recruits.

A narrow shoe squeezes the front arch—from side to side—so that the front ends of the foot bones rest on the ground instead of being "arched" up nicely as in a normal foot.

Take care of your children's and your own feet by getting shoes that fit.

The Poet's Corner

THE MAN AND THE BEAR

The man went out to seek a bear, A bear to get his prey, And by a sweet coincidence They met upon the way.

The hunter got behind a rock, The bear behind a tree, And each upon each other gazed With sanguinary glee.

The bear was sleek, and of his skin The man took special note: "There goes the very thing," said he, "My new fur overcoat."

Some such bright thought had struck the bear As he surveyed the man: "Umph there's my dinner, umph!" growled he, "I'll get it while I can."

The man he aimed a rifle ball At Bruin's heart—or head, But merely stripped a piece of bark From off the tree instead.

Out rushed the bear upon his foe And ate him, bones and skin, And licked the little pieces up Till all was gathered in.

So each got what he'd gone to get On his respective spree, The man—his bearskin overcoat, The bear—his dinner—free.

—E. V. Lucas, in London Sunday Times.

A Selkirk Romance In Prince Edward Island

THE STORY OF AN EARLY CANADIAN SETTLEMENT

(By Blodwen Davies, in The Canadian Magazine.)

One of the rusty colored roads that run through the quiet country of the Belfast district in Prince Edward Island leads upwards from the sea toward the crown of a hill, upon which stands a white church of simple, striking beauty.

"In Loving Memory of Mary Douglas, only daughter of Lord Selkirk, died October 1859, aged sixty," reads the inscription.

Mary Douglas' grandson lives down that long straight road near the sea, on land set aside by Lord Selkirk for his little daughter when she came to the Island as little more than an infant.

Around the name of her father glimmers a glamorous interest in Western Canada. Yet it was here in Prince Edward Island that he began his picturesque experiments in colonization; here founded his fame as the father of modern Canadian immigration and here he had a sturdy, self-supporting colony of a thousand people before he sent his first party of Red River settlers into the unknown, untried West.

The great colorful Island Province in the Gulf is a place of rural, gentle beauty. It boasts neither rocks nor hills, for its red, sandy loam yields readily to the sea, and year by year the waters nibble at its shores, eating it slowly away.

On the peninsula southeast of the Bay, Lord Selkirk settled his first Highland colonists. Little has been written of that episode, but the countryside is full of traditions and relics concerning the emigration which Selkirk himself supervised, and of which he wrote so well in his journals and books on emigration.

Highlanders in the Belfast District. The district to which the Highlanders came in 1803 is known as the Belfast district, not because of any Irish associations but because of a Gaelic corruption of the original French name—Belle Face.

Today, everywhere about the district are the place names and family names familiar to Selkirk himself when he sailed across the sea to see the settlers safely landed. There is the Cove in which the ships landed, the spring from which the travellers drank the first fresh water in America, the church they raised with such generous hands, and the stones which mark the graves of some of them.

The aged sexton will tell you there are not stones to the tenth part of them, for the living had little to spare for stones for the dead. Lord Selkirk was one of the most picturesque figures of his age, a man born before his time, for his advanced ideas brought him into unhappy conflict with established things.

He was a son of a noble line of Douglas-Scotts and heir to fine traditions. One of his forefathers had carried the heart of the Bruce to the Holy Land and flung it into the midst of the Saracens, retrieved it, and brought it back to Scotland. Selkirk was born in 1771 on St. Mary's Isle, at the mouth of the River Dee, and was therefore only thirty-two when he came first to Prince Edward Island, and still unmarried. He was the seventh son of the fourth Earl of Selkirk, but the death of one after another of his six elder brothers made him Earl at the age of twenty-eight.

Wallerburn Colville, of Ochiltree, an important shareholder in the Hudson's Bay Company. Lord Selkirk's last surviving son died in 1888 without an heir and the family titles and possessions were absorbed by the Dukes of Hamilton.

Selkirk was a traditional Douglas, idealistic, impulsive and ambitious. He was a University friend of Sir Walter Scott. It was at the Selkirk table that Robert Burns composed his celebrated Selkirk Grace:

"Some has meat and cannot eat, An' some wad eat that wad eat, But we has meat and we can eat, And aae the Lord be thankit."

Selkirk was a Southerner, or Lowland Scot, but he had an immense admiration for the struggling, humble people of the Highlands who were oppressed by haughty landowners. His Whiggish interest was always paramount both toward them and toward the Republican French.

It was in 1802 that he sought permission to establish a colony in the new world. His first idea had been to transfer Scottish emigrants, who were in the United States, back to British territory in Canada, but he revised his plans in order to relieve

THE LAND WE LOVE

By FRANK LEIGH

DOMINION STATISTICIAN

Q. Who is the Dominion Statistician? A. The Dominion Statistician is R. H. Coats, B. A., F. S. S. (Hon.) F. R. S. C. The department is a relatively new one which has become an important factor of Government in the collection and dissemination of information regarding the Dominion.

It also collects statistical data for most of the Provinces and its publications are of much value, due largely to the able guidance of Mr. Coats.

the distress of the Highland Scots at home.

Sandy Williams of Kirkcubright

Wandering about Scotland at the time was a curious character in the person of Sandy Williams of Kirkcubright. Sandy had been many things, a tailor, and a soldier, and now he, peered as a sort of lawyer. He was active and restless and had joined the army in order to see something of the world. His regiment was sent to garrison Quebec, and there Sandy spent some years. No matter where he wandered, Sandy carried with him two books which he absorbed with intensity, one was the Epistles of St. Paul and the other Blackstone's Commentaries. They constituted meaty fare for the argumentative Scotsman. He had them with him in Quebec and he still had them sixty years later in Prince Edward Island.

He was naturally endowed with a clear, vigorous intellect and by his constant companionship with the old books he learned a command of English—and Latin—that served in many a tight corner to browbeat an adversary.

On his return to Scotland from Quebec he set out, like some old bard, to roam the countryside and recount his tales of adventure in Canada. Lord Selkirk heard of him, perhaps listened himself to the glowing pictures of the land beyond the sea. Sandy was just the sort of agent he needed and so he engaged him to round up his emigrants.

Sandy was in his element. He assured the eager, anxious Scots that Prince Edward Island was a sort of earthly paradise, that there they would find all the wood they needed for houses, fences and ships, which was true, that tea grew in the swamps equal to any in China, that the Indians were all Christianized, and that a bear hunt was the best sport in the world. He did his work so well that in addition to the pay for which he had contracted, Lord Selkirk gave him two hundred acres of land for his own on the Island.

Eight hundred men, women and children joined Selkirk's expedition to the Gulf and they sailed in three ships. Lord Selkirk himself was on one of them; Sandy was on another, the greatest of the three, the "Polly," which carried two-thirds of the party.

There could be little boredom in the vicinity of the story-telling Sandy. In addition the "Polly" had plenty to keep her occupied on the long weeks of the voyage. Part way across the "Polly" was overhauled by a British warship in search of conscripts. The shrewd old sea captain saved the party intact by sending all the passengers below and telling the boarding party of sailors that all were down with ship's fever. The sailors hastily withdrew and the commander of the warship, in his compassion for the sufferers, sent out the "Polly" a supply of biscuits and fresh fruit.

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Whooping Cough

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