

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Mr Charles Dalton, President, J. H. Burnett, Editor and Publisher, A. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1922.

GETTING ON THE MAP

To the farmers who exhibited at the first Royal Winter Fair in Toronto a few weeks ago this province is indebted for the quite prominent place it has secured on the map of North America.

Into this competition a number of our farmers entered and they came out with honors. Many who had not even heard of Prince Edward Island and could not find it on the map, saw its cattle, its sheep and its foxes holding their own against the best in Canada and the United States.

It requires courage to face such competition as was to be expected at a fair which covered the northern half of the continent; it required a considerable outlay in cash, besides the risk of transporting valuable animals such as a distance. Yet the investment was a profitable one, profitable especially to the province which has received through it very valuable publicity and a reputation as the producer of stock which stands on a level with the best that is produced.

Farmers taking a risk of this kind are deserving of all the encouragement and patronage that can be extended to them. Farmers desirous of improving their herds will no longer be obliged to go abroad for the best stock; we have it at home and owned by men whose word can be relied on.

Too much publicity cannot be given these prize winners. We have been accustomed to bringing home honors from the Maritime Winter Fair but this is the first time in which we have come into competition with both Canada and the United States and we more than held our own.

RELATIVE VALUES

In a city in one of our sister provinces a choir leader in one of the churches drawing a modest salary of \$1,800 a year was offered a salary of \$125 a week or \$6,500 a year in a moving picture theatre. He accepted it.

The earnings of baseball and hockey experts are proverbial. A minister of the gospel, after spending from five to seven years in college, is offered a yearly stipend of \$1,800 and is lucky if he gets most of it.

A young man or woman, after attending school till they are sixteen years of age, spend a year or two in Prince of Wales College at considerable expense to their parents and when thus qualified to teach those who are to be the men and women of a few years hence, are given a lower wage than the janitor of the school or the maid who cooks for the household.

Our present day standards of relative values, we say, have been demanded.

more for our amusements than for our religious instruction; more than we pay to the man or woman whom we entrust with the training of our children.

Is this our contribution to the development of civilization is the civilization we are thus contributing to going to be worth it? What kind of civilization is it going to be? Present symptoms do not indicate that it shall be strenuously intellectual. Can the church, the school, the home bear up against the unequal competition?

THE YEAR'S FIRE LOSSES

The year now drawing to its close has experienced disastrous fire losses, so much so that the fire insurance companies are losers on the year's business, the loss ratio being over 100 per cent of the premiums. Referring to this The Financial Post says: "While the loss has been fairly well spread over the year, the last couple of months have been particularly heavy. About Oct. 15 it is stated the loss ratio was about 80 per cent, itself a record. Since that time, however, the fires have been large and numerous, more than equal the remaining 20 per cent of the premiums."

"Some insurance heads explain the loss by pointing their fingers to the rather poor business of the year. They state that they had rather poor business last year and worse this year. Next year it may be excellent. Insurance loss travels in cycles like business, they say."

While Charlottetown and in fact the province, escaped fairly well during the year, the losses by last week's fire were crushing. It is gratifying, however, to see that Mr. S. A. McDonald, whose loss was the heaviest of all, is already preparing to build on the ashes of his former well known store. Messrs Morris and Smith and the Brady LePage Company are also clearing away the debris, accepting their losses philosophically and preparing to go forward. This is a commendable spirit and all will be glad to see business resumed in the badly scarred block on Queen Street.

FUR FARMING IN 1922

According to revised figures of the Canadian Bureau of Statistics says the C. P. R. Bulletin for December, there were 821 fur farms in Canada in 1921, comprising 775 fox farms, 12 mink, 10 racoon, 3 martin, 2 skunk, 3 beaver, 3 muskrat and 4 Karaku sheep ranches. Of these ranches 375 were located in Prince Edward Island, 108 in Nova Scotia, 64 in New Brunswick, 109 in Quebec, 94 in Ontario, 25 in the Prairie Provinces and 37 in British Columbia and the Yukon. The total value of the sale of fur-bearing animals and pelts sold from fur farms in that year was \$1,498,105. Compared with the year 1920, 1921 showed an increase of 225 fur farms for the twelve months, or over forty per cent and in the sale of animals and pelts an increase of \$346,449.

It will be some time before the statistics of the operation of Canadian fur farms in 1922 will be available, but such a survey can be made of the situation at the present time reveals every indication of a further substantial increase in this comparatively new Canadian industry and the yet wider spreading of the popularity of the product of the Dominion's domestic establishments. Not only has Canada been the founder of the domestic fur-breeding industry and continue to maintain its early prestige in this regard, but she has been instrumental in establishing the fur-breeding industry in many other countries where Canadian foundation stock has been demanded.

Notes By The Way

Senator Walsh of Massachusetts says "the farmers get too little and the workers pay too much." Is this true, or is it merely the statement of a politician trying to please both the producers and the consumers? It is doubtless true that the farmers think they get too little for the products of their farms and it is also true that the consumers think that they pay too much. It is also true that the farmer is getting a good deal more for his products than his father, or his grand father before him ever got, and the consumer is in like manner paying more for farm stuff than he or his forbears ever paid before. And the balance is against the consumer.

It would seem that the real cause of complaint on both sides is that the consumer pays a good deal more than the farmer gets. Between them comes the cost of transportation and the toll of the middleman. Transportation costs are much higher than they were ten years ago. The middleman's toll is also higher, being as high as a percentage on a higher valuation of the products he handles. So transportation and middlemen get more of the consumers' money than ever before and the "spread" between what the farmer receives and what the city man pays is wider than it ever was. This is a sore evil.

We now have government control of inland transportation by railway, which is supplied to give us carriage at cost or as near that as may be. Shall we add to that government control of marketing? Few will be prepared to go so far as that. The benefits of co-operation have been loudly proclaimed but the results of trial have not been alluring except in the department of dairying, Creameries, butter and cheese factories gave promising examples for years and many of them did well, but their numbers are diminishing. Co-operative efforts may be said to have proved a failure throughout Canada, while in some cases showing better results abroad.

It is obvious that co-operation with its manifest advantages in certain lines of production and of marketing has many strict limitations. At its best it enables the farmer to get something more usually at the expense of the consumer who must pay more. This only serves to increase the already existing inequality between the cost at which a comfortable living can be gained in the town and in the country respectively. Our farmer friends did they but realize the fact, have many great advantages over the dwellers in cities, especially in regard to the cost of living. For their benefit and comfort we may be permitted to recite a few of these advantages.

Most of our farmers own the farm they live upon with its home and outbuildings. A majority in the cities live in leased homes, for which they must pay rent. The farmer produces his own flour, meats, poultry, milk, butter, eggs, in fact practically all his food-stuffs. He gets these at the cost of their production. His woodlot supplies fuel at the cost of cutting and hauling the wood. In the city the average cost of coal fuel may be set down at \$150 to \$200 yearly per family. The farmer is supplied with water from a brook, spring or well. The city man pays for every gallon of water he uses. In fact the city man has to buy and pay for twice as many things as the farmer in order to enjoy a like standard of comfort.

If therefore it be admitted that the farmer gets too little, it must be doubly apparent that the city consumer pays too much. He pays for everything he eats, drinks, wears or utilizes, and he pays not merely the cost of production, but the cost of carriage, and whole salers' and retailers' profits added thereto. He gets nothing at all at the cost of production while the farmer gets half his living at first cost. This is one reason why there are so many more cases of poverty in almost any city than in an equal population in the adjoining rural districts.

The farmer need not envy the city dweller in these days. The point is important and should be given careful thought, especially in times like these when so many are leaving their farm homes in this province to take up new homes in the cities of a foreign land. Every one of those cities is overcrowded. And the cost of living is that they had better remain everywhere high. It costs much to remove and get established again. Experience awaits many who are an old proverb has it that three going now or who have recently returned are as bad as a fire, it goes.

Reminiscences And Remarks

Conditions Prevailing Here in 1854 - A Rare Old Almanac.

(By W. L. Cotton.)

Reference to "The Prince Edward Island Almanac for the year of the Christian Era 1854" - for a copy of which I am indebted to Dr. Bagnal, may well mark the beginning of our Reminiscences in the year 1923. This interesting old publication was prepared by John J. Pippy, in the advertiser's office, 15 Queen St., and was "sold also by Edward Whelan at the Royal Gazette Office and by H. Stamper, Queen Square." It was in every respect creditable and useful. Well printed and full of information for the people who lived sixty-eight years ago, it shows today one of the public things in respect to which no advance has been made in this province. It states the latest census returns, obtained in the year 1848, showing a population of 63,008 persons, of whom 32,095 were male and 30,559 female, of British and French descent, and 330 of Indian. A list of the roads to the principal points on the island is supplied. Following the page on which is set forth the remarkable days of each month there is a paragraph to remind farmers of the duties and requirements of the month in order that their work may be successful and profitable - plain, practical and pointed, as well as timely. The Customs tariff of the time is set forth in full; and there is a list of "Articles of Reciprocal Free Trade between this Island, Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick." Then there is a section devoted to the public officials of the day, from Sir Alexander Bannerman, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief, to the post office clerks in Charlottetown. Among the chief of the public servants of those days were Hon. George Coles (Premier), and Hon. James Warburton, William W. Lord, John Jardine, Joseph Hensley, Stephen Rice and George Bernice, on the Executive Council, of which the late Mr. Charles Des Brisay was clerk. Henry Palmer Esq., was usher of the Black Rod and Sergeant-at-Arms in the Legislative Council, which was then composed of Hon. Charles Young, President, Hon. Donald McDonald, John Myrick Holl, Stephen Rice, William Swabey, Charles Hensley, George Birnie, Edward C. Haythorne, James Dingwell, John Peter Bute, Donald Beaton and Joseph Hensley; and the Rev. Dr. Jenkins was Chaplain. Two of the seats in the House of Assembly were vacant. Those who sat in the Assembly included: Edward Palmer and Francis Longworth, for Charlottetown; John McLeod for the First District of Queen's; Robert Mooney and William McGill for the Second District; and William Douse and Benjamin Davies for the Third District. For King's County the representatives were T. Heath Haveland and Roderick Mulvey for Georgetown; Peter McGowan and Emanuel McEachern for the First District; John Jardine and Edward Whelan for the Second District; and Joseph Wightman and John Goff for the Third District. The representatives of Prince County were: for Prince-town, Donald Montgomery; for the First District, James Yeo and James Warburton; for the Second District, Allan Fraser and William Clark, and for the Third District, William W. Lord and James H. Conroy. Mr. H. W. Lobban was Legislative Librarian. Among the more important public officers were: Colonial Secretary, Hon. James Warburton; Treasurer, Hon. Stephen Rice; Surveyor-General, Hon. George Wright; Registrar of Deeds and Keeper of Plans, Hon. George Birnie; Attorney-General, Hon. Joseph Hensley; Collector of Excise, Hon. Allan Fraser; Queen's Printer, Hon. Edward Whelan; Controller of Customs and Navigation Laws and Surveyor of Shipping, Hon. George R. Goodman. On the Board of Education there were in those days: Hon. William Swabey and Hon. Joseph Hensley, William Crandall and John Kenny, Esquires and the Revs. David Fitzgerald, Percy McPhee and Robert S. Patterson; and on the Board of Trustees of the Central Academy there were: Hon. Geo. Coles, William Swabey, Jas. Warburton, Benjamin Davies, Edward Thornton, Thomas Heath Haviland, Daniel Hodgson, William Forgan and John Longworth, besides the Lieut.-Governor, the Chief Justice, the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, who were members of the Board, ex-officio. The Head Master of the Academy was William Cundall, the second Master, John Kenny, and the third, John LePage.

In the Charlottetown Post Office there were then Thomas Owen, Postmaster-General, and Peter Des Brisay, his assistant. The mails were sent out for Bedouque, Cape Traverse, Lot 16, Tryon River, Desable, Brackley Point, Cove Head, Traveller's Rest, Summerside, St. Eleanor's and Port Hill on each Monday and Wednesday at nine o'clock a.m.; for Georgetown and Vernon River, on each Tuesday and Friday at the same hour; for Bay Fortune, Fairfield, Lot 47, Mount Pleasant, St. Margaret's, St. Peter's Bay, Souris and Fort Augustus, every Tuesday at 6 p.m.; for Anderson's Road, Barret's Cross, Cascamp, Cavendish, New Glasgow, Kildare, Lot 11, Lot 67, New London, Park Corner, Princeton, Tignish, West Cape, Lot 7, Quagmire and Rustico, every Wednesday at 9 a.m.; for Belfast, Murray Harbor,

Orwell and White Sands every Friday at 9 a.m. This was the winter arrangement. The mail couriers of those days put on much style and took on great importance. They drove, for the most part, in double carriages in winter, and high box sleighs in summer. Armed with tin horns, slung round their shoulders, they blew a trumpet blast when they met other travellers on the road, warning all and singular to make way and leave a clear track for Her Majesty's mails. In winter, after a storm there was a general turn-out of the farmers of every district through which they passed to "break the roads." There was most of "cutting into the fields" than there is now. A good road had to be made for the passage of Her Majesty's mails, on their weekly or bi-weekly excursion from the Capital.

This old almanac for 1854 supplied lists of the Magistracy for the whole island; of the Commissioners for the trial of small debts; of the Commissioners of Roads; of the Boards of Health of the Province; of a compendium of valuable information for the people of this island, such as they would look for in vain. The scale on which the postage on letters was rated at that time may be interesting now. The postage on a letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight was three pence currency; over half an ounce and not exceeding one ounce, 6 pence; over one ounce and not exceeding an ounce and a half, 9 pence; over one and a half ounces and not exceeding two ounces, 12 pence; over two ounces and not exceeding two and a half ounces, 15 pence; over two and a half ounces and not exceeding three ounces, 18 pence. These rates were applied throughout the British North American Colonies. The postage on the lightest letters to any part of the United States was six pence.

One of the most practically useful tables in the old almanac was that "reducing dollars into P. E. Island currency," which was then in pounds, shillings and pence. A dollar was then equal in value to six shillings and three pence and a hundred dollars to thirty-one pounds, five shillings. The receipts of the Government in the year amounted to \$35,345 3s. 5d., and the expenditures to \$29,433 6s. 5d. All that time the public debt - including debentures, treasury warrants and notes - amounted to \$2,038,116. Apart from the local statistics and reports of the time, there was in this old almanac of 1854 a considerable amount of general information and some humor that may pass muster in these days. Here are a few paragraphs: "An attorney about to make up a bill of costs was requested by a client, a baker, to make it as light as he could. 'Ah,' replied the attorney, 'that's what you may say to your foreman, but it's not the way I make my bread.' " "A very interesting obituary of a lady states that 'She was married twenty-four years, and in all that time never once banged the door.' " "A farmer when flagellating two of his unruly hogs was asked what he was doing. 'Thrasing wild oats,' was his reply."

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.

MOON SHINE

Sir.-In your issue of 24th inst. "Prohibitionist" instead of answering my question, proceeds to scratch mud and dirt over what he is evidently astounded of. He does not attempt to disprove my assertion that Prohibition is solely responsible for the thousands of breweries that now flourish in this province.

Now if 'Prohibitionist' refuses to stick to the point and adheres to his cat-like antics, this discussion is ended right now, as the relations of murderers and the other unspeakable unfortunates to prohibition are too fresh in decent peoples minds to be renewed at this season. Enough has been said to convince "Temperance" at least that "Prohibitionist" must have been living for some considerable time, in entire seclusion, if he does not know that Prohibition has converted this province into a veritable hive of breweries. I am Sir, etc., TEMPERANCE.

Remarkable Phenomenon Discovered in Vienna

His name is Rafael Schermann; he is called the Man with the X-ray Eyes, and he is said to be the most remarkable phenomenon of the day. He is Sherlock Holmes in real life, except that he possesses powers that Holmes never approached. We all know how simple, low inevitable indeed did Sherlock Holmes' feats in reasoning become once he had explained the separate steps. "Elementary, my dear Watson," he used to say. But Schermann does not know how he does it. He regards his power of mind reading as a Divine gift, and says that a heavy penalty will be laid upon him in the future if he does not use it wisely. He is now a sort of private consulting detective in Vienna. When the rich come to him for advice he charges a fee, but said that the criminal was at the moment in the bank and demanded that all the clerks be summoned.

Confessions Necessary. The clerks were obliged to pass before him one by one, and each had to write down his name and to describe his appearance and relate his past history. It seems incredible, but that it is so is attested by well-known Austrian and Hungarian publicists and scientists.

Detecting a Thief. Charles Benedek, vouched for by the New York World as a Hungarian journalist and magazine writer of the first rank, tells about Schermann in words that will perhaps not seem unbelievable to persons who have read Conan Doyle's intimate little chats about the fairies. His latest triumph was the discovery of the thief of forty million kronen from a Vienna bank. It appears that a man named Goldenwasser opened an account with the bank for this sum of money and later on withdrew it. By accident it was discovered that the cashier's duplicate receipt for the money was missing. A thorough search was made of the bank, but that it had ever been paid in was uncertain. An examination of the ledger showed an acknowledgment of the amount in the most regular form. It was initiated by one of the women clerks, a trusted employee. When she was questioned she denied that the initials were hers, though they bore a strong superficial resemblance to them. However, the police were on the point of placing her under arrest when Schermann arrived.

More Than Mind-Reading. He is described as a small, bearded man, of apparently Jewish origin. He was shown the letter in which the alleged Goldenwasser had instructed the bank to transfer his deposit to another bank, and also the initials in the ledger. Then he seemed to concentrate mentally to a ditch that was unpleasant to be held. His face twitched and he became convulsed, perspiration rolled from his brow. He closed his eyes and trembled. Then he said that the woman had nothing to do with the crime. The criminal was a man, whom he proceeded to describe. He also described the man's confederate, and said that at that moment the parents of the criminal were wringing their hands in distress, because they knew what their son had done and that he was leaving the country that night. They talked of suicide and in order to save them there must be quick action. He

be prudent to count the cost before making the decision to go away. This is about as good a hint as any to live in. Many have lived in it and prospered. Many who have gone abroad learned to late that they had better remain everywhere high. It costs much to remove and get established again. Experience awaits many who are an old proverb has it that three going now or who have recently returned are as bad as a fire, it goes.

If Your Household or Mercantile Property was Destroyed by a Conflagration Today, would You have Adequate Fire Insurance Protection?



A great many citizens are carrying today a very small amount of Insurance compared to replacement values and in event of a total loss by conflagration would stand to lose heavily. In fairness to those dependent upon them for support and also to their Creditors they should carry adequate Insurance.

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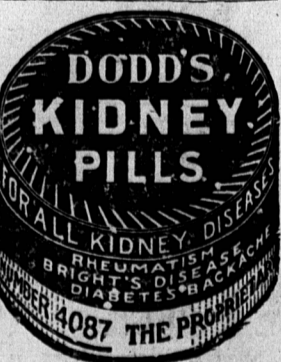
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Daily Selections For Guardian Readers

From the W. S. Louson collection

"OPPORTUNITY"

They do me wrong who say I come no more. When once I knock and fail to find you in; For every day I stand outside your door. And bid you wake, and rise to fight and win. Wait not for precious chances passed away. Weep not for golden ages on the wane. Each night I burn the records of the day. At sunrise every soul is born again. Laugh like a boy, at splendors that have sped. To vanished joys be blind, and dumb. My judgments seal the dead past with its dead. But never bind a moment yet to come. Though deep in mire, wring not your hands and weep. I lend my arm to all who say "I can." No smothered outcast ever sank so deep. -Walter Malone



To all our Policy-Holders and Friends throughout the Province we extend our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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Coffee Stains

The yolk of an egg, mixed with warm water and used as you would soap, will remove coffee stains. Hot sudsy water will quickly remove the yellow of the egg.