

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, MAY 21, 1928

THE LIBERAL PANIC.

OUR Liberal friends are becoming panicky over recent utterances by Hon. R. B. Bennett over the King Government's fiscal policy, and its effect upon immigration and Canadian employment.

many times worse than the spring freshets had left them. Soft mud is drawn up from the gutters and laid on the middle of the highway, deepening the mud already there and making it practically impassable for cars.

RESULTS.

ACCORDING to a statement just made by A. P. Patterson, President of the Transportation Commission of the Maritime Board of Trade, says the Halifax Herald, Maritime shippers benefited to the extent of \$2,400,031.27 in eight months as a result of reduced freight rates in line with the recommendations of the Duncan Report.

A DISTINCTION.

THE parliamentary correspondent of the Ottawa Journal says: "Hon. W. D. Euler, Minister of National Revenue, hasn't used a private railway car since he has assumed his portfolio. He is the paragon of a cabinet minister, but one that Mr. Euler hasn't taken advantage of."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Lobster fishing is reported satisfactory along many parts of the coast, and indications are that the season will be at least an average one. Trout fishing is, as usual at this time of year, a little slow, but they are coming.

Many enquiries are already being made regarding housing accommodation for the summer months, and indications are that the tourist business will be more than ordinarily busy, when summer comes. There is a very active demand for seaside cottages and bungalows. This should make a profitable means of investment for enterprising speculators.

Summer never comes without the usual preliminary showers and cold days. Winter leaves us very reluctantly, but he always gets away by the middle or end of June, and always with a backward lingering look. Let us not begrudge him the cold comfort of the loving backward look. He hates to leave us.

Notes by the Way

THE permit system seems to be one of those things that are very difficult to understand. There is a general agreement that immigrants are desired and that many millions of dollars have been expended by the Canadian Government in recent years to encourage them to come.

"Political Permits" they are called by The Toronto Globe, and it goes on to say: "The political 'permit' led to the scandal in the Customs Department. It provided a big task for the recent Royal Commission. In the Immigration Department, however, it is a real document, handed out and used and evidently abused—to what extent remains to be seen."

It has further transpired that Hon. Mr. Forke, when he took up the office of Minister of Immigration, was "plainly disturbed" that the permit system was being abused. Since then the price of permits has gone up from \$10 or \$15 to \$100, and "people are willing to deposit \$500 to \$1,000 for entering Canada as farmers."

With such a mess as these political permits to be cleaned up, it is easy to see why the Government is so desirous to have Parliament prorogued and the further investigation cut short as speedily as possible. The Opposition will do well to insist that the session shall not close until this matter is probed, and the wrong-doers therein are fully exposed and punished.

When the Laurier Picture Palace was burned and 78 children lost their lives, three men were tried for manslaughter in connection with the affair and received sentence. The owner of the place was given a term of two years in jail and his two assistants twelve months each. Now the Court of Appeal has quashed the conviction and set them free. One of the reasons given by the Appeal Court for sustaining the appeal was that "infringement of a civic by-law did not constitute manslaughter."

Hon. Mr. Elliott may be satisfied that King's County, P. E. I., has been fairly treated by the Liberal Government at Ottawa. It is not usual for a Minister of Public Works to think himself unfair! Mr. A. E. MacLean, M.P. for Prince County, represents an electoral district at the opposite end of the Province, and is always ready to say "Yea, yea", to what the King Government does. He, too, expresses his approval of the treatment accorded to King's County. Hon. J. A. Macdonald, the chosen representative of the County, is of a different opinion, and it is safe to say that two-thirds of the people of this Province are convinced that the Eastern County has been sadly neglected, even though some of them may have been silent on the subject for party reasons.

Hon. J. A. Macdonald was an able and efficient representative of this Province in the late Conservative Government—one of the most capable and influential Prince Edward Island ever had in that position. The King Government now denies the Province any representation in the Cabinet, and singles out for its disfavor the County which at the last election sent to Ottawa the one representative of Cabinet size and fitness! Further comment is perhaps superfluous, but are not the Province as well as King's County treated rather contemptuously?

Let us not begrudge him the cold comfort of the loving backward look. He hates to leave us.



That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

BENEFITS FROM RADIUM

I speak frequently about the millions that are spent yearly throughout the world in investigating cancer. For years surgery has been the recognized "cure" for cancer, and in the early stages it has proven successful.

For years however radium has been used, but owing to its scarcity there was less opportunity to prove its effectiveness. However some of our wealthy folks have been buying radium and presenting it to hospitals, thus enabling these institutions to use it more generally.

Wherever it has been possible to apply the radium direct to the growth some brilliant results have been obtained. Cancer in tongue, breast, or throat, in some of the large London hospitals, is now being treated by radium.

In cancer of the throat, windows are cut in the hard thyroid cartilage in the neck which is often commonly called Adam's apple, and the radium is thus directly applied to the growth. It is "allowed" to remain there for several days with very satisfactory results.

One of the unfortunate things about cancer is that it affects the glands in the neighborhood and these cannot be reached by the radium in some places, nor in fact can they be reached by surgery.

Now the point is that a patient who feels that he must undergo a surgical operation, must go "under the knife," is naturally very much afraid, and this only makes matters worse from the standpoint of his general condition, and interferes with his chance for recovery.

With radium however he undergoes the treatment without fear or dread and this all helps in getting results. It is unfortunate that radium is such a rare element for if it could be more generally used it would save much suffering in the world.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: A person going out of a country is an "emigrant," one coming into a country is an "immigrant."

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: eject (verb). Pronounce first e as in "me," accent last syllable.

OFTEN MISPELLED: shone (looked bright); shown (presented to view).

SYNONYMS: friendship, fellowship, companionship, intimacy, acquaintance. WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day.

TODAY'S MOTIVE: that which moves or excites to action. "I fully appreciate your motives."

The Land We Love

By Frank Yeigh

Root and Fodder

Canada's Crops for 1927

Q. What were Canada's root and fodder crops for 1927?

A.—Canada's root and fodder crop yields for 1927 based on a preliminary estimate shows a potato crop worth \$58,529,000, turnips \$20,947,000; fodder: corn, \$15,806,000; sugar beets, \$3,214,000; hay and clover, \$175,956,000; alfalfa, \$24,886,000, or a total of \$299,338,000 as compared with \$326,246,000 in 1926 or a decrease of \$26,908,000.

HOUSEHOLD SCRAP BOOK

By ROBERTA LEE

To Remove Wall Paper

Old wall paper can be removed by using a heaping tablespoonful of saltpeter to a gallon of hot water and apply freely with a flat brush. Keep the water hot and the paper can be pulled off easily.

Cleaning Knives

In scouring steel cutlery, try using a large cork instead of a cloth. The cork will wear longer and will produce better results.

Boiling Cracked Eggs

To boil a cracked egg, wrap ordinary white tissue paper around the egg and boil as usual. The paper becomes wet and clings so tightly to the shell that the cracks are closed and none of the egg escapes.

NOTES OF A NATURALIST

Specially Contributed to the Guardian

APRIL, 1928.

Spring was well-nigh half gone on the 30th of the month, and gave a possible 15 hours 25 minutes of sunshine on that date. The weather was very varied from days like the 5th, when it was "May weather" on days like the 12th and 24th, when the wind rose almost to a gale, the latter date being the worse; the barometer fell one inch and the rainfall amounted to 53-100ths of an inch on that day.

On the 15th or 16th, (it varies slightly from year to year) the sun and the local mean time agree at noon; the sun is due south as the clock strikes 12. From then the sun gains a little daily until May 15th, when the clock is 3 minutes 47 seconds behind it at noon. By reference to previous "Notes," readers will observe that the greatest differences are in the Autumn and Winter.

April 25th: I gathered the first Mayflower, or Trailing Arbutus (Epigaea repens, L.) in bloom in this Northern district. It is one of the few wide-leaved evergreens which successfully withstand the frost and sunshine of our Island winters. It is lowly, and so escapes the keen winds; it forms patches with the leaves imbricated one over the other; and the leaves themselves, are coriaceous (leathery); all these circumstances enable this plant to survive the rigors of the season. The harbinger of Spring, its fragrant honeyed flowers are more sought after than all the blooms than brighter days may bring.

Bird life is still far from plentiful. Whether this is due to an actual decrease, or whether it be that the annual migration has not set in, is yet to be seen.

Tempted by the fine weather, I walked down to the shore recently, and passing by a heap of "sea-weed" which I remembered, had been piled there about five years ago, I stopped to examine it. Its texture was little changed, whereas a log under similar conditions would have become rotten and mouldered away. Its resistance to all the forces of frost, rain and shine, must be due to the chemicals with which it is charged. On returning I looked up its analysis for which I am indebted to the kindness of Dr. Frank T. Shutt, Dominion chemist, Ottawa. The first is of green cellulose dried at a gentle heat.

Nitrogen, in organic matter, per cent.—1.24; Ash or mineral matter, p.c.—21.90; Phosphoric acid (in ash, 1.30 p.c.) .41; Potash (in ash, 13.28 p.c.) 2.90. Fresh dry eel-grass, in long pieces, from P.E.I., gave the following percentages:—Water 74.05; Ash or mineral matter 7.16; Ash insoluble in acid .91; Phosphoric acid .11; Potash .87; Nitrogen, in organic matter .42.

Short, brown, old material from P. E. I. gave these percentages:—Water, 84.81; ash or mineral matter, 4.81; ash insoluble in acid, 1.43; Phosphoric acid, .051 potash, .05; and nitrogen, in organic matter, .17 per cent. Thus Dr. Shutt shows that "sea-weed" contains notable amounts of plant food, but the contents are greater in the fresh state (that is, not weathered) than in old short material, which has been exposed to the elements.

We refer to this plant as "sea-weed," and this is only another instance of the loose nomenclature we, in this Province, have adopted for many of our natural objects. Rightly, it is "eel-grass" or "grass wrack," the term "sea-weed" having long been applied to another order of plants, the Algae, Eel-grass (Zostera marina, L.) is a true flowering plant, but being entirely aquatic, the glutinous stringy pollen is discharged into the water, instead of being borne by insects or wind as in the land plants. The Algae or sea-weeds are such as kelp, dulse, and rock-weed, are not flowering plants and produce no seeds, but spores, by a wonderful process of conjugation.

There are, I believe, about seventy five distinct species of Amphibians and Reptiles found in Canada. They are not well-known since they are mostly nocturnal in habits, and as they are regarded as useless, or even harmful, few people take the trouble to become acquainted with them. But "nothing walks with aimless feet," sang our last great poet, and these are no exception.

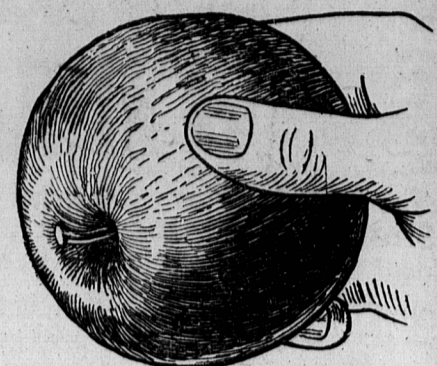
The class Salientia (i.e. "Leapers"—Frogs and Toads) of the Order Amphibia, are also known as Batrachians, and are well represented on the Island. They are absent from oceanic islands, since salt water is fatal to both adults and spawn and forms a barrier which they cannot pass. Does their presence indicate that this Island was once joined to the mainland, before the subsidence noticed by Bain, began? (See Bain's "Natural History of P. E. Island," p. 25.)

These little animals have many points of interest. In their immature state as Tadpoles, they are wonderful scavengers, stripping any drowned animal to the bones. Living in water they breathe (like fishes) by means of gills; but as they approach maturity the gills are withdrawn and covered, the tail is absorbed—(it does not drop off) and the limbs begin to grow. Then is the critical stage, when reared in captivity, for the first to grow legs

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had them chewed off by his envious or hungry brethren, and this, of course, closes his career. In a large pond this does not occur, and at last comes the proud moment when he— an epitome of Evolution—bends his course landward, a frog! Instead of the two-chambered heart of the tadpole state, he has now a three-chambered heart, like the reptiles. As he has no ribs, as we have, he cannot breathe by expansion and contraction, as we do; but must swallow the air, so that it is possible to suffocate him by propping his mouth open! He feels hungry, and his tongue comes into play. We have heard of people whose tongues were loose at both ends; his is loose at the back, fixed in front, and covered with a kind of "tangle foot" glue. Let an unwary insect come within range, and that tongue is flashed out and in again so quickly that all one sees is that the insect isn't there. Thus, in his own small way he is a benefactor, and must be added to the list of agents that limit the increase of insects, as given in last month's Notes.

Mankind is indebted to this humble amphibian in another way. Galvani, an Italian physiologist, in 1780 (the story runs) had killed and skinned some frogs to make soup for his wife, who was sick; the scalpel which he used had been lying near an electrical machine, and when it touched the dead frogs it threw their limbs into violent convulsions! However, Galvani was already making experiments on Frogs in 1771, and this casts some doubt on the story given above. He observed that dead frogs, suspended by copper hooks to an iron railing, twitched their limbs as if alive, and this led to his invention of what he calls a "metallic arc." It was made up of two different metals and when placed in contact with the leg of a frog caused it to contract. These experiments led to the discovery of what was then called Galvanic Electricity but which is now known as frictional electricity.

On April 7th I observed a frog near the brook and identified it as Rana fontinalis, Lec., the Spring or Marsh Frog. As this is the second specimen only that I have met with, I imagine it is not as common as some of the other species.

Literature on these animals is somewhat scarce, and high-priced. The most accessible to the young student is the "Frog Book," in the

Nature Series, a copy of which is in and fairly common. The Public Library, Charlottetown. In the meantime here is a list which our young students of natural history will do well to preserve, along with other lists which I hope to give from time to time.

Salientia of P. E. Island:—

- (A) Bufonidae. (Toads). Parotid gland present. (1) Bufo americanus, Le Conte. Eastern Toad. Warts often large, arranged singly in dorsal spots, under parts spotted. Cranial crests usually divergent behind. Well known.

(Continued on page 5)

Large Amounts of Bonds are Being "Called"

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