

# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1927

### "NOT RESPONSIBLE"

IT is strange how many people appear to be under the delusion that laws are made for other persons, and not for them. Their actions would indicate that they are not responsible beings. That they can do as they please, while other folk are restrained and restricted by law.

Strange indeed, and stranger still, that the Patriot had not thought of this when it and a number of so-called Prohibitionists were stumping the county trying to impose restraints and restrictions upon "others and not for themselves." Certainly "their actions would indicate that they are not responsible beings." The above quotation had reference to reckless automobile driving. It is known that quite a number of auto drivers have exceeded the speed limit, that accidents have occurred, some of them fatal. It is also admitted that certain people have exceeded the speed limit in drinking intoxicating liquors. Because of the latter, those who are not "responsible beings" insisted that the use of intoxicants must be prohibited entirely to the careful as well as the reckless. To be consistent they should now start a campaign to prohibit all automobile traffic.

### LETTING GEORGE DO IT.

STEPHEN Leacock, the Canadian humorist, represented one of his characters as a detective disguised as a plumber sitting on the doorstep waiting for a monkey wrench. Whether plumbers are more addicted to the waiting habit than other tradesmen matters little to the illustration. Too many people are waiting for someone else to do what they could do themselves and in less time. Let the neighbor repair his part of the line fence which has been blown down by the wind, which it is his duty to do and which he doubtless would do if he knew about it. In the meantime, while waiting for him, the cattle have got into the grainfield. Let the government repair the broken plank in the bridge. In the meantime, while waiting for the government to do it, a horse, it may be our own, stumbles over the broken plank and breaks a leg.

There are a thousand things which, legally, ought to be done by someone else but which could be more economically done by the one who discovers the necessity of having it done at once. This is not intended to excuse or to exonerate the person who has the right to do the thing. That duty and right must always be insisted upon. The point is that when a thing requires to be done immediately to save property or time, it should be done by the person who makes the discovery, if at all possible. It may be the "second mile" but it will always pay and it is a Christian duty to go just a little beyond what the law demands.

Paternalism, or depending upon others, has ever been a hindrance to progress. The individual, of the community or the province will often put off the doing of something which, if done, would benefit them respectively, but because someone else or a government has a right to do it, it is allowed to go undone.

The outstanding factor is progress. It is to help one's self, not to wait for outside help.

### BEGINNERS AND QUITTERS

THE world's progress and its history are not achieved by individuals, but by institutions. The history of institutions however, depends upon individuals and it frequently transpires that institutions are wrecked by the individuals who made their beginning a success. Churches, schools, fraternal societies, community welfare clubs and similar institutions are begun by enthusiastic well wishers. The beginning is promising and all goes well for a time. Then someone becomes weary, someone thinks that the quodas are coming to others, little jealousies creep in and the institution loses its vitality and usefulness.

Progress comes through the concerted action of men and women in institutions. The institution is the dynamo by which progress and betterment are impelled, but the men and the women, the members of the institute are the cogs in the machine and every cog, must do its own work.

We are often given credit for beginning and many worthy beginnings have been made throughout the ages. Many of them have done their share in the development of civilization, many of them have contributed nothing to the welfare of the world or of the community because of the failure of the members to keep up the enthusiasm with which they began. Let us, then, in all our undertakings, concerted or individual, make a good beginning but, more especially, a good continuing.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

The once familiar horse and buggy on our streets is rapidly going the way of the dodo and the ichtheasaurus. Wonder what will take the place of the automobile.

The bulk of the grain is now harvested although some late fields are still ungathered. From reports coming from various quarters it appears there will be a fair average crop.

The reading of silly books, like the playing of bridge, is often a wholesome change from heavier reading and close study. It should be resorted to, however, only as a necessary mental rest.

The Autumnal Equinox, when day and night are of equal length, on September 22, is often accompanied by meteorological disturbances, although the scientists have discovered no valid cause for such. This year the disturbances have apparently preceded the equinox.

Criminality is the child of idleness. The young must be kept busy, either in useful employment or in supervised and organized sport. The boy or the girl who has plenty to do either in work or amusement rarely goes outside of legitimate channels to look for anything to do. To have nothing to do and plenty of time to do it is ruinous training for anyone, young or old.

The cleanliness of Charlottetown, thanks to those in charge of cleaning of the streets, has done much to eliminate the house fly nuisance. It has been noted that, respectively, but because someone else or a government has a right to do it, it is allowed to go undone.

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### Notes by the Way

THERE are about 4,000 self-moving cars operating on the public streets and highways of Prince Edward Island. How many drivers operate these cars at various times and seasons during the year? It is quite obvious that the number of different drivers is far greater than the number of cars. In many cases there are entire families, say four or five persons, each of whom is at some time in control of the car. In other instances there may be but one or two members of a household who are permitted to drive. Let us suppose that the average number of drivers is no more than two and a half. At that rate there are 10,000 persons who drive the 4,000 cars that are owned in this province.

During the summer season the number of cars and drivers is increased by the tourist visitors who arrive in motor cars, or who bring cars with them for their convenience and enjoyment while they stay here. We venture the estimate that with this addition there are at least 10,000 motor car drivers in Prince Edward Island. Few persons over 60 or under 16 years of age operate cars, or ought to be permitted to do so. Taking town and country together there are, say, two or three of the masculine to one of the feminine in order who drive cars. This is, however, only a rough guess.

The automobile is a more complicated machine than the railway locomotive and proportionately more difficult to operate safely. The locomotive and train are guided by the rails. Not every man is permitted to drive a locomotive. To qualify himself for that position the engine driver must devote years of time and his competence in every respect must be demonstrated before he can be entrusted with the operation of a railway engine. Women and children are debarred from this employment, although a woman with proper training for the work might perform it successfully. Women drive motor cars quite as well apparently as most men and there are not a few competent and successful air pilots who are women.

Considering the lack of systematic training and the absence of examination as to the fitness and capability of prospective car drivers, the great majority of those who have driven cars and are still driving from day to day have made an excellent record if compared with those of other cities and neighboring countries down to a recent date, but this is not enough. Among ten thousand different drivers there are probably a tenth part of that ought to be reprimanded, disciplined or have their licenses cancelled because of reckless speeding, running away after a collision, driving at night without headlights, or with only one headlight, or for partial drunkenness, or incompetence or other disability.

These are among the chief sources of danger to life and limb from motor cars. The large number of level crossings on the railway line add to fatal chances. Above all is the unfit, incompetent, careless or reckless driver. There is a consensus of public opinion that too few of the delinquent drivers have been brought to court and that when convicted they have got away without incurring an adequate penalty. Energetic enforcement of the existing law and regulations, with necessary amendments thereto, are absolutely demanded to make our streets and highways safer than they now are.

Volcanic dust in the air is blamed by Sir Napier Shaw for England's unhappy weather during the past summer. He says some foreign substance is in the sky, probably emanating from volcanoes. Particles of dust, around which rain forms, have created a film in the sky which has made it pale blue for the past 18 months, he says. That may be true. In any case there is some compensation in the fact that the plentiful rain has so washed the streets and flushed the sewers of English St. Paul's above the city broods!

Arthur H. Adams.

Premier Baxter, at the exhibition in Fredericton pointed out to the farmers some of the things they could do for themselves which no government could do for them. They could supply far more milk to the creameries and much more raw materials to the two meat-packing plants and so on. They could also told them that not a dollar of this debt had been paid. Who is right in this matter of dispute?



### That Body of Hours

By James W. Barton, M.C.  
POISON IVY

One of the difficult things to explain is why it is possible for two individuals to tramp through poison ivy bushes, in fact actually brush the bushes aside with their hands, and one will develop an attack of poison ivy and the other will escape it entirely.

Perhaps ancestors of the one who does not develop the attack may have had severe attacks for a number of years, and thus developed a resistance to it which they handed down to their children and children's children.

The poison ivy, or poison oak plant as it is often called, usually has a sort of oak shaped leaf which grows in clusters of three. There are little berries of a whitish green color which also help to distinguish it.

The plant has to be bruised or crushed to cause trouble. The sap from the plant may cling to farm implements, to clothes, or even the fur of animals.

The Connecticut State Board of Health have been investigating this poison oak menace, and state that there is no truth in the old idea that just to go "near" poison ivy can cause an attack.

When any part of the body comes in contact with the crushed plant, there is an acute irritation of the hands, or burning or itching of the skin. Within twenty four hours a red rash usually appears, with the skin much swollen, and covered with little water or serum blisters.

If the hands have touched the face or other part of the body the rash may break out there also. However, this State Board of Health have been able to show that an abundant application of soap, immediately following contact with poison ivy, will prevent the poison attack. The soapy lather mixes with the sap of the ivy and removes it safely from the skin.

Where the attack has developed there are a number of remedies that have been used.

One of the simplest and most effective is the old fashioned remedy for burns, caron oil, which is made up of equal parts of lime water and linseed oil.

This is very soothing, the oil helping the ammonia to remain in contact longer with the skin.

At a time when walking in the woods, "berrying," is popular, it might be well to make use of these facts given us by the Connecticut State Board of Health.



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### FOR THE SCRAP BOOK

A SERIES OF LITERARY QUOTATIONS FOR BOOK LOVERS

Thursday, Sept. 22nd; Virgil died, 19 B. C.  
The level rainstorm smote walls, slopes, and hedges like the cloth-yard shafts of Senlac and Crecy... while the tails of little birds trying to roost on some scraggy thorn were blown inside out like umbrellas.—Thos. Hardy.

FLEET STREET, LONDON  
Beneath this narrow, jostling street Unruffled by the noise of feet, Like a slow organ-note I hear The pulses of the great world beat.

Unseen beneath the city's show Through this aorta ever flow The currents of the universe— A thousand pulses throbbing low! Unheard beneath the pavement's din Unknown magicians sit within Dim caves, and weave life into words On patient looms that spin and spin.

There, uninspired, yet with the dower Of mightier mechanic power, Some bent, obscure Euripides Builds the loud drama of the hour! There, from the gaping presses hurled, A thousand voices, passion-whirled, With throats of steel vociferate The incessant story of the world.

So through this artery from age To age the tides of passion rage, The swift historians of each day Flung a world upon a page! And then I pause and gaze my fill Where cataraacts of traffic spill Their foam into the Circus. Lo! Look up, the crown on Ludgate Hill!

### Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

September 22, 1927  
OUR SHEPHERD:—Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture, Psalm 100:3.

### MY SHIP

What joy will be mine when my ship comes home, As she plows her way through the fleecy foam; When I catch the gleam of her shining sail I'll think of the dreams that did not fail, And I'll lift my eyes to the sky's blue dome With a thankful heart, when my ship comes home.

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### ARE PARENTS PEOPLE?

Article 1  
1. Does the present-day parent compare favorably or unfavorably with the parent of past generations?  
2. To what extent can parents be blamed for juvenile delinquency?  
3. Can a parent, by controlling environment and companionship, mould the character of the child as desired?  
4. Do you believe in the principle of parent education? If so, what should it include?  
5. At what age do you think parent education should start? Should it be before or after marriage?  
6. Do you think the inclusion of health as a major topic in a parent education scheme might do much to increase the physical well-being of the country?  
By Judge Emily P. Murphy, Police Magistrate, Edmonton, Alta.  
I have nearly been forced to give up educating parents. The good ones don't need education and, with the others, I am beginning to feel that the only thing which will have any marked effect upon them is to put them under a bond or make them pay a fine.

(Continued on page 5)  
prove to be— A phantom ship on life's troubled sea. When sinks life's sun, and my guiding star Leads out beyond the moaning bar, And my way lies over the unknown sea, The Pilot will bring my ship to me. —Helen B. Anderson.

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## FALL OPENING

Thursday Afternoon  
Sept. 22nd

We feel confident in saying that this will be the finest showing ever made by us.

Our display of new millinery, mantles and furs would do credit to a city much larger than Charlottetown.

We extend this invitation to all our customers from city and country, our store will be given over entirely for the display of new fall goods.

If you come we will be glad to see you—if you don't come you will be sorry.

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