

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The editor does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

THE TEACHERS' STATUS

Sir.—There are approximately six hundred and fifteen men and women actively engaged in this province in the teaching profession. Of this number about twenty per cent. have had less than one year's experience and sixty per cent. less than five years' experience. Only fourteen per cent. of the teaching body continue in the profession beyond the tenth year of service while but a mere handful make this occupation their life's work.

A brief consideration of these facts should convince even the most casual observer that in a profession where the importance of such transcendent importance there is increasing radicalism among when most of its members are obliged to give up the profession and enter upon other callings that offer more opportunities for advancement and higher remuneration for services.

Now, what is to be done? How can the teachers be retained in the profession? To this there is but one answer possible and that is their salaries must be substantially increased and the teaching profession established on a foundation that will fitly and firmly support the educational structure.

In practically every other walk of life the experienced employee is granted periodic increases in salary until a definite and reasonably fair living wage is reached. Why, we ask, should the teacher receive such scant consideration and encouragement while his work is admittedly one of the noblest callings on earth? The progressive and thoughtful citizens of our Province will readily see that only by paying the teachers an adequate living wage can they be kept in the profession and the standard of work in our schools raised. In comparison with the rest of the Dominion, it is said that PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND stands first in per capita wealth. Should it then longer bear the stigma of having in its service the lowest paid teachers to be found in Canada and should it not with- out further delay once and for all cast off this reproach, that is frequently heard, and assume its full responsibility to its men and women teachers?

In conclusion may we not hope that we shall have the undivided support of all citizens in the efforts that we are putting forth to bring about long-needed reforms in the educational situation.

We are, Sir, etc., TEACHERS FEDERATION OF P. E. I.

THE BALANCE OF TRADE

Sir.—"Student" whose letters on the above subject show that he is of an enquiring turn of mind; although he refrains from asking questions that he cannot answer, from which it would appear that he must obtain his knowledge by a different method than the ordinary student.

I am not sure that I can explain this subject of imports and exports in a manner that will be acceptable.

Imports must be paid for by exports and in the transaction referred to an example of how this would be done in this country will help to make this clear. The imports as they were left means nothing to a person; the importer received neither his profit nor original investment. The goods must be sold where they are needed and where there is either money or exports to pay for them. What is done under ordinary circumstances? The merchant or importer would take the goods to his store, classify them and add, say 33-1/3 per cent. to the value to cover cost of selling and other expenses, and give him a fair profit. This would raise the cost of the merchandise to the farmers to \$200,000. This they would be paid with the original \$100,000 and an additional 100,000 bushels of wheat which the merchant must export. This transaction changes the relative values of the imports and exports to an exportation of goods valued at \$200,000 and an importation of \$150,000 in value. The merchant has made a good profit, whether the farmer has made with profit or not is another question. There are some who claim that it is not merchandise that is imported or exported but labour, and whether there is a profit or not depends on the amount of labour; if it is equal on imports and exports then the transaction is fair.

Regarding how Great Britain and Canada at stated periods were apparently prosperous, although their imports exceeded in value their exports. The recorded imports and exports never account for the exchange of goods and labour between a country and the rest of the world. Customs records are kept only of merchandise. To understand how a country pays for its imports with its exports it is necessary to take into account everything of value that comes into a country and what goes out of a similar nature.

What may appear to be a surplus of value to a country may in fact be a deficit when all the facts are taken into consideration. The Postal Department at the end of the financial year may show a surplus of \$1,000,000. This could be offset by 10,000 rural mail carriers and post masters having each a deficit of \$100 per year for the labour performed by them.

I am, Sir, etc.

ISLANDER DEBATES MARRIAGE

Turkey is reviving its rug industry, which has suffered since the World War. Austria has marked the one-hundredth anniversary of the introduction of the accordion, devised in that country, to other parts of Europe.

WE HAVE YOUR PRESCRIPTION DISPENSED HERE. WE DISPENSE ANY PRESCRIPTION. We give the utmost care and attention to the dispensing of prescriptions. Only registered druggists do this work. Our drugs are procured from the most reliable manufacturers. Leave us your next Prescription. J. Ernest H. Worth DRUGGISTS 142 Prince St. Phone 82

THE RUM-RUNNING TRAFFIC

(The Toronto Globe)

Discussion in the United States Congress of the rum-running situation on the Canadian border has brought this question forcibly into the limelight in the United States press, with many references to the profound effect on future relations between the two countries.

The problem has many serious sides which Canada cannot ignore, especially since Washington has found it necessary to patrol the lakes with armed craft. There is always danger of disturbed international relations when guns are booming near the boundary, and while they are not directed against law-abiding citizens of this country the fact cannot be overlooked that undesirable possibilities exist.

The Hoover Administration is pledged to investigate the abuses which have arisen under the Eighteenth Amendment, and undoubtedly will give special attention to the smuggling of \$75,000,000 worth of liquor across the boundary, which is the estimate of the year's flow. The charge is not made that the Canadian Government has been derelict in its duty under the treaty arrangements. It has lived up to the requirements, has notified the proper United States officials when shipments have been cleared, and has otherwise co-operated, short of putting a ban on exports. But the indictment of Canadian distillers and brewers by a United States Federal court has created the impression that this country has at least a moral obligation to prevent its own citizens from entering into a conspiracy to defeat the laws of the Republic. This is the impression. The cases have not been tried and proved, and the extent of guilt has not been fixed. Still it is an unpleasant thought to find lodgment in the minds of neighbors with whom we have had long and friendly communion.

He was followed by Mr. Reilly, who (by the way, is a graduate of Emersons School of Oratory) modestly, yet proudly, stated he was a native of the province his opponent so eloquently spoke of, and said in substance, that even the two divorcees mentioned, were of foreign origin, and the scarcity of divorcees in his native province was due to the fact that there, the people married for love, fidelity and service, rather than for infatuation, sensuality and novelty. And as a result, there was more love between man and wife, more service in the home and more children to bless and preserve the marriage.

He referred to his worthy opponent as a professional unmarried lecturer, giving advice on that, with which he had no practical experience, but spoke as one, versed only in the subject of marriage from a book knowledge; whereas he, (Mr. Reilly) would speak from the point of fifteen years of married experience. He claimed marriage to be primarily, a civil contract, or agreement, whereby one man agreed to live with one woman, as husband and wife, in a monogamous union, "till death did them part," and that the maintenance of that union, was largely due to the degree of common sense and mutual fidelity exercised by each, toward themselves and family, all consecrated to love, service and God.

Mr. Reilly dismissed partisan politics and sectarian religion as subject to, rather than predicate of, the marital stability of the home, except in so far as economics and ethics tended to weaken the physical or pervert the morals. He claimed his Republican party's policies on tariff and immigration and national economies tended toward better home conditions. He summed the home and marriage as the sum total of human experience, based on the conduct of living mortals, rather than on the injunctions of dead immortals; claiming that the spirit of equality, love and sympathy, love, fidelity and health, blessed by a family within the reasonable limitations of the economic means of the home, dedicated to reverence of man and God, were the essentials of a happy and preserved marriage.

There was a large and orderly audience, receptive and appreciative of the facts and fancies of each speaker, and generous in their applause of the ability of the respective speakers. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, filled with material and spiritual blessings, many happy marriages and large families for the coming year. I am, Sir, etc. ANGUS A. MACDONALD 598 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

STANHOPE.—The December meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Louis Marshall, with 17 members and 2 visitors in attendance. Mrs. Douglas was supplied by Mrs. P. L. Douglas. Each member paid 15 cents towards the Christmas tree for the school children, and it was also decided to pack a "Surprise Box" for a needy family in district. Five new members enrolled. Next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Malcolm McLeod.

GOWAN BRAD.—Eleven members and two visitors met at the home of Miss Angnes Mallard, to hold the annual meeting of the Institute. After the election of officers, and reading of reports, the members enjoyed a talk on dieting. This institute is undertaking to erect a flag pole on the school grounds, and also to get new windows for school. Mrs. Alex McMillan will entertain the December meeting at her home.

Turkey is reviving its rug industry, which has suffered since the World War.

Austria has marked the one-hundredth anniversary of the introduction of the accordion, devised in that country, to other parts of Europe.

While trying to torture a frost by means of a high tension circuit, Bayeux, France, laborer recently electrocuted himself.

London is taking to the talkies, many theatres having sound production devices, 13 are now being equipped, and many more are

LETTER TO THE SICK

"THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST."—ROMANS 8:9 (A. E. GABRIEL, HALIFAX)

The spirit of Christ is the spirit of Christmas. It is the spirit of the little child—that spirit that helps us not so much to do great things as to do little things graciously.

There are many ways of celebrating Christmas. There are and always will be the religious aspect of the Feast. Then there came the time when Carols were sung in the frosty air and still we love to hear them. Then there is the exchange of gifts and the goodwill beaming in every face, which is the essence of Christmas and the Christmas spirit. With every gift our Lord gave. He gave part of Himself. Is it healing? What means the sigh that escapes His lips, ere He gave speech to the dumb? What the tears that coursed the cheek ere He raised Lazarus from the dead? Or see the friends of the palsied for healing; how easy to heal the sickness—ah, but Christ will put His soul into the gift. He will look deeper and forgive his sins. That should be the case with every Christmas gift. Part of ourselves should go out with all our gifts.

But some are sad at Christmas time. It never comes but a quietness like death is over their spirit. They sit solitary in darkness while others rejoice. They drop a silent tear amid the gladness. Henry Van Dyke, speaking of such tears, says:

"Al! lose them not, dear heart— Life has no pearls More pure than memories of the joy love shared. See while we count them one by one in prayer The heavenly hope that lights the Christmas tree Has made a rainbow in our Christmas tears."

Christmas has its message to those who are sad. You remember that it was to the shepherds out in the dark cold night that its first gleams came. It was to Mary in the stable, care worn, weary and sad that its gladness fully came. There was gladness and light at the Inn. There was music and dancing at the palace, no doubt. But the Christmas joy came to Mary in her dark, meagre surroundings. The Christmas message is that God cares, that He sent His Son, that earth is near to Heaven and that no earthly day is so dear and dark but it is illumined by the love of God.

Of course the whole subject of Christmas and its joy hinges on whether we have accepted God's Christmas gift. For the first and greatest Christmas gift was God's gift of His Son. If the Christ-child enters into our hearts and abides with us, then we shall have Christmas joy whether our circumstances be sorrow or poverty or misunderstanding or whatever they be. He brings the deeper, truer, more abiding Christmas joys. At Christmas time He makes one's heart tender, manifold appeal. The air is charged with a thousand gracious memories. What is it all but the audible voice of Christ. It is the appeal of the Christ-child.

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem descend on us we pray Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today; We hear the heavenly angels the great glad tidings tell O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel."

UNREHEARSED DRAMA

(By British United Press)

BERLIN, December 28—A dress rehearsal of Wilde's play, "An Ideal Husband," at Cassel was interrupted by a drama of real life of even more stirring character. While the play had been in preparation two of the actors had gradually fallen deeply in love with one another, and their mutual relations had consequently become unpleasant. During the final rehearsal some trifling incident suddenly brought their envenomed rivalry to a crisis, and before the other members of the company had realized that the quarrel was a serious one, they were striking out at one another, with the unmistakable intention to hurt.

The lady who was the unwitting cause of the quarrel could not bear the sight of her two admirers apparently striving for one another's blood, and rushing out of the theatre with the cry, "they will kill one another," flung herself in front of a passing car. The driver put on his brakes just in the nick of time, and also was sufficiently quick to catch the frenzied actress as she tried to get in front of a passing motor bus.

He did not, however, prevent her from throwing herself before a street car which came up from the opposite direction and here again it was only the extraordinary prompt braking of the driver that saved her from being run over. This time she was got under control and led back to the theatre.

Of the last act of this strange drama, unfortunately, we are told nothing.

For stealing a pair of silver ash-lets from a girl, Golan Ramak was recently sentenced in Calcutta, India, to two years hard labor.

While trying to torture a frost by means of a high tension circuit, Bayeux, France, laborer recently electrocuted himself.

London is taking to the talkies, many theatres having sound production devices, 13 are now being equipped, and many more are

An Ideal NEW YEARS GIFT At a Minimum Cost. Here is an opportunity of securing at least one of your New Year's Gifts, one that will be appreciated every month in the year: When becoming a new subscriber or sending in your renewal for the Charlottetown Guardian, include an extra 25c., and we will include a year's subscription to The Canadian Magazine, a monthly publication well worth considerably more money and representative of the best in Canadian literature. You can either have this addressed to a friend as a New Year Gift, or mailed to your own home. Where could you find anything more inexpensive and more appropriate at the same time? Simply fill in this handy form and remit \$4.25 for country subscribers, or \$5.25 for city delivery. We will attend to all the rest.

Here is an opportunity of securing at least one of your New Year's Gifts, one that will be appreciated every month in the year:

When becoming a new subscriber or sending in your renewal for the Charlottetown Guardian, include an extra 25c., and we will include a year's subscription to The Canadian Magazine, a monthly publication well worth considerably more money and representative of the best in Canadian literature. You can either have this addressed to a friend as a New Year Gift, or mailed to your own home. Where could you find anything more inexpensive and more appropriate at the same time?

Simply fill in this handy form and remit \$4.25 for country subscribers, or \$5.25 for city delivery. We will attend to all the rest.

To The Charlottetown Guardian Charlottetown, P. E. I. Please renew my subscription to The Charlottetown Guardian and include with it your Special Offer of The Canadian Magazine for one year. Date Name Address The Canadian Magazine is to be forwarded to

The Legend of The Horsemen

(The Ottawa Journal) Scientific investigation is not always the dry-as-dust affair that many people think it is. Sometimes, as the records show, it is found to contain the essence of a really exquisite humor. Away back in the latter part of the eighteenth century quite a commotion was caused among English antiquaries by the discovery in Northumberland of a stone bearing a strange inscription. Examination by the members of a learned society led to the conclusion that the lettering was in Latin, and that in all probability the stone was a relic of the days of Roman occupation. But the erudite investigators were made to look foolish when a common clodhopper pointed out that the mysterious inscription really read: "keep on this side."

Sir Walter Scott undoubtedly had this story in mind when he wrote "The Antiquary" and introduced the scene in which the sage Jonathan Oldbuck, learnedly expatiating upon what he conceived to be the remains of an old Roman praetorium, is confounded by the contemporary interruption of Edie Ochiltree: "Praetorium here, praetorium there, I mind the biggin o' it."

Early Exploration Something of the same ludicrous reaction is suggested by the report which has just been issued by an American body of scientists in relation to a much discussed phase of the early exploration and discovery of this continent. Though never fully and authentically established, the theory has long been entertained that, centuries before the landing of Columbus, America was discovered, and in places, occupied by the Norsemen. What may be history, or may be mythology credits them with having inhabited Greenland and Labrador as far back as the eleventh century. Later, they are believed by some authorities to have found their way south to what they called Vineland, and is now New England, and they are even supposed to have penetrated as far as the latitude of the Carolinas.

An evidence in support of these claims, traces of pre-historic Norse settlement have, from time to time, been reported, among them the remains of what was supposed to be a Norse habitation on Sculpin Island, near Nain on the Labrador coast. Here, it was thought, was convincing proof that the worshipful of Thor and Woden had invaded the New World long before the advent of Columbus. But alas and alack for lovers of the antique and romantic, a recent investigation, conducted on behalf of the Chicago Field Museum by the Rawson-MacMillan sub-Arctic expedition, has revealed the prosaic fact that, far from being the vestiges of a settlement of Scandinavian sea-kings, the ruins on Sculpin Island are merely those of an Eskimo whaling camp, part of which appears to have been a depository for blubber. This is legend punctured by the debunker.

LOVES SPIRIT BRIDE (By British United Press) LONDON, December 28—This is the story of a thirteen-year-old spirit romance. And it is the reason why Samuel E. Yelland, will not marry again.

Although he was left a widower 13 years ago, Mr. Yelland is still just as happy in the company and conversation of his wife as he was in the first day of their wedding. He tells the story of his flirtations with his spirit wife as sincerely and earnestly as if he were a young man describing the beauties of his sweetheart.

"I first met my spirit bride on the day after my wife's death," he said. "I recognized my wife at once. She stayed only a short time, but promised to return. And since that day I have met her every evening in the dining room. We have a regular meeting place, and a regular time for meeting, just as we had in our courting days.

"She sits in the chair she used to be by the fire, and ask me what I have been doing all day. I tell her of my day's work, and then she chats about hers.

"On the whole we discuss serious matters. She tells me I must do all I can to help others. Sometimes she asked me to take a message to someone who has been recently bereaved to tell them that their loved one is safe. She gives me the name and address, and always I find that what she had told me is correct.

"Her work is helping people who have 'just crossed over' to get used to their new conditions." When Mr. Yelland was asked if it was easy to get in touch with his spirit wife, he replied that anyone could do it if only they would put their heart into it.

"Send out a message from the heart, and it is always delivered," he said. "Nothing can stop it, and the spirit that is called upon will try to answer. Often it is difficult for the spirit to answer at first, but once the barriers are broken down it is as easy as A. B. C."

Mr. Yelland says he is perfectly happy with his spirit wife, and would never dream of re-marrying. "I have a better sweetheart than I could find on earth," he concluded. "The happiest moments in my life

A Glad New Year

MAY IT GIVE YOU ALL GOOD THINGS YOU WISH AND MAY IT GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY OF CONTINUING THOSE PLEASANT RELATIONS WITH YOU WHICH HAVE MEANT SO MUCH TO US IN THE PAST.

Eastern Securities Company Limited CHARLOTTETOWN MONTREAL HALIFAX

WORLD GOING BLIND

(By British United Press) LONDON, December 28—People are going blind. Medical men and oculists are alarmed at the tremendous increase in recent years in the number of people who require glasses to help out weak and failing eyesight.

Where, before the war, the number of people in England who wore glasses was about one in every twenty-five of the grown up population, it is now estimated that the proportion has narrowed down to one in five.

"Bad eyesight is spreading through the world like a disease," a famous eye-specialist said recently. "Germany is a nation in spectacles. So also is France, where weak eyesight has spread to an extraordinary extent since the war."

"Up to ten years ago Great Britain had the best eyesight in the world, but so big has been the increase in the use of spectacles during the past few years that if it goes on we shall soon all be looking at life through glasses.

A significant and alarming feature is the number of young people who are now forced to have recourse to the oculist. A few years ago it was unusual to find a young person with glasses. To-day there are thousands who wear them."

A newspaper representative stood in the Strand and counted the number of people wearing glasses who passed him within half an hour. There were over 200. Eighty-five were young girls.

The greater number of pince-nez wearers were men, while the majority of the women favoured tortoise-shell spectacles.

Specialists blame the increasing pace of modern life for the spread of eye-trouble. Fast-moving traffic and the last of restfulness in modern architecture, both play a part. "Before motor traffic arrived," continued the specialist, "crossing the road used to be a leisurely business. To-day the eye has got to be looking in half a dozen directions at once. The faster we travel the more difficult it becomes for the eye to adapt its focus to the speed.



WE TEACH ALL COMMERCIAL BRANCHES

2 Experienced Teachers

In charge of our Shorthand and Typewriting Departments.

\$1500 WORTH of new, up-to-date typewriters for use of students.

Sanitary class rooms— Hot water heating— All modern conveniences— Sanitary drinking cups— Sanitary towels—

Special courses in Penmanship and Business Letter Writing—

Civil Service work—

College reopens Jan. 8th.

Write for prospectus and full information.

UNION COMMERCIAL COLLEGE

WM. MORAN, Principal. Royal Bank Building Charlottetown, P. E. I.

TURNIPS AND POTATOES

We will be buying potatoes and turnips at our warehouse, Hogan's Wharf, every fine day.

J. L. DOUGLAS

1026-12-29-41.

Household Scrapbook

By ROBERTA LEE

Linoleum

To clean linoleum where it becomes spotted with paint or rust, rub it gently with steel shavings or emery paper.

Custard

When custard has curdled, beat an egg and slowly beat the curdled custard into it, thus smoothing it.

A Tight Ring

To remove a tight ring from the finger, hold the hand for a short time in very cold water.

AT CARTER'S Bookstore

Suitable New Year Gifts

How would a yearly subscription to one of the POPULAR MAGAZINES do for your friend?

We take SUBSCRIPTIONS to a great many of the best in Magazines and Newspapers.

New Year Cards

We still have a good assortment of Books for old and young.

CARTER & CO. LIMITED.