

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 1908.

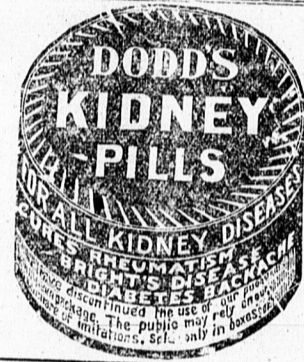
SASKATCHEWAN ELECTION.

Today is election day in Saskatchewan. There are 41 members to be elected. The House recently dissolved had but 25 members, in which when it was elected in 1905 the Government had sixteen or seventeen and the Opposition eight or nine, practically two thirds being ministerialists.

Judging from the party press reports the Liberals are confident of retaining their present proportional majority, while the Opposition have almost equal confidence of reducing it. It is too near the ultimate decision for us to venture a prediction.

We may hope, however, to hear from the principal centres and points along the railway lines which intersect the more thickly settled portions of the Province, possibly enough to determine the general result.

Congratulations to John J. McCann of Charlottetown on his election to the Secretaryship of the Grand Lodge of Oddfellows of the Maritime Provinces. This is one of the most responsible positions in the order and the election for it was the most closely contested of any during the session. St. Lawrence Lodge is to be congratulated as well.



SHIPPING NEWS
Aug. 13—Entered—Sch. Frank, Grant, Pugwash, sch. Polar Star, Cormier, Picton, sch. Kate, Joseph, Paspebiac, sch. Beatrice, Donette, Balhurst, sch. Alexander, Orr, Hibernia, S. S. City of Ghent, Hare, Halifax.

CHARLOTTETOWN MARKETS

Table with market prices for various goods: Beef quarter (6 to 8), Bee small (6 to 12), Flour (2.80 to 2.90), Oatmeal (3 to 5), Cabbage (3 to 5), Beets per bunch (5 to 8), New onions per bunch (5 to 5), Butter fresh per pound (21 to 23), Eggs (17 to 18), Lamb per lb. (10 to 15), Chickens per pair (65 to 1.00), Straw per cwt (30 to 40), Hay (new) per cwt (30 to 40), Black Oats (50 to 50), White Oats (50 to 50), Green Peas quart (18 to 20), Lettuce (5 to 5), Cauliflower (5 to 10), New potatoes (80 to 1.00), Raspberries per qt. (12), Cherries per qt. (15), Blueberries (8 to 9), Red currants (10 to 12), Gooseberries (8 to 10).

THE KINGDOM OF CANADA.

It was Sir John Macdonald's notion that what is now the federal Dominion of Canada should have been united under one Parliament in a legislative union without local legislatures and should be called the Kingdom of Canada. Even after the federal principle had been adopted the first printed copies of the B. N. A. Act contained the word "Kingdom," for which "Dominion" was afterwards substituted.

There was a time later on when a number of bright minds favored the notion of a wholly independent Canada. Sir Wilfrid Laurier in a published speech, which he has not since retracted said he looked upon independence as the ultimate destiny of the Dominion, but whether under a King or an elected President he did not clearly specify.

This serves to recall that John S. Ewart, a public writer of some note upholds the proposition that Canada under its present constitution is in reality a separate Kingdom under the British crown. And in a recent issue of Collier's, C. Frederick Hamilton pleads for a King for Canada. Mr. Hamilton apparently means a King resident in Canada fully equipped with crown and sceptre, a royal family and court.

Such are and have been some of the voices crying in the wilderness, but they have not as yet baptized many converts. The fact is that the Canadian people, while stout monarchists in sentiment, are also very democratic and practical and are fairly content with our system of government as it is. They want no other King than King Edward, and there is no other Prince or Potentate whom they would if they could make their sovereign.

Dominion is as good a word as Kingdom, by which designate a nation, and there is no desire for change in that regard. But the men who would be constantly making changes, if only for the sake of change are always with us. Once in the days of the judges of ancient Israel the people desired a local King like the Gentile nations about them. They gained their wish. A King was given them in anger and taken away in the tragical Mount Gilboa.

Canada has a King today and a noble one. There are no other Kings within the Empire and not likely to be in his time. The idea of a local King for Canada spurs in the direction of dismemberment of the Empire, a thought that is altogether distasteful to the Canadian people. That Sweden and Norway, either of them less populous and smaller in area than Canada, have each a King all to themselves argues nothing in our case. Canadians are not dazzled with any prospects of independence or local kingly glory. They are monarchists, content with present arrangements and very much disposed to "stand pat."

SOMETHING IS WRONG.

According to the Toronto Globe the number of the unemployed in Toronto is very large. We quoted its statement the other day. The same report comes from Montreal. And this is in harvest time, and railway building is going on extensively in Canada, while the Northwest is seeking for thousands of workers and has actually lured away over a thousand of our young men from Prince Edward Island at a time when they are wanted at home. We have practically no unemployed workers here at any time.

There is something wrong in these conditions. Last winter the unemployed in Toronto, Winnipeg and other cities had to be assisted by charity and even when thus aided there was great suffering and a number of children died from want of proper food, clothing and shelter. The Globe intimates that like hardships are in store for many during the coming winter. Could there be more conclusive proof that Canada has been loaded up with the wrong kind of immigrants, the lazy, or the incompetent? Immigration costs a vast sum yearly, and it is a poor return that brings us paupers and public charges instead of self-supporting workers.

What has been done at Ottawa all these years to give us the Tunnel? Nothing but a report by the arm chair engineers of the departments to tack on a cast iron lining at an estimated cost of seven and a third millions of dollars, thus doubling the cost as set out by Sir Douglas Fox. Surely this is poor service to Prince Edward Island.

We have regrettably more drunkenness in Prince Edward Island than there ought to be. Still, according to the latest volume of criminal statistics there were but 1.19 convictions for this offence per thousand of population compared with 2.76 in Quebec, 3.36 in Ontario, 5.48 in New Brunswick, 6.28 in Nova Scotia and 10.68 in Manitoba. This Province has a prohibitory law and the others named have license laws.

The visit of the Scottish agricultural tourists to the Island, coming today and leaving tomorrow morning, will be all too short, and it is a pity they could not make a longer stay and see more of the fair Province in which so many of the sons of the Land of the Heather have made their home. Still the glimpse they will get will prove attractive and it is very creditable to Hon. S. E. Reid to have brought them here at all. The Island is unfortunately off the main line of travel, and in these days of the Northwest, British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec are so much advertised that our little Province scarcely receives mention in the Old Country.

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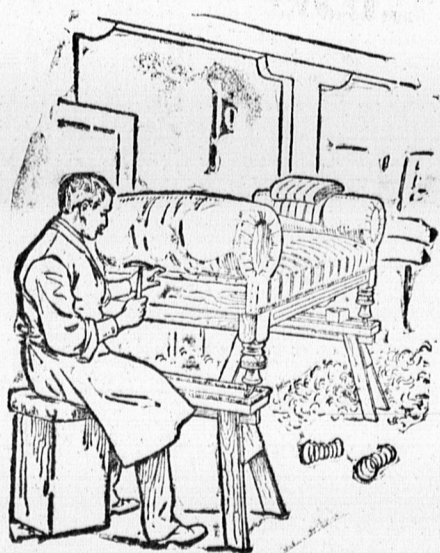
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