

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1912.

STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

A New Brunswick exchange of recent date tells of some achievements in that province in the matter of strawberry culture.

One farmer with a cultivation of five acres says he can realize \$7,000 profit in one year. Another with three and a half acres can earn \$5,000.

In Prince Edward Island strawberry culture has been carried on for years by a limited number of farmers with probably, as great success as has attended the business in New Brunswick.

Strawberry culture in Prince Edward Island can be carried on as successfully as anywhere else in the world.

Both soil and climate are admirably suited for the business and there is practically unlimited market for the fruit even in its raw state.

If, through over production, the market for raw fruit should become glutted there would be a market for preserved fruit. Even now we are importing preserved strawberries, and the markets of the world are wide

open, with an unlimited demand, for preserved fruits of all kinds. So large is this market that the whole province if converted into a strawberry bed, would not supply it.

The great need of Prince Edward Island at present is a larger population. This is possible only by making room on the land for more people. At present our farmers are spreading their operations thinly over tracts of land that they do not cultivate, wasting land that should be under thorough cultivation, occupying room that should be occupied by the young men and women who have gone to the west to take up land or into the cities to become the servants of others.

The remedy for this is intensive cultivation. The culture of strawberries is one way in which it can be carried on profitably. On two or three acres of ordinary land planted to strawberries a man can make more money and make it more easily than on one hundred acres farmed as most Island farms are worked. And there are other valuable fruits and vegetables that are now imported in tons to the province which can be grown as profitably here as elsewhere, fruits and vegetables which we should be exporting instead of importing.

These are matters for our farmers to think over, for our farmers in agriculture and agricultural experts to preach and to teach, we have land enough for a population of half a million; we should not waste it.

THE PREMIER'S LETTER.

We publish with pleasure the letter of Premier Mathieson which appears elsewhere in this paper; with pleasure, first, because it affords the premier an opportunity to place before the public his position and that of the government with respect to the Prohibition Act, concerning which there is at present some doubt; and, second, because it affords The Guardian an opportunity to assure both Premier Mathieson and the government that it is in no way actuated by "bitter partisanship" in its comments on the enforcement of the act. The Premier assures the readers of The Guardian that the government "stands for the strict, effective enforcement of the law." We have no right to doubt the premier's statement. His intention and that of his government may be all that he claims it to be, but neither his veracity nor that of the Guardian could stand the strain of telling Guardian readers that the intention has been even approximately carried out. We are glad, therefore, that, for his own sake, he admits the failure of the government in enforcing the Prohibition Act and that he "will not attempt to justify failure" even by a comparison with failure under former governments. As to the imputation that the present editor of the Guardian "condoned" the violation of the law "under former governments," it is unworthy of the premier and is not true.

FRECKLES

Don't Hide Them With a Veil; Remove Them With the New Drug.

An eminent skin specialist recently discovered a new drug, othine—double strength, which is so uniformly successful in removing freckles and giving a clear, beautiful complexion that it is sold by the McKinnon Drug Co. under an absolute guarantee to refund the money if it fails. Don't hide your freckles under a veil; get an ounce of othine and remove them. Even the first night's use will show a wonderful improvement; some of the lighter freckles vanishing entirely. It is absolutely harmless and cannot injure the most tender skin. Be sure to ask for the double strength othine; it is this that is sold on the money back guarantee.

The premier asks if the Guardian's statements were true with reference to the "scenes of drunkenness and rowdiness" at the Orange Celebration, "the League of the Cross Picnic" and the Riverside horse races. Our information is that these statements were strictly true, with the exception of the Orange Celebration, when the elements of drunkenness and rowdiness, in the form of a carriage load of whisky, were fortunately discovered by a vigilant managing committee before they developed into "scenes of drunkenness." This was fully explained in a recent issue of The Guardian. As to the scenes at the other two places mentioned we are very credibly informed that they were even worse than stated by the Guardian. We shall be glad to publish either a verification or a contradiction of this statement by any reliable person in a position to know.

The premier's insinuation that the rowdiness at the League of the Cross picnic and the Riverside races was due to want of watchfulness on the part of the managing committee is not fair to these gentlemen. The trouble was due, not to want of watchfulness but to the fact that intoxicating liquor can be procured almost anywhere and very easily; that it was taken to the grounds in such quantities that prevention was impossible.

The concluding paragraph of the premier's letter must have been written in haste and without consideration. Suppose that the editor of the Guardian should undertake "to put in the hands of the proper officers of the Government the information upon which he based his charges." What then?

The information upon which we based our charges, consisting of letters and personal interviews, although not the kind admitted in a court of law, is irrefutable. Moreover, nine tenths of the reputable men and women of the province know that the Guardian's charges were true, know that the province is disgraced, know that drunkenness on P. E. Island trains and at public gatherings is as common as, if not more so, than in these provinces in which the bars are wide open. Premier Mathieson knows this also, or he ought to know.

We are quite prepared for the judgment of the public as to our motive in having made those charges, and we are satisfied as to the information upon which our charges were based. Is Premier Mathieson satisfied with the manner in which the law is being enforced? The great majority of the people are not.

NOTES

Sir Donald Mann expects that Canada will have 250,000,000 bushels of wheat this year. The harvesting of such a crop will increase the agitation for reciprocity. It was impossible last year to handle the crop through Canadian channels, and special provision had to be made by the government to relieve the situation and enable shippers to use American ports. The Saskatchewan elections gave a fair indication of the feeling of the people of the west at the present time, and, if this year's crop assumes anything like the proportions expected by Sir Donald Mann, the relief which the American market would afford will be greatly needed.

The wireless system was put in operation yesterday between Cape Bear and Pictou with a telegraphic service between Charlottetown and Cape Bear. This, doubtless, will be some improvement over the motor boat system between the Capes and is perhaps the best that can be done under present circumstances. We understand there will be a night and day service but with three companies handling a message between Prince Edward Island and any point beyond Pictou our hopes for a satisfactory service will be mingled with misgivings. In any case nothing short of a fully equipped wire and wireless system for day and night service between Cape Bear and Pictou will satisfy the public.

Few have any idea of the inconvenience and loss occasioned by the break in the telegraphic service between this province and the mainland. The other day a commercial traveller, while at Summerside, had occasion to wire to the house he represented. A despatch sent to Cape Traverse, by mail or otherwise, would be carried across by the motor boat plying between the Capes, but this meant possible delay and uncertainty. He decided that there was only one sure way and that was to take the message himself and deliver it on the other side. He accordingly hired a boat, crossed to Point du Chene, sent his telegram, and returned the same day to Summerside where he took up the thread of his interrupted work. What this cost him in time and money, we do not know but cost and inconvenience are becoming too characteristic of P. E. Island and it is earnestly hoped that the present serious interruption will open the eyes of the proper authorities to the necessity of having more than a single cable to depend upon.

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LETTER FROM PREMIER MATHIESON.

Sir:—Since my return from the Court at Georgetown, my attention has been called to your editorial of the 17th inst., under the title of "The Prohibition Act", and to your notes of the 18th inst., referring to the same subject.

You take as your text a letter of Mr. Goff, reasonable in its tone from his point of view, and then you proceed on your own authority to state "that there is a general feeling that the Province is disgraced before the eyes of those who only a short time ago looked up to us as a people who had set an example for the world to follow, etc."

This is a very serious arraignment of the government. You justify it by the statement that last week there have been several large gatherings at different points of this Province—the Orange Celebration at Kelvin, the Riverside races, the League of the Cross Picnic,—at each of the scenes of drunkenness and rowdiness were simply indescribable and much more to the same effect. Are these statements true?

Reverend D. McLean challenges their accuracy as to the Orange Tea at Kelvin Grove. It is important to hear from the other societies and associations against which a similar charge is made. In the case of Kelvin Grove, you make the grudging admission that the fact that no liquor was sold was due not to any efforts that were made to enforce the law, but to the prompt action of the managing committee. That is as it should be. The managing committee of every public gathering has very serious duties to perform. They have called together public assemblies and with few, if any, exceptions, they feel themselves charged with the duty of seeing that all things are done decently and in order. If otherwise, they are also in order bound to report breaches of the law to the proper authorities. You well know that it is not possible for the Government to send officers to all tea-parties, horse races and other assemblies of the people to prevent breaches.

Any Headache Cur d Tired Systems Re-Tonic

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of the law. Your injurious charge has broken down in one case, can you substantiate it in the others? If you have such evidence as will justify your statement, then it is your duty to put it in the hands of the proper officer so that the law may be enforced. Will you do this? Your action in this matter will enable the people to decide whether you are sincerely desirous of having the law of the land properly enforced, or whether as a bitter partisan you are more desirous of gaining a point against the Government right or wrong. The Guardian has gained its pre-his complaint will be heard and the wrong will be righted. It is now for you, Sir, to put in the hands of the proper officers of the Government, the information upon which you based your charges. If you fail to do so, the public will judge of your motive in having made them and of the injurious effects of such unfounded statements upon the Province generally, and of the societies attacked particularly. Yours very truly, J. A. MATHIESON, Premier.

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