THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1944

The Big Fair

All roads lead next week to the big Provincial Exhibition and Old Home Week in Charlottetown. The war has accentuated the need for morale building entertainment, and this is precisely what the thousands of visitors who will be here next week from all parts of Canada and many parts of the United States, are looking to find. Many of them are former Prince Edward Islanders, taking this welcome opportunity to renew old friendships and acquaintanceships. To our citizens, and especially our farmers, the Big Fair provides an opportunity for getting together and comparing notes on matters of mutual interest and profit, which no other kind of entertainment could furnish. During the past few years the Fair has been such a marked success from all standpoints that it has become a Maritime institution. And it is pleasing to note that despite necessary wartime restrictions, the high standards both of entertainment and competition will be more than well maintained this year. The attractions at the judging stands, the racetrack and the midway are all that could be desired. In addition, among other improvements to plant and equipment, the management has installed an up-to-date lunch counter next to the restaurant at the rear of the grandstand, which will fill a long-felt need.

The promise of a record-breaking attendance at the Fair is already being fulfilled, from the reports from all parts of the Province of the large influx of visitors who have timed their vacation trip so as to coincide with this big event.

A Fine Convention

King's County Conservatives are to be congratulated on the success of their annual meeting and nominating convention at Georgetown yesterday. In selecting Mr. H. F. MacPhee, M. L. A., as their standard bearer in the next Federal contest, they have chosen one of the ablest and most popular men in our public life. With the tide running strongly against the present Liberal administration, as recent events have clearly shown, there is every reason to expect that Mr. MacPhee will be elected by a thumping majority. This, however, will depend on thorough organization and co-operation on the part of all his supporters at the polls. No one outside the King cabinet knows when the election will be called; and perhaps, after the Quebec debacle, even Mr. King doesn't know. In any case, it is well to be prepared.

The tributes paid at the convention to that veteran campaigner, Dr. A. A. MacDonald, were well deserved. He has pledged his whole-hearted support to his successor as party candidate, and when "Doctor Gus" gets into action on a promise of this kind, everyone knows that he means business.

Island Enlistments

A move by the Provincial Government and the Canadian Legion is now in progress to procure the names of all Prince Edward Islanders who enlisted in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Merchant Marine during the present war. The percentage of enlistments has been mentioned from time to time, but as yet no accurate figures are available. The Government and Legion have taken over the work of compiling these figures. There are many good reasons for undertaking such a task, one objective being to have all the names entered in a Book of Remembrance and made available to the public at all times. The co-operation of relatives of our service forces is, of course, very necessary in this connection. As will be noted from an advertisement in today's issue, all concerned are requested to get in touch with the Legion office which has been opened for compiling the names and addresses at 162 Richmond Street.

The Soldiers' Vote

The Liberal press recently expressed gratification that in the three provincial elections taking place this month, the example set by the Jones Government in disfranchising the overseas forces was being followed. This may have been the practice followed in Quebec and Alberta, but it is not the case in New Brunswicy. Provision is being made to take the votes of all the active service electors.

An item to this effect appeared in a recent issue of *The Maple Leaf*, official newspaper of the Canadian forces in Italy. It quoted Dr. J. Miles Gibson, special returning officer for the service electors, as stating that there would be no proxy voting by men and women in the armed forces. New Brunswick members of the services "in any province in Canada and outside of Canada will cast ballots for candidates in their home constituencies. These results will be added to the civil vote." In some theatres of war, the voting may have to be deferred, Dr. Gibson said; but it will be taken nevertheless.

All credit to the Liberal Government of New Brunswick for the stand it has taken on this question! Apologists for the Jones Government said it couldn't be done, or at least it wasn't feasible. It would have been easier for the Jones Government, too, than for the McNair Government at this time. A far larger number of Canadians are now in action. But why talk about difficulty and expense in a matter of this kind? All elections are costly and troublesome. They are an essential part of our democracy, however. Their value—and their sole value—depends on their giving full expression to the voice of the people. How can they express the people's voice when the most deserving class of people—our active service forces—have been disfranchised? The denial to these men and women of their rights as voters on the pretext of economy is monstrous. One can think of a great many worse uses to which Liberal election money has been put, in every campaign, than in giving our soldiers their chance to vote.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Next week Old Home Week.

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A visitor was amazed the other day at the rowdyism of two drunks in the vicinity of the Victoria Park.

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Saint John reverts to Standard Time on Oct. 28, equivalent to Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

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Evidently blood donors are wearying of well-doing and falling down on their job. The attendance at the blood clinic has fallen off alarmingly, and just at a time when there is a greater need than ever for the life sustaining element.

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Is there "protection" for certain prohibition offenders in city and country? Both the Attorney-General and the police emphatically declare "no". Then it must be, as the late Justice Saunders said when Premier, prohibition is like chess with the bootleggers always a move ahead of the authorities.

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A reader suggests that round about high tide each day, the police should see that boys are kept out of the men's bathing houses at Victoria Park and sent to their own. Also, that a plain clothes policeman should keep an eye upon what is going on ashore while the bathers are in the water.

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In the 59 months of the present war Canada's total casualties for Navy, Army and Air Force have been 44,218. In the forty-five-day period from D-Day to July 20 our casualties were 6,545, or 145 daily. They were thus at a rate of more than 52,000 a year.

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Is Dr. Yeo's retirement from the presidency of both the city and Queen's County Liberal Association preliminary to his assuming the greater responsibility of Lieut. Governor? Of course that appointment as well as the appointment of a new Senator must be made before the election, otherwise it will fall to the lot of the Bracken Government to handle the situation.

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The amount an income tax payer may deduct from taxable income for medical expenses has been increased. Hereafter, taxpayers may deduct from taxable income medical expenses totalling more than four per cent of income. The maximum which may be deducted has been increased from $400 to $600 in the case of a single man and from $600 to $900 in the case of a married man.

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Infantile paralysis has made its appearance in New Brunswick again this year with 10 cases officially reported since the third week in July. The Moncton area has been hardest hit with five cases, three within the city limits and two outside. The first case reported was also from Westmoreland County. York County has four cases, two of them in Fredericton. The tenth case is in Northumberland County.

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Women in shorts are taboo on the streets of Monahans, Texas, these days. In case some shapely—or otherwise—female appears in such attire, she is sent home, and quickly. The city council passed the ordinance as an "emergency" and, perhaps strangely, the measure has been popular, even with the women. Mayor Ed. Duffey is all in favor of it "because so many women call every day and ask us to put a stop to shorts on the street."

* * * *

James Russell Lowell, American litterateur and diplomat, died this date 1891; best known as the author of "The Biglow Papers" but published a volume of verse, also "My Study Windows", "Fireside Travels", "Under the Willows", "The Cathedral", "Heartsease and Rue", etc.:

"The many make the household
But only one the home."

* * * *

Mr. L. S. B. Shapiro, the well-informed war correspondent of the Montreal Gazette, confirms the previous reports received from Normandy that the population there is not so enthusiastic over the relief the Allies are bringing them at such great cost, as people here might imagine. "The population in this sector," he writes, "seems adequately fed. This is a farming and beach resort locality and although the tourist business has been nonexistent for four years the farms have been maintained, except, of course, for fields mined by the enemy. Bread, vegetables, milk and eggs have been available in adequate quantities to maintain good, even robust, health. German administrators attached to the military attempted a system of rationing a percentage of the local produce for consumption here and transporting the remainder inland—perhaps to the Reich—but the people say they so confounded and foxed the German administrators that most of the food remained here. Politically, these people are confused. Mention of Gen. Charles de Gaulle evokes some faint glimmer of recognition in their eyes, but certainly no violent enthusiasm. It was news to most of these people to whom I talked that de Gaulle has maintained a fighting French establishment in Great Britain and Africa all these years. It was my impression that they regard de Gaulle as a sort of mystery patriot whose name has been infrequently whispered rather than as the chief of the French organization beyond the homeland. The explanation may be in the fact that all radio sets have been confiscated in the coastal sectors for many months; perhaps, too, because these people living in an active German military sector have been under closer surveillance than people farther inland."

Notes By The Way

If Turkey does finally climb aboard the Allied band-wagon, the rumble seat will be good enough. —Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Already this year there has been a heavy toll of death by drowning, and in most of the cases carelessness has been the cause, chiefly getting beyond one's depth and swimming in waterholes where no help is available. — Niagara Falls Review.

Eire is reported to be discussing the question who shall represent it at the peace conference. A more important question is where does he propose to sit: with the conquerors or with the conquered? — Toronto Saturday Night.

According to one's viewpoint, the war has brought a terrible or a glorious shortage of bagpipes in Scotland, Mayor Kenneth Dobbie of Dumfries moans: "How can our boys march into Berlin without bagpipes?" How, indeed? The "Ladies from Hell," greatest fighting men in the world, need them to ring out their flaming spirit. And think what terror the skirl o' th' pipes will strike in the heart of the Wagnerian-weaned Nazis! — Detroit Free Press.

Search has been going on for 10 days for a bomb which fell off an aircraft into a small lake at Morton, Gainsborough. The lake, around which George Eliot wrote "The Mill on the Floss", is in the grounds of Mr. W. Forrest, solicitor, and is about 50 yards from the River Trent. The lake has been drained by the N.F.S., but it is stated that the bomb is going farther and farther into the earth and they fear they will not be able to catch up with it. They have taken large quantities of slime from the lake's bed, and still the hole round the bomb fills up. — Yorkshire Post.

An American merchant ship was sinking in the Mediterranean. The third officer went to his cabin, deliberately put aside his watch and ring and picked up six handkerchiefs and a bracelet he'd bought for his life; another officer searched frantically for the ship's cat, which was about to have kittens; a seaman calmly took off his shoes and put on two right ones; the pursuer opened a drawer below the bunk, took two packages of cigarettes from a carton, left the rest left two valuable watches and all his other personal belongings behind. Almost everyone left all of his personal belongings. No one appears to have known what he was doing until it was all over.—Providence Bulletin.

Mr. Anthony Eden gave some interesting facts when answering critics in the House of Commons last week. He was replying to the contention that the Allied policy of "unconditional surrender" for Germany stiffens the resistance of German soldiers, tending to make them immune to Allied appeals to surrender. Mr. Eden told the House that 77 per cent of the prisoners captured since the landings in Normandy have admitted, on interrogation, that they had read Allied pamphlets and listened to Allied radio messages. He also said that 40 per cent of the prisoners were carrying Allied leaflets in their pockets when captured. Many of them had read the leaflets and regarded them as something in the nature of a passport for the moment of surrender. — British Information Services.

East and west will meet again—in a Broadway play. After an absence of 10 years, Mae West returns to the New York stage to do her own play, Catherine Was Great. Rehearsals have commenced under the direction of Mike Todd and, according to Miss West herself, the story and production will be "something." By all rights it should be. Catherine of Russia, if we recall our history correctly, was quite a lady—a hearty but dominating soul whose long and eventful career never smacked of dullness. A lady who could meet any situation and give a command or jest with equal relish. In Mae West's capable hands, Catherine should be "boxoffice", for given the right material she is absolutely in a class by herself.—San Francisco Argonaut.

At least 33,000 urban men and women joined the Farm Commando Brigade of Ontario last year and assisted in hoeing, haying and harvesting or in putting down fruits and vegetables in the canneries. For many of them it was a new and welcome experience, and they enjoyed the time they devoted to food production for the furtherance of victory. This year the farm labor situation is no better and even more workers are required to go out from the cities to give the farmer a hand. The need is urgent. It is advised by the commando headquarters that people who have farmer relatives and friends should try to place themselves with them, notifying the local commando headquarters that they have made arrangements so that a record can be kept. Others, who have no farm connection, should get in touch with local commando headquarters. — Toronto Telegram.

The flying bomb on the one hand and equally the solving of the oversea invasion problem on the other are both clear warnings that technology will ultimately destroy us all if we ever again permit it to be debased by powerful regimes into the service of war and conquest. It used to be said that science would ultimately eliminate war by making it too terrible; experience has unfortunately shown that its potential terrors have only incited the ambitious and the brutal to turn them upon others in the hope that they can themselves escape the consequences. In the case of Hitler Germany the hope has proved a catastrophic failure; but that monster's dying thrust is a plain announcement of what others will do unless governments are prevented in the future from perverting the resources and skills of great peoples to aggressive war. And there is no way in which any one people, however mighty, can prevent that by its own unaided efforts in defence or diplomacy. There is no way at all except by some effective international organization which will hold the war-making process itself in check. That truth is Hitlerism's last bequest to the world. — New York Herald Tribune.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

PREMIER JONES

Sir,—Premier Jones was severely criticized by Liberals for appointing Mr. Large with no political experience to the position of Attorney General in the Liberal Government. Now he is criticized for allowing Mr. Large to enforce the laws laid down in the Statues. One sore point in particular is the proper operation of the Government vendor shop. It is pathetic to listen to the wailing of a number of our citizens about Mr. Large's actions in enforcing the regulation.

Mr. Jones is a temperate man and realized the irregular use made of the back door of the vendor's shop. "Stick to your guns, gentlemen, until you have something better to offer—let the chips fall where they may."

I am, Sir, etc.,
ONLOOKER.

Mr. MacNicol's Canada

(Saint John Telegraph Journal)

If all our M.P.'s had the vision of Mr. John Ritchie MacNicol, and his appreciation of the fact that a nation, like a chain, is no stronger than its weakest link, we think our country would be far more united than it is today.

Mr. MacNicol, a retired boiler manufacturer whose hobbies are politics and travel, lives in Toronto, But unlike certain residents of the self-styled "Queen City" he is well aware that Canada stretches from the Atlantic to the Pacific. He has never been known to utter the familiar and grossly unwarranted complaint that the taxpayers of Ontario are forced to "support" the rest of the Dominion. He even admits that there may be some justification for the complaint of other parts of the Dominion that, under a fiscal policy which has made for industrial centralization, they have, instead, been forced to "support" Ontario.

Mr MacNicol has frequently been on his feet in Commons battling for measures to help the Prairie Provinces. He has also championed the Maritimes whenever the occasion arose. There were two such occasions the other day, during consideration of the estimates of the department of transport. One item had to do with the new ferry being built to operate from Cape Tormentine on the New Brunswick mainland to Borden, Prince Edward Island. Mr. MacNicol pointed out that the craft would carry only sixty automobiles and nineteen railway cars. Said Mr. MacNicol:

"I hope the time will come when motor traffic to and from the Island will amount to many more than sixty automobiles per trip... I do not know whether a train going to Prince Edward Island would consist of more than nineteen cars, but I hope the time will come when trains going to and from that Island will have twice that many cars... All I am going to say is that the Island is entitled to the best this country can give it.

"The Islanders are entitled to the fastest and most up to date transportation which can be secured between the Island and the mainland."

Mr. MacNicol proposed that the railway car and automobile accommodation of the ferry be enlarged, at additional expense if necessary, and that "proper docks" be provided at Tormentine and Borden.

A few hours later he again went to bat for a Maritime project—the Chignecto Canal. Said he:

"I have always been in favor of that canal being built. It has been a subject which has been before this House since 1870. It was one of the first canal projects proposed in the parliament of Canada, a matter of seventy-five years ago. So that I think it is about time, after seventy-five years of argument, that this job be got on with... If the canal were built, it would save at least five hundred miles in going from the nearest New Brunswick port, which I believe is Shediac, to Saint John, as compared with the present route from Shediac around Nova Scotia to Saint John... I think this House should do everything it can to increase the prosperity of the Maritime Provinces, and here is one way of doing it.."

We want to thank you, Mr. MacNicol, for your support. We appreciate it sincerely. We hope your good example will be followed by other M.P.'s from the central provinces, who have too long begrudged the Maritime Phovinces anything.

Problems Of British Post Office

(British Information Service).

GENERAL EISENHOWER has written to Captain H. Crookshank, the Postmaster General, thanking the General Post Office workers on behalf of the Allied Expeditionary Force for the "excellent co-operation they have given towards our success."

It is perhaps not fully realized what an immense job the war has imposed on the British General Post Office, particularly since the arrival of the U. S. forces in the British Isles.

All over the country the G. P. O. has installed for the U.S. Army a network of switchboards, in itself bigger than the whole prewar public system. It also supplied staffs to operate this network until the U. S. Army communications could take over. In addition, it has been handling a quarter of a million letters daily, including conveying enveloping, and photographing the V-mail (itself a British G. P. O. innovation.) The letters are handed over to the U. S. Army authorities for final sorting and distribution. The G.P.O. has also installed for the U.S. Army over 200 teleprinter wires.

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INSTALLATIONS of civilian phones have also increased by 400,000 since the war, making a total of 6,600,000 in the country. This has been necessary because of war projects, despite severe restrictions on installations for private use.

But the biggest wartime customer of the G. P. O. is the Air Ministry, which uses 42 percent. of the long private wires which the G.P.O. has provided for the services, 28 percent, of those less than 25 miles long, and 50 per cent. of all the wire mileage used by all of the services. The R.A.F. has been supplied with 4,500 long-distance private lines and 17,000 short ones the rental value of which is estimated at [illegible] million pounds ([illegible]).

Besides this there have been installed at airfields great numbers of switchboards, teleprinter wires, and instruments, and some 5,000 telegraph circuits. The R. A. F. has also received from the G.P.O. a great deal of complicated signalling equipment especially designed and developed, much of it connected with radar. Installing the R. A. F. command's links with the Air Ministry, the communications between the Royal Ordnance Corps, posts, anti-aircraft batteries searchlight sites, the air raid warning system, are all jobs that the G.P.O. had had to perform.

There is not only no cash accounting between British Government departments, but also there is no charge for the equipment and services supplied by the G.P.O. to the U.S. Forces. These all come under reverse lease-lend.

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BESIDES these tasks for the services, the G.P.O. has had a vast increase in post office clerical work—war, old age, widows, and health pensions; billeting allowances; war saving certificates and so on. And it has also distributed 250 million leaflets instructing the public on such matters as invasion, evacuation, and air raid precautions. Thousands of tons of food ration books have been distributed, as well as millions of petrol coupons, clothing vouchers, and ration cards. From its stores the G.P.O. has distributed nearly two million Civil Defence uniforms.

During the blitz it maintained the nation's wire communication under dangerous air raid conditions. In Greater London alone, between September, 1940, and September, 1941, the job involved mending 1,700 cables, 3,000 joins and 500,000 wires.

All of this work has been done with a severely war-depleted staff. Key G.P.O. men were needed for their skills, by the forces. As soon as the war began, 40,000 G.P.O. men joined up. So new hands had to be trained in highly-skilled work, among them 5,500 women telephone engineers, without whom the job could never have been done.

Speaking Of 'Guts'

(Globe and Mail)

Reproduced in the cartoon space of this page is the latest of the Government-sponsored recruiting advertisements. It isn't funny. It expresses the Government's "voluntary" system, a new, despicable low in a thoroughly cowardly campaign of coercion. It is part of a $306,000 insult to the men of Canada, paid for with their taxes.

"Have I the Guts? . . . Ask yourself this question. . . . One look in the mirror will give you the answer. . . . Am I man or mouse. . ."

If it is not a slander on every man of military age, irrespective of position, of essentiality in civilian industry or hidden disabilities, what is it?

"Have I the Guts?" Those are offensive words. But they are the Government's words.

Who is "I"? Does it soften the insult that the picture of the boy in the advertisement is no one in particular? In conception it is meant to be every boy, every man not wearing what the slogan writers call the "Overseas Badge of Honor"—emblem of the Government's two-army policy.

This newspaper does not have to state its opinion of the men who wear the King's uniform within the protection of the Home Defense Army. But it does acknowledge, as do the many like-minded readers who have protested this contemptible advertisement, that every draftee has done his duty to his country within the Government's definition of what that duty is.

"Have I the Guts? The guts . . . to fight that my home, my people may be free."

Would it be unreasonable for those men to picture the members of the Government in a similar advertisement and ask:

"Have you the Guts? The guts to send us overseas?"

What if the Cabinet Ministers were pictured in such an advertisement? What a cry of injustice, of persecution, would go up! But the words are their words, though some one lacked the "guts" to sign the advertisement.

Having sunk to this degrading language in a desperate effort to salvage a disreputable man-power policy, can the Government cry "Shame!" to a similar challenge? Are those who have done the fighting voluntarily, their parents and their families, not entitled to use the same language, to say to the Government:

"Look in your mirrors. . . . Are you men of mice. . . . Are you those who let the other fellow face all the danger, take all the risks? Look yourselves straight in the eye and ask yourselves this one question . . . Have We the Guts?

"Have we the guts to admit the dishonest course we have followed; to acknowledge the inequalities and waste of the manpower policy which we have pursued?

"Have we the guts to admit that our policy was dictated by political cowardice; that we have bartered the fundamental principle of the democratic system for which they voluntarily fight — majority rule—for votes?

"Have we the guts to tell the people of Canada that our grand 1st Canadian Army plan was a failure; that it failed because we could not reinforce it without conscription; that we had to break up that army to obtain adequate reinforcements?

"Have we the guts to tell the heavily taxed people of this nation that more than $150,000,000 a year has been squandered on the Home Defense Army to maintain the good-will of Quebec?

"Have we the guts to go into the camps of that Home Army and present the draftees with white feathers—the badge of cowardice—which, by indirection, our recruiting advertisements do?"

It is not a pretty challenge. Yet, in the language of the Government, it is proper and just. It is a poor defense for cowardice to scream "Coward!"

This War—Four Years Ago

By The Canadian Press

AUGUST 12, 1940 — Sixty-two German planes destroyed in attack on Southern England between Dover and Portsmouth. Leslie Hore-Belisha, former secretary of war, appealed to Britons for creation of 100 army divisions.

AUGUST 13, 1940—British Commons told that 9,120 interned enemy aliens had been sent to concentration camps in Canada and Australia. Air liner crash in Australia killed Lt.-Gen. Sir Cyril B. B. White, chief of army staff, three cabinet ministers and six others.

FAST PRODUCTION

DURBAN, Natal —(CP)— A Durban bomb factory is producing one 10-pound air practice bomb every 9.6 seconds at approximately 30 per cent cheaper than similar bombs made in the United Kingdom. So far 1,850,0000 have been produced here.

HAVE YOU A PLAN?

Life Insurance does not tear down any plan a man may have for his family. It simply underwrites his plans.

A Life or Endowment policy is an insured savings plan with guaranteed values for retirement.

Conserve the Home and stabilize the Nation.

Consult your nearest Great-West Life Agent or write Prince Edward Island Branch Office.

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FERRY SERVICE

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND — NOVA SCOTIA
VIA WOOD ISLANDS, P.E.I. — CARIBOU, N.S.

M.V. "PRINCE NOVA"

"The Connecting Link Between These Provinces"..
(DAILY—SUNDAYS INCLUDED) Daylight Saving Time

Starting May 1st the Nova Scotia—Prince Edward Island Ferry Service will operate three round trips per day.

Will Leave Wood Islands: 7.00 a.m., 11.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.
Will Leave Caribou: 9.00 a.m., 1.00 p.m and 5.00 p.m.

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Phone 540—541

The Poets' Corner

THE LOST LAGOON

It is dusk on the Lost Lagoon,
And we two dreaming the dusk away,
Beneath the drift of a twilight grey,
Beneath the drowse of an ending day,
And the curve of a golden moon.
It is dark on the Lost Lagoon,
And gone are the depths of haunting blue,
The grouping gulls, and the old canoe,
The singing firs, and the dusk and—you,
And gone is the golden moon.
O lure of the Lost Lagoon!
I dream tonight that my paddle blurs
The purple shade where the seaweed stirs,
I hear the call of the singing firs
In the hush of the golden moon.

—Pauline Johnson

WE HAVE THE PROPER TRUSS FOR YOUR PARTICULAR CASE

To those of you who are unfortunate enough to have to wear a truss we ask the question. Are you satisfied with the one you are wearing? Does it fit comfortably or is it an out of date style. We have just received a shipment of new style trusses. All sizes and at prices to suit everybody.

GASSY STOMACHS RELIEVED

Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach or bowels should get a bottle of Dr. Evans' Stomach Mixture and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms.

Dr. Evans Stomach mixture taken at meal hours, not only prevents all bad effects from gas but it promotes the functional activity of the stomach, assists digestion and improves the appetite.

Don't Delay. Order your Bottle Today. Price 85c.

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