

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1908.

MORAL AND SOCIAL REFORM.

The Moral and Social Reform Leagues in various parts of the Dominion did a noble work in discussing among the people from a purely non-political point of view the reforms that are necessary in the election methods of both parties and in our representative system generally. It is also to be observed that more than in previous elections and partly because of the efforts of the Reform Leagues, the discussions between parties turned largely upon questions of character and morals in public life.

No doubt the tendency of these discussions as between party men ran to some extremes both in attack and defence, and yet they could not do otherwise than bring to the minds of all thoughtful persons the importance of higher standards in our public and official life than have hitherto prevailed. There has been also concurrently with this a great deal of discussion in the newspapers and religious journals which ought also to have a wholesome effect upon political morals and methods.

During the session the report of the Civil Service Commission brought to public notice many things of a regrettable character with regard to the working of two or three departments of the public service at Ottawa, and the effect of these adverse reports has been strongly accentuated by the disclosures before the Cassels Commission in its investigations at Quebec and St. John. It is not our purpose to comment upon the inquiry, yet unfinished, further than to note the impression it has already made upon the public mind.

No reader of the newspapers, whether such papers are Liberal or Conservative can be unaware of the fact that the practices disclosed as prevalent in the department under investigation are on all sides condemned as reprehensible and a general desire has been expressed that the actual conditions, not in one department only, but in all that are in any way under suspicion, should be probed to the bottom, in order that the guilty ones may be punished and further abuses prevented.

Nor could it be otherwise than that the ministers of the Crown, or such of them as have a proper sense of honor and responsibility, should see the importance and urgency of reform in the civil service, and especially of checking the great abuses shown to exist. So far the action taken has been on right lines. The investigation of one department has been thorough and searching and the delinquent officials have been suspended. Along with this the patronage list, a very fruitful source of abuse and public loss, has been suspended in the departments of Marine and of Public Works.

This is very well, so far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. There are other departments besides that of Marine which are now quite as much under suspicion as that particular department was at the beginning. The Government is fresh from its appeal to the country and is strongly supported. Now is obviously the most favorable time for a general investigation and a thorough house-cleaning all around. It will afford the best proof of the sincerity of the Government, and will strengthen its position if this work of inquiry and purgation is carried on to completion.

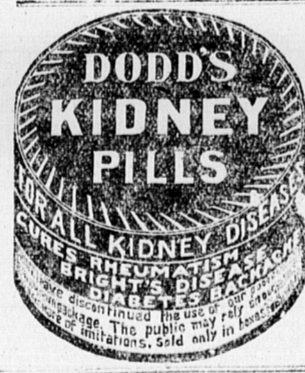
Nor should the work of reform end with the renovation of the civil service. An example should be set by the Ministers themselves in showing

a closer regard for honesty and dignity in public life. The promise of costly public works in a hundred sections of the country on the eve of an election, with a view to influencing support, is a public scandal. It is not a valid defence that the other party did the same, as undoubtedly they did. Public life in the United Kingdom has risen above this gross method of purchasing support, and the Government of Canada and of the Province must rise above it also, if the fair fame of the Dominion is to stand untarnished before the world.

This great blot upon our political methods cannot be permitted to remain in the face of the aroused conscience of the country. Every intelligent and right-thinking man realises how wrong, how immoral and sordid the practice is, and feels ashamed that it has been tolerated so long. Now while yet the next elections are far in the distance, and while the public mind is not agitated by partisan discussions, is the best time for the patriotic press of both parties, and for all who share in the moulding of public opinion to begin an agitation which will relegate his form of wholesale election bribery to the company of other shameful abuses that are already swept away forever.

Whoever writes The Pioneer's editorials has evidently never seen Sir Douglas Fox's reports and estimates of the cost of the Tunnel, or the more recent report of Mr. St. Laurent. He also seems not to know, what we thought every intelligent Islander knew, that a responsible contractor, M. J. Haney to wit has unconditionally offered to build the Tunnel for ten millions of dollars, the offer being made to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. Mr. Fielding in the presence of four delegates from Prince Edward Island. The Pioneer editor should inform himself in Tunnel matters before attempting to discuss them.

Again reduced postal rates have demonstrated the wisdom of the reduction. Time was when it cost fifty cents to carry a letter from Charlottetown to Toronto. Later the rate was five cents and the service paid the Government better because of the increased business. From five cents to three cents the rate was reduced and business increased, but there was still a deficit in the postal service. It was not till the letter rate was brought down from three cents to two cents that the Canadian postal service began to earn annual surpluses. Now we have the same experience in regard to drop letters in cities. The former two-cent rate was cut to one cent and within a year the number of drop letters has practically doubled. The Government's letter of and the people, for whom the postal service exists get credit, the former service. The same experience, or something very like it has followed the reduction in other countries of telegraph and telephone rates and passenger rates on railways. We ought to have a two-cent a mile railway passenger rate.



OUR OWN MAKE. Read what Our customers say==

P. E. Island, Nov. 26th, '08 Messrs Beer & Weeks, Charlottetown, P. E. I. Dear Sirs: Enclosed please find \$ — in part payment for the school desks purchased from you according to order. We may say we are well satisfied with the quality of desks you send us.

Yours truly Sec'y — School.

Notice to School Trustees

We are prepared to furnish latest improved model school desks at lowest prices. We manufacture them in our own workshop and can therefore fully guarantee the quality, finish and workmanship.

BEER & WEEKS SUCCESSORS TO Mark Wright Furnishing Co.

GRAMOPHONE TUNE LED TO THIEF'S ARREST

BANGOR, Me., Nov. 29. — Howard Goding, aged sixteen, a prominent merchant, of Millinocket, was brought to Bangor by Deputy United States Marshal Hasty and locked up in jail to await hearing Saturday on charge of robbing the United States mails.

The case remained a mystery until Thursday, when Howard Goding was arrested for robbing a store. Among the plunder taken from the store was a phonograph and some records, of the latter was a new one of which no copies had been sold in Millinocket. Deputy Sheriff Gates, who investigated the case, heard this record being played in Goding's home, and thereupon arrested the boy, who had been under suspicion because of his bad associates. Young Goding is said to have confessed that he not only robbed several stores, but that with a companion, name not given, he stole the mail pouch.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ENTERED Nov. 30.—S. S. Cape Breton, McDonald, Montreal; S. S. Cabot, Kempf, Louisburg; S. S. Kilkeel, Elworthy, Port Hastings; Sch. Janet, Seaman, Pungwash.

CLEARED Nov. 30.—S. S. Cape Breton, McDonald, North Sydney; S. S. Cabot, Kempf, Louisburg; S. S. Kilkeel, Elworthy, Port Hastings.

BORN

FERGUSON.—At Argyle Shore, Nov. 22, 1908, to James A. and Mrs. Ferguson, a daughter.

DIED.

NEWSOM.—At Summerside on Nov. 29, 1908, Ann Warren, widow of the late James Newsom, Crapaud, aged 86 years. Funeral today at one o'clock to the Baptist Cemetery Crapaud.



CURE SICK HEAD ACHE

Bea Weadicht said she had the trouble that led to a bill for \$200 for the removal of the stones. She says she had the stones removed after using Carter's Little Liver Pills. She says she had the stones removed after using Carter's Little Liver Pills. She says she had the stones removed after using Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

Fancy Vests—No portion of your apparel will improve your appearance so much as one of our handsome knitted vests. The immense variety I am showing will astonish and please you. H. H. Brown, The Young Men's man. 11-26drft

The Farmers' Creedmore



This is the boot for you made of long tanned leather with heavy durable soles wide and comfortable lasts made to fit and wear. Snow, rain, sleet and sloppy weather has no terror for the man that wears a pair of our own make of grain Creedmore, home made at the Ch'town boot and shoe factory. Come in and get a pair.

Goff Bros drwstf.

MOONEY'S BISCUITS advertisement featuring an illustration of a woman in a hat and a storefront with a sign that says 'MOONEY'S BISCUITS'. Text includes: 'The weather-proof packages insure Mooney Biscuits being fresh and crisp in every climate and in all kinds of weather. In pails and packages.'

Hats and Caps—If you have a new fall Derby remember that you could buy either a "Franklin" or a "Tress" When buying a cap you must come here if you want the largest range in town to choose from. H. H. Brown, The Young Men's Man. 11-26drft



E. W. Patterson COMMONWEALTH HOTEL Opposite State House, Boston, Mass.

Offers rooms with hot and cold water for \$1.00 per day and up, which includes free use of public shower baths. Nothing to equal in New England. Rooms with private baths for \$2.00 per day and up. Dining room and cafe first-class. European plan. ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF Equipped with its own Sanitary Vacuum Cleaning Plant. Long Distance Telephone in Every Room Strictly A Temperance Hotel Send for Booklet. STORER & CRAFTS.

MOIR'S Chocolates advertisement featuring an illustration of hands holding a chocolate. Text includes: 'The particular hostess naturally selects Moir's Chocolates for a stylish social affair. When arranged in a bonbon dish, with each chocolate in its neat, fancy paper cup, they look the very essence of daintiness and refined good taste.'

We paid the highest price for WOOL All through the past season that was paid by any merchant on P. E. Island. We are still giving 22c per lb for wool in exchange for goods. We carry the largest range of Factory Cloths, Tweeds, Flannel Blanketing Rugging and yarns in the City. Also Stanfield's Underwear for men and boys' and Watson's Underwear for women and girls' ranging in price from 25c each to \$1.50.

Men's top Shirts, Hosiery, Collars, Ties, Braces, Overalls, Towels, Towelings, Combs, Side Combs, Flannellets, Ducks, Gingham, Print Cottons, Waistings and Dress goods. W. C. TURNER & CO The Low Price Store, Sunnyside Ch'town

Table with 3 columns: Name of Owner of Real Estate in Default, Description of Property upon which Assessment is made, and Amount of Assessment due and unpaid. Includes names like Hugh Monaghan, Catharine Morgan, and various property descriptions.