

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1921

BIGGEST THING IN THE WORLD

The attention of the world today is about equally divided between the Dempsey-Carpentier fight on July 2nd and the unemployment problem and consequent distress in the industrial centres of the United States and Canada.

These two aspirants for the championship, after slugging each other until one or the other cannot stand up and take any more, will divide between them about half a million dollars out of the gate receipts and probably another half million from the proceeds of a moving picture of the fight which enterprising movie men will send broad cast over the world for the enlightenment and education of the men and women of today and tomorrow.

The arena in which this battle is to take place will seat 75,000 people and the seats have already been taken up by men and women from all parts of the civilized world (none of the heathen countries, so far as we can learn from the voluminous reports in the press are to be represented.) This fight today occupies more space in the press of the larger cities than the problems of unemployment, of home and foreign missions, of education, religion, social reform or any other of the great problems that our churches and our educational institutions are more or less successfully grappling with.

We are not entering a protest against the fight or the expenditure

of money involved in it; we are not urging the claims of Christianity or charity or education to the contrary. Our reference to the subject is merely a confession of utter bewilderment and ignorance as to the motives which actuate our greatest endeavours. If the city of New Jersey, which is to be honoured with this test of superiority in physical strength and endurance and savage skill were to expend the two million or more dollars that are to go into this mill, on charity, on education or the relief of the unemployment, the matter would be announced in a paragraph in the daily press or probably ignored. Here, however, two men are to slug each other until one is beaten near to death at a cost to some portion of the public of some two million dollars and every blow struck, every mark made on the face of each, his "grogy" recoveries and the manner in which he fell or arose will be told in detail in every large or small newspaper in the United States and in many in Canada! and these details, revolting or enjoyable, will be read by the men, women and children of our enlightened lands and the survivor will be hailed as a hero!

Here also we confess our bewilderment and our ignorance as to what the human mind of today regards as the big things of life. The prize fight, be it remembered, is a modern institution and has been illegal in all civilized countries until a comparatively few years ago. Are we going or coming?

Current Comment

In the days of the Mathieson Government, when the cause of prohibition and suppression of the liquor traffic was five fold more effective than it is today, the welkin was made to ring, the woods and the hamlets to re-echo, and the columns of the Patriot to denounce with fervent heat the contended unsatisfactory conditions of those days. That there appeared plausible if not tangible reasons for such an outcry we will not for the present deny. Things were not as perfect as they might have been, nor as effective as they were expected to be when the Government program had been more completely worked out. But they were without question or argument at least five times better than they are today. Then why now the silence of those forces which were so active and beligerent only a few short years ago. It was claimed in those days that the agitation of that time was of political rather than temperance origin, and now with intoxicants running freely through the land, like, as in Sir Wilfrid Lauriers immortal illustration, "water from a mill-race," unless these forces gets to work in protest against those shameful conditions, they will lay themselves open to the suspicion that those suggestions were not unfounded.

We have been told by some that there has been enough of this agitation, but we insist there can never be enough until an effective remedy has been applied. They had a Grand Jury meeting at Summerside at the opening of the Supreme Court, one of that kind that contributes to the make up of a proper administration of justice. These men who were largely Liberal in complexion were not considering party or political creeds but the good of their country and people in discharging the sacred duties of their office. Their foreman, Mr. A. E. McLean, Liberal members for the third district of Prince, can certainly not be accounted as prejudiced against the Bell Government, nor for that matter can it be said of any of these sworn investigators and advisers of justice. That they were more than an ordinarily intelligent body has been shown by their careful attention to duty, their splendid address to the new incoming Mr. Justice Arsenault, their comments and recommendations regarding the children's health, and their wise pronouncements regarding the liquor traffic. That honor list consisted of, Mr. A. E. McLean, foreman Richard Hunt, Patrick Doyle,

John P. Gaudet, Henry Crosier, Jas Marchbanks, Wm. Lewis, John T. Profit, Howard McFarlane, W. A. Ching, C. Perry Wm. Toombs, David Schurman, John A. Thompson, C. Myers, T. M. McNeill, H. Bowness, J. McFarlane, A. Matthews, G. M. Howatt, A. Anderson.

And what is the conclusion reached by this intelligent Grand Jury, relative to the liquor traffic? First they "deplore the unmistakable evidence of the increase of drunkenness in the province." That increase of inebriety is given to us by a Government which in opposition days was foremost amongst those who stood so prominently in denunciation of the infinitely better conditions that prevailed under both of the preceding administrations. They further tell us, not, perhaps new to us, that it is from this that, "so much ill health is blamable." The health of the community is only valued by such men as these, but will be accounted as of trifling importance by those whose special duty it is to conserve this sacred public interest. And they further deplore "THE EASE WITH WHICH LIQUOR CAN BE OBTAINED." Made easy, partly through the medium of their TAXATION ACT, and perhaps to a greater extent by the laxity or rather leniency in execution where the basked jail is so easily opened for the release of offenders, and more particularly those who have the advantages of an influence in the seats of state.

And then this Grand Jury goes further, and declares that "The sale last year of \$173,000 in value of liquors is a public scandal." The words, "public scandal" are correctly applied, but what is their significance? To the Bell Government nothing more than added reduction of virtue to an already shaded reputation, but to the public, the people of this province who believe in law administration and the good moral life, what? To the moral living and church going people of the land, what? And to the pastors and those who are ministers in sacred things, what? Then again how about those black headed and double column weepings and wallings and gnashing of the Patriot over those infinitely better things from 1912 to 1919? Why so silent now when this giant evil is stalking so freely with its ravaging powers for destruction through the land? Then comes the Grand Jury's unqualified condemnation of the Government's receipts if \$50,000 profits, in blood

Two Diverse Views On Imitative Faculty

In the opinion of the New York Times, the dramatic critic of the London Times would doubtless have thought twice before so roundly condemning "monkey-tricks" in the theatre if he had read Glibert Murray's article in the current Yale Review. It is true that Mr. Walkley was speaking of applause, whereas Professor Murray had in mind the art of dramatist and actor; but the point is that both were thinking of monkeytricks, the one with reprobation as indicating "the failure of civilization" and the other as the primal cause of all that is good in human life.

Aristotle's Description.

Like not a few others, Professor Murray has been worried by Aristotle's description of poetry and other fine arts as a mimesis, or imitation. The very word mimesis means a "making," and time out of mind artists have taken themselves quite seriously as creators. How could the great Athenian conceive of them as mere imitators, dealers in monkeyshines? Professor Murray has now found a plausible answer. He calls upon us to disregard for a moment "elegance" in translation and make a quite literal version of what Aristotle said—writu an extra word or two of his own to eke out the notoriously elliptical style of his author. "Epos making and the making of tragedy, as so comedy and dithyramb making, and most fluting and harping, in their general conception are as a matter of fact, (not makings but) imitations." Homer did not make the Trojan War, nor did Phidias make Pallas Athene. They "imitated," which is to say represented, them.

Architecture Not Imitative.

Likewise music imitates, and very vividly, the mood of the musician. In a word, the arts enumerated are not, strictly speaking, creative, but only representative. Professor Murray points out that Aristotle does not include architecture in his list of "imitative" arts. The reason is now quite clear. An architect actually does make a house, a temple. But shall we conclude that the knack of writing dialogue or rhymes is a mere monkeytrick, that poet and playwright cut up monkeyshines in a way that proves their kinship to the denizens of the cage in the zoo? We shall if we follow Gilbert Murray. On this point, which is anthropological and indeed biologic, he cites Dr. Geoffrey Smith, a "friend and colleague" who was killed on the Somme, and who, if he had lived, would, probably have developed the idea "with the exactitude and great knowledge which belonged to him." According to Dr. Smith, as Professor Murray understood him, Man has not made any advance worth speaking of, in the biologic or physiologic sense, since the earliest times known to us; but his ancestors, from the arboreal days onward, stood out from all other animals by their extraordinary powers of mimesis.

A Factor in Evolution. When they met with a sort of conduct which they liked, they had money from this nefarious traffic and they declare, in line with right thinking people everywhere, that, "No Government in a prohibition province is justified in using profits from the sale of liquors." But after all is this any longer A PROHIBITION PROVINCE?

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Daily Selections Guardian Readers

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TRUST

Build a little fence of trust Around today Fill the place with love and work And therein stay Look not through the shell'ring bars Upon tomorrow God will help thee bear what comes Of joy or Sorrow. Find Your Job; Stick To It "I think that about nine-tenths of all the success I have, whatever that may be, is due to luck. Of course, I have stayed on the job and done the best I could right along. I think that in the long run a man gets about what is coming to him. Perhaps the main point which I would emphasize is that a man should find out the thing he wants to do more than anything else and stick to it." Do as well as you can today, and perhaps tomorrow you may be able to do better.—Newton

the power of imitating it, and, of course, the power of selecting for imitation the particular element in it that happened to appeal to them most. Sometimes they imitated badly, and chose the wrong things; sometimes they seem, like our poor relations in the zoological gardens today, to have imitated without any coherent plan or choice at all. But on the whole there has been a coherence in the main stream of human mimesis; we have imitated the things which we admired, and our admirations have developed further on more or less similar lines. We have formed ideals and our ideals have guided us. It is this power of idealism, this curious power of seeing what we like or admire and then trying to imitate it; of seeing things that were beautiful and trying to make others like them; of seeing things that roused interest or curiosity and trying by mimetic imagination to get inside them and understand them, that has been the guiding force in the upward movement of humanity.

Arnold's Definition.

Mr. Walkley, like other critics, has doubtless been frequently pained by novelists and playwrights who speak of criticism as "not a creative art." Well, Professor Murray finds with Matthew Arnold that much of the best poetry is in reality a "criticism of life," and he implies, though he does not exactly say so, that criticism is essentially mimetic or representative of the thing criticized, and by implication of the life with which poet or playwright is dealing. Also and especially, the playgoers who seem to Mr. Walkley to have such "a queer way of expressing delight by striking one palm against another with a resounding smack" are representative artists as truly as the monkey in the zoo and the musician. They feel delight, and they give a representation of it which (however Mr. Walkley is aggrieved) conveys an equal or greater delight to the actor. Henceforth, like Austin Dobson, they may

Make answer—Beethoven could scarcely do more— The man who plants cabbages imitates, too!

No Demonstration For Admiral Sims

NEW YORK, June 21—When the Olympic in which Rear Admiral Sims is returning to the United States by order of Secretary Denby, docks on Wednesday, it will be at a bare pier. The officials of the line decided today after a conference with the port officials to exclude the public and avoid discrimination. There has been many reports that opponents to the Admirals London speech in which he dealt with the Irish-Americans have been planning demonstrations of an opposite nature. The pier will be heavily policed.

THE OLD GARDENER SAYS

While spraying is a nuisance it's the only way you can keep the bugs and blights out of your garden. You must have the right poison, though, in each case. If there are bugs that chew, dose them with arsenate of lead, but if, like plant lice, they suck the juices from the leaves, you must use some material like tobacco water, or kerosene emulsion that will smother the insects to death. For blights like those which ruin the potato crop you must have Bordeaux mixture. This trio of remedies, therefore, is indispensable, but don't make the mistake of using the wrong one.

A thought for today BY HYNDMAN'S THINKER



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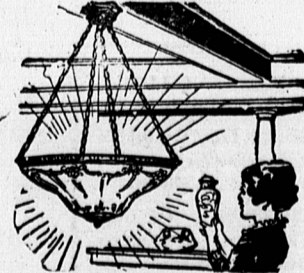
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