

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Monday Daily (founded 1857) \$6.00 per year (delivered) in advance \$7.00 per year (mailed) in advance in Canada, and \$8.00 to U. S. A. Mr. Charles Dalton, President. J. E. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. B. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1921

A TELLING SPEECH

The speech delivered by Mr. H. D. McLean, M. L. A., on the Address, published in Saturday's Guardian, is well worthy of careful perusal. A clear, moderate business-like speech, dealing with things as they are, it was a relief even to the members of the government after being surfeited for days with the tasteless and meaningless froth of their own self-laudation and self-excusing. Under the heated atmosphere of self-praise which had filled the House for some time previously, many of the members, had begun to imagine that all the work done by the government on the roads, in connection with the schools, in breaking their promises to the electors was absolutely faultless. Mr. McLean's exposures were a wholesome corrective to these and brought them again to a realization of what the people are thinking about them and how they regard many of the most boasted road projects and other boasted achievements of the government. His speech while dealing with things done and left undone by the government was relieved with flashes of humor and wit which made it a pleasure to listen to as well as to read. We commend it to the careful perusal of our readers.

COST OF A SANATORIUM

Nova Scotia papers are publishing with justifiable pride the report of the Provincial Sanatorium at Kentville, for the last year ending September 30, 1920.

The total number of patients treated during the year was 673 of whom 505 were ex-military cases, remaining 168 being civilian cases. Of the military cases 369 were discharged; of the 168 civilian cases 115 were discharged, a wonderful record and one over which there is naturally not only pride but Christian gratitude throughout the whole province. Seventy per cent of the civilian cases and sixty three per cent of the military cases rescued from death!

And this is the point: the cost to the province of Nova Scotia for this magnificent work; the cost of rescuing these 468 patients from the deadly grip of tuberculosis was only FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS!

We have been told by Premier Bell and by the organ of the government that the cost of maintaining the Dalton Sanatorium would be \$125,000 a year! This was the excuse—and every one knows it was as contemptibly mean as it was obviously false—why the Bell government closed the Dalton Sanatorium, why the Bell government never lifted a hand to try to negotiate with the federal government to continue the Dalton Sanatorium, why the Bell government refused to hold out a helping, rescuing hand to the many or the few victims of tuberculosis in this province. Had any effort been made, had any overtures been made to the Dominion government to compromise or to do anything to maintain this institution which was presented by a philanthropist to the unfortunate victims of tuberculosis in this province, there might have been some excuse for their action. Instead of making such an attempt they put up the miserable and ridiculously false pretence that the institution would cost the poor taxpayers of this province \$125,000 a year. We have said in previous references to this subject, and we repeat without fear of contradiction, that no such estimate had ever been made by any authority whose opinion was worth considering for a moment. It was made as a miserable excuse for the government's refusal to perpetuate the life saving and beneficent work of a political opponent.

How is the Bell government going to reconcile its "estimate" of

\$125,000 a year with the proved experience of the Nova Scotia institution? What further squirming and explaining and estimating may we look for to cover this crime, for crime it is!

The government's profits from the liquor business alone, it is safe to say, would be more than sufficient to run the Dalton Sanatorium.

A LAME DEFENCE

The Attorney General, whose legal training and practice, have given him certain advantages in the art of defence, or prosecution, as the case may be, was naturally the man whom the government selected to defend its action in refusing to enter the minority report of the Public Accounts in the Journals of the House. The Attorney General entered two pleas on behalf of his clients; first there was not sufficient time to consider it; second, the report was incorrect. It was not quite as effective a plea as that of the sea captain who told the court he had thirteen reasons for not firing a gun on entering the harbor, a ceremony demanded by the rules of the port. On being asked to state his thirteen reasons he said that one was 'that he had no gun!' The remaining reasons were not demanded and he was found guilty for not having provided a gun.

The learned Attorney General should have given either one or both of his reasons before he seconded the Premier's motion "that the report be not entered on the Journals of the House." This, he will find is the opinion of the court, which consists of the electors of the province. The guilt of the transaction was clearly pointed out by the Leader of the opposition when he stated that when a report is read by the Clerk of the House and received by the House it formed part of the proceedings and should be entered on the Journals of the House.

FLAX GROWING

Mr. Peter Brodie, M. L. A., in the Legislature the other day brought up a subject which deserves more attention than it received at the time. We refer to his plea for the growing of flax in this province. There is no question that the growing of flax, both for the grain and for the fiber, would be very profitable. Our farmers are using many tons of oil cake yearly and could very profitably use more of it than they do as there is no better feed for stock. There is abundant proof available that the quality of the meal produced by grinding our home grown flax seed is superior to the imported article as there are many ways in which the latter can be adulterated without openly infringing the pure food regulations. We understand that several mills in this province are equipped for flax grinding and that excellent results have been obtained.

That flax can be grown here as profitably as anywhere else in Canada has also been proved and there is no reason why every farmer should not grow at least enough for his stock and very few reasons why we should not grow enough for export. To get into the world's markets we would require to grow sufficiently large quantities to make shipment worth while.

From the linen-making point of view, flax growing could also be made a most profitable industry. Those who have attended exhibitions at Mount Carmel and Egmont Bay, have seen linen woven by the Acadian women of these sections, linen which for beauty of weave and design would compare very favorably with the best imported linen and very much more than favorably in durability. The art of bleaching and weaving linen has by no means been lost although probably less of this work is being

CURRENT COMMENT

The unfortunate plight of Premier Bell in his attempt to discuss the speech was not without profit in the warning it gave to those who followed in his wake. If their leader could find nothing in it capable of producing any political effect, nothing in it which by any system of jockeying could be made to justify the further existence of the Government, and nothing outside of it to redound to their credit how in the name of common sense could the subordinate mortals at his heels be expected to bark with any greater effect. They had horse-sense to recognize the difficulty, and so practically abandoned the speech to the bitter fates and devoted their attention to a much weightier subject, one which had played an infinitely more important part in popular education and in advancement of the country's good than all the denizens of local Liberalism, namely that grand old mentor of our public men and political life. The Charlottetown Guardian and Current Comment. The importance of this subject was so supreme in character as to overshadow all the deeds, feats and accomplishments of the Bell aggregation, most frequently as the scapegoat upon which they would fain unload all their sins, but more invariably the sleuth upon their track to ferret out and expose their unrighteousness, and to display them and their unholly acts, naked to the people's gaze.

The first to apply this complimentary tribute to the Guardian with a genuine zeal, was Mr. D. C. McDonald of Souris. In common with his party he had on many occasions been up against it, and following the conclusion reached at the "conference of rats," he was convinced that there was no safety unless they could "Bell the cat." His constituents were of the up-to-date class who read the Opposition papers, and of that progressive kind to intensify his political discomfort by pressing upon him the truths which were published in relation to the comedies and tragedies of the local Liberal government. With these fires of indignation kindled in his home borough, and further inflamed by the murmurings at the capitol, is it after all unnatural for him to seek relief from the thorn in the flesh by opening up the flood gates of his wrath upon our devoted heads? As a speaker he is above the average of his party, and as a man of judgment and intelligence cannot be relegated to any third class position amongst his colleagues. But the stronger the intellect, the deeper the sensation of pain when the conscience is pricked, and it is surely gratifying to us to know how successful we have been in making so marked an impression upon him.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

BUSINESS MAN'S PRAYER

This beautiful prayer comes from a business man, who says that he has used it for years:—

"With gratitude for Thy protection during the night watches, I begin, O Lord, the new life of a new day. My path will be the busy thoroughfares. Walk Thou with me, unseen. My thoughts will be of my business. Let not my heart cleave to these things, but through the sweet influence of Thy Spirit incline me to seek things that endure. I shall be tempted today; I may be drawn to the verge of some awful mistake in the swift movement of danger, when I cannot withdraw to my closet of prayer. Give me to know the right, and the power to do it. Let not trifles ruffle my temper nor disappointments unman me. Let not exacting duties make me selfish and churlish. Give me rather a sunny face, a forth-right hand, and the joy of a word fitly spoken to some timid, discouraged soul. Strength for the day's service give me in some measure as Thou wilt; pass my sins of omission, and when the shadows fall, bring me again, unshuffled by word or deed, to sweet, refreshing sleep. Amen."

done than was the case some years ago. With our improved machinery and equipment it should be possible to make linen production a great industry, and we trust this side of the question will not be forgotten.

As for the growing of the flax for the grain alone there is no difficulty. The soil that produces oats and wheat will produce flax just as abundantly and with about the same preparation, and there is an assured market.

Of course, for a man of his mental stature, it wouldn't do to devote his whole time to the press, and, if only for the purpose of a show of decency, he must say some few little things about the speech. A very nice piece of road had been built in his district, under the Highways grant, which, together with some new bridges and culverts, he thought were creditable and a move in the right direction. Though one listened quite attentively he failed to catch any sound of praise from him for the Dominion Government, whose Highways grant had made this improvement possible, while he was most voluble in eulogy of the automatons which had done the work. There was, however, one sore spot about even this. It was being used or misused by autoists, some of whom should be in the penitentiary. It looked like a kind of side thrust at the Attorney General and, if he really meant it, it might result in serious complications. The interest on the cost of construction is to be paid by these auto owners, and if Mr. McDonald gets them all locked up where will the revenue come from? It might mean more taxes, and that would increase his tribulation. He exhibited good sound sense in declaring that there were too many young girls teaching in the public schools, but naively remarked that "probably this could not be helped"

It could have been helped, if the Government were capable of applying business methods to the question. It is by their act in granting special permits to teach, that so many of the schools in the country are now taught by children. While many of these may be well qualified to take charge of primary classes, it is playing with common sense to anticipate success where the scholar may be in many instances older than the teacher. But they wanted to have the desks occupied, and this method was cheaper than by paying an adult's salary for an adult's work. Having commenced his address by throwing bouquets of wild flowers at the Guardian, he thought that a few thistles in another direction would make a fitting conclusion, and so the nettling wreath was cast across the floor, and settled, as some thought, upon the Hon. senior member for Cardigan. The story was that at a meeting of United Farmers at Bedeque the hon. member had condemned the salary grab, but at a similar meeting in Charlottetown he approved or accepted it, but excused himself by saying he had expended it in charity. A case of "letting the right hand know what the left hand doeth." The Cardigan member has replied, but another tith is expected.

The Hon. W. M. Lea, Commissioner of Agriculture, was in anything but a good frame of mind when he delivered his address. His experiences at the meetings held in his own district, and the load of popular disapproval were apparently still resting heavily upon him, and his tuition in the school of public life has not yet cultivated in him the quality of being able to face adversity without losing his temper. To say that he was beside himself would be a mild imputation, and to declare the whole truth in expressive language might be unparliamentary. Of course he claimed that the "Government had done the best possible thing under the circumstance," but in this he disagreed with his constituents with both him and his colleague, THAT THE BETTER THING TO DO WOULD BE TO RESIGN. He had much to say about the late Government who "had not been strong enough to face the issue and levy a tax," but he was more silent as to the party "WHO WERE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO GO TO THE COUNTRY WITH THE TRUTH UPON THEIR LIPS. It would be

Our Ottawa Letter

RAILWAY PROBLEM

OTTAWA, March 16th, 1921.—The financial situation, intensified by railway deficits, holds the centre of the political stage. All political parties are agreed that the position is one that calls for careful handling, and no one outside a few extreme partisans attempts to blame the Government for the situation that has developed. The Ministry, so far as has been possible, has practiced economy. It has kept down expenditure on militia and on the navy, reduced capital outlay by many millions and turned off expenditure taps in various other directions. What growth of liability there has been—and it is serious enough—is almost wholly traceable to the war, to our enormous national debt, to pensions, to re-establishment plans, and to railways. For this, the Government cannot be blamed. It is expenditure which few red-blooded Canadians would care to shrink and any Government withholding the projects responsible for it would be promptly hurled from power. Nor is the railway case much different. The railway problem in Canada today is not of this Government's nor of this Parliament's making. It is a legacy of the railway intoxication of bygone years, the price we are paying for the folly of 1904. It is futile of course, to speculate on what might have been, but surveying the present situation it is difficult not to regret that the advice of Sir Robert Borden on transportation in 1904 was rejected by Parliament. Sir Robert, with a vision far ahead of his time, realized that Canada was being overruled. He perceived that the Dominion's development had not reached the stage where three transcontinentals were necessary; and as a substitute policy for Sir Wilfrid Laurier's scheme of the Grand Trunk Pacific and the National Transcontinental, he proposed that the Intercolonial Railway should be linked up with the Canada Atlantic and Parry Sound roads to form part of a transcontinental line to the Pacific coast. It was sensible advice, but it was not needed. Sir Wilfrid's eloquent talk about the

(Continued on page eight)

an unkindness to his colleagues and a reflection back upon himself, which would disagree with his political appetite.

On one point he was most emphatic, and that is that the people of this country HAVE NOT BEEN TAXED ENOUGH, for twenty years back they have been badly educated to the belief that taxes were an evil to be avoided. "To ask a man if he would submit to taxation was about as reasonable as to ask a child if he would take a dose of physic. THE RIGHT COURSE IS TO COMPEL THE CHILD TO TAKE THE PHYSIC, AND THIS THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE." And one of the things that made the Hon. Mr. Lea so irritable and angry during his speech, was the reflection that his "child" was a grown up man, possessed of a free franchise, with the rights of citizenship vested in him by our constitution, which he, and the Government of which he is one of the controlling powers, has not hesitated to trample under foot, and to maltreat our manhood as though they were dumb brutes or helpless children. And these children, according to Mr. Lea, are not taxed enough. A country as rich as this is, with its millions of dollars worth of agricultural products, should provide a revenue sufficient to keep abreast of the times. There was no indication of any easing of the burden of the children, so far at least as he "the Father of Taxation" was concerned.

DON'T DELAY

giving that matter of Insurance attention. It is too important a matter to neglect.

We write insurance in all its branches, fire, life, marine, liability, plate glass, accident, health, guarantee, automobile, etc.

We represent a number of the largest and best companies in their respective lines and which are well known throughout this Province for their prompt and satisfactory settlement of claims.

HYNDMAN & COMPANY LIMITED 61 QUEEN ST. CHARLOTTETOWN THE OLDEST INSURANCE AGENCY IN P. E. I.

THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

UNITED FARMERS OF FREELAND ACTIVE

Sir.—Early in the fall of 1920 a branch of the United Farmers was organized in this Township. This was the result of a large and representative gathering of the farmers of Prince County held in Britannia Hall at Tyne Valley when the Hon. J. A. Dewar was present and operated with other branches of the United Farmers in selling our live stock, buying our seed wheat, etc., and made a saving of hundreds of dollars.

Some of the farmers of this constituency were disappointed that no political action was taken at the convention held in Charlottetown to choose leaders for both the Federal and Provincial Houses in line with New Brunswick and the prairie Provinces. Perhaps our new appointed officials were too much interested in the Banquet given them by the Big Interests in retaliation for certain statements made at that convention by the retiring president Mr. Dewar. These officials will find that the majority of the farmers will not approve of their action as we consider they were hoodwinked much the same as Esau.

Our policy is, we are all created equal, with special privileges to no one except the weak and deserving poor. You can call that policy new, national, peoples progressive, or national progressive; there is no difference. The farmers made no mistake in adopting that policy. We recommend it to the fisherman and the workmen and women of all classes. The fundamental principles of that policy are found in the New Year's message of the Hon. T. A. Crerar to the people of Canada, when he said in part, "The only solid foundation upon which we can build for the future is the practice individually and nationally in private conduct and in public office

Easter Millinery Showing. Easter modes in their full bloom of beauty will be displayed on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY next. You need not fuss or flurry over your EASTER HAT for our MODELS are the loveliest creations to be found anywhere and intelligent service will make selection a pleasure. Patons Ltd.

of those virtues as old as the history of man itself, thrift, work, honesty, truthfulness, temperance in all things the ability to love one's neighbor and to practice the golden rule "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." At your last regular meeting the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Whereas, one of the United Farmers at the session of the Central Farmers' Institute moved a resolution asking the Department of Agriculture that an Act be passed to lay a tax of five or ten dollars on every scrub bull over twelve months old." Therefore resolved, that we, the farmers of Freeland and vicinity do place ourselves on record as being strongly opposed to said tax and we ask our representatives to use their influence to vote the bill unth

(Continued on page eight)

GRAY DORT CARS AND GRAY DORT SERVICE

When buying a car there are two vital points to consider.

FIRST the buying expense and SECOND the running expense and service.

In the GRAY DORT CAR you get a medium priced car—but a car which has all the essentials of comfort and appearance.

You are not paying for a lot of stuff you don't need. You are not paying a large amount of duty and expense.

The GRAY DORT is MADE in CANADA, by CANADIAN WORKMEN and with CANADIAN MONEY.

Then as to the COST of use and UPKEEP. The average cost per Gray Dort Car on Prince Edward Island last season was less than \$10.00 for replacement parts—this included accidents.

A larger number of GRAY DORT CARS were in constant use on which not one cent was required for repairs.

We can give the owners' names. THIS IS WHAT COUNTS— WE GIVE A PERFECT SERVICE. ALL PARTS KEPT ON HAND IN CASE OF NEED —BUT SELDOM NEEDED.

The GRAY DORT CAR very seldom requires the service of a mechanic—when it does we are always ready.

Not ONE GRAY DORT CAR was tied up 24 hours last season for want of PARTS or SERVICE. It will be the same this year.

IS THIS THE KIND OF CAR YOU WANT? LET US SHOW YOU.

R. E. WHITE II

Distributor for Prince Edward Island

MACNUTT & WHITE, 189 Queen Street, Ch'Town WRIGHT & MANSON, Summerside. E. A. McRAE, Alberton N. J. NICHOLSON, Montague SELLING AGENTS