

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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WORK AND LEISURE.

DO we ever stop to think how fundamentally untrue are many of the trite sayings we glibly repeat day after day and year after year? Because others have said so and possibly thought so, we say so without intelligently asking ourselves if we believe them. Is virtue its own reward in practice? Has it been proven that honesty is the best policy? But, seriously, is work a curse? Do we ever think it is, or is it one of the greatest blessings of mankind?

Work for twelve or more hours a day at unattractive tasks may, and usually does, degenerate into drudgery, may stultify our souls and minds and bodies. But ask any man whether life would be worth living without his work. Better still, observe those who have made their pile and have retired. Are they not as a rule bored looking? And after a prolonged holiday who does not rejoice—secretly lest he betray his unorthodoxy—at returning to work? Perhaps this would not be so if we knew how to employ our leisure. Most of us, spooned with the movies, the radio and the popular magazine, are quite unskilled and unable to use our leisure hours in any other way than to be receptacles for others' thoughts and doings.

Some one has said that education is "training for leisure," and one of the many tests of the quality of a civilization is, how do its people spend their leisure? Many of us find it tedious to fill up the leisure of one day in seven and so many spend it in sleeping or loafing along the streets, not even going for a brisk walk, in fact showing all the symptoms of boredom.

It has been said that the Englishman is noted for his ability to enjoy his leisure, whether it is in playing games, fishing, botanizing or bird-hunting or any of a score of outdoor pastimes. Let us frankly acknowledge that leisure in season should give us an opportunity to enjoy life at its best. Stevenson says, "The world is so full of a number of things, I think we should all be as happy as kings." Whether kings are happier than other people may be questioned. Tennyson makes Ulysses say—"How dull it is to pause, to make an end, To rust unburnished, not to shine in use! As tho' to breathe were life. Life piled on life Were all too little . . ."

This is more wholesome than saying that this world is a vale of tears and that work is a curse. It was Cowper who said, "work, though the primal curse, has been softened into mercy," and we all feel that this is true. If we think we shall drop many of the old shibboleths that have been unthinkingly passed from one to another.

SITUATION IN CHINA.

THE British Government shows little anxiety regarding the situation in China, menacing as that situation is. Just who or what started the trouble is not very clear, but there is a strong suspicion that Russian Bolshevism was not far away when it started. The whole affair appears to be anti-British rather than anti-foreign as the American residents have not been molested. There is reason to believe that telegraphic communication is being interfered with, but British ships are in a position to communicate with the home office, British patience and diplomacy may be depended upon to restore order without precipitating serious trouble by hasty action. What is most fear-

Notes by the Way

THE reported discovery of platinum in Quebec may turn out to be important. That will of course depend upon the extent of its possible production. It is classed as one of the noble metals, is white like silver in color, and more valuable than gold. It is very ductile and malleable, is almost the heaviest known substance, cannot be melted in any forge fire, or corroded by any one known acid. Only an electric current can fuse it. It was first discovered in the United States and has since been mainly produced there and, in the Urals Mountains. It is generally found in small granules mixed with other metals, but sometimes in nuggets the size of a pigeon's egg. Platinum is in great demand for electrical and chemical apparatus, also in jewelry as a setting for precious stones, &c.

Canada has a vast region in the north which is yet practically unknown and unexplored so far as its metallic and mineral resources are concerned. This region may be said to include all the area northward of the boundaries of the Provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific up to the Arctic Ocean. And but very partially explored is the northern portion of the six Provinces west of New Brunswick. The mines of northern Ontario, now producing so many millions yearly are but of comparatively recent discovery. All of which is suggestive of the unlimited possibilities of hidden wealth yet to be uncovered in our Northland.

To win a vacant seat Antigonish-Guyssboro the Conservative and Liberal campaigners are hurrying to and fro, driving over drifted snow roads by day and by night and expending their vocal and persuasive energies among the electors. The voters, men and women, half of whom are always careless or indifferent over election results, must wonder at the tremendous efforts being put forth by the politicians on their behalf. Neither the future of the nation, nor that of either of the great parties seem likely to be materially affected should a majority be gained for one candidate or the other. But love of party is a powerful motive and the more exciting the contest the greater is the joy of the victors.

That "television" is the greatest marvel among modern inventions is the opinion of J. L. Garvin, the eminent editor of the London Observer. The word as coined signifies "seeing at a distance." It means more than that, however, and we shall read and hear much more about it before long. So we must get familiar with "television" and the "electric eye" of the new invention. It extends the power to see, as the telephone and radio extend the power to hear at a distance and in the dark, making persons and scenes visible by invisible light. The invention is yet imperfect but gives promise of as great development as took place with Marconi's wireless after he first got hold of the great idea.

The situation in China seems alarming. The British concession at Hankow evacuated, missionaries recalled from the interior to the seaboard, and the heroic defence of the handful of British marines against a maddened mob of coolies, seem to be portents of greater troubles to come. For the mob doubtless exults in having driven the "foreign devils" out of Hankow and are not likely to be satisfied without extending the conflict to much wider bounds.

As to Imperial titles in Canada, Mr. J. H. Burnham, ex M. P., who introduced the Abolition of Titles of Honor Bill some years ago, writes to the Mail and Empire to say that conditions having changed he would gladly see the appointing power restored "In future, the King himself will dispense honors. There was never any objection to honors that were honors. But when otherwise, they became merely an insupportable absurdity. Under His Majesty there can be no doubt that distinctions will be conferred because they are deserved." So writes Mr. Burnham and this view of the matter is worth considering.

"King Georges sons are rapidly learning at first hand of the Empire which is knit together chiefly by the Crown," remarks the Toronto Globe. The Duke and Duchess of York have sailed for New Zealand and Australia. They sailed on the Renown, the ship on which the Prince of Wales came to Canada in 1919 and on which he went to Australasia in 1920. On this trip the Duke will open the Federal Parliament of Australia at Canberra, the new Capital of Australia. Prince George recently passed through Canada after service



By James W. Barton, M.D.

A POINT ABOUT THE EYES

An eye specialist makes the statement that seventy-five per cent of the patients who consult a doctor have no organic trouble. This means that one case in every four will present symptoms of organic trouble that the physician will at once recognize, because he has read about such cases and has seen many of them. There is the high temperature, quickened pulse, pain at or near the seat of trouble, and so forth, and by means of the stethoscope, the microscope, and physical examination, the trouble is located, and proper treatment. However most patients are not ill enough to be in bed, have no fever or rise in temperature, but usually have pain somewhere in the body.

Where the pain or ailments is about the eyes, he states that fully 80 per cent are not due to faulty vision, but to other causes, and he sends these cases to the general practitioner to have a thorough examination. And so the point I wish to make is that instead of this being an age of specialists, it is really an age when the general practitioner is coming into his own.

Many cases that were formerly sent to specialists as soon as the patient complained of eye trouble, are now investigated fully by the general practitioner, because so many were sent back to him with the report that the eyes were all right, and that he would have to look elsewhere for the cause. And so the trouble was located in the teeth, tonsils, gall bladder and very often in the intestine itself, because of the sluggish muscular movement there.

This of course only goes to show how very intimately each part of the body is related to other parts, and that a pain in any particular place does not necessarily mean that the trouble has started there. So just keep on seeing your family doctor when you are in pain or have any ailment, and only consult the specialist on his advice, or if you have not secured relief after a fair trial.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "I never saw such a beautiful face." Say "so beautiful a face."

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: period. Pronounce the e as in "he."

OFTEN MISPELLED: characterize; ze, not se. SYNONYMS: element, particle, bit, atom, grain, iota, scrap, mite.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: DEVASTATE; to lay waste, as by war, fire, flood, etc. "It was the devastating result of a year's war."

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

January 11, 1927

THE BREVITY OF LIFE:—Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not. Job 14:1, 2.

PRAYER:—Dear Lord, let our lives be hid with Thee in Christ, Jesus.

MOTHER

(By T. K. Wray.)

As the years roll by and I think of the days When I sobbed on my mother's knee, As she brushed back my locks with that wonderful touch In fancy again I can see Those beautiful eyes as they looked into mine, And again I can hear that sweet song, As I cuddle up close in that loving embrace— How her magic could right every wrong.

with the Navy in Eastern waters. And in a few months the Prince of Wales will return to Canada to take part in the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of Confederation in July 1.

In the meantime the Prince of Wales has had "another tumble" in a steeple chase and sprained his wrist. Such minor casualties frequent in the hunting field, are always noted when a royal personage is concerned. And what to the Prince is a trivial incident has its value as news, and also as evidence that the royal equestrian bears a charmed life.

That Body of Ours

Education—The Direction it Would Take

(W. L. Cotton.)

It is agreed on all sides that the development of the Agricultural and Fishery resources of Prince Edward Island should be the aim of its people and their government. That being so, the people and their government should see to it that the youth of the province shall be so instructed and educated that they will consider it their duty and their pleasure, as well as profit, to remain on the Island and live upon it.

That the soil and climate of this province are alike conducive to the production of grains, roots, vegetables and domestic animals of the best qualities, has been demonstrated in the competitions recently held throughout North America, and that the shore fisheries as well as the deeper waters of the surrounding gulf are productive of food and energies to the people, is equally true. For things of the best quality, and the highest prices are paid, and it is therefore advisable to get about the production of such things. Consequently one of the main objects of those who direct our public school system should be to live in it, and devote their time and energies to the production, in perfection of the things that appertain to it.

To excite and create an interest in the products of agriculture and fisheries, and to point the way towards improvement in the same direction, should, evidently, be one of the chief duties of the teachers in the public schools of this agricultural and fish producing island. Granted that a knowledge of the "Three R's" must first of all be imparted, the advantages, profits and pleasures of life on the farm, may be concurrently set forth, from pupils in all our schools should, from the first, be imbued with the belief that there is no more important and independent or honorable occupation than that afforded in this country. The facilities now supplied on every cleared farm, the machinery and implements, the

She sang to me songs of a bright fairyland, Of a place all blossomed with flowers, Then I soon fell asleep with my troubles gone And the moments soon sped into hours; The hours were too short as I slept on her breast. And dreamed of this beautiful place As she rocked me, and kissed me and hugged me up close, While a mother's tear fell on my face.

Every tear that she shed was a fountain of love, Every sacrifice linked with a joy; No day was too long—no task was too hard, As she tenderly cared for her boy. As I grew to a man that same tender care Like the watch of the wild o'er its young, Never seemed to forget—never seemed to grow tired— If I faltered, the closer she clung.

She sleeps near the place where I spent boyhood days, Where I swung on the old-fashioned gate, Where the woodbine clings to the porch as of yore, And the whippoorwill calls to his mate. To that sacred old place again I'll return Where she moulded and fashioned my way, And in reverence kneel where we laid her to rest— And I'll watch till the close of the day.

When the day has grown old and deep shadows lie Where the pale of the moon casts its glow, I'll follow the brook in the silvery sheen To a place where the sweet flowers grow, And there where I spent golden days that have passed I'll pluck just the sweetest that bloom, Then I'll carry them back to the spot I revere, And place them on my mother's tomb.

All the pleasures of life with their riches and fame, I'd gladly give back for the joy Of the sweet, tender kiss and that wonderful touch Of my mother—when I was a boy.

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autos and motor boats, the gramophones and radios within reach of every careful and well-to-do farmer and fisherman, make life on Prince Edward Island not only tolerable, but positively attractive to all persons who have been properly instructed. In exceptional cases greater profits may be made in the cities; but the risks, anxieties and losses incidental to business in a city are greatly in excess of those incurred in the country. It has been well said that "the successful farmer was never so well-off as he is today. He has most of the advantages of city life with none of its limiting, crippling, humiliating and often murderous drawbacks."

These facts should be impressed upon the plastic minds of the youths of this province, not only in the homes, but in the schools and colleges. The towns must, of course, be maintained; for towns are essential to the country. But that there should be a large exodus from the country and a large and constant tendency of the brightest youths towards the cities, is not in the interest of either town or country; and the teachers in the schools should discourage—not enjoin—such a thing.

The mental predictions of each student must, of course, as Professor Shaw has remarked—be respected. But the instruction given in the public schools and colleges of this province should be in the direction of a higher citizenship, and better products of its soil, live stock, and fisheries.

Nineteen Year Old Swimmer Sets New World's Record

SYDNEY, N.S.W., Jan. 8.—Andrew "Boy" Charlton, nineteen year old Australian swimmer, today set what is claimed a new world's record for 880 yards, covering the distance in 10 minutes, 32 seconds in the New South Wales swimming championships. The accepted world's record for 880 yards is 10 minutes 25 seconds, established by Arne Borg of Sweden at Philadelphia July 29, 1926. Charlton defeated Borg at 880 yards at Sydney in January 1924 and broke the world record for 1,500 metres at the Olympiad the same year.

"Rolling Club" Started in London

LONDON, Jan. 7.—"A Rolling Club" has been started by a member of Parliament, and several fellow members were admitted before Parliament adjourned. The rolling is supposed to be a cure for liverishness, and is done in the morning in the bedroom, the seeker after health placing a sheet on the floor and, with arms stretched over head, rolling back and forth for some minutes. The founder of the club declares that the treatment stirs the acid in the body, improves the liver and leaves a healthy glow.

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Washington Hears Case of Canadians

Legislation May Be Introduced to Make It Easy For Canadians to Become Citizens of United States. WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Following a hearing today before the House Committee on Immigration and a conference with Senator Johnson, and also a conference with Secretary of Labor Davis, representatives of the Canadian Club of Boston predicted there would be legislation this season to make it easy for Canadians who entered the United States between 1906 and 1926 to become American citizens. It is said 250,000 or more of them are finding great difficulty to make their proofs because of inadequate records. John F. Masters, and J. T. Appleby represented the Canadian Club of Boston in the matter. They said it affected 50,000 Canadians in Massachusetts alone.

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