

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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A TRADE HANDICAP.

One of the largest produce dealers in Charlottetown recently made the statement that in the course of about fifteen years business in which he purchased produce of many kinds from thousands of farmers he had been really "done" only twice.

Two dishonest farmers out of many thousands is a small proportion, but one naturally regrets that these two solitary thieves had not been detected and punished as they deserved.

Only two cases of fraud, low, miserable fraud, yet both tubs went into the market as Prince Edward Island butter, were condemned as Prince Edward Island butter, cast a reflection upon the Prince Edward Island merchant who handled it and on the general name of Prince Edward Island.

Until there is a strict inspection of all produce leaving the province and a means of identifying the origin of every article good and bad and placing the credit or the blame where it belongs we shall find it difficult to secure the place in the market to which our best farmers aspire and to which they are entitled.

PATRIOTISM AND WAGES.

The argument is frequently heard that a spirit of patriotism should induce young men and women to give their services to their own province even at a lower rate of remuneration than that available in some other of our sister provinces.

As to the first argument, if the patriotism of this province is not sufficiently strong to pay its sons and daughters as generously as other provinces or other countries are willing to do, then there is no reason why these sons and daughters should sacrifice themselves for a one sided patriotism.

The idea that this province cannot afford to pay as good wages as are paid elsewhere is only partially true. Because of our comparative lack of industries there is not the demand here for skilled labor that there is in the larger cities and consequently there is not sufficient employment in these lines to engage all who desire to take up mechanics or trades.

We boast that we are the richest province in Canada, an inconsistent boast if we refuse to reasonably share our wealth with those who earn it.

CURRENT COMMENT

The Pioneer—pocket organ of Premier Bell—is squealing. Little pigs always do when they poke their snouts into hot stuff.

If for instance he would try and bring his utterances somewhere within a reasonable range of truth, very much of unpleasant criticism would of necessity be shut off.

Amongst the Pioneer's platitudes we read, "The Bell government has acted." It has done something and valuable "somethings."

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

"DOWN AND OUT"

These words, so pathetic are band on my brain. Forgive them I never can. They have touched me so for they are the cry of a poor despairing man.

To your brothers' distress, Oh give of your best. Till once on arm ground they stand.

Amateur Burglars Foiled German Spies

How five patriotic American adventurers secured possession for their Government of a ton of important German documents when the United States entered the war, is told in an entertaining manner by Fred C. Kelly, in the New York Tribune.

er imposed upon the people of this province. Yes the "Government has acted" and are promising to further act, and we fear with results so disastrous that it will take a long time to overcome its injurious effects.

The repulse was a brain racking shock to the Patriot. With a bluster and braggadocio equalled only by that of the German war lord it launched its furious offensive of poisoned gas against the late Government.

There is an ominous silence in its editorial columns, and in Government circles. It has been the subject in caucus and in corridor. Who or what is this force within or behind the Guardian so disastrous to their schemes? They have been guessing, and there is still room to further guess.

The guns are spiked, and for the present abandoned. The long winded double columns of camouflage and contortionist figures are no longer a feature of its middle page.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'A compositor's mistake in Saturday's Comment makes cost of Prince of Wales visit to read \$37,770.71 instead of \$2,770.71.'

With a probable revenue in sight, on the present basis, and without further taxation, of almost one million two hundred thousand dollars, in the name of common sense what need is there of placing further taxes upon the people at least for the present year when the phrase "High Cost of Living" has been transformed into "Impossible of Living?"

ed by the fact that they were of tremendous importance.

The Whole Works

They were not told, of course, what the papers were, and if it had not been for the fact that there was quarrelling among some of the German officials, their contents might never have been divulged.

Patriotic Burglars

If they were to be seized they would have to be stolen by private unauthorised citizens. So these two, with three other friends, one of whom had some experience and natural gifts in the matter of opening safes, determined to become patriotic burglars.

Three Months' Work

The utmost care was taken by the robbers, and night after night for some three months they toiled in the room, removing papers, and then covering their traces so that no clerk might notice anything out of place the next morning.

Plots Frustrated

The records were translated by the American Government, which then found itself in possession of the name of practically every German spy, agent and prominent sympathizer in the United States.

The Correct Versions of the Mode in Women's Suits

EXHIBITING A NOVELTY IN STYLING. A QUALITY IN FABRIC AND A FINISHED PRECISION IN TAILORING UNEXCELLED in Tweeds, covert cloths, tricotine and very fine serges, Sand, navy and black. Several distinctive styles to choose from in plain or belted models.



Come to Patons for Your Spring Dress

whether it be a lovely confection in silk, satin or combination silk and georgettes, it's here. Our tailored serge or jersey dresses from \$19 to \$50 are ready to make you the best dressed person in Charlottetown.

Wonderful Values in Stunning Spring Coats

You should not fail to see these, as they are duplicates of master models created by world-renowned designers for women in serge and covert. They radiate that atmosphere of class which is so much appreciated by particular dressers.

Express the Springtime Indoors with New Draperies

Nothing brightens up a room or brings it a more cheery Springlike atmosphere than fresh new hangings of printed chintz and flower patterned cretonnes. We have all these desirable drapery fabrics in plenty of harmonious coloring and tasteful designs.

New Pullover Sweaters

A host of new colors to select from, made in dainty slipover styles, full sleeves and pretty tie sash.

Patons Patons

THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

A SUGGESTION

Sir:—It is painfully evident from the proceedings in the Legislature, that the Teachers' demands will not be met with satisfaction. The juggling is disgusting, to say the least, to every teacher in the province.

TELEPHONE MATTERS

Sir:—In a recent issue of your purchase the New York Mail as a pro-German organ. In fact, it would appear that the whole German game was in the hands of the United States officials three months after the war began.

paper, appeared a letter signed by C. T. Ferguson, in which he reviews the subject of the Telephone Company's application to the Government for the extension of certain rights and privileges, and setting forth his reasons why the rights asked for should be withheld.

Mr. Ferguson is already aware that the contentions he enumerates have been the subject of considerable correspondence between the Government and the Company.

In 1906 when an amendment to the Telephone Company's Act of Incorporation was passed, permitting persons other than the Telephone Company to build and operate lines on roads not traversed by the lines of the Telephone Company of Prince Edward Island, consideration was very properly given to the standard of the apparatus persons starting telephone lines, and attempting to supply service with cheap and inferior equipment, which, when connected with the lines of the parent Company would tend to materially lower the standard of service in this province.

The Legislature of that time, very wisely provided that all private, or connecting lines, desiring connection with our system, should use apparatus and equipment equal to the standard of the apparatus and equipment used by the Telephone Company. In order to carry out these intentions, and with a view to keeping the quality of the service up to the highest possible standard, the Telephone Company has sold to connecting companies, the same type of instruments and apparatus as is used on their own lines, at COST, plus freight and handling charges.

The control of the indiscriminate use of all kinds of apparatus, which would have connection with our system, has been the main object in view, and not that we desired any monopoly in selling apparatus and other equipment.

pressed in Mr. Ferguson's letter, that the Telephone Company is making an exorbitant profit out of their supply business, the Directors of our Company have decided to discontinue the sale of supplies after this date. Connecting Line officers can, therefore, purchase apparatus and materials in any market they may choose; but we must still insist that such materials shall be equal in transmission requirements to those in use by our Company. If outside competent authority is desired to give an opinion as to the quality of any apparatus as compared to the standard adopted by our Company, no doubt arrangements can be made with the Electrical experts of the Nova Scotia Technical College, or McGill University, to give expert and disinterested opinion as to the relative transmission values, etc., of any apparatus submitted to them for expert comparison.

THE TELEPHONE COMPANY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Sir:—Mr. C. T. Ferguson's letter re the telephone octopus in your issue of the 26th, is timely and very much to the point. The members of our Legislature should see that this matter is thoroughly investigated, not only that but insist on it and see that no extension, no further subsidy or increase of rates be allowed until such time as the P. E. I. Telephone Company give the people of this province a service in some measure up to date.

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