

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1927

THE POTATO PROBLEM.

WE note by advertisement in The Guardian that a public meeting is to be held in Georgetown next Tuesday, the 11th instant, for the purpose of urging the construction of a suitable frost-proof potato warehouse at that port. The object is sufficiently important to engage the attention and the presence at the meeting of every farmer and merchant in the county and even in the province.

The biggest subject engaging the attention of the farmers of this province today is the potato problem. In the past four years our potato crop has grown from a modest crop of almost negligible value to its present proportions. Our export for the present season, October, 1925-May, 1927, will amount to over three million bushels. Already our Fall shipment amounts to 2,120,827 bushels, and at very attractive prices. It is already planned to increase the potato acreage for the coming season by thirty to forty per cent. This means that, other things being equal, our export next season will be over four million bushels. How are we going to handle this quantity. During the present shipping season the Car Ferry, working to full capacity, took away 1,300,000 bushels. Reckoning on this basis, our maximum capacity for the fall, winter and spring, may be conservatively placed at not more than two or two and a half million bushels.

We are only beginning to learn how to grow potatoes and, with the success so far attained it is not too much to expect that, within a year or two, five per cent. of the arable land of the province, or 50,000 acres, will be devoted to potatoes. The low average of 200 bushels per acre would mean a yield of 10,000,000 bushels. This production is well within the mark. Five per cent. of our arable land is not too much to lay out for a product that can be as profitably grown as potatoes, but even this small percentage will give us the maximum of our transportation capacity.

Suppose the Car Ferry can handle two and a half or three million bushels, which is an outside estimate, there are still six or seven million bushels to be shipped some other way. The only other way is by water. Charlottetown harbor, with its present equipment, can take care of one million, if no detention is encountered. Summerside, Georgetown and Souris, if properly equipped, could take care of a million each, and still there would be an unshipped surplus of second quality to supply the demand for table and stock feeding purposes.

It is because of this prospect that far-sighted men are demanding better facilities for shipment, and the purpose of the meeting in Georgetown next Tuesday is to press the claim, not of the county, but of the province, for a frost-proof warehouse at that port, of sufficient capacity to take care of the surplus. A similar claim should be made for our two other ports, Summerside and Souris.

Another reason why extra shipping facilities should be provided, particularly at Georgetown, which closes a month later than Charlotte town and from which late December and even January shipments can be made, is that water carriage is so much cheaper than rail carriage. Potatoes shipped by water from any port in this province can be landed in southern ports at a cost which, as compared with rail carriage, saves the duty, thus placing us on practically the same level with our largest American competitors in the eastern and northern states. As to the possibility of overdoing the potato business: the average community,

annual potato production in the United States is between three and a half and four million bushels. When their crop falls to the minimum there is a good demand and a good price for Canadian stock. Our ten million bushels, when we reach our maximum, will be but a small fraction of the three or three and a half million bushels and at least an occasional year such as the year ending in May next, may reasonably be expected. Moreover the seed potatoes of this province have an undoubted preference in the United States while even Montreal and other Canadian centres willingly pay 20 to 25 cents per bushel more for Prince Edward Island stock than for any other.

We trust the matter of a larger and better equipped frost-proof warehouse at Georgetown will receive the favorable consideration it deserves. The potato business of the province is today our largest asset and it is capable of much further expansion.

OLD ENEMY RETURNS

A gentleman from the eastern part of this county informs us that horned owls have greatly multiplied in the past few years, and are playing havoc among the partridges and rabbits, and are even attacking the barnyard fowl. Our informant has himself, this winter, shot three of those marauders, one of which measured five feet from tip to tip of wings. A vicious hunt of such strength and hunting capacity as this can, if unchecked, in a very short time strip our very limited forest areas of their game birds. Partridge and rabbits are the natural prey of the owl, and if the former are to be protected, war must be declared on the latter. Some favorite hunting grounds have already been practically stripped of their game, and if the pillage continues there will shortly be neither partridge nor rabbits.

A similar pest invaded certain parts of Ontario some years ago, and the government, in order to protect the game, offered a head-bounty for owls. This checked the evil to some extent, but the demand for bounty became so heavy that it was abolished. In this province a determined war on owls would be a very short time rid us of the menace and save our valuable game.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The mildest winter on record, up to January 8th.

It is a treat to see a dog once in a while, although there is no general desire for a return of those that run on the flower-beds.

"Canada puts us to shame. The people of Canada have heard the arguments for prohibition. They have tried prohibition. They are trying it. But they have had the sense, which we have lacked, not to sacrifice to a doubtful experiment their whole political liberty. They have made the experiment as we have been making it. But they all, as we have not, the sovereign right of a free people to change its mind."—New York World.

Still there are complaints from some sections about pitches and slews on the roads. After such a snow storm and thaw as we have experienced recently pitches and slews are to be expected, but it is not expected that they shall continue through weeks of fine weather. Self-respecting communities turn out en masse to mend such a condition as this, if for no other reason than to save the reputation of the community. Others permit them to be a menace to the travelling public. This is not fair either to the travelling public nor the clouds.

Notes by the Way

THE new year has opened with a brighter outlook for the Maritimes. The recent visit of Sir Henry Thornton to Halifax and the cheering message which he gave out through the press while there heralds the approach of better days. He spoke optimistically of the two great open ports of Saint John and Halifax. "If we did not have these ports we would be in a bad fix and we must use them to the utmost and develop them." These are good words. He had recently returned from Western Canada and he found there a changed sentiment in regard to the Maritime situation which he rightly attributed to the evangelistic work done in making the people of the Central and Western Provinces acquainted with our existing disabilities.

A very hopeful indication is the deep and growing interest that the President of the National Railways is himself taking in the future welfare and prosperity of Maritime Canada. His position is a most influential one and his words carry great weight wherever they are heard or read throughout Canada. His frequent official visits to the Eastern Provinces in the past were mutually interesting and informing to himself and the Maritime people whom he has met and his announced intention of month-long visits in the future will be most favorably received.

The changed sentiment toward the Maritimes mentioned by Sir Henry will be hopefully regarded in this section of the Dominion until it bears fruit in the better provisions which Parliament is expected shortly to make for our future. A Dominion of which the Eastern Provinces would be one of the most prosperous and progressive sections, was the vision of the Fathers of Confederation and although the fulfilment has been long delayed, it must yet be realized.

Surely Parliament must now awake to the fact that equality of opportunity to live and prosper, as between Province and Province, between section and section, has been disregarded and lost sight of in the past and must be restored if the Dominion as a whole is to prosper and fulfil its rightful destiny. Maritime hopes and the hopes of all thoughtful and patriotic citizens rest upon the belief that the government and the new Parliament will take a broad and statesmanlike view of the situation as it exists and apply the vitally needed remedial measures.

Lloyd George has returned from the Riviera where he spent the Christmas season. He declines to talk politics and says, "You couldn't think disagreeable things in that sunny climate." But matters are not agreeable between him and the Liberal party. The party is sadly divided and "can't keep step" with him, nor shake itself clear of him to unite on another leader. He is still the custodian of the party's election fund of one to two million pounds sterling, which, as Viscount Grey has publicly stated is "an enormous fund for political purposes at the disposal of one man." The situation in regard to this fund seems to be altogether unprecedented and in the popular conception the holder of the purse is master of the situation, while the fund itself carries with it more of blight than blessing.

Conditions in China seem to grow more alarming. Hostility to foreigners has some real foundation. China has suffered wrong at the hands of European nations. The trouble is not due to the missionaries, as has been suggested by some who oppose missions. Mr. E. H. Hawkins, foreign secretary to the London Missionary Society, bears testimony that the progress in China during the past 100 years has been all due to the missionaries; and that the greatest and best of China's political leaders today are men who have been trained in the mission schools. The present uprising is entirely anti-foreign rather than anti-Christian.

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By James W. Berlin, M.D.

That Body of Yours

FOOD OR SUNLIGHT

There is an argument going on at present as to which is the most important in the system sunlight or the vitamin A, as contained in animal fat. Food exposed to the sunlight increases the vitamin power, and it has been suggested therefore that if one could get more sunlight they could do with less food, because the food they did eat would be so much richer.

This is the unfortunate part of some of these scientific discoveries, that the early investigators are so enthusiastic about their findings that they do not weigh all factors in the case. Of course if men were not enthusiastic little would be discovered, but this very enthusiasm sometimes effects their judgment as to the merits of other findings.

A research man points out that infants born in the late summer have to go through the winter with heavy clothes, deprived of the sun's rays, and therefore should have cod liver oil as a part of their diet during this time to produce the same effects as does cod liver oil.

On the other hand a Danish physician of high standing, after careful research work tells us that exposure to the carbon arc light, or to sunlight, does not cure the eye ailment caused by deficiency in vitamin A, whereas foods rich in vitamin A will cure it.

Therefore he states that light cannot replace vitamin A, or supply it to the body. Now what about all this? That you and I would do well to remember that all classes of foods are essential to growth, and for carrying on the various functions of the body.

That is the regulation fruit, cereal with milk or cream, and toast or bread makes a good breakfast, unless you do hard physical work, when bacon and eggs are essential. For lunch a salad, or soup with fruit and milk or other liquids. And for dinner the regulation meat with vegetables and some fruit, or desert with fruit in it. Also liquid of course.

I believe the above is about the usual menu for most of us. Sunlight is therefore really our need rather than food. Of course youngsters need to be encouraged to eat more vegetables and fruits, otherwise their diet is about right.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

January 8, 1927. THE EYES OF THE WICKED.—The eyes of the wicked shall fall, and they shall not escape, and their hope shall be as the giving up of the ghost. Job. 11:20.

January 9, 1927. STRENGTH AND WISDOM.—With God is strength and wisdom: the deceived and the deceiver are his. Job. 12:16.

PRAYER.—O God, thou lookest upon the heart, and in Thee alone are we wise and strong.

MY WISH. I do not ask that great tasks come my way. Nor that I as a hero will be known. Nor that if God may call the Judgment Day, My name shall be sung out with high renown. Only I hope that kind things I may do. That I may comfort some poor, storm-tossed soul; That I may give compassion, succor, too, And bring some tired lost one near his goal. I hope that God will send me to someone— Perhaps a little child who needs my hand; It may be some old man, tired and alone, Or but a sea-gull lying on the sand. And, if I will, when old and frail I'll be. I hope that God will treat me kindly then— I think that He may even smile on me. And write my name beside the famous men! —Christine B. U. Johnson.

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "we are getting along nicely." Say "very well." OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: interest, accent both noun and verb on first syllable. OFTEN MISPELLED: avarice. Instead of squeezing lemons when ever a drink of lemonade is wanted, squeeze several lemons at a time, strain the juice, and keep it in a bottle for use. EXECUTE, perform, produce. 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: DIAMETRICALLY; pertaining to a diameter; directly adverse or opposite. "I am diametrically opposed to such action."

Happenings of The Week

When you're feelin' kind o'gum. Wear a smile. Perk your lips up sweet 'n hum. Then just smile. For a smile along the way Brightens up each dark, sad day. So just smile. Then the petty little cares Of the day Will soon leave you unawares. Gone to stay. Life will sing a sweeter song If you smile the whole day long. It will pay.

The Duke and Duchess of York were extremely busy Wednesday saying goodbye to their friends and making last minute preparations for their voyage on H. M. S. Renown, to Australia, where the Duke will open the new Australian capital Canberra. The Renown on which the Prince of Wales made his voyage to South Africa and South America, sailed from Portsmouth Thursday afternoon. The King and Queen went to London from Sandringham Wednesday to give a farewell dinner at the palace to the travellers. Their Majesties took final farewell of their son at the Victoria station Thursday morning, when the Duke and his party entrained. As soon as the Duke embarked, his standard was broken out, flying for the first time from the mainmast of a big warship. The Renown was escorted to sea by seaplane and destroyers with cannon boom salutes. Queen Mary whose last child was born almost 27 years ago, is about the happiest woman in England because it has been decided that she will look after her baby granddaughter Princess Elizabeth, during the absence of the Duke and Duchess of York. The Renown will go by way of the Panama Canal and return through the Suez and is scheduled to arrive home June 27.

The outstanding social event of the season so far took place Tuesday afternoon at Bonnahinley, the lovely and spacious new residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. Chester S. McLure, when Mrs. McLure, with her charming daughter, Miss Lena McLure, received formally and welcomed over four hundred and fifty guests. The hostess received in the artistically appointed drawing room, the guests being ushered by Mrs. W. Bruce Muir, and Mrs.

Miss Gladys Holman of Summerside left Thursday on a visit to Montreal and Toronto, she is returning home by way of Boston. Miss Ruth Heartz leaves this morning on return to McGill having spent a delightful holiday with her parents, the Lieut Governor and Mrs. Heartz at Edgewater. Mrs. L. D. Murray was hostess for the afternoon Bridge club on Thursday of this week. Mr. and Mrs. C. Fairall Fisher and Miss Dorothy Fisher, of Brighton, are sailing from New York in the latter part of January for England and the Continent, where they will remain for the balance of the winter.

The Misses Stewart, daughters of Premier and Mrs. J. D. Stewart, entertained at a mixed Bridge Tuesday evening in honor of Miss

FOR THE SCRAB BOOK

A SERIES OF LITERARY QUOTATIONS FOR BOOK LOVERS

OLD MELODIES. Have you ever thought over the fate of forgotten melodies? Our mind, if we attempt, proves unable to conceive of all those thousands and thousands of combinations of notes which were heard once upon a time, and are now heard no longer. Gone, disappeared, and what then? Vanished totally, like the sunset redness of yesterday, or last year's roses. The roses return, and so does the reddening sunset; but these other things, that were as lovely as they, do not. They have ceased to exist along with the recollection of the men and women in whose mind they had their real existence. The thought is strange and difficult to grasp. Yet there is something stranger still, and more difficult for our weak imagination to realize. It is the thought of all the minds in which those melodies were once re-echoed; of all the hearts which, swept by them, shivered with pleasure or pain; of all that life, in short, which is now dead; of all that present which has become the past, and by whose side, even while we are listening to the songs of today, there noiselessly takes its place itself the past. The other arts, architecture, painting, sculpture, remain; besides they are always, so to speak, external to our life. Music alone exists absolutely in us who listen; nay, it has no existence apart from ours; and hence it is that music like ourselves, must die. —Vernon Lee.

J. E. B. McCready, Bonnahinley never showed to better advantage in its artistic setting of white birches and snow covered lawn, while indoors the lovely dresses of the hostess, her daughter and her assistants prettily blended with the brilliance of the lights, the exquisite yellow roses in the drawing-room, and crimson roses in the dining room. Scattered all through the rooms was British Columbia holly, the gift of Hon. Dr. Tolmie, M. P. of Vancouver and Mrs. Tolmie, lending a lovely touch of red and green that was irresistible. At the dining table Mrs. R. J. Campbell and Mrs. Walter Nicolle poured tea, and Mrs. J. R. Burnett cut the loaves. Assisting in dispensing hospitality were Mrs. (Major) Fred Andrew, Mrs. W. H. V. Dunbar, Mrs. Charles H. Coles, Mrs. Manning Bagnal, Mrs. Raoul Raymond, Miss Mary Irving, Miss Edith Rogers, Miss Berna Huestis, Miss Dorothy Hutcheson, Miss Jean Miller, Miss Dorothy Williams and Miss Helen MacMillan. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent and many very complimentary remarks were heard on the beauty and artistic arrangement of Bonnahinley.

Miss Marion McDonald of Georgetown left on Wednesday for St. John where her marriage to Dr. Watt takes place on Monday next. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Gladys.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. B. Longworth entertained within the week in honor of Mr and Mrs. Stanley Storey of South Bend, Indiana.

Mrs. George J. Rogers entertained very delightfully, at twelve tables of Bridge at her lovely residence, Fairholm, on Thursday evening. At a late hour refreshments were served in the dining room giving her guests an opportunity to move around and chat with one another.

The Week of Prayer services were, all largely attended this week in the several churches.

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Ruth Heartz, Miss Van Bell and other holiday visitors. Princess Arthur of Connaught has had her hair shingled again, after allowing it to grow several months. With the exception of Lady Carisbrooke, sister-in-law of the Queen of Spain, she is the only member of the Royal Family who had recently given the single royal favor. Her husband Prince Arthur, is said to approve of it, although the King and Queen are known to look with disfavor on modern "crops." The Princess first had her hair shingled in South Africa several years ago when her husband was Governor-General. On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. P. E. Palmer invited a few intimates. (Continued on page 13)

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