

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Current Comment

THAT "GOLDEN LIBERAL AGE."

We have heard much recently of the "Golden Liberal Age" when the Liberal party held sway at Ottawa, when everybody was happy and prosperous and the dinner pail was full. Whatever recollections the rest of Canada may cherish regarding this "Age," Prince Edward Island's recollections of it are by no means such as would tempt our people to resurrect it.

"OTTAWA, May 3, 1901.—Hon. Mr. Fielding will on Tuesday move for an annual grant of \$30,000 for Prince Edward Island in settlement of all claims of that province against the Dominion on account of non-fulfillment of the terms of union as respects the maintenance of efficient steam communication between the island and the mainland."

Amazing generosity! Munificent compensation for sixty years of "non-fulfillment" of a solemn agreement! Beautiful evidence of what the "Liberal Golden Age" meant for Prince Edward Island!

Contrast this offer of Mr. Fielding's with what happened after the "Golden Age" had passed away, after the Conservative Age began. We have under the latter been given a grant of \$100,000 annually for all time to come and we have been linked up with the continental railway system by the present magnificent car ferry system at a cost of between five and six million dollars. This is at least one factor for which Prince Edward Island has good cause for thankfulness that the "Liberal Golden Age" had passed away, good cause to hope that it would never again return.

THE EXHIBITION.

Those looking for evidences of the much talked of drought in this province during the past summer will find many surprises at the present exhibition, but few evidences of drought or other damage. The vegetables shown are as good as, if not better than, at any previous exhibition here or elsewhere; the grain and the fruit are better than in many years. There never was a better showing of cattle and the rest of the live stock is at least up to the average with many outstanding individuals in every class.

not advanced materially in many years. The judges give their awards intelligently and fairly, no doubt more intelligently than in our inexperienced days, and the farmer who wants to know the how and why of the awards has the means of doing so. Much valuable information is thus available and the result is a general advance in agricultural knowledge.

It is true that many farmers are successful year after year in securing prizes; it is true that this being known many of the smaller farmers think it useless to enter into competition. For this reason the division of exhibitors into professional and non-professional would open the way for a more general exhibition by the ordinary farmer. Exhibitors securing prizes in any class, say three years consecutively, might be classed as professionals with their own special prize list thus leaving the way clear for the unprofessional exhibitors who ordinarily form by far the larger class and the class also that exhibitions are calculated to benefit.

The annual provincial exhibition should be, and is, a great educator and it is the desire of all that it should continue to be so. The yearly cost of exhibitions is considerable and the cost is justifiable but unless the accruing benefits reach all classes of farmers the aim and purpose of the exhibition is not achieved.

The 1921 exhibition will, we believe, rank with the best that we have had, in number and quality of exhibits and in attendance.

AGAIN "BEATING THE AIR."

The Patriot finding that its recent confession of political faith committed itself and its party to a tariff policy that is entirely at variance with that held by the Liberals of other provinces, tries to make amends in a two column editorial in its yesterday's issue. Of course it evades the issue entirely and, as is customary with it when cornered, it makes copious use of capital letters. What the electors of this province want to know is whether, in the event of the Liberals and allied groups being returned to power, the policy to which the Patriot has committed our provincial Liberal candidates, that of the Quebec Liberals or that of the Western Grain Growers is to be put into effect.

The Patriot has given us two columns of screaming capital letters which mean nothing. Will it answer one or two straight questions which the farmers of this province are asking and which they have a right to be informed on. Will the Liberal party, returned to power, admit free of duty such principal articles of food as pork, beef, cattle, hogs, potatoes, grains, eggs, butter?

Will the Liberal party, if returned to power, admit agricultural implements free of duty when the Liberals of Quebec and Ontario are decidedly opposed to such admission? Can the Patriot produce any statement made by the Liberal Leader, Mr. MacKenzie King, anywhere east of Manitoba in which he said the Liberal party would admit farm implements and machinery free of duty. As to fishermen's supplies, they are already on the free list and the talk about them now is pure bunkum.

As to what our four Liberal candidates, if elected, and what the Patriot says their policy will be, it matters little if it differs from what the majority of Liberals elsewhere decide to do. It is what the Liberal party, whom our Liberal candidates are pledged to support, will do that the electors of this province want to know about and this is what the Patriot is busily dodging.

There are some very strong hints in the Patriot about a Liberal convention to be held at Georgetown. What on earth can it mean? Is it possible that the machine has broken down, and that the Hessian froes are triumphant? And especially why call a convention to nominate a candidate when, ACCORDING TO THE SOLEMN ASSURANCE OF THE PATRIOT, a convention has already been held, AND MR. J. J. HUGHES DULY NOMINATED? It is most passing strange. It is worse than strange, for it is a clear and distinct repudiation by the party of the UN-TRUTHS of their recognized organ. It has emphatically assured us, even in the same issue that foretells the coming convention, that Mr. Hughes "is in the field," and dreamily it goes to the ridiculous extreme of saying that he "is going to win." That is, of course, aside from the real question, a something in the parrot line that it has been taught to repeat, and the habit has grown on it. But if Mr. J. J. Hughes is in the field, why in the name of every force of common sense and reason do they call a convention, and propose to drag farmers and business men from their duties and labors, just to give the nabobs an opportunity of introducing them to this political god that the inner clique has designated to be imposed upon them?

And what adds further interest to the Patriot's dilemma is its vociferous preaching of democracy only a couple of years ago when it waxed eloquent and loud about "rule by the people and for the people." It has now developed into the hard-shelled rule of DOMINATE THE PEOPLE BY HOLE AND CORNER CLIQUE, and whip them around ad libitum with the scorpion stings woven by the back door soviet, by which their unfortunate rank and file are pushed and shoved in whatever direction these manipulators choose to drive them. The Mail and Empire has luridly described some of the windy utterances of their leader, the Hon. MacKenzie King, along these lines. His supply of adjectives, mostly in the superlative degree, is altogether out of harmony either with his own practice or that of the general contour of his party. Flippantly he referred to "autocrats, plutocrats, aristocrats, bureaucrats, and all the other 'crats' and rats that he could conjure to his sentences, without apparent thought of how he was hitting the party, more especially in this province, such solar plexus blows. Little did he then dream of the ravages his shells were making amongst the plutocrats, aristocrats, bureaucrats, and all the other "crats" and rats that scheme their plots against democracy and the rights of the people in such close proximity to the Patriot office.

And the Liberal organ announced that a meeting was held "RECENTLY" in Georgetown at which certain resolutions were passed with "the unanimous desire that Mr. J. J. Hughes shall RETAIN the nomination for King's County." The date or time of holding, or by whom the meeting was called, has not been given. It was advertised for the only indication of any such gathering appearing in their organ, the Patriot, was that now famous announcement that a convention was held, and Mr. Hughes duly nominated. That there were at least four of the faithful present is in sure evidence, for they have signed their names, all four, to the resolutions they arrived at. From the fact that the report assures us that the hall was filled would indicate a goodly attendance of the bureaucrats, aristocrats and other "crats" and rats that he engineered the machine, but whether Mr. Hessian and the democracy of Liberals behind him will be stamped into submission by such contrivances remains to be seen. In this land of liberty and justice, the expediency of taking the whole people into the councils of a public party cannot be questioned, nor can the rights of the masses be trampled on with impunity.

Another of the Patriot's vagaries is its assertion that "The Guardian has been impudently inserting its advice and dictation to the Liberal party." Like most of its other political buncombe, this, too, is a guaranteed "home-made," out of "whole cloth," shoddy it is true, but of the genuine Liberal organ material. We have not, and would not, undertake to advise with what its press are pleased to designate as the Liberal party, and we have never done so. It would be casting pearls before swine, and a waste which we would not be guilty of. But to those true Liberals, men of the McKenzie, Blake, and Laurier schools, whose standards of public life and political honesty, were worthy of admiration, we have felt it our duty to impart a knowledge of the doings of the soviets and cliques of adventurers, WHO HAVE BEEN MASQUERADING UNDER THAT ONCE HONORABLE AND ALMOST SACRED NAME, IF we have

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

REPENTANCE

When man is on his death bed and he knows the end is near, He dreads the thought of leaving any enemies down here. He wants to die believing that he's squared up all his debts. That he's passing out unhampered by his grudges or regrets. And he asked that all he's hated may be summoned to his bed, And he begs for their forgiveness for the things he's done and said.

Why, I wonder will a fellow live in hate from day to day, And harbor many grudges, yet refuse to die that way? Why should only dying mortals see the bitterness of hate And seek reconciliation when death's knocking at the gate? If we want to die in friendship, will somebody tell me, pray, Why we fall to see the beauty of a life that's spent that way?

Why do men who live on hating always want to die in peace, Why should death make hate so fearful that we seek from it release? If we spurn a brother's friendship when we're living and are strong, Why this sudden wish to gain it as we're passing from this throng? If there's comfort in forgiveness then it seem that you and I should seek it when we're living and not just before we die.



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The Artful Simplicity of These NEW FROCKS FOR SCHOOL GIRLS Gives Them Unusual Charm—Patons.

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Others' View Points

TOO SUDDEN.

(Central Wesleyan Star.) Little Mary came into the house bedraggled and weeping. "My goodness!" cried her mother, "what a sight you are! How did it happen?" "I am so sorry, mamma, but I fell into a mud-puddle." "What! with your best new dress on?" "Y-y-yes. I didn't have time to change it."

LAND MONOPOLY IN HIGH LANDS.

(Fall Mall Gazette.) The Highlands ought to be the great playgrounds of the United Kingdom. Travel and accommodation ought to be organized so that many thousands of people every year could enjoy their endless possibilities of recreation and exercise—their walking and climbing, camping and fishing. Some landlords expressly prohibit their tenants from giving any shelter to the audacious holiday-maker who intrudes into their private province, and if any attempt were made to open up the country, as Switzerland and Norway are opened up, for the

sought to take the part of the more honest Liberal rank and file, to defend them from the impositions of the ruling element that is trying to scourge them into obedience, we have only done so because they are without a dependable press of their own to take up their cause, and because they are deserving of better treatment.

SCHOOL BOY HISTORY.

(From an Exchange.) A boy in a Welsh school essayed to write on Henry VIII, and a London paper reports him as beginning thus: "King Henry VIII. was the greatest widower that ever lived. He was born at Anno Domino in the year 1066. He had 510 wives besides children. The first was beheaded and executed. The second was revoked. She never smiled again. Henry 8 was succeeded on the throne by Mary Queen of Scots, sometimes known as the Lady of the Lake."

MAKING THE TOURIST HAPPY.

(New York Herald.) The enterprising Will H. Hays, having established a bureau of general governmental information in the Post Office Department at Washington, urges our postmasters generally to extend the idea. Make the citizen, and particularly the traveller, feel at home: "Thousands of tourists are now motoring up and down the country, and postmasters and postal employees have the opportunity of being of practical help to such stragglers in the communities, whose greatest difficulties lie in securing reliable information concerning the territory through which they are passing and catching up with their mail from home. It is suggested that the postmaster or some designated clerk in each office might without serious loss of time in his regular work so equipt himself as

to be able to give quick and reliable data to inquiries concerning direction, etc., and other general information that may be useful in addition to giving careful and cheerful attention to the traveller's mail inquiries."

In the Almost Perfect State each post office will be equipped with compressed air tire pumps, battery testers and buckets of water. Maps of the neighborhood, showing where order may be bought, will be free. The postmaster's youngest boy will be ready with rod and bait to guide the stranger to a bass pond. There will be tea and a Government powder puff for the motoring lady. We can hear the postmaster of the future taking pity on the melancholy tourist and inviting him to come in and read the postcards received in the last mail.

A SOPORIFIC DISCOURSE.

(London Express.) "What was the text of the sermon today?" "He giveth His beloved sleep." "Many people there?" "All the beloved."

MARKET COULD INCREASE AT HOME

(Ottawa Citizen) Trade and commerce weekly bulletin sends out an S.O.S. call saying "Norway making strong efforts to capture Cuban codfish trade." Canadian codfish trade with Cuba is said to be in "imminent danger." Canadian authorities may some day begin to think more of the Canadian codfish trade with Canada. What's the objection to developing the home mar-



ket more, instead of chasing off to Cuba and the tropical climes with Canadian codfish? Surely the Canadian workers should have as much purchasing power as the Cuban? Annual consumption of fish in Canada is about 30 pounds per individual. In Norway it is over 75 pounds. The same way to increase trade and industry in Canada is to increase consumption of Canadian products.

Thought for today BY HYNDMAN'S THINKER



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