

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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PUBLIC UTILITY KILLED

After seven years of incessant and vindictive antagonism Premier Bell has at last succeeded in killing the Charles Dalton Sanatorium and frustrated the charitable intentions of a man whose only guilt in the eyes of his persecutor was that he was a Conservative and had expended some sixty or seventy thousand dollars in presenting the province with an institution the sole aim and purpose of which was to heal the sick and to check to some extent at least the ravages of tuberculosis.

From the day this hospital was presented to the province by Sir Charles Dalton, Premier Bell set his face against it and fought it inch by inch, not fairly as a man fights an opponent worthy of his steel but stealthily, by insinuation, by misrepresentation, just as recently he declared with all the solemnity of conviction, and had it spread broadcast throughout the province through his party organ, that it would cost the province \$125,000 a year to run the hospital. There never was any substantial foundation for such an estimate which was credited to an unnamed "expert from Ontario." The Guardian's own inquiries show that it could have been operated for \$7,000 plus the fees from the patients and the produce from the farm. But Mr. Bell never said and did not want to see any good in Sir Charles Dalton's munificence. He meanly insinuated that "that man Dalton" had borrowed the money from the government to finish the building. He opposed the War and Health Tax because the Charles Dalton Sanatorium stood to benefit from its operation and one of his first acts was to abolish the tax in name and retain it in practice, turning the proceeds into general revenue. When the time came for negotiating with the federal government for the restoration of the Sanatorium to the province, Premier Bell damned the undertaking with faint and unwilling assistance and even in the Act just passed by the present legislature handing the Sanatorium back to the provincial government he showed his vindictiveness by inserting a clause prohibiting Sir Charles Dalton from suing the government for reparation at any future time.

So far as Mr. Bell is concerned he has obtained his long cherished objective. He has killed the Charles Dalton Sanatorium but in doing so he has committed an even greater crime; he has given warning to any other philanthropists that they need not attempt to lavish their generosity on the province as their gifts will be thrown in their teeth.

FALCONWOOD REPORT
The report of the trustees and the medical superintendent of Falconwood Hospital for the year ending December 31, 1921, has been issued. The usual statistics are given showing the number of patients admitted and removed during the year, also statistics showing the number of patients treated yearly since 1900. Unfortunately the number has been steadily increasing. In 1900 there were 34 patients. With slight fluctuations the number has increased to 80 admitted in 1921, the largest number on record. This does not necessarily mean an increase in mental disorders, it probably means that cases heretofore treated at home are being sent to the hospital for better and more skilled treatment. In this connection Dr. Goodwill, the Medical Superintendent says: "The still too common dread of and antipathy towards hospitals of this nature would appear to be both hope and anxiety."

subsidizing. It is becoming more the custom to take advantage of the relief afforded in caring for helpless and troublesome cases."

Dr. Goodwill reports that the accommodation provided is not adequate and that it was necessary for a short time during the year to have several patients accommodated in the infirmary on account of the overcrowding of the hospital. "All the dormitories of the hospital have been crowded beyond the regular hygienic regulations for the past few years. In a hospital of this nature such conditions add materially to the difficulties of management and do not improve the comfort of the patients."

While the number of patients has increased yearly it is gratifying to find that the number of recoveries has also increased, the number reported for 1921 being 35, the largest number on record to date.

The report includes that of the farm manager, Mr. Henry Gurney. According to this report the farm furnished the Hospital with produce to the value of \$9,763.16, while the expense of running the farm was \$6,868.14 and the expenditure on repairing barns and adding to stock amounted to \$4,415.59. The reports of the carpenter, engineer, superintendent of nurses and the matron are also appended.

The report of the Infirmary shows that there were 32 persons admitted during the year in addition to 80 in residence on January 1st. There were 80 in residence at the end of the year.

THE STREETS

It is to be regretted that the principal streets at least had not been swept while the winter's accumulation of filth was in a fluid condition and could have been gathered up without detriment to health and the comfort of the citizens. There is now a depth of some inches of filth on these streets which will eventually be blown into our buildings and drawn into our lungs with such consequences as may be assumed. It is hoped that when the next rainy day comes this matter will be attended to, otherwise there is likely to be a general protest.

THE GENOA CONFERENCE

The Genoa Conference is summoned to meet on April 10th. This conference may be one of the most important international meetings ever held; it may also be one of the least important. There are wide differences between the conferees, differences which at present appear insurmountable. The reconstruction of Europe is primarily the object. This includes the economic reconstruction of Germany and it is on this rock the conference will split, if it splits. Premier Poincare has already intimated that other engagements will prevent his attendance. The Marlin of Paris declares that Germany is to be given till May 21st to accept and carry into effect the plans of the Reparations Commission for establishing foreign control over German taxation, customs and finance and that refusal or failure will be followed by the imposition of new penalties.

Lloyd George has expressed more conciliatory opinions. Poincare objects to the discussion of reparations at the conference declaring that conclusions already reached cover the whole situation. Meanwhile the situation on the Rhine is bristling with possible and even probable complications. The general trend of press opinion in Europe is not optimistic and the conference will be awaited with of this nature would appear to be both hope and anxiety.

Notes By The Way

(From The Examiner.)

In the House of Commons on Monday last there was an interesting and amusing episode when Mr. Fielding moved for an interim supply of upwards of 76 millions of dollars to keep the government in funds, pay civil service salaries, etc. until the main estimates were approved. The same state of affairs had arisen during the last session when the Meigher Government was in office and Messrs. King and Bennett were in opposition and these gentlemen had then most indignantly protested against any interim supply being granted. They also held up the proceedings with a series of dilatory amendments.

Now they were reminded by Sir Henry Drayton and ex-Premier Meigher that upon the first possible occasion they were falsifying their own record and eating their own words. They became excited, angry and squirmed under the rebuke, but the Opposition leader did not retaliate further, as he might have done. It was made sufficiently evident that consistency is a virtue that is not very highly regarded by the King Government.

It transpires that over in New Brunswick under the Foster Liberal Government 30 motor cars are provided and kept for the use of the government and its officials. The province is under heavy taxation, which is about to be increased and there is a heavy deficit and the public debt is rolling up by millions, yet the official motor cars multiply from year to year in proportion as the taxes and the debt expand. These cars pay no license fees; they are paid for, maintained and renewed at the public cost. We don't have 30 official cars here as yet, but the Commissioners of Agriculture and Public Works have been reminded in the House by one of their own supporters that while they roll across the country in pomp and luxury the people pay the bills.

In the Legislature for some days past almost all the members seats have been occupied and the House has assumed a more orderly and business like aspect than during the earlier part of the session. This is doubtless due in part to the signal ability and alert interest of Mr. Stewart the leader of the Opposition and to the respect in which he is held as the foremost legal authority in the House. It was amusing to note the manner in which he got the Premier "all tangled up" in the legal points involved in connection with the Dalton Sanatorium bill; also to see the rather frantic but futile efforts of Messrs. Lea and Saunders to extricate their leader.

Daily Selections for Guardian Reader

From the W. S. Louson collection

O YE OF LITTLE FAITH

The bitter wind is whining in the sky
Before the blast the whimpering leaves do roll
The shivering cedars wring their hands—but why
Are thou disquieted within me, O my soul?
The troubled grasses lay them down and die;
The summer time is rolled up like a scroll;
The naked hills are black and bare but why
Art thou disquieted within me, O my soul?
No birds do sing, the troubled branches sigh;
The quail go scampering from knoll to knoll;
The waters still repellent are—yet
Art thou disquieted within me, O my soul?
Hark to the old time promise—do not sigh,
It covers all our world from pole to pole
Seed time and harvest shall not fail—they why
Art thou disquieted within me, O my soul?
The white winged snows across our world shall fly,
And from our lives the frost shall take his toll;
The gold shall search the crannies walls—yet why
Art thou disquieted within me, O my soul?
Above the clamor of the tortured sky
A still small voice down through the tempest stole;
"I am the Resurrection and the Life"—then why
Art thou disquieted within me, O my soul?

THE KHAN

Others' View Points

The World's Champion Debtor.

(Mail and Empire)

Everybody is familiar with the story of the ruinous bargain made with a blacksmith by the owner of a horse that needed shoeing. The horseman felt in with the seemingly innocent suggestion of the smith that a penny should be paid for the first nail, two pence for the second, fourpence for the third and soon the price doubling with each succeeding nail. But it would appear that a man named George Jones who formerly lived in San Jose, Cal., was either ignorant of the tricks of compound interest or what is more probable, never had any intention of settling a debt he acquired some 25 years ago. It appears that in 1897 George borrowed \$100 from a man named Henry R. Stuart at 10 per cent interest a month. Then he disappeared and for a long time Stuart did not hear of him. Not long ago he turned up again, having forgotten his debt to Stuart, or hoping that Stuart had forgotten it. But Stuart had not, and after vainly asking Jones to settle or pay something on account, he took the case into the courts and was awarded judgment for his principal and the accrued interest. There is no doubt that it is the largest judgment ever given.

Money invested at the rate of 4 per cent would double itself every eighteen years, and if George had borrowed from a bank he would now owe something in the neighborhood of \$200, and the bank would have some prospect of collecting. But the mathematician employed by the California court calculated that Jones was indebted to the extent of \$304,840,332,918,655.16. This amount was arrived at by compounding the interest for a period of 25 years or 300 months. Another amateur mathematician who obligingly devoted the time to check up the court verdict and find if there had not been a mistake of a few billions, reported after he had carried the problem along for nine years that the principal had then amounted to \$928,091 and would increase much more rapidly after that. Jones, it is understood, is not contesting the verdict. Nor is he worrying how to pay it, after he reflected that it would take the self-denying efforts of the Jones family about a thousand years to make any considerable reduction in it, and that they could not indeed reduce the debt as fast as accruing interest would increase it. If he is to pay the debt he must find a scheme whereby he can get hold of the United States national reserve, the current stocks of circulating

Something of the better decorum and order of the House is also due to the frank criticism of the Opposition and independent press, Ministers and their supporters owe a debt of gratitude in that quarter although they may be the last to acknowledge it. They saw that their quarrels and conspiracies, their silly and insulting words and epithets applied to the respectable citizens in the eyes of the country and they took the lesson to heart. The "silly season" was cut short, at least for the time. But what new form of trouble may arise if and when the Attorney General returns we can only surmise.

Mr. Higgs, whose voice is still as resonant as it was in the Market Hall meeting of two years ago, when he promised to "stand by the poor man," the poll tax payers, has been frequently reminded of his words then uttered. Was it "a voice and nothing more" that he uttered, or was it a man's voice with a man behind it, ready to make good his words? Or was it all a joke to be taken lightly and facetiously?—as if he were to say, "My promise has been 'standing' long; why not let it 'run' for a while!" To the poor man his unjust burden, in which the poor are forced to pay as much as the rich who roll in luxury, is no joke, as Messrs. Duffy and Higgs may learn to their sorrow when they again meet their former supporters at the ballot box!

A poll tax for the poor laid on them by Messrs. Higgs, Duffy and their colleagues, who grabbed or more than doubled indemnity for themselves as first-fruits of the tax money, and who sit at ease in their offices while earning (!) the grab, doing business as usual, is a rather mean reward for the poor and trusting voters who sent them to the Legislature. That, however, is the lot imposed upon many in our city, even the unemployed. They suffer in silence, but they do not forget!

money and become possessed of the treasures of half a dozen foreign nations. Even the national printing presses of Russia would hardly suffice if their product was accepted at face value.

How Shocking

(Kingston Whig.)

One might think that in an ancient Scottish town like Dumferline in Fife, the goings-on would be like what we read about in "The Bonnie Brier Bush" and other such Scotch writings—but not a bit of it. Dumferline appears to be populated by people of real American tastes. Looking over the front page of the Dumferline Press of recent date, we note that movie advertisements are most prominent. For instance, the Olympia offers "A Dangerous Wooing," "The Hell Hound of Alaska," "The Phantom Buccaneer." La Scala draws attention to its offering of "My Husband's Other Wife," "The Vanishing Dagger," and "The Wife He Neglected," while the Palace advertises Pauline Frederick, one of America's much-divorced screen actresses, in "The Woman in Room 13." Another house offers a picture of Charles Dickens' "Little Dorrit," but we wonder whether the Dumferline people would not crowd to see "My Husband's Other Wife" in preference. Oh Dumferline!

Beartiously Near

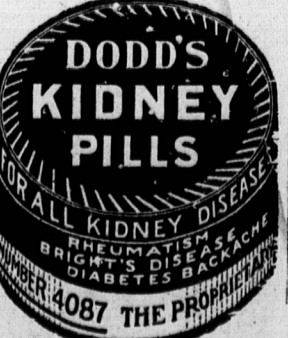
(From Harper's Magazine)
"I've been in camp," said one of a group in the local grocer's were exchanging stories of adventure, "and only came down yesterday. One morning last week I struck the trail of a bear and followed it till about half-past four that afternoon before giving it up." "What made you quit after putting in a whole day's work?" asked one of his listeners.
"Well, to tell the truth," replied the first speaker, shifting his weight ponderously from one leg to the other, "it seemed to me the trail was getting altogether too fresh."

History Repeating Itself.

Winnipeg Free Press.
Between the human imagination and the moving picture business the matter of history repeating itself takes on a new meaning. Not long since there was an announcement that a film was being made portraying the life of the celebrated preacher and reformer, John Wesley. Pictures with historical settings, such as Epworth, Oxford University, in rural and mining England, in Ireland, Holland, and other places. Some famous men will figure in the film, such as Dr. Samuel Johnson, Lord George Gordon, and Charles Wesley. His mother, Susannah Wesley, and Grace Murray, a friend of the family, will represent womanhood in the play. It is a matter of history that Wesley filled a large place in the moulding of English National life in the eighteenth century, and was also through his famous preachers a great factor in shaping early national character on the American continent. The film will therefore, reproduce much of the current history of those times and show the present generation something of the manners and customs of the past.

A series of pictures of this kind will be widely popular. If they are judiciously set they may be very educative. Once enterprises of this nature are taken up there is no limit to what may be reproduced—in imagination at least. We may yet be able to watch the sieges of Troy while comfortably seated in a movie gallery. History has a long list of events that would be of intense interest if produced sanely on films.

WANTS JOINT JOB.—Rev. D. W. Ramsey, for three years pastor of the Union Place Methodist Episcopal Church in Union Hill, N. J., and for the past six months employed as a floorwalker in a Manhattan department store, is going to ask the Newark Conference, when it meets, to put him on a part-time pastorate, so he may keep his store job.



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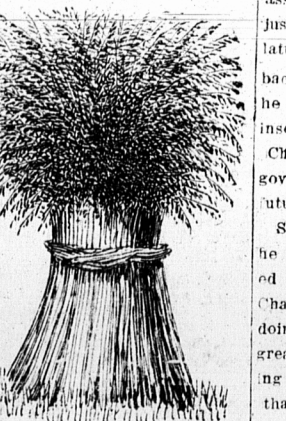


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