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## THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Please address all communications to The Charlottetown Guardian

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1912.

### TEMPERANCE MATTERS IN SOURIS.

The letter of Rev. F. A. Wightman in this issue needs little comment from the Guardian. We have not the slightest fear that either his motives, in frankly admitting that conditions are not as they ought to be, nor those of the Guardian in voicing similar admissions from others, will be misunderstood by those whose opinions are respected by him or the Guardian. We know, and have known for some time, both the conditions and the healthy and the unhealthy moral sentiment in Souris. We know that its best citizens, and they are the overwhelming majority, deplore the existing conditions and are not satisfied with the manner in which the Prohibition Act is being enforced. It is because we know this and have known it, and because we wish to help the friends of law and order to rid their town of the curse of drink that we have given space both to correspondence and to comment on the situation, and we have no fear that our motives will be misunderstood by those who have at heart the best interests of the town and of the province.

There are other interests, however, which must be reckoned with even if not respected. They are the interests of the illicit rumrunner, the interests of the small politicians who see in the enforcement of the Prohibition Act, in the exposure of drunkenness, in the criticism of the actions of a public official nothing higher than a possible danger to a political party.

We regret that the Mayor of Souris, in a letter published in the Guardian of September 18th, with some editorial comment which it is unnecessary either to repeat or to revise, has seen fit to adopt an attitude which is in evident disregard of ex-

isting conditions and in direct antagonism to the best interests of the town over which he is the Chief Magistrate, whose laws he has sworn to carry out to the best of his ability. We admire the loyalty with which a man stands up in defence of the good name of his town or country, but he makes a fearful mistake who, on any pretence, undertakes to blindfold his friends to the pitfalls into which they are falling and to shield those who are digging the pitfalls. That there are such pitfalls in Souris, as in other towns in the province, none will deny—except those interested in keeping the pitfalls open or shielding those whose duty it is to close them. Those so interested can be regarded, not as the friends, but the enemies of those whom it is their duty to protect and defend.

These are the men who, after all, are responsible largely for the general non enforcement of the Prohibition Act throughout the province. The officials are political appointees. They have their friends in the traffic to protect, and they in turn are protected by their political overlords to whom, usually, they owe their appointment. And yet, if these officials were in sympathy with their work and had the moral backbone to go in and do their duty, regardless of whom they would hurt, there is no government in existence that would dare discharge them from office, and until such men are appointed as prosecutors the Prohibition Act will be only the partial success that it is at present.

We are pleased to publish this letter from Rev. Mr. Wightman and will gladly give him space to express his views on the situation in which is in evident disregard of ex-

claims at Ottawa for needed appropriations, it is not necessary that we do so with "bated breath and whispering humbleness." We seldom ask for more than we are justly entitled to and, more seldom still receive as much. We are not as small as we look on the map nor are our receipts at all out of proportion to our contributions.

### NOTES

Announcement of the sudden and unexpected death of Frederick H. Seller, in Toronto on Friday night, as recorded in the Guardian Saturday evening, was received with deepest regret by the citizens of Charlottetown. When, on the 9th September, apparently in the best of health, he left Charlottetown accompanied by Mrs. Seller to attend the meeting of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of Odd-fellows at Winnipeg, death and sorrow seemed far from them and the friends who wished them a pleasant holiday trip, but it is ever true that "in the midst of life we are in death." The blow to the loving wife who accompanied him and to the expectant ones at home is indeed a terrible one and in their great sorrow they have the heartfelt sympathy of all. The late Mr. Seller was in every way an exemplary citizen, and in his death Charlottetown suffers a distinct loss. He was a prominent Oddfellow and Mason and was for several years sole proprietor of the firm of Beer & Goff. His wife was formerly Miss Chandler, daughter of the late William Chandler of Charlottetown.

The Militant Suffragettes have, according to our dispatches, adopted a horrible method of protection against their arch-enemy, man. They now go about in gilded armor, studded about, behind and before, with pins-points outward. Thus protected they can defy the stoutest policeman. And they are coming to Canada. What if, with our human weakness for adopting the latest fashion, our Canadian ladies should adopt this style of dress? The eye piercing hatpin had been more or less successfully dodged by patient man for several years and only a few eyes gouged out and a few unimportant scars have been the result. But when they adopt this porcupine method who shall escape? Verily man's pathway is becoming a

### TEMPERANCE MATTERS IN SOURIS.

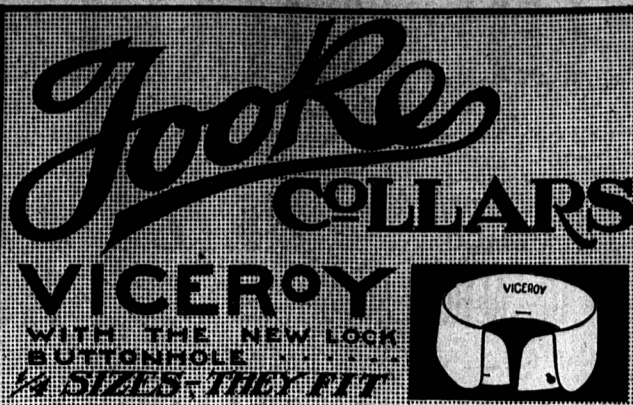
Sir:—One is so apt to have their motives misunderstood in writing on the temperance situation in this province, so closely is it allied to politics and other interests that I have hitherto refrained from expressing any opinion on the subject through the press. But your personal request for my views, recently to hand, touching the local and general situation, I feel free to give you.

As to the accuracy of certain statements recently made concerning the number of cases of drunkenness on a certain day and the amount of fines imposed on another day, I am not in a position to confirm or deny. Many reliable citizens firmly believe that the situation has not been at all exaggerated, while other good citizens doubt the wisdom of making these things public. This may explain some apparently contradictory statements of the local situation.

As to the current report that there are sixteen places where liquor can be procured in Souris, I am quite sure that this is an overstatement of the facts. So far as I can learn there are now not more than ten or twelve such places, and some of these are somewhat intermittent in their character. But even this admitted number is just that many more than the law is supposed to allow, and that many in excess of the best interests of the place, both morally and materially. This is a form of enterprise which we can dispense with to the great advantage of all classes of our citizens. This I find to be the view expressed by the best people among all classes and creeds.

Having said this, however, let me say also that, as far as my personal observation is concerned, Souris is not any greater a transgressor in the matter of drunkenness than other towns of similar size throughout the province. I am intimately familiar with conditions as they prevail in most of the smaller towns of P. E. I. and I have not seen greater evidences of liquor selling, or open breaches of the peace here, than in other towns. Incorporation and the presence of a police force has very greatly improved matters here, and any incipient disorders are, as a rule, quickly handled by the authorities. In general the town is very quiet and orderly.

Nevertheless, I think all good citizens deplore the fact that there is much illegal selling of liquor in the lovely town—far too much. Most of it, it is true, is drunk on the quiet, and much beyond the town limits, as the abundant crop of empty bottles along all the country roads bear witness. It is generally admitted that they who know the trick (and they are not a few) can get about all they want. But in this, Souris is not alone, and under present conditions throughout the country, it is hard to suppress this evil. Thanks to a strong public sentiment, and vigilant officials there are comparatively few



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Charlottetown, Managers, P. E. I.

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When you are alling, when your earning days are about gone, or when you are no longer able to support yourself, what will happen then? Will you have to depend on charity or your relatives for support or will a comfortable nest egg, secured through judicious insurance, keep you on the easy side of peace, happiness and prosperity?

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### GIANTS PREPARE FOR WORLD'S SERIES.

NEW YORK, Sept. 27—Manager McGraw of the New York Giants today began grooming his men for the world's series with the Boston Americans. The team's failure to clinch the pennant until yesterday necessitated keeping all the world series eligible regularly in the games, but with the race now won, the recruits will be given the brunt of the work for the remaining weeks play.

It is seldom that McGraw discusses the initial work of his young players, but he said today that the debut of Demaree, the Southern League star in the box against Boston yesterday, was the finest work he had seen done by a newcomer in twenty years of baseball.

Speculation as to how Demaree would figure in the world's series, however, is useless, as he only reported to the Giants on September 2, a week too late to be eligible. Terreau is being groomed particularly for "spit ball" pitching against the Red Sox, and Matthewson and Marquard probably will each have a chance to start one of the big games.

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SAILING EVERY SATURDAY by the "LAURENTIC" AND "MAGNIFIC" with every special service for comfort and safety. Excursion. Cabotage. Montreal.

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Service between Portland and New York. Leave Franklin Wharf Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9 p. m. For tickets, literature and information apply to local ticket agents. Baggage checked through to destination.

L. B. Thompson, T. F. & P. A.  
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St. John, N. B.

### PLANT LINE

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AUTUMN EXCURSIONS  
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FARE \$13.00. Good for thirty days from date of sailing.

Sailings every Tuesday at noon. Returning every Friday at noon. For further information apply to

**T. NICOLL**  
Agent Ch' Town.

Charlottetown Steam Navigation Co. Limited.  
Commencing Monday the 27th May  
Steamer "Northumberland" 4  
leaves Charlottetown for Pictou, N. S. at 10 o'clock a. m. leaving Pictou on return about 4:10 p. m. Connections made at Pictou for all points in Nova Scotia.

Steamer "Empress"  
leaves Summerside for Point du Chene, N. B. about 10 o'clock a. m. leaving Point du Chene on return about 4:30 p. m. Connections with express trains for Charlottetown and Pictou. Excursion made at Point du Chene for all points in Canada and the United States.

W. W. WAKEFIELD, Manager.  
Charlottetown, P. E. Island, 3rd May

### SOURIS, P. E. Island and MAGDALEN ISLAND STEAM-SHIP SERVICE

The A. I. Steam ship "LADY SYBIL" will leave the Railway wharf, Pictou, every Monday and Thursday morning on arrival of the Express from Halifax, for the Magdalen Islands, sailing at Souris, P. E. I. going and returning.

For particulars apply to Wm. Robb & Son Agents at Pictou, N. S. or W. W. Wakefield, Agent at Pictou, N. S. or Wm. McLaur Manager at Souris, P. E. I. Pictou, April 22nd, 1912.

### CANADIAN PACIFIC EMPRESSES AND OTHER STEAMSHIPS

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