

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Sir Charles Dalton, President. J. R. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. D. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

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AS TO FALLING PRICES

The present slump in the price of butter and eggs, following closely upon the drop in the price of potatoes, is, to put it mildly, regrettable. For several years past prices of farm products were high, abnormally high in some cases, but during this period the whole province was prosperous. Three fourths of our people are farmers and the other fourth make their living out of the farmers. When they are well off the minority share in their prosperity. When farm prices fall below normal all suffer.

Compared with other Canadian cities prices here have been fairly well maintained. In Montreal on the 13th inst. fresh creamery butter was down to 27 cents and in Quebec City on the same date at 27 1/2 cents. A year ago in the same markets butter sold at 54 1/2 cents. This slump is a bad one for Canada and particularly for this province whose sole business practically is agriculture. The cause doubtless is a combination of the demoralized conditions in the Old Country and the unemployment and consequent economy in our own Canadian centres. Readjustment and a return to more healthful prices will come eventually and the present season will undoubtedly press hard upon our farmers and consequently upon the rest of the community.

IN FREEDOM'S CAUSE

Among the doings and misdoings of the local Liberal government they have verified at least one of our juvenile conceptions namely that

"Stone walls do not a prison make Nor iron bars a cage"

Two young men who had been placed in the Queen's County Jail for safe keeping until the court should decide whether they deserved imprisonment or not decided to assume full responsibility for their guilt or innocence and opening the door, they left for the open country. They acted with somewhat more promptness than did the hero of Artemas Ward's story although with almost equal facility. He, after languishing in a prison for twenty years concluded it was a monotonous life, raised the window and left. The two young men above referred to discovered the monotony earlier in their career and lost no time in throwing it off.

Some will doubt the wisdom of making an escape from jail too easy. It robs the institution of much of the traditional superstition attached to these old-fashioned and historic factors in the administration of justice or injustice, but it may serve as a necessary chaser to that great charter of our liberties, the Habeas Corpus Act which in these rapid times of ours is liable to become too slow for our immediate necessities. All the same people will say that the jail should be more than a resting place between the police court and the open country. Some people were quite outspoken about the unceremonious departure from the jail of three young men a few months ago and suggested, even in the legislature that certain precautions should be taken to prevent a similar recurrence. No doubt they will be reasonably indignant over the last departure.

Current Comment

A new and most remarkable invention or discovery has been announced from Toronto, which in its reputed powers would establish a social, and not to say a political revolution. It is in the form of an anaesthetic which, added to several other methods of usefulness, will compel any man or woman to tell the truth. An uncanny feature of the case is that Dr. Cotton the inventor declines to disclose the wonderful secret, not even to the administrators of justice because of the evil effects that it is bound to produce. He ventures to say that "There is not a man in Toronto who could have his past truthfully revealed to certain persons without danger to himself." That speaks rather poorly for the Queen City, and comes as rather a surprise to us, always hearing of that place as "Toronto the good", while we were here carried away with an impression that the bulk of the bad was located near the centre of our Queen Square and around the Opposition benches at Ottawa. Of course, until it is established by the severest tests, the public will look with suspicion on the claims put forth by the discoverer, and we have the very best in view that cannot be equalled for severity. There are a few away up in the high places of our Provincial Government, who have a habit of saying certain things about their opponents, and the Guardian. If by an injection or application of this compound to the Premier, some of his supporters, and the Patriot it proves effective, the test will be severe and perfect.

There are a large number of other most interesting little items of information that the country are looking for which a small dose of this powerful truth producer might bring to light. There would be for instance all the real facts about that Holstein Bull and that herd of thoroughbred Holsteins on the Farm. It would also produce a most thrilling story of those beautiful harmonies that prevail within the whitened sepulchre of their cabinet gatherings, and of those pleasant love episodes that are followed by shattered glass, and by words that are not always considered of the nature to turn

away wrath. The curtain lectures delivered behind closed doors by the Premier to his colleagues, whom he found wavering in their support, and the reading of the political riot acts, by the subordinates to their superiors, AND THE IMPEACHMENTS FOR THEIR WRONG DOINGS, if truthfully described perforce of this anaesthetic would be more romantic than a novel and more interesting than anything yet shown upon the pages of romance or theatrical performance. Dr. Cotton's discovery may succeed in ordinary cases but if he wants a substantial strong acid test, here is his opportunity.

Perhaps too it might be found possible to so apportion the dose of this famous compound as to induce the subject to act also as well as to speak the truth. If it could what a contract the Bell Government would have on hand after the first application, and how jubilant the people of this province would become over the showers of blessings that would be scattered far and wide. Just think of those reductions of taxation, which the Conservative Government collected with such persistent severity, and which for years before the Bell aggregation came into power was promised as the sure panacea for all the purse and pocket diseases of the people. Then consider again those happy and ample increases to the teachers salaries, to be provided for out of THE SAVINGS AND ECONOMIES FROM THE LATE GOVERNMENT'S EXPENDITURES. And how splendid it would be to see the sturdy engines dragging the carcasses of mussel mud along that newly constructed spur line to Richmond Bay. And perhaps more beautiful than any of these things, and giving us a feeling of genuine independence, would be the spectacle of our accounts at the bank overflowing with the wealth realized from our claims at Ottawa, one of those subjects upon which Premier Bell gave such strong and of repeated testimony and promise when he sat in Opposition. Yes, if Dr. Cotton's anaesthetic will only make men, particularly adamant politicians, act as well as speak the truth, he should surely receive a healthy order from this province.

Others' View Points

Be Careful

(Montreal Star.)

This is the time of year when the careless fisherman or camper can do damage that cannot be undone in a century. Already the newspapers all over the country are printing stories of severe brush fires. In Ontario they are unusually serious, and, unless more care than usual is exercised in the Quebec bush, we shall have them here.

There has been abnormally little rain in Eastern Canada this spring, and in consequence bush fires are especially dangerous. It takes so little to start them, and, once started, they must burn themselves out. A carelessly smothered campfire, a match thrown away still alight, even the contents of a smouldering pipe or cigar or cigarette stub dropping in a handful of dead leaves or dry moss and a whole countryside goes up in flames.

It is an easy matter to be careful. Anything but care where great natural wealth and human lives are at stake is inexcusable.

Tenacity of the Heart

(World's Work.)

Nine years ago Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller Institute, placed a small piece of chicken heart in a solution of chicken plasma and other media, and confided the specimen to an incubator at thirty-nine degrees centigrade. To the inexperienced layman there was nothing remarkable in this experiment, but to the scientist this chicken tissue soon assumed the utmost importance. For contrary to the rule then regarded as an immutable one, the specimen lost neither life nor function. This piece of a chicken heart, removed from the living body and confined in a test tube, continued to pulsate as naturally as though existing in its accustomed habitat. Moreover, the passing of time apparently had no influence upon its vitality. It manifested no signs of growing old. Nine years have passed and the first sign of decay has not yet appeared.

Arkansas Chivalry

(Wynne Progress.)

We want it to be distinctly understood that when we lambast a Republican hip and thigh or land on the bonehead of a Democrat that we mean the male of both species and not the ladies.

(London Advertiser.)

Some decidedly interesting railway costs and deficits are revealed in an investigation made by the Wall Street Journal. If conditions in Canada are similar to those across the line, it is no wonder that there is a deficit running into millions. The Journal points out that when a locomotive goes to the shop for repairs, men of three, four, even of five crafts have to be used to do what the men of two crafts and even of one craft did four years ago.

When a locomotive headlight generator has to be removed, six men have to be employed to do what after all is a simple job—an electrician with his helper, a sheet metal worker and his helper, and a machinist with his helper. Four

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Lounsbury

BE CAREFUL

Don't worry because your neighbor's wife gives pink teas and cuts a swath in society while yours has to be content with the church tea meeting as a social function. You don't know what your neighbor has to take with the pink teas; if you did it might make you and your wife feel a little more contented. The question "where does the money come from" often has a most tragic answer. If you have a happy home and are paying your way let the other fellow have the excitement and worry of keeping up appearances in society. "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." Money and place are not everything. There are men and women in high positions who envy their servants and others who have no anxiety beyond the day's duties. The happiest man on earth is he who has learned "in whatsoever state he is therein to be content."

Be thankful, son, for your small lot. And, sonny do not kick. For lots of things you haven't got. Would only make you sick.

years ago two men, a machinist and his assistant, did the whole job.

When a railway engine boiler springs a leak; three craftsmen, each with a helper—under the rules that now regulate railway labor—have to be employed to make the necessary repairs.

Four years ago an ordinary handy shopman could change a nozzle tip in the front end of a locomotive; he could do it today if the rules would permit it. But the rules require that six men shall be employed to do that small task—a boilermaker and his assistant, a pipeman and his assistant, and a machinist and his assistant.

These are all railroad shop craft jobs. All the workmen are highly paid. All belong to the skilled labor classifications. For each illustration given a hundred more might be cited all calculated to show just what the railroads are up against.

The Fastest Ever.

(Boston Herald)

Thrilling news comes from their longevity. Some alleged one reason and some another, but nearly all had been early risers.

Norbert Barnabe Ottawa's oldest citizen, who will be 105 years if he lives until October 14, might attribute his longevity to a diet of pork, onions and bread. This is his nightly diet before retiring.

Small Causes.

(Hamilton Spectator)

Half million dollar fire loss resulted in Maxville, Ont., through a Chinaman leaving an overheated iron on a shirt. The origin of this exasperating waste is a modest reflex of the great Chicago fire of half a century ago, which was caused by a coal oil lamp being kicked over by Mrs. Murphy's cow.

Grateful to His Bankers.

(Chicago News)

—A story is going the rounds about a man in St. Louis who wrote a will in which he named six bankers to be his pall-bearers. "They have carried me for twenty years," he explained, "and they might as well finish the job."

A Tale of a Tug (Manchester Guardian)

Like Abel in the Epistle to the Hebrews, the Ministry of Shipping "being dead yet speaketh." Its latest testimony is contained in a White Paper published yesterday on the expenditure of the Ministry for the year ended March, 1920. Examining the war bill in detail is a startling business, and evidently the game for which Mr. E. V. Lucas suggested the title "The Old Ladies Show Their Muddles" is still unexhausted. With freights and vessels in the state of uncertain and inflated values that they reached in the last days of the war, there is a certain amount of excuse for an occasional blunder on the part of the Ministry of Shipping, but one that is mentioned in the present White Paper deserves a high place in any list of official muddles. In February, 1918 a tug was requisitioned by the Ministry. The engines were found to be in a bad state of repair so the vessel was turned over to a firm of contractors for the old engine to be taken out. When this had been done and the old engines dumped on the wharf side it was discovered that the hull of the vessel, too, was out of repair, and so badly that it was not worth putting new engines into it. Six months later the Ministry came to the conclusion that the vessel—still standing at the contractors' wharf—was "little better than strap." Three months later the Ministry acted on this opinion and sold the vessel for £185. Meanwhile the original owners had been pressing for payment, and three months after the boat had been sold for £185 the Ministry settled with its first owners for £2,200. This in itself was a pretty bad bargain, but for all the time the vessel had been lying at the contractors' wharf she had been piling up rent charges. Wharfage dues, and damage caused by the old machinery lying on their premises, were claimed by the contractors to the tune of nearly £3,700. This was resisted and finally settled for

£3,000. So that the country's interest in a stationary tug that never did an hour's work for its new employers ultimately cost £5,200, less £185 for "scrap." The incident is not typical of the general activities of the Ministry of Shipping, but it deserves its place in any complete History of the Great War.

The Simple Life.

(Toronto Globe.)

A British member of parliament Austin Hopkinson, has given away a manor worth \$150,000 and twenty houses to the local council and moved into an old barn, and has presented his chauffeur with his costly automobile. He intends to live the life of a simple workingman, his view being that, if public men showed an inclination to make sacrifices all danger of revolution would be averted.

Probably the writers of humorous paragraphs will find a subject in Mr. Hopkinson, but without endorsing every detail of his plan a good deal is to be said for his view that if wealthy men would live the "simple life" they would help to steady public opinion. A few years ago the simple life had many advocates, but lately, perhaps partly owing to the war temper, more drastic remedies for social discontent have filled the stage.

When contrasts are made between extreme poverty on the one hand and excessive luxury and ostentation on the other the reply is made that even if all the luxuries were discarded the result would do little to relieve poverty. This may be true, but it does not reach the point at issue. The evil of excessive luxury and ostentation is not so much the actual waste of money as the bad example and influence, the moral effect on the community of arousing discontent. If those who have plenty of money to spare would set the example of simplicity and refinement the influence would be felt by the whole community.

During the war much was said of the extravagance of mechanics who earned big wages, their purchases of silk shirts, and so on. A man whose income is suddenly increased is not always wise in his increased expenditures. But where was this lesson of extravagance learned? For whom were the silk shirts made in the first instance? If the wealthier classes had been lavish in their expenditures on looks, pictures and education, rather than on personal adornment and luxury, it is quite likely that the example would have been followed by those who suddenly found themselves in possession of money beyond their needs. The simple life is a good deal better as a hobby than some others.

What's Fair in Furs.

(Chicago Daily News.)

Eso's well-known fable of the ass in the lion's skin was not directed at the fur trade, but undoubtedly some people have thought of a possible application. The value of euphemisms has been recognized by fur dealers as by most other tradesmen, but Miss Agnes Laut, the most recent popular authority on furs asserts that euphemisms in the fur trade have decided limitations. Donkey masquerading as lion would be indignant rejected by any dealer in good standing. The fur trade has organized strongly to protect the public and has laid down the law on what is fair in furs.

America is now the world market for furs, but the code of the London chamber of commerce, along with the Canadian Conservation report, is cited as authority for fur nomenclature. According to these rules Brer Rabbit, that ubiquitous little beast, is enjoined from masquerading as beaver, sable ermine, chinchilla, fox or seal. The goat may not appear in public disguised as bear or leopard. Kid must not call himself lamb, nor may possum play beaver. It is taken for granted that beaver will not wish to play possum. On the other hand goat may aspire to be bear-goat or possum may become beaver-possum. Kids may

THE OLD GARDENER SAYS

If you want to grow late celery, start the seeds now in a warm, sheltered corner of the garden and you will have plants to set out in July. Remember that celery is better for being transplanted several times because this operation helps to keep the tap roots short. While Boston Market and Giant Pascal are old-time varieties, the amateur will be better pleased perhaps with the new Fast Bleaching celery, which keeps fairly well, even though often rated as an early kind. If you are buying plants, try to get this variety in preference to Golden Self Blanching.

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be karakul kids if they so desire. The white bunny may become mock ermine, if it covets the distinction and mock fox is a pardonable vanity in white hare. All this suggests an increased confidence that in the passing show upon the boulevard things are as they seem, at least below the neck. If complexions are not that can be regulated by law.

Back to Pre-War Prices

Charlottetown Guardian

By Mail \$3.00 City Delivery \$5.00

Notwithstanding that we are still paying \$80.00 per ton more for white paper than we did before the war, and 200 per cent more for postage, the CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN has determined FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE WEEKS to cut the loss and reduce its price to

THREE DOLLARS BY MAIL AND FIVE DOLLARS FOR CITY DELIVERY

This makes the CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN the CHEAPEST, FIRST-CLASS MORNING NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTRY.

We recognize that the farmer is receiving reduced prices for his products and is entitled to a corresponding cut in what he requires to buy. He requires an up-to-date morning newspaper, more than anything else. So to those who take advantage of this offer the CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN will be delivered to them AT THE PRE-WAR RATE OF \$3.00 PER ANNUM OR \$1.65 FOR SIX MONTHS BY MAIL, OR \$5.00 PER ANNUM DELIVERED IN THE CITY.

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