

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1916.

TRADING AT HOME

For a number of years the press and the platform and even the pulpit of this province have preached the doctrine of trading at home. Arguments in support of the doctrine have been advanced and have been believed in even by those who continued as before to trade with outside mail order houses.

There is no law to prevent men and women trading where and how they please in legitimate goods, neither is there any law that can prevent outside concerns selling legitimate goods in this or any other province. That there should be such a law all will admit except those who profit by the present system either in buying or selling.

It is not only unfair but unjust that the merchants and other business concerns whose taxes contribute to the upkeep of the province in which they live should have their business and their profits curtailed by outside traders who do not contribute a dollar to the revenue of the province. Under present conditions, however, there appears to be no remedy except to continue preaching the gospel above mentioned and trusting that by the "foolishness of preaching" some may be led to believe in the sacredness of their country's institutions and to realize their obligations both to their country and its institutions.

And the borrowed term, "the foolishness of preaching," does not seem out of place here. Probably it is foolish after all to advise people where to buy and where to sell. "To buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market" has ever been the boasted privilege of free born Britons and, whether consistent with the best interests of the country or not, this is what ninety nine per cent. of them will do. Whether the attractively catalogued goods and the still more attractive quotations of the mail order house a thousand miles away afford a more profitable business for the individual the fact remains that the individual is attracted by them and he will pay his money and take the risk. Even the preacher of the gospel of trading at home, yea even the merchant whose business is being injured by the foreign trader, will give his business to the foreign workman provided he sees in it an opportunity to save a few dollars. The mail order houses with whom the farmers throughout the province and even the citizens who live under the shadow of our largest local stores do so much of their trading are not the greatest offenders in this respect. Jobbers of many kinds from outside concerns reap a rich harvest yearly right in our own City, right among our own merchants by securing orders for work that could be done by our own workmen and in our own establishments. The price is doubtless the attraction and in catering to that kind of trade we are helping to build up the large concerns elsewhere that are bleeding our province and keeping it poorer than it would be if all were to unite in patronizing our own home industries. Our merchants who are themselves sinners in this respect must not therefore conclude that the farmers are "sinners above all men" because they send their occasional dollars to the mail order houses in Montreal and Toronto.

Preaching and practicing are two different arts. One may preach most persuasively and most eloquently, he may "speak with the tongues of men and of angels" but if he has not the grace of practicing what he preaches he is as the proverbial "sounding brass and tinkling cymbal." If, on the other hand, while preaching to others to spurn the temptations of the mail order houses and to trade at home, he shows his faith in his preaching by doing likewise, his hearers will unite with him to uphold their country's institutions. The keeping up of a country, the development of its resources, the making of it a land worth living and, if necessary, dying for, is not a matter of preaching alone, although that too is necessary, but of stern, unflinching, uncompromising practice by all the people.

EXAGGERATION

Perhaps it is because of the haste that characterizes most of our actions, and the consequent want of time to take thought that we of these latter days are so prone to exaggeration. Such expletives as "the best I ever saw," or "the worst," "the most," "the biggest," "the smallest" are common expletives although they may have reference to very commonplace things.

"The most lawless place in the world" is not infrequently heard when a crime is committed in our midst; "more drunkenness in Charlottetown than in Chicago," if we see a drunken man on the street. These are gross, thoughtless and harmful exaggerations. It is true we have occasional crimes among us; occasionally—too often indeed—one or more drunken men are seen in the street, but to characterize these as superlatives in iniquity and to blazon the report abroad as if the iniquity were a provincial characteristic is a libel on the province. As a quiet rural community with no large cities and no slums crime is really a rare thing among us and when it occurs we are shocked and surprised and give vent to our surprise in superlatives. As a prohibition province we are supposed to have no drinking among us, and when there is a break, as unfortunately there occasionally is, we are again surprised into superlatives. As a result of this our well meaning exaggerators have succeeded in giving us altogether a bad name.

As a matter of fact we have the cleanest record for crime of any province in Canada according to official statistics, and our per centage of drunks is, as everybody knows, away below that of any country on the American continent. These are the hard unquestionable facts, and, while deploring the presence among us of those who will drink and get drunk and of those who will run the risk of the law and "put the glass to their neighbor's lips" for the sake of the money they make out of it, we should keep as near to facts as possible. Exaggeration and misrepresentation even with the best of motives can never help a cause or do any good. The few law-breakers among us, whether criminal or drunken or liquor sellers are a very small fraction of our population. That we have them is regrettable and we have no doubt their number could be appreciably diminished if we spent as much time in trying to reform them as we do in keeping the world posted as to their wickedness.

We are probably lax in our prosecution of crime of all kinds. We are a good natured, forgiving neighborly lot and there is a too obvious disposition to cover up rather than to expose and punish law breaking. In this we wrong those whom we think we are helping. There should be no covering up, no concealment. Men have been made criminals by helping them to escape the consequences of their first transgressions; men have been saved from the criminal's fate by being caught and punished in their first straying. If we would save our young men, if we would build up a country with a name to be proud of we must enforce our laws without fear or favour and if we have any laws that should not be enforced we should repeal them. Laws openly violated are the schoolmasters that teach criminality.

OUR RAW MATERIAL

In one of a series of pamphlets issued by the Department of Trade and Commerce with a view to stimulating interest in the National Business Conference to be held in Ottawa this autumn, attention is directed to the fact that Canada imports every day goods made under foreign flags from Canadian raw materials, that the Canadian purchaser pays the wages and the profits of foreign manufacture, also the transportation costs of both raw material and finished goods. In resources and variety of raw materials, in sites and power for factories, in transportation and situation with regard to the world's markets Canada is unrivalled. The pamphlet adds, "When the war is over and the enemies of civilization overcome, the war of commerce will begin. Now is the time to plan for the utilization of our own resources."

Although Canada has in the last few years shut off much of the kind of waste complained of and is now manufacturing very much of her raw material, some of the provinces, notably our own, are still far behind. Indeed we are perhaps farther behind than any of our sister provinces. We grow more agricultural products per head of our population than any other provinces in Canada, and, although there are no statistics to show it, we probably import more of these products in finished form. This is one of our most serious wastes. We not only export our raw material but send our sons to manufacture it in other provinces. We import it again in the form of boots, harness, hats and caps, clothing, etc. We import tons of canned vegetables and fruit, the raw material of which we grow in abundance, and which could be manufactured as well here as anywhere else in the world. This is absolute waste and if we are to obtain from our farms the results of which they are capable, if we are not to continue to be hewers of wood and drawers of water to Ontario and Quebec manufacturers, the waste must be stopped.

GERMANY AWAKENING

It is sometimes said that the present struggle of armies in the field will be followed by a relentless trade war. That may be taken as a practical certainty, because the Allies are determined to cripple Germany financially after they have broken up her military power.

But there will probably be another war, between the two struggles now proceeding or forecasted. There is growing evidence that the proletariat of Germany is rousing itself to end the war of armaments by destroying those who are responsible for it. It is an ominous outlook for the Hohenzollerns and their parasites. To win against the Allies is impossible; to admit defeat is suicide. This is the way in which a circular recently smuggled into Switzerland expresses the situation in Germany: "We are sick of the murders and atrocities, we are sick of the misery, the famine, and the circle of iron which surrounds us. The time has now come when the governing powers must learn that we cry in our hundreds of thousands, and even in our millions: Down with the war! As a mighty blast of thunder let the cry sound throughout our Empire and reach the trenches."

The situation is intensified by the realization throughout Germany that the time is approaching when the war will be fought on the soil of that country. That is an experience its people have not had for a century. The present generation has been brought up on a diet of carefully plotted wars against much weaker enemies, with victory following swiftly on the heels of the first declaration of hostilities. In every case the fighting has been done on the soil of the enemy.

The German people have been fighting for two years and they are beginning to realize that victory is impossible, and that postponement of defeat merely makes the prospect worse. Some day they will rise against their brutal taskmasters, and there are signs that the coming of that day cannot be long delayed.

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INTERESTING BUDGET OF NEWS CONCERNING ISLANDER IN WEST

Mr. Ephraim Leard, formerly a resident of Charlottetown, who with his wife and family moved to Three Hills, Alberta, about a year ago, and purchased a ranch, has disposed of same to Mr. Frank McCallum, formerly of Be-deque. Mr. Leard and family are now residing in Lower Be-deque.

Mr. Theodore Balderston, son of Mr. B. Balderston, city, has a good position with The Brewster Trading Co., at Banff, Alberta, of which Mr. L. W. Crosby, son of Mr. Albert Crosby, of Summerside, is the capable manager.

Mr. Ewen Stewart, formerly of Charlottetown, is accountant of the Government Park property at Banff, Alberta.

Miss Penzie Robblee, formerly of Tryon, but now of Calgary, spent her vacation at the home of her brother, Albert, in Cayley, Alberta.

Rev. John Wright, son of Mr. Charles Wright, Cra-paud, is pastor of the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations at Monitor, Alta.

Mr. Robert Leard, son of the late Mr. S. J. B. Leard, Cra-paud, is superintendent of a big coal company at Coleman, Alta., which employs upwards of four hundred men.

Miss Cora Myers, formerly of Cra-paud, but now of Calgary, enjoyed a pleasant holiday with relatives in Alberta about three hundred miles north of Edmonton.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

WAY OF THE WORLD.

It's all in the way that you look at the world.

It's all in the way that you look at things;

With laughter or sorrow your lips may be curled,

But it's all in the way that you view things.

Yes, it's all in the way that you journey along

That makes life a plague or a pleasure.

The mine is the foundation of walling or song,

And man is the judge of the measure.

It's all in the way that you look at your woe.

And 'not in the woe that is sent you.

You may bear it with courage and smile as you go.

Or frown and let it discontent you.

For care is a creature that's born of the mind.

And gloom is a cloud we can weather.

The thorn of the rose if we seek we can find,

But the thorn of the rose doesn't matter.

We can make our own sunshine and make our own mirth,

We can add to our trouble by moping;

We can make a grim graveyard of this glad old earth.

By giving up loving and hoping.

For it's all in the way that we look at the world.

Yes, it's all in the way we view things;

With sorrow or laughter our lips may be curled,

For it's all in the way that we do things.

Mrs. Chas. Davison is at present visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wright of Cra-paud, as well as friends in Charlottetown.

Capt. H. H. Muttart and his wife of the Salvation Army, are stationed at Lethbridge, Alta. Mr. Muttart is a son of the late Charles Muttart, of Be-deque.

Among those who spent Sunday and Labor Day at Banff, Alta., were Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hood and Mr. H. S. Hood, Calgary, and Mr. J. P. Hood, of Dorchester, Mass.

Rev. L. R. McDonald, formerly of Hampton, is pastor of the Methodist congregation at Carlsland, Alta.

Mrs. (Dr.) Champlin, Tyne Valley, who is on an extended trip to the Canadian and American West, and the Pacific Coast, spent last week in Calgary, and is expected home next month.

Mr. Ryerson Reid, Tryon, is in New Jersey, on business.

A recent issue of the Shoe and Leather Journal, published at Toronto, contains an illustration of the P. E. Island Legislative building, and also Mr. R. T. Hayes, Mayor of St. John, and a former Prince Edward Islander. Mr. Hayes is manager of J. M. Humphrey & Co., shoe manufacturers.

THE FIRST BODY TO BE RECOVERED

QUEBEC, Que., Sept. 18.—The first body to be recovered in the Quebec bridge disaster, was found floating off the pier at St. Romuald, a mile from the bridge site, by C. Piau and F. St. Hilaire. It was that of Myrille Bernier, of Levis, who was last seen jumping from the south shore cantilever arm, when the centre span crashed down into the river. The body was mangled and could only be identified by the trousers a Levis tailor recognized as those he made for Bernier some time ago. The coroner's inquest will be opened tomorrow, Tuesday morning at ten thirty, at the Marcoux Morgue, in St. Romuald, and after the swearing in of the jury, the inquest will be held at the Quebec court house.

It is the intention of the Attorney General to go into the matter deeply and all the engineers who had anything to do with the plans of the erection and lifting of the centre span, will be examined. The wharf watchman at Lauron, some seven miles down the river from the scene of the disaster reports today seeing the bodies of two men floating with the ebb tide yesterday afternoon, and search is being made between the river and along the shores to recover them.

Mistress Norah, did Mrs. Richley leave any message when you told her I was not at home? Maid—No, ma'am, she didn't, but she looked very pleased.—Brown Transcript.

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