

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1918

CARE OF THE POOR

In yesterday morning's report of the City Council meeting a letter from Premier Arsenault to His Worship the Mayor is given. This letter fully explains itself and there should have been no misunderstanding about it. The Premier asked for a conference with the City Council with a view to arriving at a definite and mutual decision with reference to the care of the poor. This conference was arranged for by the Council at its last meeting when a committee of the Council together with the two City members of the legislature was appointed to confer with the Premier. This conference will no doubt be held on the return of the Premier from Summerside where he is attending the Supreme Court. In the meantime we understand that the case commented upon at the City Council meeting has been provided for and that the poor woman referred to has been admitted to the Infirmary.

The maintenance of the Infirmary and Falconwood Hospital, both of which are a legitimate burden upon the province, has become so acute a question that steps must be taken at once to make other arrangements than those now existing. At present the burden is being borne by the whole province, that is the cost of maintenance of both institutions is being paid for out of the provincial revenue. A glance at the public accounts during a series of years past will show that the cost of maintenance of these institutions has increased out of all proportion to the increase in the revenue by which they are being maintained. In 1895 the cost of Falconwood and the then Poor House was \$20,880.85; in 1900 it was \$24,937.30; in 1911 the cost of Falconwood and the Infirmary was \$48,422.18 and in 1917 it had increased to \$88,437.98.

This increased cost is not due to changes in methods of administration, not due to changes in government; it is the natural and legitimate increase that is to be seen in the general cost of living. While this cost has increased so enormously the increase in taxation has scarcely been perceptible. It is therefore clear to any one that if these institutions are to be maintained as they ought to be there must either be a general increase in our provincial taxation or the municipalities and the school districts must provide for their own poor.

Probably no item of government expenditure has elicited as much criticism at each succeeding session of the legislature as that for the maintenance of Falconwood and the Infirmary and the government is now face to face with either one of two alternatives—either an increase in taxation or some other means of caring for the poor and the insane. In every other province in Canada the maintenance of their own indigent poor is borne by the municipalities. In this province we have not yet adopted the system of municipal government in our rural districts and this will present some difficulties. However it was with a view to solving whatever difficulties there are that the Premier has asked for a conference with the City Council. Any arrangement made with the City will, we have no doubt, be made with the rest of the province and the outcome of the first conference on the subject will be awaited with interest.

LOBSTER CONSERVATION

The argument used by Dr. Knight with reference to the conservation of lobsters is unanswerable, provided it is established that the breeding season is as he asserts from June to September. Dr. Knight has made a study of the lobster for years and knows whereof he speaks. Any regulations therefore that permits fishing during the months of June, July, August and September, is a death sentence to the lobster business.

In this province the fishing season extends well into June in one district and all through July in the other. Whether these seasons were specified to suit the convenience of the fishermen and canners or in ignorance concerning the lobster breeding season is not clear. In any case we have the authoritative statement of a gentleman who has studied the question for years that the lobsters begin spawning in June and continue till the end of September. It is clear therefore that if the lobsters are not to be exterminated they should be protected during these months. No doubt the government will act upon Dr. Knight's suggestion as he has been specially appointed to investigate and to recommend.

Unfortunately here as elsewhere neither fishermen nor packers are actuated so much by the idea of conservation as by that of present profit. The paramount idea seems to be to make the most of the present and let the future take care of itself. That there has been overfishing and unseasonable fishing is evidenced by the decline in the catch during the past several years. Statistics furnished by Dr. Knight show the annual falling off in the lobster catch from 31 pounds per trap in 1897 to 12 pounds per trap in 1917; the reduction in canneries from 919 in 1900 to 644 in 1917; the falling off in size from 15 and 16 inches in the seventies to 7 and 8 in recent years. Other statistics are given showing a decline in the lobster fisheries which can only mean ultimate extermination or at least such a depletion that the industry cannot be continued.

The lobster catch is worth, or ought to be, between four and five million dollars annually. At the present rate of destruction it will be practically valueless in a few years. With nothing to take its place this would be a serious loss to the hundreds of fishermen who are now making good money out of the business, a serious loss to factory owners and packers, a serious and inexcusable loss to the Maritime Provinces.

Dr. Knight's warning, backed up as it is by incontrovertible proof should be carefully considered by fishermen and packers. To deliberately and knowingly follow a course that means the destruction of such a valuable industry is a crime against the country and against those who have made a not inconsiderable part of their living out of the industry.

"LIGHTNING-TRAINED SAMMIES"

The presence of close on a million American soldiers in France has answered the German assumption that the United States would not take an effective part in the war, owing to its distance from the theatre of battle. The over-subscriptions to the Liberty Loans and the American Red Cross Fund and the placing in the hands of President Wilson of authority for the raising of an unlimited army have answered the German assumption that the American people would not enter whole-heartedly into the war. And now, the latest German assumption that "lightning-trained" American troops would not avail against the "trained-from-boyhood" soldiers of Germany has been effectively replied to by Sammies armed with "trans-Atlantic machine guns" in the Chateau Thierry sector of the front of the present battle.

With the advent of these Americans into this crucial struggle and their worthy performance, the original allies rise to salute their new comrades. The vanguard of the American millions has taken its place in the allied line for the deciding stage of the war and has given earnest of what may be expected from those that follow. The lightning training of this vanguard did not prevent it from taking successful issue with the super-trained veterans of Germany. By spirit and military resourcefulness these American soldiers rushed hastily to the front of the battle, prevented the troops of the Kaiser from crossing the Marne. Deadly fire from hidden German machine gun positions could not stop them in counter attack and with their own machine guns, cleverly ambushed, they broke German onslaughts on both sides of Chateau Thierry.

What these Americans have given the enemy is merely an earnest of what is to follow. Germany made a mistake in assuming that she need not reckon with the United States and she is making an equally great mistake now in thinking that she can outdistance the United States in the race against time. American soldiers are in France in sufficient numbers and with sufficient training to make up for whatever loss is inflicted on the British and French armies through the German offensive. And, for whatever degree they are trained, man for man they are more than a match for the pick of the murdering machine-like soldiers of the Kaiser.—Toronto Journal.

"UNIQUE?"

Under the caption "P.E.I. once more frames a unique law," a Toronto exchange says: "In Prince Edward Island, where automobiles have only become legal users of the public highways during the past three weeks, they have a new Motor Traffic Law that is fearfully and wonderfully constructed. One of its provisions is that it shall be an offence, and as such punishable, to drive by any place of worship during the holding of service."

What does that Torontonian know about religion anyway?

FOUNDED POETIC SCHOOL AS JOKE

Maybe one of these days Edgar Lee Masters will make a hit with normal-minded people by confessing that his poetry is a hoax, that he wrote for the purpose of ridiculing the eccentric highbrows who just adore this verse libre. It is, perhaps, too much to hope, but a couple of other writers who have become rather celebrated as cubist poets have just unobscured themselves. They say they wrote to have fun with the reviewers and in the hope of raising a laugh at the expense of the Imagists, Vorticists, et al., that might drive them to the tall timber and turn the thoughts of readers again to real poetry. The authors of the hoax are Witter Bynner, a minor poet and lecturer, and Arthur Davison Ficke, also a minor poet, and now something better than that, a major with the American army in France. The idea originated with Bynner in the course of a conversation with a friend in Chicago to whom he was lamenting the vogue of these modern alleged schools of alleged poetry.

Emanuel and Anne

They were at a performance of the Russian Ballet at the time and Bynner asserted that anyone could find one of these schools. Glancing at his programme to while away the time he noticed that one of the numbers was "The Spectre of the Rose." It suggested a name to him. "I will form a school of poetry," he announced, "and I will call it Spectrism." Later on he ran across his old friend Ficke and asked him would he cooperate in establishing the school, and he agreed. It only remained to write the poetry. This took three weeks, and the book called "Spectra" was published, as the joint product of Emanuel Morgan and Anne Knish, just such names, we imagine, as Dickens might have chosen had he embarked on a similar enterprise. They had a friend in Pittsburg who took in mail for them, and felled would-be interviewers and disciples who were anxious to come into the holy presence of these heaven-sent interpreters of the human soul.

All as Clear as Mud

In the preface Anne Knish undertook to explain in words comprehensible to the meanest intelligence just what spectrism was. She said "Spectric has three separate but closely related meanings. In the first place it speaks, to the mind, of that process of diffraction by which are disarticulated the several colored and other rays of which light is composed. It indicates our feeling that the theme of a poem is to be regarded as a prism, upon which the colorless white light of infinite existence falls and is broken up into glowing, beautiful and intelligible hues. In its second sense the term "Spectric" re-

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. Louson

"GOBS" OF PAINT"

Did you ever hear the revised version of a certain old rhyme it reads: "Little grains of powder, Little grains of paint, Make a pretty maiden Look like what she aint."

Every time I walk along St. Catherine street, I think of it. What do you suppose "gets into a young and pretty girl—to inspire her to make her countenance look like a futurist canvas, instead of a human face? If she thinks it attracts the men, she has what the boys call "several things coming to her."

"Ye gods," a returned soldier said the other day, as he watched a young girl come down the street, her cheeks rouged, her nose whitened, her eyebrows blackened and her very short skirt displaying high kid boots, and light silk stockings—"it has got to the point where you don't know when you look at a girl, whether she belongs to the best social circles, or to the class to which you wouldn't introduce your sister. Why, honestly, you could have the paint off the girl's face, and she is supposed to be one of the nicest girls in town. If girls only knew WHAT they are imitating!

"Couldn't you tell them, Miss Currie, that a real man doesn't want to think that any girl belonging to him, or even a girl friend of his, should be such a fool?"

"If a girl only knew how a fellow likes to see a girl sweet and clean and natural, smelling of soap and water, instead of cheap perfume and powder, she surely wouldn't do it."

Leave off your paint girls. Don't buy white boots at \$18 a pair nor flimsy blouses that go to pieces if touched with soap and water. This is not the time for extravagant luxuries. MARGARET CURRIE

lates to the reflex vibrations of physical sight, and suggests the luminous appearance which is seen after exposure of the eye to intense light, and, by analogy, the after-colors of the poet's initial vision. In its third sense "Spectric" connotes the overtones, adumbrations or spectres which, for the poet, haunt all objects both of the seen and of the unseen world—those shadowy projections, sometimes grotesque, which, hovering about the real, give to the real its full ideal significance and its poetic worth. The writers just stopped short of explaining Spectric in its common-sense aspect.

The New Poetry

Here are some of the things that the Spectric jokers put over on the public, and for which they receive many respectful reviews:

"To some housecleaning is a holy rite, For myself, houses would be empty But for the golden notes dancing in sunbeams."

"\* \* \* I love a woman whose two eyes, One blue, one grey, Would block, Like cliffs, my foothold in the skies \* \* \*

She is dead, they say— Dead as a peacock."

"Asparagus is feathery and tall, And the hose lies rotting by the garden wall."

"Candle, candle, Flicker and flow— I knew you once— But it was not long ago —It was

Last night, And you spoiled my otherwise bright evening."

Best Since Shakespeare

Among the critics who hailed the new planets of poetry was he of Reedy's Mirror, who said: "They are vitalized grotesques, which at first seem like parodies of some recent new poetry, but it is only seeming."

As Bynner traveled about the country lecturing on poetry, he naturally heard many discussions of the new school. One man in his hearing said: "It's the best thing since Shakespeare" but a more old-fashioned reader said: "I wouldn't say that; call it nearly the best thing since Shakespeare."

Whereupon the first speaker walked away in a huff. Once or twice the authors had to sit silent when somebody else boldly announced himself as the author of the book. They received many letters from youthful poets, enclosing specimens, and wanting to know if they reasonably could be considered Spectricists. They had another friend, a Miss Seiffert, who was in the secret proclaimed herself a Spectricist and under the name of Elijah Hay, got a lot of stuff printed in various magazines and won the warm approval of Alfred Kreymborg and other representatives of modern poetry.

YOUR PROBLEMS SOLVED

BY REV. T.S. LINSKOTT, D. D. (All rights reserved)

Dr. Linscott in this column will help you solve your heart problems religious, natural, social, financial and every other anxious care that perplexes you. If a personal answer is required enclose a five cent stamp. No names will be published; if you prefer, sign your initials only; or use a pseudonym.

USEFUL READING:—"A Young Man" asks, "What reading would you recommend for me?" Read a newspaper every day and learn what God is doing in the world. Read a good magazine and always have an informing book on your table which you should read systematically. I will not say never read a novel, but I will say read them sparingly for at the best they only afford temporary pleasure. Cultivate a taste for solid reading. Read books on chemistry, biology, astronomy and history. When you cultivate a taste for such reading it is more fascinating than the best novel.

A MERCHANT.—An attractive window display is a picture few can resist, but a great many people in Charlottetown do not pass your store. Display your goods with attractive word pictures in the advertising columns of the Guardian, and few will miss the sight. This will tell the buying public what you have and the low prices for which you sell. There is no better way to create desire for what you sell than an attractive announcement in this popular paper. There is no better way to tell the people where they can get their wants supplied.

MOST DAMNING AND DAMNABLE RECORD

What the American Manufacturers Record calls the most damning and damnable record of German wickedness ever discovered is the confession of August Thyssen a German steel manufacturer of international renown, which has been reprinted by the Record in pamphlet form. It shows that in 1912 the Kaiser's plans for a world war had been so far advanced that he took into his confidence some of the great financial and industrial magnates of the Fatherland explained to them his purpose and asked if they were prepared to finance the war. He promised them that the war would be over in 1915, and in return for the loans he required he was willing to give them great tracts of territory and business opportunities in various parts of the British Empire. According to Thyssen his promises were specific. Certain famous English estates were definitely allotted to various German millionaires. Thyssen himself was promised 30,000 acres of land in Australia and a loan of \$750,000 from the Deutsche Bank at 3 per cent. to develop the property. A syndicate was formed for the exploitation of Canada with a capital of \$100,000,000, half of which was to be supplied by the Government.

An Amazing Document

This story of Thyssen's is in many respects the most remarkable that the war has produced. In the United States, Senator Owen observed that it had been printed in England, in the United States, in Switzerland and Japan, and not a word of denial had come from Thyssen. This may be due to the fact that the author is either in another world or in jail. The Record does not mention the circumstances in which the document was prepared whether it was published in Germany or whether Herr Thyssen went to Switzerland or some other neutral country in order to ease himself of so much perilous stuff. He says in beginning his confession that he writes for the purpose of opening the eyes of Germans "especially of the business community," to facts. In another part of his document he says that his own plant has been taken over by the Government at a price that means confiscation because he refuses any longer to subscribe to the war loans.

What Hohenzollerns Feared

He says that the Hohenzollerns had come to the conclusion in 1912 that unless there was a great war the German military system would be broken up, and that with its collapse would have come the downfall of the Hohenzollern authority. It was, then, to save the power of the Kaiser and perhaps of the Crown Prince, that the war was planned. This, of course is Herr Thyssen's guess. He knows, because he was present at several of the conferences, that Bethmann-Hollweg had meetings with a large number of the leading German business men in which he explained to them that a war had been decided on, and that it would profit Germans to support it. To his own knowledge specific promises were made by the ex-Chancellor to 80 German business men. Some were to have concessions in India; others special rights in Canada; others tracts in Australia, and others again, mansions in England. It is curious that the plunder was all to be found in the British Empire. The famous saying, "We have one foe, and one alone, England," now takes on new significance.

Kaiser Gives His O. K.

The Chancellor's promises were later on confirmed by the Kaiser. On three occasions he addressed large private gatherings in 1912 and 1913. He was even more profuse in what he promised than his agent. He said that he was pleading nothing that could not be redeemed, and most of his hearers agreed that the investment was most inviting. So, instead of hurling again at the head of the War Lord the imprecations that rise naturally to the lips, let us remember that the business kings and captains of industry of Germany willingly entered the conspiracy with him. His goal was an increase of his power. There was an increase in their fortunes. The idea of patriotism did not enter the heads of any of them. They could better way to tell the people where they can get their wants supplied.

dead German soldiers, as out of dead British and French and American and Belgian soldiers. So why should they hesitate?

Samson and the Pillars

Having secured the approval of the Germans who controlled the money for the enterprise the machinery was set in motion which led finally to the war—and the events that led up to the assassination of the Austrian Archduke, when they are brought to light, will make another great story—and Germany was launched on her adventure to make war and to make war pay. The magnates who had acquiesced in the Kaiser's plans contributed cheerfully to the first few dozens war loans. Then some of them contracted the habit of looking out of the window when they were asked for further assistance, especially after the war continued over 1916. Herr Thyssen refused to keep up his payments. With moving sympathy for himself he mentions that he was blackmailed by the Government. He resisted, for as a business man he had come to the conclusion that he had put his money on the wrong horse, and now he has been ruined. However, like Samson he has brought down with him a mighty house. The Hohenzollerns share his fate.

War Garden Bulletin

PRACTICAL DAILY GUIDE FOR VACANT LOT AND BACKYARD GARDENERS ENLISTED IN GREATER PRODUCTION CAMPAIGN.

Issued by the Canada Food Board in collaboration with experts on the staff of the Dominion Experimental Farm.

PULL UP THE WEAKLINGS.

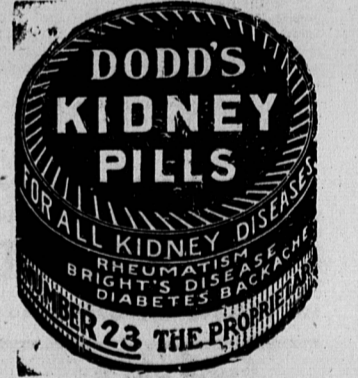
Thinning should be going on continuously these days. The war gardener must show himself to be merciful in getting rid of all weaklings for they serve no purpose other than to sap for themselves the strength which should be reserved for the stronger plants. It stands to reason that if too many plants are trying to take nourishment from the soil, none of them will thrive as it should. Ordinarily in thinning it is better to pull out the plants in the centre of the bunches which have come up together.

The following scale is a good one to go by in thinning:

Table with 2 columns: Vegetable and Quantity. Carrots 2 lbs., Lettuce 3, Parsley 4, Radish 2, Spinach 3, Turnip 3, Beet 4, Parsnip 3, Salsify 3, Onions 3.

NO SUBMARINE BASE ON COAST

WASHINGTON, June 11.—Methodical survey of the entire Atlantic coast from the Mexican line to Halifax has failed to bring to light any evidence that German submarines have employed a shore base or have had touch with the shores at any point, Secretary of the Navy Daniels said today. This was taken as an official denial or report that strange signals had been seen at night from remote sections of the coast.



Advertisement for Sleep Meter by G. H. Taylor, Jeweler and Engraver. A medium priced alarm clock made by the Big Ben people. A good looker, a good timekeeper and a sure alarm. There are some in our window. Price \$2.25.

WARM WEATHER FOOTWEAR

White poplin and canvas boots high and medium cut, printed or round toes white enamelled leather or canvas covered heels, prices ranging from \$2.00 to \$3.75. Pumps and oxfords in the very latest styles, also a big showing of rubber sole sporting shoes. High cut canvas boots for the growing girl in low and medium heels. Mincee sizes 11 to 2, \$1.85 to \$2.60. Infants white boots sizes 3 to 7 1/2, \$1.35.

GOFF BROS.