

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1929

DOING THINGS

OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

We note with considerable gratification, perhaps not unmixed with sympathy, the activities of our sister Maritime Provinces. At the opening of the New Brunswick legislature a few days ago the speech from the Throne was bristled with the recital of things accomplished and of others in immediate prospect.

In Saturday's issue of The Guardian there appeared an address on Education by Rev. Dr. E. H. Ramsay, delivered before the Ministerial Association at its recent meeting. This address is worthy of most serious consideration, not only of the clergy-men of the Province, but of parents and teachers as well as of the Government.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The gay gondoliers in Venice may have to substitute ice boats for their picturesque craft. Ice is reported to have clogged up the canals and lagoons in one city where motor traffic jams are unknown.

Notes By The Way

Will Germany remain republican? The question is still under discussion in Germany and elsewhere. The deposed Kaiser, it is stated, confidently hopes to return to Berlin, perhaps to reign and re-establish his dynasty there.

"How few Germans there must be who do not look back with regret to the period when we, as a free and united people, were in the habit of felicitating our Sovereign—the Peace Emperor, as all the world termed him—when his natal day came round!

No doubt we reaped then the fruits of the labors of the previous generation under Emperor William I and Bismarck. And did not the Wilhelmistic generation under the personal sway of the Emperor enjoy the profits of those labors manifold?

The finances were well-ordered and taxes were levied at a low rate, that people cannot comprehend nowadays how the business of government could be conducted. At all. Corruption in public offices was a thing unknown.

At the head of the Empire stood a Sovereign who not only in his private life was a shining example to his people, but was the best ruler the people could have for their government. He was the indefatigable sponsor for the German fleet...

A scheme for saving law costs has been advocated by Sir Edward Perry, a retired County Court Judge in England, following the successful operation of a similar one in Denmark. He proposes that to £50 the Judge shall be made a mediator between the parties in a dispute, and no man be allowed to issue a plaint in the County Court until the case had been before the Judge to see if he could not bring about an agreement.

The speaker emphasized the need of adapting the subjects of study to the needs of the pupils and of a re-organization of the school districts on a larger area basis. "The former district schools will be retained for work up to the 6th grade. But a double-barrelled junior high school—and if the population be adequate—a senior high school are placed in the centre of the new enlarged district."

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That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

LYING DOWN SAFEST FOR HEART

One of the little mistakes well meaning friends make when they are trying to help a fainting or injured person is trying to prop up the head with a pillow or coat, or else put a supporting arm around him and hold him in a sitting position.

Now the first thought in fainting or an injury should be to give the heart every chance to do its best work, and it is able to do this in the lying down position.

In the sitting or erect position the lungs get more room, remand more air, and therefore demand also more blood from the heart. The erect position means also that the heart has to pump blood upwards, instead of on a level as is the case where the patient is lying down.

Physiologists tell us that, generally speaking, if the heart in the lying down position is doing one unit of work, it does three units at the sitting position, five units at standing position, and ten units in exercise as in brisk walking. These figures are relative of course. You can readily see therefore that allowing the fainting or injured person to lie absolutely quiet, with enough movement in air about him to take or move away the waste from his lungs, enables the heart, however feeble, to gradually gain strength.

I spoke recently of a bed patient in a tuberculosis sanitarium who expected to lie flat in bed for two years before he even sat up.

Why? So that his lungs would get the best possible chance to rest. Lying so quietly his lungs did not need to move so much to give him the amount of air he needed.

On the other hand you can readily see that in an asthmatic or bronchitic patient, who is naturally anxious to get rid of the waste in his lungs, and get more fresh air or oxygen into his system, sits, stands up, or gets to a window, because in an erect position he can get more action from his lungs.

However, the thought we want to get to-day is that the lying down position is the "safest" in injury or a faint, and that sitting or standing at this time may induce shock or complete collapse. And this applies where there has been illness. The patient should be willing to lie in bed until the doctor considers it safe for him to get up.

THE LAND WE LOVE

By FRANK LEIGH

THE IROQUOIS INDIAN NATION

Q. Who were the Iroquois? A. The Iroquois Indian Nation was one of the most remarkable, intellectual and physical development of all the tribes, north of Mexico. They were a forest people, who occupied parts of New York state, and later in Ontario where the six nations are a branch of this stock, as were the so called neutrals. They had many other tribal relationships. Their general council and laws are still the admiration of students. The Iroquois were the chief enemies of the early French settlers and were responsible for the extermination of the Huron tribes on the shores of the Georgian Bay.

THE POET'S CORNER

MORTALITY

We cannot kindle when we will The fire that in the heart resides, The spirit bloweth and is still, In mystery our soul abides; But tasks in hours of insight willed Can be through hours of gloom fulfilled.

With aching hands and bleeding feet We dig and heap, lay stone on stone; We bear the burden and the heat Of the long day, and wish 'twere done.

Not till the hours of light return All we have built do we discern. —Matthew Arnold.

The Federal and Provincial Governments are committed to an improved Car Ferry, but for some unexplained cause the project is being woefully delayed and nothing to speed it up. Present indications are that we cannot have the new Car Ferry steamer earlier than in 1930. Think of another winter, perhaps a very severe one, and our sole reliance for transport to and from the outside world confined to the old, battered and almost disabled vessel on the route at present.

A Door Into The Tropical Under-Sea World

Two days from Washington on the Havana Special and one is at Key West. Eight hours directly to the west, aboard the Anton Dohrn—past the Marquesas atoll, uninhabited and hangrove covered; past Half Moon shoal, on which the 1929 hurricane hurled the ill-fated Val Bonera and her 360 passengers; past Rebecca Shoal lighthouse, holding sleepless and lonely vigil; past Fort Jefferson, the astounding structure completed by Jefferson Davis when Secretary of War—and Loggerhead Key is reached.

It is here that Carnegie Institution of Washington has set up a laboratory for the study of marine life. It is here that, as it were, a door has been opened through which selected scientists enter that fairyland which lies hidden beneath the crystal-clear waters of the tropical sea. Moreover, it is literally true that here men actually pass beneath the sea into this enchanting world of beautiful order and balance and explore twenty to thirty feet of its upper level at will.

A Thrilling Experience

It is a thrilling experience for the visitor. The Darwin equipped with air pump and coils of rubber hose pipe, is anchored over a spot not too deep and known to be particularly interesting. A short ladder is hung over the side. As one reaches the last rung, before stepping out into water-filled space the hose is attached to an 85-pound copper, dome-like helmet, in the front of which a square of plate glass is securely fitted. Carefully John Mills, the engineer, lowers the helmet over one's head until its weight securely rests upon shoulders. An assistant takes stand at the air pump. That is the extent of the preparations. The visitor is told to let go.

In response to anxious questions for final instructions, Engineer Mills says, nonchalantly: "Go where you please and do what you please. When your breath clouds the glass, tip your head letting the water run inside the helmet, and the glass will clear. Follow the hose back to the boat when you wish to return."

Reconstruction of Values

Gently as a feather one comes to rest on ocean floor, so nearly balanced is he between depressing weight and supporting buoyancy. Quickly the realization comes that in a moment of time one has entered a world where his sense of values must be reconstructed. He strains his ears but hears no sound. He looks upward but sees no sky. He gazes outward, but even under the most favorable condition, fifty feet marks the limit of his horizon. No sharp contrasts of light and shade are to be observed for the all-pervading illumination, diffused as it is, softens every outline and angularity and shrouds every object in a peculiar, mysterious haze.

The water, transparent and constantly moving, as seen from above, seems no longer to be water, but a queer, encompassing medium without motion. One isn't conscious even that it is wet. He stretches his hand toward a great coral-head towering beside him. It is beyond the sweep of his arm. He attempts to place his foot on a bit of jutting coral but misses it entirely. Gorgonians (a coral-like form) and other growths, ankle-high when viewed from the boat, strike him at waist or shoulder or overtop him altogether. Deceitful which seemed slight to him before are often seen to run off into huge depressions, sometimes, even, into veritable gorges.

One's own movements, as he walks about, as he turns, as he stoops to examine an object at his feet, as he probes under overhanging ledge cause him to laugh—they are so like the slow-motion pictures he has seen at the movies. No sprinting records will ever be broken by man at the bottom of the sea.

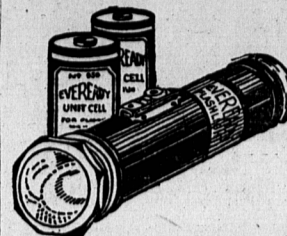
Not until one enters the world of the fishes does he realize that, in sharp contrast with conditions in his own world, these finny creatures can practically disregard gravity. Lightly suspended in their investing fluid, a quiver of fin or tail propels them with equal ease in any direction whether up or down. Earth-bound man, on the other hand, rises above the ground upon which he treads only with the greatest difficulty.

Perhaps, however, one is most surprised at the calmness of the reception accorded him by the inhabitants of the submarine world. He is somewhat abashed to find that instead of creating excitement, not to say consternation, as he expects, his coming arouses only mild curiosity.

Nature has taught fish which live in the shallows, that the enemies which are to be feared most are those, like the sea-birds, which attack from above. Consequently when a person approaches them walking on the sea bottom they swim lazily about him and idly nose him over. Even a dreaded barracuda, called the "tiger of the sea," so fierce is he reputed to be, treated the astonished stranger with good-natured consideration, for after inspecting him for a few moments he swam slowly away.

Limited as is the range of one's vision when under water, it is yet extensive enough to convince him of the extraordinary variety, the vividness of coloration, the complete adaptation to conditions, the incredible prodigality, of the life that has there developed. The man who knows most about this life from actual observation is Professor W. H. Longley of Goucher College. Professor Longley has directed the work at the Laboratory on Loggerhead Key for Carnegie Institution during the past six seasons. But for many years he has been studying the habits of fishes and of other marine organisms during which time he has spent more than 3,000 hours beneath the water. He often carries a specially designed camera with him and has secured many beautiful photographs of scenes beneath the sea. He thinks nothing of remaining below for four or five hours at a stretch. In the American Museum Journal he has given a vivid word-picture of this life: "Except when the light is strongest and the water itself most free from sediment, it denies one sight of all but the immediate surroundings, and

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For months evidence has been pouring in from one place after another telling of liquor scandals in which public officials have been involved. It seems improbable that there is a single state of the entire 48 which has not had instances of serious corruption from this cause.

Chicago is terrible, but that is not the worst of it. Chicago is becoming typical, as other places grow more like Chicago. Liquor cases congest the courts; the liquor traffic corrupts the police, extending its influence to other officials of government. This business involves enormous sums of money, while the hazards and greed connected with it lead to violence.

The very foundations of our social order are being undermined, creating an abyss into which our civilization may slip. Respect for law diminishes and the prospect is frightful. Sporadic efforts to deal with such an evil are scarcely better than jokes about it. There have been raids and police reorganizations. Fines and imprisonments have been imposed without noticeable result. Chicago goes from worse to worst and the rest of the country follows on the same course.

The law is Federal. People have the right to look to their central government for relief. The new administration about to take office at Washington must face the situation as it is. To do otherwise would be to bid for its own failure. Politicians have had an idea that they could let prohibition slide. Instead it has been exploding. There has been no sustained and widespread attempt at enforcement. The country expects that the new administration will grapple with the public peril.

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