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Montague Black Fox Exchange
Correspondence Solicited
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BIRTHS

LOED.—At Victoria, on Dec. 2nd, to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Lord, a son.—V

DEATHS

MILLIKEN.—In Charlottetown on Tuesday, Dec. 9th, Mrs. R. F. Milliken, aged 34. Funeral leaves the residence of Mrs. Daniel Mason, 34 Richmond on Thursday afternoon at three o'clock.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH POWDER 25c.
In relief direct to the diseased parts by the improved Blower. Heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. 25c. a box; blower free. Accept no substitutes. All dealers or McKinnon, Taylor & Co., Limited, Toronto.



Sallings of C. G. S. "Minto"

Until further notice the C. G. S. "Minto" will leave the Railway Wharf at Summerside at 8 a. m. on the arrival of the Mail Special from Charlottetown, for Tormentine, connecting with the west-bound train at 12:45 p. m. Will leave Tormentine on arrival of the train from Seckville due Tormentine at 9 a. m. Will leave Tormentine at 10 a. m. for Summerside.

(sd.) T. G. TAYLOR,
Agent Marine & Fisheries
3156, 12, 10M61

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Head Office at Charlottetown
Branch Offices at Summerside, Alberton, Souris, and Montague.

DIARY OF EVENTS

TO-DAY.

City Magistrate's Court, 9 a. m.
Supreme Court, 11 a. m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1913

FEMALE COMPETITION

In another column we reproduce from the Montreal Daily Mail an interesting contribution on the controversy of the present high cost of living. The writer deals very fully with the subject and considers the bearing of trusts, tariffs, an over-production of gold upon it. While making allowances for the effect, directly and indirectly, of these on the upward tendency of prices the writer puts them aside from being the main cause, which he alleges to be the competition of women in the labor market. He urges that since girls become competitors with men the tendency has been to reduce wages and when a stringency occurs, or when, from other causes, the cost of living goes up the men's wages have not a corresponding movement with the result that in the disparity the high cost of living becomes a painful reality; in other words, his argument is that female competition has upset the law of supply and demand on the labor market, and that we are suffering in consequence of this by being forced to face an increased cost of food stuffs and other materials with stationary incomes.

It is interesting to note in this connection that the attitude adopted by the writer in our contemporary is that of the English suffragettes. In the old country there are many more women than men; the prospects of marriage are getting beautifully less; and the temptations toward social ostentation greater than most of us here dream of. This is not due to any law of nature, for a merciful Providence provides that the sexes, at the outset at all events, shall be fairly proportionate, but the social conditions are such in the present day that it is practically impossible for a great proportion of the young men to think of matrimony with any prospects of comfort to themselves and family. There is, then, only one thing for the girls to do, work for themselves. They therefore enter into competition with their brothers and fathers in the struggle for existence. Employers cannot pay the same rate of wages to women as to men and gradually the cheaper female labor is ousting the men from nearly all the industries where women can be employed. The men have either to accept the reduced rate of wages or remain idle, and either alternative means a marriageable man the less. The thoughtful among the women recognize this and one of the first reforms they promise to introduce when they have the power will be legislation making it compulsory where women are employed in the same class of work as men that they shall receive the same rate of pay. This would tend to the employment of men instead of women in most industries, for employers know they can get, on the whole, better results from men.

Gradually but steadily more men will be employed at remunerative wages, and just as soon as this is accomplished, so will the marriage market improve, and woman will once more be restored to her rightful sphere of wife and mother.

The writer in the Daily Mail has this as a view when he asks: "Does an apprenticeship served to a writing machine, or a training on ledgers qualify a woman to fulfill her duties towards her husband? Does she thus learn to buy the best and the cheapest? Is she given an insight into the art of culinary? Is she taught to economize? I am afraid not. I am afraid she is a useless ornament, and a heavy expense to her husband."

MANNERS

Among the older people one frequently hears the complaint that the children of today are not as respectful to their elders as in the brave days of old. While making the usual discount for falling memory, the prejudice of self witness and other circumstances which might bear directly or indirectly on the evidence, it will be admitted frankly that, whether the tendency has been upward or downward, there is still room for improvement.

As to any marked decadence we have our doubts. Children were al-

ways young and some of them bold and impudent, but we are not aware that any special period in the world's history has held a monopoly of these very disagreeable vices. Even as long ago as the early bible days we read of children saluting an aged prophet on the street with such an epithet as "baldhead." For their impudence these children were denounced by bears, but their fate does not appear to have exerted any marked influence upon future generations. The point in this particular incident is that all the children of the village in which it occurred were not denounced by bears and that, therefore, all the children were not impudent and ill-mannered. This also has been true throughout all the ages since, and is true today.

Impudence is a disease, natural or acquired and always despicable. If the young people could only realize what a handicap it is to be ill-mannered and rude, how it lowers them in the estimation of those whose esteem they most desire, it would be, perhaps, the most striking lesson they could receive.

All manners and rudeness are seldom the outcome of home training. There are few homes, be their ignorance ever so dense, in which natural affection is not the first principle brought into play and in the midst of natural affection rudeness finds little scope for development. It is on the street and in the street-trained company that rudeness usually begins and where it develops. By its quality the character of the company kept may be determined very accurately. "One is known by the company he keeps," and it is not always necessary to see the company, it is reflected in his demeanour.

All manners or rudeness is, in the last analysis, unkindness. The kindly disposition will reveal itself in action which, although possibly crude and unrefined, cannot be mistaken for rudeness or want of manners. True, there is a polish which is acquired by training and from example; it is the "guinea stamp" and may be found on real gold or on counterfeit coin. The boy under the polish is the gold or the base metal and either will reveal itself eventually. The secret of good manners, of manly or womanly behaviour, in company or out of it, is not sentimentality, nor pretence, nor "company manners" but is the outward expression of the inward grace of kindness; it is the Golden Rule in action.

When the young people forget that their manners on the street, in company or in their homes, is what stamps them in the eyes of their elders as lovable or the reverse, they are placing a stumbling block in their own path over which it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible to climb. This is worth remembering. It is worth much more to cultivate kindness and in doing so to guard against any possible display of rudeness. A kind boy cannot be rude nor can a rude boy be kind hearted.

In the training of the young this one fact should be impressed upon them. Kindness, genuine, wholehearted kindness is one of the greatest equipments for the battle of life. It will be found a sure antidote to ill-manners, to selfishness, to gossip and to the many other vices that make their possessor despised and mistrusted.

NOTES

We are in receipt of the thirteenth annual report of the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis with transactions of the annual meeting held in Ottawa, on March 12 and 13 last. As is already known to our readers, His Royal Highness the Governor General is honorary president of the Association. His Honor ex-Lieutenant Governor D. A. McKinnon of Prince Edward Island is one of the honorary vice-presidents and Dr. H. D. Johnson, Charlottetown, one of the vice-presidents. Another honored Prince Edward Islander, Sir Louis H. Davies, K. C., M. G., is one of the Executive. The volume contains a number of excellent addresses delivered at the annual meeting by some of the most eminent Canadian physicians and also an address by Dr. Friedman, reports of the different sanatoria in Canada and of the branches of the Association throughout the Dominion. The book will be found exceedingly interesting and valuable especially to those who have given the great white plague question any thought.

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THOUGHTFUL THEORY OFFERED TO EXPLAIN HIGH COST OF LIVING

Invasion of Labor Market by Women Suggested as Chief Reason

TARIFF NOT A FACTOR

Correspondent Advises Women to Remember That Their Power Lies in using Men

A Reader writes to the Daily Mail. The high cost of living: Why can we not live, not marrying, not enjoying life as well as we could ten years ago? This is the question which everyone is asking of his neighbor, a question which is engaging the attention of economists the world over. And it is not difficult to understand why the existence of such a state of affairs is a matter for world-wide concern. Want and deprivation incite to crime; marriage acts as a deterrent. Does not the happily married woman occupy a much safer position in life than her maiden sister? Is not the descent of many a girl into the life of sin traceable to the fact that she was not strong enough to fight the battle of life alone? Do not the responsibilities attending the support of a wife tend to stimulate a young man's ambitions? Does she not strengthen his power of resistance against the temptations with which he comes in contact daily? Does not the very fact that he is a married man remove from his pathway the temptations by which his bachelor brother is often caught and his times ruined? It is the realization of these facts that has led men and women, who themselves may not be affected by the high cost of living but who are concerned for the welfare of their fellow creatures, and the best interests of their country at large, to take it upon themselves to find the reason for the existence of the high prices which today make marriage almost impossible. Many reasons have been suggested, but the beneficial results from the application of any of them are not yet apparent. There has not been a halt in the upward march, much less a retreat.

The Trusts: The activities of the Trusts, and the elimination of free competition in business, has been largely blamed for creating and sustaining high prices. And although we may, perhaps, thank the "Beef Trust" for the high price of meat, there is not also a Creamery Trust that holds a monopoly in the cheese and butter industries? Or a compact of the landlords, who are each year, increasing our rents? While we cannot altogether exonerate the Trusts, I hardly think that we shall find in them the reason for the widespread and general inflation of prices which recent years have witnessed.

The tariff: The removal of the duty on foreign manufactured or foreign grown foodstuffs is advocated rather as a remedy than as a reason for high prices. That if the tax, on imports to be done away with imported goods will cost less to the importer, the retailer, and the consumer, is a very convincing argument. The only loser would be the Government. But when we consider the immense amount of money it requires to finance a government, if we derive that government's revenue, its principal sources of revenue must be looked for in some other direction. Probably a new tax will be levied, which will offset the saving made on the price of foodstuffs. It looks very much like borrowing from Peter to pay Paul. And further, what percentage of our total consumption of foodstuffs is imported? The tariff, therefore, to be advanced to account for high prices is the over-production of gold. We are told by those who should know that the output of gold has been increasing year by year; that an increased quantity is responsible for a decrease in value; and that a decrease in the value of gold must naturally be reflected in an increase in the price of all commodities which gold will purchase. But this is as far as the argument goes. Suppose we continue long in the same line. (And I will here put a question, which, on the face of it, may look ridiculous.) Has the increase in the price of the necessities of life anything to do with the cost of living? According to the theory the price of all commodities must rise as the value of gold falls? Is labor then both manual and clerical, not a commodity, or is it that wages also have shared in the general advance. If one bushel of wheat would buy three bushels of potatoes, and by reason of a decrease in the value of gold the cash price of both wheat and potatoes double, would not one bushel of wheat still buy three bushels of potatoes? Let us substitute the word "wages" for the word "wheat," and would it make any difference to the result? What would it matter if gold dropped in value until it became as cheap as coal? Would it have anything to do with the widening margin between income—or in other words the value of labor—and the value of what with the price we received for our

labor? The natural conclusion is that wages have not kept up with the general advance. Wages are lagging behind and to account for their lagging behind let us again refer to the gold theory, the theory of over-production. Let us assume that by reason of an over-abundance of wheat, the price of wheat did not maintain its advance. One bushel of wheat would not long be considered a fair exchange for three bushels of potatoes. And the reason why one bushel of wheat would no longer be a fair exchange for three bushels of potatoes would be because of an over-abundance of wheat, that particular commodity wheat had fallen off in value. Is it not reasonable, therefore, to assume that labor cannot today be exchanged for the same value in commodities as it could ten years ago because of an over-crowded labor market?

The reason for an over-crowded labor market: If tradition is to be credited, man was created to inherit the earth. But the Creator, realizing that man alone would not be capable of appreciating his inheritance, gave him woman, as a companion, to participate in his successes and to share in his sorrows. History has proven the wisdom of this arrangement, as between man and woman. Behind every successful home may be found the guiding hand of a woman. She has inspired man to the bravest deeds and noblest actions. How has she done it? She has done it simply in accomplishment of the end toward which she was created. She has done it, in short, by being a woman, by devoting her time and attention to the home. The establishment of a happy home she considered as the accomplishment of her mission in life and she instilled her daughters with the same idea.

Now, is this the case today? Of recent years, probably in the first instance through dire necessity, woman has undertaken to compete with man and today girls as soon as they leave school, are rushed through a business college, and unloaded into offices. Housekeeping is considered a drudgery; cooking is no longer a science. These girls are attracted by the pin-money they make, and the freedom it gives them. They have obtained a foothold in the commercial world because the commercial world finds them cheap. Cheapness is their one outstanding qualification. Through cheapness they have usurped man's place in many lines, and they threaten his prestige in others. Men have the choice of accepting lower salaries or of being thrown out of work. And in this age of high prices are low salaries conducive to the betterment of social conditions?

And right here we find another reason why the advent of woman into commercial life has augmented the difficulty of making both ends meet. Marriage is a union of man and woman in which both should be especially qualified to fulfill his or her obligations towards the other. Man, by reason of his greater strength, to provide the necessities of woman to administer his household. Does an apprenticeship served to a writing machine, or a training on ledgers qualify a woman to fulfill her duties towards her husband? Does she thus learn to buy the best and the cheapest? Is she given an insight into the art of culinary? Is she taught to economize? I am afraid not; I am afraid she is a useless ornament and a heavy expense to her husband.

Conclusions: I have endeavored to attribute to the invasion of the commercial field by woman the present congested state of the labor market, and the consequent difficulty, if not impossibility of married life under the high prices of the day. This, in my opinion, is the one great underlying force which slowly but surely has been widening the gap between the price of that which we must buy to live, and the money we are earning with which to buy it. Criminologists might also trace indirectly to the same source many of the lesser crimes which are peculiar of large cities. I have also tried to show at the same time, how woman has rendered herself unfit for that which she was created. The goal for which nearly every woman is aiming is matrimony and she, herself, has rendered that goal almost impossible of attainment. She has defeated her own end. Perhaps the day is not far off when husband and wife shall be employed as bookkeeper and stenographer, respectively; when we shall patronize restaurants exclusively, and, save hotels, shall know no homes! Let us hope, however, that this shall not be the case.

Let us hope that before long woman shall see the error of her way. At least even if she is wrong, she is sincere. She believes that by voting she can infuse her natural purity into politics. She is confident that she can revolutionize the social world. She has merely lost sight for the moment of the manner in which the Creator intended that she should accomplish this much to be desired result.

Women, you are not man's equal, you are his superior. When you are his friend you are his master, but when you are his enemy you are powerless. It is only by working through him, not against him, that you can accomplish anything.

HUERTA MAY HAVE LEFT MEXICO CITY

MEXICO CITY, December 8.—Provisional President Huerta's family is again reported to have left the capital. A report, apparently well founded, current here today, was to the effect that the members of the president's household had gone to Guadalajara, the capital of the State of Jalisco, from where it was said they would go to the port of Manzanillo, in the State of Colima. Captain Luis Fuentes, President

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