

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

64.00 per year (in advance) mailed for year in advance.
President—W. Chester B. Melara.
Secretary—Eliak. Col. D. A. Markinson, J. R. H.
Editor and Manager—J. H. Hurvart.

BOSTON—Old South News, 281 Tremont St.
NEW YORK—Hollings News Dept, 30 West 40th St.
NEW GLASGOW, N. S.—M. E. Faulkner.
SUMMERSIDE—Hunter Book Print.
MONTAGUE—W. A. Johnston.
SOUTH—M. S. Adams.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1929

AUDIT OF DRINK BUSINESS

The Government runs one wholesale drink store and four retail drink stores, one each in Charlottetown, Georgeown, Summerside and Alberton. The total revenue from these, according to the Government's own report (not submitted to the Legislature but to the Temperance Alliance) is \$130,000, yet no profit is shown, and no audit has been made or published to show what has become of the \$26,000 net profits that should be available. Since the lamented death of Mr. John Agnew there has been no independent active head of the business in the city, Mr. Brown, the present chairman being a mere figure-head who resides at Margate coming to the city only occasionally, while Premier Saunders remains in chief control. All communications according to advertisement have to be sent to Margate, so presumably there are the headquarters of the Liquor Commission unless it be the Premier's office to which people may go on liquor business. Is it reasonable to expect that proper supervision of this enormously profitable business is taking place when (a) there is no direct head in Charlottetown looking after the business, (b) no published report of the audit of the business, and (c) no profits credited to the Provincial Auditor's report? The Saunders Government has absolutely no excuse except political expediency for this gross slackness. Under the Prohibition Law, section 181, the Prohibition Commissioners are compelled on the thirtieth of June and thirty-first of December of each year to pay to the Provincial Treasurer the surplus money, if any, over and above \$200, remaining on hand after discharging all the necessary expenses. How can the Government be satisfied the law is being carried out in this respect unless it audits the Commission's books and if such surplus be due and payable, how can the Provincial Auditor's report be correct if it be not taken account of therein? The more one looks into the Saunders Government financing, the more suspicious one becomes of the plea that the External Audit has been dispensed with because of the two or three hundred dollars it would entail. We trust the Opposition will probe the matters to the bottom before consenting to the passing of the estimates.

SETTLEMENT REACHED

It will be learned with general satisfaction throughout the Province that the threatened impasse between the Government and the teachers has not materialized, and that the schools will re-open after the Easter holidays on Wednesday. In the circumstances, it is fortunate indeed that the Government has reconsidered its attitude adopted at Friday's conference, and is now prepared to have the whole educational question, including the teachers' salaries, submitted to an independent commission headed by an educationalist of prominence from outside the Province, the name of Dr. Cyrus MacMillan, of McGill University, being mentioned in this connection. In this way, the claims of the teachers will have a thorough airing, and there is reasonable ground for the hope that an equitable settlement will be reached. It is expected that this commission will meet in July, thus giving ample time for a report to be prepared before the next session of the Legislature. It would, of course, have been more satisfactory had the Government adopted from the beginning the course it now proposes to follow. The teachers' grievance has been an outstanding one, and there was ample time during the past year to arrange for an amicable settlement. As far back as May last The Guardian pointed out the danger of further delay and suggested that no time should be lost in making such arrangements as would divert further dissatisfaction on the part of the teachers. The Government, however, chose to ignore this timely advice, and the matter was allowed to go on until it reached a stage where action of some kind was actually forced upon them. The condition of affairs brought about by this attitude on the part of the Government has been broadcast over Canada and the United States, to the discredit of the Province and of our whole educational system. Now that a settlement has been reached, however, we trust that the difference between the Government and the Federation will be forgotten, and that the solemn assurance given by Hon. Mr. LePage on behalf of the Government will be carried out to the letter.

A NEEDED REFORM

Col. O. M. Biggar, formerly Chief Electoral Officer for Canada, suggests to a special Parliamentary committee, the appointment of permanent returning officers, and deputy returning officers, as one means of preventing corrupt practices at general elections. He argues that the anxiety of each political party to appoint its own election officers clearly proves that the returning officer is supposed to exert some influence, and scandals like that of the notorious Baldy Robb in Athabasca in 1925, lend color to his argument. The appointees he considers should be selected from the ranks of federal, provincial, or local officials or well known men in public life. This would eliminate the feeling that one selected for such a position, was being rewarded for his aid, past or prospective, to his party. Another suggestion was a more careful preparation of the voters' lists. At present, particularly in populous centres, impersonation is frequently practised. With properly authenticated lists, this would be more difficult. The cost of preparing the voters' lists might also, Col. Biggar suggests, be greatly lessened. Under the present system the preparation of voters' lists for the whole Dominion costs about a million dollars, whereas under Col. Biggar's scheme if this amount were spread over four years, and the lists kept up to date by a yearly revision, lists having a high degree of accuracy could be continuously kept available. The weakness of the old electoral methods has often been demonstrated and the above proposals are along the right line and should be made effective.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"I want to say now that so far as the members on this side of the House are concerned, if the Stewart Government had been returned to power the teachers would be getting the advances for which they are now asking. That is our side of the argument."—Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan in the Draft Address debate. Premier Saunders argued that he too is poorly paid at \$2000 a year in comparison with other Premiers. He neglected to add that he receives also \$1500 as Attorney General, \$400 as a member of the Legislature, a free railway pass and all his travelling expenses to Ottawa and elsewhere. His office hours are not much longer than the teachers', and he has proxies to do his work at the public expense.

Notes By The Way

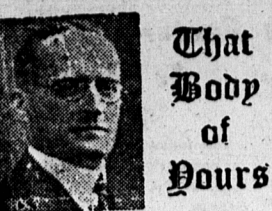
Ex-President Coolidge has written an article which appears in The Ladies Home Journal on "Promoting Peace through Preparation for Defence," in which he says the force required for adequate national defence "should be large enough so that others would see that there would be a great deal of peril involved in attacking us." The force, he says, "should not be so large that our country would feel that we would undergo no peril in attacking others." "Every one knows," he says, "that if there were no police our cities would be ransacked within 24 hours." "He makes one candid admission "I very strongly suspect," he says, "that if there were but one nation in the world supplied with an army and a navy, to make the supposition as strong as possible, if that nation were our own it would not be long before the other nations had been overrun. It seems to me that it is a moral certainty that we should find some excuse for laking that action. But when we know that other countries have a considerable ability to defend themselves, it is human nature for us to regard them with a more wholesome respect and be more careful about violating their rights. If we reverse this picture, we can likewise conclude that if others know we are prepared to defend our selves they will be less likely to commit offences against us."

We can all agree with Mr. Coolidge that if all other nations except the United States were unarmed they would be in peril of aggressive attack from his country. For he himself has said it, "But his sophistry is built upon the huge fallacy that the United States is in present or prospective danger of attack or insult by some other nation or some combination of powers. No such danger exists. On the contrary there is no other nation under the sun that is so secure against attack as the United States. Mr. Coolidge's country is by no means so defenceless as a city without a police force, as he would have us believe. It has now a navy as powerful as any other country ever had. Its coasts are defended by forts whose guns are of a calibre and effective range unequalled elsewhere. And its trained military forces are numbered in millions, although just now demobilized. His argument supports general disarmament among all nations rather than disarmament as a means of promoting and preserving peace. Against this we place the Shakespearian exclamation, "How oft the means to do ill deeds make ill deeds done," alongside of Mr. Coolidge's admission of what the United States would do if it had the power.

Fur farming, begun here has long since been carried to the ends of the earth. It is no longer confined to the breeding of foxes, of divers colors, but includes the propagation in captivity of beaver, otter, raccoon, sable, pine martin, fisher mink, muskrat and coyote. One of the big muskrat farms is located at Queen's B. C., and owned by the Swan Lake Company. It claims to have 50,000 rats within its enclosure and is to ship 8,000 of the live animals overseas within the next few months as breeders. Officers of the company state that 3,000 of these will go to North China and lesser numbers to England, Scotland and continental Europe.

United States Mail Airplanes are scheduled to fly thirteen million miles this year along many routes. A principal route stretches westward from New York to San Francisco. With this, northward routes connect to Boston and Montreal and to Victoria, B. C., and southward to Havana, New Orleans and Mexico. A long route runs southwestward comparatively near the Atlantic coast from Boston to Mexico City. All the principal cities in the United States are served with mail from north, south, east and west by airplanes.

An agreement has been made between the C. N. R. Department of Colonization, the White Star Steam Ships Co. and the British Government under which 100 cottages will be erected for British immigrant families that are being recruited for farm work in Canada. The work of construction will begin at once. With each cottage some out buildings and two acres of land will be allotted. The object in view is to provide temporary accommodation for families until they become acclimated and improve their condition and are ready to take up farms. The first lot of cottages will be built in the Northwest, but it is stated that similar arrangements may be made in other provinces. As the families become more permanently settled, the cottages vacated by them will be allotted to other British families that may come to Canada later.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Hours

It is now some months since "Tex" Rickard, the famous fight promoter passed away, following an operation for appendicitis. The late Dr. John B. Murphy, the famous surgeon, once made the statement that "In every death from appendicitis somebody is to blame." Who is the somebody? Rickard's illness came suddenly on New Year's Eve. Physicians pronounced it appendicitis and stated that an immediate operation was necessary. Rickard however determined to force himself to recover from what he believed to be an attack of "acute indigestion."

Five physicians the next day advised immediate operation but Rickard laughingly told them that if the pain persisted another two hours he would undergo the operation. At the end of that time, at the earnest pleading of his wife and the physicians, he consented to be rushed to the hospital.

Although the appendix was removed, so much gangrenous infection had developed that the amount of poisoning was more than could be combated. As Dr. Jno. B. Deaver says "In acute appendicitis the ideal treatment is to take out the appendix before peritonitis (inflammation of surrounding tissue) takes place."

The danger of appendicitis is the danger of peritonitis, therefore if the appendix is taken out before this occurs, the risk of the operation is very small. "Peritonitis renders the outcome uncertain and makes for trials and tribulations in the surgeon's life, and too often for the death of the patient."

You can see how the physicians and surgeons are handicapped when a strong vigorous man determines that he'll fight off the attack. That it is possible to have an attack of appendicitis and recover without an operation, is of course true. In fact it is possible, but not probable, that no further attacks will occur. However, when there is an acute attack, the pain persists, and the symptoms grow progressively worse, immediate operation is indicated.

Remember, less than one in a hundred die when operation is performed the first day and the death rate increases with delay in operating. No one likes the idea of undergoing an operation if it can possibly be avoided, but it is a dangerous thing to delay operation in appendicitis. If your physician and surgeon advise immediate operation, don't try to "fight it out." It is too dangerous.



FROM "A SHROPSHIRE LAD."

I hoed and trenched and weeded, And took the flowers to fair; I brought them home unheeded; The hue was not the wear. So up and down I sowed them For lads like me to find, When I shall lie below them, A dead man out of mind. Some seed the birds devour, And scme the season mares, But here and there will flower The solitary stars. And fields will yearly bear them As light-leaved springs come on, And luckless lads will wear them when I am dead and gone. —A. E. Housman.

Lesson in English

By W. B. Gordon WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: While "author," "poet," "lecturer," "doctor," are used for both masculine and feminine genders, "actress" is preferred for the feminine gender, not "actor." OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: applicable; accent first syllable, not the second. OFTEN MISPELLED: mammoth; three m's. SYNONYMS: delightful, pleasant, pleasing, gratifying, charming; agreeable, refreshing. WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: UNSCRUPULOUS; unprincipled. "He was a scrupulous adventurer."

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. This Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

PIE-CRUST PROMISES

Sir,—If the Teachers' Federation has not already capitulated they should positively avoid a settlement based on a Saunders promise, written or otherwise, for did he not make it a plank in his platform when he was last before the electorate that incorporated towns would share the C. N. R. grant? The Mayors of the several towns along with the Mayor of Charlottetown have been pressing for their share but to date, Can you beat it! And the public accounts show the amount as having been received during the year. Trust him? not much! I am, Sir, etc., ANTI-BLUFF

THE PROBLEM SOLVER

Sir,—Mr. Doull in a recent letter dealing with our schools asked the question, "Who shall give the solution?" Evidently this was intended as a poser to our citizens, or to give ordinary persons a revelation of their own inability. He himself knew, and in due time a letter to Thursday's Patriot brings the solution to the long expectant multitude. First of all, the present bolshevism must be eradicated. Mr. Lowther most of all is tainted with it. He caught a bad germ of it overseas when he fancied he was fighting for British fair play. Had he stayed at home with the rest of us and studied the letters with which Mr. Doull so frequently favors the public, he would have learned to distinguish, as readily as Mr. Doull himself does, Bolshevism from British fair-play. Mr. Lowther's recent promotion has brought him a substantial increase in salary. But he is not satisfied; he persists in demanding higher remuneration for the other teachers. Rank Bolshevism! Mr. Doull's British fair-play would have taught him to look out for himself, and let the "Cloveen Hoof" take the hindmost. (Cloveen Hoof is the expression Mr. Doull used in his letter, when he felt that he first had to say one more little naughty word at Mr. Lowther.) Mr. Lowther modestly appeals to British history, but "right there," shouts Mr. Doull in capital letters, "I take issue." What is a little thing like British History over against the ipse dixit of Mr. Doull? What can History do but gracefully retire from the stage, leaving Mr. Lowther convicted of Bolshevism?

Another crime proved against Mr. Lowther is that he has been selected for one of the best positions in the teaching profession of Prince Edward Island. From his letters indeed, one might suspect that he would stand near the top in any vocation. For aught Mr. Doull knows he may have been in the very front line when fighting the Germans. A forward fellow, indeed!

Furthermore, Mr. Doull accuses Mr. Lowther of being educated—an awful crime in a teacher! On his own part, Mr. Doull humbly gives thanks that he himself has been left in the natural state, that he may go on with self-confidence to discuss authoritatively matters of education. "Let the shoemaker stick to his last" Had Mr. Doull not turned aside to give lessons in patriotism to our soldiers, he could have blinded the eyes of the public with demonstrations in electricity instead—but they would have misced a lot of fun. Again is raised against advocates of worthy causes the old cry, "Thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil" Eut up to date, as Mr. Doull always is he voices it in truly modern phrase, "Thou art a Bolshevist, and hast a cloven-hoof." No, indeed, Mr. Doull is not going to apologize to the teachers for calling them names. He need make apologies to no one. Let him keep on writing letters, using at his pleasure the pronouns, I or we. But suit him, if he uses often enough. In his next effort, let him elucidate a proposition that he has advanced in his last letter, "Education has made all our teachers Conservatives."

I am, Sir, etc., OBSERVER

TEACHERS' STRIKE

Sir,—As a farmer taxpayer, and one interested in the educational welfare of the province, I wish to voice my opinion in connection with the matter of the Teachers' strike, for higher pay, which involves at this time the government for such an extra levy, and an already overburdened people whose expectations of last years crop have been sadly blasted. First from whence came this demand? and who has the right to enforce that demand, with the sword of Damocles? Did not the present staff of Teachers competent and incom-

THE EDUCATIONAL SITUATION

(A REVIEW BY "SCRUTATOR")

(2nd Article)

In the first article of this series, a short review was given of what was done for education during the Mathieson and Arsenault administrations, from the year 1912 to the year 1919. It was pointed out how out of the additional subsidy obtained in 1912 from the Federal Government a large part of it was allocated to education and the substantial benefit that resulted from increased salaries to teachers and other benefits that accrued from amendments to the School Act.

The first article ended with the enactment of the Educational Tax Act by which a levy varying in amount from two to three mills on real property of taxpayers and a poll tax of from two to four dollars was to be levied on all ratepayers and the monies so levied to be earmarked for educational purposes only. This act was passed in the last session of the Thirty-Eighth Assembly. This act met with the approval of the teachers and of all persons interested in the advancement of education, but as in all similar cases where the question of taxation was involved it was made a footstool by which the opposition in the House hoped to climb to power.

It was contended by the opposition in the House that there was no need of more taxes and one member launched the cry "that the then revenues of the province if properly administered were sufficient to double the teachers' salaries and still leave enough for the ordinary purposes of government." The Liberal party press made much of this and declared that, if the act went into force the farmers of the province would be saddled with a ruinous tax. In the hustings especially in Queens and Prince Counties the above slogan was repeated to the electors. Any cry against taxation is always a popular one and so it proved on this occasion. The Arsenault Government was nearly wiped out of existence.

After the Bell Government assumed power they were immediately met with the problem of shortage of revenue. Not only was there not sufficient revenue to double the teachers' salaries but there was not sufficient for ordinary expenditures. They now saw themselves forced to do the very thing which they had denounced during the election campaign.

Continued on page 6

petent who received their warrants to teach from the examining board of Prince of Wales College, agree to teach for so much salary and supplement for the year, and was it not voluntary acceptance of position and salary, both eagerly sought after by the applicants? They were the judges and their acceptance of the position of teachers made them servants of the public, and not dictators of the public.

Teachers of this island are not to be the overlords, but to be those who in the service of the people should look after the peoples' interest, and not at this time to place their own interest commingled with the pretence that the strike is in the interest and in the betterment of conditions all round. Oh, Consistency thou art a Jewell!

It seems to me that under the present contract the teachers should teach and keep open the schools until the expiration of their term, and then if they do not like the job, the pay, the condition, they do not have to engage again if they are not suited.

It is deplorable to read that P. E. Island is the tall of the educational kite and the lowest in per capita tax for educational purposes, but is it not also true, that the real value of the ability of many teachers have not been great enough to touch the sesame and unlock the purse strings of the public and creating greater appreciation of the people for work well done? Those who read Dr. Ramsay's paper before the Ministerial Association of Charlottetown must appreciate the loneliness of his remarks relative to the grading and consolidating of schools, to get a greater efficiency, and hence bridge the gap between the country school and P. W. C. where the difference is so great that the average student cannot pass and only the few are the privileged winners in the race. Truly Dr. Ramsay has said that the inferiority complex has been developed. Is there not a cause; as one of old asked, surely there is. A change would be welcomed all round, but would the imposition of this strike make matters better with closed schools, children made to suffer, and parents in protest, I think not. The attitude of the public is plainly understood by

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THE SANITARIUM Sir,—Is it true that Sir Charles Dalton built and equipped an up-to-date sanitarium at North Wiltshire, P. E. I. and handed it over to the Mathieson Government, to be used as a public institution, where tuberculosis patients might be cared for, and cured, with the intention, if possible, to rid the province of the ravages of the dread white plague?

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