

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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ANOTHER REPRIMAND

Under the heading "Cheap Political Sniping" the Vancouver Sun, leading Liberal newspaper of British Columbia, administers a crushing rebuke to Mr. Mackenzie King, its federal party leader, for endeavouring to make a major political issue out of the restoration of titles in Canada. This is the second occasion within recent months that the Sun has found it necessary to tell Mr. King "where he gets off at"; and it certainly does not "mince words in expressing what it thinks."

HIS ONLY HOPE

The Monoton Times well says that Mr. Mackenzie King's only hope of victory for his party is an appeal to the people while the public mind is more or less unsettled. He has no word of encouragement, no word of cheer for the Canadian people coming through one of the worst and certainly the most world-wide business depressions in history. He realizes that if the next general election does not take place before there is a decided return to more prosperous times and before the beneficial effects of the Empire trade agreements are more generally realized, he will have little chance of being returned to the Premiership. He has no broad policy upon which to appeal to the electorate and places his sole reliance in the depression. Now that there are unmistakable signs that the depression is lifting in Canada, Mr. King wishes gloomier than ever in his forebodings. It is a sorry predicament for the leader of any party to be in, since his egotistic expectations run counter to the hopes and expectations of every true Canadian.

PURE BRED STOCK

The total number of pedigree certificates registered by the Canadian National Records and approved by the Dominion Minister of Agriculture for the month of December, 1933, was 8,398 as compared with 7,540 in the previous month. This includes the pedigree of 168 horses; 3,038 cattle; 2,542 sheep; 588 swine; 360 foxes; 622 dogs; 1,078 poultry; and 5 goats. Horses were represented by 66 Clydesdales; 31 Thoroughbreds; 22 Belgian Draft; 18 Percheron; 16 Standard Bred; 10 French Canadian; 4 Shire; and 1 Shetland pony. Of the cattle, 781 were Shorthorn; 688 Jersey; 629 Ayrshire; 605 Hereford; 182 Aberdeen Angus; 157 Guernsey; 28 Canad (French); and 18 Red Pol. In the sheep registrations 840 were Merino; 666 Ryeland; 281 Dorset horn; 218 Kerry hill; 211 Southdown; 119 Shropshire; 74 Cotswold; 57 Blackface; 43 Leicester; 11 Corriedale; and 2 Oxford Down. Of the swine 534 were Yorkshire; 33 Tamworth; 17 Berkshire; 5 Duroc Jersey; 4 Poland China; and 2 Chester White.

EMPIRE TRADE

The announcement made by Lord H. H. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, regarding new service aids to Canadian exporters of farm products will be received with interest throughout the country. The provision by the Dominion Government at the port of London, England, of a special chamber for the handling of Canadian chilled and frozen poultry and meat products should result in the marketing of these products in better condition all over the United Kingdom.

NOT REGIONAL COSTS

Mr. Appleton says that the Atlantic region of the C.N.R. would now be showing "a substantial profit." If it were not for the heavy cost of snow removal, occasioned by the most severe winter in many years. "The fact is," says the Sydney Post-Record, "that, with a 48 per cent traffic increase, the Maritime territory is probably the most profitable at present in the entire range of the operations of the National Railways. In this case, snow removal is not a regional, but a national cost, as the tracks required to be cleaned for all the transcontinental traffic destined for Eastern export, every ton of which passes through the Atlantic region."

EDITORIAL NOTES

What is believed to be the oldest musical instrument in the world has been discovered on the slopes of the Pollau Mountains in Czechoslovakia. It is a musical pipe made of a lion's tooth. It sounds a signal in the notes of D and G, which can still be played perfectly after some 30,000 years.

EMPIRE BABY CONTEST

The National Baby Week Council of London, Eng., awards annually a handsome silver challenge shield for the most effective local Baby Week Campaign held throughout the Empire, including the Irish Free State, but excluding the United Kingdom. Entries for the next competition must reach the Council, 117 Piccadilly, London, E.C.1, England, before June 1, 1934. The report shows that the shield was won for 1926-27 by the Health and Baby Week Committee of Bellary Municipality, Madras Presidency, India; for 1927-28 by the Baby Week Committee of Benoni, Transvaal, South Africa; for 1928-29 by the Baby Week Committee of Kahlara, Ceylon; for 1929-30 by the Baby Week Committee of Panadura, Ceylon; for 1930-31 by the Baby Week Committee of

Notes By The Way

Sir Walter Layton, editor of the London Economist, is quoted as prophesying that Great Britain will not stabilize the pound so long as the American dollar is artificially undervalued. He told the American Chamber of Commerce in London that "you keep the exchange at an abnormal level as an abnormal means to raise prices, it tends to create a depreciation in other countries, or certainly to restrict tariffs and other measures to prevent the increase of exports sought for. An abnormal lowering of the exchange rate, therefore, does more harm than good." The policy of the Canadian Government has been uniformly hostile to artificial depreciation of the Canadian dollar.

BREAST PANG - ANGINA PECTORIS - WEAK BLOOD VESSELS

So many bright vigorous men now drop dead from what is known as breast pang or angina pectoris is that the whole world is giving it serious thought. And that this condition deserves serious thought by the community as a whole is wise, because the loss of these forceful capable men puts back our civilization by just that much.

THE DRAMA IN CANADA

With characteristic caution Canadian have tried the boards behind the footlights. The stage, even the amateur stage, was looked upon as just a trifle doubtful by the more serious-minded of the nation. The Dominion's cultural life was finding expression in music, painting, poetry and sculpture before anything definite was being done to develop a purely Canadian theatre. A few Canadian plays had been written; play competitions were sponsored by various organizations; a few little theatres were operating. But House Theatre was offering students of the University of Toronto chances at dramatic work, courses and classes in the drama were being conducted, and, in addition, will with the exception of the exceedingly high-brow type of production authorized by the intelligentsia and the rather low-brow form of entertainment whipped into shape for raising money for worthy causes, nothing was being done to create a permanent standard of which the Dominion might be proud.

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Hog-Raising

(New Brunswick Exchange) Referring to the United Kingdom trade agreement under which free entry is given Canadian hams and bacon to a maximum of 2,500,000 cwt per annum for nearly four years to come, it is said Canada can increase her exports four times before the quota is reached. The agreement stipulates that the bacon and hams are to be "of good quality." Great Britain is steadily increasing hog production to be more independent of imports, but there is no doubt that the Dominion can take full advantage of the new market. In this connection the state of the hog-raising industry in the Maritimes may be reviewed. Last fall, at the annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Swine Breeders' Association, it was said that the Maritimes produce only fifteen percent of the pork products consumed by them. The Island produced a surplus but the shortage in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia was so great that, according to the Association, the three provinces together had to import eighty-five percent of the pork raised.

THE POET'S CORNER

Mountain blossoms, ever golden, Clankered not the whole year long! Do ye teach us to be strong, Like your thorny bloom, and so Trodden on by rain and snow, Up the hillside of this life, as bleak as where you grow!

PAIR OF EYEGASSES

When you need them is one of the best investments you could make. Many who procure satisfactory Glasses from us will back up this statement. E. W. TAYLOR J. S. TAYLOR Optometrists Charlottetown and Alberton

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That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

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PUBLIC FORUM

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

FUTURE OF FOX FURS

Sir,—Fearing that the constantly increasing extent to which fox farming has been taken up in practically all cold winter countries would commonsense fox fur and low-able basis, I wrote recently to a correspondent in London whom I know to be an authority on furs, and particularly on fox skins, asking for years edited fur journals and followed all the auction sales in London and on the Continent.

FUTURE OF FOX FURS

I have today received a reply to my letter which contains some interesting information. No doubt our larger dealers are well aware of the facts contained in this letter, but I should suppose that many of your readers who are raising furs in a smaller way would not be so well informed. In any event, the opinion regarding finer skins should act as an incentive to everyone on the Island raising furs to produce only the finest quality of animal, I give you below a copy of the letter, which you may publish if you desire.

FUTURE OF FOX FURS

I am Sir, etc., H. K. S. HEMMING. ("I am sorry that I have not written sooner regarding the prospects for silver foxes, but perhaps it is as well, as I am now enclosing a couple of current reports that have just come in. These, however, are only of momentary interest, as showing the prices ruling at the London auctions. "You wait the future prospects. I think that they are very fair. You say that silver foxes are no longer the exclusive vogue of Duchesse and Queens—I quite agree. They have not been that for some years past. What your friends must consider is the fur market as a whole, and the fact that the world's supply of fine fur is rapidly diminishing, while the demand is increasing. You will note that the demand today is for the cheaper article, but this is simply due to shortage of money. As soon as conditions are normal, the demand will again be for the finer skins, and all these masses of cheap skins, which are really rejects from the farms, will go down in value. I expect to see the finer skins go up a little at any rate, though not as present. It is quite true that Norway and Sweden have gone in for fox-breeding, but the difficulty there is to get them to turn out high-grade stock. I have not heard if conditions have improved lately, but there was far too little selective breeding going on. I should say that ultimately there is a future for the man who really understands fox-farming, and can turn out the finest pelts. The market in London has changed very little in the past two years, in spite of the enormous quantities that have been absorbed.")

FUTURE OF FOX FURS

erican and foreign plays, but each year will show an improvement in this direction. The plays by Canadian authors at present suggested include "The Wood-Carver's Wife" by the late Marjorie Pokkhal; "Brothers in Arms," the record-breaking Canadian play by Merrill Denison; and "From The Open Place" by the same playwright; "Pacific Coast Tragedy," by A.M.D. Fairbairn; "Ebb Tide," by Fairbairn; "Madame Verite at Beth," by George A. Palmer; "Behind the Beyond" by Stephen Leacock; "The Second Life," from Hart House Theatre Canadian Plays, and "Pierre," by Duncan Campbell Scott.

FUTURE OF FOX FURS

Among the most successful of Canadian plays are those of the French, and Miss Marjorie Allan, producing director of the Montreal Repertory Theatre, last year offered two prizes of one hundred dollars each for the best English and French plays submitted to her for production at the Festival. Canada's national drama is thrillingly unique in her double heritage. The criticism has been made that there is little Canadian comedy. In that there is perhaps a challenge to dramatic groups and authors not to take the building of the Canadian drama too seriously. To be able to laugh at oneself is after all a highly-civilized accomplishment. Out of satirizing or even burlesquing ourselves perhaps may emerge a native drama that will present to other countries the real heart of Canada, which an inhibited background will not permit us to wear on our sleeve.

FUTURE OF FOX FURS

The most important thing is to encourage the development of good plays. After all, a play is not a play until it is produced. Three things enter into its success, the play itself, the acting and the audience, and the audience is of great importance. As more native plays are produced the standard of the plays will improve. One of the interesting statements that came out of last year's festival was the remark of Mr. Rupert Harvey, adjudicator that the standard of acting seen during the competition not only equalled, but even surpassed, the standard of amateur performances in England. Amateur theatricals have been fashionable in England for a long time. In the very early days they were fashionable in wealthy homes in Canada but now they are becoming fashionable not only in a few circles but all over the country. It is possible to produce plays even in the smallest town. If there is the spirit of Mer and Jo and Beth in "Little Women."

FUTURE OF FOX FURS

It is true that the list of Canadian plays approved by the Festival Committee is still small as compared with the list of British, American and foreign plays, but each year will show an improvement in this direction. The plays by Canadian authors at present suggested include "The Wood-Carver's Wife" by the late Marjorie Pokkhal; "Brothers in Arms," the record-breaking Canadian play by Merrill Denison; and "From The Open Place" by the same playwright; "Pacific Coast Tragedy," by A.M.D. Fairbairn; "Ebb Tide," by Fairbairn; "Madame Verite at Beth," by George A. Palmer; "Behind the Beyond" by Stephen Leacock; "The Second Life," from Hart House Theatre Canadian Plays, and "Pierre," by Duncan Campbell Scott.

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