

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1927

OUR STREET-SIDE TREES

CHARLOTTETOWN'S street-side trees are a source of pride to our citizens, and of admiration on the part of our visitors. Indeed, there are few cities in Canada which are so richly endowed in this respect, and in recent years many of our people have added greatly to the beauty of the city by supplementing the scenic beauty of the trees with street-side and lawn flower beds. The general taste for beauty is thus being developed and, unquestionably, beautified surroundings, are a great factor in the development of the best there is in men and women and particularly in the young.

Unfortunately some of our trees are found to be in the way of telephone and electric light wires and, whether necessarily or unnecessarily, trees have been partly or wholly sacrificed. To the ordinary citizen it would appear that much of this could have been avoided. It is possible to lop off branches without marring the symmetry of the trees. It should not be necessary to cut off the whole of the upper branches, to make way for a single wire. It is even conceivable that, in order to carry a wire past an intervening obstruction, be it a tree or a building, an arm could be fixed to a near-by post to carry the wire, and so save the tree or the building. Throughout the city many trees have been ruthlessly and, we believe, unnecessarily, disfigured. The City has paid quite dearly for its street-side trees, and no one begrudges the investment. Moreover, there is an insistent demand for more trees, but as the wires are everywhere and likely to interfere, there is naturally some reticence on the part of the City Council and individuals to take any further risks in this direction.

WHAT SHALL I READ?

MANY a boy and girl when advised to take up a course of reading during their off hours from study, ask: "What shall I read?" It is not always easy to answer the question satisfactorily. Every boy and girl has a natural bent in some direction. If the bent is a wholesome one it is comparatively easy, and judicious also, to suggest reading along this natural bent. It would be useless and fruitless to find fault with the bent and to say it leads nowhere. One child is interested in history and, if the inclination is not in that direction, it should be encouraged by prescribing such incidents in history as may to some extent at least be in accord with the inclination. In any case every child should be encouraged to read history as it is a fundamental factor in education.

The child who has tasted the wonders of astronomy will find history dry and uninteresting, but the history of astronomy, of astronomical discoveries of the drawings of astronomy among various peoples will be found to have a bearing on the general history of nations and through this the child may be led pleasantly into the general study of history.

Biography has a fascination for many young people and nothing can be more helpful than to read the lives of the world's great men and women, how they attained their greatness, how they overcome their difficulties. One factor appears to be common in the lives of all great men and women, namely, meeting with and overcoming difficulties. A story of these characteristics will be an inspiration to all young people, and will be found also to throw valuable light on the history of the

times in which these great people lived. Inventors, discoverers, explorers, scientists, the poets, the philosophers, all the way down through the ages, are the lamps by which we see the people of their time and, by a study of them we incidentally learn history. In directing young minds into wholesome reading, it is essential that their inclinations and tastes be known beforehand, essential also that the desirable paths be strewn with such flowers as will entice the child to enter and to follow them. To arbitrarily prescribe a course of reading for our young people is a serious mistake, and more likely to divert them into undesirable paths of their own choosing. Reading, to be of any benefit, must be a pleasure, not a task. Young people should be encouraged to discuss what they have read, to ask questions, to express their opinions. They should also be led to understand from the outset that intelligence, an intelligent acquaintance with the past, with the great men of history, the statesmen, the authors and the men and women who have made history, is an indispensable necessity in every well ordered life. With this in mind, there will be little difficulty in prescribing a wholesome course of study.

VENUS.

VENUS is the most beautiful planet in the heavens and, doubtless it was because of her beauty that she is always referred to in the feminine gender, all the others being plainly masculine. Venus was thus designated before the true character of her beauty was discovered. It remained for comparatively modern astronomy and modern astronomical instruments to discover that the beauty of this planet is altogether outward, that, inwardly, she is ghoulish, dark, sullen and unlovely. She is not the compliment to the ladies of today that she once was. Her regal beauty lies in her garments, garments of cloud, piled upon cloud. The clouds reflect the rays of the sun adding that brilliant pearly beauty which gives her her poetic title, "Queen of the Night," "Star of the Evening, beautiful star."

She is beautiful to star gazers of other worlds, beautiful to all but those of her own household. Imagine what it would mean to live under continuous cloud! To live under a perpetual bank of fog and mist, under a continuous drizzling rain! And this the people who inhabit Venus, if there are such, must endure generation after generation, for there is no hope of her clouds being dissipated. Her comparative nearness to the sun and the constant evaporation from her surface make the clouds inevitable, probably for ages to come.

Many parallels might be drawn between the beautiful Queen of Night and her earthy sisters. Attractive garments, albeit they be of material akin to cloud, doubtless add charm and grace, but in arriving at conclusions we, like the astronomers of old, may be led to wrong conclusions. Behind and beneath the beautiful garments may live the shrew and the sulky and the unlovely. And yet we must not too hastily conclude that, because a woman is outwardly beautifully dressed, she is inwardly like Venus, and there we are.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The old saying, "a Green Christmas, a full churchyard," originated like many other superstitions, in a co-incidence. An epidemic swept over Scotland many years ago, resulting in many deaths. It happened to be a snowless Christmas and this was supposed to cause the unprecedented number of deaths.

Notes by the Way

LONDON Punch in a cartoon pictures President Coolidge smilingly laying down the reasons why his country must have a big navy. The President is made to say: "We lead the world in (1) Wealth; (2) Generosity; (3) Humility; (4) Love of Peace. And what is the logical conclusion from this? Obviously it is that we must build more warships."

We may say, as many have said, that the Republic does not need more warships, and that the vast expenditure for that purpose which the Washington programme proposes is not in the interests of international peace. It clearly was not to promote peace that Germany built her great navy in the early years of the present century. The object the Kaiser had in view was to threaten and smash the British Empire and to gain for Germany the mastery of the world. Nobody believes that President Coolidge has any such purpose, but he will be at the head of the nation for only a few months longer.

Peace prevails between the British Empire and the United States and has been maintained for more than a century. Fourteen years ago the same was said of the relations between Britain and Germany. A century is but a brief space in the life of a nation. The outlook for peace for years to come appears to be bright between the two great English-speaking powers. But danger may become imminent when the more distant future a War President of the stamp of Napoleon or Kaiser Wilhelm comes to power in America.

British sentiment on the Big Navy question, as expressed in leading newspapers appears to be that if Washington wants the most powerful navy that ever was, and the people are willing to pay the cost of construction and maintenance that is a matter for themselves; that no alarm need be felt, and that Britain will not be led into any competition in wash building, that is not altogether reassuring. Britain, and not the United States has been the greatest lover of peace among the nations. The Republic has already had several War Presidents, Washington, Taylor Grant and others for example, while in their time Wellington alone among her great military commanders gained power as Prime Minister, and he held it for only a short time.

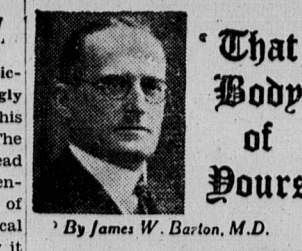
The unspeakable crime of Hickman has led to confession and an attempt at suicide. The revelation made by this monster in human form would be beyond human belief were it not proved so conclusively that all are compelled to believe the story true. Predestination will find in this a confirmation of the theory that certain individuals are born into the world under a doom to commit crimes that are beyond redemption in this life, or beyond the grave, as was Judas Iscariot.

But despite the crimes and tragedies that are recorded daily we must hope that the world is growing better and that the new year will show a further advance in the right direction. The agencies for good are multiplying, if not quite keeping pace with the marvelously rapid advance of invention, discovery, material progress and return-prosperity and wealth. It is yet a far call to the promised days of millennial peace and universal good will, when vice and wrong doing shall be relegated to the back-ground.

In the meantime our readers may take comfort from the thought that we live in a land of plenty, with as good a heritage of peace, order and mutual good will of man toward his fellowman as prevails in any other community that we know of. We have our little tiffs and tilts sometimes, but most of these pass away quickly and are soon forgotten. A beneficent Providence has been kind to Prince Edward Island, but it has often happened in the past and is still true that the powers that be at Ottawa treat our Province and people with injustice, indifference or neglect.

The Railway time table as announced for the winter is a case in point. To maintain daily railway connection between this Province and the outside world with less than one train would be impossible and to this minimum service, with intolerable delay at Sackville the Ottawa authorities would subject us. They are giving us hard lessons in this Jubilee year of Confederation.

Fitting the hose that supplies free air, a valve has been invented that fills an automobile tire to a predetermined pressure.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

"NERVOUS INDIGESTION"

One of the mistakes sometimes made is to think that cases of "indigestion" are simply cases of "nerves," and thus some real ailment such as cancer, an ulcer, or even gall stones is missed. This is due to the fact that the patient appears to be a "complainer," and so the doctor discounts the severity of the symptoms. Now as pointed out by Dr. Alvarez, the actual suffering from some such ailment as above for perhaps a number of months, is bound to make the patient fretful and "overcomplaining." The whole point to be remembered, is that the majority of patients do not go to a physician's office just to pay their money. They go because they are not feeling well. What about these cases of indigestion which tests and examination show are not due to ulcer, cancer, or any organic ailment? These cases are called "nervous indigestion," and patient and doctor are apparently satisfied with this name or diagnosis. Now your family doctor will tell you that a great many of these cases are simply due to emotional disturbances. There is some financial or domestic trouble that is so upsetting the patient's mind, that he is unable to eat or to digest his food properly.

Although the physician is not a financial wizard, nor a priest or minister, nevertheless he is a man, a human being, and often by having the patient tell his trouble fully, he is able to show a way out of the difficulty.

With the removal of the difficulty, the indigestion disappears. This means that rest should be both physical and mental, because these individuals with nervous indigestion are usually high strung and overactive in mind and body. Quietness before, during, and after meals, is of vital importance in giving the nervous system a real chance to take care of the food eaten. Because it is the activity of the brain in these cases that slows up and sometimes actually stops for a time the nerve impulses which control digestion in the stomach and intestine. And the diet itself should consist of food that is easily digested, and tempting to patient's palate. Almost any food may be eaten, but this is one place where rough foods should be avoided such as the coarse bread, seeds of fruit, the fibrous part of the orange and grapefruit, raw fruits, celery and so forth. Stewed fruit may be used for constipation.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

December 30, 1927

BRETHREN—BELOVED:—Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! Psalm 133:1.

PRAYER: Our Heavenly Father, enable us to prove we are Thine by our love for one another.

I WONDER

Because one little cloud has passed overhead And hid the brightness of the noon-day sky, We must lose heart and say our hopes are dead? I wonder why!

Do we not guess the sun that shone before Will shine again, And life's best happiness may be in store Behind the pain?

Because one drop of sorrow chanced to fall Into our cup of happiness, we cry That it is bitter, and refuse it all? I wonder why!

He sends the bitter who has sent the sweet, For often 'tis in sorrow and defeat, That they are blessed.

Because one hasty word is rashly said A dearest friend becomes an enemy, The love we've cherished years, perhaps, has fled? I wonder why!

For all are weak, and all must sometimes fail To be our best; Our own hearts are as faulty and as frail As all the rest.

Faith, patience, love, we need to cultivate, Our faint hearts are so ready to despair, So prone to cry the burden is too great For us to bear.

But He who views our weakness from above Can help us live, And we can find in His forgiving love Grace to forgive!

Forty four railroads in the United States have equipped more than 7000 miles of track and more than 6000 locomotives with automatic train control devices.

Success has attended experiments in road surfacing with the tar sands of northern Alberta, the deposits of which have been estimated to contain billions of tons.

Sunday School Lesson

For January 1, 1928

By Rev. P. M. MacDonald, D. D.

John the Baptist and Jesus—Mark 1:1-11.

Golden Text—He must increase but I must decrease.—John 3:30.

The lessons for the first six months of the new year are in the Gospel according to Mark. John Mark, the writer of this earliest and briefest of the Gospels, is not mentioned as one of the disciples of Jesus in His human ministry. John Mark is believed to have been the son of Mary in whose home Jesus met His followers after His resurrection. (Acts 12:12) It was through the influence of Peter that Mark became a disciple, (I Peter 5:13), and from Peter he received the information contained in his gospel. Mark records the deeds rather than the sayings of Jesus, and with "matchless vividness" gives a picture of the "toils, the energy, the love and wrath, the defeat and triumph of the brief career that changed the world."

Nearly twenty years elapsed between Jesus first visit to Jerusalem and His baptism by John. During that time He had been preparing for His great work and when He left Nazareth at the age of thirty He was ready for that work. There was great need for Him to begin. The country was badly governed, the future was hopelessly dark, the extremity of human helplessness had been reached. It was at such a time that Jesus came from the circumference of life, where there were pressing problems, to the central life of the country where the problems were sorer and more sordid.

John the Herald

John the Baptist was the herald of Jesus. Under John's forceful and frank preaching, great crowds of Jerusalem people got a glimpse of their need of reformation and regeneration. John created a sense of need of Jesus among all classes of the people. He prepared the way by which the Saviour could reach the deeper wants of the human heart. John has been called "the great road-maker of the King." "Three sketches of John are given. One is by the writers of the gospels a man in the style and spirit of Elijah, living simply and doing his work in self-denying strength. A second sketch is supplied by himself. It is definite in humility and shows his self-effacing loyalty and patriotism. The third sketch is drawn by Jesus. (See Matthew 11:11.) John closed the long line of great prophets in his nation, by halting the coming of the Messiah, to whom all those prophets looked forward with longing eyes. It is not possible to match in the history of humanity, John's welcome to the One who was to increase in influence, while John himself was to decrease and disappear.

John's Message

The flaming preaching of John emptied the streets of Jerusalem and filled the fields outside the city wall. His message was repentance as a preparation for the coming of the Messiah, who had been for centuries the desire of the nation. What is repentance? It is the reaction of the soul against sin. The literal meaning of the word is "change of mind" a mental act that reverses the mind and the will regarding sin. In its deepest meaning therefore repentance is not an emotion, but a volition which one can express, and for which one is responsible. Someone has said that repentance is a perception of guilt that grows into a pain and overpowers our love for sin. John pressed hard for this change of mind, this pain that overpowers a love for sin. He demanded the fruits that would evidence repentance. Excited interest in his mission was not enough; feelings manifested in tears were not enough; emotion displayed in singing, or loud, long praying, or louder longer speaking, was not enough to prove repentance in John's judgment. He wanted to see love for the good once hated, and hatred for the evil once loved. This was a great service John rendered his audience. He made it possible for them to begin to be truly human by calling them to stop their folly and take the first turn to the right.

Jesus And John

When Jesus requested baptism at the hands of John, the prophet hesitated, saying, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and thou comest to me?" But John yielded to the gentle persistence of Jesus, and they went down together, "the son of Mary and the son of Elizabeth," to the stream of the river Jordan. In submitting himself to this ordinance, Jesus had a clean purpose, namely, to show that He accepted the appointed sign of entering into the kingdom of God. Baptism is the symbolic mark of consecration to the service of God, and in this sense He asked for it and received it from John. The exact meaning of the rite in the case of Jesus should be noted. He did not receive it for the remission of sin, for He had no sin to remit; He received it as the sign of His admission into the kingdom of God. The example of Jesus declares to us the need of religious rites and the duty of observing them. It is said that religious rites are only mechanical forms, and are counted for nothing, that only the spirit is important. Assuredly the spirit is the important thing but can we have the spirit without the form any more than we can have fruit without tree forms? Notice, too, that baptism is only a sign of cleansing, a sign of devotion to service. It is not the cause of cleansing, the cause of devotion. Jesus and John recognised that fact and so the one gave and the other received the sign.

The Land We Love

By Frank Yelch

Quebec Bridge Q. What are the dimensions of the Quebec Bridge? A. Canada's greatest bridge in many respects is the Quebec Bridge. In its general dimensions as well as in its enormous size and weight of the structural members composing it, it surpasses any other structure of the kind ever built. Total length, 3,240 ft.; length of main span, 1,800 ft.; of suspended span, 640 ft. 150 ft. above water at high tide; main piers, 136 feet below high water.

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A GLAD NEW YEAR. May it give you all good things you wish and may it give us the opportunity of continuing those pleasant relations with you which have meant so much to us in the past. EASTERN SECURITIES COMPANY LIMITED. Charlottetown, P. E. I. Montreal Saint John, N. B. Halifax, N. S.

FAVORITE HYMNS AND THEIR WRITERS. By Rev. Archer Wallace. NO. 23. "MY COUNTRY 'TIS OF THEE". The author of this hymn was Rev. Samuel F. Smith. He was born in Boston, Mass., on October 21st, 1808. He entered Andover Theological College to study for the Baptist ministry in 1832 and it was while he was there that he wrote this famous hymn. About this time an earnest effort was being made to increase the number of suitable children's hymns and especially such as were of a patriotic nature. A Mr. Woodridge had visited Germany and brought back a large number of music books, these were brought one day to Mr. Smith and asked him to look over them and see if any of the tunes were likely to be of value. The way in which Mr. Smith was attracted to the tune is here told in his own words: "One dismal day in February, 1832, about half an hour before sunset, I was turning over the leaves of one of the music books, when my eyes rested on a tune which is now known as 'America.' I liked the spirited movement of it, not knowing it, at that time to be 'God Save the King.' I glanced at the German words and saw that they were patriotic, and instantly felt the impulse to write a patriotic hymn of my own, adapted to the tune. Picking up a scrap of waste paper which lay near me, I wrote at once, probably within half an hour, the hymn 'America' as it is now known everywhere. The whole hymn stands today as it stood on the bit of waste paper, five or six inches long and two and a half inches wide." At the time the author had no idea that he had done anything more than write a hymn which might be found useful at children's meetings. It was sung on the Fourth of July that year at Park Street Church, Boston, and instantly it found its way into the public schools as well as Sunday Schools, and was used at patriotic celebrations everywhere.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH. By W. L. Gordon. WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Do not say "I adore cream puffs." "Adore" means to render divine honors to; worship. OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: Apocalypse. Pronounce a-pok-a-lips, both a's as in "ask," o as in "of," last syllable as "lips," accent second syllable. OFTEN MISPELLED: confecti-nery; ery, not ary. SYNONYMS: destruction, demolition, downfall, extinction, annihilation.

The Land We Love. By Frank Yelch. Quebec Bridge. Q. What are the dimensions of the Quebec Bridge? A. Canada's greatest bridge in many respects is the Quebec Bridge. In its general dimensions as well as in its enormous size and weight of the structural members composing it, it surpasses any other structure of the kind ever built. Total length, 3,240 ft.; length of main span, 1,800 ft.; of suspended span, 640 ft. 150 ft. above water at high tide; main piers, 136 feet below high water.

Season's Greetings. We extend to our customers and friends the season's greetings for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. The 2 Macs DRUGSTORE. 149 Great George Street.

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