THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded 1887)

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered to City
$4.00 per year (in advance) mailed to P. E. Island
$5.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Canada and U. S.
Members Audit Bureau of Circulations

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1938

The Lesson Of History

Students of history, says the Montreal Star, will be less discouraged today than those who take only the contemporaneous view. Spain "took the sword" against the Netherlands, and today the Netherlands are fat and prosperous and control one of the great colonial empires of the world, while unhappy Spain is shorn of her fabulously rich colonies and torn by civil war.

Napoleon "took the sword" against all Europe and the fringes of Africa and Asia. It was the "sword" that compassed his downfall. The Third Napoleon learned nothing from his great-uncle and "took the sword" against Prussia. He surrendered it at Sedan. The German Kaiser, who inherited this damnable heritage from the victor of Sedan, is mourning his folly at Doorn.

It is easy for nations, armed to the teeth and always on a war footing, to "take the sword." But they should con Holy Writ:

"They that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

Whose Milch Cows?

Commenting on Premier Hepburn's reference to the Central Provinces as the "milch cows" for the rest of the Dominion in federal taxation matters, the St. John Citizen pertinently asks: Who has been supplying the feed and who has been getting the milk? Have not Ontario and Quebec waxed sleek and fat by the policies which have built up their industrial life. Do they forget that they have had added to their original territory hundreds of thousands of acres of valuable pasture lands teeming with mineral wealth which brings millions of dollars annually into their treasury? The transportation systems, canal, water-ways and now the air, have been and are being created and maintained to the tune of millions upon millions of dollars. To these the people of the Maritimes have contributed lavishly without material benefit to themselves, and as a result there has been diverted trade originally intended to pass through their ports. Freight rates have been manipulated to the advantage of the Central Provinces and to the disadvantage of industry and production in the East. Statistics of inter-provincial trade would show just what the situation really is, but unfortunately such important figures are not available. They should be made available at this time, for the enlightenment of the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial relations.

A New Tourist Empire

Canada will be invited shortly to join with the United States in a treaty, setting aside in perpetuity the largest international playground in the world. The area is the Quetico-Superior region along the international boundary line; it measures approximately ten million acres of wilderness forest and lakeland in southwestern Ontario and northwestern Minnesota. The entire area consists of forest covered glacial rock, dotted with thousands of inter-connected lakes and rivers. Big game and unexcelled fishing have given the country a world-wide reputation amongst sportsmen and fishermen. The region is non-agricultural and is practically unpopulated except along railway lines.

Some three years ago President Roosevelt appointed a committee to consider treaty negotiations with Canada with the object of establishing the Quetico-Superior area as a tourist empire. This committee has now reported, urging immediate negotiations. The plan proposed is to keep all the natural features undisturbed in a state of nature; and to set up an advisory board made up of biological, forestry and park officials from both countries with a view to joint administration of the area as a unit, regardless of boundary lines. Indorsation of the plan has been received from the Canadian Automobile Association, Canadian Geographical Society and other Canadian organizations, and is now being placed before the Ontario Government.

The scheme is an attractive one from the standpoint of cementing friendly international relations as well as from the tourist angle. Indeed, it is a pity that similar projects, on a smaller scale, could not be undertaken along troubled boundary lines in Europe.

Shortening The Inch

Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, director of the United States Bureau of Standards, wants to shorten the inch. It is too long, he says; and furthermore, the difference between the length of the inch in U. S. A. and in Great Britain "is intolerable." In line with Dr. Brigg's recommendation, the House Committee on coinage, weights and measures has reported out a bill which would fix the length of the inch and weight of the pound. The bill proposes to establish the inch to equal 25.4 millimetres exactly. This would shorten the inch by two parts in a million. It is now 25.40005 millimetres, as against 25.39996 in Great Britain. And there seems to be some sort of "understanding" between the United States and British officials that they may "co-operate" to bring this unit of measurement into exactitude as between the two English-speaking peoples. The United States metric standards, adopted in 1866, are represented at the Bureau of Standards by a platinum-iridium metre and a platinum-iridium kilogram. Dr. Briggs complained that the traditional British tenacity to an idea has made a situation "intolerable to us." "Great Britain has two material standards of length, the imperial yard, which is a bronze bar, and the platinum-iridium metre," he said. "This yard has been changing its dimensions during the last 100 years. It has been getting shorter; and so far as Great Britain is concerned the relation of the metric sqstem to the customary system of weights and measures is a varying one, because Great Britain says that the yard is whatever length this bronze bar is and the metre is whatever the length the metre-bar is. If one gets shorter in relation to the other, then the ratio of the units shifts.

Cares Of Our Parliamentarians

Our civic and provincial politicians may have their problems but at Ottawa too they have grave matters to deal with. Hanzard reports Senator J. J. Hughes as complaining the other day in the Senate of the quality of mucilage used on the flaps of Government envelopes. It wasn't sticky enough.

"Use fish glue," was the prompt advice of Senator William Duff of Lunenburg, ever alert for Nova Scotia's interests.

Senator J. A. Calder, Saltcoats, said he'd had the same trouble as Senator Hughes but he was told to "exercise a little patience after the sticker was moistened."

Senator Hughes suggested he'd about reached the limit.

"I have exercised a good deal of patience," he said.

Finally a promise was made there would be an effort to have better glue on the envelopes.

Editorial Notes

Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain born this date 1899.

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These are trying days for those having a stake in the country, and who has not?

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The Hon. Mr. Rogers is probably the most unpopular cabinet minister in the present day, due to no fault of his own, but to the circumstances in which he is placed.

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The funeral of Mr. D. K. Currie takes place in Summerside today, where his earthly remains will be laid to rest in the family plot there, after the arrival of the morning train from the city.

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For Liberal Candidate for Queen's Hon. T. W. L. Prowse led in popularity yesterday, with Mr. Russell Chandler's "stock" steadily rising. The advent of the agricultural element may put a different complexion on the situation.

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As was anticipated former Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald's will discloses he died poor in this world's goods, which in part accounts for one daughter marrying a house decorator to act as "Mine Host" of the Plow, and another becoming a police patrol woman at a London Magistrate's Court. The estate has been valued at $127,090 dollars on which $13,300 death duties has been paid. Every maid in the employ of the late Prime Minister for more than three years was left $100. The rest of the estate was divided among the family. The Right Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, now Dominions Secretary, inherited his father's papers and documents, "to be used at his discretion."

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We are having trouble with transportation by water here, but out West they are no better off with regard to railroad traffic. Fifteen minutes before Canadian Pacific Railway passenger train No. 1, eastbound from Vancouver, was due at Field, B. C., an avalanche of snow and rocks roared down the rugged slopes of Mount Stephen in the Canadian Rockies. The slide occurred three miles west of Field, 30 miles west of the Alberta boundary. A railway watchman who passed the scene of the slide three minutes before it hurled tons of snow, ice and boulders down the mountain, flagged the train. Tracks were covered to a depth of 30 feet along an 800 foot stretch. Huge blocks of ice were estimated to weigh 50 tons or more. Dynamine was used to clear the obstructions.

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Certain investments and operations of the Bank of Canada "have been removed from public knowledge" by order-in-council of the present Government, Right Hon. R. B. Bennett charged in the House of Commons in the debate on the Social Credit Amendment. The form of the financial statements now being published had been changed by the MacKenzie King Government, Mr. Bennett charged, so that investments in various kinds of securities and bonds were no longer made public. He cited an instance where one province had obtained a loan of $3,000,000 on a short term agreement, but had been unable to repay it to the bank. The Bank of Canada had finally converted the short term loan into an "investment," which appeared on the financial statements under the heading of Dominion, Provincial and other forms of securities. So far as the public was concerned, he said, no one knew what securities the bank had invested its funds in.

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Here is how "Le Jour" sums up the present situation in Quebec: "One of the great defects of our province is that we are all trying to jam ourselves into the same mould, a mould in which only the mediocre can survive. To succeed among us you must be both a second-class businessman and third-class artist. You must know how to make a little money, but not too much; you must know how to read a little, how to grasp a few ideas, you must possess a bit of originality, but not too much. If you are wholly a businessman, you are a criminal and you must be clapped in jail. If you are truly an artist, you are a fool and you must be thrown into an asylum. If you are a thinker, you are the enemy of society and you must at least be padlocked. If you want to be happy and be thought a respectable citizen, you must never forget that the qualities which are appreciated in our province are not courage, imagination, originality and ambition—characteristics of the human mind at its finest—but obedience, flexibility, patience, boot-licking, punctuality and sentimentality — fine qualities in a lackey. If we are going to recapture the place in North America which belongs to us, we need more hymns to progress, fewer litanies in honor of cowardice and hypocrisy."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Pewter tankards are still in use in many of the better-class taverns and restaurants, but a curious thing is happening to them. Last year one of the city's historic inns withdrew the pewter tankards from its ordinary bars to use them only in the restaurants, where customers now demanded them, and glasses only were used in the bars. This is a complete change in the status of the pewter and the glass, for not many years ago the restaurant customer, unless he was of the old-fashioned sort of connoisseur, would have refused pewter and insisted on glass and the bar frequenters would have had to put up with pewter whether they liked it or not. Pewter from the collector's point of view is still enthusiastically pursued, and rare pieces fetch high prices. Ancient colleges that gave up their silver for King Charless and Scottish families who did the same for the Jacobite cause and had replicas made in pewter provided in this way some of the prizes of the cult.—Manchester Guardian.

A speaker in St. Thomas the other evening said the Bible had described that the next great war would be fought in Palestine. That brings it pretty close to us. Answering the question: "Whose land is Palestine" the New York Sun says:1. "It is the Jew's land, because he has never abandoned his claim to it." 2. 'It is the Arab's land, because he actually owns it and occupies it as he has these past 1,300 years." 3. "It is Great Britain's land, because the British conquered it with Arab and Jewish help to be sure), because it has been intrusted to the safekeeping of His Britannic Majesty by the League of Nations, because it is administered by British officials and because the Union Jack flies over it."—St. Thomas Journal.

American college students have been noted for the limitation of their vocabularies, but it now appears that sheer ignorance is not the only controlling factor' A survey recently compiled by J.M. Steadman, Jr., of Emory University, Atlanta, reveals that men students boggle at words which they consider unmanly or effeminate. "There is a horrible fear of using effeminate words," says Mr. Steadman, "but no taboos on masculine words." Among the words the boys don't like are listed the following: abhor, adorable, beau, charming, chic, cunning, cute, dainty, darned, dear, delicious, delightful, divine, dolly, dreadful, ducky, enchanted, exquisite, giggle, glorious, gobs, goody, gorgeous, gracious, grand, heavenly, heavens, limb, love, lovely, luncheon, marvellous, naughty, oodles, precious, simply stunning, sweet and thrilling. There are a lot of good words in that list, some of them indispensable, but as long as 75 percent of them are not customarily tossed about in conversation the virility of the male sex will probably remain intact. One cannot help wondering, though, what words these rugged gentlemen will use when they start writing love letters.—New York Times.

It is known that the Food (Defence Plans) Department has drawn up a scheme for food distribution and rationing, but not whether this Department has done anything to organize supplies. There seems therefore to be a case for greater publicity about what has been done, for wider investigation into what could be done to increase home production, and for a decision in good time upon the question of storage. None of these measures is an alternative to the vigorous pursuit of rearmament, for much of their efficacy depend upon the protection which the defence forces can give. As Sir Thomas Inskip hinted, priority may well have had to be given to the expansion and equipment of those forces. But the public has recently and repeatedly been assured that this primary task is well under way, and it may well be possible to direct the main impetus of reorganization towards matters which are secondary in time, though not in importance, in any comprehensive scheme of national defence.—The Times, London.

Those who advocate the unification of Canada's railway systems are saying now that the issue should be "taken out of politics." This has a plausible sound, but what does it mean? It means that the issue should be taken out of the hands of the people's representatives who are responsive, naturally, to the wishes of the people, and should be settled instead by some group of "business men" who have their own ideas about what ought to be done. In other words, the principle of responsiveness to public opinion which is at the very root of democracy and responsible government should be abandoned. The masses of the people do not want unification; therefore the advocates of unification would put the question where public opinion cannot so readily "get at it"—out of politics is the phrase they use. —From the Toronto Star.

Agriculture is the foundation of all real and enduging progress in a nation, for it not only produces what is essential in existence, but it breeds the men necessary to build up a nation. The men who by reason of strength of charicter and intellectual preeminence take the lead in public affairs in professional life are, as a rule, removed not more than one generation from ancestors who tilled the soil. A strong prosperous rural population is the surest guarantee of a nation's future, and the possession of such a population depends upon the maintenance of the fertility of the soil.—Maritime Farmer.

The Czechs and the Slovaks are, in race and language, not far apart. The Czech language is of great antiquity and has not shuffled its manifold declensions and tenses as have some other European languages. The Slovaks have a distinct dialect in which they have sung many beautiful songs of their own. For centuries, the two branches of the Slavonic family have had a different history and time has tended to accentuate differences which were unimportant at first. Generally speaking, the Czechs living in Bohemia of which Prague (or Praha) had long been the important centre, were dominated and ruled by the Austrian Germans, while the Slovaks, living in Hungary, were diminated by their rulers, the Magyars.—Moncton Transcript.

"D. K.'s" Philosophy

A Selection from the editorial writings of the late Mr. Currie Associate Editor of The Guardian

Most of us have our Nazareths. There is generally a source which, unfortunately, we refuse to credit with any good. To the politician it is the opposite party. To the sectarian it is one or each of the other sects. To the jealous-minded egotist it is everybody who does not acknowledge his superiority. Nations, communities, sister cities, individuals, all have a more or less distinct distrust of each other and are not slow to attribute unworthy motives to every act and to distrust everything and everbody emanating from their special Nazareth.

And strange to say this feeling is not inherent; it is acquired, fostered, perpetuated by selfish interests. It is true that petty jealousies and narrow-mindedness play their part; there are those whose egotism raises them in their own estimation beyond the reach of any tolerance for others, but they are comparatively few and their opinions count for little. The real creator of the world's Nazareths is selfishness.

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The world detests shams. And, yet, sham is a very large factor in world affairs. One of the world's millionaires began business by employing a number of errand boys to carry parcels out by the front door and around to the back door. The sham continued a few days. People saw the rushing business, concluded there must be merit behind it, became customers and so turned the sham into reality. Sham made this man's fortune.

The principle becomes familiar during political campaigns. The man who expresses a doubt as to the prospects of his election or the return of his party is doomed. In this case, it is true, the virtue of the expedient is neutralised by the fact that it is resorted to by both parties and other expedients must be added. That the other expedients are a sham also does not alter the situation; the most obtrusive sham is the one that counts.

There are, of course, exceptions. There are successes which began in failure and disappointment but persisted because of inherent righteousness which could neither be conquered nor checked. And by these the world is being redeemed slowly and in spite of the shams upon which the majority of so-called successes are being built.

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Knocking is a disease, indigenous to little communities. It obtained a foothold in this country when it was only a lonely island set in the midst of a lonely sea, and with little communication with the outside world. By inbreeding and through natural human perversity the disease was propagated until it became general. Fortunately, with the breaking down of our isolation and the increasing communication with the big world outside, this disease is rapidly becoming eliminated, larger and healthier ideas are being developed and on the whole the majority of our people are as broad-minded, as progressive and as willing to let others progress as are those of any other country in the world.

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It is futile to suppose, as many of our social reformers do, that by an artificial reconstruction of the social order, by a remoulding of external and material conditions in the direction of uniformity, we can add to human happiness. Happiness escapes in spite of all the means and appliances that may be accumulated to compass it and man's horizon of inappeasable desire broadens boundlessly about him forever as he goes.

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For the man who wins unfairly, who cheats in order to win, who sneaks behind the referee to take advantage, the world has only contempt. He may win the game, he may secure the coveted medal, he may even be greeted with the plaudits of those who look upon the winning as the chief end of the game, and there are such; but the winning and the medal and the plaudits will not remove the stigma of dishonesty.

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Our pioneer fathers sowed their grain in the scratched up earth among the stumps in the burned-off forest. They reaped with the reaping hook, gathering the grain handfull by handful. As the clearings widened and the harvest became larger a few venturesome souls, driven by stress of weather, used scythes to cut their grain. It was sinful and wasteful extravagance but the time saving and the opportunities for larger harvests gradually appealed to the timorous ones and the scythe came into general use.

Similar fear marked the introduction of the old-time reaper with its two occupants, a driver and a man to throw off the sheaf after it had grown large enough. The few who had the courage to use these were looked upon as daredevils wasting their sustenance in riotous living. But the reaper came into general use and in its turn made way for the self-binder which today forms part of practically every farm in the province.

From the flail, with which men laboriously threshed out the harvests, to the "runabout" threshing machine, the two horse power tread mill, the gasoline-driven thresher and cleaner of today there were the same painful partings and suspicious acceptances of the new fangled machinery. But time never stopped. A few, comparatively few, lost some years in letting go the old and taking on the new but the new came in every case. The new always comes and the old always goes to the scrap heap.

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There is untold wealth in the human underworld as there is in the substrata of the earth, but we have not delved into the former as we have into the latter.

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"A Syrian ready to perish was my father but thou hast made me a great nation," said one of old. We Canadians may look back a few hundred years to the days of struggle with savages, with wilderness conditions, with privation and disaster. We have grown and we are only now beginning to realise our strength and our possibilities. We have seven millions of people; we have room for a hundred millions and they are coming and are being swallowed up in the greatness of our western lands and still there is room. Let us emphasize the greatness and the possibilities of our country. It is an inheritance to be built up, to be made into a world power commensurate with its enormous proportions.

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Distant hills are ever green, and a halo hangs over the early days of this Island colony. The ravines and the cliffs are hidden in the distance but they are there, and those who came safely by them saw sights which are now mercifully forgotten. The exercise, when it did not pass the borderline of endurance, strengthened them for the journey; the "sorrows of others" and their own tempered their lives and their hearts and they came down to the level plains of today as the surviving veterans from a great battle in which they conquered.

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In our schoolwork we are smoothing the way for the young, making it easier to acquire an education. We may make it too easy. The education that results from seeking an education, from digging it out from among difficulties, is lost, and we acquire only what the prescribed text books give us.

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The trashy novel reader is as distinguishable by his or her conversation as is the man or the woman, young or old, whose vocabulary has been acquired on the street. The teaching of the street is no more distinct than the teaching of the books we read and very much of the glib-tongued silliness of today is due to the influences of the street and of the seventy-five per cent of trashy fiction.

The time to begin cultivating the taste for reading is when the child begins to read, just as the time to develop a taste for wholesome food is when the child begins to eat. The taste acquired in youth will develop either into a craving for doctored and sugared concoctions, mental or physical, and, in the end, mental or physical dyspepsia—or into a natural hunger for wholesome food, mental or physical, and sound mental or physical health.

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There are no incorrigible children, no hopeless cases where the mind is sane. They may be defiant in the face of defiance they may live defiantly up to their record when they know they are looked upon as wicked, but in the breast of each there is a chord that will respond to the touch of kindness, an integrity that will not fail if trusted.

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Conversation is an art, a gift, if you will, but even when an inherited characteristic, it requires cultivation, language, intelligence, sympathy. Volubility is a gift but not an art, nor is it a pleasing nor an admirable characteristic. True, volubility may help conversation but, as is too often the case, when it runs riot at the cost of intelligence and knowledge it loses whatever graces it may otherwise possess.

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The War which for many years hence will furnish lessons to the world, has taught us that if there is to be a unity of national thought and purpose, the foundation for that unity must be laid in the elementary schools and built up from these through the high schools and the universities. The German ideal was built upon a wrong foundation, a foundation of materialism and the divinity of might. The point, however, is that the idea was unified through the schools and that if the energy of an entire people could be enlisted and directed by means of its educational agencies to an evil purpose, the same factors would be even more effective if set in motion for a righteous end.

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In the matter of moral and spiritual well being, it must be admitted that the educated man can not claim any considerable advantage. The jails and penitentiaries are peopled with representatives of every rank from the hobo who couldn't write his name and wouldn't recognize it when written by some one else, to the educated genius who can imitate a signature so perfectly that its legal owner cannot tell it from the genuine. Unless education is mixed with right ingredients that make for righteousness, individual and national, it will profit but little.

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The law is soulless, rigid, inflexible, perhaps necessarily so; yet behind the inflexible law there stands the flexible Christian charity that can adjust itself to the needs of others, and this charity should not be held in check by iron-bound laws. There must be the human touch, the outstretched helping hand that will reach beyond the letter of the law and touch the human heart.

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There has not been an age since Christianity began but has had its little faddist throwing his little pebbles at the church and predicting its downfall on the authority of chapter and verse. The faddists have gone one by one, their predictions have failed and still the church, with its human weaknesses and its human errors, sails triumphantly on.

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The merry jingle of the sleighbells makes pleasanter music than the honk of the auto, but the latter gets there in much less time. 'Tis so all through life. We have no time to stay with the music, we must go with the honk and the dust and the jarring noises for we have to get there—wherever it is—in the shortest possible time. Life is a rush; we have no time for anything but going. But when we get there we shall stop and the sleigh bells and the honking will still go on.

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The ideal of culture includes the factor of moral enlightenment, yet this must not be isolated at peril of falling into the exclusiveness of Pharisaism or the rigid narrowness of Puritanism. Perfect culture is the social condition in which can be exercised without interruption or fatigue the active love of the True, the Beautiful, and the Good in all their phases, the corporate enjoyment by all who desire them of the things that are true and honest and just and pure and lovely and of good report. So understood, the kingdom of God is the full ideal of perfect culture, the goal of a genuine enlightenment, the pattern of a sincerely civilised society

PUBLIC FORUM

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

EDUCATION

Sir,—In regard to writings which have appeared recently in this paper concerning the present school situation, the problem seems to centre about teachers. Most writers are very much against inexperienced teachers; they favour experienced teachers very strongly. I wonder if they ever gave the matter a moment's thought and asked themselves, how did the present teachers get their experience? Did they get it by reading magazines and books? Did they get it working over a kitchen stove? Did they get it working in some cramped corner in a store? Did it just come as the dew in the morning? I wonder, if the schools take nothing but experienced teachers for the next forty or fifty years, where will the experienced teachers come from then? Do those people think we will need no education by then? Do they expect the world to come to a sudden end?

Experienced teachers are all right, but there are young teachers coming out of the same colleges, taught under the same rules and by experienced teachers. Those young men and women have real talent and ability, as much as their experienced rivals ever had, and are as capable of teaching pupils. It is by no means fair to the inexperienced teachers, who have real talent and ability, to be shunned as if they were outlaws; young boys and girls who have ability and backbone enough to work their way through college and secure an education in such trying times as the present. I feel sure if the former speakers and writers would give this matter a little more thought, all would benefit by it.

I am, Sir, etc.,
COMMON SENSE.
Glen Valley, P.E.I.

CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES

Sir,—As one of your readers, who is sufficiently interested in these matters, I thought you might be interested to know my attitude in regard to those questions asked by Senator J. J. Hughes, Ottawa, in the close of his letter in your paper March 15th.

The first of these pointed questions is: Are we on the eve of a world catastrophe? Answer: Who knows?

(2) Is the present situation more ominous of a breakdown of civilization than any that preceded it? Answer: Possibly.

(3) If the principles of Christianity had been applied in all departments of life, would the present situation have arisen?

Answer: If the principles of Christ, as presented in the four gospels of the New Testament had been applied in all departments of life by the peoples of Europe, I do not believe this present situation would have arisen.

(4) Would a return to the principles of Christianity save the situation? Answer: In due time I think it would.

(5) Is such a return feasible? Answer: Very difficult to effect.

(6) If so, how can it be brought about? Answer: The way that Jesus did when here in visible form. I read that He taught the people many things, He healed their diseases, He commanded that they should be given food to strengthen their bodies. He had compassion on all helpless people.

(7) Is there any authority in the world that can point the way? Answer: History indicates that there is no authority in the world which has consistently done so.

(8) Did Jesus Christ, when visibly present amongst us, establish such an authority? Answer: If Jesus Christ had established such an authority I think the history of the western civilization for the last 1900 years would have been different.

By their fruits ye shall know them.

(9) Or did He leave man helpless, and at the mercy of accidents? Answer: The son of man is rather a helpless creature, but the children of God cannot be considered so, but apparently all who wear this mortal coil are subject to accidents, which after all may be the effect of a cause, quite often someone's mistake.

Of course these are merely the opinions of one who has spent over half his life as a "lowly laborer."

I am, Sir, etc.,
E. O. PRICE.
Charlottetown.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT

Sir,—I wish to contribute some information relating to a subject which has become a part of the world's accepted law of social justice, namely, compensation to injured workmen and to the dependents of those where accidents prove fatal. The necessity of workmen's compensation in any country is created by expanding speed and power and conditions incident thereto in this rapidly moving age. The fundamental basis on which compensation principles are founded is that the inevitable burden of accidents should be borne by the business in which they occur and that the cost of such accidents should be added to the selling price of the manufactured article and ultimately be distributed amongst the consumers. In the year 1884 the principles of workmen's compensation were first conceived in Germany under Bismark. The changed conditions incident to the industrial development of the time demanded a more effective relief than the doctrines of "fellow-servants", "assumption of risk," or employers liability statutes.

In 1899 England adopted the compensation principle in a form somewhat different to that of Germany in that the English law precluded employees insurance funds and industrial rehabilitation. In 1895 compensation principles spread throughout all Europe. In 1900 the compensation act was introduced to the American continent in the State of Maryland and had its first test in 1902. Since that time 55 countries comprising the greatest industrial nations of the world have placed on the statutes some form of legislation covering this subject. Only three states in U. S. A. and one province of Canada namely Prince Edward Island still adhere to the old Common Law traditions. For many years the generally accepted remedy by which workmen might seek compensation for injuries arising out of their employment was by litigation. Under that system many who were entitled to compensation received nothing and the enormous sums paid out in litigation expenses were wasted on account of the injured wage-earner not having the finance to appeal. In many cases where a person is injured the employer is poor and the wage-earner has no move to make to recover damages.

The Workmen's Compensation Act is not intended for capitalization purposes only in so far as to have enough capital to provide for the claimants. The money paid in to compensation by the business firms differs in the yearly amounts according to the number of accidents. The tax on the employer may be raised or reduced according to circumstances. The tax in this province would be much less than the other provinces of Canada owing to fewer accidents. At present accident statistics in this province are in a very immature stage. There is no registered system of classifying them. Every year in Europe and U. S. A. alone there are some four or five millions of accidents in the course of employment. More than 50,000 of these prove fatal. The Canadian system of workmen's compensation is considered the best in the world. Statistics show that fewer legal proceedings are needed for settlement than in any other country. Judge Ruegg is cited as speaking in behalf of all the county court judges and said that all were of the opinion that there should be compulsory insurance. According to statistics under the old law in Ontario, less than twenty-five per cent of what the employer paid for liability insurance actually reached the injured workman or his dependents. No doubt many of the other provinces have had similar experiences not only with respect to insurance premiums but in litigation expenses as well. Statistics indicate that the state insurance fund or compulsory collective liability system maintained by assessments levied upon all industries within the scope of the act is the best when administered by an independent board or commission. As already intimated eight of the provinces of Canada have passed the necessary legislation establishing state insurance funds known as workmen's compensation, namely, Ontario, 1914; Nova Scotia, 1915; British Columbia 1916; Alberta 1918; New Brunswick, 1918, Manitoba, 1920; Saskatchewan 1929; and Quebec, 1931. We can understand by those dates the rapid spread of this legislation throughout Canada. While in some provinces the act has been amended it was never even suggested that the compensation act should be repealed. The annual reports issued by the several compensation boards contain important information as to the splendid results in the respective provinces from year to year. Ontario the largest province industrially has had the most favorable performance to both the employer and the injured workmen. In that province 96 cents out of every dollar paid in, goes to the injured workmen or their dependents. The small amount of four cents on the dollar pays for the administration of the act. About 400,000 people are under the protection of compensation in Ontario so we can judge by that, the low cost of administration. Contrary to frequent statements of insurance agents the record of insurance companies for promptness in paying claims is not superior to that of state legislation. No injured workman has lost compensation because of failure of a state fund as the case is decided upon by an independent commission. The old system of compensation through litigation is economically undesirable and justifies the adoption of a more modern and less expensive system. The old system holds many uncertainties for injured workmen, involving unlimited delays in the ultimate findings and awards respecting claims for compensation. These foregoing facts are a striking challenge to someone in authority to see to it that a desirable system of compensation shall be established in this province whereby every citizen who has been impaired by accident shall be assured of adequate compensation as a matter of human justice. The cost of administering the act in this province would be much less than other provinces. It would be only part time work for the board of commissioners. The armers of this province would not be called upon to pay anything. The whole cost would be borne by the businesses and employers of labor. By all means let us have social legislation for this province. Insist on our provincial representatives to enact a Workmen's Compensation Act.

I am, Sir, etc.,
D. C. C.
Charlottetown.

For formal wear and summer lingerie blouses are to be worn with sheer skirts, and black lace skirts are suggested for the evening.

The Poets' Corner

AT SUNSET

Let us draw closer now; the clouds are riven
With flying shadow and shafts of vivid gold,
The dew shall fall with windfall and in heaven
There shall be myriad starshine as of old.
Like a great nest the woodland warm and deep
Holds the wild lives drowsy and half at rest,
Till they are comforted with perfect sleep
When night has settled down upon the nest.
Let us tell over now in rich reflection,
Our finite love treasured in Time's despite,
Infinite Love instinct with all perfection
Is settling close around us with the night.
Our two wild hearts have suffered grievous things,
Let us be comforted beneath His wings.

—Duncan Campbell Scott

For Vitality always use
BRAHMIN
ORANGE PEKOE TEA