THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1921

CRIMINALITY

Occasionally we are shocked when the criminal record strikes near home. Every day in our newspapers we read casually of it elsewhere; when the blow falls in our own community it sets us thinking.

Where does criminality begin? It is rarely that it breaks out full fledged in adult age. There are, it is true, cases in which, through a sudden fit of passion, perhaps justifiable, one becomes a murderer such a person is not necessarily a criminal in the strict sense of the word although he may suffer the penalty of the criminal. There are two sources of criminality, heredity and environment. Working together they may be regarded as irresistible; treated separately they may be overcome. The child of criminal parents, allowed to grow up among criminal surroundings cannot, except by a miracle, escape the criminal's doom. Taken away from the environment properly trained, guarded against hereditary tendencies there is every reason to believe that, no matter how strong the hereditary pull may be, a clean wholesome, useful life may be evolved. There are numerous cases in which this has occurred. Left to steep in unwholesome, immoral surroundings all the inherited vices will be multiplied and, here also, nothing but a miracle can avert the descent to criminality. And miracles are rare these days.

This being so, being universally recognized as a natural law, as inviolable as the law of gravitation, what are we doing about it? It is no small matter that now and again one is taken from the midst of a Christian community to the scaffold or to the penitentiary; no small matter that from under the shadow of our Christian churches men and women are sliding down to perdition. And it is no small matter for the Christian community and the Christian churches and Christian civilization that these things should occur.

We, with scrupulous care guard our farm animals from hereditary taint. What safeguards are we throwing around the human animals to prevent them inheriting the criminal taint of their parents or to prevent parents from transmitting the criminal taint to future generations? Absolutely nothing. When the children of criminals are thrown upon the world in criminal homes from which nothing but criminality can come what are we doing to save the little ones while they may be saved? Absolutely nothing. Our laws permit the intermarriage of criminals and degenerates; permit the herding of children with criminal parents, knowing that they are criminal and knowing that children so reared must inevitably drift into criminality.

We have our social service organizations, our churches, our reformers. They are doing much to purify the stream of human life but much of the effort is wasted away down the stream while the source is polluted. Reform must begin where the stream begins.

MR. FRIZZELL REPLIES TO PATRIOT

In this issue we publish a letter to the Patriot from Mr. J. J. Frizzell, Central Bedeque, a copy of which we have received with the assurance that the original had been sent to the Patriot where it will no doubt appear in due course. For the benefit of those of our readers who are not privileged to see the Patriot we might explain that this somewhat unusual letter is in reply to a thrice repeated demand by the Patriot that Mr. Frizzell disclose, through that paper or through the Guardian, the amount of taxes he is paying now and has been paying under former governments. While we have no expectation that either Mr. Frizzell's or the Patriot's demand shall be complied with, we have no hesitation in stating that Mr. Frizzell has as much right to demand that the Patriot and the gentlemen named by him shall take the public into their confidence in this matter as the Patriot has to demand the same from him. The Patriot in a recent issue made the statement that it was privileged, through the courtesy of the Hon. W. M. Lea, to know the amount of taxes paid by certain other taxpayers who had objected to the manner in which they had been used by the governmen. Mr. Frizzell or any other taxpayer in the province has an equal right with the Patriot to expect the same courtesy from Mr. Lea--if courtesy it be, and to make the same use of the information that the Patriot did.

BIG DROP IN FOODS IN COLD STORAGE

Our national supply of food in cold storage today is less than it was a year ago by over 20 million pounds. In fact, only three prime articles show increases and of these only in butter is there a really important change. All meats together show a decline of 7 1-2 million pounds compared with the supply available a year ago. Beef alone has dropped 6 million pounds. The total meat in store at the last return was 67,340,000 pounds which, however great the figures may look, is not more than about three weeks' supply for everybody at the usual rate of consumption. There is a still greater decrease in cheese.

CURRENT COMMENT

Continuing our response to the Patriot's challenge to point out the broken promises of the Bell Government, AS CONTAINED IN THAT PRECIOUS PET MANIFESTO, we commence with Plank 4 in which a revolution was promised in the Department of Agriculture. This has taken place but not in the direction promised, nor as expected by the country. We have not yet been answered in the questions asked some time ago concerning certain cattle deals, nor as to why the purchasing of supplies was taken away from the Hon. Mr. Crosby. We can see no reason for this, unless perchance he was too conscientious for the job. The bungling in connection with the Convalescent Home Agricultural Technical School is another discreditable feature of their Promised revolution. These apart, everything they have done or tried to do bears the stamp of incompetence and neglect. An important sub-Promise, one which was dwelt upon by Mr. Bell and his lieutenants at great length, both on the platform and before the legislature, was "ACCESS TO THE CHIEF MUSSEL MUD DEPOSITS OF THE PROVINCE. SUMMER AND WINTER, A SPUR LINE TO RICHMOND BAY. LOWER FREIGHT RATES FOR MUSSEL MUD ON P. E. I. RAILWAY." How does this tally with the closing down of the Conservative Governments Mussel Mud Plant at St. Peters Bay, and the increased rates of freight on mussel mud?

And what about that "Spur line to Richmond Bay Will the Patriot tell us when was it started, what the cost of its construction, to how many of our sons did it give freight and passenger rates thereon? Yet all these things were made by the wily and deceptive gang to loom up large before the electors in that never-to-be-forgotten election campaign. What benefit are our farmers getting from these mud deposits which Mr. Bell so eloquently described as a veritable mine of unparallelled richness. Nothing more than a smell from the air of that Mussel Mud so liberally supplied them by the Conservatives when in power. Here is another of their sacred Promises, in the Manifesto, most flagrantly broken. Next, this document promised to the teachers "A living wage." This living wage, to be paid out of the Provincial Treasury, to average a little over $400 each, is their fulfillment. With board alone somewhere around $8 per week, or $416 per year, our teachers are expected to live, and clothe, and sport just a little, and grow fat on this "living wage". But they couldn't live themselves on $1500 and so increased their pay to $2500. Thus another of their false Promises goes to the scrap heap.

Then there was to be "better

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

LO! PEACE IS HERE

'Tis not in seeking,
'Tis not in endless striving,
Thy quest is found:
Be still and listen;
Be still and drink the quiet
Of all around.

Not for thy crying,
Not for thy loud beseeching,
Will peace draw near,
. . . . . .
Lo! peace is here.
—Edward Rowland Sill.

There are souls in the world who have the gift of finding joy everywhere, and leaving it behind them when they go. Their influence is an inevitable gladdening of the heart. They give light without meaning to shine. Their bright hearts have a great work to do for God.—Frederick W. Faber.

Have you ever had your day suddenly turn sunshiny because of a cheerful word? Have you ever wondered if this could be the same world, because some one had been unexpectedly kind to you? You can make today the same for somebody. It is only a question of a little imagination, a little time and a little trouble. Think now, "What can I do today to make some one happy?"—old persons, children, servants— even a bone for the dog, or some sugar for the bird. Why not?—Maltbie D. Babcock.

"The slightest wave of influence set in motion
Extends and widens to the eternal shore;
We should be wary, then, who go before
A myriad yet to be; and we should take
Our bearing carefully when breakers roar,
And fearful tempests gather; one mistake,
May wreck unnumbered barks that follow in our wake."

—Selected—

THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

THE GOVERNMENT AND TELEPHONE RATES

Sir,—A circular letter issued some weeks since by the Telephone Company to its patrons announcing a raise in the rates brings to light certain facts with regard to the relations between the company and the provincial Government which call for an explanation not yet given to the public.

As I understand the matter, under the contract between the Government and the company, which expired on 31st December last, the company held an exclusive franchise to conduct telephone service within the province and the Government had control of the rates to be charged to all telephone users. As matters now stand the company no longer enjoys a monopoly of possible telephone service which is no loss to them in any way, as no other company would undertake a rival service in so small a field, while the Government has abandoned its former control of the rates. This most valuable control, the one safeguard of telephone patrons, has by the action or inaction of the Government been thrown away.

On behalf of the company it is put forward that htey approached the Government about a year ago asking permission to raise their rates quite moderately, only sufficient to enable them to pay a fair wage to their employees, to pay the company's legitimate expenses and have a fair return for the investor in the company's property. The increase in rates asked for by the company was much lower then that now in force. The company's letter above referred to states that "many promises were made by the Government, but the company was unable to get matters adjusted."

I for one am unwilling to pass judgment upon either of the parties until both have been heard. The company's published letter is an indictment of the Government. I think it should be answered by the Government promptly and in an equally public way as the charges made by the company. Thousands of telephone patrons in town and country are pecuniarly affected to their loss by what has occurred. What they want to know and have an undoubted right to know is who is to blame is the matter? Why has the Government, acting for all the people of the province, abandoned the control of the telephone rates?

I am,&c.

TELEPHONE PATRON.

Normal training, the Health and patriotic spirit of pupils to be safeguarded," and incidentally our whole educational system was to be vastly improved. And the record is, EVERYTHING ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION HAS GONE FROM BAD TO WORSE A SHAME AND DISGRACE AND BYE-WORD TO THE PROVINCE. Take for instance the closing last fall of the Prince of Wales College because of and the absence of common business horse-sense. Look again at the large number of vacant schools because teachers can not be found to do this work on charity for the Government. In Plank No. 6, the roads and bridges were to be put in good repair, and THE AUTO LICENSE FEES WERE DISTINCTLY PROWISED TO BE SET ASIDE FOR THIS PURPOSE. Instead, what was done has been on borrowed money, and the AUTO REVENUE HAS BEEN, BY STATUTE, SET ASIDE TO PAY THE INTEREST ON THE BORROWED MONEY. And with all this waste, the complaint is that in many places the roads were never worse in the recent history of the province. Again the Promise continues, "All moneys must be expended SUBJECT TO PUBLIC COMPETITION", as a part of their farce.

Number 7 was aimed to catch the votes of the "Fisherman," and in consideration, "An expert instructor, in catching, curing and marketing" was Promised, and RETURNED SOLDIER FISHERMEN TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID AND LIKE TREATMENT WITH THOSE ASSISTED IN GETTING FARMS. Amongst other things funds were to be provided to FURNISH GASOLINE BOATS AND EQUIPMENT TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR CALLING. Does a fisherman or anybody else, know of a dollar or a cent being appropriated or spent in FULFILLMENT OF THIS PROMISE? Perhaps the Patriot which so blatantly challenges us to point to a broken Promise will give us the names of some of those Fishermen who have been the recipients of this Government bounty? If it fails to do this we will be constrained to suspect that this is most surely one of the many promises, CONTAINED IN THE CELEBRATED MANIFESTO, that has been most shamefully disregarded by the negligent and pledge breaking combination called, by courtesy, the Bell Government.

There are some venomous creatures that carry their sting in the tail, and this is fully exemplified in this Bell aggregation's Manifesto. Its tail end Plank, Number 9, is devoted to Prohibition. Just look at this matter calmly and without undue excitement. Be assured that you will find more exhilaration in the Bell Government's handling of the business, AND THE DELIBERATE FALSIFICATION OF THEIR PROMISES, than you will in the material they dispense. The distinct guarantee of their Manifesto to the people of the province was, that, "ALL LIQUORS IMPORTED FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES TO BE INSPECTED, AND ANALYZED, AND TO BE SOLD AT COST." In direct violation of this Promise stuff of poor grade and low character is being handed out to the sick, and unfortunately to others, which is condemned by those who claim to be competent judges, including leading physicians, as unfit for so important and precarious a service. There is NO OFFICIAL INSPECTION AS PROMISED, AND NO OFFICIAL ANALYSIS OF WHAT THE SICK OF THE COMMUNITY ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE INTO THEIR SYSTEMS.

The vendors are men of upright character, but they are not experts in the judging of qualities or analytic alcoholic tests. Nor are the members of the Prohibition Commission in any better position. They can, and without doubt are doing their best, but in this question of quality they are of exceedingly limited knowledge; and so the Bootleggers whiskey is pronounced of better and purer quality than that furnished by the Bell Government to the sick and afflicted of the province ONE THING IS POSITIVE and that is that it IS NOT INSPECTED AND ANALYZED as in the Bell Government,s sacred pledge to the people in their Manifesto; and their further Promise that it will "BE SOLD AT COST" has also been thrown to the winds. In the last six months of last year they cleared up NEARLY FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IN PROFITS TAKEN OUT OF THE POCKETS OF THE POOR AND SICK, on their liquor business. This year they have increased the price $1 per bottle more, to be paid by the sick and those least able to stand it. To this money making trade for the Government must also be added the $1 a bottle to be paid for the Doctor's prescription

Thus we have fully answered the Patriot and condemned them out of their own mouths. Two thirds of their Manifesto, consisting of tirade and abuse of the late Governments, we have shown to be

Continued on Page Nine

Great Price Reducing Sale

Begins this Morning at S.A. McDonald's

Whole Stock thrown on the Market For 10 Days

The Most Sensational Sale in the History of the Province

We Need $30,000 and are Going to Get it in Ten Days

Terms Strictly Cash

S. A. McDONALD

"The Haberdashery"

10 DAYS SALE

January 5th to 15th

Everything in the Store Men's Furnishings and Clothing

25 p. c. and 33 1-3 off

Come and get Your Requirements from the Newest and Brightest Stock in the City

Henderson & Cudmore

101 Grafton Street

Happenings of The Week

The old time custom of New Year's calling was quite generally revived this year, the lovely weather making the round very pleasant one to all.

* * *

At Government House His Honor the Lieut. Governor and Mrs. McKinnon had a long list of callers to wish them a happy New Year, so did also His Lordship Bishop O'Leary, who was spending his first New Years in the city, also Chief Justice and Mrs. Mathieson

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Goodwill who were here for the holidays left early in the week on return to Peterboro, Ont.

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Rev. Dr. Fullerton's friends were glad to see him out this week after suffering from a severe attack of the prevailing "cold".

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Miss Ross of Summerside is among the visitors here this week who is being entertained by her numerous friends.

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Mrs. (Judge) Stewart has returned from spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Jones and family at Moncton.

* * *

All the services of the week of Prayer were well attended this year and deep interest was taken in different services.

* * *

Mrs. Arthur Mutch received on Wednesday afternoon for the first time since her marriage at her pretty bungalow, at Hopeton. Roses were used in the reception and dining rooms very effectively. Mrs. Mutch was assisted in receiving her guests by Mrs. Arthur Bruce In the dining room Mrs. Aubrey Mutch and Mrs. Allan presided over the tea cups, and were assisted in serving by Miss Edith Mutch Miss Josephine Cook, Miss Marion Gates and Mrs. George VanBuskirk, while the ices were cut by Mrs. Alfred McWilliams.

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The illness of the Rev. Mr. Raymond caused his friends much concern this week but happily he is now on the road to recovery.

* * *

Many friends here were pleased to hear of the promotion of Mr. E. E Dewdney, Manager of the Bank of Montreal at New Denver, B. C., to Rossland, B. C., as Mrs. Dewdney, formerly Miss Helen Peters, daughter of the Hon. Fred Peters, is kindly remembered by her friends and relations here. The farewell given in New Denver was evidence of their popularity in social and business circles as the city gave them a farewell concert in their honor, presenting them with a purse and other tokens of love and esteem.

* * *

Miss Nora Lyons left this week for Cambridge, Mass., where she will enter one of the leading Hospitals to train as a nurse. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Louise who will visit friends in Boston before returning home.

* * *

Misses Helen and Dora Mathieson after a delightful holiday have returned to resume their studies at McDonald College.

* * *

Mr. C. L. Miles has gone to Toronto to attend the annual meeting of the Canadian Bank of Commerce which is to be held there on the 11th.

* * *

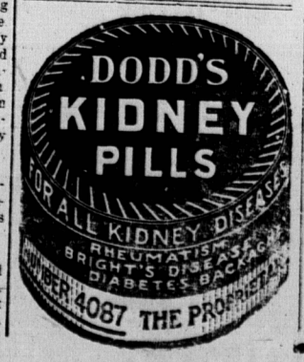
Lieut. H. R. Stewart is now in Ottawa on official business in connection with the Canadian Air Force.

* * *

Dr. and Mrs. Williamson and family, who have been guests of Mrs. Williamson's parents, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Heartz of Amherst, for the past few days have returned to their home in Yarmouth.

* * *

The holiday merrymaking is practically over for another year, many of the young people having returned to college or preparing to do so. The usual round of one and two table Bridges still hold favor with the hostess.



"Never Again"

Will I be without insurance" says the man that has just suffered from a fire loss.

But why await until you have suffered a loss before insuring? Why not take out that policy today covering your home and its contents, your store, factory, merchandise, etc.?

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