

CENTRAL GUARDIAN

This column is reserved for news of local interest, but advertising of a newsworthy nature may be inserted at five cents a word, strictly payable in advance.

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ATTENTION SCOTSMEN, (and others) J. P. MacPherson and Son are featuring 20 per cent discount on tailored-to-measure clothes.

CITY POLICE COURT - A man who pleaded guilty to theft under \$25 was sentenced to 40 days in jail by the Stipendiary Magistrate on Monday morning, and a vagrant was sentenced to 30 days. A female, convicted on a charge of operating a motor vehicle while her ability was impaired by alcohol, was sentenced to seven days and a man appearing on drunk and incapable charges was fined \$10 and costs or 10 days.

COUNTY MAGISTRATE'S COURT - A resident of Charlottetown pleaded guilty to a charge of possession of intoxicating liquor at a place other than his residence before Magistrate Gilbert A. Gaudet in the Queen's County Magistrate's Court on Monday, and was fined \$20 and costs or 30 days. The case of a resident of Parkdale, appearing on a similar charge, was adjourned for one week, and the case of a resident of Charlottetown, charged with creating a disturbance, was also adjourned for one week.

Personals

Mrs. Bessie Rogerson, Truro, Nova Scotia, visited her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Cameron, Belvedere, during the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogerson and children, Faye Lea, and Wayne, Truro, N. S., have returned home after spending the Christmas holidays visiting Mrs. Rogerson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Waddell, Parkdale.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Daniel MacDonald, who passed away January 2nd, 1950. Today we are thinking of someone.

Who was loving, kind and true, Whose smile was as dear as the sunshine, Dear Father, that someone was you. Inserted by his daughter, Mrs. Harry Larter.

Card Of Thanks

We wish to thank kind friends and neighbours, also those who sent flowers and sympathy cards during our recent bereavement.

Mrs. Albert Paul and Family.

The newspaper, more than any other medium, is the forum for the airing of all such differences. The editor may act as a referee, but never as a judge. For that matter, who would be sufficient as an arbiter in all the disputes that arise from time to time in our complex society? Any editor I have ever known, and I have had dealings with a goodly number, would shudder at the implications.

In these articles I have undertaken to write for The Guardian I know I can count on the goodwill and wise counsel of an editor who in a long and distinguished journalistic experience has learned much about the potential influence, both good and bad, of the printed word. But, to imagine that every word I put down in this column must necessarily be an echo of his own sentiments would be worse than foolish. So it ought to be with newspaper writings generally.

No columnist worth his salt would pretend to be infallible, and the arbitrary temper would be for him a delusion and a snare into which he would not wittingly be trapped. The function of the printed word is the dissemination of opinions honestly arrived at, or, if you like, convictions deeply rooted. The convictions of one man may seem idle dreaming to another. What of it, so long as they are honest and come from the heart and soul? "I do not believe a word you say!" exclaimed a wise thinker of the past to his antagonist, "but I would fight to the death for your right to say it!"

Drive out ACHES. JUST RUB IN MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

PSEUDONYMS

Apparently, the practice of attaching pseudonyms (nom-de-plumes, pen-names) to newspaper letters is not held in much esteem in this part of the world. There seems to be a feeling that the writer, in withholding his name, is not quite convinced of the rightness of his opinions or allegations, as the case may be. It is, however, a purely local prejudice.

In England, for example, the home of "just-so" journalism, the use of pseudonyms is widespread. The London Times, perhaps the most honoured name in the newspaper world, makes much of them. So does the church press without, apparently, any qualm of doubt as to the ethics of the practice. And why not? The important thing about a letter to the editor (or a column such as this) is what it contains in information, provocative thought, or constructive criticism, not the identity of the writer. If a contribution be of value in any of these ways would the name of the contributor add anything to it? Of course, it would not.

Not All Alike. There is no doubt that a lot of people get a great deal of pleasure out of writing to the local newspaper at the slightest provocation. The moment they have a grievance or a good idea strikes them, they take pen in hand and tell the editor all about it. For them, to use or not to use a nom-de-plume presents no problem at all. They affix their signatures boldly and proudly. Others there are who do not share the same predilection. Yet, sometimes, they, too, have thought they would like to share with others in the only way open to them the newspaper. For them anonymity is a shield which should not be denied, provided, of course, the editor has been taken into their confidence.

To charge such people with being fearful of their own opinions, as is sometimes done, would be unjust. A signature, in itself, adds nothing to and detracts nothing from the worth of an opinion. Indeed, sometimes there is an advantage in having all letters bearing on a controversial subject end in pseudonyms. For then the controversy is bound to centre in ideas as controversies always should, not in personalities as is often, unfortunately, the case.

People are not all alike and it would be a terribly drab world much worse than it is now, if they were. Some like to see their names in the papers and some don't. Almost everyone at some time or other has an opinion he would like to share. It must be remembered that some of the best novels and poems ever written were produced under pen-names. For that matter, there is more than a suggestion of anonymity in the Bible itself. The Epistle to the Hebrews bears the name of Paul, but I believe the scholars are almost unanimous in their opinion that he did not actually write it.

The first five books of the Old Testament, commonly referred to as the Pentateuch, are traditionally ascribed to Moses. At the same time, there is much disagreement among Jewish and Christian scholars alike as to whether or not he was responsible for each book in the collection. Here, on this Island, we have a first rate poet in the person of Mr. John Robert Lamont Campbell. I am glad to give his collection of poems entitled "Golden Moments" a prominent place in my library of many hundreds of volumes. For many years this gifted writer of verse was identified only as John of the Isles. What induced him to give up this attractive nom-de-plume I have no way of knowing, nor does it matter. What I do know is that the poems of John of the Isles were just as readable and helpful years before I knew there was such an individual as John Robert Lamont Campbell as they are now.

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Opens Thursday January 3rd AT 9.30 A.M. and continues until all Winter Merchandise is cleaned out. Our inventory must be reduced before the end of January when we close our business for the year. PRICES SLASHED 1-4, 1-3, 1-2 and More.

KIDDIES SNOWSUITS. Kiddies Snow Suits, 2 and 3-piece. Sizes 2 to 6 years. Prices \$7.50 to \$11.95; Also coat sets 1 to 3x. Price \$1.95. Clearing. Less 25% Discount.

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KIDDIES SWEATERS. Kiddies' Pullover and Cardigan Sweaters. Sizes 2 to 12 years, \$1.95 to \$4.95. Less 20% Discount.

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DRESSING GOWNS. Men's Dressing Gowns and House Coats, all wool, flannel and silk. Out they go. Less 25% Discount.

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