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Mr. Charles Dalton, President. J. H. Burnett, Editor and Publisher.  
D. R. Currie, Associate Editor.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1921

## A DISCREDITED PARTY

The growing antagonism against the Bell government is not alone because of the broken promises and false pretenses upon which they came into power, added to this is the bungling or worse which has characterized every act of their administration and the constant expectation of something worse to happen.

Looking backward over the short period since their election the road they travelled is strewn with wrecks and with many evidences of wreckage behind the flimsy excuses put forward by their organ, the Patriot.

Toward our schools and the matter of education generally they have shown an antipathy and a studied enmity which must have been inspired by something worse than stupidity. For the sake of a small pittance, which they were urged by our best citizens to grant and which they maliciously refused to grant, one of their first acts was to lose to the province the services of one of the best qualified manual training teachers in Canada and to Charlottetown and the province a useful and respected citizen, Pro Barlow, whose place was not yet being filled.

For the sake of providing a job for one of their political heelers they dismissed Mr. James Landriegan from the management of the School Supply, a department which by education and experience he was eminently qualified to fill, and handed it over to a man, who had no more qualification for the position than a ten year old school boy and the government organ denied that Mr. Landriegan was dismissed through callous neglect or stupidity, or worse, they allowed Col. R. H. Campbell, Superintendent of Education to leave the province without raising a hand or a voice to retain his services although they knew there was not another man in the province who could fill his place. This was not even a question of additional remuneration; it was cold-blooded neglect, even the members of the government not being consulted or advised of his dismissal—for dismissal it virtually was.

Later, on, the disgraceful imbroglio in connection with Prince of Wales College, brought the province into unenviable and humiliating prominence throughout the Dominion. Here not only was neglect apparent and unconcern manifested but apparent hostility to the college. This imbroglio continued through six months or more of unavailing remonstrances with the government by its own friends and was finally settled, almost in the face of actual rebellion, by a humiliating back down on the part of the government. What Prince of Wales College suffered in prestige and influence through the disgraceful notoriety it received at the hands of the government and its organ, when its professors were classed with Bolsheviks and agitators, will not be regained in the present generation. It is a black chapter in the once proud history of education in Prince Edward Island, a chapter, the half of which has not been written but all of which is well known to the friends of the College and of education here and elsewhere.

With respect to the rural schools the situation is equally humiliating and demoralizing. Under pretence of increasing the salaries of the teachers a bill was passed authorizing an increase the greater part of which was to be raised by a direct levy upon the district in addition to the increased provincial taxes levied ostensibly to enable the government to increase teacher's salaries. All this in the face of the pre-election promises in which Liberal candidates and the Liberal organ declared the revenue under the previous government. Is it to be wondered at that

increase to provide for the ordinary requirements of the province and to double the teacher-salaries!

These are but scraps of the unfortunate history made during the short regime of the Bell government. Is it to be wondered at that the people who have been so shamefully deceived have demanded the resignation of the government, lest something worse befall? Is it any wonder that the people throughout the province are wondering what attitude the representatives whom they trusted, whose word they accepted before election, will adopt when they meet at the coming session? How will these men face their constituents again? How will they account to them for their stewardship? How will they explain the promises made and on which they were elected and all of which, without exception, have been broken?

The government organ bids the people wait till they learn of the great things the government has done. The people already realize they have waited too long. They know the government has had the handling of two years' revenue within the year; they know that immense sums of money have been expended on the roads; that hundreds of men have been employed all summer on sections of roads throughout the province; they know that, ostensibly for the making of permanent roads some hundreds of thousands of dollars have been borrowed, but they have grave suspicions as to how this money was spent and they know that, whether extravagantly or corruptly used, the party organ will be ready to meet any criticism or any exposure with its sneer, "for the sake of a dollar."

## THE NAVY LEAGUE

If ever a body of men had cause to pat themselves on the back for work accomplished, the men have who inaugurated and carried to its present proud position the Prince Edward Island Branch of the Navy League of Canada.

Their annual meeting held Saturday afternoon, with its modest record of a year's achievement, was a revelation. The establishment of a home in which the sailors from every port can find, and have found, a real home, friends, entertainment, kindness, is in itself a boon the importance and far-reaching consequences of which can never be measured. Such a home has been provided and it is particularly gratifying to know that it was made extensive use of during the past summer. What that means to the sailor away from home, a stranger in a strange land, whose friendships too often heretofore have been sought in the barroom and the dance hall, can only be known to the sailor himself. It is a veritable godsend and has been so designated by many of those who visited this home and made it their headquarters during their stay in Charlottetown last summer.

The School of Navigation, reference to which has already been made in the Guardian, has already won the distinction of being the best-equipped school of the kind in Canada. It has everything in its favor; a most beautiful location overlooking the harbor and its ship ping; comfortable rooms, an equipment limited only by the limitations of science and modern invention and with carte blanche to keep abreast with all that science and modern invention can provide. There is no doubt that when this school becomes better known it will be the Mecca of Canada for those desiring to reach the top in nautical education.

In addition to these there is the Naval Cadet training school and a Wireless School all equipped and in line with the best in naval training. A pleasing feature of the annual to carry it further.

## THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

## RAILWAY AFFAIRS

Sir—Since I wrote last to your paper in regard to the opening of the Elmira branch, I've discovered a few things that would be well for the public in general to know. It has been discovered that the train crew operating the train on the Elmira branch are responsible for this line not being opened and not being operated with the rest of the roads. If these men do not want to work, let them be dismissed at once as there are many others who are willing to do the work of these men for the same pay if not less. The superintendent of the Island division of railways admits that he has no authority to open this line of railway without orders from Moncton. This is only another way of beating around the bush. On Monday, Feb. 14, a train came through to Souris from Charlottetown, arrived at the former place at 9 p.m. and this train was immediately ordered back to Charlottetown by the supposed acting superintendent, which goes to show that he does not have to get orders from Moncton. The intention of this man who holds or is trying to hold the job of superintendent, was to have this same train that came from Charlottetown that day, to proceed to open the Elmira branch, which section foremen of experience say could be done easily in three or four hours with two good engines not gasoling engines as is being used at the present time.

One farmer here who shipped pork to the packing station some ten or twelve days ago, still has the pork at the station at Elmira and since that time, his pig has declined in price and the loss to this farmer alone is \$100. This is only one instance. Other farmers have cream to ship and no train to carry it to the factory. I would suggest, if the present superintendent has no authority to give orders to move trains as he pleases or as they should be moved, the office of the superintendent be abolished and that at once. Then the public would have redress through other channels.

Talk about Bolshevism; we have an example of it right here and the sooner the authorities take the matter in hand, the better for the general public at large, for some day they will see a train east of Mr. Stewart, if the train would remain until the June rains would melt her out.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for space in your paper and after a few days more, I'll have something more to say if this branch is not opened to Elmira.

I am, Sir, etc.  
EASTERN KINGS  
Feb. 21, 1921.

## Daily Selections

Guardian Readers  
Furnished by W. S. Louisa

## THERE IS NO UNBELIEF

There is no unbelief,  
Whoever plants a seed beneath  
the soil,  
And waits to see it push away the  
cloud,  
He trusts in God.

Whoever says when clouds are in  
the sky,  
"Do patient heart; light breaketh  
by and by,"  
Trusts the Most High.

Whoever sees "neath winter's  
fields of snow  
The silent harvest of the future  
grow,  
God's power must know.

Whoever lies down upon his couch  
to sleep,  
Content to lock each sense in  
slumber deep,  
Knows God will keep.

Whoever says "Tomorrow," "The  
Unknown,"  
"The Future," trusts that Power  
alone  
He dares disown.

The heart that looks on when the  
eyelids close,  
And dares to live when life has  
only woes,

There is no unbelief,  
And day by day, and night, uncon-  
sciously,  
The heart lives by the faith the  
lips deny—  
God knoweth why.

—Lizzie York Case.

meeting was the public recognition of the services rendered by His Lordship, Chief Justice Mathieson, President of the Branch, who was regrettably absent in Court in Georgetown; Mr. J. O. Hyndman, the indefatigable Secretary to whose energy much of the success is due; Mr. J. Walter Hyndman, who has proved himself a veritable genius in this science, and in fact by all heads of the different departments.

Charlottetown has good cause to feel proud of this institution, and of the men at its head who have given of their valuable time and their talents to bring it to the front position it occupies today and who may be depended upon

## CURRENT COMMENT

Like the meteor in its first appearance flashing across the sky and in its most brilliant moments brightening up the heavens, then melting away into darkness, so it is appearing that the Grain Growers political movement, which for a brief space threatened to dominate the affairs of "Canada," is showing the waning of its light and influence, and veering in the direction of comparative extinction. The great "Crerar," the "star of hope" of the party was not in his place in parliament in the early and most important days of its opening, and his followers, with apparently no minds of their own were admittedly between the devil and the deep sea as to what course to follow in relation to the McKenzie King amendment, or so called want of confidence motion, against the Meighen Government. Four thousand dollars in payment for his services to the public as a member of the House was not sufficient attraction to draw him away from the \$25,000 job he has on hand for the Grain Growers Combine, nor even was his patriotic interest for his bleeding country powerful enough to draw him from these flesh pots to his Ottawa duties.

And report says that there are many troubles in the ranks of their party. Their leader, Mr. Crerar's declaration of policy, to tear up those non-productive railways that were being run at an immense cost to the country, came as a hard blow to some of their projects. They are now insisting upon this same Mr. Crerar and his western colleagues making a demand upon the Government and parliament for a reduction of freight rates, and now how can they harmonize this demand with the tear up and destroy policy of unremunerative roads. If the roads won't pay with the rates as at present, how in the name of all reason can they pay with a loss freight revenue? Won't the outcome of such a policy double up the cost to the country and fortify Mr. Crerar's argument in favor of tearing up the rails and sending them to the scrap heap? Again, they are in the field agitating for a new railway to Hudson

Bay. Highly desirable though this line would be, and indispensable in opening up this great portion of Canada, it must of necessity be run for several years at considerable loss to the country. The Government intend to build it, but, if Mr. Crerar intends to tear it up when he gets into power, what's the use, that is if he has any chance of ever getting there?

Another of the Grain Growers' troubles is in the development of manufacturing and industries in the large and rapidly growing cities of the west. Already it is debating whether to stand for the Mackenzie King demand for an immediate election, where the farming population now have the advantage, or to await the redistribution, following the census, where their BIG CITIES WILL GET THE BENEFIT OF THE INCREASED REPRESENTATION. Even from amongst their own farming population, they are having their troubles. Many of them are refusing to join their monopolistic pools. Others again, like the farmers of the West, are learning to appreciate the great advantages of the home market which these cities with their factories and business provides, and are showing a disposition to stand for the policy of protecting these home markets for themselves.

The Hon. Robert Rogers, one of the most astute and best informed politicians of the West, so often quoted as an authority by the Liberal press, and who knows the temper and aspirations of the people, describes the farmers movement as a "fad" which is fast dying out. In Ontario, their own organ, the Farmers' Sun, has pronounced the Drury Government a financial failure.

Their biggest drawback is in the fact that all their leaders have been drawn from the ranks of Liberalism, educated in the Liberal school, and so saturated with their blundering party methods as to be incapable of preparing any acceptable policy, or of outlining any sensible and clear cut course of action.

Crerar, Wood, Drury, Clark, Barnaby and practically the whole contingent, which constitute the motive power of their movement, were formerly the big men of the Liberal party. The Grain Growers' wing understands exactly what they want and are after. With them it is a question of their pockets, the price of their grain, the American markets both for buying and selling, and the rest of Canada to shoulder the country's burdens. But this combine is but a drop in the bucket of the farming and stock-raising interests of the whole country, which they do not find so easy for

Continued on Page Five

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