

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1924

OUR PROVINCE

While making due allowance for the kindly meant compliments paid to our province by so many of our visitors, even our modesty cannot wholly conceal the conviction that there is not between the Atlantic and the Pacific a more continuously beautiful country than Prince Edward Island, continuously beautiful in its fertility, in its well cultivated fields, in the bountifulness of its growing crops and in the garden-like, well groomed appearance of its farms and homesteads. Visitors from almost every part of the continent have expressed this opinion, have expressed it so frequently and so wholeheartedly that we are fain to believe it ourselves. Premier Stewart has returned from a motor trip through New Brunswick, Maine and some of the other New England States. He had an excellent opportunity to see the farms, the crops and the methods of farming in these supposedly advanced agricultural sections and he declares that nowhere has he seen anything to compare with the crops in Prince Edward Island. This is true, he says, not of any one particular crop but of all. Our potato growers especially, he thinks, have no reason to fear any competition either from the potato growers of New Brunswick or the far famed potato state of Maine. In some of the best farm lands seen during his tour he saw fields of hay in process of harvesting which, in Prince Edward Island, would have been left for the cattle to harvest. The Premier is quite enthusiastic over the comparison and says that any Prince Edward Islander who is dissatisfied with farming here should take a trip abroad, no matter where or how far and he would come back fully convinced that, agriculturally at least, there is no place within many days' journey equal to Prince Edward Island. As to enjoyable summer weather also the comparison holds good.

The Premier's opinion is strongly corroborated by our visitors. They unhesitatingly declare that they have seen nowhere such crops, such evidences of soil fertility, of thrift and comfort as here. And our visitors have had excellent opportunities for observation. A great many of our visitors this season have their own cars and not a few of them have toured the whole province and "nothing like it anywhere" is the unanimous verdict.

FEDERAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Public Accounts of Canada for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1924, have been finally adjusted and have passed into the records. In many respects they bear a close resemblance to those with which we became acquainted during the palmy days of the Bell government in this province. The outstanding claim, now as then, is that the national debt has been reduced, while the outstanding fact is that the interest on the national debt has been enormously increased. Another fact which will call up pleasant and unpleasant memories is the hopeful prospect of still greater things to come, such as a reduction in taxation, a larger surplus yet to be. Unfortunately the figures given do not bear out the sanguine prospects.

The customs revenue for the year was \$181,500,000 as compared with \$168,796,000 in 1920. With the reduction in customs duties now in force the falling off for the current year will necessarily be very much of greater. Excise duties had fallen off by over four millions as compared with 1920 and war taxes deducted and more are in prospect. Are these premature or pre-election interest on the national debt in-

creased from \$108,990,000 in 1920 to \$136,237,000 in 1924. When we recall the fact that the national debt had been greatly "reduced" by the present administration, the question naturally arises where does the increase in interest come in?

But the only explanation is that given by the Indian as to the rise in the price of berries—"Danno, big war somewhere!"

There is much in store for us during the current year — if it comes. We are exceedingly rich in promises; no people in the world have a more promising future — in words — but they bear too close a resemblance to our late local Liberal regime to arouse much enthusiasm here.

90 DAYS SUSPENSION

As intimated in The Guardian's recent despatches, the British Empire Steel Corp'n., is closed for 90 days. This is a serious blow to Sydney and indeed to Canada. Mr. Wolvin, the President of the company gives three reasons for the step taken, namely, business depression, the increased cost of coal mining in Cape Breton and the keen competition of Belgian and French steel manufacturers who can transport steel products to Canada, pay the duty and undersell Canadian manufacturers in their own market.

The Sydney Post thinks that the increased cost of coal mining is not due to the excessive wages paid to the actual coal miners but to exorbitant wages and salaries paid to the officials of the company. The Post admits that trade depression also has something to do with it but places the greater blame on the tariff. We quote: "With Mr. Wolvin's complaint of the inadequacy of the tariff on steel and steel products, the Post, as a protectionist newspaper, has no fault to find, further than to say that Besco's chosen and favored political friends are now in power at Ottawa and Halifax, as a result, in some degree at least, of the assistance they received from that Corporation at the last Federal and Provincial elections. In the circumstances we are sure that Mr. Wolvin's representations with respect to steel and even coal duties would be received with some sympathy by both Governments. If not, gratitude is a lost virtue.

It is admitted that this year's tariff changes have given the Canadian rod market to American rod manufacturers, and that the general tendency of the Robb budget has been to cripple the Canadian steel industry. It cannot be questioned that the tariff has been almost as big a factor in producing this mid-summer close-down of the Sydney steel plant as the prevailing continent-wide trade depression. But there are other important factors which Mr. Wolvin omits from his summary.

Personal favoritism and political pull have fastened fancy-salaried officials on the Company whose disappearance from its pay roll would mean a net, if not an absolute, profit to the shareholders. The merger has impaired the credit of the constituent companies and has thus rendered the financing of their operations difficult, and in a crisis like the present, impossible.

EDITORIAL NOTES

If there is not going to be a general election within the year there seems to be an inexcusable waste year will necessarily be very much of greater. Excise duties had fallen off by over four millions as compared with 1920 and war taxes deducted and more are in prospect. Are these premature or pre-election interest on the national debt in-

Notes By The Way

The trial of Loeb and Leopold now proceeding in Chicago is remarkable for the atrocious, unnatural and heartless murder of which it is the outcome. The crime itself, the manner in which it was planned and executed, the subsequent confessions of the accused and all the gruesome details must to some minds suggest that there was something abnormal in the mental and moral make up of the youthful perpetrators of the horror. Not that they were irresponsible. They were intelligent enough to place them above the average of youths of their age. They had the advantage of the best of schools and colleges. They enjoyed the privileges of wealth and lived in luxurious homes.

These surroundings really added to their responsibilities and should have rendered it impossible that they could entertain the thought of murder. But their privileges of wealth and station which should have been a blessing proved to be a curse. Had they been born in poverty they might not have become criminals. Their wealth increased their temptations. It is often better to be born to poverty than to great riches. From the meretricious pleasures to which wealth gives ready access the descent to open vice and from vice to crime is easy and too often increasingly rapid.

In the life they led these now self-confessed murderers admit their familiarity with the wine-cup and the revolver. The gun may have suggested the crime which they committed. "How oft the means to do ill deeds make ill deeds done!" But not in this case as so frequently is, was their crime committed in a moment of passion. It was coolly and deliberately planned and premeditated. And human life appears to be a cheap commodity in Chicago where the record of murders is one a day! The national annals, in its tale of homicides is appalling, but in the crime catalogue Chicago has achieved a bad pre-eminence.

There the youths in wealthy homes, having run the giddy round of gaiety, pleasure and vice and these at length to pall upon their senses. Satiety breeds contempt for outworn gratifications. They seek for novelty, for new thrills and excitements. To that end they conclude they must swim further and dive deeper in the black gulf of crime. A murder, the slaughter of an innocent and harmless victim might supply the new sensation and the added zest. It would at least be an experiment of interest to jaded appetites and a relief from boredom! And so the crime was plotted and the alibi necessary to secure exemption from punishment in case of arrest was framed.

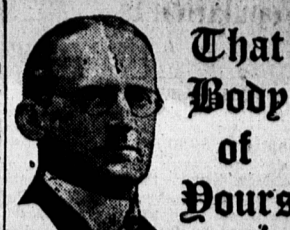
The gallows throws its grim shadow over the culprits now. Their crime was brought home to them and they confessed that they had done the damning deed. But they and their counsel are not yet without hope of escape. In this land how few of these guilty of murder are found guilty in the courts? How few even of those found guilty are sent to the scaffold or the electric chair. How large a proportion of those sentenced to life imprisonment are released after a year or two in prison. When was it known that the son of a millionaire was executed even for the gravest crime? Even if one is convicted and the governor of the day signs his death warrant the next succeeding Governor a year later may sign a communication or purchase a free pardon.

Loeb and Leopold will not suffer unjustly. They are to be tried by a chief justice of reputed rectitude without a jury. But, we are told in the press that a jury may be called to decide upon their sanity and responsibility. In such case a jury might conscientiously disagree. Or they might possibly conscientiously find the accused insane enough

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Your Birthday

AUGUST 1.—You are very bold, even to the verge of foolhardiness. You are generally successful in overcoming difficulties, persevering, fond of out-of-door life and sport. You are affectionate, fond of children and kind and gentle to your family. You will travel far, and love will be yours if you are not jealous and too hasty. Your birthstone is the sardonyx which means a happy married life. Your flower is the poppy. Your lucky colors are orange and red.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

WHO WAS RIGHT?

During the examination of some nursing sisters for overseas service, the examining officer turned to me and said:

"I'm afraid I'll have to reject Miss — as she has an old spot at the top of her left lung."

"I was able to verify this, and told the young lady that we were sorry but that we could not allow her to go overseas."

"She felt so badly that I suggested that she consult a lung specialist for her own health's sake."

"She did so, and he gave her the same advice as ourselves."

"She went further and consulted the head of a large private tuberculosis sanatorium, who also advised her not to proceed overseas."

"She was a very determined young lady and by using very strong arguments with an officer higher up, she was passed for overseas service, by a very reliable lung specialist."

"Her arguments were hard to combat. She had done hard private nursing service for years, she had been in the army on home service for two years. She felt strong and well. It was not fair to hold her back after seeing two years in home service."

"Now why was she allowed to proceed overseas?"

"Was the last examining physician any better equipped to give an opinion than the head of this large institution?"

"No. Both men stood high in the profession in fact were practically of equal standing. It was simply that those physicians who rejected her, felt that she was a little light in weight, rather frail looking and that with the possible hardships in France, the old healed over spot in her left lung might break down and she would not have the frame, the body to combat it."

"Now the sequel is unsatisfactory although she got overseas, as it so happened that she was not under any strain at any time, and there was thus no opportunity of finding out which specialist was right."

"And the lesson? That although a person may have an old healed spot in the lungs, they are perfectly safe under ordinary conditions, particularly if they have a good appetite and are not losing weight; but with hard indoor work and long hours, there is liable to be a "lighting up" of the old trouble."

Common sense is a big factor here you see.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

O MOTHER EARTH

By May Howe Dakin
O Mother Earth,
Proud on your breast
I feel your welcoming tenderness.

For my content
You see in view
A world of treasures, glad and new—

You have live jewels
In your dress—
Pearl, opal, and gleaming chrysalis.

The dragon fly's
Great eyes of jade,
His form of jet and sapphire made.

And beetles dressed
In cloth of gold,
Adorned like gorgeous kings of old;

So many lovely
Little things,
With shining eyes and gauzy wings.

I turn to where
Wild flowers bloom
And drench me with their warm perfume.

O Mother Earth
My nearest friend,
Be ever near me to the end;

Then gladly will
I come to rest
Upon the haven of your breast.

Picture on Dresser Is Burglar's Undoing

NEW YORK, July 31.—How Mrs. Henry L. Stengel, victim of a \$35,000 daylight burglary, recognized on her maid's dresser a photograph of the man who had robbed her was told in the Harlem Court, when the maid, Loutse Provoka, wife of Louis Hernandez Campos, the "red wig burglar", was held in \$10,000 bail as an accessory to the theft.

Mrs. Stengel surprised the burglar in her apartment when she returned home at noon on April 8, and got a glimpse of him as she turned and ran to the street for help. Later she saw a photograph on her maid's dresser. The face was vaguely familiar. She asked who it was and the maid, who had told a story of being caught by the burglar's revolver, said, "That's my husband."

The police obtained copies of the picture and circled the entire country. Campos fell into the police net in Washington, D. C., Friday.

Aims of Olympic Games Generally Misunderstood

ABOUT forty years ago a young Frenchman, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, spent some time in England with the idea of studying the public school system of the country. It appears that the intellectual training given in the public schools did not greatly appeal to him, but he was enormously impressed with the system of games that had been developed in them and had grown into a national institution. He was however, more impressed with the moral than with the physical side of this question, though he thoroughly recognized also the great importance of the latter. He returned to France with the intention of making it his life's work to introduce games into the national life of his own country, and when this had been successfully accomplished he conceived the idea of doing the same for all the nations of the world. To this end he proposed to revive the Olympic Games of ancient Greece in a form adapted to modern conditions. The idea was cordially accepted by an international conference held in Paris in 1894, and an international Olympic Committee was constituted to carry it out.

Misunderstood by Public

Unfortunately the general public is almost entirely ignorant of the true objects and aims of this committee, says a writer using the initials W. A. K. in the Christian Science Monitor. Nine out of ten would consider that they are summed up in the holding of an international athletic competition every four years. But this is to look at the matter from a wrong point of view. The Olympic Games are not primarily international competitions, and the organization of the games is not the first object of the committee. They are merely a means to an end, in the same way that a horse show or a flower show is an efficient means of encouraging the production of fine horses or fine flowers. Indeed, rightly considered, the quadrennial games are not, in the ordinary sense of the word, "international competitions." It is the definitely declared policy of the committee that no nation shall be declared to have won the first place in the games as a whole. No system of marks for ascertaining the relative value of a victory in say, the Marathon race, the boxing contest, and the modern pentathlon, is permitted—and no official Olympic literature contains any reference to the international competition side of the question.

The Ideal of the Games.

The games, for the purpose of the committee, are meeting of the finest amateur athletes of the world under the most suitable conditions, to demonstrate the ideal manner in which games should be conducted. The actual performance of the athletes are of minor importance as compared with the manner in which the games and sports are practiced. Although the press and human nature tend to make the quadrennial games competitive between nations, it cannot be said too definitely that this is against the ideal of the games. The main object of the committee is to encourage the practice of games and sports of a suitable nature in the true sporting manner, with the idea of inculcating that ideal into the life of nations and producing increased physical efficiency. The idea is that a high moral code is acquired quite naturally by the playing of games, a code which so permeates the athlete's consciousness that it extends not only to his behavior on the playing field, but governs his every act in private life. Surely, if this is so, and games and sport can be introduced into the national life of the peoples of the world, then the Olympic movement can compare favourably with any moral movement of modern times. That it is true the moral code acquired on the playing fields extends so every day life, and that public opinion approves of the code, is very aptly demonstrated by the manner in which the English-speaking peoples apply sporting terms to express their moral standards. "Play the game," "That's not cricket," and similar phrases are understood, that is, in their full significance by every Englishman. To say that anyone can be relied on to "play the game" is a high form of praise.

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in which it is played, and secondly, the human desire to excel. To take football, as an example, public opinion insists that a player shall keep his temper, shall take a beating and a referee's decision in the right way, shall shake hands with his opponent—shall play fairly. The desire to excel forces a player to acquire pluck, and to make his decisions quickly and accurately and so on. The result is a sound moral training, and a sound moral training in precisely those qualities which are of service to the community. It entails the sacrifice of personal interests and inclinations—whether for the sake of the team, the community, or the nation—a sacrifice for the lack of which democracy after democracy has perished in the past, and the true meaning of which the democracies of today must learn if they are not, in their turn, to perish.

Two Results.

What results, then, in this direction, have been attained by the Olympic Games after thirty years' work? Primarily two: At the present moment, to all intents and purposes, there is scarcely a nation in the civilized world in which the movement has not found strong and ever-increasing support, and in many cases the Governments of the nations have taken up the question and introduced games and sports into the official curriculum of their educational institutions and their armies. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. If the movement were merely for the purpose of organizing quadrennial international contests, or for some such minor ideal, it is fairly safe to say that it would never have met with such universal approval as it has.

A Sound Moral Training.

Two factors which are recognized as fostering the sporting ideal are, first, public opinion, which governs the conduct of the game, not merely its rules, but the manner

Graves Yawn For Eskimo Murderers

IN a jail yard on Herschel Island, northernmost public post on the American continent, a gallows tree of new sawn lumber testifies once more that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police "always got their man," and nooses dangle ready for four Eskimos who failed to render obedience to that law of the white man which reads: "Thou shalt not kill," says the New York Herald. There, on December 7, will be enacted the last grim scene of a conflict of love and passion, hatred and revenge, as crudely elemental as any drama known to the sombre pages of the ancient Greek tragic stage. It began three years ago and a thousand miles to the eastward of Herschel Island in the Coronation Gulf district, where the tribesmen of the Copper Eskimo live on the dreary rim of the Canadian Arctic north of the Barren Land. It started with the quarrel of a white trader and a tribesman over the possession of an Eskimo woman.

A Northern "Bad Man."

The white man was one Otto Binder, who for twenty years had trapped and traded along the Arctic trails. His rival was one Ahkhak, a noted "bad Eskimo," and Binder got the girl. Whereupon Ahkhak shifted the eyes of his desire to Pugnana, a married woman whom he translated into a marriageable widow by spearing her husband to death. This started a blood feud between the relatives of Ahkhak and Pugnana. A tribal council was held and primitive Arctic justice ruled that the bad man should be taken prisoner and killed. An aged sorcerer, Ekootuk, was the prime mover in this action, and two men, Amotuk and Ulipsi, were his aids. The three seized Ahkhak, who pleaded with the avengers not to stab him to death with their knives, because he dreaded the evil spirits who would send his dismembered body to the very material hell of Eskimo theology. He begged that he might instead be strangled with his own rawhide line, and they accorded him this mercy. Meanwhile Binder, the trader, had also paid the penalty for his violation of the North's unwritten law, his slayer being a sixteen-year-old lady named Alik Omak, who with an Eskimo man, Tetamagama, had also, on nomination by the chiefs, killed still another tribesman.

Murdered Police Officer.

With the first news of the outbreak of the vendetta and its trail of deaths the Royal Mounted Police had been hurrying their dog teams over the icebound streams and lakes from their nearest post, Tree River on Coronation Gulf, three hundred miles to the westward. They arrived on the scene at this stage and rounded up the principals in the chain of killings. But when the tribesmen learned that

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in which it is played, and secondly, the human desire to excel. To take football, as an example, public opinion insists that a player shall keep his temper, shall take a beating and a referee's decision in the right way, shall shake hands with his opponent—shall play fairly. The desire to excel forces a player to acquire pluck, and to make his decisions quickly and accurately and so on. The result is a sound moral training, and a sound moral training in precisely those qualities which are of service to the community. It entails the sacrifice of personal interests and inclinations—whether for the sake of the team, the community, or the nation—a sacrifice for the lack of which democracy after democracy has perished in the past, and the true meaning of which the democracies of today must learn if they are not, in their turn, to perish.

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