

**Union of Maritime Provinces.**

Many and various are the activities represented at the gatherings of the Maritime Board of Trade. Among the subjects this body discussed at Charlottetown at their recent gathering were transportation, home and foreign; the conditions of labor disputes and the right of any foreign labor body to control a domestic similar body; exorbitant telephone charges; the duplication of place names throughout the Dominion; the acquirement of competing railway lines as branches of the Intercolonial; improvement of harbors and subsidizing of steamers; the establishing of an experimental fruit farm for the Maritime Provinces, and prohibition of export of pulpwood to the United States. Keen local concern and occasionally breadth of outlook were to be found in the discussions.

A touch of acrimony appeared during the proceedings, when a speaker from the St. John delegation announced the intention of the Board of Trade of that city to withdraw from the Maritime Board, for reasons which implied criticisms of the latter body. Such a proposal a delegate from Halifax fell upon in derision, and the presiding officer went so far as to pronounce disgraceful. The contrast illustrates the bad blood which exists between commercial representatives of these two cities. Whatever its cause, whether the eastern route of the Grand Trunk Pacific or what not, it appears to prevent either city from doing justice to the claims or even arguments of the other.

This comes to mind when one tries to ponder the pros and cons of the last subject of the Maritime Union, opened for this occasion by a Moncton delegate. Suppose a plan consummated by which Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island gave up their individual legislatures, it would be necessary to assemble their delegates in one body at Sackville, or Amherst, or Charlottetown, for peace sake, since neither Halifax nor St. John would ever consent that the seat of Government should be within the walls of the other.

Looking at advantages of such an union of these three provinces, as set forth by its mover, one finds the statement made that it "would stimulate the development of the resources of the provinces, improve provincial credit, bring about an annual saving of \$150,000 a year—another report says \$1,500,000 a year—by the abolition of two legislatures, and make way for uniform judiciary and uniform action in agricultural immigration, railway taxation, Crown lands and other matters." One would like at this distance one illustration of how a Government with so greatly enlarged boundaries is likely to stimulate development of the provinces. The argument has usually been that the smaller the bailiwick the more attention would be given such matters. As for the improvement of provincial credit, no one but a Maritime resident would dare to insinuate that the credit of provinces is not good enough already.

But the last-mentioned reason, uniform action in regard to Crown lands, immigration, agriculture and the like, has greater force. It has often been said of the Maritime Provinces as components of the Dominion that in their attitude towards Ottawa they have resembled that of the wagoner toward Hercules. This is an ungracious thing to say, for it would be entirely untrue to pretend that our Maritime Province people have no self-reliance and no enterprise. They are full of both. But their struggle with nature has been long and hard. With no great areas of fertile prairie to reward the toiling farmer, they have been forced to laborious contests with the ocean as sailors and fishermen, with the forest as hunters and lumbermen, with the rock as miners—and they have mined to some purpose. Let us not forget, too, that they have carried the flag of Canada, as merchant shippers, to the ends of the earth. All honor to the sturdy men of the three provinces, who have shown in statecraft, in shipbuilding, in manufactures and in banking what admirable manhood has come of blending their many races. These Maritime Province men are to be found leaving the whole Dominion from Ottawa to Vancouver. Still, in the effort towards success on a large scale they were long handicapped by want of capital, as well as by the drain of their men and women to the United States. Ever since Confederation, the attention of older Canada, say of Quebec and Ontario,

has been fixed too exclusively upon the marvels of Canada beyond the Great Lakes. It is not too much to say that the very obvious claims of the resources of the Maritime Provinces were long neglected. Only lately have some of our railway kings and our moneyed magnates awakened to the wonders of Cape Breton and Cumberland, the possibilities of little-known northern New Brunswick, the attractions of both provinces in salt water scenery and summer travel. It may be that Maritime Union advocates have had in mind that a central government could bring more forcibly into consideration such claims as are above briefly indicated.—*Monetary Times.*

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Add. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

**A Picture of War That is Seldom Presented.**

Woodstock Sentinel: "If people could only see the inside of a field hospital as I have," says Goldwin Smith, "they would be more careful." Just so. But in the literature extolling the pomp and the glory of war but little is heard of the field hospital. And yet the field hospital is one of the terrible realities of war. If the spirit of patriotism is to be nourished by war literature let us have the whole of it. It is said that the bones of the Russian soldiers who fell pitifully but bravely in the recent war with Japan are now used in great quantities to make animal charcoal for the powder mills of Japan. The bones bring as high as half a dollar for 140 pounds, and are used to form the basis of a new explosive, capable of supplying other bones when the present supply runs out, or before. There's glory for you.

**Death, the Great Leveler**

In the democracy of the dead, all men at last are equal. There is neither rank nor standing nor prerogative in the republic of the grave. At this fatal threshold the philosopher ceases to be wise, and the song of the poet is silent. Dives relinquishes his millions and Lazarus his rags. The poor man is as rich as the richest, and the rich man is as poor as the pauper. The creditor loses his usury, and the debtor is acquitted of his obligation. There the proud man surrenders his dignities, the politician his honors, the worldling his pleasures; the invalid needs no physician, and the laborer rests from unrequited toil.

Here at last is nature's final decree in equity. The wrongs of time are redressed, injustice is expiated, the irony of fate is refuted, the unequal distribution of wealth, honor, capacity, pleasure and opportunity which makes life so cruel and explicable ceases in the realm of death.

The strongest there has no supremacy, and the weakest needs no defense. The mightiest captain succumbs to that invincible adversary, who disarms alike the victor and the vanquished.—John Ingalls.

**Drugs Is Drugs.**

The writer took a doctor's prescription to the drug store to have it filled. In some way this piece of paper became torn in half, so that when the patron handed the druggist the first piece that public servant at once measured out the ammonia salt it called for and placed the small vial before his customer. "How much?" asked the patron.

"Ten cents."

"Oh, beg pardon!" said the purchaser, at this juncture finding the remainder of the prescription in his pocket. "This piece says to add enough water to the other to make four ounces."

"Very well," rejoined the apothecary, dumping the contents of the small vial into a four-ounce bottle and adding the required water. "There you are, sir; 40 cents more, please."

"What! Ten cents for the ammonia and 40 cents for the water?"

"Exactly. The doctor's name written after the water makes it a prescription, and we put up no prescriptions under 50 cents."

—Judge.

**Getting Down to Facts.**

"I love you."  
 "I've heard that before."  
 "I worship you madly."  
 "Loose talk."  
 "I cannot live without your love."  
 "Get some new stuff."  
 "Will you marry me?"  
 "Well, now, there's some class to that."

**The Plainsman to Pegasus**

BY AURELIA MICHENER.

O stubborn brute, wilt thou not deign to move?  
 Wilt thou not budge for money nor for love?  
 Full seldom doth the mount refuse to stir  
 Whom I've invoked with rawhide, rope or spur!  
 I've curbed the raging bronco on the plain,  
 The mule-cold, too, that bucked with might and main,  
 The kicking donkey I've been wont to straddle  
 But never such a ride as this, I swear!  
 Tost up, hurled down, ditched in pentameter.

**Game of Graft.**

When a foreign-born domestic maid was recently engaged by Mrs. Smith of Lexington avenue, the servant explained that her former mistress had frequently paid her premium money for holding her peace in the matter of reporting to the matron's hubby certain goings on in the home during his absence.

A short time afterward Mrs. Smith's brother chanced to be his sister's guest on a certain afternoon. After he had gone the maid asked Mrs. Smith: "How much will you give me not to tell your husband about that man calling?"

"Milady replied: "Katie, I'll give you your walking papers right now, and no reference."

When Mr. Smith came home for dinner Kate was packing her trunk. He scared the girl out of a year's growth by threatening to have her arrested for attempted blackmail.

**The Man of Fifty.**

The man of 50 may lack something in both ambition and energy, but he has the advantages of experience and sounder judgment. His years have been ill spent if he had not acquired a degree of wisdom. As for capacity, no employer of 50 or 60 years will admit that he is less able to do his part in the world than he was 25 years before. He probably rates his own powers considerably higher than they were at the earlier age, and if he retires from business at the later period he does not confess that it is because he is no longer able to attend to his affairs as well as he ever did. He ought to be willing to judge of the ability of other men of his age with equal favor.

**A Myth Chaser.**

"What makes your youngest son so eager for athletics?"

"Paternal admiration," answered the worried-looking mother. "He believes all the stories his father tells about the wonderful things he did when he was a boy and is trying to equal the record."



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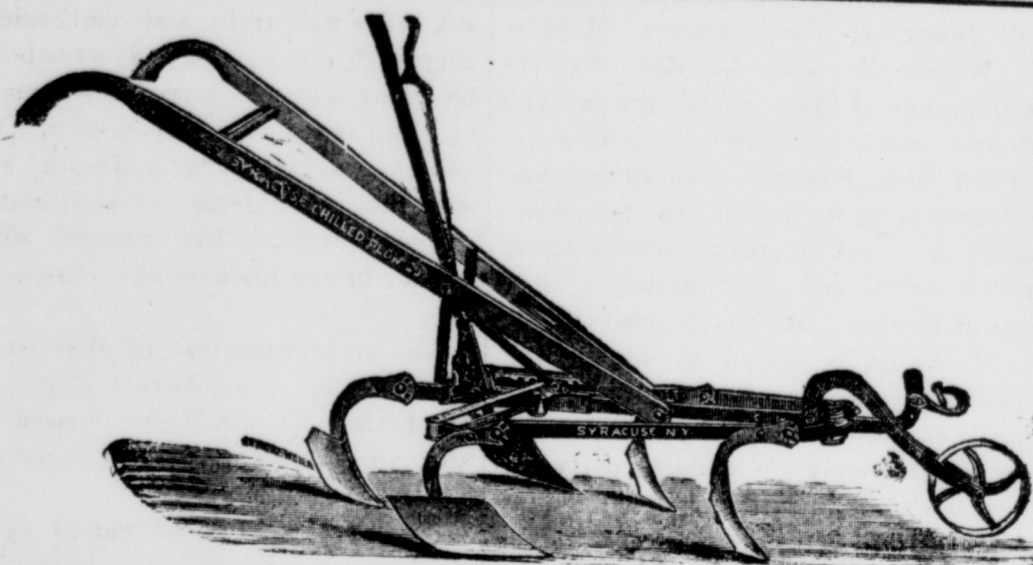
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