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What Sort of a Town is Bridgetown?

(Written for the MONITOR by a Summer Visitor)

Bridgetown, beautifully situated on the line of the Dominion Atlantic Railway and the Halifax and South Western, has many attractions to a tourist. Its well built streets lined with shaded trees and the pastoral scene outside the town limits stamp it as progressive.

We know, of course, in a general way what the course of life and activity in every country town must be.

The sympathetic sketches of small town life, by which humorists give us an idea, even if we have no other source of information. We know that there is a moving picture show in every town where the rising generation gets an idea of life as it ought to be lived; that there are several churches, each with its own idea of the proper method of religious worship and the proper view on religious subjects; the usual proposition of bachelors, each of whom is partly a joke and partly an object of pity; and the usual procession of stargazing newly weds, who, with the passing of the increasingly number of years, gradually accumulate a family, a photograph, a house and a car. These are inevitable, but as features have nothing distinctive, for they are found in every town. But this statement of the obvious does not carry us very far in answer to the question "What sort of a town is Bridgetown?"

Bridgetown is one of the growing towns in the County of Annapolis, and here is to be seen, one of the Court Houses where every spring the Supreme Court sits, as it has many years ago, for the trial of civil and criminal causes, and whether many of the jurymen journey with grumbling from their farm work, and here too will be found the offices of many of the best lawyers in the province.

And here is to be found the office of the Register of Deeds, with its records of property transfers covering a century or more, and many records of historical value and human interest. Then there are the merchants and automobile men. Bridgetown is not an industrial town. There are but few important enterprises, such as the MacKenzie Larrigan Manufacturing Company, The Hicks & Sons Woodworking and Manufacturing Co., The Graves Cider and Vinegar Works and the Whiteway Cider and Vinegar Plant. These plants annually turn out aerated waters, to supply the thirst of the citizens and also points outside, the sale of which has increased enormously since prohibition went into effect in the province, and as a matter of fact, many other things are manufactured from the apple products. But other than these, there is but little attempt at industrial production. But the town is the centre of a remarkable rich country district. The spreading power of the farmers and fruit growers of the surrounding country makes it reasonable that it should have many successful business establishments. Besides those mentioned, there are several dry goods stores and drug stores, all of which compare favorably with stores of any town of the same size and population in the province. Then there are ice cream parlors, restaurants, confectionery shops and book stores, one of them with considerable enterprise, conducts a circulating library.

The same factors which determine the success of the mercantile community have caused the rapid growth of garages, service stations and automobile show rooms. There are two Banks in Bridgetown, The Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Nova Scotia, a Telegraph and Telephone Station, and the town is brilliantly illuminated with electricity. Bridgetown has also one of the United Fruit Companies of Nova Scotia, in which farmers and fruit growers are interested. It consists of subsidiary companies organized throughout Western Nova Scotia, by farmers and fruit growers on a co-operative basis for the packing and marketing of fruit and the purchase of farm and orchard supplies. Bridgetown is also well known for its proximity to charming summer resorts. Hampton, but a short distance from the town, has many summer residences, where many of the town people go during the warm summer months, to be fanned by the Bay of Fundy breezes.

In the month of June, in apple blossom time, what is more beautiful to see than the whole surrounding country a mass of fragrant bloom, when tourists need hardly to leave the town limits to reach scenes of the most enchanting beauty. There is also athletic grounds, where cricketers and ball players so often meet to try conclusions in friendly rivalry.

The great interest taken for some time past in mayoralty and councilors' elections, indicate the public spirit of the citizens. The town has permanent streets, thanks to the initiative of a former administration, and there has been some building

operations going on, making room for an increased population, and when the much needed Post Office is built by the government, Bridgetown will be in a much better way to accommodate the public.

There is a paper published in the town, run on independent lines, The Bridgetown Monitor, published by Mr. G. S. Dunham, who is a wide-awake citizen, and a public spirited man, who does not fail to advocate in its columns what he considers for the good of the community and through its advocacy and the co-operation of the public in general, its progress as a town is assured.

335,000 IDLE IN NEW ENGLAND

Boston, August 31—Unemployment is increasing in New England this week, but numerous mills are expected to resume operations, at least in part, on September 6th. The Valley Queen cotton mills at Riverpoint, R.I., and the Royal mills, both controlled by the B. B. and R. Knight Corporation are closed and many other cotton mills in Rhode Island are running on short time. The Arlington, Pacific, Katama, Monomac, Wood, Washington, Prospect, Everett, Stevens, Davis and Furber mills of Lawrence and North Andover are shut down, as are many other textile and numerous machine and hardware concerns.

The S. D. Warren & Co. paper mills at Cumberland Mills, Me., closed today. About 300,000 persons are idle in Massachusetts; 35,000 in Maine; 15,000 in Vermont; 50,000 in Rhode Island; 35,000 in New Hampshire and 100,000 in Connecticut; total, 535,000.

NOT LEARNING TRADES

(Digby Courier)

Very few boys to-day are learning trades, and the question arises, who will take the place of the carpenters and masons and printers and plumbers and other tradesmen of the present day when, in the course of a few years, they retire from the field? One result will be that the public will have to put up with a great deal of indifferent work. Another will be that the young man who, differing from his fellows, has taken pains to learn a trade will be in great demand and will receive splendid wages. The boy of to-day who sees ahead a few years has a great opportunity of making himself worth while.

CANADA'S APPLE OUTPUT

The commercial production of apples in Canada during 1920 was 3,404,340 barrels, according to a bulletin just issued, subject to final revision by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The value of the 1920 apple crop was \$29,849,149, as compared with 3,334,660 barrels valued at \$24,396,210 in 1919, an increase of 69,680 barrels in production and \$5,452,939 in value. The total value of nursery fruit stock sold in Canada during 1920 amounted to \$500,092, as compared with \$270,818 in 1919.

A LAND OF PLENTY

E. A. Prevost, of Montreal, who has traveled the Gaspé Coast for the past sixty years, reports the crops as excellent, the best he has seen in years; salmon were plentiful, lots of cod, and the fall herring were now coming in. Farmers and fishermen are living on the fat of the land and the sea. The hotels are all filled with visitors and times in general seem prosperous, a distinct contrast to other sections of the province.—Campbellton Graphic.

PLAYED WITH "BILLIE" BOEMNER

Keene, N.H., August 30—Clinton A. Hyland, former member of the quartette in the late Damman Thompson's Old Homestead company, committed suicide here last night, shooting himself in the head as he lay in bed. Friends said that he had been despondent for some time over failing health. He was fifty-three years old. Hyland was with Thompson for several seasons and left the stage about fourteen years ago.

BUILDING BOOM FOR CANADA

It is predicted that building costs are likely soon to take a drop. When these costs reach a reasonable level, as they are bound to do eventually, there is every probability that a building boom such as Canada has never before experienced will follow. The scarcity of dwelling houses in cities, towns and villages is becoming more and more marked.

Mihard's Lintment Used by Physicians.

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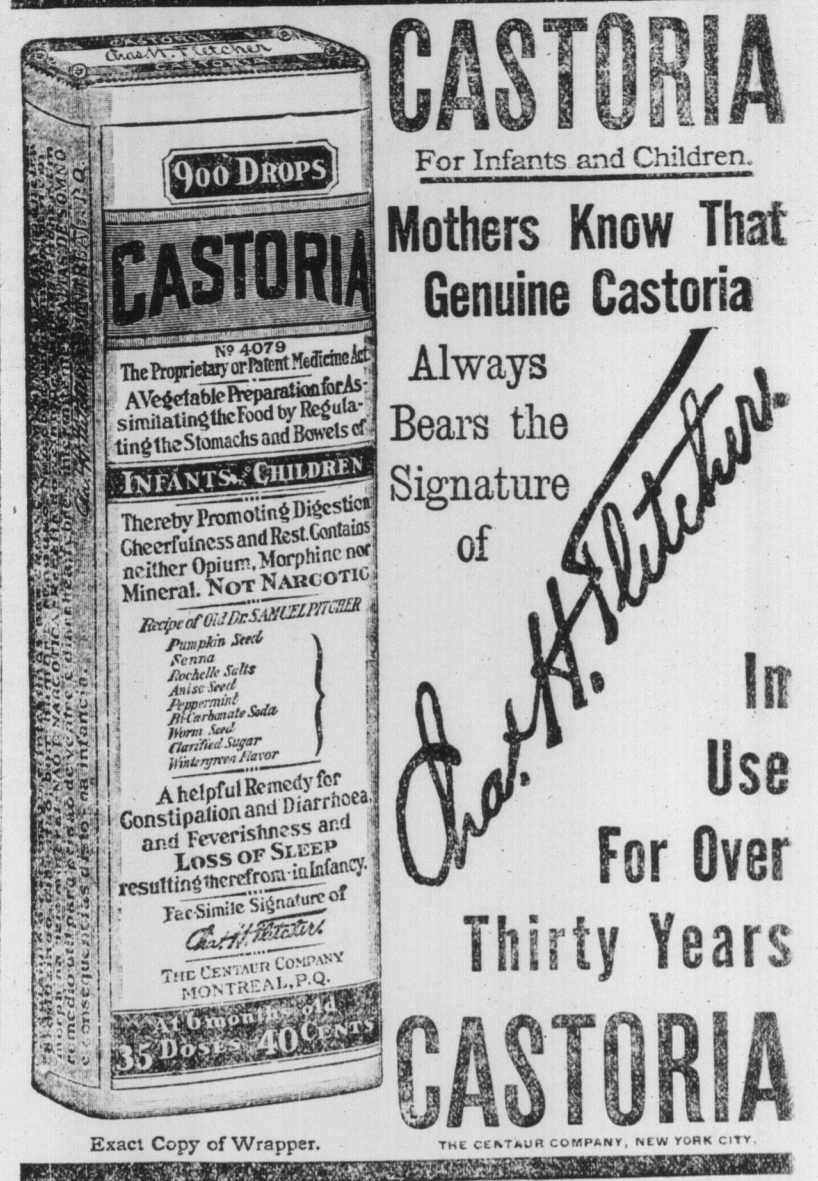
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A St. John man wants large mixed farm, price about \$8000 will pay \$5000 cash.

A former Nova Scotian, now living in Saskatchewan wants nicely located small fruit farm with good buildings, price \$5000 to \$7000, will pay cash in full.

A North Sydney man wants small place near town, suitable for gardening and poultry with small orchard, location near sea or river, required cash to pay down about \$3000.

Cumberland County man wants \$4000 stock farm with large pasture.

Man from New Germany will pay cash for small, well located mixed farm with some pasture, price about \$3500.

Dartmouth man will pay \$1500 cash on good mountain farm.

Manitoba farmer wants first-class fruit and mixed farm near High School, will pay \$10,000 cash.

Man from Alberta has \$2000 to pay on small fruit farm near Lawrence town or Berwick.

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