

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1923

11

CROFTERS COME TO HOMES IN CANADA

Metagama Will Take 500 Men and Women from Stornoway

Tragedy of Islands—Cannot Support Young People, Who are Compelled to Emigrate to Dominion This Year.

(Montreal Gazette)
Following on the heels of the Clyde-ers who passed through Montreal this week destined for points in Ontario, a large party of crofters from the Hebrides will reach Canada at the end of this month. The party will number 500 or more, largely recruited from the island of Lewis. They will travel by the liner Metagama, of the Canadian Pacific service, which is due to leave Stornoway on April 21 and reach Quebec on April 28. For this special purpose the Metagama will sail through The Minch, the channel between Lewis and the Isle of Skye, anchor off Stornoway, and there receive the men and women who will leave their native land.

Economic conditions in the Hebrides are driving these people to seek homes in Canada, and the exodus is regarded in the light of a tragedy. Recently a journalist visited the island, and after his stay wrote:

"The history of the romantic islands never held a more suggestive tale than April 21, 1923. The broken circle of the Bay of Stornoway, over which the white gulls eternally wheel, with their plaintive calls, will witness on that April morning the spectacle of a human drama more tremendous in its setting and emotional appeal than any since the first Norseman coveted Lewis."

"But that is only part of the story. Hundreds of Lewismen in the years before the war have left the island by the mail steamer for Glasgow, although the occasions have never justified the special call of an Atlantic liner."

"This year, however, even the new adventure, with all its scope, is not adequate to meet the impulse for emigration which has swept over the Hebrides. Apart from the scheme, many Lewismen—hundreds—are now contracting privately for being taken to the Colonies."

"And away down in South Uist and Barra, the continuation of the island group, forty families are selling out, lock, stock and barrel, and changing their home to an islanders' colony in the greater west."

"The prime mover in this migration is Father Macdonnell, a Roman Catholic priest, who has engineered more than one large movement of crofters in the islands in recent years. Forty families, as I have said, have taken the step, and more are now contemplating the giving up of their crofts."

"For weeks a commotion in Uist has been the result of the fact that there are about 4,000 people in Uist and Barra, and crofts are being rapidly relinquished. The threat of complete depopulation looms up menacingly. Uist and Barra some of these days may become as empty as a coral island in the South Seas. That is no figure of speech. The little black cattle will not sell, the horses that are bred will not pay their transportation fees in market prices, and the wool, the famous wool, produces no more money than would buy provender for the children run."

"According to the chronicler, it is the young people who are burning for Canada. He writes:

"Lewis is losing all her Benjamins. All the younger sons are going. Look for a young man between 18 and 20 beside the toll-worn fathers on the croft when the May lambs come, and the search will be in vain. A few older sons are remaining, the croft and the boats and lines are their inheritance."

"Almost every house in Knock, in the Eye Peninsula, up past Barvas to Ness and the Butte and down again to Uig and Lochs, is about to lose a son, mostly a younger son. And as no time before have the mothers of the island—which is the island of sorrow for the motherheart—sustained such a blow."

"It is stupid to put the mere question: 'Why are they emigrating?' to these men when the evidences are all around for those with eyes to see and minds to interpret."

"One said to me—I have been drawing the dale while waiting on the Leverhulme schemes to develop. The dale kept me on the croft, putting in my time waiting, so to speak. But this dale is ended. My job at the port seems no nearer. The prospects are blank. I have to go. I cannot live off the old folk."

"The crofts are not even what they were; nor are the crofters's habits. The heavy steamer freights have made the

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despatch of produce impossible, and have cut the other way as well, making the purchase of food on smaller means extremely difficult. Forty years ago the crofter lived on porridge and milk, and potatoes and herring. The opening up of the world by progress and by the war has changed tastes and food. When better things have come one's way, when sweeter fruit has been eaten, it is unpleasant to go back to crab apples. But now even the crab apples are at a premium. All these influences have gone to the creating of a new situation."

FIGHT AGAINST TROPICAL DISEASES SHOWS PROGRESS

Sprue is Most Baffling of Maladies Which Has to be Combated.

London, April 1.—(By mail).—The following sketch of objects and achievements of the Hospital and School for Tropical Diseases during the first two years of its existence appears in The London Morning Post.

The three diseases of most importance in the category of tropical diseases are malaria, dysentery, and sprue. Of these the first, unfortunately, is not generally known to need description now, but it is being treated satisfactorily with various preparations of quinine, including a new compound. Sprue makes its inroad on the alimentary tract, and produces a condition in which the food taken has no longer its proper nourishing effect. The patient becomes deprived of adequate blood supply, and what blood there is shows poor quality. There is decline, and ultimately sure death in the absence of skilled ministrations. The diagnosis is aided by the microscope, and the treatment is dietetic. This is one of the diseases which pre-eminently show the need for much special study as can be made at the Tropical Diseases School, and it is not infrequently diagnosed wrongly by the general practitioner who has not enjoyed this opportunity.

India, Ceylon, China and the British West Indies are the principal countries showing the disease, against which precautionary measures cannot be taken, as its cause is at present unknown. White people going out are more subject to it than the natives, and the need for expert treatment on the spot is imperative.

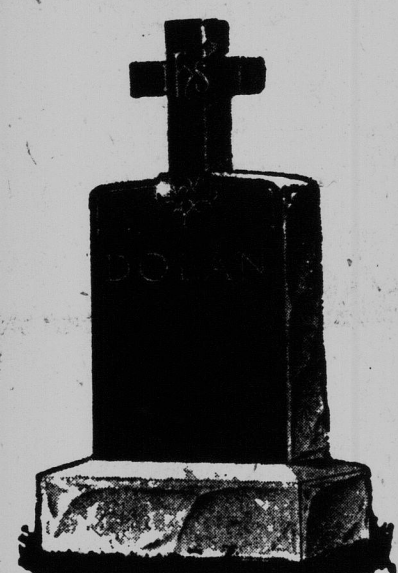
There has been a good deal of advance in dealing with sleeping sickness, the dreaded and once mysterious importation from Africa, where, in a Rhodesian belt, one of the staff of the school is now studying that disease

and blackwater fever. Within the last two years the hospital has discharged six patients who had been suffering from the sickness, all of them apparently cured of a disease which until this experience commenced was thought to be incurable.

The Ladies' Aid of Carmarthen street Methodist church held a successful pantry and apron sale in Wasson's drug store, Sydney street, yesterday afternoon. The proceeds were for church purposes. The committee in charge were Mrs. Mary Seymour, Mrs. Helena Brown and Mrs. Andrew Martin.

LITTLE CHAP'S FEARFUL DEATH
Montreal, April 20.—While playing in the kitchen of his home George Dwyer, 4 years of age, fell into a pail of scalding water and died a few minutes later.

The last meeting of the Doorkeeper Circle, King's Daughters, for the season was held last evening at the residence of Mrs. Ralph Robertson with Mrs. C. F. Sanford and Mrs. D. Puddington presiding. Mrs. Louis Simms was welcomed as a new member. Mrs. H. W. Robertson, president of the City Union, was present.



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ASHES and garbage promptly removed.—Foster Hill, Central Ash Co., Main 4790. 1318—4—21

AUTO TOPS

AUTO TOP WORKS—Ford tops put on, \$12.00. Formerly with Smith harness store—190 City Road, Tel. M. 1815. 14453—4—30

BARGAINS

WONDERFUL Bargains at Malatky's for six days only. Ladies' blouse suits, silk lined, \$25; ladies' velvet coats, \$12.50 and up; ladies' silk and Canton crepe dresses, \$10 to \$25, which are worth double the money. Remember my address. Not a shop but a private house. 12 Dock St., Phone 1564. 4—27

CLEANING AND PRESSING

LADIES and gents clothing remodeled, also cleaning and pressing done—194 Union St., by P. Goldstein, 10 years on Waterloo St. 14359—4—21

DANCING

PRIVATE dancing instructions—Mrs. Flemming, Main 3178. 14081—4—29

DYERS

DRY CLEANING and Dyeing, wet wash and rough dry.—Phone Main 1707, New System Laundry, Limited.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FIXTURES

ELECTRIC Light fixtures re-finished in all colors. Also brass beds re-finished.—J. Grondines, 24 Waterloo St.

FURNITURE PACKING

FURNITURE Packed and Stowed. Prompt service and moderate prices.—Chas. L. Bustin, 99 Gormann St., Phone Main 1695. 14310—4—3

FLAVORINGS

USE CLARK'S PERFECTION Flavorings for all pies and cakes. Once used always used. Sold at all stores.

LADIES' TAILORING

EVERYTHING in high class tailoring and fur made to order.—Morin, the only tailor and furrier, 32 Gormann.

LENDING LIBRARY

WE WILL buy your books. Good bound novels.—F. Knight Hanson, The Library, 9 Wellington Row.

MATTRESSES AND SPRINGS

HOME Service Mattress Co. Springs and spring manufacturers and repairers, upholsterers, &c. Have just opened a choice lot of mattresses direct from England. We solicit an inspection.—26 1/2 Waterloo St., M. 3854. Cassidy & Kain.

MEN'S CLOTHING

MEN'S CLOTHING—We have in stock a nice assortment of spring and summer suits and overcoats.—W. J. Higgins & Co., Custom and Ready-to-wear Clothing, 182 Union St.

NERVES, ETC.

R. WILBY, Medical Electrical Specialist and Masseuse, treats nervous diseases, weakness and wasting, sciatica, paralysis, locomotor ataxia, rheumatism, insomnia, etc. To ladies—Facial hair moles, wrinkles, etc., removed. Special treatment for hair growth.—263 Union St., Phone Main 3106. t.f. St.

NICKEL PLATING

AUTOMOBILE parts re-nickelized at Grondines', the Plater, 24 Waterloo St., Campbell & Co., 73 Prince Wm. St. 12487—4—23

OIL STOVES

"KEROGAS" Burns oil cook stoves.—St. Campbell & Co., 73 Prince Wm. St. 12487—4—23

PAINTS

H. B. BRAND PAINTS, \$3.50 to \$4.00 per gallon. Send for Color Card.—Haley Bros., Ltd. 6—9—1922

PIANO MOVING

ORDERS taken for furniture and piano moving, heavy and light trucking; also baggage transferred. All orders promptly attended to.—A. E. McInerney, 75 St. Patrick, Phone M. 2487. 14128—4—26

PIANOS MOVED

PIANOS moved by experienced man and up-to-date gear, at reasonable prices.—W. Yeoman, 7 Lebeaux street, Phone M. 1788. 8—23—t.f.

PICTURE FRAMING

PICTURES FRAMED and enlarged at lowest prices at Kerrett's, 222 Union St. 14687—5—18

PLUMBING

CHAS. H. MCGOWAN, Sanitary Plumbing and Heating Engineer. Satisfaction guaranteed. Repair work promptly attended to.—8 Castle street.

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