

# THE ACADIAN

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## Editorial

Our pulpits are our work clothes. Each of us live some kind of a sermon every day.

### GROWING FLAX IN NOVA SCOTIA

THE ACADIAN was interested to learn from Dr. M. Cumming, the provincial Secretary for Agriculture, who was in town overnight last Friday on his way from Lunenburg, that successful experiments were being conducted in that county in the growing of flax. Twenty farmers there have this year been carrying on the work, the idea being to manufacture the flax into fiber and sell it in the open market, with a view to testing the possibility of establishing a commercial industry in the province.

This experiment, we were informed, grew out of tests made by the Experimental Stations at Nappan and Kentville, which proved so promising that it seemed wise to make a commercial test in some part of Nova Scotia. Lunenburg county was selected because flax growing has been perpetuated there to a greater extent than in any other county, and the experiment was conducted jointly by the federal and provincial departments of agriculture. Experts pronounce the flax grown here as equal if not superior to the very best that has been yet grown in Canada.

Dr. Cumming considers the experiment as most satisfactory and has high hope for success of the undertaking. While the returns would probably be not equal to that of cabbages or strawberries or many perishable crops, it is estimated that a hundred dollars per acre would be realized, with practically no risk of failure. There is much available land in the province that is now lying idle, which might profitably be employed in the production of flax, the growing of which would eventually lead to the establishment of linen-mills and the building up of an industry which would add materially to the prosperity of our province.

### CRITICISM

THERE IS hardly a man or woman in public life in our Nova Scotian towns who does not receive criticism. Sometimes this criticism is constructive, sometimes it is destructive. Our public officials from time to time and from year to year get it on every hand. Every president or chairman of a club or society, every officer and leader in church work, every man or woman engaged in administering the affairs of our schools, the local press,—all of them—some time or other, get criticised.

Sometimes the criticism takes on the aspect of abuse or even of slander. More often it is merely cutting or sarcastic.

Why is this? The answer follows that it is because these officers and administrators are human, and because they live in a human world and a human community.

He who leads must expect the hardships of leadership. He who rules must expect occasional passive or open rebellion. He who initiates must expect reaction and opposition from those whose life's philosophy leads them into channels of thought.

The situation in Nova Scotia is perhaps no worse than that in any other community. Constructive criticism is needful to growth; but the greater need is that people be not unkind, but charitable, in dealing it out.

### NOT THE TIME OF YEAR FOR ROAD WORK

PARTY ZEAL often influences political organs to indulge in criticism that is neither merited or well advised. They feel it to be their bounden duty to find nothing but good in the party which they support and nothing but ill in the party which they oppose. Such a policy often makes a paper ridiculous and lessens its influence—but it's all in the game.

An instance of this is an article in the editorial column of the Morning Chronicle recently which complains because the operations of the Highway Board have been held up in some sections since the present administration came into power. It regrets that "work of so much importance, at this season of the year, when motor traffic on the roads is at the heaviest, should be so badly and generally neglected."

Those motorists who are using the highways, we imagine, will not be inclined to agree with the Chronicle writer. Automobile parties, as well as those who cater to them, make frequent complaint of construction work on the roads which renders them practically impassable, and will be inclined to welcome the change in policy rather than complain because the work is not going on.

### CHEAP MONUMENT ON HISTORIC SITE

ONE OF the most scandalous instances of official culpability of which we have any record was finished up last week at Windsor. Nova Scotia was the proud possessor of the oldest military barracks in Canada—one connected with the French and Indian wars. Six years ago it was getting out of repair. This was brought to the attention of the Historic Board, Ottawa, in the department of which Hon. Charles Stewart is the head. An offer was sent to put it in repair for \$500, which would have ensured its continuance for a generation or more. That Board took no notice of the report or offer.

The old fort was later entered by some lads, who smoking there, set it on fire and destroyed it, and thus by the neglect of some useless understrapper in the department of the Interior the province was deprived of a venerable and most interesting relic. In its stead has been set up one of those cheap, paltry erections called monuments that the Ottawa Historic Board is placing in the Maritime Provinces, to give the next administration at Ottawa the trouble to demolish.

### BETTER PRICES FOR POTATOES

LAST YEAR the Nova Scotia potato-growers produced a large crop of tubers, but were in hard luck because of the unexpected low prices which prevailed. Had the prices of the previous year continued the potato-crop would have returned to the growers a handsome profit, but at the prices which ruled it is doubtful if expenses of growing were realized.

This year, however, better prospects are expected. The first shipment to Havana, which consisted of 12,000 barrels from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and which is fully two weeks earlier than usual, were purchased at a price practically three times what was paid last year, and from present indications there is a likelihood that satisfactory prices may continue. Growers who were not discouraged by the experience of last year stand a very good chance of profiting by their persistence and deserve to do so.

### HEADED FOR CABINET



Premier Charles A. Dunning, of Saskatchewan, who, it is said, is likely to be appointed to the Federal Cabinet, perhaps as Minister of Immigration and Colonization.

### TEMPERANCE REFORM

To make progress in Temperance Reform there is required energetic work along educative and legislative lines.

With reference to the matter of Temperance Education, we may say that the very strong temperance sentiment in Nova Scotia is a result of the untiring efforts of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, The Sons of Temperance, The League of the Cross, The Catholic Total Abstinence Society, and The International Order of Good Templars, and also a result of instruction given in the churches and Sunday schools of all denominations.

In order that existing sentiment may be maintained and strengthened there is a call for persistent work on the part of the various organizations. In addition to this there should be more systematic teaching in our Public Schools. The text-book on "Hygiene" now in use deals only briefly with the question of alcohol. Much good has resulted from its study and the lessons taught by teachers. There is, however, room for improvement, and to this end it is necessary to have text-books for every grade and pass examinations, as for all other subjects in the school curriculum.

Give us for fifteen or twenty years school children thoroughly instructed as to the evil effects on mind and body of the use of alcohol, and also instructed as to the social and economic burden of the liquor traffic; and there will, in the future, be little demand for, and little sale of, alcoholic drink.

Legislation  
In the matter of prohibitory legislation our province has steadily advanced, and with fair play on the part of enforcing officers, we shall have the Act still further improved—notwithstanding the propaganda of moderationists, so-called, and others who wish to have liquor sold for beverage purposes, the overwhelming sentiment is in favor of prohibition of such sale.

Not so long ago—1916—there were 46 licensed bars and 5 wholesale liquor houses in the city of Halifax. In 1935

considering this question it is well to bear in mind that the license system affected for over 160 years, from 1749 until 1916, the business, social and political life of the province. It will take time to do away with the evils which the license system fostered. As with the individual, so with the state, it takes time to "sober up".

It was owing to the activities of temperance and other reform agencies that the license system was abolished. The Temperance Act, as placed on the statutes in 1910, did not apply to the City of Halifax, but by earnest and determined agitation on the part of the temperance forces our legislators were persuaded to bring Halifax under the Act in 1916.

When first enacted the law had many defects. The provisions for search and seizure of liquor, and the penalties, were not adequate, and in other respects it was not fitted to be effective in combatting the liquor traffic, but from year to year, at each session of the House of Assembly, as a result of representations made by the Temperance Alliance and Social Service Council, the Act was improved.

Effective Administration  
There is much yet to be accomplished. We cannot rest satisfied until we have:

- (1) The very best possible prohibition legislation, and
- (2) Honest and effective administration.

The Act has defects. One of the several amendments required, and which we requested the late government to make, dealt with the form of certificate given by physicians. We suggested that the form be amended to provide that the physician state the number of ounces of liquor required, affirming that in his judgment this quantity is necessary and is prescribed after a careful personal examination. We also requested the government to safe guard the sale of liquor by having satisfactory rules and regulations made by the Board, in order that liquor be sold in accord with the intention of the Act.

With reference to the question of enforcement of the Act we have repeatedly asked for the appointment of a sufficient number of Deputy Inspectors to take over-sight of the work and to make enforcement effective and complete.

Recently we have submitted to the present Government a statement dealing with the whole question, and we have reason to hope that at an early date definite action will be taken to enforce the Act, as it now stands, and that at the ensuing session of the Legislature the Government will strengthen the Act, and make it in every respect such a law as the overwhelming temperance sentiment of the province demands.

H. R. GRANT, General Secretary,  
Nova Scotia Social Service Council.

### NO SHORTAGE OF COAL IN CANADA

Ottawa.—Possibilities of a stoppage in the United States coal fields on Sept. 1 are not causing any undue worry in official circles here. It is stated that imports of anthracite have been pretty well maintained. Imports of American anthracite for the 12 months ended June 30th were 3,902,476 tons against 4,169,977 in the 12 months previous. Nearly 60,000 tons were imported into Canada in June. During the twelve months ending June imports of British anthracite were 388,353 tons, about double the imports of the year previous.

### Homes Wanted!

For children from 6 months to 16 years of age. Boys and girls. Apply to  
H. STAIRS, Wolfville  
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2oz  
Shoe Polish  
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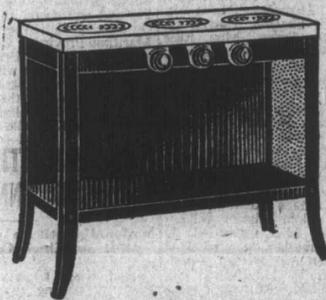
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Use electrical appliances in your kitchen this hot weather.

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ROLLED OATS, 4 lbs.	25c.	17 lbs.	for \$1.00
GRAHAM FLOUR, 4 lbs.	25c.	17 lbs.	for \$1.00
RICE, 3 lbs.	for 25c.	14 lbs.	for \$1.00
PURE CREAM TARTAR, 28c.	lb.	4 lbs.	for \$1.00
SURPRISE SOAP, 7 cakes	for 50c.	15	for \$1.00
SNOW FLAKE AMMONIA, 3	for 25c.	13	for \$1.00
P & G SOAP, 7	for 50c.	15	for \$1.00
CORN FLAKES		2	for .25
KELLOGG'S PEPP		2	for .29
SHREDDED WHEAT		2	for .29
CREAM OF WHEAT		1	pkg. .28
CORN STARCH		1	pkg. .12
MINUTE TAPIOCA		1	pkg. .15
MEADOW SWEET PIE FILLINGS			
ORANGE-LEMON		2	pkgs. .25
SHELLED WALNUTS		1	lb. .54

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Orange Pekoe	.65 lb.		

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