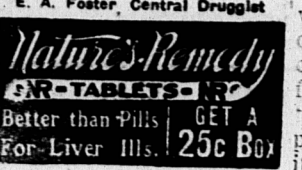


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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (founded 1887) \$3.00 per year (delivered) in advance. \$4.00 per year (mailed) in advance in Canada, and \$4.50 for U. S. A. Charles Dalton, President. J. R. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. D. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1921

TELEPHONE MATTERS

In our Saturday's issue a letter signed "Telephone Patron" directs attention to the unpardonable neglect of the Bell government in abandoning control of telephone rates leaving the province to the uncontrolled mercy of the Telephone Company. As pointed out by "Telephone Patron" the original agreement between the Provincial government and the Telephone Company gave the latter an exclusive franchise to operate a telephone service in the province, the Government reserving the right to control the prices to be charged by the Company. This franchise expired on December 31st last. While the Company no longer holds a legal monopoly, its tenure is just as secure as if that provision of the agreement were still in force for no other Company or Corporation would dream of coming in to so limited a territory. The only effect of the expiration of the original agreement is that while the company still virtually holds a monopoly of the service the government has abandoned its control of the rates. This as "Telephone Patron" points out, was the only safeguard the people had. At present the increases apply to the city of Charlottetown and certain town and villages but it may be inferred that this is just preliminary to an increase throughout the province.

In justice to the Company it will be remembered that over a year ago they approached the government with a request for a moderate raise in rates, sufficient to enable them to meet increased expenses. All that the government did was to promise—they are adepts at promising. In a circular letter issued by the Telephone Company intimating their intention to raise the rates, they state "many promises were made by the government but the Company was unable to get matters adjusted. The Arsenault government in May, 1919 passed an Act providing for the appointment of a Commission for the purpose of holding an inquiry into all matters respecting telephone communications committed to them".

Every opportunity was open to the Bell government to make terms with the Company, every opportunity ready to their hand and prepared for them by their predecessors but the fatal Bellism which has held them from the beginning of their unfortunate career held them and the Province again suffers. The Telephone Company now holds the field uncontrolled. So far only the city and towns have felt the change; the rural lines will no doubt come next.

CANADIAN EXPORTS

Statistics recently compiled by the Bankers Trust Company of New York give a striking illustration of the change that has taken place in Canadian trade in recent years. It is shown that at the end of the fiscal year 1919 Canada's foreign trade had reached a position where manufactured articles represented forty-five per cent of the total exports and agricultural products only twenty-two per cent. In 1914 the total exports amounted to \$431,000,000; in 1919 they amounted to \$1,216,000,000. In 1914 the agricultural products amounted to \$198,000,000; in 1919 to \$271,000,000 or 22.3 per cent. In the year 1914 manufactured products exports amounted to 57,000,000 or 13.2 per cent; in 1919 to \$555,000,000 or 45.6 per cent. These figures do not mean the total production either of our manufactures or of our agriculture. We use enormous quantities of both at home. Of products of our manufacture we use nearly two thousand, five hundred million dollars worth annually and of our farm produce about seventeen hundred millions.

The development of both agriculture and manufacture in Canada during the past ten years has been astounding. In the year 1910, the total output of Canadian manufactures was \$1,165,975,000. Last year the output was \$3,451,000,000. The agricultural production of Canada last year was \$1,975,000,000, as against only \$663,000,000 in 1910. This is something which the people of this country may well feel a great pride in; and the people may appropriately hesitate to disturb the tariff conditions under which this tremendous development has taken place. The bulletin of the Banker's Trust Company makes this comment on Canada's industrial progress: The bulletin of the Banker's Trust Company firmly established upon the secure basis of ample supplies of the principal raw materials, of cheap water power and of a high degree of mechanical and managing skill. The impetus given by the war necessities to manufacturing will not be lost but will prove to be one of the most important developments of the period. When we remember that our manufacturing industries give employment, directly or indirectly to about two million people or nearly a fourth of the population of the country and that the other three fourths depend very largely upon these factories and the industrial centres which they have created, we should consider the matter very seriously before we interfere with the tariff under which this satisfactory condition has developed.

CURRENT COMMENT

The provincial fiscal year has closed and speculation is rife as to the extent of the Government's surplus from the transactions of the year 1920. It should be an enormously large one. With the increases of taxation provided for at last session, variously estimated at from \$300,000 to \$400,000 added to over \$100,000 from the previous year which has since been vigorously collected, with the further addition of nearly \$40,000 Prohibition profits, not accounted for in last year's accounts and a large increased amount this year the revenue must have been an exceedingly large one. On the other hand, the natural costs of government must have in many incidents receded. There has been many material reductions in the prices of food-stuffs, clothing, boots and shoes, paints, oils and various other lessened the expenditure on Public Buildings, Jails, Asylum and the Infirmary. Added to this is the fact that repairs of these institutions were neglected and reduced to starvation status, and, particularly at Falconwood, confined to the using up of the material left to them for the purpose by the late Government.

The Roads and Bridges too, from the standpoint of current revenue, was surely a cinch. Instead of these being a tax upon current receipts, they have been almost wholly provided for out of the Dominion Government Grant and money borrowed for the purpose by authority of statute. Such portions of these works as were dependent upon current revenue for repairs have been so sadly neglected that we would anticipate the drain on revenue for this purpose to be comparatively nil. Therefore with all this easing up and relief from expenditures which in other years had to be provided for from current account, there should be a material decrease in the ordinary expenditure. And this should be the more pronounced if the Government had made good any of their oft repeated promises to exercise economy, as they preached.

Daily Elections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

DO YOUR LEVEL BEST Do your level best, boys, always everywhere; Never mind what others do, you act fair and square, Duty's call is urgent, and life no empty jest; Pull yourselves together, boys, and do your level best.

Do your level best, boys, whatever your lot may be; Grinding in the study, or sailing on the sea; Pen or plough or hammer, or in scarlet tunic dressed, Pull yourselves together, boys, and do your level best.

Do your level best, boys, all honest work will tell, Though the task be irksome, resolve to do it well; Tinsel, oft, may glitter, but will not stand the test; Pull yourselves together, boys, and do your level best.

SIN IS SIN

Don't send my boy where your girl can't go, And say "There's no danger for boys, you know, Because they all have their wild oats to sow;" There is no more excuse for my boy to be low Than your girl. Then please don't tell him so.

Don't send my boy where your girl can't go, For a boy of a girl's sin is sin, you know, And my baby boy's hands are as clean and white, And his heart as pure as your girl's tonight.

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Will I be without insurance" says the man that has just suffered from a fire loss. But why wait until you have suffered a loss before insuring? Why not take out that policy today covering your home and its contents, your store, factory, merchandise, etc.?

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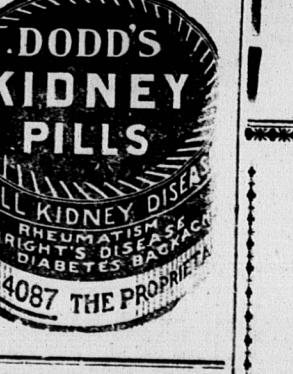
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it, in their administration of affairs.

To offset this enormously increased revenue on the one side, and the naturally reduced cost of commodities on the other, there will however be some of the extravagances of the Bell Government to take into account. There will be the increased salaries and indemnities to themselves, and the cost of the larger number of official hanging around the offices, to say nothing of the horde of assessors and tax collectors over-running the country. These amounts while quite large in fact, will be only a drop out of the bucket of the extensive taxes extracted from the pockets of the people, and should not materially effect the balance sheet. Moreover they will only have eleven months teachers salary to pay this year. HAVING CHARGED UP THE FIRST MONTHS PAY OR IN ALL THIRTEEN MONTHS SALARY TO THE ARSENAULT GOVERNMENT PERIOD. Further because of the large number of vacant schools, they will be relieved from paying the salaries of that number of teachers. All things considered there should be a surplus on the year's transaction verging not far from a quarter of a million dollars. But time will tell.

There was consternation in the offices of the old colonial building last week. Something had struck hard and aroused some of the Bell Government from their slumbers. Whether the noise vibrating from recent indignation meetings denouncing their acts and demanding their resignations, or of some one reading aloud the Guardian, suggesting that they throw up the sponge and forestal dismissal, created the fright, we have not yet learned. Suffice to announce that a S. O. S. call went out to the Patriot, which brought back the excited message, "Not brains enough here to cope with the Guardian. Come over and help us." And thus the composite attempts at defence, in both editorial and ambush columns started, etc. The "Dear blue sky" id the "Manifesto" were not referred to thus disclosing the voice of Jacob, but the whine and piteous appeals were in plentiful evidence showing the hand of Esau.

The burden of the composite song for relief, is in reality one of its own creation, declaring things that never occur, and then declaiming against the imaginary wrong. It asks, "are all our public men imbeciles or rogues?" We have not seen any suggestions along that line, except in the columns of the Patriot. NOR HAVE WE SEEN THE "PRIVATE BUSINESSES OR PROFESSIONS" OF ANY ONE EITHER PUBLIC MEN OF PRIVATE CITIZENS, REFLECTED UPON BY ANY NEWSPAPER IN THIS PROVINCE OUTSIDE OF THE COLUMNS OF THAT PAPER. The Liberal organ has made a specialty of personalities and attack upon the business and character of private citizens with an indecency that challenges duplication by any respectable publication on the continent. Mr. Frizell, the Hon. Anthony McLaughlin and others who took part in the Peake's Station meeting, the signers to various resolutions at indignation meet-



THE NATIONAL CITY COMPANY of NEW YORK which established Canadian Offices in MONTREAL, TORONTO and HALIFAX early in 1919, have the honour to announce the formation of the following Canadian Advisory Board: RT. HON. LORD SHAUGHNESSY, K.C.V.O., Chairman. SIR JOHN AIRD, EDSON L. PEASE, MARTIAL CHEVALIER, SIR AUGUSTUS NANTON, SIR LOMER GOVIN, K.C.M.G., W. N. TILLEY, K.C. LT.-COL. HERBERT WILSON, C.M.C., M.C. THE NATIONAL CITY COMPANY Limited Canadian Head Office: 74 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal. 10 King Street East, Toronto, Ont. McCurdy Building, Halifax, N.S.

These intelligent citizens were "all agreed", and in which the Guardian and the people of the whole province are in full concurrence. In hard fact it is the reason for and the purpose for which all the indignation meetings are being held. Of course the City Council, or any other honorable body of representative men would not hold office in spite of the wishes of those they represent. It is because the government has not followed this constitutional course that these citizens have given these broad hints. The moralizing of the Patriot on this phase of the political situation is somewhat belated, and out of date. It would have come with better taste and more grace prior to July 1919, when our Liberal friend's only difficulty was in supplying sup-

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