

The Charlottetown Guardian

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MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1938

The Outlook For 1938

The words, "cautiously optimistic", summarize opinion among Canadian business and industrial leaders regarding the 1938 outlook, according to a special survey made by the *Financial Post*. Turnover at least equal to 1937 is confidently predicted with an increase if conditions outside the Dominion improve within a reasonable period.

Anxious eyes are being cast toward United States and it is generally agreed that the present business recession there must end promptly if trouble is to be avoided in this country. So far, Canada seems largely to have escaped the sudden slump across the line, though in recent weeks there has been some evidence of slowing down in the former last rate of recovery.

Expert trade has not been as buoyant, particularly in newsprint and lumber. Carloadings have slipped behind the weekly clip of a year ago. Employment, industrial output, retail trade and electric power consumption, all have improved, though the lead of the highly significant wholesale trade over 1937 narrowed perceptibly during the closing weeks of 1937.

Most Canadian observers believe, however, that this mid-winter dullness is going to be of comparatively short duration. They anticipate that at even the reduced rate of consumption in United States present moderate inventories must soon be used up and, by spring or early summer, demand will again set the wheels of production spinning.

That pick-up in United States, says the Toronto financial paper, will most certainly be re-echoed in Canada and, provided it comes fairly soon, it may easily be reflected here before the present American recession begins to be felt seriously.

Aside from this danger of U. S. contagion, there are few clouds on the long-term horizon of Canadian business. Shrinkage in newsprint and lumber exports promises to be more than made up by continuing gains in metals and foodstuffs, while heavier relief costs in Saskatchewan this winter are balanced by the definite promise of the first real wheat crop in many a long year.

If that hope materializes, Canada should develop, in the last half of 1938, more than sufficient momentum to offset any decline during the first half of the year.

Deadend For Reckless Drivers?

In the British House of Lords a few weeks ago Lord Newton introduced a bill to make it law that, when in Britain the driver of a motor vehicle is convicted of manslaughter, drunkenness when driving or reckless driving, the car he is driving, whether he owns it or not, shall be forfeited to the Crown.

The reception of this bill, both in the Upper House and in the country, indicated that there was no chance of passing it, but a very general respect for the motive behind it, Lord Newton himself said it was a way of calling attention to a "state of affairs which has become a national scandal," and Lord Mottistone added: "We stand in the fantastic position that it has been safer for the civilian to live in Spain at war than to live in Britain at peace."

An exchange notes that Lord Newton in this bill sought to revive an ancient principle of law, ecclesiastical and civil, which had been abolished in England for nearly a hundred years. It was the law of deadend; anciently "a thing to be given to God," but in law, "a personal chattel which, having been the immediate occasion of the death of a person, was forfeited to the Crown, to be applied to pious uses."

Three Of A Kind

A few short weeks ago Liberal newspapers from coast to coast were rejoicing in the election victory of Premier Hephburn. Now he is getting nothing but brickbats. Instance the following vigorous criticism from the Eastern Chronicle:

"Of the buccaneering premiers of Ontario and Quebec, Mr. Duplessis who essayed the role of the late departed Huey Long at a banquet at Shawinigan, has somewhat sobered down. But the persistently petulant Hephburn of Toronto is still fighting shadows. The press is making a complete expose of his inconsistency on the power question. How would it do for these gentlemen to come boldly out for Fascism and announce themselves as potential dictators. Duplessis' padlock law gives him the edge on 'Mitch' at the start, but as forty thousand Toronto electors voted for Tim Buck the Communist in the recent civic election, he would find something right at home to engage with in a civil war. The handwriting suggests three ex-Premiers at no distant date, unless they mend their ways, Aberhart, Hephburn and Duplessis."

Stormy Scene Recalled

The death of Sir Douglas Hazen recalls to the Ottawa Journal a day when that able New Brunswick was the centre of perhaps one of the bitterest storms ever to break in the Canadian House of Commons.

It was in the midst of the great naval debate of 1913, and Sir Robert Borden, fighting desperately to get his naval bill through the House, had just introduced closure.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, taking advantage of the recognized code of the House that the Opposition Leader follows the Prime Minister on all occasions when he desires to do so, arose with the obvious intention of moving the House into Committee. Had this occurred, then, undoubtedly endless amendments and debates would have followed, and the Closure Bill in all probability would have been blocked. At the same moment that Sir Wilfrid rose, however, Sir

Douglas Hazen (then Mr. Hazen, Minister of Marine) also got to his feet. Mr. Speaker Sproule recognized Sir Wilfrid, as he was bound to do, but there came then the Government's surprise strategy when W. B. Northrup, a Conservative member, jumped to his feet and, under Rule 17 of the House, moved that "the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, being the member for the City and County of Saint John, be now heard". Instantly the Opposition saw that it had been out-manoeuvred—that a succeeding motion by Hazen that the "question be now put" would, under existing rules, prevent amendments and limit every speaker to one speech.

Shouts of "shame" rang from the Opposition benches; and many Liberals, enraged that the "Old Chief" should be "gagged", shook clenched fists at the Government benches and shouted "onwards". When the tumult died down Mr. Northrup's motion carried on a division, and then Sir Douglas Hazen's motion was presented though he, himself, could not be heard.

Editorial Notes

Remember to write 1938.
 General Monk, Earl of Albermarle, died this date, 1670.

After the severe frost we may look for our January thaw.

All newspapers in Toronto, owing to the increase in cost of newsprint, etc., have advanced their price to 5c per copy, 18c per week, 75c per month, or \$9 per year.

A newly formed Bachelor's Club in Kingsville, Man., has elected Prime Minister King, Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, and Mr. Erick F. Willis, M.L.A., patrons.

The Alberta Silver Fox Breeders Association were shown several golden-silver fox pelts produced by Mr. William Clarke of Blackfield, Alta., who could not explain how the peculiar strain developed. It was recommended they be sent to Paris for exhibition.

M. Paul Henri Spaak, Socialist Foreign Minister of Belgium, wears the most famous hat in Brussels. Broad-rimmed and black, soft and apparently pliable, it owes something to the sombrero, even more perhaps to the headgear of the Continental Catholic priest. But to the Belgians it is simply "le chapeau Socialiste" (the Socialist hat). Everywhere the Minister goes he is recognized by it. But one of the Belgian newspapers has made a discovery, which it may take Spaak some time to live down. "This most political of hats," it revealed in triumph, "was made—oh, horror, monsieur—in Fascist Italy."

For the first time since Helium was discovered on earth, in 1868, the United States, owner of the world's only known supply, is ready to begin selling it on the open market and will allow limited quantities to be sold abroad. Heliofore helium, discovered first in the sun in 1866, has been thought of principally as a non-inflammable gas to lift dirigibles and other lighter-than-air flying machines. However, it has proved even more practical in treating diseases which cause breathing obstructions, in saving the lives of newborn babies and in protecting divers and caisson workers from the ailments which afflict them. One of the principal uses to which it will be put, Dr. Alvan L. Barach of New York City and Dr. R. R. Sayers of the U. S. Public Health Service state is the treatment of asthma, bronchitis, diphtheria, some forms of laryngitis and other diseases causing obstructions in the throat or lungs which make breathing difficult or impossible.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler in his annual report as president of Columbia University says: "The industrial era, now about a century old, has made men increasingly familiar with a kind and amount of efficiency which they had never before known," he said in the report. "The habit has grown of measuring the success or the failure, the satisfaction or the disappointment, of government in terms of this efficiency. Since democracy, even at its best, must lack something of the efficiency which industry claims as its own, it is not difficult to turn the minds of men toward such changes in their institutional life as shall attempt to bring about in the field of government the type of efficiency which men find in industry. This leads straight to increasing regimentation of human conduct, whether individual or group, and to the increasing delegation of executive authority to a single administrative officer of government. This is the explanation of the rise in the twentieth century of a type of despotism which surpasses in severity and in cruelty the well-established despots of ages long gone by."

Explaining the origin of the "Old Cronies Circle", Sir Harry Laurier says: "It has often been said that no great men have organized around their name such a circle when they are alive. Well, we have altered the situation; we have created something new. I want to smell the roses when I am here. I want to hear your applause, because I shall be a long time dead." Hence the creation of the Laurier Old Cronies Circle which dined together for the first time in London recently. A tribute to Sir Harry's genius was paid by Lord Alness. "Our Chief 'Crony,'" he said, "has dwelt on the hilltops of success and has known what it is to traverse the valleys of sorrow which lie below. That is why he is able to play on the human hearts like a master on his instrument. Some of his songs stir our emotions to their very depths. There is no mawkish, sentimentality about these songs, but rather a sentiment which is true and deep and tender." Lord Alness said that Sir Harry's minstrelsy in foreign lands had knitted countries closer together than any League of Nations. In these lands he brought laughter to the lips and tears to the eyes of Scottish exiles. Through his voice they once again caught the sound of the ripple of Scottish burns and the scent of the heather on the hills.

Chief among democratic liberties, and those which are first attacked by tyranny, are freedom of conscience, freedom of speech, association and assembly, and freedom of the press. None of these liberties is more important than constant vigilance. Communism and Fascism are fighting creeds, whether within nations or between nations. Is it too much to hope that Canada may develop a nation of fighting democrats?—Winnipeg Tribune.

When a child of 10 comes to Canada from abroad, with no knowledge whatever of the English language, and five years later receives the gold medal presented annually in the eighth grade reading class, nearly everyone will concede that it is an achievement of the highest order. This is the record of a nine-year-old Freega Reynolds, a widow at Cameron Avenue School, who said in a report on which Freega may well be proud. Certainly we desire to congratulate her. Listen to what Mr. Lorne R. Rogers, principal of Cameron Avenue School has to say: "I attribute her success to the fact that she did religious, whatever she was told to do. As a girl born here sometimes she gets that little detail."—Winnipeg Star.

Fishing off one section of the Nova Scotia coast this summer, sport fishermen landed a tuna with rod and line, and the fish weighed 30.80 pounds, or, on the average, about 50 pounds. The figures come from the reports of the federal fishery inspector for the district. In another district, a tuna weighing 181 pounds was landed by anglers. And in another, a tuna with a total weight of almost 50,000 pounds. In some other Atlantic districts, too, the tuna are doing their share of sport. Tuna, of course, are also taken commercially. This year's commercial catch—tuna fishing is over for the year—was about 897,000 pounds, as shown by un-revised reports made to the Dominion department of fisheries by officers on its staff in Nova Scotia. All of Canada's commercial catch of tuna is taken in Nova Scotia waters.—Braintree Sun.

If all the rain that fell on the earth during the course of a year could be gathered together at one time, it would cover the entire globe to a depth of 29.13 inches. This emphasizes the importance of our drains, rivers and lakes. It also illustrates the need for regulation of our great drainage courses to prevent floods.—Chatham News.

It is the duty of every writer to write clearly. That is the first essential. Every sentence should be written so clearly that a fool, if not a better writer than you, should be able to understand it. A good writer should strive to write forcefully, and, finally, if it be in him to do so, elegantly. To write clearly, forcefully and elegantly is the duty of a writer. If he fails in this duty, he should know that, beyond doubt or cavil, he has missed his vocation; and if he has not mastered the other two requirements, he is not likely to make good impression. We have heard poor writers say that the "idea" is the thing, and that the "idea" is a writer is unable to write clearly, he will never be able to put his idea over with anybody; and if he is not able to write forcefully, he will fall to win many a laurel wreath. If he would write forernity, he must write elegantly also. This is the Law and the Prophets for the Republic of Letters.—San Francisco Argonaut.

The abstract of accounts and estimates of Edinburgh Town Council just issued in a bulky volume of 600 pages deals in the main with financial items in terms of millions of pounds, but there are numerous interesting small items. Among other accounts is one of £20 for "the upkeep of dress-shirts for mace-bearers. There is the account of £23 for the maintenance of the time-gun at the Castle, to which the Leith Dock Commission contribute three guineas. Another account is for £6 10s., "the salary of bell-ringer at Council Chamber of Canon-gate." That recalls days when Canon-gate was a separate burgh. The bell concerned is at Canon-gate Tolbooth, the former prison and council chamber and does duty every Sunday for the services at Canon-gate Parish Church.—Glasgow Herald.

A man was recently thrown out of a Federal relief office, across the border. "I only asked," he said afterward, "who is going to take care of the unthrifty when all the thrifty are broke?" The question is also of interest in this country.—Calgary Herald.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Actually exporting power is bad business for Canada. Parliament a dozen years ago discussed the question and laid it down as a sound principle that no further export should be permitted. The principle has never been challenged until the present occasion, when close relations between Mr. Duplessis, Mr. Duplessis and the power interests have brought it to the fore again. "There are two sound reasons why power should not be exported: one that a vested interest which makes withdrawal of the power exceedingly difficult if not impossible. The other is that cheap power is one of the greatest factors in building up Canada industrially, and this respect disappears if the power is exportable."—Winnipeg Tribune.

Suppose everyone with a garden—large or small—were to plant a permanent living Christmas tree and, during Christmas, decorate the living tree with fairy lights, what a splendid picture the country and suburbs of big towns might present: The young folk would learn first to love their own family Christmas tree, and then to love and respect all living trees.—Irish Independent.

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That Body of Hours

All business organizations have a certain date when they call the end of their fiscal or financial year, and try to collect every account which is due them before that date, and, if at all possible, try to pay the accounts which they themselves owe.

Now we are all in business—the business of living—and our greatest asset is to be able to live at our best—to be in the best of health. Our greatest liability in life is illness; not always being ill in bed, but being unable to think clearly and act with strength and decision.

We do not all start out in life equally; some of us have family tendencies that make for strength and others have tendencies that make for weakness—mentally and physically. However we all have what we have, and the big point in making a success of living is to know just what we have mentally and physically.

These assets will be a strong body, an active mind, and our liabilities may be a poor family history in regard to ailments such as diabetes, heart, blood vessel, kidney, liver or chest ailments. Yet this family knowledge that there is a family history or tendency is valuable, really an asset, as it makes us watch for, or guard against, these ailments. This Dr. R. H. Badcock who died a few years ago in his eightieth year, was for many years professor of chest diseases at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago. Early in his medical career he discovered he had the heart ailment which eventually caused his death. The knowledge of this ailment and how to live properly, despite this ailment, enabled him to live to such a real old age.

The thought then is that to really know how you stand, your assets and liabilities as far as health and life are concerned, you should get a complete examination by your family physician and a complete physical examination to eighty minutes, so make sure your physician has this amount of time free when you make your appointment.

Start the year right by finding out your assets and liabilities in this business of living.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

THE MCLURE HIGHWAY

Sir.—It is certainly amusing to everybody to see in last evening's *Journal* an editorial in which it is asserted that the paved road from Lunter River to Rustico should be designated "LePage Highway" instead of the "McLure Highway" as it is now known to one and all. Mr. LePage had about as much to do with getting this highway as had Hitler. Next thing the *Patriot* will be claiming that Mr. LePage is a King because he attended the Coronation.

All credit for the "McLure Highway" is due to Messrs. Chester McLure, John Myers, Dr. McMillan and R. B. Bennett and everybody knows it.

I am, Sir, etc.

ELECTOR

JAILS AND CHRISTMAS CHEER

Sir.—Christmas has come and gone. Queen's County Jail held its first Christmas Tree Christmas Day—Kings County Jail was furnished with Christmas dinners by Mr. W. L. Poole of Montague according to this morning's *Guardian*—Thank you Mr. Poole—Prince County Jail have not heard from but trust something was done there for the prisoners. Another year we hope more will be done.

As a general rule most prisoners are forgotten for the time being as they are supposed to be there for punishment. All are agreed they should be kept clean, I think there is no doubt about that.

Are all our jails clean? Then about services to be held by the churches we are still waiting for them, but Rev. Mr. Miller assures me they intend to start sometime. Now we propose to put old broken furniture in our jails to be repaired and thus give work to our prisoners.

If the Board of Health have any objection to make, now is the time to speak or forever after to hold their peace.

Dr. Keeping had no comment to make re toys being repaired in the jails though he was notified twice that this was being done.

Have we a branch of the Board of Health in Summerside? They had better have a look at Prince County Jail.

The same applies to Kings County Jail where conditions are anything but sanitary.

I am, Sir, etc.

THE PRISONER'S AID

ELECTRIC LIGHT PROBLEM

Sir.—As the Electric Light controversy is now approaching the settlement stage it would be unwise to continue the discussion whilst the case is sub-judice. The Chairman of the Light Committee at the last Council meeting held out the hope that some good news would be forthcoming soon.

In view of the reductions which have been taking place in other localities in the Maritimes and the extremely low rate which electric energy can be supplied to consumers in Ontario it is to be hoped that the settlement arranged here, if any, will be a substantial one.

It is claimed that the average rate at present charged to our citizens is about 5 1-2 cents per K. W. H. If that is correct then a reduction of one and one half cents per kilowatt hour would appear to be reasonable and would mean no harm to the operating company and all classes of consumers should share in the benefits to be awarded.

I have recently had the opportunity of looking over the extensive report made by the valuers who have been at work on same since June 1936. Much of the information given is of a detail character and is difficult for the ordinary man to follow. In fact a reduction of one and one half cents per kilowatt hour would appear to be reasonable and would mean no harm to the operating company and all classes of consumers should share in the benefits to be awarded.

The total reproduction cost now is given as \$87,721.

The total original cost less depreciation is shown in three separate summaries such as First—land, structures, boiler plant, turbo-generator units, electric plant, substation equipment, poles, towers and fixtures, live head conductors services, live transformers and device customers meters, street lighting equipment and a number of lesser items—\$458,621.

The second summary includes: Engineering and Superintendence \$34,050 Law expenses during construction 2,270 Taxes during construction 5,274 Interest during construction 15,213 Miscellaneous construction Expenditures 6,879 Total \$69,886 The third summary or division is: Organization \$ 7,500

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The Provincial Council of the Boy Scouts Association

extend cordial greetings to all Scouts, Scouters and friends at the beginning of a New Year. The Movement has grown considerably in the year that has gone, and our sincere wish is that it will continue to develop at the same, or even, a more rapid rate in the year on which we have entered.

L. D. MURRAY,
 Provincial President
 J. J. MORRIS,
 Provincial Commissioner

Working Capital 60,000
 Total \$67,500
 This makes a grand total of \$589,807.
 The valuation made by the Montreal Appraisal Company a few years ago was \$697,000. That valuation took about a month to make and cost \$900 and it does not appear to be very far out.

The question now is what should the rate be with a rate base in the vicinity of \$600,000 which by me in a letter written from Brooklyn, N. Y., to your paper in the Fall of 1936 after the present owners of The Maritime Electric Co. had issued a prospectus prior to offering an issue of bonds.

With a total operating revenue of about \$225,000 the Utility Board should find no difficulty in arriving at a decision in the interests of both urban and rural consumers for it is conceivable that in view of the expense involved the entire rate structure will be under scrutiny and subject to revision.

I should not close this letter without having a word to say about a correspondent in the *Patriot* whose identity is well known. He does not deal with any point in regard to the Light question but with a personal and wholly immaterial matter.

I am, Sir, etc.
 JOHN F. WHEAR.

Publishing Costs

(Peterboro Examiner) The newspaper reader who receives his paper through the mail, for instance, might be surprised to know the subscription price is not sufficient to pay the cost of the white paper used and the charges

for NEURALGIA
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STRAIN ON YOUR EYES
 Eyes used for close work—particularly if lighting is not correct—are subject to a greater than normal strain. This brings the patient discomfort if there is present any appreciable refractive error and shows itself in headaches, sore eyes, etc. A person has no way of knowing the degree of strain on the eyes until they are examined.

G. F. Hutcheson
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