The Guardian

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More Double Dealing

The school teachers and others interested who helped to get increases in salary, if and when, the additional subsidy is obtained from Ottawa, will be sadly disillusioned as the result of the discussion on the proposed plebiscite. It now appears that the Government is very doubtful, indeed about getting any additional subsidy next year, so that the teachers case is not likely to be considered until after the proposed plebiscite, which is not to take place until 1931 when the Saunders Government must, perforce, go to the country. Should the King Government in the meantime, in a spasm of unwonted generosity, grant our claims, either in part or in whole, the teachers are not barred from participation. But the indications are that an unspecified referendum will have to be the decisive weapon. This new departure strikes at the root of representative government; it relieves the administration of responsibility, and throws it on the shoulders of the people generally who may, or may not, be fully cognizant of all the essential facts in the case. The Saunders Government has not only "double crossed" the teaching profession, but has made a precedent which may have effects in general legislation and administration never anticipated or intended. The first effects is to prolong indefinitely the teachers' "hope deferred."

Preferred Prisons

Canada is to have two new prisons. One is to be in the neighborhood of Kingston' Ont., the other at St. Vincent de Paul, Que. There is a prison now at St. Vincent de Paul, and one at Portsmouth, a suburb of Kingston. But the new prisons are not to be extensions or new units of the old ones, and they are not made necessary by reason of the increasing prison population. The new institutions, according to an announcement made by General W. St. Pierre Hughes, superintendent of penitentiaries, are to be preferred-class penitentiaries, and are to be models for the continent and possibly for the world.

One of the great problems of law enforcement in every country is the recidivist—the case-hardened criminal who goes back to crime again and again, and is sure, sooner or later, to turn up in prison once more. Any way you take him, he is a loss and a liability to the country. His crimes cost money. It costs something to protect citizens against him, and there are the expenses of convicting him when he is caught and of keeping him when he is convicted. Under the circumstances, it can not be wondered at that criminologists have given a great deal of attention to the recidivist. Sometimes they have coddled him and sought to reform him with kindness. Sometimes they have gone to the other extreme and employed harsh measures. The Baumes Law, in force in several of the states of the American Union, is an attempt to deal with the recidivist. It automatically imposes a life sentence on the third or fourth conviction, and because of its automatic application and inflexibility has been severely criticized.

There is another way of dealing with the recidivist, and this is the plan it is proposed to follow in Canada. The idea is to stop producing him—in other words, to remove the conditions which create criminals. One of these conditions is the old-time type of prison, where the youthful convict, the beginner in crime, is thrown into contact with the old offender, and not only gets an education in the methods of warring on society but even learns to make society's enemies his heroes. In the preferred-type penitentiaries which are now to be erected, there will be no recidivists—only the beginners in crime, and every effort will be made, as General Hughes' latest report says, to reform and educate the young offender, to teach him a proper useful trade or occupation so that, on his discharge, he may be "fit to take his place in the community to lead an honest, law-abiding life, and be a profitable asset to the country instead of a liability." The new penitentiaries are to be reformatories, in the best meaning of the word. They are not to be schools of crime.

Fur Sales

The Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa has this to say about fur sales:

"Towards the end of February two auction sales were held, one in London and one in Copenhagen, of particular interest to fur breeders. Prices at the Copenhagen auction declined on the average 25 per cent. writes Frederick H. Palmer, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Oslo in the forthcoming issue of the Commercial Intelligence Journal. It is reported that 15,000 pelts were sold at the more important London auction, and of these between 600 to 700 were silver fox skins from Norway. It appears that prices in London for "extra dark silver" and "medium silver" declined 10 per cent. as compared with the last auction, while prices for "dark silver" declined 20 per cent. The price for "light silver" declined 5 per cent.

"The highest price realized for a Norwegian pelt was £92, but as the best Norwegian animals are being sold alive for breeding purposes, the average quality of the Norwegian pelts offered was not as high as Norway could supply."

Then and Now

"Appreciating the action of the Liberal Goverment at Ottawa in passing the Old Age Pension Act we anticipate establishing it in this Province in a manner consistent with our revenue."
—Liberal pre-election platform.

HON. LEPAGE: "He (Mr. McLure) as much as said that we promised it. We promised it in this way. If our finances were sufficient to put the Old Age Pensions through we would do so, but our finances have not been increased and we are unable to do so. In fact the larger provinces, some of them, under Government Control, have not been able to do so; so I don't think this Government can be blamed. I regret very much that we are unable to help the aged and infirm in this country because I know from experience that there are a great many aged people that need it; but I think this government have been as lenient to the old and infirm as well as any government previous and we are spending probably now double the amount of money that the previous government did along that line.

Facing Both Ways Govt.

"Over ninety per cent. of the people of the North American continent are under Prohibition."—Hon. B. W. LePage, in budget debate.

"There is no Prohibition in the United States, at all. They can make all the liquor they can drink, as long as they don't sell it."—Hon. Dr. Grant, in budget debate.

"The majority for Prohibition" (at the Plebiscite, 1929) "was not sufficiently large to make us feel very safe, in fact it was disappointingly small. The vote as a whole was small, showing a lack of interest on the part of many people."—Thomas Moyse, president Prince Edward Temperance Alliance, at annual meeting.

"Conditions have been intensified a hundred fold, yes a thousand fold, to what they were a few years ago. The operators in the booze business are resorting to every imaginable thing. We have moonshiners and bootleggers in every province; but I remember only a few years ago of reading for the first time of those stills in our Province. The thing has grown and grown greatly. The same with bootlegging. It has grown and the methods they resort to are almost beyond the comprehension of man."—Premier [illegible] in Draft Address Debate.

By the Way

Probably the most effective history of the present Liberal regime in this province would be a collection of excerpts from the various speeches apologetic, explanatory and otherwise, of the members during the session. Such a collection would, no doubt, act as a deterrent to future aspirations for political honors.

The great naval powers are doubtless making progress in the direction of the establishment of permanent peace in the world. Probably more progress would be made if, instead of the reduction of armament, an effort were made to reduce the international jealousy and suspicion which now appear to be the great hindrance to the longed-for goal.

There appears to be no concerted demand from the rural districts for further experimenting with the McIntyre snowplough. Those sections in which experiments were carried on seem to be quite satisfied that they have had enough.

Now that all varieties of opinion, private, public and political, have been expressed with reference to the merits and demerits of prohibition, sincere temperance people will be in a position to arrive at definite conclusions. Since its inception many men and women believed in its efficacy as a temperance measure. Years of experience have proved that the hope was illusive. Notwithstanding years of repeated failure they were reluctant to abandon their faith. With what Emerson calls a "foolish consistency" they clung to the fetish to which they had pinned their faith rather than admit that they had been mistaken. Emerson's advice in this and similar circumstances is well worth noting. "Speak your honest thought today in words as hard as cannon-balls, and let tomorrow speak what tomorrow thinks in words just as hard, though they should contradict every thing you said today." If those who realize that prohibition has failed in every province in Canada and in every other country in which it has been tried, would admit it and act accordingly, there would be some hope of arriving at a sane solution of the liquor problem. It is significant that in no province in which prohibition had been abandoned for Government control, no concerted action has been taken to resuscitate the former.

That troubles never come singly is again illustrated in the West. Millions of dollars of crop damage in Saskatchewan will be caused this year by insects, according to a report issued by Kenneth M. King, of the Dominion Entomological Laboratories. Cutworms, wire-worms, grasshoppers and wheat-stem sawflies would be to blame it was stated. Cutworms are expected to be unusually active and a grasshopper outbreak of at least moderate extent is looked for in Southwestern Saskatchewan. Wireworms, which caused an estimated $3,000,000 damage last year, will again do heavy damage, especially if the spring is wet, says the report. If July is dry, the wheat-steam sawfly will cause a loss exceeding the $5,000,000 damage of 1929 it is forecast. More abundant than at any time since 1924, grasshoppers may constitute a serious infestation if the weather is dry. Cold driving rains immediately after hatching time or very wet weather continuously during the development period may halt the out break.

"Uncle Tom," the central figure of Harriet Beecher Stowe's famous book which is said to have helped to precipitate the American civil war, had his original in Rev. Josiah Henson, who for a time lived near Dresden Ont., recollects Elihu Stewart, of Collingwood, who saw the negro preacher 50 years ago. "My earliest recollection of Josiah Henson is that he was the leading man in the negro settlement known as "The Institution" near Dresden, which was made up almost entirely of negroes escaped from slavery," states Mr. Stewart.

The narrator met Mr. Henson on board a boat near Sarnia, over half a century ago and entered into conversation with him.

"He struck me as being the type of negro that I saw much later in Booker T. Washington.

"I asked him if he considered that he was the leading character in Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and also how he had been received when presented to Queen Victoria. "In reply to my first question he said: 'I was living in Baltimore, Md., one winter and Mrs. Stowe, who lived near, frequently asked me to her home where she asked me a great many questions about my life and surroundings. When her book came out she gave me a copy.'

"The story of his visit to Queen Victoria was very graphic. He had been summoned to court by the queen herself and was conducted into a room of the palace to wait for her. 'The door opened and four women entered, three of them bearing the train of the lady in front, the queen herself. She shook my hand, asked me to be seated and then said: 'Mr. Henson, I expected to see a very old man, perhaps on crutches, but I am delighted to see such a well preserved, good looking man as you are.' Mr. Henson's reply was unique; touching his forehead with his hand, a negro salutation, he said: 'My sovereign, that is what all the ladies say.' At this the queen and her ladies clapped their handkerchiefs to their faces."

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

HOME OR HOSPITAL TREATMENT

As you know 'distant fields look green', and so it is with some individuals and their ailments. They get the idea that there something 'different' about their particular ailments, and so they pass over their own physician and perhaps even the specialist in their own city and go to a distant city for advice.

I have in mind a chap who had injured his back. His phycician referred him to a specialist who adjusted a brace to hold the injured joint in place, and yet permit the patient to walk about.

After arriving home he took off the brace threw it down on the floor with a bang, and immediately took a train to a city more than one hundred miles away.

After consulting a physician there he was induced to get on the train at once, and accompanied by the physician, he travelled another 600 miles to another city to consult a well known specialist.

Here, much to his surprise and chagrin, he had a brace adjusted that was exactly the same in construction and measurements as the one he had thrown down so disgustedly in his home city.

Dr. H. E. Rhodes, London, speaking about the European baths or spas, says that while the waters at these places cannot permanently cure high blood pressure, nevertheless they are the means of getting the patient to good working order again.

"The patient, removed from business and domestic worries, is amid fresh surroundings, and has time for suitable recreations and exercises. Daily atendances at the bath, and regular visits to the physician prescribing treatment, give him the impression that something is really being done for him, and thereby encourages a hopeful outlook, of great assistance to recovery. Patients will readily assent to dieting, will retire early to bed and carry out other instructions which they would not tolerate at home.'

'Home' treatments of tuberculosis could be accomplished in a great many cases if the patient were willing to follow the regulations of the sanitarium-rest in bed until the temperature is normal, then daily rest morning and afternoon, plain nourishing food, a little exercise begining with about 15 minutes daily and increasing it up to five hours by the time the cure is complete.

Now my thought is that the trip to another city, the trip to the watering place, or rest home, and the trip to the tuberculosis sanitarium are all 'worth while' if they get the patient to follow his instructions faithfully, something which he will not do if treated at home.

The Poets' Corner

THE FAERY WOODCUTTER

The faery woodcutter's eyes are
green,
Grey-green and flecked with gold,
Slant and slitted and jewel-cold.

The faery woodcutter's tools are
keen;
His aim is sure; his hands are lean
And gnarled with clinging to lichened limb.
His checkered coat shrouds all of
him.

The faery woodcutter cranes, asway
On an ancient bole most cunningly,
With his nimble hammer, his scarlet
hood,
With his Druid chant in this empty
wood,
And his magic minstrelsy.

—Audrey Wurdemann, in The Commonweal.

Deep sea fish caught by British fishermen last year weighed 438,000 tons.

UNCLE SAM AND HAITI

The situation in the Island of Haiti has come to a point at which the people of the Haitian Republic have demanded national elections, from the investigating commission of President Hoover of the United States, which is now sitting in the island. At a time when agitation is widespread in various parts of the British possessions and spheres of influence, it does not come with any degree of disquietude to learn that other great nations which have assumed control of disturbed areas are confronted by similar conditions. The tendency to see the mote in the eye of the brother while diregarding the beam in one's own, has been observed more than once in the Republic to the south. The situation in Haiti which has been occupied by United States armed forces for a long time, has its humorous side when taken in connection with United States press comment upon India and other parts of the British Imperial possessions.

The two black republics on the island present a problem which is far from solution. The peoples of each have not displayed any aptitude for self-government. Under dictators they have assumed a certain degree of advancement, but frequent revolutions have destroyed all but the actual physical traces of such advancement. The resentment toward outside influence, particularly that of people of the white race, has been such that only by armed force has order been restored or maintained by external pressure. The bayonets of United States marines and the guns of warships evidently do not meet with approval of the people of the country who are willing to take a chance on disorder under their own government, rather than order under that imposed by the United States. There also are indications that the sentiment of many people of the United States themselves is in favor of withdrawal from Haiti and cessation of interference with the administeration of the country.

THE LAND WE LOVE

By FRANK LEIGH

CANADA'S HIGHEST BEACON LIGHT

Q. Where is Canada's highest beacon light?

A. Canada has the highest beacon light in the Dominion and one of the highest in the world, recently erected on the roof of the Hudson Bay Store in Winnipeg. Rising to a height of 200 feet it will be visible on a clear night for over 100 miles. It will serve as an airway beacon. The Neon light illumination will represent nearly 2 million candle power pointing its direction to a near by landing field. This light has the power to penetrate through fog, rain and mist to a marked degree. It presages the coming night aerial travel.

PRINCE GOOD PATIENT, BUT DISLIKES TAKING PILLS

LONDON, April 5.—The Prince of Wales is just like any man when it comes to being babied when he is sick according to Miss Grace Fuller, one of the nurses who attended him when he was ill recently in South Africa with malarial fever.

"He was a splendid patient," said Miss Fuller in a letter to friends in London, "but he was a real babe when it came to swallowing pills. When I gave him the pills the Prince said: 'This is my barbed wire and gate-jumping trick.'"

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Beer Parlors Forecast In N. S.

(Canadian Press)

HALIFAX, N. S., April 4.—Government beer parlours in Halifax and Cape Breton were forecast in the final meeting of the law amendments committee on the government control bill this morning, when it was recognized that popular demand for parlors was extensive in Halifax and Glace Bay. A deputation of men and women from Halifax labor organizations waited on the Government last night to press a request for commission operated taverns for the sale of light wines and beer, it was disclosed.

Provisions that no person convicted of an offense against the N. S. T. A. less than five years ago be employed by the commission and that no store be established near a church or school were favorably discussed by the committee. It was emphasized that men of the highest standing be secured.

Canada To Spend $55,000,000 this Year On Pensions

SOLDIERS PENSIONS, TREATMENT AND RE-ESTABLISHMENT HEAVY

OTTAWA, April 4.—Canada will spend $55,000,000 this year in pensions, treatment and re-establishment of ex-soldiers, according to Hon. J. H. King. Statement to this effect was made by the Minister of Pensions and National Health, in addressing the Ottawa Women's Liberal Club Wednesday.

Appreciation of the measure recently introduced in the House of Commons by Dr. King in regard to soldiers' pensions was expressed in a resolution adopted by the meeting. The bill, said Mr. King, was vastly different from similar legislation in other countries in that it would give grants to disabled soldiers to keep them in their homes rather than to uphold the old-fashioned idea of segregating them in hospital.

BIG PEANUT SHIPMENT

VANCOUVER, B. C., April 5—Baseball can begin anytime now, the game has been made safe for fans in Canada. A special Canadian National train, consisting of 33 cars loaded with peanuts, left here consigned to a firm in Toronto. Billions of the goobers are contained in the shipment and demon statisticians can figure out the exact number, but in round dimensions the peanuts would cover an ordinary city block to a depth of about one foot. "Play ball."

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Mr. Frank Walker, Assistant Editor of the Guardian is editing this Special Feature Edition, which is now in the course of publication, and Mr. J. M. Kirkland is in charge of Publicity.

Boost for a Greater Province

ATTENTION
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