

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1927

DESERVED COMMENDATION.

THE GUARDIAN unites heartily in commendation of the President and Secretary of the P. E. Island Potato Growers' Association for their good work. Such service as Messrs. Dewar and Boulter have rendered is of high value to this province. The province is, indeed, fortunate in having men of their practical ability at the head of a highly important branch of its activities. Farmers and traders alike have cause to be thankful for the results of their efforts to make known the high value of P. E. Island grown potatoes of the right kinds, and for the success of their arrangements as to shipping and marketing.

DUTY ON POTATOES.

THE GUARDIAN, a few days ago, pointed out that "potatoes will not, probably, be dumped into P. E. Island," "but to farmers in other parts of Canada it may be important that potatoes from the United States shall not be imported and that high duties shall be imposed to prevent their importation." We therefore animadverted lightly upon the alleged action of the P. E. Island Potato Growers' Association in petitioning the Advisory Board of Tariff and Taxation to refrain from advising an increase of the duty imposed on foreign grown potatoes, and pointed out that a meeting of the P. E. Island Potato Growers' Association had not been held. In the course of his splendid address before the meeting which was held on Tuesday, Mr. Boulter admitted that P. E. Island has nothing to fear from the importation of foreign grown potatoes, and left to take care of themselves the farmers of Quebec and Ontario and other parts of Canada who may suffer heavy losses as a result of the importation of early and late potatoes from the nearby United States. The Guardian maintains that the unauthorized action was sectional and not in the true interest of Canada at large and was not even justified by the facts in the case. Everyone knows that the Congress of the United States will impose higher duties upon potatoes just as soon as the interests there demand it, without reference to any action that the Advisory Board of Canada may take. With our friends over the border their own interests are their first consideration, and just as soon as conditions warrant it, and not before, their tariff will be operated against us.

HOME INDUSTRIES NEEDED

THE bigger and wealthier the towns, the better for the farmers. Even now, the population of Canada continues eighty per cent. on the average of the total products of Canadian agriculture, and still larger towns will make for stable markets for a larger proportion of farm produce. More industries in the towns will cause better times in the country, and enable the country to support a larger population. We have a vast country to be filled up; and to that end home industries should be encouraged. It would be a grand thing for Prince Edward Island if the populations of Halifax, Saint John, Sydney, New Glasgow and Amherst, not to speak of Charlottetown, Summerside and Souris, were doubled. A change of policy that will encourage the establishment of home industries and stop the exodus to the United States and elsewhere is needed for Canada.

MR. BENNETT'S SUGGESTION.

THE rule of members of the Opposition Party is not to give hints or suggestions to the government, but merely to point out the weakness in the policy proposed or undertaken and find fault with the Administration. Criticizing and

finding fault is easy, but essential, there is no man or body of men with important duties to perform, who will not make mistakes that may well be pointed out and corrected.

But Mr. Bennett, who replied to the Budget Speech, departed from the rule of the Opposition and offered the Minister of Finance a suggestion that he may deem to be worthy of consideration. In view of the public debt of the Government of Canada, amounting to between two and three billions of dollars, \$100,505,650 of which has to be met this year, Mr. Bennett proposed, first, that the Minister of Finance should submit to Parliament a bill to create a four per cent security of the Dominion of Canada; then, that the chartered banks and life insurance companies—trustees for their public—with assets of approximately two billion nine hundred million dollars, should be constrained to invest in the four per cent. He said: "I submit, sir, that the time has come for this Parliament in the exercise of its unquestioned authority and power to say that these deposits of the people should be utilized to the extent necessary to provide for the maturing obligations not met out of surplus. At the same time we would have created a security that would rank with the consols of England, — a consolidated four per cent. Canadian security that could be issued from time to time."

Mr. Bennett admitted that if this suggestion were adopted there would be some diminution of interest profits for the banks and insurance companies; but he urged that in view of the fact that there are such vast profits earned over and above the money necessary to take care of reserves at three and three and a half per cent., no hardship would be imposed upon the Canadian people, who would realize that their savings—although the profits of the life insurance companies might be affected—would be available for the whole people while the trusteeship obligation imposed on the companies would be better discharged by reason of the stability and certainty of the securities. Mr. Bennett's proposal has already been the subject of much comment by financiers and the Press; and it will, of course, be carefully considered by the Minister of Finance. There is no doubt that, as a rule, the Government had better not interfere in the business of either private individuals or public companies. As a counter-proposal, Mr. Coote suggests that at every money order post office in Canada, deposits be received bearing, if necessary, three and a half per cent. interest, and that these deposits shall have the full guarantee of the Dominion. Mr. Coote feels sure that the Minister of Finance will have no difficulty in securing enough deposits at 3½ per cent. to retire the Government bonds which mature this year.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"I never saw so much leg in all my young days as I did in one day on my visit to New York," replied the farmer, regretfully, when asked on his return what impressed him most on his visit to the States.

Nine million pounds of butter were imported into Canada last year. At thirty cents a pound the amount sent out of this country for that butter would be \$2,700,000! Mr. Robb rejoices in the revenue derived from the importation; but how do the farmers of Canada feel about it? If they had supplied the home market with the quantity of butter that was imported, the money paid for it would now be circulating in this country, or would be added to the wealth of the people! But it is gone from us and our heirs for Administration. Criticizing and

Notes by the Way

"Just because we are beginning to get our noses, not by any means above water—but pointed in that direction—is no reason at all why we should relax our vigilance against extravagance, unnecessary votes for projects that can wait, or rewards granted for political support delivered at the last election," says The Star. The Toronto Globe admits that this view of the case is "theoretically correct," but goes on to defend and find excuses for the increase, arguing that it is small when compared with the total and that "it is a question how far cheese-paring can be carried on economically."

It has become the fashion to advocate economy in Dominion affairs a short time ago. Bankers, financiers, leading newspapers and public men were all at it. Economy and retrenchment were shown to be urgent and imperative until Canada had more people and the interest on our vast public debt was reduced. Parliament assembled and the budget brought down showed a proposed increase of nearly five and a half millions in expenditures. Most naturally this was objected to. The Montreal Star among many other journals remarks asks why?

Everybody knows that twenty to fifty millions could be cut from the estimated expenditures and commitments for the current year without starving or falling to meet every real and urgent need of the public service. And what everybody believes is that were a Conservative Government in office and were it proposing a like increase to that now proposed by the King Government, the present apologists for governmental extravagance would have loudly protested against it.

Talk about economy and promises to practice it are made at election times to humbug the electors and win their applause and their votes, and the people at large are the victims of the vicious practice. More railway mileage, including that to Hudson Bay, must be built in our over-railroaded country; a continual outlay of millions must be made upon canals, all of which are free of tolls to Americans and Canadians alike, and all of which are located in Ontario and Quebec. The Maritimes must carry their share of the burden of cost of these vast outlays without any possibility of benefit therefrom.

That the Conservatives in the House of Commons will support the Duncan report generally is expected, not that all of them will do so. A train has been laid, however, in favor of implementing it only in part, on the Government side of the House. A pretext is made that reduced freight rates must await the decision of the Railway Commission to whom the entire rate question has been referred.

The Saint John Telegraph Journal which has fought vigorously for Maritime rights is taking up and answering the hostile comments of various other papers in Quebec, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg. These hostile comments will no doubt be quoted in Parliament when the debate on the Duncan report comes up and it is well that the answers thereto should be equally available at the same time. In the far-Eastern Provinces the action which the Government and Parliament may take in regard to this matter constitutes the most vital and crucial event of the present session.

So far no provision has been made in the estimates for a second Car Ferry steamer, or for the standardizing of the Murray Harbor Railway line. How long is the mixed standard gauge and narrow-gauge to be perpetuated in this Province? No other Province would submit to it. And should an accident befall our present Ferry Steamer in the winter season our position would be helpless and pitiable indeed—worse even than before the Car Ferry at the Capes was established.

In the days before we had the Ferry our merchants and others laid in their supplies for the winter before the close of open navigation. Since then we have relied upon the Ferry and it has served us well. But that good ship is no longer new. She has been battered by many years of hard service such as must make a new craft old and has to be laid off for a prolonged period yearly when her winter's work is done. A second Ferry steamer is an urgent need, as all our representatives at Ottawa know, and they should insist upon it being supplied. It is especially incumbent upon the three Liberal members from this Province whose support of the



By James W. Burton, M.D.

That Body of Ours

Perhaps you have wondered just what it would be like to be old. A Berlin physician, Dr. Hirsch, says that if we keep up our usual habits of life we can defer old age for a long time.

He points out that all parts of the body do not grow old at the same time. This would mean that an individual might have a heart with more reserve power than the muscular tone of his stomach or intestine, but where we really grow old is in our feelings, in our emotions. It is acknowledged that young folk with their enthusiasm and strength, and old folks who have faced and defeated the difficulties of life are better balanced mentally than folks from thirty to sixty, and balance is a wonderful asset to us. However as we grow older we do not get so many new thrills, the new impressions, but live to a great extent upon the thoughts, emotions, and thrills of the past. And we sort of lock these up in our hearts or mind, and no one but ourselves really knows about them. We don't talk about them, perhaps don't realize that we think about them as we do. Therefore the man who has been a great student of literature, science, or anything else for that matter, becomes more deeply immersed in his thoughts, and life remains very interesting to him. But the individual who has had little or no development along intellectual lines becomes less interested in life because he is without this inner food on which to live.

Dr. Hirsch tells us that all that remains is his physical instincts, like love of food and sleep, and a feeling of emptiness. That the secret of long life lies in any particular method of living, than in keeping strictly to one's regular habits of life. That "retiring" from work or business is the biggest mistake older people make. The point of course is that we should keep up as far as possible our mental, physical, and spiritual pursuits, so that as we grow older, we may continue to get all that this life can give us, and give to this life all that we should give.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

A MOTTO FOR THE NATION:—We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners: The Lord fulfill all thy petitions. Psalm 20:5.

A PLEA Lord, if thine eyes still beholdeth the sparrow, Little and innocent, fall in its flight; Canst thou not see how life's quivering arrow Hangs on my heart like a poisonous blight.

Lord, if the hairs of each head are all numbered, If thou hast pitied all rest against a stone; Surely the guardian angels have slumbered, While I went stumbling life's path-way alone.

Even the lily, bedecked in a splendour Greater than Solomon's, sometimes I see Worm-eaten, blighted, O, thou who art tender, Look at my scars and have mercy on me. Rescue my soul where in sin it is steeping, Lift me again when I sink by the way, Tell me once more that a watch thou art keeping; Bend thine ear close to my lips while I pray. —Q. M. DeValois Brad.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "I was kind of surprised." Say "somewhat surprised." OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: mischievousness. Pronounce mis-chiv-ous-ness, both 'i's as in "it," u as in "up," and accent first syllable, not the second. OFTEN MISPELLED: library. SYNONYMS: abscond, disappear, depart, leave, flee, decamp, steal away. WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: PUNGENT; piercing; keen; biting; affecting the nerves of sensation. "A pungent odor filled the air."

The 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.

SAVING "THE THING THAT IS NOT."

Sir,—From time to time we are treated to dissertations on the power and usefulness of the modern newspapers; and how it informs the people, and moulds and shapes public opinion. No reasonable person will deny its power and influence either to inform or to misinform, but is however regrettable that there are so many extremely partisan journals that when there is anything that can be construed as creditable, done by their favorite party or leaders, they puff and exaggerate till the matter is made ridiculous. Again, their situation is reversed and their fortunes are brought to book for useless or objectionable work, they resort to dissimulation and to distortion of facts. Allow me to quote a sentence from a well known, but extremely partisan Liberal paper:—"In that contest the Conservative party made this question, (meaning the Constitutional question) one of the chief issues, if not the very chief issue of the elections. Shades of Munchausen! Was there ever such a glaring contemptible political lie!" Is there a reading school boy throughout the length and breadth of the land, that can be made to believe that? Who raised this question? Who went out thundering against constitutionalism as the diabolical bugaboo that was about to pounce upon and bring this country to utter ruin? Who did it? I am, Sir, etc., ONE WHO LOVES TRUTH.

Invictus

"Out of the night that covers me, Black as the pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever god may be For my unconquerable soul."

"In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance My head is bloody but unbowed."

"Beyond this place of wrath and tears Looms but the horror of the shade, And yet the menace of the years Finds, and shall find, me unafraid."

"It matters not how straight the gate, How charged with punishment the scroll, I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."

One of the greatest poems in any language is this by William Ernest Henley. There are definite standards of greatness. Some judge a poem by its sound, its euphonious vowels, the perfection of its rhythm and rhyme, its lit, its peculiar fascination for the ear; some by its quaintness, its unusual form; some by its fidelity to classic models, and so on.

FOR THE SCRAP BOOK

A SERIES OF LITERARY QUOTATIONS FOR BOOK LOVERS

Thursday, March 3rd.

"Old books, as you well know, are books of the world's youth, and new books are the fruits of its age."—Holmes.

GIFTS.

Give a man a horse he can ride, Give a man a boat he can sail; And his rank and wealth, his strength and health, On sea nor shore shall fail.

Give a man a pipe he can smoke, Give a man a book he can read; And his home is bright with a calm delight, Though the room be poor indeed.

Give a man a girl he can love, As I. O my love, love thee; And his heart is great with the pulse of Fate, At home, on land, on sea. —James Thomson.

Literature and Life—A civilized man reads books not to find in them the illustration of a ready-made theory of living which has his antecedent approval, nor that shallow emotional stimulus to his public morality which is known as "uplift"; nor, finally, the optimism that comes from seeing things as they are not. He goes to literature for life, for more life and keener life, for life as it crystallizes into higher articulateness and deeper significance. His own experience is limited and he desires to enlarge it; it is turbid and he seeks to clarify it. Literature, so used, will not make men "better," that is, more assiduous in the unceremonial practice of a standardized morality, nor more given to the emotions deemed appropriate on public and private occasions. But it will make them wiser and above all, deeper. For it will immeasurably heighten their consciousness of their own selves and of the other selves that fill the world. It opens the prison of the mind in which so many spirits lie in the bonds and thongs of ancient engrams and in the delusions of hatred and of dread. —Ludwig Lewisohn

Salvage THE chair is empty. The man is gone—gone on that long journey from which there is no return. And with him has gone the vitality—the spirit—the prestige—he gave to the business. His passing means immediate—it may be irreparable—financial loss to the concern whose destinies he controlled. Months—perhaps years—must elapse before another man of equal strength can be found to fill the vacant chair. In the meantime the stability of the concern will be threatened by turmoil, loss of business, tightening of credit and other ills—ills which the inflow of a substantial amount of ready money would largely obviate. Business Life Assurance is designed to meet this and other contingencies which—sooner or later—arise in every business. You insure your business against possible loss by fire. Surely life assurance should also be carried on the lives of your partners or valuable officials. Fire is only a possibility—death is inevitable. This Company has given special attention to the subject of life assurance for business protection and has been privileged to serve many of Canada's most prominent concerns in this connection. Some of the knowledge acquired during many years' study of the application of Business Life Assurance has been embodied in an interesting booklet on the subject. We'll gladly mail you a copy if you send us your name and address. There's no obligation involved. COUPON The Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada. Please send me your booklet about Business Life Assurance.

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