THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 1927

DO NOT BE PRECIPITATE.

A very good maxim for the present transition stage in our temperance history is "to make haste slowly."

One or two Prohibition enthusiasts, and one or two politicians, have rushed to the defence of the existing law, without waiting for particulars of the Stewart Government's Temperance policy. May we assure all true friends of temperance that the proposals to be brought down by Premier Stewart will provide a more effective and progressive temperance measure than now on the statute book.

The great trouble with the present prohibition law is that it has not public opinion behind it, and where you have a law not actually favored by the majority it cannot be enforced, no matter how diligent the enforcing officers may be.

In the present instance the medical doctors were made the channel through which liquor was to be supplied. Admittedly it was to be supplied only for medical purposes, but what happened?

Those doctors who conscientiously observed the spirit as well as the letter of the law suffered in practice and pocket. Those doctors who looked less severely on the "script" system made money and gained patients. Not a few doctors who objected to the system were constrained to grant their regular patients "scripts" as required, but resented that they should be compelled to do so or suffer the alternative of offending and losing their patients.

Those who could not get supplied by a doctor, or who objected to pay the required fee, looked elsewhere for their supplies, and thus sprung up smuggling, moonshining, bootlegging with all their attendant evils.

The doctors, or at least the vast majority of them, have reached a stage where they resent the derogation of their high and noble profession as the channel for the supply of liquor, and what is the alternative?

The facts must be faced.

It is easy for those who have no responsibility in the matter to say, "well, shut it out."

It can't be shut out.

Since it can't be shut out it must be regulated, and the Stewart Government has devised the strictest and most satisfactory scheme for proper regulation and restriction of the traffic that it is possible to conceive, and which is bound to be more effectively satisfactory in the interests of temperance than the existing law.

We would advise our people, therefore, not to be stampeded into any rash action, or premature decision until they have heard both sides.

It is better not to be rushed, but to look at matters calmly and deliberately, knowing full well that no definite change for the better or the worse can take place until the votes are cast on election day.

It is better to be sure than sorry, and it is better to sleep over a proposition than to rush and commit one's self in a moment of excitement or pumped up frenzied enthusiasm.

Remember the present prohibition law has not realized the anticipations of its promoters.

Various clergymen and others have testified to this.

Wait, then, till you have heard what the new policy means in the way of improvement to effective control before committing yourself for or against a change.

A GREAT INDUSTRY.

THE Government of Ontario plans an extensive forestry program that will provide a continuous supply of timber for its saw mills and paper mills and building operations. The Financial Post remarks that "the Ontario scheme is a forward step of tremendous importance to all Canada."

This year, it appears, is the hundredth anniversary of the business of Ontario in the sale of timber. In 1827 the Department of Crown Lands in Ontario made its first sale of timber, receiving therefor $360. Lately Ontario's sales of timber have amounted to between four and five millions of dollars a year.

One of the features of recent years has been the rapid growth of pulpwood cutting and paper manufacturing since 1871, Canada has invested $500,000,000; and the daily output of paper now is 8,000 tons. In Ontario alone, paper is now produced at the rate of 2,600 tons per day; and there are mills and extensions under construction which will increase that daily output within the next three years, in Ontario, to 4,500 tons of paper per day. One of the remarkable developments in Ontario is at Iroquois Falls, where a new town has sprung up during the last few years and one of the largest and most modern paper-making plants in the world. It is said to be a very interesting sight every night to see the newsprint train leave that plant, the Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company, with twenty-two cars full of newsprint going out in each train load, every night throughout the year.

It has been pointed out that the enormous export of newsprint to the United States has done more than anything else to stabilize the rate of exchange as between the two countries and to improve the Canadian balance of trade, so that frequently the Canadian dollar has been above par in New York. But there is danger of exhusting the supply of timber and pulpwood, and so the wide-awake Conservative Government of Ontario is taking steps towards the conservation of it.

EXTENSION OF LIFE.

THAT there is nothing more certain than death is a truth which has to be admitted. Yet there are many persons who desire to prolong their lives. All these will be interested in the results of investigations recently undertaken in Paris, by Dr. Serge Voronoff. He is a "gland specialist," who contends that "old age is due to the slowing down of the gland secretions, and that if these glands were replaced the human body would continue to go on vigorously until the machine itself wore out."

In proof of his statement, Dr. Voronoff exhibits records of experiments on sheep, showing that he had extended their lives from the normal fourteen years to twenty. He also referred to two of his patients who were eighty-three years of age when he operated upon them and are still virile after the lapse of seven years. He contends that about a hundred and twenty or a hundred and thirty years is the length to which a human life should extend.

BESIDE THE MARK

Before Senator Hughes delivered his speech in the senate there was "nothing doing" about a frost proof potato warehouse at either Georgetown or Souris—that is to say, there was nothing in the estimates. Now, after the publication of that speech and the comments thereupon, by The Guardian and the public at large, there is talk of a frost proof warehouse at both Georgetown and Souris.

Of course, everyone knows that no man of this Province would be better pleased than Senator Hughes to see either or both these warehouses built. Everyone knows also that The Guardian has no other interest than the promotion of the prosperity of King's County and Prince Edward Island as a whole. Therefore the statement that Senator Hughes and The Guardian are "militating" against the potato growers is, obviously unreasonable and beside the mark.

Notes by the Way

In this year of Jubilee and rejoicing we may recall the fact, as Echoes does that over the main door of Parliament Buildings at Ottawa are Kipling's words descriptive of Canada:

"The wholesome sea is at her gates,
Her gates both East and West."

That is fitting and appropriate, but Hon. Hugh Guthrie, leader of His Majesty's loyal Opposition in Parliament, has given his opinion that the best description of our fair Dominion is one given by the prophet Moses in regard to the promised land:

"For the Lord thy God hath given unto thee a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees, a land of oil olive and honey, a land wherein thou mayest eat bread without scarceness; thou shalt not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass."

What a fine immigration text this would be, as has been remarked. Canada, much more than Palestine is rich in rivers and fountains, in wheat, barley and fruits of the earth, in "bread without scarceness" and in mines of untold wealth beneath her soil. Moses speaks of digging brass out of the hills, but makes no mention of gold or silver, in both of which precious metals Canada is rich. As for brass, it is not a metal that is found in mines, but is an alloy made up of copper and zinc, the best brass being formed of two parts of copper and one part of zinc. And Canada is rich in copper.

The London Chamber of Commerce has 110 women members, all of whom are heads of businesses or high executives, not one of whom makes less than $10,000 a year, and in some cases as high as $50,000. The list is headed by Viscountess Rhondda, owner of immense coal mines, and is a director of some 30 organisations. Two years ago this list of women in control of great businesses numbered only five, but today the fifty-thousand-a-year woman is an integral part of British business life. Among these are hotel owners, jam manufacturers, watchmakers, stock brokers, owners of sand quarries, of power plants, etc. Two hundred and fifty women in London are listed as corporation directors.

No mail from Borden on Saturday night last in time for distribution before the closing hour at the post office. This is always disappointing, as it involves some bad men who are box-holders—mostly Tories and very "wet," according to a high authority on the south side of the Square—in the bad habit of getting their letters and papers on Sunday, before or after church, and perhaps going home and not going to church, but reading and answering their letters on Sunday, as these bad people will do. And those good people who don't have boxes have to wait until Monday for their mail. And our excellent Government at Ottawa has doubled the price of boxes after All Fool's Day, April 1.

Now that tardy justice is about to be done to the Maritimes we need not quarrel about to whom the credit belongs. Some Conservatives did oppose the appointment of the Duncan Commission. So did Liberals. If the whole truth were stated it would be found that neither Premier King nor his colleagues expected that the Commission would render a report so favorable to the Maritimes as it did. Nor did most Conservatives expect it. They naturally thought that a Commission appointed by the present Government would shape its report in accord with the then known feeling of the government, which was hostile to our claims.

The Duncan report was a surprise to both the Liberal and the Conservative camp. The Government was committed in advance to abide by the Commissions. After long deliberation they decided to do so. It was a right decision and is to be commended. But there would have been no Duncan Report and no Commission, had not the Maritime people and their leaders made a most vigorous, sustained and persistent protest against the treatment they had received and were receiving. In this year of Jubilee and returning prosperity all should join to promote Canadian unity with thankfulness and bury any unpleasant bygones.

Some of the free-trade Progressives of The West may object to carrying out the Duncan Report, but that will not prevent its adoption by Parliament, with so many Conservatives and Liberals in its favor. Canadian unity and the hearty and united celebration of the National Jubilee alike demand that justice shall be done to the Maritimes. The present near prospect of equality, justice and fair play between the provinces being restored has already brightened the outlook not only in the Maritimes but throughout the entire Dominion.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

OVERUSE OF SPECIALISTS

In these days when you go to an eye specialist for glasses, to the nose, throat, and ear specialist, to the heart specialist, to the lung specialist, and so all along the line, perhaps you pause and wonder just what the end will be.

And this idea of going to the specialist is only common sense because he should know more about his particular subject than one who has studied it only in a general way.

However where is this, "specialist" business finally going to take us?

A writer in one of our medical journals tells us that it will go on and on until like some other things we will learn that we are working from the wrong end.

He means that there would really be no need for specialists if a more intense interest were taken by the people, as a whole, in their own health and the health of their children.

In other words more time will be spent in the medical schools in teaching hygiene and physiology to the students. The student will be taught how to teach his patients and people generally, the simple facts about the workings of the body, and how these workings can be interfered with, and thus sickness ensue owing to carelessness and ignorance.

Instead of spending the first couple of years of the medical course on the structure, functions, uses, and care of the body, and the last four on how to cure sick or diseased bodies, it will be four years or more on the prevention of ailments, and the last two on the cure.

In other words the physician of the future shall have such an all round knowledge of prevention that there will hardly be any work left for the specialist.

"He will be trained along broad general lines so as to be a wise leader and teacher of the science of long and healthy living. He shall be trained for the future, not for the past."

FOR THE SCRAP BOOK

A SERIES OF LITERARY QUOTATIONS FOR BOOK LOVERS

Tuesday March 29th.

We care not for the chilliness, for it is vernal, the cold of a young hand instead of an old one.—Leight Hunt.

THE ANTIQUARY: He is a man strangely thrifty of time past and an enemy indeed to his Maw, whence he fetches out many things when they are now all rotten and stinking. He is one that hath that unnatural disease to be enamored of old age and wrinkles, and loves all things (as Dutchmen do cheese) the better for being mouldy and worm-eaten. He is of our religion, because we say it is most ancient; and yet a broken statue would almost make him an idolater. A great admirer he is of the rust of old monuments, and reads only those characters where time hath eaten out the letters. He will go you forty miles to see a Saint's Well or ruined Abbey; and if there be but a Cross or stone foot-stool in the way, he'll be considering it so long, till he forget his journey. His estate consists much in shekels and Roman coins, and he hath more pictures of Caesar, than James or Elizabeth. Beggars cozen him with musty things which they have raked from dunghills, and he preserves their rags for precious relics. He loves no Library but where there are more spiders' volumes than authors', and looks with great admiration on the antique work of cobwebs. Printed books he contems as a novelty of this latter age; but a Manuscript he pores on everlastingly, especially if the cover be all moth-eaten, and the dust make a parenthesis between every syllable. He would give all the books in his study (which are rarities all) for one of the old Roman binding, or six lines of Tully in his own hand. His chamber in hung commonly with strange beasts' skins, and is a kind of charnel house of bones extraordinary, and his discourse upon them, if you will hear him, shall last longer. His very attire is that which is the eldest out of fashion, and you may pick a criticism out of his breeches. He never looks upon himself till he is gray haired, and then he is pleased with his own antiquity. His grave does not fright him, for he has been used to sepulchres, and he likes Death the better because it gathers him to his Fathers.—John Earle (1601)

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.

INFORMATION WANTED

Sir,—Is it parliamentary at a board of directors meeting for the president in the chair to second a motion and call such motion carried?

I am, Sir, etc,
KINGSTON.

(It is customary for the chairman to vacate the chair in favour of another when moving a motion. —Ed. G.)

RE KINGSTON TELEPHONE LINE

Sir,—At the special telephone meeting held at Kingston hall it was moved, seconded and carried that should the Telephone Company of P. E. I. discontinue the Kingston company of the privilege of being connected with long distance messages, the said Kingston line would at once connect both lines as one, if some seventy or eighty boxes can be operated on one line. Why go to the expense to build an extension to this much talked of line?

I am, Sir, etc,
Dissatisfied Shareholder.

KINGS PATRONAGE

Sir,—I think you do well not to bandy words with The Patriot. If you were to try to unravel all the knotty points raised by the feverish imagination of your contemporary you would have much to do, and that much of no use or value. But, as an elector, I should like to know who has now the patronage of Kings County on behalf of the Federal Government? I know that it is not the Hon. John A. MacDonald the elected representative of King's. Who, then, is it; and why is no provision, so far, made, for the frost-proof warehouse at Georgetown—about the importance and necessity of which we heard so much just before the election! Are we to hold responsible the gentleman for whom so many of us vote—Mr. J. J. Johnstone—or are we to hold the Hon. Mr. Sinclair?

I am, Sir, etc,
ELECTOR.

ANOTHER SIDE HITCH MAN

Sir,—I feel the necessity after a sample of travelling over only a few miles of Prince Edward Island roads, of expressing my much hurt feelings both bodily and mentally. I have been rubbing my bruises and working my brains, overtime trying to find out how it is possible for intelligent people to tolerate a system that causes the condition of the roads to be as they are, even after a mild winter such as the present one.

I would rather be out in mid ocean during a gale than experience again the trip I have just had the misfortune to make from Charlottetown to Hunter River. I am told it is sixteen miles, to me it appears to be more like one hundred and sixteen. So much torture did I suffer.

I was pitched out head first (luckily without breaking my limbs) when the sleigh took a header into what seemed to be the center of a volcano. This my companion informed me was a pitch hole. I guess he was right for I was pitched out as mentioned.

After the first pitch we went through many more but I was wise by this time and hooked my arms and feet through everything in and out of sight, thus managing to hold on, but not being able to avoid the terrible bumping and banging which I received to the small of my back and base of my spine.

Now, Sir, please excuse this song of distress as an opening to my letter, I cannot help it because the chronic state of affairs I have mentioned is so unnecessary.

I have travelled in every Province of the Dominion widely both in summer and winter and never have I seen such conditions existing as those right on this Island Province.

I do not pose as an expert on winter roads but speaking from the standpoint of a person with just ordinary every day common sense.

This is the only part of the Dominion that still retains the antiquoted method of the mischief making center track, and this is the only part of the Dominion where such terrible and ridiculous road conditions exist in the winter.

I have seen the method used in the other Provinces—of the side hitch, and without going into detail, all I can say is, that I saw at once what an advantage the system was, no matter which way one figured it out. Then I came to Prince Edward Island and soon experienced the antideluvian, pre-historic, idiotic to say nothing of the cruel method still in vogue in the Garden of the Gulf.

Let me say there is a great big world moving ahead not far away, and then when a visitor comes over here and has an experience like the one I just had, cannot go away and be a booster for your Province, knowing how callously indifferent the average person seems to be for the comfort of both man and beast while travelling over these roads. I hope at this point I shall not tread too heavily upon the toes of some P. E. Islanders but I ask; Is it a natural born obstinacy on the part of a great many Islanders who stand in the way of progress, to say nothing of the dangers to life and limb of man and his faithful beast I got behind in this lamentable drive mentioned at the beginning of this letter, and had the misfortune to witness the tearing and wrecking of the friend that dragged its burden through (I cannot say over) the trenches, ditches and pitches made by the lack of foresight or downright carelessness and I feel laziness of mind of those who could without much effort or cost to themselves, help the few stalwarts who have been hammering the side hitch for years into the dull brains of those who are too lazy to get up and get out of their own way. However, this is how it appears to me.

One deplorable scene witnessed between Hunter River and Rustico only yesterday was twelve one horse sleighs in line twelve drivers, horses foaming, between them combined loads that I have seen drawn easily by three one horse sleighs requiring only three men and three horses in the parts where the side hitch is used and the horses were not foaming. Therefore it appears almost ridiculous to permit a system to exist which throws away the energy of nine men and nine horses and nine complete outfits.

In closing, I thank you for the space and apologize if I am hitting anyone unconsciously but I feel as an extensive traveller I would like to leave behind me something that may help the good work of those who have striven so long to rectify a glaring disgrace to the road conditions of P. E. Island.

I am, Sir, etc,
FOR SIDE HITCH.

"L. P." AND THE CARDINAL

Sir,—Mr. L. P. Tanton, evidently the accredited agent of "The Alliance Committee" (note the absence of the word "Temperance") assumes the responsibility for the publication of the Poster referred to in my recent letter. This Poster by the way is no longer in evidence in the shop window on Great George Street.

The writer would have taken no exception to the poster in question if the headlines had been omitted, and it was the head lines **"Cardinal Begin opposed to Liquor Control"** that drew my protest in your Saturday's issue.

The writer accepts without qualification every word of late Cardinal Begins pastoral letter including the words quoted in the poster, but neither by these words nor by any other part of the pastoral letter does the Cardinal denounce "Liquor Control" in Quebec or anywhere else.

Let there be no mistake, the Catholic Church has ever advocated temperance and encouraged its practice as a virtue. It goes further and urges total abstinence as highly desirable.

It advocates temperance not only in the use of intoxicants but in eating and in all things. It urges total abstinence, not that there is harm in the proper use of alcoholic liquors, but as a means of practicing abstinence from the use of a something not necessary to the individual.

Let us examine what the Cardinal meant when he wrote the words quoted in the poster in question and again by Mr. L. P. Tanton in your yesterday's issue.

Up to the year 1921, the Scott Act was law in Quebec with the exception of Montreal and Quebec City and a few other places where there had been a system of Control by License.

The Quebec Act which is cited as "The Alcoholic Liquor Act" and not otherwise, was enacted in the year 1921 but it was considerably amended in 1922 and was not in operation in the Province of Quebec in 1923 except, so far as I recall, in Montreal and Quebec.

Let us remember that these two cities had previously been operating under a system less drastic than that enacted by the Act of 1921 as amended in 1922.

The Second Section of this Act reads:

"The Act shall apply to the whole Province, but its application shall be suspended in every municipality where the Canada Temperance Act is in force."

For the first few years and certainly until 1923 the Act was in force only in the cities of Montreal Quebec, and certain other municipalities, and as a matter of fact was merely in the process of being tried out.

Owing to two causes which I shall presently mention, in the Province of Quebec as in Ontario and other Provinces, boot-legging and illicit distilling had become prevalent.

These causes were first the imposition of a high custom duty on the importation of liquor, second the difficulty of getting liquor through authorized vendors without a certain amount of red tape.

The first made smuggling and distilling highly profitable, the second created a profitable business in bootlegging. What was true of Quebec under Scott Act was true of Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island under Prohibition.

Many farmers and others in the Province of Quebec resorted to smuggling, illicit distilling and to boot-legging and this became such an abuse and led to such conditions that Cardinal Begin and other High Ecclesiastics took a firm stand and went to the length of threatening the refusal of the sacraments to those engaged in this unlawful business in the "dry" areas.

In view then of the above we can now read the Cardinal's words with a full appreciation of their meaning, for the extract is one which is wrenched from the context which furnished the explanation. Let me here quote them again: "You know what a vigorous battle has been fought for the virtue of temperance in our diocese by our beloved coadjuter and the group of ecclesiastical and lay Apostles who aided in his efforts. After fifteen years of work, they almost had conquered the enemy, and we were overjoyed in foreseening the end of the distruction of alcohol.

But, alas, there is now spreading everywhere *the intolerable abuse which we denounce, and in particular the surreptitious fabrication of an alcohol* more harmful than any other to the health of the body and soul."

The italics are mine:

Mr. L. P. Tanton raises up his hands and his eyes to heaven and exclaims "What an indictment of government control?"

Could not the very same words have been pronounced of conditions in Prince Edward Island under Prohibition? We hardly knew what a still was a few years ago and smuggling was at a minimum.

But today stills are more common than silos and rum-running and

(Continued on Page 5)

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

March 29, 1927

MY GOD:—I trusted in thee, O Lord: I said, Thou art my God. My times are in thy hand. Psalm 31:14, 15.

HOPE IN FAILURE

Though now thou hast failed and art fallen, despair not because of defeat,
Though lost for a while be thy heaven and weary of earth be thy feet,
For all will be beauty about thee hereafter through sorrowful years,
And lovely the dews for thy chilling and ruby thy heart-drip of tears.

The eyes that had gazed from afar on a beauty that blinded the eyes
Shall call forth its image forever, its shadow in alien skies.
The heart that had striven to beat in the heart of the Mighty too soon
Shall still of that beating remember some errant and faltering tune.

For thou hast but fallen to gather the last of the secrets of power;
The beauty that breathes in thy spirit shall shape of thy sorrow a flower,
The pale bud of pity shall open the bloom of its tenderest rays,
The heart of whose shining is bright with the light of the Ancient of Days.

—A. E.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "it is a very unique article." "Very" is redundant. "Unique" means without another of the same kind.

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: laundress. The au as a in "father" is preferred to a as in "call."

OFTEN MISSPELLED: sophomore.

SYNONYMS: innocent, blameless, guiltless, sinless, harmless, inoffensive, faultless, undefiled.

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: IMPOTENT; wanting in physical, intellectual, or moral power; weak. "He realized that it was an impotent jealousy he must subdue."

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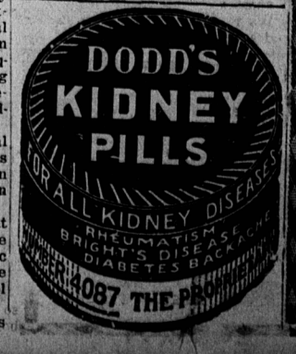
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