

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

SATURDAY MAY 17, 1919

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LAYING FOUNDATIONS.

Looking over the legislative session just ended it will require but little discernment to note that on both sides of the House there was a consciousness that in the near future an election loomed up. The government, like a servant who had done his best, gave an account of its stewardship, laid its books and its documents and the history of its administration upon the table. Everything was open and above board; nothing could be concealed; its record was written and open for criticism.

Under the most searching investigation every dollar of the revenue entrusted to it was accounted for. True, the revenue was not large, and the only question that could arise in connection with the expenditure of it was whether or not some better use could have been made of it; whether or not some of it should have gone into other channels. This was thoroughly threshed out and it was not in any instance shown that a more economic or judicious use could have been made of the revenue than was made.

The Opposition, like the servant looking for a job, presented its case. Unfortunately for its chances for re-engagement, it had a past and had been discharged for incompetence; discharged not only for failing to produce a revenue, but for incompetence in handling the revenue at its disposal; for running the country hopelessly into debt and for general mismanagement. Now it was seeking re-engagement.

Avoiding all reference to its past it based its claims for re-engagement on the alleged faults of the servant in charge. Mr. Bell, as chief spokesman for the party, made the serious mistake of protesting too much. He went in for wholesale condemnation; everything the Government had done during its incumbency was wrong; there was not, he represented, a redeeming feature in the whole administration, and he made the fatal blunder of criticizing those things done by the Government which his own party, when in power, had utterly failed in.

He solemnly condemned the Government because it had not received the Island's share of the western school lands, forgetting that these claims had existed when his own party was in power; forgetting that

"THE FACTS OF THE MATTER."

The excuse that sufficient time had not been given to members of the Opposition to make up their minds on the proposed subsidy of \$3,000 a year to the P. E. Island Aerial Transport Company for five years, is not in accordance with the facts. The facts of the matter are that on Wednesday night the Premier outlined at considerable length the whole proposition, placing in as clear a light as possible the advantages that should accrue to the province from the establishment of such a service and also indicating the financial stability of the parent company in England. He ex-

plained that as the House was to prorogue on the morrow there was not sufficient time to introduce a bill except with the unanimous concurrence of the whole House. Mr. Bell, the Leader of the Opposition, was present, as were also the leading lights of the party, while in the chamber were quite a number of the local promoters of the company, eagerly awaiting the action of the House. After the Premier had made his statement it was up to the Opposition, from whom only opposition was to be expected, to express themselves. This they refused

to do. They sat dumb as oysters. They did not even ask for further particulars. On Thursday morning Premier Arsenault again brought up the subject in order to give the Opposition an opportunity to express themselves. The only expression given was that by Mr. Johnston, who said: "The Leader is absent and we are not taking any chances." Here the matter dropped as it could go no further and the province

living. Besides the \$1,800 salary he had all his household expenses, except clothing paid, which easily equalled a salary of over \$3000 a year, with a team at his call at all times. The Government, however, did no more than they should to keep a man up in a position so depressing as caring for the insane. But what will anyone having the milk of human kindness in him think of Mr. Hughes' and Mr. Bell's treatment of Dr. Seaman? Are these men capable of being kind or true to anyone? Are they the men to trust in a position where consideration for the feelings of others is a prime requisite?

True, the other Opposition members in the Legislature, except Mr. A. E. McLean, were disgusted with their leaders, but they stood by consenting to the deed, and must bear the full share of the odium they so richly deserve.

He professed to be a friend of the returned soldiers while at the same time anathematizing the government because it had employed returned soldiers as messengers and door-keepers during the present session. He professed to be a friend of the farmer and the fisherman and the laborer, while at the same time opposing and obstructing every measure introduced by the government in their behalf.

He opposed everything, condemned everything done or proposed to be done by the government and wound up the session by submitting in a resolution which was out of order, what purported to be the Liberal platform. All the planks in this platform are stolen unchanged from the Conservative policy, the only original ones being impracticable and calculated only to mislead the electorate.

The cases of the two parties, the servants in charge, and the party looking for a job, are now before the people, and will be before them until the election. The people know; they will not be satisfied with indiscriminate fault-finding; they will want something constructive; they will want to know whether the Liberal party is any better qualified to handle the affairs of the province than it was when they tried it before and, if they judge by the revelations of the session just ended, there is no doubt that the Arsenault administration will be in power with probably a larger majority than it will have retired with.

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DR. V. L. GOODWILL'S CASE

Since our article of the 12th inst. regarding Dr. Goodwill and Mr. Geo. E. Hughes, M.L.A., appeared, we have observed that Mr. Hughes has remained severely quiet on this matter. True, the Patriot has come out on it under the foolish heading "Come On, MacDuff." The Patriot's hysterical article requires no reference by us, but on reading it the sad reflection is forced in one's mind that Fairwood, though at present too large and too full for our small province, is not, nevertheless, yet having all who require treatment there. To return to Dr. Goodwill's case, a propaganda is carried on for political purposes by insinuating that he was not well treated by the Trustees who were all members of the Government except the late Dr. Conroy. Dr. Goodwill's own words are the best answer to these statements. Before leaving his position in 1915 he made a brief report to the Trustees in which we find these words in the last paragraph: "To you gentlemen of the Board I wish to extend my thanks for your continued confidence and support and hope the hospital will progress satisfactorily during my absence on active service for which privilege I have to thank His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council."

This was his testimony after four years' experience in the institution under the present Government. He received "continual confidence and support" and if he had not unfortunately listened to false friends he would still be in his position and receiving the same kind and generous treatment that the Trustees were ready to afford him. He should have known that men like Mr. George E. Hughes had little consideration for his welfare, if they could score any political gain by his error. And further, we are assured that notwithstanding the trouble, Dr. Goodwill has brought to the Government in these distressing times, by the course he pursued in this matter, he can yet rely on having their friendly offices.

If further proof of their kindly attitude towards him were needed we may state that although he was the best paid man in the service the present Government met his wishes still further and advanced his salary \$300 per year making it \$1800, when other equally faithful men were kept down to a pay that did not afford a decent

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louison PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

He was better to me than all my hopes, He was better than all my fears; He made a bridge of my broken works, And a rainbow of my tears. The billows that guard my sea-girl path But carried my Lord on their crest; When I dwell on the days of wilderness march I can lean on his love for rest.

He emptied my hands of my treasured store, And His covenant love revealed, There was not a wound in my aching heart But the balm of His breath had healed.

He guided by paths that I could not see, By ways that I have not known; The crooked was straight and the rough made plain As I followed the Lord alone. I praise Him still for the pleasant palms, And the water springs by the way; For the glowing pillar of flame by night, And the sheltering cloud by day.

Never a watch on the dreariest halt But some promise of love endears; I read from the past that my future shall be Far better than all my fears. Like the golden pot of the wilderness laid up with the blossoming rod, All safe in the eye with the hat of the Lord Is the covenant care of God.

With the lovely sunshine of the past week every one who owns a plot of land is busy gardening, planting seeds and gradually preparing for coming loveliness, Arbor Day, when all who can are expected to plant a tree, is to be generally celebrated in this city next Friday.

The Duke of Connaught, attended by Sir Malcolm Murray, has left London to visit General Robertson.

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has, through the studied obstructionism of the Liberal opposition, been deprived of what was unquestionably the greatest opportunity ever offered it. It is now too late to offer excuses. The opportunity is gone by and the Liberal obstructionists are wholly to blame and the promoters of the local company, including many Liberals know it, and are thoroughly disgusted with it.

living. Besides the \$1,800 salary he had all his household expenses, except clothing paid, which easily equalled a salary of over \$3000 a year, with a team at his call at all times. The Government, however, did no more than they should to keep a man up in a position so depressing as caring for the insane. But what will anyone having the milk of human kindness in him think of Mr. Hughes' and Mr. Bell's treatment of Dr. Seaman? Are these men capable of being kind or true to anyone? Are they the men to trust in a position where consideration for the feelings of others is a prime requisite?

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HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

ARBOR DAY, 1919 TREES

In the Garden of Eden, planted by God. There were goodly trees in the springtime sod.

Trees of beauty and height and grace To stand in splendor before His face.

Apple and hickory, ash and pear, Oak and beech and the tulip rare.

The trembling aspen, the noble pine, The sweeping elm by the river line.

Trees for the birds to build and sing, And the blue tree for a joy in spring.

Trees to turn at the frosty call And carpet the ground for their Lord's footfall.

Trees for fruitage and fire and shade, Trees for the cunning builder's trade.

Wood for the bow, the spear, the flail, The keel and mast of the daring sail.

He made them of every grain and girth For the use of man in the Garden of Earth.

Then lest the soul should not lift her eyes From the gift of the Giver of Paradise.

On the crown of a hill for all to see, God planted a scarlet maple tree.

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The House of Quality SUITS AND DRESSES That Will Rivet Your Interest! THAT will upon sight create an immediate desire in the woman who has been looking for the "Newest" and has thought it impossible to find Style Satisfaction except at a higher price. Here is the result of an exceptional purchase, which we pass on to you at a fraction of their real value. The style embraces a dozen carefully selected models; all of them right UP-TO-DATE, and all of them of the most desirable fabric and frimming. Big and little women; old and young; We can fit you all PATONS Ltd.

HINTS FOR The Motorist BY ALBERT L. CLOUGH

THE EVILS OF VIOLENT OPERATION

Attention cannot be too often called to the destructive effects produced alike by starting and by stopping a car suddenly and inconsiderately. Too often, the starting operation is performed about like this: The clutch is pushed out and the gears are instantly jammed into mesh, with a clash, before they have stopped spinning. The engine is speeded until it buzzes and the clutch-pedal is allowed to snap back almost at its own speed. The passengers necks are nearly dislocated, every transmission part receives a life-shortening jolt and the tires slip on the road, wearing down their tread rubber or loosening it and stressing the fabric more than would miles of legitimate service. When approaching the stopping point, speed is not slackened until within a few cars lengths of it, when the brakes are slammed off the full power, the wheels lock and the car slides up to its destination, writing a record of the abuses in a flat spot on each rear tire, when the tread has just been "scuffed" off. This is admittedly an extreme description, but nearly as bad car accidents can be witnessed any day on any largely traveled street and it is given as an example of "how not to do it." Just reverse everything and it becomes a recipe for careful and considerate operation.

If love would only make men's cash go round they wouldn't worry about the revolutions of the world.

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E. G. COOMBS, Manager, CHARLOTTETOWN BRANCH

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